

The GREEN Sheet

ARBO[®]

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83rd Annual Meeting A Success

The 2002 ARBO Annual Meeting, held June 23-25 in New Orleans, Louisiana, was attended by 77 board members representing 44 optometry boards, including the District of Columbia and Puerto Rico. With other invited guests and speakers the total attendance was 110, representing over 50 organizations. Providing an international flavor at several sessions were an additional 35 delegates from 12 countries attending the Second International Optometric Regulatory Conference (IORC2) (see back page).

The meeting opened Sunday, June 23, with the "National Boards" Workshop. This annual event, during which National Board staff provide state board members with a general overview of the National Board examinations, including summaries of candidate performance and plans for the future, was presented by Norman Wallis, Ph.D., O.D., NBEO Executive Director. Following a refreshment break, an overview of the Council on Optometric Practitioner Education (COPE) program was presented. During this session, attendees gained insight on how to use the Web site to verify COPE approval of continuing education and learned of new developments and program enhancements. Barry Schneider, O.D., COPE Chair, Steven Eyler, O.D., ARBO Board Liaison, and Jonette Cahoon Vaughan, COPE Programs Coordinator, shared a wide range of information with those present.



The State Board Executive Directors/Administrators Workshop, held in the afternoon, began with a session on HIPAA – the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act. Attendees learned about the impact this act will have on state boards and its legal implications. The presenters of this workshop were Laurie Mickelson, Executive Director, State Board of Minnesota, Dale Atkinson, J.D., ARBO Counsel, and Joseph Pokorney, Vice President, Phoenix Health Systems, Inc. This was followed by a panel presentation on the day-to-day administrative issues regarding COPE at both the COPE office and the state board office. COPE Programs Coordinator Jonette Cahoon Vaughan, who chaired the session, was joined by Patricia Bennett (Administrator, Maryland Board of Examiners in Optometry), Jack Confer (Executive Director, Arizona State Board of Optometry) and Chris Kloeris (Executive Director, Texas Optometry Board).



Dr. Loius Catania

The ARBO House of Delegates convened on Monday, June 24. The General Session began with a warm welcome from Louisiana state board president, Dr. Stephen Lewis. ARBO business dominated the first part of the session (President and Secretary-Treasurer's reports, adoption of minutes, etc.), as well as a report shared by American Optometric Student Association (AOSA) Vice President Ms. Cheryl Alderson. The morning concluded with State Board reports and a legal update/question and answer session led by Dale Atkinson, J.D., ARBO Legal Counsel. After lunch attendees were treated to

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Dr. Robert Sorrell Assumes ARBO Presidency for 2002-2003



Dr. Robert Sorrell

In an interview held shortly after the ARBO Annual Meeting, Dr. Sorrell spoke about the exciting juncture that ARBO is facing and his role in the process. The full text of the interview follows:

1. How did you get involved with ARBO and/or your state board?

Like most of us, the State Board was an appointment by the governor. I had not asked, nor was aware, that I was going to be asked to serve on the Ohio Board. My entry into ARBO was through the Information and Data Services committee under Howard Flippin, O.D. At that time electronic information services were just starting and to learn about the Internet was fun.

2. How has ARBO changed over the years since you joined the Board?

ARBO has grown greatly over the 5 years that I have been associated with it. It has grown from the original IAB, managed on a part time basis, to being totally independent under the direction of Jim Vrac, and now moving to its new home in St. Louis with Tom Eichhorst as its new executive director. ARBO also worked closer with all the organizations in Optometry to better serve the public and the profession.

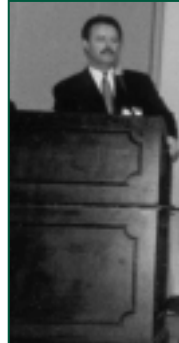
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THE GREENSHEET - September 2002 Issue

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two very exciting contemporary issues symposia: During the first, "Impact of Technology on State Board Authority," Drs. Louis Catania, and James Thimons spoke on how the rapid development of new technologies will impact on the practice of optometry, how they will interface with current state statutes, and the role of state boards in addressing inconsistencies and challenges. The second symposium, "Out-of-State Mail Order: A Regulatory Challenge" was presented by Craig Steinberg, O.D., J.D., along with Lens Express representatives Ron Kaplove, (CFO and Senior VP – Development) and Sean O'Donahue (CIO and Senior VP – Operations). The topics discussed in this session included the current issues and controversies regulating sales of optical supplies by out-of-state mail order companies, including accountability, jurisdiction and enforcement of state law.



Dr. James Thimons

Monday evening's main event was the President's Reception, sponsored by the Louisiana Board of Optometry, which honored retiring ARBO board member James Hartzell, O.D. During the reception, which was held in the beautiful courtyard of the hotel, ARBO president Dr. Donovan Crouch presented Dr. Hartzell with well-deserved praise and parting gifts.

On Tuesday morning, June 25, a special presentation by John Tennis, Esq., Senior Counsel and Assistant Attorney General from the Antitrust Division of the Maryland Attorney General's office, generated a great deal of interest and comment. Mr. Tennis provided a perspective on states' dispensing laws in light of the settlement agreement in the Disposable Contact Lens Antitrust Litigation from the plaintiffs' side of the issue. This session complemented the presentation at the 2001 Annual meeting by representatives of Vistakon, Johnson & Johnson Vision Care, Inc.

During the balance of the General Session participants heard presentations from several committees and optometric organizations, including the National Board Examination Review Committee (NBERC), Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE), American Optometric Association (AOA) Legislative Report, Association of Schools & Colleges of Optometry (ASCO), and the ARBO/NBEO Director's Report.

The House of Delegates also passed two resolutions (synopsis below) which the Judicial Council is currently reviewing. The full text of these resolutions appears on page 3:

- Resolution 1 recognizes the contributions of Dr. James W. Hartzell during his eleven years of service on the ARBO Board of Directors (see next column)
- Resolution 2 recognizes the contributions to the field of optometry made by Dr. Henry Hofstetter, who passed away on May 10, 2002 .



During other key activities, the House of Delegates recognized outgoing president Donovan Crouch, O.D., who passed the gavel on to president-elect Robert Sorrell, O.D. Dr. Crouch, who will remain on the ARBO Board as immediate past president, was presented with a handsome plaque recognizing his contributions to ARBO and commemorating his service as President. Elections for positions on the Board of Directors were also held. Dr.

Russell Jones, of Arizona, was re-elected to a second 4-year term, and Dr. Robert Smalling, of Arkansas, was elected to a 4-year term. Also announced were the elections by the Board of Directors of Dr. Jones as Vice President, and Dr. Janet L. Carter as Secretary-Treasurer for the 2002-2003 term.

The final action of the morning session was the announcement by Dr. Crouch of the selection by the Board of Directors of Thomas Eichhorst, J.D., CAE, as the new ARBO Executive Director. The spontaneous standing ovation given to Mr. Eichhorst as he moved toward the podium for a short acceptance speech was a highlight of the meeting. More details about Mr. Eichhorst are provided on page 3.

The 2003 Annual Meeting will be held June 15 - 17, at the Westin Horton Plaza Hotel, San Diego, California.

Photo Credits for this article Anthony Glasser, O.D., Maryland State Board

THANKS, DR. JAMES HARTZELL



Dr. Donovan Crouch (left) and
Dr. James Hartzell

A TRIBUTE BY DONOVAN L. CROUCH, O.D. ARBO IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT

Dr. James Hartzell graduated from Illinois College of Optometry in 1969 and was appointed to the Iowa Board of Examiners in Optometry by Governor Terry Branstad in 1985. He was re-appointed to a second 3-year term in 1988, and a final 3-year term in 1991. He served as chairperson of the Iowa Board of Examiners in Optometry from 1986-1994. In 1993, Dr. Hartzell was elected to the International Association of Boards of Examiners in Optometry (IAB), now Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO), Board of Directors, serving as President of ARBO from 1999-2000. In addition, he has served as liaison, Committee Chair and Committee member to the various committees of ARBO.

Dr. Hartzell was elected to the National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO) Board of Directors in 1993 as an ARBO (IAB) nominee. He was President of NBEO from 2000-2001. He will continue to serve as an NBEO director until November, when he will complete his tenure and Russell Jones, O.D., will take his seat.

Dr. Hartzell has volunteered many hours to the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry and his commitment and leadership will be sorely missed. ARBO will not attempt to fill his shoes but will use the solid foundation he has laid to build a stronger and more viable organization.

ARBO/IAB appreciates your dedication, commitment and leadership, Jim. We wish you well in the future.

Photo Credit:
D.R.Gordon, O.D.,
Illinois Optometric Licensing and
Disciplinary Board

Annual Meeting 2002 Resolutions

Resolution 1

- WHEREAS, Dr. James W. Hartzell has performed an outstanding service for the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry during his eleven consecutive years on the Board of Directors of ARBO, including service as President, 1999-2000; and
- WHEREAS, his service has been exemplified by sterling qualities of leadership which underlie his personal successes and those of the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry; and
- WHEREAS, Dr. James W. Hartzell has given outstanding service to the profession of Optometry in various other capacities; and
- WHEREAS, the member boards of this Association wish formally to acknowledge Dr. Hartzell's distinguished contributions to the Association and the profession; now, therefore, be it
- RESOLVED, that the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry, at this 83rd Annual Meeting, express its sincere thanks to Dr. Hartzell for his many years of distinguished service and outstanding contributions, and bestow upon him the status of Life Member in this Association.

Resolution 2

- WHEREAS, Optometry has lost one of the most respected and recognized optometrists when Dr. Henry Hofstetter passed away on May 10, 2002; and
- WHEREAS, His sterling qualities of leadership underlined his success in being a mentor, educator and friend to many optometrists worldwide; and
- WHEREAS, Dr. Henry Hofstetter was one of the founders of the National Board of Examiners in Optometry; and
- WHEREAS, He authored four textbooks and over 500 papers and co-edited 5 editions of the Dictionary of Visual Science, and was an advisor to 15 Masters and 11 Doctorate students at Indiana University; and
- WHEREAS, He was known by optometrists worldwide for his contribution to the status of practice and education of optometrists in South Africa, Australia and Europe, by providing guidance and encouragement to them, now therefore be it
- RESOLVED, That the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry at this 83rd Annual Meeting pause for a moment of silence in recognition of the extraordinary contributions and distinguished service of Dr. Henry Hofstetter to the profession of Optometry.

THOMAS E. EICHHORST, J.D., CAE, BECOMES ARBO EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



*Thomas E. Eichhorst,
J.D., CAE*

Thomas E. Eichhorst, J.D., CAE, of St. Louis, Missouri, has been selected as the new Executive Director of ARBO. Mr. Eichhorst joins ARBO after almost 37 years as Legal Counsel on the St. Louis staff of the American Optometric Association.

Mr. Eichhorst received his A.A. degree in 1957 from Harris Teachers College in St. Louis, and his B.S.P.A. (Public Administration) from the University of Missouri-Columbia, in 1960. Mr. Eichhorst worked his way through law school as a policeman, and was awarded his J.D. degree from the Washington University School of Law in St. Louis in 1961. He was admitted to the Missouri Bar and later to the Bar of the Supreme Court of the United States. He also served on active duty in the United States Marine Corps in 1961.

From 1962-1964 Mr. Eichhorst was a bill drafter for the Missouri legislature. He served as an Assistant Attorney General of Missouri from 1964-65, when former U.S. Senator Tom Eagleton was Attorney General. During this time he represented many boards and commissions and was a liquor license prosecutor. While in Jefferson City he attended graduate school at night and weekends at Lincoln University of Missouri, and, after completing his thesis, received a Master's degree in History and Government in 1968.

Mr. Eichhorst began working for the American Optometric Association (AOA) as Legal Counsel in October 1965. During his tenure at the AOA Mr. Eichhorst was awarded many honors and distinctions. In 1975 he received an Award of Appreciation from the International Association of Boards of Examiners in Optometry (IAB) for supporting IAB activities. Southern College of Optometry bestowed an honorary degree of Doctor of Humane Letters (L.H.D.) in 1979. He was accepted as a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry in 1989, and in the same year received an award from the Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards for organizing legal and legislative panels at 15 national forums.

During 1990, Mr. Eichhorst was certified as an association executive by the American Society of Association Executives, and also became a Life Member of the AOA-PAC. The Pennsylvania College of Optometry recognized Mr. Eichhorst's professional achievements with an honorary Doctor of Laws (LL.D.) degree in 1991. He was also a recipient of the Award of Merit from the Southern Council of Optometrists in 1994. In recognition of his lifelong support of state optometry boards, the IAB named him an honorary member in 1994.

Mr. Eichhorst is married to Barbara, who he met while working in the Attorney General's office. Mrs. Eichhorst later was a legal secretary in the office of Missouri Governors Dalton and Hearnes. The Eichhorsts have a daughter (Chris), and a son (Jim), as well as three grandchildren.

Reflecting on his appointment as new ARBO Executive Director, Mr. Eichhorst commented: "I'm really looking forward to working for ARBO because it will be the 'best of all worlds' for me. When I learned that ARBO wanted a new exec by September 1, 2002, and that I could fully retire from AOA at 65 on September 4, 2002, I said to myself, "hey, this is a syzygy - a line up of the stars in the heavens - I'll apply, and use my vacation days to bridge the gap. I am delighted to have been selected as ED, because I'll be able to return to my legal roots working for the public and the state boards that protect our citizens. My three years in Jefferson City (the Missouri state capital) were some of my happiest; it was there that I met and married my wife, Barbara. She is an association exec herself, who is volunteering to help me get the office organized. Secondly, I will be able to continue to be working with the profession of optometry, which I have served most of my professional career. Optometry is truly the "most unselfish of the selfish interest groups," as I've often heard said over the years. This will be an opportunity for further service to the public and the profession and I'm very excited about helping ARBO achieve its true potential."

(Continued from Front Page)

3. What do you see as the primary role for ARBO?

ARBO's mission is, and always will be, to support and assist the member Boards in their protection of the public in the regulatory side of optometry.

4. How can ARBO ensure that it stays relevant to its member boards?

To maintain our mission ARBO must look to the needs of the Boards, look at the regulatory horizon to see what will impact their ability to protect the public, and maintain a close tie to the profession to seek help in public protection.

5. What are your main goals for your year as President?

This year will be an exciting and busy year for ARBO. We have hired a new executive director, Tom Eichhorst, and will have a new office in St. Louis beginning in August. My number one priority is to get Tom and the new office off to a smooth start. At the annual meeting in New Orleans I saw challenges come from four areas: the need for enhanced Board member education on regulatory changes to the profession; new technologies that will change how we practice optometry; illegal dispensing of contact lens prescription; and the need for optometry internationally to have standards in regulatory matters. I have asked Dale Atkinson to start to put together a program that ARBO can offer to the State Boards, both for new Board members and an update on changes in State and Federal laws. Lou Catania, O.D. and Jim Thimons, O.D. presented an overview showing that changes in medical technology will happen faster than the profession can keep up with. The State Boards of Optometry may be handcuffed with laws that will not enable the profession of optometry to best serve the public. I have asked Jim Thimons, O.D. and Jack Terry, O.D. to serve as an advisory committee to look at ways that ARBO can advise the Boards on new technology. Optometry's role in the world has expanded greatly. Many state Attorneys General fail to see that there can be harm by illegal dispensing of contact lens prescriptions. Most optometrists have seen that the wrong lenses have been given to a patient or a patient has had an invalid prescription filled that has caused harm to a patient without a means to report this. Bob Easton, O.D. has developed a form that can be completed by an optometrist when they see an injury due to improper release of contact lens prescription. The idea is that these can then be given to the Attorney General in the state

that the injury has occurred. There will be an increasing need for other countries to look at a standard model for regulatory laws and share information. Tom Lawless, O.D. and D.R. Gordon O.D. will be looking at ways that ARBO can assist the World Council of Optometry.

6. What do you think your biggest challenge will be?

Long term, our greatest challenge will be to seek a stable funding base.

7. How would you like to be remembered after your term is over?

If I can help to oversee the start of the new office, help set a basis to get the current needs started that I discussed above and move to a stable funding base, I will be very happy.

8. Tell the members a little about yourself. What do you do to relax?

My wife Marcia and I have two children, Courtney in her third year at Miami of Ohio, and David, who is a senior in high school. I am in a three-doctor office, MiddletownEyecare in Middletown, Ohio, which I started 22 years ago. I am on teaching staff at Ohio State University College of Optometry, working with the senior students at the Veterans Administration in Dayton, Ohio. I have hospital privileges at the Dayton Veterans Administration and Middletown Regional Hospitals. I am a member of the American Optometric and Ohio Optometric Associations and have served as a Key Person, both at the state and national level. I have also worked on the scope of practice committees, both at the state and national level. Locally, I have served on the executive committees of both the Middletown and Cincinnati United Ways and have been the Past President of United Way. I currently serve on the Cincinnati United Way Foundation Board.

I enjoy just about anything outdoors. I play tennis, road bike, am learning to kayak and trying to perfect fly fishing.

Dr. Smalling Joins ARBO Board of Directors

Robert W. Smalling, O.D., of Arkansas, was elected to a four-year term on the ARBO Board at the New Orleans meeting. Dr. Smalling is currently the President of the Arkansas State Board of Optometry, where he has been a



Dr. Robert W. Smalling

member since his appointment by then governor Bill Clinton in 1989. He completed his optometric education at Southern College of Optometry in 1974 and has been in private practice in Warren, Arkansas since 1980. He has played a very active role in the Arkansas Optometric Association, as a board of directors member from 1980-89, president in 1987-88, and recipient of the Distinguished Service Award, Special Service Award, and the Optometrist of the Year Award. Since 1990, Dr. Smalling has been a regular ARBO convention delegate, was the charter chair of COPE, and has worked with NBERC. Dr. Smalling has been very involved with the Southern Council of Optometrists, serving on the Board of Trustees for the past ten years, becoming president in 2000-01.

Dr. Smalling is married to Jan Smalling, a second grade teacher. He is the father of three children (Mark, Angela and Laurie), and grandfather of five. His hobbies include travel, golf, tennis and college sports, and he has played an active role in many civic organizations.

Regarding his appointment to the ARBO board, Dr. Smalling says, "I am humbled by the honor to serve on the ARBO Board, and I pledge to the member boards that I will work tirelessly to fulfill the vast potential of this organization. I have been actively involved in ARBO for twelve years, and during this critical time in the history of ARBO and the profession I hope that my varied experiences in organized optometry will be an asset to this organization. I am excited about the challenge and confident about our future."

COUNSEL'S CORNER

-- by Dale J. Atkinson, Esq., ARBO Legal Counsel

GEORGIA ON MY MIND



Dale J. Atkinson,
ARBO Legal Counsel

In a technologically advanced society where practitioners may practice in multiple jurisdictions and, thus, obtain multiple licenses, regulatory boards may be confronted with issues involving the impact of disciplinary action in one jurisdiction on licensure in another. Boards of optometry are encouraged to review their practice acts to determine whether disciplinary actions in another jurisdiction constitutes grounds for disciplinary action in your state. Also, disciplinary action in another jurisdiction may impact how individuals answer questions on licensure and/or renewal applications within your state. Consider the following.

A physician licensed in both Georgia and Alabama was under investigation for improper conduct by the medical board in Georgia. Eventually, the Georgia board found the physician guilty of various charges and placed his license on probation for three years subject to specified terms and conditions of probation and also assessed an administrative fine of \$10,000. This Georgia order was entered on or about July 10, 1997.

Subsequent to the disciplinary action in Georgia, the physician filed an appeal to the Fulton County Superior Court in Georgia. The Georgia appeal was pending at the time Alabama instituted action against the physician's Alabama license.

On October 15, 1996, the physician signed his Alabama license renewal application for 1997 certifying that all information on the form was true and correct. Part and parcel to this renewal application, the physician answered "No" to a question on the form which asked, "To your knowledge, are you the subject of an investigation by any licensing boards/agency as of the date of this application within the last year?"

Upon discovery of the Georgia disciplinary action, the Alabama Board of Medical Examiners initiated action against the physician alleging that he had violated various aspects of the Alabama Practice Act.

The allegations included that the physician had been disciplined by another jurisdiction against his license to practice medicine, that he had engaged in fraud in applying for or procuring an Alabama license to practice medicine and that the physician made a fraudulent or untrue statement to the Commission in violation of applicable Alabama law.

Following a hearing, the Alabama Commission determined that the physician was the subject of a final disciplinary action in Georgia, that he had engaged in fraud in applying for and procuring a license to practice medicine in Alabama, and that he had made a fraudulent and untrue statement to the Commission. While withholding immediate discipline in Alabama, the Commission held that it would retain jurisdiction over the physician pending the appeal of the matter in Georgia. The Commission held that should the appellate court of the state of Georgia vacate the decision of the Georgia board then the action of the Alabama Commission would be vacated. Thus, the Commission refused to "stay" the proceedings in Alabama against the physician, but proceeded to enter a final order against the Alabama license. Finally, the Commission remanded the matter to the board for the assessment of an administrative fine of \$500 based upon fraud on the part of the physician in applying for or procuring a license to practice medicine in Alabama.

The matter was appealed to the Montgomery Circuit Court which reversed the order of the Commission as it related to the disciplinary action in Georgia, finding that the Commission's action on that issue was premature. The trial court held that the matter was not yet justiciable in Alabama because of the pending appeal in Georgia. However, the trial court affirmed the Commission's disciplinary action as it related to a finding that the physician had obtained or procured his Alabama medical license through fraud. Both parties appealed.

After reviewing the standard of review, the appellate court assessed the merits of the matter. The physician argued that he was not guilty of engaging in fraud in obtaining a license because the inquiry in the renewal application referred to "investigations" and not disciplinary proceedings. The appellate court identified the distinctions between investigations, hearings and proceedings and determined that the record supported the finding of the Commission that the physician was and continued to be under investigation during the time periods relevant to the matter. Thus, the appellate

court affirmed the disciplinary actions of the Commission related to allegations of fraud in the procurement of a license.

Next, the appellate court addressed the issue of whether the pending appeal in Georgia rendered the Alabama action premature. In agreeing with the Commission, the appellate court held that Alabama law did not require the Commission to await the outcome of the Georgia appeal before instituting disciplinary proceedings against the physician. Citing additional Alabama cases, the appellate court held that the plain language of the statute indicated the intent of the legislature that a "conviction" was sufficient to cause the medical licensure commission to conduct a hearing on the revocation or suspension of a physician's license. The appellate court determined that the conviction necessary to base administrative discipline did not mean a conviction "followed by an affirmance on appeal." Accordingly, the appellate court upheld the actions of the commission against the license of the physician.

Boards of optometry are encouraged to update their practice acts to address important issues relative to public protection and actions which constitute grounds for discipline. Consideration should be given to the impact of disciplinary actions in additional jurisdictions upon licensure in your state. Authority to discipline under these circumstances is a must.

*Barngrover v. Medical Licensure
Commission of Alabama,
2002 WL 1729142 (Ala.Civ.App.)*

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SECOND INTERNATIONAL OPTOMETRIC REGULATORY CONFERENCE (IORC2)



IORC2 Co-Facilitators Drs D.R. Gordon (left) and Thomas Lawless with representatives (left to right) from the Nigerian delegation – Drs. Monica Obaedo, Stella Odjimongno and Ejitu Mfon Isong

In 1997, an international conference was held in San Antonio as an independent forum for optometric regulators. The conference focused on validation but did not have the resources and infrastructure to organize regular meetings. The issues raised were also of concern to the World Council of Optometry (WCO), who regularly considered matters of professional regulation that drove their legislative committee agenda. It was decided to expand the terms of reference to include regulatory matters and to encourage regulators to attend WCO meetings. The WCO's 2002 General Delegates Meeting presented an opportunity for WCO and ARBO, both meeting in New Orleans, to jointly host a second IORC meeting.

The Second International Optometric Regulatory Conference (IORC2) was held on Sunday and Monday, June 23-24, at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in New Orleans. Thirty-five participants, representing 12 countries worldwide, were in attendance. Presentations by various individuals framed the first day of the meeting and detailed issues that confront the regulatory community in various countries. An open session to present country reports proved interesting and informative. As part of the proceedings, the international delegates were invited to attend the National Board Workshop, a COPE Workshop (with ARBO delegates) and the Contemporary Issues Symposia at the ARBO House of Delegates. This intermingling also allowed the international delegates to observe the business and topics discussed by ARBO. In addition, the ARBO attendees were able to network with their international colleagues and discuss various items informally during social opportunities.

Critical to the efficacy of such international regulatory meetings is developing some degree of continuity. To that end, the American Optometric Association (AOA) came forward to offer a WebBoard program that may enable the formation of a "virtual" organization. At the request of the delegates to IORC2, Thomas Lawless, O.D., ARBO International Liaison, will be studying the program with the AOA. This could enable ARBO (in conjunction with WCO, if desired) to service the particular needs of the optometric regulators. It could also provide an "international" membership for ARBO.

Photo Credit:
D.R. Gordon, O.D.
Illinois Optometric Licensing Disciplinary Board

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