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A Message from your President

David A. Bitonti, DMD

These are certainly interesting times in which we are living, and I have a few topics to discuss and provide an update. With interesting times comes a need and a responsibility to adapt and contribute wherever and whenever needed. With that said, I want to recognize and thank all of the ABOMS Diplomates who have contributed to screening and caring for patients, suspected of and inflicted with COVID-19, that are outside of the traditional Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon roles. You have shown our patients and colleagues, not only the skill and tenacity that our specialty brings to the table, but your knowledge and willingness to contribute, care for, and support patients and communities. Well done!

With the onset of COVID-19 and all of the requirements and recommendations for social distancing, group sizes, gatherings, disinfection requirements... and the list continues, we took a hard and decisive look at the delivery of the OMSITE Examination. As you know, that examination is administered to Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery residents in the April timeframe each year. We worked with our testing partner, Prometric, to change the dates and expand the time for examination delivery for residents to take the examination beginning in May and extending through July 31. Additionally, we provided an avenue whereby residents could take the examination from the safety of their own home through the use of a remote proctor. As of June 8, over 700 residents have completed the examination with the remaining residents scheduled through July 31.

As you know by now, the AAOMS Annual Meeting in San Antonio, TX has been cancelled and is being converted to a Virtual CME opportunity. I will miss getting to see you all at the meeting. It is exciting to see this virtual and webinar meeting style come together, and it is particularly exciting to have the content from the Dental Implant Conference included in those offerings.

Due to the yet unknown nature of the COVID-19 course for the fall and winter, ABOMS has begun discussing potential contingency plans for delivery of the Qualifying Examination (QE) and even the Oral Certifying Examination (OCE). No definitive decisions have been made, but please rest assured that your Board is thinking ahead and working toward executing the best and safest plan for the candidates, Examination Committee, and ABOMS Staff. As information about the COVID-19 Pandemic status becomes available for the fall and winter, we will keep you informed well enough in advance for appropriate planning.

We are in our first year of the new Certification Maintenance (CM) process, and everything is progressing well. Diplomates are completing their assigned tasks, and there have been no major issues. Everyone is reminded you must complete your CM assignments before you are able to complete your Annual Registration (AR) for 2021. Your assignment is on your portal on the ABOMS website. We are ready to answer your questions and assist you in the completion of the CM process.

My final reminder relates to timing for the Annual Registration. It will be changing from November to the end of December, of the current year, to January 1 through March 1 of the next year. This allows you the full year to complete your CM requirements (done by December 31) prior to the initiation of AR. If you have questions, please reach out to the Administrative Staff. With all the COVID-19 issues, they have done an excellent job keeping the office running, supporting
you, and meeting all requirements while working remotely. Please thank them when you see, email, or speak with them. There is no better team in the business.

This is my last “President’s Message” for the “Diplomate”, and I want to thank all of you for making this time memorable; the assistance and understanding you provided; your openness and conversation as we have endeavored to move ABOMS forward through new and needed initiatives; and key to it all, your friendship. It has been my honor and privilege to represent you and ABOMS while interacting with organizations, committees, and communities of interest. The ABOMS legacy is strong, innovative, preeminent, and sound. I have been privileged and blessed to work with a superb group of Directors, and tremendous Administrative Staff. The ABOMS is in adept, energetic, intelligent, and confident hands possessing a keen ability to adapt, decide, and lead, as we navigate whatever the future brings. More than ever, ABOMS has focused on strategic and long-range planning, targeting processes improvement within the current educational and healthcare environment, while ensuring the integrity and value of Board Certification to our Diplomates and the public. Being ABOMS President is and will remain the highlight of my professional career. Thank you for this opportunity. I am truly grateful. Most importantly, I want to thank Lisa, D.J., and Alexandra for their unwavering understanding, love, and support.

David A. Bitonti, DMD
ABOMS President

COVID-19 Impact and Updates

ABOMS staff would like to thank all of our Diplomates for working under these challenging circumstances. We appreciate you all! While we are staggering our in-office hours, we are still available to check email and voice messages and will continue communicating updates to our Diplomates as they become available. Here is a list of recent updates and changes due to COVID-19:

- **2020 OMSITE**: This examination has been extended through July 31 and is also now being offered remotely.
- **2020 AAOMS Annual Meeting**: The in-person meeting has been cancelled, and it will now be a virtual event. Any ABOMS-related events at this meeting will no longer be held or will instead have a virtual component. ABOMS will send more information as it becomes available.
- **2020 CAQ Examinations**: The two CAQ examinations (which were to take place in San Antonio on October 6) will now be offered remotely. ABOMS is also offering refunds to those who choose to no longer take the examination. Those who have registered will receive more information as it becomes available.
As every Diplomate knows, the ABOMS certification program is a rigorous and thorough process. The individuals listed below successfully completed the certification process by passing the Oral Certifying Examination at the beginning of this year. Please join us in giving a warm welcome to our newest ABOMS Diplomates!
Congratulations on Another 10 Years

Certification Maintenance (CM) is a comprehensive program instituted by ABOMS in 2005. In order to maintain certification, Diplomates who hold time-limited certificates are required to participate in this program. The Diplomate names listed below are individuals whose certificates expired on December 31, 2019, and successfully met all four components of the CM process: Professional Standing, Lifelong Learning and Self-Assessment, Cognitive Expertise, and Evaluation of Performance in Practice. Although the process has recently changed to a more ongoing and interactive process, certificates still run on a 10-year cycle as long as the yearly requirements are met.
I am an active duty OMS in the United States Public Health Service. Prior to residency, I was a general dentist for the Indian Health Service in western, bush Alaska. The Yukon Kuskokwim Delta is approximately the land size of the state of Oregon with a population of more than 25,000 people who live among 58 rural communities not connected by road. The communities range in size from 25 to over 1,000 persons each, and some do not have running water. I was based out of the dental department in the local hospital in Bethel. From the villages, Bethel is only accessible by airplane, boat, and (in winter) snowmobiles and four wheelers. Cars often use the frozen rivers as roads during winter. Part of the job was traveling to these villages with portable dental equipment (chair, instruments, compressor, etc.) and treating the Alaskan natives in their own communities. I grew a strong attraction to Alaska, the land and the people.

There are no OMSs in these remote areas of Alaska, so they are referred to the Alaska Native Medical Center (ANMC) in Anchorage. After residency, I returned to Alaska and am now on the receiving end of the referral process. At ANMC, our department serves all Alaskan natives and beneficiaries from the entire state. From routine oral surgery procedures to being on the Alaska State Cleft Lip and Palate team, we are a busy service with a vast number of patients who are spread out amongst the last frontier.

Once a year, the new public health dentists in Alaska come to ANMC for an introduction to bush dentistry appropriately called “Challenges.” I have lectured to this group every year after I completed residency. They find solace that I also attended this course 10 years ago, personally know the challenges of their job, and am available when they return to the bush.

Although I am no longer flying to remote villages with portable gear at -40°F ambient, I do provide full scope oral and maxillofacial surgery and serve the people who define the difficulty in access to care.
Certification Maintenance (CM)

As you are all aware, 2019 was the last year of the administration of the Recertification Examination (RE). Beginning this year, ABOMS switched to the ongoing and yearly Certification Maintenance (CM) process. So far, we have had great feedback on this change!

If you have not yet completed your 2020 CM, you have until December 31, 2020. This is required for all Diplomates, regardless of when you last took the RE. Visit your Diplomate profile to view and complete your requirements.

NEW! Annual Registration Timeline

Please note that the Annual Registration (AR) timeline will be changing. Rather than doing the October to December renewals for the following year, ABOMS will now have AR renewals run from January to March. This means that you will NOT receive renewal notices this October. Instead, you will pay 2021 AR beginning in January of 2021. You will not be able to pay 2021 AR if you have not yet completed your 2020 Certification Maintenance requirements, so please be sure to complete those by the end of the year. ABOMS will notify Diplomates electronically as we approach the new year.

Become an ABOMS Examiner!

Interested in joining the ABOMS Examination Committee? Applications open August 5 through Diplomate profiles and will remain open until December 1. For those who have been an active Diplomate for at least three years, you may be eligible to apply. Along with your application, you will be required to submit an evaluation form from two current or previous Examination Committee members. Applicants will be notified next spring for the 2021-2022 year. Newly appointed Examiners, also known as Junior Examiners, serve as item writers for the ABOMS computer-based examinations and CM processes. A Diplomate must serve as a Junior Examiner for a minimum of two years before being considered to serve as an OCE Examiner. Visit www.aboms.org/diplomates/examination-committee for more information.

Display your Board Certification!

Want patients to know you’re Board Certified by ABOMS? Visit the online store in your Diplomate profile to order a customized press release, certificate, brochures, or Diplomate pin.
2020-2021 Examination Committee

Each spring the Board of Directors selects a group of Examiners to serve on its current year’s Examination Committee. This group of exceptional individuals aid in the development of the ABOMS computer-based testing (CBT) examinations and Oral Certifying Examination (OCE). Committee members are responsible for submitting questions and cases for specific examinations and, at times, assigned to leadership positions within the Committee. The Board recognizes the time and commitment spent as an ABOMS Examiner and thanks our dedicated members for advancing the specialty.

Newly appointed Examiners, also known as Junior Examiners, serve as item writers for the ABOMS CBT examinations and Certification Maintenance processes. Individuals who serve in this role have the opportunity to be appointed as an Examiner to the OCE based on their performance as a Junior Examiner. A Diplomate must serve a minimum of two years as a Junior Examiner to be considered as an OCE Examiner. Junior Examiners are marked with an asterisk on the Examination Committee listing below. Newly appointed Junior Examiners are marked with a double asterisk. Welcome, new Junior Examiners!

2020-2021 Examination Committee Members

Edward Adlesic  Eugene D'Amico  Doug Johnson  Suzanne McCormick  Joshua Segal**
Tara Aghaloo**  David Dattilo  Robert Julian  Edward Miller  John Shroyer
John Allen  Valmont Desa  Karen Keith  Gayle Miranda  Constantine Simos**
John Alonge  Robert Diecidue  Kevin Kempers  Brian Murphy*  Paul Smith
Suganya Appugounder**  Jasjit Dillon  Kelly Kennedy  Greg Ness  Roger Spampata
Michael Beckley  Donita Dyalram*  David Kim  Brandon Newell**  David Stanton
Mark Beehner**  Jeffrey Elo  King Kim  Robert Nustad  Randall Stastny
Richard Berger  David Fallah**  David Kirkpatrick*  Chan Park*  Marty Steed
Gary Boulox  Elie Ferneini*  JD Kisella  Daniel Perez*  Larry Stigall
Sidney Bourgeois  Luis Ferrer-Nuin*  Alia Koch*  Leonel Perez**  Richard Szumita
Tuan Bui*  Bud Fidler  Antonia Kolokythas  Julia Plevnia  Richard Tannyhill**
Todd Brandt  Elda Fisher**  Deepak Krishnan  Lee Pollan  Daniel Taub
Curt Cain  Steve Fletcher  Carl Labella*  Jason Portnof*  Thomas Teenier
Ronald Caloss  Pedro Franco  Edward Lahey  Kathryn Powell**  Jayson Terres
Lionel Candelaria  Michael Gentile  Janice Lee  John Ray**  Paul Tiwana
Vincent Carrao  Tamer Goksel  Jesse Lee*  Charlie Repa  Tibebu Tsegga**
Angelle Casagrande*  Christopher Haggerty  Susie Lin*  Cory Resnick*  Ashok Veeranki**
Paul Casmedes  Earl Hasegawa  John Lupori**  Ramon Ruiz  Chris Viozzi
Guillermo Chacon  James Henderson**  Killian MacCarthy  Sara Runnels*  Brent Ward
Radhika Chigurupati  Jon Holmes  Stephen MacLeod  Michael Safian**  James Ward*
Nam Cho*  David Hunter  Amir Marashi  Salam Salman**  Tom Weil
Joseph Cillo  Raza Hussain*  Glenn Maron  Thomas Schlieve*  Dean Whitman**
Paul Ciuci  Courtney Jatana**  Nathan Schroeder  Melvyn Yeoh*
Leadership Positions

Examination Committee members are selected by the Board to serve in leadership roles through the development and administration for both our CBT examinations and OCE. The individuals listed exude the highest level of professionalism and exceptional knowledge in the specialty. The Board of Directors graciously thanks each of these individuals for their time and commitment to the specialty.

2020–2021 Co-Chairs

**Surgery Section I**
Kelly Kennedy
Killian MacCarthy

**Surgery Section II**
Paul Tiwana
Nathan Schroeder

**Surgery Section III**
Joseph Cillo
Tamer Goksel

2020–2021 Section Editors

**Surgery Section I**
Michael Gentile

**Surgery Section II**
Kevin Kempers

**Surgery Section III**
Deepak Krishnan

2020–2021 Content Experts

Gary Bouloux
Todd Brandt
Curt Cain

Jasjit Dillon
Pedro Franco
Tamer Goksel

Antonia Kolokythas
Robert Nustad
Paul Tiwana

Certification Maintenance

**CM Co-Chairs**
Sydney Bourgeois
Suzanne McCormick

**CM Section Editor**
Todd Brandt
Data from each of our examinations is collected and listed on the ABOMS website. Below are the statistics from our latest examinations.

### 2019 Recertification Examination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Taken</th>
<th>Total Taking Examination</th>
<th>Total Passing Examination</th>
<th>Pass Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Time Candidates</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repeat Candidates</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>71%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total/Overall</strong></td>
<td><strong>98</strong></td>
<td><strong>91</strong></td>
<td><strong>93%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2020 Oral Certifying Examination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Taken</th>
<th>Total Taking Examination</th>
<th>Total Passing Examination</th>
<th>Pass Rate</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Time Candidates</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>212</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repeat Candidates</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>51%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total/Overall</strong></td>
<td><strong>322</strong></td>
<td><strong>244</strong></td>
<td><strong>75%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 2020 Qualifying Examination

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time Taken</th>
<th>Total Taking Examination</th>
<th>Total Passing Examination</th>
<th>Pass Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First Time Candidates</td>
<td>254</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>96%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repeat Candidates</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>36</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total/Overall</strong></td>
<td><strong>326</strong></td>
<td><strong>281</strong></td>
<td><strong>86%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2020 Certificate of Added Qualifications (CAQ) in Head and Neck Oncologic and Reconstructive Surgery
This examination will be administered remotely

NEW! 2020 Certificate of Added Qualifications (CAQ) in Pediatric Craniomaxillofacial Surgery
This examination will be administered remotely

2021 Qualifying Examination (QE)
January 9-16, 2021
Important Dates: Applications open now through September 25, 2020

2021 Oral Certifying Examination (OCE)
February 22-26, 2021, Raleigh, NC
Important Dates: Applications open now through September 25, 2020

2021 Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery In-Service Training Examination (OMSITE)
March 13-27, 2021
Important Dates: Applications open November 17, 2020
David C. Stanton, DMD, MD

It is a great honor to have been nominated for the position of Director of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery. My time on the Examination Committee has been the most rewarding experience of my career. During my ABOMS tenure, I have served in the roles of Examiner, Section Co-chair, and Regional Advisor. Year after year, I am awed by the intelligence, thoughtfulness, and skill of my fellow examiners.

At the University of Pennsylvania, I was the Residency Program Director for 14 years, and have served as predoctoral OMS course director for 23 years. These experiences have allowed me to mold residents into future OMS colleagues, pique dental student interest in OMS, and expose future dentists to our specialty’s broad scope.

I have been fortunate to serve on national committees, including the Executive Committee of the Faculty Section, the Committee on Patient Safety, the Resident Surgical Log Task Force, the Committee on Education and Training, and the Commission for Dental Accreditation (CODA). On these committees, I have worked with AAOMS and ABOMS leadership and appreciate the nuances of the collaboration required between our specialty and other dental and medical organizations. These committee endeavors have resulted in the publication of the Benchmarks for Education and Training, the rollout of a new Resident Surgical Log, and the ongoing refinement of the OMS accreditation standards. In 2018, AAOMS honored me as “Committee-Person of the Year” for my contributions.

Serving as a Director is a great privilege. It carries the responsibilities of the ongoing stewardship of the specialty, the continuous improvement of the certification process, and the protection of public safety. If elected to the leadership, I will utilize the insight gleaned from my previous experiences to work with the current Directors to respond to future challenges and to uphold the integrity of the American Board of Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery.
I’m truly thankful to be considered once again for the Board of Directors of ABOMS. The opportunity to serve within the board remains the most fulfilling endeavor of my professional life. The world is changing faster than ever these days and leading certifying boards will need to evolve to meet these challenges. I have seen firsthand the innovative adaptations our board and other surgical boards have implemented by taking an active role in providing educational support for residents beyond just assessment. The ABOMS leadership builds bridges with leading national organizations in both surgery and dentistry to keep our specialty at the forefront. I would strive to uphold and further the objectives of ABOMS, namely to elevate the standards of oral and maxillofacial surgery through a certification and maintenance of certification process that fosters excellence and encourages learning, thus promoting the delivery of superior surgical care.

Within the ABOMS Examination Committee, I have experienced a number of leadership roles from content expert, horizontal rotator, Section Co-Chair, to senior mentor for new board examiners. As a surgeon educator, I prepare residents for the real world challenges the board exam replicates. To see them successfully complete the certification process offers persistent assurance that we are introducing another generation of safe, well-trained, and thoughtful surgeons into clinical practice.

My view of our specialty’s scope has developed through involvement across its spectrum nationally. I have served the specialty on AAOMS committees focused on education and training (CET), the committee on dental accreditation (CODA) as review committee member, as well as leadership roles within the IADR/AADR, AACMFS, ADEA, OMSNIC, and state level society leadership in both Georgia and South Carolina. This has provided me with insight into the challenges and opportunities facing surgeons and surgical residents today. It has emphasized to me what a vital role the ABOMS plays in maintaining the highest patient care standards through improving the knowledge and skills of our diplomates. I sincerely thank my colleagues for the chance to contribute.
Paul S. Tiwana, DDS, MD

I am truly humbled to be nominated by my colleagues to become a director for the American Board of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery. The opportunity to continue my service to our specialty in this role would be a tremendous honor.

I completed my residency at The University of North Carolina followed by a fellowship in Pediatric Craniofacial Surgery. I currently lead the Division of Oral & Maxillofacial Surgery at the University of Oklahoma while also operating an independent private practice. This has provided me with a unique view across the opportunities and challenges we face. The educational foundations of our specialty are a particular focus of my career. I have served in multiple committee chair roles regarding education, including the ADEA Section of OMS Anesthesia and Hospital Dentistry, the OMSF Fellowship Education Committee, as well as leading the FEDA, CET, and Faculty Section committees for AAOMS. I also have served as a member of the Education Committee for the Osteoscience Foundation, where I now am a member of the board and currently am a member of the IAOMS Education Committee. Additionally, I have been a member of the Residency Review Committee for CODA.

In my current service to the ABOMS Examination Committee I have provided leadership as a horizontal rotator, content expert, section co-chair, and as the editor for the new CAQ examination in Pediatric Craniofacial Surgery. I will work tirelessly to ensure that ABOMS certification continues as a hallmark achievement for candidates while retaining close relevant relationships to diplomates through re-certification and beyond. I will also vigorously maintain certification examinations reflecting the scope of contemporary practice. My many diverse experiences have afforded me an in-depth and broad perspective of our specialty, a specialty that I firmly believe is the very best in healthcare today and one I am honored to continue serving.