



Newsletter of the
American Board of Oral Implantology/Implant Dentistry
Volume IX, Number 1, July 2006

From the President

Greetings! I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate **25** dentists who just became certified by the Board of Directors on May 4, 2006. These distinguished practitioners include the following:

Jorge E. Arce, DDS, Redondo Beach, CA
Timothy J. Armanini, DDS, Erie, PA
Gabor Balogh, DDS, West Vancouver, BC,
CANADA

Peter A. Balogh, DDS, Burnaby, BC, CANADA
Richard M. Benninger, DDS, Medina, OH

Jeffrey O. Capes, DMD, MD, St. Simons Island, GA
Lee R. Cohen, DDS, MS, MS, Jupiter, FL
Davila, C. Edgar, DDS, MS, Tampa, FL
Lewis E. Dowden, DMD, MBA, Louisville, KY
Sameh K. El-Ebrashi, BDS, MS, Portland, OR

Thomas J. Han, DDS, MS, Los Angeles, CA
Edward R. Hughes, DDS, Sterling, VA
David A. Jarrin, DDS, Moline, IL
Edward L. Jones, DMD, MD, Birmingham, AL
Jin Y. Kim, DDS, MS, MPH, Garden Grove, CA

Michael T. Kolodychak, MPH, DMD, Erie, PA
Edward K. Lee, DDS, Scarborough, ON, CANADA
Gary W. Machiko, DMD, Pittsburg, PA
Wayne A. Patterson, DMD, Scottsboro, AL
Christopher C. Rooney, DDS, Leawood, KS

Robert J. Ryan, DDS, Mt. Prospect, IL
Shahram S. Samy, DDS, Eugene, OR
Roderick Stewart, DDS, Markham, ON, CANADA
Michael J. Tobin, DDS, MS, Hamburg, NJ
Michael Y. Yeh, DDS, MSD, Federal Way, WA

The ABOI/ID will present these distinguished dentists with medallions during the ABOI/ID Breakfast, as well as give them special recognition during the President's reception and dinner, both of which will take place during the 2006 AAID Annual Meeting in Chicago, Illinois.

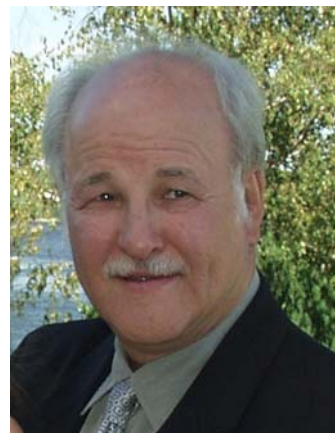
This year, **40** candidates participated in the examination process: **18** sat for both Parts I and II; **12**, for Part I only; and, **10** for Part II only. The ABOI/ID was activated in 1990. Since then, **340** dentists have become Diplomates. Including the new 2006 Diplomates, we now have **317** dentists who are Board certified.

Please be watching for the *2006 Diplomat Directory* will be published and made available to you in August. An electronic directory is currently available on the ABOI/ID's website.

Jerry L. Soderstrom, DDS

J. Thomas Chess, DDS, Appointed to the ABOI/ID for Special Term

In March 2006, A. Burton Melton, DDS, of Albuquerque, New Mexico resigned his position as a Director of the ABOI/ID. He had served the ABOI/ID for just over a year.



J. Thomas Chess, DDS

As the *ABOI/ID Bylaws* empowered him to do, Jerry L. Soderstrom, DDS, President, then appointed J. Thomas Chess, DDS, of South Pasadena, California—a Diplomate in good standing—to serve in the place of Dr. Melton through December 31, 2006. Dr. Chess

had previously been elected to the Board in 1993 and had served as an *elected* official through 1999. Dr. Soderstrom asked him to serve in a special *appointed*

capacity. This appointment was ratified by the Board of Directors and Dr. Chess accepted the position.

Nomination of New Board Members

Historically, during the annual meeting, the ABOI/ID Board of Directors has nominated the Diplomate it would like to serve as its new Board member beginning the following year.

Consistent with the *Bylaws*, the Board has—in the past—reviewed the list of eligible Diplomates who are also AAID Fellows and Associate Fellows. Then, it has also removed individuals who were members or officers of other implant Boards of Directors. From this customized list, the ABOI/ID Board has then selected its choices. The two candidates ranking the highest have become the first and second nominees. Should the first nominee not be able to accept the nomination, then the second has been invited to serve.

For the 2007 term, the Board of Directors was need of nominating *two* members: one for the un-expired five years of Dr. Melton's seven-year term and another to fill the vacancy that would become available as a result of Dr. Robert J. Buhite's rotating off the Board effective December 31, 2006. The latter is a seven-year term.

After referring to a list of Diplomates who met the Board's criteria for serving on the Board, the Directors nominated the two individuals whom they believed were qualified and would be an asset to the Board of Directors.

The Board's Two Nominations

Five-Year Term (2007-2011)

The Board has nominated **Walter C. Chitwood, Jr., DDS**, to serve from 2007-2011. Dr. Chitwood graduated in 1978 from Middle Tennessee State University; and, from the University of Tennessee, College of Dentistry, in 1982. His postgraduate education includes dental-implant externships at the Center for Oral and Maxillofacial Rehabilitation in Clearwater, Florida and the Misch Implant Institute in Dearborn, Michigan.

In addition to owning a private dental practice in Murfreesboro, Tennessee, Chitwood has held several teaching appointments, including that of Assistant Clinical Professor at the



Walter C. Chitwood, DDS

School of Medicine, Department of Hospital Dentistry, and that of Adjunct Professor at the Tennessee State University, Department of Dental Hygiene. He serves as the Director of the Professional Resource Education Center in his city; and, his dental office functions as an off-campus dental-education site for the Tennessee Technology Centers, the source of education for certified dental assistants in his state.

Chitwood is a Diplomate of the ABOI/ID and a Fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry, the American Society of Osseointegration, the Academy of Implants and Transplants, and the Academy of Dentistry International.

He is an internationally recognized authority on aseptic technique for implant dentistry and, as such, serves as a consultant on infection control to medical and dental-product manufacturers. Chitwood is the developer and principle investigator of the Alabama Implant Overdenture.

Seven-Year Term (2007-2013)

The Board has nominated **H. Dexter Barber, DDS**, to serve from 2007-2013. After completing his under-graduate education at the University of California, Barber attended Meharry Medical College (Nashville) and graduated in 1983 with a degree in dental surgery.

In 1989, he completed a four-year residency in oral and maxillofacial surgery at the Alameda County Medical Center, Highland Hospital, in Oakland, California. After becoming a faculty



H. Dexter Barber, DDS

member and practicing dentistry at the University of Michigan until 1992, Dr. Barber moved to Pennsylvania and served as co-surgical director of the Brånemark Implant Center (University of Pennsylvania) through 1997. Currently, in addition to owning a

private practice in the greater Philadelphia area, he is vice-chairman of oral and maxillofacial surgery at the Temple University Hospitals.

Barber is a Fellow of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry and, since 1996, has been a Diplomate of the ABOI/ID. He has served on the Part I test construction committee of the ABOI/ID for several years, and currently serves as co-chair of that committee.

Barber has received 1.2 million dollars for dental-implant research. And, in addition to lecturing both nationally and internationally on implant dentistry, he has published more than 40 peer-reviewed articles on implants and reconstructive surgery. He is the editor of several textbooks.

Diplomates can also Nominate Candidates to the Board

Diplomates of the ABOI/ID can also nominate individuals for the Board's open 2007 seats, providing that at least five Diplomates endorse the nominations. To be eligible for nomination, Diplomates must be in good standing with the ABOI/ID, be a Fellow 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.

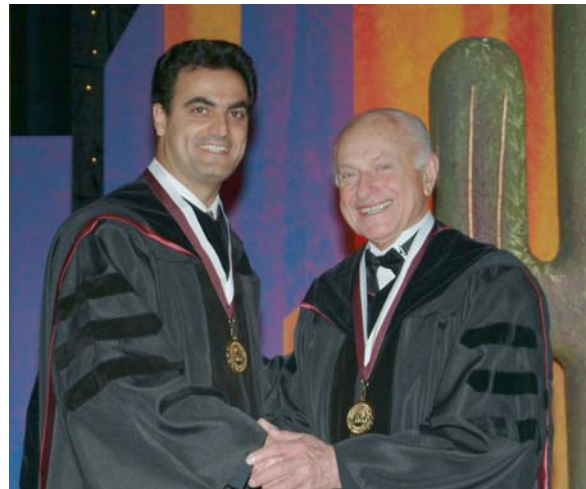
Consistent with the *Bylaws*, all nominations must be received in ABOI/ID office by 5:00 p.m. Central Time, Friday, September 8, 2006. The election will take place on Tuesday, November 7, 2006 by mail ballot.

Continuing Board Members

Members of the Board of Directors who will be continuing their service in 2007 include: Jerry L. Soderstrom, DDS (2007), Jack A. Hahn, DDS (2008), Charles M. Weiss, DDS (2009), James L. Rutkowski, DMD (2010), and Barry K. Barteel, DDS, MD (2012). The officers for 2006 can be seen on page six.

Recognition of 2005 Diplomates

The ABOI/ID honored each of its **27** new Diplomates at a special ceremony held in November



**Dr. Buhite (right), ABOI/ID President,
Congratulates Dr. Meserkhani, New Diplomate**

2005 during the President's Celebration and Dinner (AAID annual meeting, Scottsdale, Arizona). Robert J. Buhite, Sr., DDS, 2005 president of the ABOI/ID, along with Kevin O'Grady, DDS, 2005 President of the AAID, congratulated each of the **27** new Diplomates who were announced by James. L. Rutkowski, DMD.

New Format for the 2006 Part II Examination

This year's new Diplomates represented the first cohort to follow a new format for its Part II examinations. They were no longer required to submit their ten cases just before their oral examination. Instead, they submitted them as part of their *applications* for Part II. Only those applicants whose applications and cases met the Board's standards were accepted and allowed to progress on to the *oral* examination, which consisted of case rotations.

Furthermore, these Diplomates were no longer required to bring their own four cases to the examination session for discussion and review. Instead, they visited each of five standardized case stations, each of which was timed. At any one station, candidates reviewed a particular patient's medical history, dental chart, computer-printed plastic models, radiographs, and CT scans, etc. For each of the five cases, the evaluators then asked the candidates standardized questions in predetermined categories. By the end of the examination session, each candidate was rated on each of the same five cases as other candidates by ten examiners.

Revalidation of the ABOI/ID Certification Examination

In 2005, the ABOI/ID undertook a program to revalidate its certification examination. The process was comprised of three parts:

- ! An identification and listing by focus groups of patient-care activities in which Diplomates are engaged
- ! A verification of this patient-care listing through a mail survey of all Diplomates
- ! The development of a set of test specifications (a test blueprint) that is based upon the results of the survey and that serves as an infrastructure for the examinations

Presently, the Overview Committee has overseen the completion of all three phases. Not only have the focus groups identified what they believed to be pertinent patient care activities performed by

Diplomates, but also the Diplomates have completed and returned their practice analyses. [Fifty-six percent (56%) of the Diplomates responded.]

From the practice analyses, the Committee has been able to derive which patient care activities are currently critical for the safe and effective care of dental implant patients. Using the data from the analyses, the Committee has been able to prepare a new test blueprint, or--more precisely--the Board's *2008 Test Specifications*. The results will be presented the Board of Directors for approval during the Board's August 2006 meeting.

International Credentialing

During the past, the ABOI/ID Board has been considering the possibility of offering certification to international candidates who had met certain eligibility requirements and who had passed both parts of the examination. It has considered that these individuals should be offered a special credential--an award different in name from the ABOI/ID's *Diplomate* credential.

Before implementing its proposed program, however, the Board of Directors elected to communicate its plan with the Diplomates at large and to ask them to complete a short survey (in the form of a postcard) about the project. A large number of Diplomates has responded and returned surveys to the ABOI/ID. Indeed, the Board would like thank all Diplomates who replied. The results have provided additional information and insight into the proposed international program. During its August 2006 meeting, the Board will review the results of the survey and make further determinations about the feasibility of the program.

New Activities of the Board

Development of a Re-certification Program

The Board passed a resolution to pursue the concept of recertification. It took into account that, since in 1989, Diplomates have been awarded certificates that have *not* been time-limited, and therefore did *not* need to be renewed. In other words, the Board had awarded certificates to

dentists on the basis of their knowledge, skills, and

abilities (KSAs) and their performance on cases at a given point in time only, i.e., on the basis of a “snapshot evaluation.”

The Board further realized that what the current Diplomate certificate *could not* do was assess an implant dentist’s KSAs and experience *after* the certificate has been awarded three, five, eight, and ten years down the road. This realization brought forth the question whether the current system of certification evaluation met the needs of the public as well as it could.

In recognizing that other dental specialty boards had developed recertification programs and in recognizing that recertification represented an additional step in protecting the public, President Soderstrom charged the Continuing Education Committee with forming a plan for recertification for review by the Board. The Committee has now succeeded in creating a plan and will present it for approval to the ABOI/ID Board of Directors during the Board’s August 2006 meeting.

Accreditation of the ABOI/ID

The Board also passed a resolution to pursue accreditation for the ABOI/ID. Directors recognized that the ABOI/ID had followed the highest standards as it has made its certification process be the best can be. However, to protect the public to an even greater level, they recognized that there was perhaps more that the ABOI/ID might do. The ABOI/ID, as a certification agency, could itself become accredited through the National Council of Dental Credentialing Organizations (NCDCO).

The ABOI/ID being accredited would be of benefit for the following reasons:

- It would assist the public.
- It would give the ABOI/ID even greater credence.
- It would increase the marketability of the ABOI/ID’s certification program.
- It would provide a greater infrastructure for the ABOI/ID’s operation.

The Board recognized that, to become accredited, the ABOI/ID’s certification process would need to address several standards and that the new standards would need to be maintained.

Therefore, President Soderstrom charged the Continuing Education Committee with investigating the details and preparing the required information for the NCDCO.



Grant Park in Chicago

ABOI/ID Activities at the AAID Annual Meeting in Chicago

The annual meeting of the American Academy of Implant Dentistry (AAID) will be held October 25-29, 2006 at the Sheraton Hotel and Towers, Chicago, Illinois. Several activities of special interest to Diplomates and to those interested in becoming certified will be offered by the ABOI/ID and AAID.

The AAID will present a mock board review and examination. This luncheon session, which will be held on Wednesday, October 25, 2006 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. In registering for the meeting, interested individuals can purchase tickets for **\$80.00**. (The ticket price includes the cost of the lunch.)

During a special offering on Thursday, October 26, 2006, from 8:00 – 10:00 a.m., dentists interested in applying for the ABOI/ID certification examinations can learn how to prepare the applications for Parts I and II. This presentation offers 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 application. There is *no* admission fee.

The ABOI/ID will hold its twelfth annual breakfast for Diplomates and other interested dentists on Friday, October 27, 2006, from 7:00-8:00 a.m. During this event, President Soderstrom 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. Soderstrom 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 can also be purchased during registration.

Potential applicants for the ABOI/ID examination can also take part in the "lunch-and-learn" program entitled *On Becoming a Diplomate*. During this luncheon, which will be held on Friday, October 27, 2006 from 12:00–1:30 p.m., three current members of the Board of Directors who are also examiners will present informal seminars on preparing for and participating in the certification examination. During registration, tickets can be purchased for **\$80.00**.

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.

Calendar of Important Events

September 8, 2006

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

October 15, 2006

Applications are due for Parts I and II of the ABOI/ID 2007 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 and downloading the 2007 *Handbook*, the requirements, the study guide, and the Part I and Part II applications. This year, interested dentists can also view a special PowerPoint® presentation on how to prepare case reports for the Part II application.

October 25-29, 2006

AAID's annual meeting in Chicago, Illinois
(Pre-register at www.aaid-implant.org)

October 25, 2006

AAID mock board review and presentation

October 26, 2006

Special lecture on how to prepare applications
for Parts I and II of the examination

October 27, 2006

ABOI/ID twelfth annual breakfast
Lunch-and-learn sessions: *On Becoming a
Diplomate*

October 28, 2006

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

April 13-16, 2007

2007 certification examination
Board of Directors' annual meeting

ABOI/ID Board of Directors

Jerry L. Soderstrom, DDS, President
Jack A. Hahn, DDS, Vice-president
Charles M. Weiss, DDS, Secretary
James L. Rutkowski, DMD, Treasurer
Robert J. Buhite, Sr., DDS, Past-president
Barry K. Bartee, DDS, MD, Director
J. Thomas Chess, DDS, Director

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