



Newsletter of the  
American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry  
Volume XV, Number 1, July 2007

**From the President**



*Jack A. Hahn, DDS*

Hello to each of you! This has been a very good year for the ABOI/ID. As our mission is to elevate the standards and to advance the science and art of oral implantology/implant dentistry by encouraging its study and improving its practice, it makes me feel proud to be president. I believe that the ABOI/ID, which was activated by the American Academy of Implant Dentistry in **1990**, is continuing to fulfill its duty to the profession in the most meaningful way.

This year, **35** candidates participated in the examination process: **15** sat for both Parts I and II; **6**, for Part I only; and, **14** for Part II only. Indeed, I would like to thank the ABOI/ID examiners for their diligence and fairness in examining the candidates.

I am particularly pleased to announce that, on May 7, 2007, the Board of Directors named **26** candidates as new Diplomates—bringing our total number to **341**! Accordingly, I would like to offer my hardy congratulations to each of them.

Our new Diplomates have worked hard to achieve this milestone in implant dentistry. No other organization in implant dentistry has such comprehensive requirements and testing to become a Diplomate. Our new Diplomates, who are listed below, certainly should be proud of themselves for striving and accomplishing this goal:

John K. Argeros, DMD Peabody, MA  
Suheil M. Boutros, DDS, MS Dearborn Heights, MI  
C. Stephen Caldwell, DDS El Paso, TX  
Ali Fakhry, DDS Iowa City, IA  
Timothy J. Hacker, DDS Bartlett, TN

David S. Hanswirth, DMD White Plains, NY  
Wm. David Hickman, DDS Caledon, ON CANADA  
Keith A. Hudson, DDS Beverly Hills, MI  
Constantin Izvanariu, DDS Skokie, IL  
Jason Kim, DDS Flushing, NY

Robert E. Leigh, DDS Westlock, AB CANADA  
Juan Guillermo Lopez, DDS Charlotte, NC  
Jeffrey T. Meister, DDS Munster, IN  
Mohammad Moini, DMD, MPH Springfield, MA  
Olivia Calhoun Palmer, DMD Charleston, SC

George V. Ranta, DDS Fountain, CO  
Trace H. Rutherford, DDS Columbia, SC  
Sanford N. Schwartz, DDS Brandon, FL  
Dale Edward Spencer, DDS Hickory, NC  
James D. Spivey, DDS, MS Portsmouth, NH

Steven D. Sudbrink, DMD Ephrata, PA  
Adam D. Szymczak, DDS Cambridge, ON CANADA  
Hani Samuel Tadros, DDS Clearwater, FL

Joseph H. Wilbanks, DDS Toccoa, GA  
James J. Wu, DDS Tewksbury, MA  
Gregory J. Young, DDS Northville, MI

I hope that all Diplomates will be present for the ABOI/ID annual breakfast during which we will formally recognize these individuals and award

them with their medallions. We will also offer them special recognition during the AAID President's reception and dinner. Both events will take place during the 2007 AAID Annual Meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The new *Diplomate Directory*, which includes our most recent Diplomates, will be published and made available to you in August. When a patient in my practice moves to another state, I feel confident that I can refer this patient to a Diplomate listed in this Directory. An electronic directory is currently available on the ABOI/ID's website.

I look forward to seeing all Diplomates in Las Vegas.

Respectfully,  
Jack A. Hahn, DDS

### **Nomination of a New Board Member for 2008**

The Board of Directors of the ABOI/ID is comprised of seven members, each of whom serves a rotating seven-year term. This means that, each year, one new Director rotates *on* to the Board and that the most senior Director rotates *off*. On December 31, 2007, Jerry L. Soderstrom, DDS, who has served on the Board since 2001, will vacate his seat. Accordingly, his departure makes a new position available on the 2008 Board.

As it is empowered to do by the *ABOI/ID By-laws*, the 2007 Board of Directors has nominated **Natalie Y. Wong, DDS** for the open 2008 position.

Dr. Wong graduated from the University of Toronto with a Doctor of Dental Surgery degree in 1996 and, in 2007, received a Certificate in Prosthodontics from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

She is one of 20 Canadian dentists who have become Diplomates of the ABOI/ID (receiving her Diplomate status in 2003). She holds Fellowships with the Academy of General Dentistry

(AGD), American Academy of Implant Dentistry (AAID), and the Misch International Implant Institute Canada for which she is also a faculty member.



*Natalie Y. Wong, DDS*

Dr. Wong currently serves as a part-time clinical instructor and guest lecturer with the Department of Radiology, Faculty of Dentistry, the University of Toronto. She also serves as a clinical assistant professor of oral implantology, Department of Periodontology, Temple University. She presided as co-chair of the 9<sup>th</sup> annual ICOI/IPS symposium in Montreal, is currently president-elect of the Central District of AAID, and founder and director of the Toronto Implant Institute, Inc.

Dr. Wong lectures nationally and internationally on implant dentistry, while maintaining a private prosthodontic and implant surgical practice in Toronto. She is concurrently completing a Masters of Science in Dentistry at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

### **Diplomates can also Nominate Candidates to the Board**

Diplomates of the ABOI/ID, themselves, can also nominate individuals for the Board's open 2008 seat, providing that at least five Diplomates endorse the nomination.

To be eligible for nomination, Diplomates must be in good standing with the ABOI/ID, be a Fel-

low or Associate Fellow of the AAID, and *not* also be an officer or member of the Board of any other oral-implant organization or of any other dental or medical specialty board. Consistent with the *Bylaws*, all nominations must be received in ABOI/ID office by 5:00 p.m. Central Time, Thursday, September 6, 2007. The election will take place on Tuesday, November 6, 2007 by mail ballot.

### Continuing Board Members

Members of the Board of Directors who will be continuing their service in 2008 include: Jack A. Hahn, DDS (2008), Charles M. Weiss, DDS (2009), James L. Rutkowski, DMD (2010), Walter C. Chitwood, Jr., DDS (2011); Barry K. Barte, DDS, MD (2012); and H. Dexter Barber, DDS, (2013). The officers for 2007 can be seen on page six.

### Recognition of the 2006 Diplomates

The ABOI/ID honored each of its **25** new Diplomates during two special ceremonies held during the 2006 AAID annual meeting in Chicago, Illinois.

During the ABOI/ID annual breakfast, Dr. Jerry L. Soderstrom, 2006 president of the ABOI/ID, awarded each new Diplomat with the ABOI/ID medallion.



*Dr. Ryan receives his medallion and a handshake from President Soderstrom during the ABOI/ID Breakfast*

During the President's Celebration and Dinner the following evening, Dr. Kim Gowey, AAID President, also recognized the new Diplomates.



*The new Diplomates, after receiving their medallions during the breakfast. Back left to right—Drs. Roderick Stewart, Peter A. Balogh, Gabor Balogh, Gary W. Machiko, E. Richard Hughes, Robert J. Ryan, S. Shane Samy. Front left to right—Drs. Michael Y. Yeh, Jin Y. Kim, Richard M. Benninger, Timothy J. Armanini, C. Edgar Davila, Jeffrey O. Capes.*

### A Modification in Routes for the ABOI/ID Certification Program

The Board of Directors has made changes to route three of its certification program, in addition to creating two new routes. These important changes are now in effect.

#### *Changes to route three--*

For route three, the Board has modified its five-year experiential requirement for placing and/or restoring dental implants. Dentists applying through this route may now *include* their time spent in their postgraduate curricula as part of the required five years of experience. (Routes one and two had already incorporated this provision.)

#### *Two new routes--*

ABOI/ID Directors have added a new route **1-B** for residents, who will, at the time of any Part I exam administration, be in the final terms of their full-time three-year postgraduate curricula in oral implantology. (These programs must have been approved by the AAID and have been offered by sponsoring institutions that are accredited by the ADA Commission on Dental Accreditation.)

Similarly, Directors have added another new route **3-B** for residents, who will, at the time of any Part I exam administration, be in the final terms of their full-time three-year postgraduate curricula in oral surgery, prosthodontics, or periodontics. (These programs must have been accredited by the ADA Commission on Dental Accreditation.)

As long as residents in either group meet certain requirements for doing so, they may apply for the Part I examination by October 15<sup>th</sup> of the year previous to the examination.

It should be noted that residents applying through either of these new routes, who have yet to acquire the required total of five-years of experience in placing and/or restoring dental implants, *will be required to do so before applying for Part II*.

A complete explanation of all certification requirements can be seen by visiting the ABOI/ID website, clicking first on "information request," then on "download," and by opening the ABOI/ID's *2008 Handbook*.

### **Phase One of the Practice Analysis is Now Complete**

The Board has now completed phase one—the validity phase—of updating the ABOI/ID's *2005 Test Specifications*. It is now proceeding with phase two, which addresses other testing issues including that of reliability. The Board plans for the project to be completed in 2008. This means that the first examination deriving from the updated specifications will be administered in April 2008. It also means that the new pass/fail standard and a new comprehensive system of scoring will be created at that time.

### **Certification Maintenance Program**

The ABOI/ID is pleased to announce the initiation of its new Certification Maintenance Program (CMP), which will become effective in 2008. Through the CMP, dentists becoming certi-

fied as Diplomates in 2008, and every eight years thereafter, will be required to show evidence of continued competencies in implant dentistry.

Such programs have been implemented by all other medical and dental specialties, and serve to protect the public. Rather than providing a professional's performance on measurements obtained at a given point in time only, i.e., on the basis of "snapshot evaluations," such programs assess an implant dentist's knowledge, skills, abilities *after* the certificate has been awarded three, five, eight, and ten years down the road.

Although the ABOI/ID will encourage Diplomates certified by the ABOI/ID previous to 2008 to proceed through the CMP, it will not require them to do so. Finite details of the program will become available in the months ahead.

### **Policy on the Use of the Diplomate Designation**

During recent months, it been apparent to the ABOI/ID that confusion exists over how Diplomates should use their title of Diplomate. Some Diplomates have mistakenly indicated that they are "*Board Certified in Implant Dentistry*" on their letterhead, etc. This designation lacks accuracy.

An implant dentist who passes the certification examination of the American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry becomes a "*Diplomate of the American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry*." Use of this designation on business cards, letterheads, directories and announcements is permitted within the limitations prescribed by court decisions pronouncing the rights and limitations of commercial free speech and by the dental practice act of the state in which the dentist practices.

Since the American Dental Association has not recognized implantology as a dental specialty, Principles 5-A and 5-C of the Principles of Ethics and Code of Professional Conduct of the American Dental Association (ADA) limit how or whether a dentist may advertise that he or she is a



diplomat of an organization or a specialist in an area not approved by the ADA.

Therefore, it is essential that Diplomates of the American Board of ABOI/ID check the laws in their respective states before advertising their status as a Diplomat or otherwise holding themselves out to the public as a Diplomat. They may also wish to communicate with the appropriate council of the ADA or their local or state dental society before doing so.



*Las Vegas*

### **ABOI/ID Activities at the AAID Annual Meeting in Las Vegas**

The annual meeting of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry (AAID) will be held in Las Vegas, Nevada, November 7-11, 2007 at the Rio Suites Hotel. Several activities of special interest to Diplomates and to those interested in becoming certified will be offered by the ABOI/ID and AAID.

For starters, the AAID will present a mock board review and examination. This luncheon session, which will be held on Wednesday, November 7, 2007 from 12:00 – 1:30 p.m., will provide an overview of the ABOI/ID certification examination process and will offer participants the opportunity of taking a mock Part I examination of approximately 20 questions and of viewing a sample Part II standardized case. The correct responses to the Part I questions will be provided and no test scores will be calculated. *This event represents the only occasion during which*

*dentists will be able to see previously-asked examination questions and an actual Part II case.* In registering for the meeting, interested individuals can purchase tickets for **\$80.00**. (The ticket price includes the cost of the lunch.)

Second, during a special offering on Thursday, November 8, 2007, from 8:00 – 10:00 a.m., dentists interested in applying for the ABOI/ID certification examinations will be able to learn how to prepare the applications for Parts I and II. Dr. Natalie Wong—a current Diplomat—will offer step-by-step approaches to preparing the CE documentation required for route four of Part I, as well as for the ten case reports that are required for the Part II examination. There is *no* admission fee.

Next, the ABOI/ID will hold its thirteenth annual breakfast for Diplomates and other interested dentists on Friday, November 9, 2007, from 7:00-8:00 a.m. During this event, President Hahn will present medallions to the ABOI/ID's new Diplomates, as well as plaques to the officers of the Board. He will also recognize the ABOI/ID's past presidents and currently serving committee members. Finally, Dr. Hahn will provide information to attendees on the activities of the ABOI/ID. The price of the tickets for the breakfast is **\$55.00** and, as before, the tickets should be purchased during registration.

Finally, potential applicants for the ABOI/ID examination can also take part in the "lunch-and-learn" programs entitled *On Becoming a Diplomat*. During this luncheon, which will be held on Friday, November 9, 2007 from 12:00–1:30 p.m., three current members of the Board of Directors—Drs. Walter C. Chitwood, Jr., James L. Rutkowski, and Jerry L. Soderstrom—who are, themselves, examiners will present informal seminars on preparing for and participating in the certification examination. During registration, tickets can be purchased for **\$80.00** before September 14, 2007, and for **\$95.00** after this date.

Diplomates are encouraged to attend these special ABOI/ID events during the AAID annual meeting and to invite their colleagues who are yet to be Diplomates to attend as well.



*Las Vegas at Night*

### **Calendar of Important Events**

#### Thursday, September 6, 2007

Diplomates' nominations for the ABOI/ID Board of Directors are due by 5:00 p.m. Central Time.

#### Monday, October 15, 2007

Applications are due for Parts I and II of the ABOI/ID 2008 certification examination. Diplomates should encourage their colleagues to apply. They can access everything they need to know about the process by logging on to [www.aboi.org](http://www.aboi.org) and downloading the 2008 *Handbook*, the requirements, the study guide, and the Part I and Part II applications. Interested dentists can also view a special PowerPoint® presentation on how to prepare case reports for the Part II examination.

#### November 7 – 11, 2007

AAID's annual meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada (Pre-register at [www.aaid-implant.org](http://www.aaid-implant.org))

#### Wednesday, November 7, 2007

AAID mock board examination review and presentation

#### Thursday, November 8, 2007

Special lecture on how to prepare applications for Parts I and II of the examination and to assemble the ten case reports for the Part II examination

#### Friday, November 9, 2007

ABOI/ID thirteenth annual breakfast

Lunch- and-learn sessions: *On Becoming a Diplomat*

#### Saturday, November 10, 2007

AAID president's celebration during which new Diplomates will be honored

#### April 3, 2008

Board of Directors' annual meeting

#### April 4-7, 2008

2008 certification examination

#### **ABOI/ID Board of Directors**

Jack A. Hahn, DDS, President  
James L. Rutkowski, DMD, Vice-president  
Barry K. Bartee, DDS, MD, Secretary  
Walter C. Chitwood, Jr., DDS, Treasurer  
Jerry L. Soderstrom, DDS, Immediate Past President  
Charles M. Weiss, DDS, Director  
H. Dexter Barber, DDS, Director

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