



President's Message

Elaine C. Siegfried, MD, President

Heraclitus of Ephesus, a Greek philosopher who lived 2,500 years ago, was known for his universal doctrine: nothing endures but change. In the past 100

years, enormous changes in the way medicine is practiced have been paralleled in scope by changes in oversight. For the past 78 years, the American Board of Dermatology has been responsible for "protecting the public interest by establishing and maintaining high standards of training, education and qualifications of the physicians rendering care in dermatology". Interested readers can glean more about the history of the ABD from prior newsletters. Almost a decade's worth of these can be retrieved at http://www.abderm.org/home/get_newsletter.html, a resource that the founding directors could not have imagined. Past presidents' messages have all focused on change. Modifications to the mode of certification have been frequent and ongoing since the first oral boards were administered in 1932.

The fabric of the Board is gradually rewoven as well. Directors are typically chosen from the ranks of test committee members, who have demonstrated a dedication to teaching and learning, a willingness to work hard, and a record of reliability. Each one donates countless hours of service over a minimum of 10 years. The rewards come with creating fair and balanced measures of competence, which our recent graduates seem to master at ever higher levels of difficulty. The exercise of creating certifying examinations is also an extraordinary personal learning experience, a chance to review what experts representing general dermatology and all the subspecialties regard as the most important nuggets of information. But the largest reward is the opportunity to interact with a group of individuals

whose top priorities are caring for patients, teaching the next generation of physicians and maintaining the highest ethical standards. Enduring threads have been with the Executive Directors, a position held from 1962-1992 by Clarence Livingood, who established the home office in Detroit and recruited our beloved administrator, Margaret Aguiar, who has expertly served the Board since 1981. John Strauss has been an integral member of the ABD since 1982, and continues to provide wisdom and perspective as Executive Consultant. Steve Webster, who will at the end of this year step down after 18 years of service, has most recently focused on the thoughtful oversight of professionalism and license review. July 26, 2009 marked the passing of Dr. Harry Hurley (see page 3), who was an active member of the ABD for more than 25 years, as a 3 term elected director, Executive Director and Executive Consultant. He will be long remembered as an outstanding clinician, educator and leader.

In addition to developing a fully computer-based system for creating and administering examinations and designing a practical and meaningful Maintenance of Certification program, in 2010 the Board will focus on two other important challenges: defining and sustaining the subspecialties of surgical and pediatric dermatology. The clinical need for subspecialists with additional training and expertise in both of these fields has been well-recognized for more than 30 years and supported by mentoring programs.

The field of surgical dermatology was initially defined by the pioneering microsurgical technique developed by Dr. Frederic Mohs. In 1967 he founded the American College of Mohs Surgery (ACMS) to approve and monitor post-residency training programs. More recently, the hard work

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and dedication of Dr. Randy Roenigk helped earn recognition and approval for training in "Procedural Dermatology" from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). Between 2003 and 2010, the responsibility for oversight was gradually transferred from the ACMS to the ACGME, and consideration was given to providing trainees with the opportunity to obtain and maintain subspecialty certification from the American Board of Medical Subspecialties (ABMS). The number of dermatologists interested in surgical subspecialization has grown rapidly. In addition to more than 50 ACGME fellowship programs, training has been provided by a variety of other private and university-based preceptorship programs largely funded by clinical revenue. Many dermatologists self-trained in surgical and cosmetic techniques or trained via these alternative routes have opposed formal accreditation and certification. In response, a Task Force of the ABD was created last summer, and skillfully chaired by Dr. Lela Lee. After a series of thoughtful meetings, the Task Force unanimously recommended that the ABD continue to pursue ABMS certification for dermatologists who received ACGME-approved subspecialty surgical training.

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Pediatric Dermatologists:

Note that the October 18, 2010 examination in Pediatric Dermatology is the last examination for applicants to qualify under the 5-year experience pathway. Deadline to apply for this examination is April 1, 2010. Contact the ABD office at 313-874-1088 or visit the website, www.abderm.org, for more information.

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The details of this process, including a new name for the subspecialty, will continue to be carefully considered in 2010.

In contrast, Pediatric Dermatology was initially formalized with board certification in 2004. The need for pediatric subspecialists is well-recognized, but the number of people pursuing additional training in the field is small, possibly a result of the comparatively lower financial reimbursement. Currently there are more than 30 academic institutions seeking qualified full-time pediatric dermatology faculty, representing a significant unmet need for training and patient care. To date, twenty-one institutions have been approved to sponsor fellowship programs. Due to this small number, the ABD and institutional Graduate Medical Education committees provide oversight for these programs. A number of strategies designed to fill the manpower need have been unsuccessful, including a decrease in the required duration of fellowship training to one year, a 5-year combined pediatrics/dermatology residency training pathway and an extension of the grandfather period until 2010. Thirty-four diplomates passed the most recent certifying examination in 2008 bringing the total of board certified pediatric dermatologists to 162, representing 1.5% of all dermatologists.

Members of the Board are well aware that all the training requirements, certifying and recertifying exercises are a source of anxiety, and sometimes resentment or even contempt. The directors struggle with difficult decisions about training, certifying and censuring individuals to best protect the public and the highest professional standards of our specialty. Although most of the current directors received lifetime certificates, they all sacrificed this privilege and entered the Maintenance of Certification (MOC) program. As the 2010 President, I believe that creating meaningful certification and MOC programs is the most important responsibility of the ABD. All the members of the ABD and its test committees will continue to work towards this goal with impartiality, integrity and solemn respect for all the members of our professional society. In addition, any diplomate who would like to participate in the process of improving the examinations should submit questions that can help differentiate competent and ethical dermatologists. ●

New Directors Of The Board



Dr. Janet Fairley
The American Board of Dermatology welcomes **Dr. Janet Fairley** to the Board of Directors. She spent her early years in Michigan, obtaining her medical degree, dermatology training and research fellowship at the University of Michigan. She subsequently became a faculty member at the University of Rochester in New York and then spent 17 years at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee where she ultimately became a professor of dermatology and residency program director. In January 2007, she became the John Strauss Professor and Chair of the Department of Dermatology at the University of Iowa.

Dr. Fairley's area of expertise is immunodermatology; she maintains an active and productive laboratory at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Iowa City which is affiliated with the university. She continues to pursue research efforts in the pathophysiology of bullous disorders. Dr. Fairley has 90 original publications, numerous abstracts and chapters.

Service outside the laboratory includes being on the Executive Committee of the Dermatology Foundation, Board of Directors of the Medical Dermatology Society, Council on Scientific Assembly at the American Academy of Dermatology, Board of Directors of the Association of Professors of Dermatology, and last year she served as President of the Iowa Dermatological Society.

The American Board of Dermatology, Inc.

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The American Board of Dermatology also welcomes **Dr. Clark C. Otley**. Dr. Otley graduated from Duke University School of Medicine, completed his internship and dermatology residency in the Harvard program, and a fellowship in cutaneous micrographic surgery and oncology at Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota. Following the fellowship, he remained at Mayo Clinic where he became Chief of the Division of Surgery. In 2009 he was appointed Chair of the Department of Dermatology.



Dr. Clark C. Otley
The recipient of excellence in teaching awards and teacher of the year awards, it is notable that he has mentored 17 residents or fellows during his time in Rochester.

Participation in regional and national dermatologic groups has resulted in his election to the Presidency of the Minnesota Dermatological Society (2004), Board of Directors of the Association of Academic Dermatologic Surgeons, Board of Directors of the American Society of Dermatologic Surgery, Board of Directors of the American College of Mohs Micrographic Surgery and Cutaneous Oncology as well as many committees of the American Academy of Dermatology.

Dr. Otley has special interests in the management of skin cancer in organ transplant recipients and in immunosuppressed individuals, as well as wound care management. He is the author of 90 peer-reviewed articles as well as numerous abstracts. He has served on the editorial board of several journals. Dr. Otley has been a productive member of the ABD Test and Curriculum Committees since 1999. ●



Tribute to Harry

The Directors and Staff of the American Board of Dermatology were saddened this past summer by the loss of **Harry J. Hurley, Jr, MD.**

Dr. Harry J. Hurley, Jr. MD

Dr. Hurley was known by generations of dermatology residents because of the popular textbook Dermatology which he co-edited with Dr. Samuel Moschella through three editions between 1975 and 1992. This clinically-oriented textbook was one of the first in the field to include chapters on the emerging field of dermatologic and cosmetic surgery. This edition undoubtedly reflected Dr. Hurley's own interest in and practice of dermatologic surgery for the treatment of cutaneous tumors.

A practicing academician, Dr. Hurley's areas of research and expertise were the sweat glands and many of the 118 articles and chapters that he wrote focused on disorders of these structures.

Dr. Hurley held a faculty appointment at the University of Pennsylvania for the last 50 years of his life, taking a short break between 1959 and 1962 during which time he was Professor and Chief of the Section of Dermatology at Hahnemann Medical College.

Dr. Hurley joined the American Board of Dermatology as a Director in 1974, became Assistant Executive Director in 1984, Associate Executive Director in 1989, Executive Director in 1993 and Executive Consultant in 2001. His longevity of service on the Board was exceeded only by his predecessor Dr. Clarence Livingood. During his stewardship, he guided the Board through the tumultuous beginning of time-limited certification and recertification, and fostered the strong relationship between the ABD and the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS). In recognition for his contribution to the ABMS, he was awarded the ABMS Distinguished Service Award in 2004.

Dr. Hurley will be remembered as a consummate gentleman, whose passion for dermatology resulted in half a century of commitment and contribution. He will be missed.



The American Board Of Dermatology, Inc. 2010 DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

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**VISIT THE ABD BOOTH (#1257)
AT THE AAD ANNUAL MEETING IN MIAMI,
MARCH 6-8 2010,
to learn more about Maintenance of Certification.**



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Where are you in your MOC-D cycle ??

YEAR	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
Annual Fee	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
License	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
CME	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Patient Safety		✓								
Self-Assessment			#1			#2				#3
Patient Survey					#1					#2
Peer Survey					#1					#2
Practice QA/QI					#1					#2
Examination								✓	✓	✓

2009 Examination Pass Rates

2009 ABD EXAMINATIONS

	# CANDIDATES	PASS RATE
Certifying	421	91.4%
Recertification	1,183	96.6%
Dermatopathology	30 dermatologists	93%
	65 pathologists	78%
	95 total	83%
Pediatric Derm	NO EXAM	—

2010 Examination Dates

2010 ABD EXAMINATIONS

	APPLIC DEADLINE	DATE	SITE
Certifying	March 1	July 19 - 22	Tampa, FL
		July 26 -29	Tampa, FL
MOC/ Recertification	March 15	March 10	Miami, FL
		August 8	Chicago, IL
DermPath	May 1	September 1	Tampa, FL
Pediatric Derm	April 1	October 18	Prometric centers

IMPORTANT REMINDER

TO UPDATE YOUR PROFILE ON THE ABD WEBSITE
www.abderm.org

The American Board of Dermatology database is available online to residents, fellows and diplomates. Please review and modify your personal information periodically, especially to verify that we have your current email address. Help us keep the lines of communication open.

Here is how to do your part:

1. Go to the home page of the ABD website (www.abderm.org) and click on the white "Login" on the left side of the screen.
2. Your Username is the first initial of your first name plus your last name (example: the username for Jane Smith is JSmith). (There are exceptions, though. If you have a common last name there may be a numeral at the end of your username. Call the Board office at 313-874-1088 to inquire.)
3. Your Password is your six-digit candidate ID number. After logging in, you can change your password if you wish (click on "UserID" and then click on "Edit").
4. Once you have successfully logged in, click on "Profile" to verify your personal information and then click on "Edit" to supply any missing information. Also, verify and/or provide your email address. Because the ABD plans to increase the use of email for primary communication to diplomates in the future it is vitally important to keep all information up to date.

Candidates can apply online for all ABD examinations -- Certification, Recertification, Dermatopathology, and Pediatric Dermatology.

Telephone the Board office at 313-874-1088 if you have questions or need help with your username or password.

SPAM EMAIL – ADD ABD TO “SAFE SENDERS” LIST

Information to help avoid having ABD email end up in your spam or junk file

Because email systems are different, these communications can be interrupted by security settings and spam-blocking features. Email can get blocked by an organization, internet service provider, email program, security program, or spam-blocking applications.

The ABD encourages all diplomates to place the ABD on a "safe sender" or "white list" to ensure receipt of critical correspondence. You may either contact your internet service provider to ask that email from the ABD be accepted, or change your security and spam-blocking settings on your email program to accept ABD emails. In Microsoft Outlook, highlight an email from the ABD, click on "Actions," click on "Junk Email," and then click "Add Sender's Domain (@hfhs.org as well as @abderm.org) to Safe Sender's List."