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ABDPH President’s Message

George W. Taylor, DMD, DrPH

While we have seen several important victories in advancing oral health for the public this year, for example decisions with respect to the Affordable Care Act and community water fluoridation, this year has been an exceptionally challenging year for our sponsoring organization and the specialty of Dental Public Health. In the comments that follow, I hope to present background to inform the diplomates of the road we have been travelling as the American Dental Association, through its Council on Dental Education and Licensure, is recommending adoption of a resolution in the House of Delegates at the ADA’s Annual Meeting. This resolution could have major adverse effects on the membership, leadership, and function of our sponsoring organization AAPHD.

Our challenge began during the 2011 ADA Annual Meeting when the House of Delegates (HOD) adopted Resolution 48H-2011 directing the Council on Dental Education and Licensure (CDEL) to review the criteria and process for the recognition of specialty sponsoring organizations. The specific emphasis in this review was for CDEL to focus on the interpretation of the use of the term “reflective”, in the ADA’s Requirements for Recognition of Dental Specialties and National Certifying Boards for Dental Specialists, in particular requirement 1(a) which states that “In order for an area to be recognized as a specialty, it must be represented by a sponsoring organization: (a) whose membership is reflective of the special area of dental practice.” Importantly, CDEL was charged to consider interpreting “reflective” to mean that only specialist dentist members could be able to vote and to hold office in the sponsoring organization, which in our case is AAPHD.

Following that 2011 Annual Meeting (January 2012), AAPHD (and the other specialty sponsoring organizations) received a letter from CDEL asking whether we believed the current statement regarding the sponsoring organizations’ membership be revised to specifically state that only specialist dentist members be able to vote and hold office. That letter from CDEL also expressed interest in hearing about alternative interpretations for the term “reflective”.

In February 2012 AAPHD recommended that the ADA’s existing statement regarding membership being reflective of the special area of dental practice not be changed. AAPHD further responded that “reflective” meant the sponsoring organization’s membership mirrored the practicing Dental Public Health community, with all involved sectors represented. AAPHD’s letter also described the unique characteristic of the specialty in treating the community as the patient, hence requiring and benefitting from a diverse group of experts in the sponsoring organization’s membership. AAPHD’s letter further described this diverse membership to consist of dentists and non-dentists, including those with PhDs, MDs, DrPHs, and other degrees with expertise to complement the core competencies of the specialty of Dental Public Health.

While recognizing the benefits of AAPHD’s diverse membership, the letter also emphasized the large majority of officers and Executive Council members have been dentists and the by-laws preclude votes by non-dentists on all specialty matters related to the American Board of Dental Public Health. AAPHD argued in its response (Continued page 2)
that a change in Requirement 1(a) for the sponsoring organization would prohibit the ongoing activities and challenge the mission of AAPHD, Also, such a change would compromise AAPHD and dentistry's ability to continue to develop, implement and evaluate public health strategies that improve the nation's oral health. Parenthetically, only two other specialty sponsoring organizations responded, American Academy of Oral and Maxillofacial Radiology and the American Academy of Periodontology, stating the revision of the requirement would not adversely affect their sponsoring organizations.

A crucial event in our challenge in the composition and rights of the membership of AAPHD occurred during the May 2012 CDEL meeting. During this meeting CDEL addressed its charge from the ADA’s 2011 HOD to address Resolution 48H-2011. CDEL had requested its Committee on Recognition of Specialties and Interest Areas in General Dentistry (the Committee) to consider Resolution 48H-2011 and report its findings to the Council in this meeting. The Committee discussed its findings, including the finding that AAPHD would be the only sponsoring organization of a dental specialty that would be impacted by the change suggested. The Committee concluded that dental public health was a unique dental specialty and that the membership composition and governance structure of the organization reflect this uniqueness. Further, the Committee believed the word “reflective” was indeed appropriate and cautioned CDEL that any further narrowing of the term may be overly prescriptive.

CDEL considered the recommendation of the Committee, but disagreed with the Committee’s assessment of the evidence, and, by an 11-3 vote, recommended a resolution (Resolution 17) be adopted by the 2012 ADA HOD with a major change in Requirement (1) such that privileges to vote and hold office in the sponsoring organization are reserved for dentists who have either completed a CODA-accredited residency program in that proposed or recognized specialty or a formal advanced education program. The Resolution, among its other related revisions, also sets July 1, 2015 as the deadline for sponsoring organizations representing the currently recognized specialties to demonstrate compliance with the revised requirement. In a letter dated 5/10/2012 CDEL notified AAPHD that it would be forwarding a resolution to the 2012 meeting to recommend the revisions to the Requirements for Recognition of Dental Specialties and National Certifying Boards for Dental Specialists as suggested by Resolution 48H-2011.

Immediately following receipt of CDEL’s notification of the result of its May meeting and decision to go forward with recommendations to the Requirement (1), the leadership of AAPHD and ABDPH sent a Communiquék communication (May 11, 2012) notifying the AAPHD membership of CDEL’s decision and describing future action plans. These plans included seeking explanation from CDEL of the rationale for pursuing a change after 30 years of the existing bylaws structure. The Communiquék also advised the membership that AAPHD would be seeking legal counsel. The communication also asked the membership to send feedback to the AAPHD Executive Council.

On July 20, 2012 the leadership of AAPHD and ABDPH wrote a letter to ADA’s President and Board of Trustees (BOT) to request a meeting with the BOT at its September meeting and to ask the BOT to hold any further action on the CDEL proposal be held in abeyance. The letter also described our concerns about the significance and seriousness CDEL’s action and provided a detailed discussion of the uniqueness of Dental Public Health, the long-standing 35+ year history of its diverse membership, the restriction of all decision making with respect to matters pertaining to the American Board of Dental Public Health to AAPHD members who are board-certified public health dentists, Before receiving a response from the BOT to our request for suspending action on CDEL’s and a meeting, we learned that the BOT voted 17 to 1 in favor of accepting Resolution 17.

While not hearing from the BOT regarding our request for a meeting before their vote on Resolution 17, we still continued our pursuit to have a meeting with the BOT. In September, we received an invitation to meet with the BOT. On September 24 Catherine Hayes, Mike Monopoli and Pam Tolson met with the BOT and represented AAPHD and ABDPH spectacularly. They reported that their presentation was well-received and it appeared that an important realization by the BOT was the negative impact Resolution 17 would have on the large number of dentists who are in AAPHD but are not specialists and yet work in settings serving underserved populations. The BOT was open to considering this realization as new information and encouraged us to develop additional factual information to distribute widely before and during the ADA meeting. It is clear that Catherine, Mike and Pam did a tremendous job at the BOT meeting and paved the way for the ADA’s BOT to be receptive to more conversation and additional learning about the issues surrounding Resolution 17.

Since the meeting with the BOT, AAPHD and ABDPH members have been working on several fronts to develop testimony, meet with state dental association caucuses, connect with a broad array of individuals to testify at the ADA meeting in opposition to Resolution 17, and, recently, to develop an alternative to Resolution 17 that would call for further consideration by a diverse workgroup prior to adoption of revisions to the requirements for recognition of dental specialties.

An example of the kind of information Catherine, Mike and Pam presented to the BOT and that we would like other members of the Dental Public Health community to use in communicating with colleagues to encourage their support in opposing Resolution 17 is on the AAPHD’s web site: http://www.aaphd.org/docs/AAPHD%20Fact%20Data%20F.pdf

As described in the AAPHD’s Communiquék of October 24, 2012, the Reference Committee on Dental Education, Science and Related Matters held testimony regarding Resolution 17 on Saturday, October 20, 2012 at the ADA’s Annual meeting. Leadership of the AAPHD and ABDPH coordinated testimony with our partners to oppose passage of Resolution 17. (Continued page 3)
The turnout for testimony on our behalf at the Reference Committee was tremendous and included members of AAPHD, ABDPH and many others within the ADA, such as ADA Past-President Ray Gist; past, present and incoming Council on Access, Prevention and Interprofessional Relations (CAPIR) leadership including Drs. Lew Lampiris, Mark Crabtree, Gary Davis, Monica Hebl, Dave Holwager, Lindsey Robinson, and Roy Thompson; California Dental Association President Dan Davidson; Dr. Irene Hilton from NNOHA; and ASTDD President Dr. Harry Goodman, among many others. It was clear from our testimony that the impact of Resolution 17 would disenfranchise many AAPHD members and result in other unintended, adverse consequences. The Reference Committee concluded that CDEL, CAPIR, the Board of Trustees, and AAPHD should be given the opportunity to further explore options in a workgroup. The task of this workgroup will be to define the term 'reflective' and to arrive at a procedure to bring the sponsoring organization of Dental Public Health into alignment with the other dental specialty organizations regarding this policy without disenfranchising dentists in the public health community. Accordingly, the Reference Committee recommended referral of Resolution 17 to the appropriate parties for further study with a report to the 2013 House of Delegates. On Monday, October 22, 2012, the House of Delegates voted overwhelmingly (88%) to uphold the Reference Committee's recommendation for referral.

This has been a challenging time for our sponsoring organization and specialty and yet a diverse and large number of members of AAPHD, diplomates of DPH, and partners within the public health community and within the ADA have worked relentlessly to address this major challenge. We have many colleagues in Dental Public Health, and the ADA to thank for their support and efforts on this major issue. We will continue to inform diplomates as this matter continues toward closure.

Update on Plans for This Fall and Annual Registration Fees for 2013 and Beyond

As you may remember from our communications and annual meeting last spring, the Directors of the ABDPH presented a recommended increase in annual registration fees to be instituted in stages over the next 3 years in order to ensure the fiscal integrity of the Board. This was overwhelmingly approved by both the members at the annual business meeting and those expressing opinions later by email. Because hundreds of person hours have been spent in the past year tracking and recovering past due fees, there also will be additional late fees instituted starting 02/1/13.

In a few weeks, you will receive an electronic message informing you that your annual registration fees are coming due for 2013. The fees for 2013 are to be paid during the last part of 2012 or in January 2013 and received by 01/31/13. If fees are received 02/1/13 or later, then there will be a late fee; this late fee will be increased after 03/31/13. If your fees are not received by 06/30/13, then you will lose your good-standing as a Diplomate, and this will be reported to the ADA (as we are required to do). If your fees are received after 06/30/13 seeking reinstatement of your good-standing status, there will be an additional reinstatement fee.

So, please pay attention to the fees payment request when it first comes and help us avoid the hassle and expense of additional follow-up and fees.

PS--For those of you are also AAPHD members, you will be able to pay both ABDPH fees and AAPHD dues at the same time if you want to. And, for the first time, those who are not AAPHD members will still be able to pay the ABDPH fees online using the AAPHD website interface.
Past-President Invites Nominations Honorary Diplomate: Deadline: February 1st, 2013

The American Board of Dental Public Health (ABDPH) may grant honorary certification to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to dental public health and have demonstrated unusual capability in related areas of endeavor, but who do not possess all of the educational and practice-limiting requirements to be eligible for specialty examination. The awarding of Honorary Diplomate status is considered a significant recognition of an individual’s contributions to the field of dental public health. Additional information may be obtained on the American Association of Public Health Dentistry Home Page, www.aaphd.org, link to the ABDPH Web Page under [ABDPH] Honorary Diplomate Policy. Past nominations may be resubmitted. Please forward your letter of nomination indicating how the individual meets the award criteria, as well as the nominee’s current curriculum vita, to:
Address: Steven M. Levy, DDS, MPH—2012, Immediate Past-President ABDPH, Chair, Nominating Committee; Professor, Department of Preventive and Community Dentistry, N328 DSB, The University of Iowa, Iowa City, IA 52242; Office 319-335-7185, FAX 319-335-7187, steven-levy@uiowa.edu
Nominations may be submitted electronically to: steven-levy@uiowa.edu. Nominations must be received no later than February 1st, for consideration prior to the ABDPH Annual Dinner and Business Meeting to be held Monday, April 22nd, 2013 during the National Oral Health Conference in Huntsville, Alabama.

Diplomates Certified in 2011

ABDPH President Dr. Steven Levy recognized the 2011 new Diplomates and their Residency Directors at the 2011 ABDPH Diplomates 62nd Annual Business Meeting. He introduced the following Diplomates, and presented them with their Board lapel pins:

**Dr. Donald L. Chi**, Seattle, WA. DDS, University of Washington Dentistry Seattle, WA, PhD, University of Iowa College of Dentistry, Iowa City, IA, DrPH Certificate; Pediatric Dentistry Certificate, University of Iowa College of Dentistry, Iowa City, IA, (Dr. Steven M. Levy)

**Dr. Kecia Leary**, Nixa, MO, DDS, University of Iowa, Iowa City, MS, University of Iowa College of Dentistry, Iowa City, IA, (Dr. Steven M. Levy)

**Dr. Scott J. Rankin**, San Antonio, TX, DDS, University Missouri-Kansas City, MO, MS, University of Iowa College of Dentistry, Iowa City, IA, (Dr. Steven M. Levy)

Congratulations to ABDPH Diplomates Certified in 2012

**ABDPH Announces New Diplomates Certified in 2012.** Dr. George Taylor announced that the following dentists have passed the Board certification examination given in 2012 and are now Diplomates of the Board:
Dr. Mohamed Said Bamashmous, Boston, MA, Dr. Hiroko Iida, Chapel Hill, NC, and Dr. Junhie Oh, Providence, RI.

Remembrance of Diplomates who have died since last Annual Meeting:

Dr. Levy reported, that since the 2011 annual meeting, we know of three Diplomates who have died.
- John Rossetti, from Napa, California, died in August 2011, and was recognized in the November 2011 Board newsletter.
- Rhys Jones, from Iowa City, IA, passed away last Sunday, April 22, 2012.
- George Mitchell of Akron, OH, died in August 2010, but we were notified during this year’s meeting.
2012-2013 Board of Directors:

Top left to right: Dr. George Taylor, President, Dr. Eugenio Beltrán, Vice President/Auditor, Dr. Jeff Chaffin, Secretary/Treasurer, Dr. Don Altman (replaces Dr. Jim Sutherland, Director), Dr. Judith Jones, Director, Dr. Ana Karina Mascarenhas, Director-Elect, Dr. Steve Levy, Immediate Past-President, Dr. Joe Alderman, Executive Director

Dr. Jim Sutherland, Director, was recognized for his 2 years of service on the Board of Directors. Due to competing obligations, Dr. Jim Sutherland’s term as a Director ended at the Annual Meeting.

ABDPH Budgetary Strategic Plan

The Budgetary Strategic Plan was approved after discussion at the ABDPH 62nd Annual Diplomates Meeting and Banquet, and reviewing e-mails from Diplomates not in attendance. Diplomates were overwhelmingly supportive of these necessary increases.

- The Board approved a 3-year increase in registration fees and voluntary contribution categories, as well as initiation of a higher voluntary level. For example, as shown in Table 1, the base registration fee will increase from $120 to $150 to $175 to $200 over the next 3 years, with similar increases in the other categories.

- See Table 2: The Board approved a modest increase in the exam fees: going from $50 to $100 on the written only. The Board is excited about the interest in the “written exam only” recently, so does not want this fee too high. The full exam fee will go from $650 to $700 to $750 to $800 over the next 3 years, still below most other boards.

Table 1: ABDPH Annual Registration Table

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Table 2: ABDPH Examination Fee Changes

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</table>
E. Joseph Alderman Presented with AAPHD Distinguished Service Award

Milwaukee, Wisconsin Emery Joseph Alderman, Jr., DDS, MPH, Executive Director of the American Board of Dental Public Health and consultant in Dental Public Health was recognized with the 2012 Distinguished Service Award at the American Association of Public Health Dentistry’s (AAPHD) award ceremony on Monday, April 30th, during the 2012 National Oral Health Conference.

The award was presented by AAPHD President-Elect Catherine Hayes, DMD, SM, DrMedSC. In her remarks, Dr. Hayes commended Dr. Alderman for a career dedicated to dental public health and to the dental health of all Americans. Alderman received his DDS from the Creighton University School of Dentistry in Nebraska, his MPH from the University of Michigan and Dental Public Health Residency Certificate from the Jefferson County Health Department in Birmingham, Alabama. Dr. Alderman was in private practice in Denver, Colorado. He became Director of the Oral Health Section, Georgia Department of Public Health from 1981 to 2003. Dr. Alderman became a Diplomate in Dental Public Health in 1978 and became the Executive Director of the American Board of Dental Public Health in 2006 and continues to serves in that role.

During the presentation, Dr. Hayes remarked, “Dr. Joseph Alderman has had a distinguished career in dental public health including serving in the US Public Health Service as a dental surgeon and as the dental director for the state of Georgia. He is receiving this award for his dedicated and distinguished service and commitment to the field of dental public health.”

Over eight hundred public health dental providers, educators and researchers convened in Milwaukee last week for the 2012 National Oral Health Conference, the 13th Annual Joint Meeting of the American Association of Public Health Dentistry (AAPHD) and the Association of State and Territorial Dental Directors, co-sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Note: Selected from 5/17/12 AAPHD Press Release - Pamela Tolson, 217-529-6941, email: pam@assn-srvs.com.

ABDPH Newsletter

In preparation for the next ABDPH Newsletter, if you have anything to report in the way of new positions, honors, appointments or awards, etc., please email E. Joseph Alderman at abdph@comcast.net with your information.
We would like to update you on the outcome of the House of Delegates action on Resolution 17 at the ADA meeting this week. The Resolution was put forth by the Council on Dental Education and Licensure (CDEL) to limit voting and holding office within recognized organizations that sponsor a dental specialty to only board-certified or board-eligible dentists. We shared a fact sheet previously that described how Resolution 17 would affect AAPHD. AAPHD officers worked diligently to resolve this matter with ADA, including written and verbal communication with the ADA leadership. We also coordinated testimony with our partners for the Reference Committee about the unintended consequences if the Resolution passed.

The turnout for testimony on our behalf at the Reference Committee was tremendous and included members of AAPHD, ABDPH and many others within the ADA, such as ADA Past-President Ray Gist; past, present and incoming Council on Access, Prevention and Interprofessional Relations (CAPIR) leadership Drs. Mark Crabtree, Gary Davis, Monica Hebl, Dave Holwager, Lindsey Robinson, and Roy Thompson; California Dental Association President Dan Davidson; Dr. Irene Hilton from NNOHA; and ASTDD President Dr. Harry Goodman, among many others. It was clear from our testimony that the impact of Resolution 17 would disenfranchise many AAPHD members. The Reference Committee concluded that CDEL, CAPIR, the Board of Trustees, and AAPHD should be given the opportunity to further explore options and to define the term 'reflective' and to arrive at a procedure to bring the sponsoring organization of public health dentistry into alignment with the other dental specialty organizations regarding this policy without disenfranchising dentists in the public health community. Accordingly, the Reference Committee recommended referral of Resolution 17 to the appropriate parties for further study with a report to the 2013 House of Delegates. The House of Delegates voted overwhelmingly (88%) to uphold the Reference Committee’s recommendation for referral and we thank the many ADA members who supported AAPHD on this issue.

Although this has certainly been a challenging experience, it has provided us with the opportunity to reach out to our partners within the public health community and within the ADA, most notably CAPIR and Past-President Dr. Gist, to highlight the uniqueness of our specialty. We expect to be part of a workgroup outlined in the Reference Committee report to explore this matter more carefully. We will continue to inform membership about these discussions, and we will also have an opportunity to meet in person to discuss the various options before us at the AAPHD Business Meeting at the NOHC. This is indeed a very important time for our specialty requiring collaboration, open communication, patience, and transparency. Any members who have any concerns or who wish to discuss this with an AAPHD Officer, please contact the Central Office, 217-529-6941 or natoff@aaphd.org and we will arrange to speak with you.

Nick Mosca, DDS
AAPHD President
ABDPH Ten-Year Recertification:
Diplomates are responsible for maintaining their own records, including keeping copies, documentation and summaries of their ABDPH Annual Continuing Education Record to document compliance with the Recertification Process. 2011 was the second year that Diplomates (in this instance, those certified in 2001) were required to document completion of an average of ten (10) hours annually (a total of 100 hours) of continuing education from an approved CERP or a public health organization. All three Diplomates certified in 2001 were recertified by the ABDPH. Their time limited Certificates will expire 12/31/2021.

ABDPH Annual Registration:
The American Dental Association requires annual registration fees each year for all active Diplomates. If a Diplomate is not current then he or she is removed from the active and in good standing list of ABDPH Diplomates. Please send to the Executive Director (abdph@comcast.net) and copy Sandi Steil, Membership Director, American Association of Public Health Dentistry (ssteil@associationcentral.org) any address changes including e-mails.

Director-Elect Procedure Changes:
Procedures for Director-Elect nominations: All active Diplomates in good standing are invited to complete demographic data, submit their CV, and indicate that they are willing to serve on the Board. The list is updated annually. (Ask the Executive Director for the form for electronic submission for the Director-Elect Nomination. See American Board of Dental Public Health Webpage.)

Life Membership: 2011:
Dr. Mark D. Sieg3l, Dr. John P. Brown, Dr. Thomas Leroy Louden, and Dr. Robert Ellis Mecklenburg were approved for Life Membership in 2011. As of April 18, 2012 there are 34 ABDPH Diplomates Living Life Members.

AAPHD Foundation Committee:
Dr. Kathryn Atchison, Chair, AAPHD Foundation Committee, updated the Diplomates on the Foundation. She explained the Lotzkar ABDPH Fund has ~$16,190. The Fund is restricted to underwriting special projects of the ABDPH. Many Diplomates pledged to the Foundation at the Annual Diplomates Meeting and Banquet. If anyone Diplomate is interested in more information see webpage on AAPHD Home Page: aaphd.org.

ABDPH Webpage and Late Breaking Information:
Please check changes in Webpage on AAPHD Home Page: aaphd.org. The ABDPH wanted to update you concerning the American Dental Association House of Delegates action on Resolution 17. The Board will continue to work with our public and private partners, friends, and advocates to help ensure the future of our specialty.

ABDPH 63rd Annual Diplomates Meeting and Banquet:
Please plan to attend the ABDPH 63rd Annual Diplomates Meeting and Banquet to be held Monday, April 22nd, 2013 in Huntsville, Alabama during the National Oral Health Conference. More information will follow.
Dr. Levy recognized the 15 past presidents in attendance: Drs. Joseph Alderman, Myron Allukian, Robert Collins, Joseph M. Doherty, Teresa A. Dolan, Caswell A. Evans, Robert Faine, Isabel Garcia, Catherine Hayes, Rebecca S. King, Dushanka Kleinman, Jayanth Kumar, Raymond A. Kuthy, Reginald Louie and Richard Gary Rozier. There were 82 Diplomates and Guests at the ABDPH 62nd Annual Diplomates Meeting and Banquet.

Photo by: Eugenio Beltrán