ARBO’s 92nd Annual Meeting a Great Success!

ARBO’s 2011 Annual Meeting took place June 12-14, 2011 at the Sheraton Hotel in Salt Lake City, Utah. The meeting was attended by 101 individuals including 67 delegates from 35 Member Boards. The attendees participated in discussions, presentations, and conducted the business of the Association. A good time was had by everyone!

Sunday morning began with the National Board of Examiners in Optometry Workshop where Drs. Jack Terry and Sandra Neustel brought the attendees up to date on the current activities of the NBEO. Later in the morning, there were breakout sessions for Board members and their administrative staff. Dale Atkinson, ARBO’s legal counsel, conducted Board member training and in a concurrent session for Executive Directors and Administrators, Dr. William Rafferty discussed maintenance of licensure and the activities ARBO’s Optometric Competence Committee. Over lunch, there was a new attendee orientation to learn more about ARBO policies and meeting procedures.

The 92nd Annual Meeting was officially called to order by President Jerry Richt on Sunday afternoon. Dr. Jeffrey Seeholzer, Chair of the Utah Board of Optometry, welcomed the delegates. The delegates were treated to a presentation of the colors by the Utah Highway Patrol Honor Guard followed by a lovely rendition of The Star Spangled Banner. The meeting continued with reports from ARBO’s President, Managing Director, Secretary-Treasurer, and the approval of the 2010 Annual Meeting minutes. Delegates also unanimously approved the applications of two new members from Canada, the Manitoba Association and College of Optometrists and the Saskatchewan Association and College of Optometrists. ARBO’s membership now includes the regulatory boards from 54 US states and territories and 10 Canadian Provinces.

Later that afternoon, there were reports from ARBO’s Judicial Council/Resolutions Committee, and Nominating Committee followed by reports from the Member Boards. Next, Dale Atkinson presented top cases impacting regulatory boards followed by the Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards (FARB) Report. FARB is comprised of 15 professions, including optometry, and offers board member and attorney training annually. Next, Mark Lane, P.T., from the Federation of State Boards of Physical Therapy, gave a presentation on the future of healthcare regulation. Mr. Lane discussed potential obstacles in the current regulatory path and made some suggestions for changes that regulatory boards may want to make to become more proactive including collaboration between disciplines, promoting remediation, and developing effective continuing competency measures.

The afternoon concluded with a report from the OE TRACKER Committee which demonstrated how quickly Member Boards can do an electronic audit of the CE hours earned by their licensees using OE TRACKER.

The meeting began on Monday morning with additional reports from

Continued on page 4
Thank you to all for attending the 92nd Annual Meeting of ARBO in Salt Lake City. The meeting was a success. The planning committee did an excellent job of putting it all together. Also, thank you for the opportunity to serve as President of ARBO. I'll do my best over the next year to address the issues that are of concern to you and to move ARBO forward as an organization that does the right thing for the profession of optometry and the public interest. Let's get right to work!

During the American Optometric Association (AOA) House of Delegates last June, a substantive motion was passed delegating the Accreditation Council of Optometric Education (ACOE) to investigate the possibility of accreditation of continuing education (CE) providers. According to AOA Trustee, Dr. Christopher Quinn, this motion was deemed necessary to increase professionalism and transparency as compared to COPE. I am uncertain as to how ARBO could be more transparent, but I am certain communication could be improved by any entity in most situations.

The US Department of Education (USDE) recognizes the AOA ACOE for the purpose of accreditation of optometric colleges and residencies. This type of professional association involvement in first professional degree and residency accreditation is also found in podiatry, dentistry, chiropractic, and osteopathic medicine. The accreditation of CE, however, is more complex. USDE recognition for accreditation of higher education is unrelated to CE. It would seem disingenuous to imply otherwise. The American Council of Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) accredits medicine colleges and residencies and the American Council of Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) accredits continuing medical education. Neither of these groups are American Medical Association subcommittees. Dentistry utilizes a separate trade association subcommittee to recognize providers of CE. Podiatry, however, utilizes one trade association subcommittee to accredit first professional degree programs, residencies, continuing education providers, and certain board certifying entities. The American Osteopathic Association also has a continuing medical education subcommittee and requires association-approved continuing education as a function of association membership. Frankly, if these subcommittees are truly autonomous, they cannot provide professional association involvement; if they provide professional association involvement, they are certainly not autonomous.

COPE is unique in accrediting courses rather than providers. Historically, many jurisdictions insisted upon individual course approval rather than provider approval. Should change be deemed necessary by member jurisdictions, ARBO and COPE would be agreeable to collaboration and adaptable. However, it may be useful to review the criticisms of the ACCME by the Senate Finance Committee (SFC) from 2007. The SFC noted that the ACCME provider accreditation system resulted in potential periods of up to nine years prior to corrective action of violations of standards of commercial support, the lack of appropriate course content review for bias prior to presentation, and no system for onsite review of courses. In addition, the cost of ACCME accreditation is significant. Remarkably, the COPE system already addresses these issues via course accreditation rather than less effective provider accreditation, content review by trained volunteer optometrists, standards of commercial support, and onsite course review, again by trained volunteer optometrists. It would seem we've already addressed the SFC concerns for professional CE standards.

What is the future of optometric CE? If optimal designs could be formulated utilizing input from all concerned entities, what would be the actual costs and outcomes? What steps are crucial to satisfy federal and individual jurisdiction requirements? No single person knows the answer to these questions. And, no single entity owns optometric CE. Presently, CE remains the vehicle for maintenance of licensure for the public welfare. This is not a duty to be taken lightly or an action to be captured by special interests. Each jurisdiction must decide the best method to ensure the integrity of CE for the benefit of its citizens. If optometry and the optometric regulatory jurisdictions (primarily served by practicing optometrist members) do not zealously protect the integrity of CE, both the profession and the public will be poorly served.

Once again, thank you for the opportunity to serve as your President. Without a doubt, this will be another very busy and probably controversial year. I want to thank you in advance for your support in the coming year and I welcome your feedback. If you have any questions or concerns about ARBO or any of our programs, please feel free to email me at president@arbo.org.

Michael Ohlson, OD, FAAO
ARBO President
A Note from our Managing Director

It was wonderful to see so many of you in Salt Lake City at our Annual Meeting. It’s always fun to catch up with those of you that I only see once a year and to meet the first-time attendees. Those of you who attended the meeting seemed to really appreciate the open discussions and sharing of information. For those of you who didn’t get to come, we really hope to see you in Chicago next year.

The new committee assignments for 2011-2012 have been made and the committees are beginning to work on their goals and objectives. For the new committee lists please see pages 16-17. The Staff and I are excited to be working with all of the ARBO Committees over the next year. It promises to be another busy and productive year. Thank you to our volunteers for all that you do for ARBO, the profession, and the public we serve.

As I mentioned at the Annual Meeting, we relocated our office to a new suite in August. We have moved from the 16th floor to the 20th floor of the same building and our new suite number is 2030. The rest of our address and our phone and fax numbers have not changed. Please make a note of our new suite number if you haven’t already. If you happen to be in Charlotte, please stop by and visit us!

As the busy CE season for optometry begins, our staff is working to keep up our high level of service even during these challenging times and the stretching of resources. We have big plans for the next year. Redesigning our website, improving the OE TRACKER reporting functions for our member boards, and continuing to expand the COPE On-Site Review program are just a few of the projects we’re working on. We will also be continuing our efforts to increase our communication to make sure you are well informed about all of ARBO’s programs and projects. I welcome your suggestions on any new services we can implement or suggestions for improvements we can make.

Lisa Fennell
Managing Director

New ARBO Leadership Elected

At the 92nd Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City the House of Delegates re-elected two ARBO Board members. Susy Yu, O.D., M.B.A., and William Rafferty, O.D. were both elected to 4-year terms on the ARBO Board of Directors. Dr. Yu is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry. She served on the California Board of Optometry is currently the editor of The Greensheet. Dr. Rafferty is a Past President of ARBO and currently serves as the President of North Carolina State Board of Examiners in Optometry. Congratulations to both of them!

Following the election, the ARBO Board of Directors elected the officers for the 2011-2012 term. Dr. Michael Ohlson from Iowa, was elected President of the Board of Directors, succeeding Dr. Jerry Richt. Rounding out the Executive team are Vice President Dr. Ernest Schlabach from Virginia, and Secretary-Treasurer Dr. Roger Pabst from Minnesota. The remaining ARBO Board members are: Dr. Gregory Moore from West Virginia and Dr. Christina Sorenson from Arizona.

Do you have news from your jurisdiction that you’d like to share with ARBO’s other members? If so, please email the information to Lisa Fennell at lfennell@arbo.org and we’ll include it in our next issue of the GreenSheet.
ARBO 92nd Annual Meeting (continued)

the Member Boards followed by a survey of the dele-
gates by the Annual Meeting Planning Committee to
assist in their planning of future meetings. (See pages
8-9 for survey results.) Next, there was a presentation
from David Swankin of the Citizen Advocacy Center on
continuing competence. Mr. Swankin discussed con-
sumer expectations for licensure and maintenance of
competence. He also talked about the shift from con-
tinuing education (CE) to continuing professional de-
velopment (CPD) and why it is important for licensing
boards to be involved in this issue.

Later in the morning, Dr. Lance Talmage, Chair-
Elect of the Federation of State Medical Boards (FSMB)
presented on medicine’s maintenance of licensure (MOL)
initiative. The FSMB is a very similar organization to
ARBO; they represent 70 medical and osteopathic
boards in the U.S. and its territories. Dr. Talmage dis-
cussed the FSMB’s MOL model which is a program of
continued professional development and lifelong learn-
ing. There are three components to the FSMB model:
reflective self-assessment, assessment of knowledge
and skills, and performance in practice. The FSMB is
moving forward with developing their MOL program
which will be implemented by their state boards over
the next ten years with a goal of measurably improving
patient care processes and outcomes. The morning
session concluded with a report from the Optometric
Competence Committee. Dr. William Rafferty, Chair of
the OCC Committee, gave a history of ARBO’s work
on continuing competence and presented the commit-
tee’s program concept which could be used by Member
Boards as a tool for remuneration and/or maintenance
of licensure.

Monday afternoon’s session began with a presentation
by Dr. Paul Mazmanian on redesigning continuing edu-
cation for the health professions. Dr. Mazmanian was
a member of the Institute of Medicine’s Committee
(IOM) on Planning for a Continuing Health Care Profes-
sional Education Institute. Dr. Mazmanian presented
data from the IOM report showing that interactive, mul-
tifaceted learning activities are more effective in chang-
ing practice and patient outcomes than traditional CME.
The report also found that physicians have a limited
ability to accurately self-assess; therefore, the IOM rec-
ommends that external assessments be used to evalu-
ate competence. A discussion of contemporary issues
followed where attendees discussed some important
issues affecting optometry today. (See pages 10-11 for
the questions and responses from this discussion.)

Continued on page 5.
Next, there were reports from the NBERC and COPE Committees. The afternoon session ended with the AOA State Government Relations Center report from Sherry Cooper. Later Monday evening, the President’s Reception for meeting attendees, presenters and guests was hosted by Dr. Richt. The reception provided the delegates an opportunity to continue their discussions from earlier in the day and to mingle with other attendees.

Tuesday morning began with the elections for the ARBO Board of Directors (see page 3) followed by approval of the four candidates for the ACOE appointment, Dr. David Reed from Maryland, Dr. Bruce Rakusin from Massachusetts; Dr. Joseph Sullivan from Kansas; and Dr. Linda Tharp from Tennessee by the delegates. Following the elections, several proposed resolutions were presented and discussed by the House of Delegates. More information on the resolutions can be found on pages 12-15.

Tuesday morning also featured a panel of industry representatives who spoke about new products that may have an impact on regulatory boards. There were also two breakout session for the Executive Directors and Administrators where Patricia Bennett, Executive Director of the Maryland Board of Optometry, discussed Maryland’s Quality Assurance Program and Leslie Knachel, Executive Director of the Virginia Board of Optometry discussed Virginia’s sanctioning reference points. Following the breakout, there were reports from the American Optometric Student Association (AOSA), the American Optometric Association (AOA), the Veteran’s Administration, the American Academy of Optometry (AAO), the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE) and the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO).

Later in the morning, Dr. Linda Casser, Dean of Pennsylvania College of Optometry at Salus University, gave a presentation on their new accelerated degree offering, the Scholar’s Program. This is a 36-month year-round program that is equivalent to a standard four academic year program with nine months of study each year. PCO plans to launch the program in the summer of 2012 with higher entrance requirements for applicants and higher academic standards for matriculates.

The meeting concluded with the gavel being passed by all former ARBO Presidents who were in attendance, Dr. Hal Marsell, Dr. Steve Eyler, Dr. Don Crouch, Dr. Janet Carter, Dr. Christina Sorenson, Dr. Bill Rafferty, and Dr. Jerry Richt, now Immediate Past President, who passed it to the new President, Dr. Michael Ohlson.

We encourage you to start making plans to attend our next meeting in June 2012 in Chicago, Illinois. Chicago is a very exciting city with something for everyone. You will definitely not want to miss it!
OE TRACKER Committee Survey Results

At the 2011 Annual Meeting the OE TRACKER Committee did a survey of the meeting attendees using an audience response system. The questions they asked and the responses are below.

For what percentage of your licensees do you audit CE attendance?

- 100%: 35.7%
- 51-99%: 0%
- 21-50%: 7.1%
- 11-20%: 28.6%
- 6-10%: 17.9%
- 0-5%: 10.7%

How often do you audit your licensees CE attendance?

- Every year: 44.4%
- Every 2 years: 52.8%
- Every 3 years: 2.8%
- Don't audit: 0%

Do you currently use OE TRACKER in your license renewal/audit process?

- Yes: 38.9%
- No: 61.1%

If yes, how do you use OE TRACKER in your license renewal/audit process?

- Verify CE hours for all licensees: 16.7%
- Verify CE hours for some licensees: 25%
- Accept OET certificates & transcripts: 12.5%
- Don't use OET: 45.8%

Do you think auditing 100% of your licensees CE attendance is in the best interest of protecting the public?

- Yes: 85.7%
- No: 2.9%
- Maybe: 11.4%

For the optometrist: How many different jurisdictions are you licensed in?

- Five: 1.9%
- Four: 0%
- Three: 11.1%
- Two: 20.4%
- One: 66.7%
OE TRACKER achieved a major milestone when the one millionth CE attendance record was uploaded into the database in August 2011. ARBO began the OE TRACKER program in 2001 and it has experienced significant growth in the past few years as more optometrists and licensing boards have started using it. In just the last two years, the number of records in OE TRACKER has grown over 37%. There were 623,000 CE records in OE TRACKER in January 2010, and now that number is over one million.

Richard Orgain, O.D., Chair of the OE TRACKER Committee commented on the achievement, “OE TRACKER has reached a milestone thought impossible a few years ago. This database, which is available for free to all ARBO’s Member Boards, has become the 21st Century method for storing and maintaining CE records for the nation’s optometrists. We’ve heard from many optometrists saying that they really appreciate not having to keep track of all that paperwork in the event of an audit. I’m looking forward to the continued growth of the program and reaching 2 million records quickly as even more O.D.s and regulatory boards begin using OE TRACKER.”

OE TRACKER is used by optometrists and licensing boards to electronically track, report, and audit CE attendance. The attendance information is usually supplied directly to ARBO by CE administrators and providers, but O.D.s can also fax their CE certificates to the ARBO office to have the hours entered into their OE TRACKER account. Currently, there are over 42,000 active optometrists in the OE TRACKER database and more than 94% of them have CE attendance data in their accounts. O.D.s can login to their OE TRACKER account to view a chronological history of the CE courses they have attended, view each state/jurisdiction’s CE requirements, and get an analysis of the CE hours they have earned and the number of hours that they are deficient to fill the requirements of the current renewal period. OE TRACKER will also send optometrists an email or text to remind them to check their CE hours when it’s time to renew their license.

ARBO’s Member Boards use OE TRACKER to review and audit the CE attendance of their licensees, allowing them to quickly and easily perform 100% audit. Some of ARBO’s Member Boards have set up an electronic transfer of data from the database so that when an optometrist applies for license renewal their CE attendance information automatically populates the online form, eliminating the need for manually entering each course or sending paper certificates. This type of data transfer was first set up for the Kansas Board of Examiners in Optometry and it has been such a success that several other states/jurisdictions are also doing it.

It’s wonderful that we’ve been able to accomplish this much in just a few years. I’d like to commend the ARBO Staff and OE TRACKER Committee members for all their efforts in making the program a success. I believe the growth of OE TRACKER is a testament to the dedication of optometry toward education and the public welfare. We’re thrilled to be able to provide this tool which benefits everyone in the optometric community, says ARBO President Michael Ohlson, O.D.

For more information on how OE TRACKER can assist you in your license renewal process, please contact the ARBO office at 704-970-2710 or arbo@arbo.org.
Annual Meeting Planning Committee Survey Results

At the 2011 Annual Meeting the Annual Meeting Planning Committee did a survey of the meeting attendees to help with the planning of future meetings using an audience response system. The questions they asked and the responses are below.

Would you like to continue to have future ARBO Annual Meetings in June before the AOA meeting?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Maybe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>73.5%</td>
<td>8.8%</td>
<td>17.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Would you prefer to have future ARBO Annual Meetings in conjunction with a different optometry meeting?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Maybe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11.8%</td>
<td>54.7%</td>
<td>23.5%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Would you prefer to have future ARBO Annual Meetings at a different time of year?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No/Same</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Spring</th>
<th>Winter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>88.6%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>5.7%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Would you like to continue to have future ARBO Annual Meetings in the same location as the AOA meeting?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Maybe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>78.1%</td>
<td>12.5%</td>
<td>9.4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Would you like to have future ARBO Annual Meetings in a different location determined by ARBO?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Maybe</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>26.7%</td>
<td>60%</td>
<td>13.3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Would you like to continue to have live reports from Member Boards at future ARBO Annual Meetings or would you prefer to have written reports?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Live</th>
<th>Written</th>
<th>Both</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27.8%</td>
<td>16.7%</td>
<td>55.6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Annual Meeting Planning Committee Survey Results (continued)

Would you like to continue to have live reports from affiliated organizations at future ARBO meetings or would you prefer to have written reports?

- Live: 35.5%
- Written: 12.9%
- Both: 51.6%

Would you like to continue to have an industry panel at future ARBO Annual Meetings?

- Yes: 64.5%
- No: 19.4%
- Maybe: 16.1%

Welcome to ARBO’s Newest Members: Manitoba and Saskatchewan

Two new Canadian provinces have joined the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry as voting members, bringing the total number of Canadian provinces in ARBO’s membership to ten. The House of Delegates unanimously approved the Manitoba Association and College of Optometrists application for membership at ARBO’s 2011 Annual Meeting. The Manitoba Association and College of Optometrists has 128 licensees. Dr. Lorne Ryall is the Registrar of the Board of Examiners. His email address is drryall@mts.net and their website can be viewed at www.optometrists.mb.ca.

The Saskatchewan Association and College of Optometrists was also unanimously approved as a voting member by ARBO’s House of Delegates at the meeting. The Saskatchewan Association and College of Optometrists also has 128 licensees. Dr. Leland Kolbenson, the Vice President, is the main contact for the Association. Their website is www.optometrists.sk.ca and their email address is saskop@sasktel.net.

We would like to welcome our newest members from Canada. We look forward to their participation with ARBO. Make sure you welcome them when you see them next year in Chicago!
At the Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City, the delegates participated in a discussion of contemporary issues. The attendees were asked to respond to some important questions affecting optometry today using an audience response system. The questions and responses are listed below.

**What is your personal opinion regarding Board Certification for general Optometry?**
- Support: 24.5%
- Oppose: 61.5%
- Neutral: 10.8%
- Undecided: 3.1%

**What is your personal opinion regarding Board Certification for subspecialty Optometry?**
- Support: 52.3%
- Oppose: 26.2%
- Neutral: 16.9%
- Undecided: 4.6%

**What is your Board's position regarding Board Certification for general Optometry?**
- Support: 6.9%
- Oppose: 43.1%
- Neutral: 43.1%
- Undecided: 6.9%

**What is your Board's position regarding Board Certification for subspecialty Optometry?**
- Support: 22.2%
- Oppose: 7.4%
- Neutral: 27.8%
- Undecided: 42.6%

**Is continued competence part of your Board's mission?**
- Yes: 94.9%
- No: 5.1%

**Do you feel that self assessment tools to assist optometrists in lifelong learning programs would be helpful to you?**
- Yes: 75.8%
- No: 16.1%
- Maybe: 8.1%
Annual Meeting Contemporary Issues Discussion Responses

Do you feel that self assessment tools to assist optometrists in lifelong learning programs would be helpful to your Board?

- Yes: 69.1%
- No: 20%
- Maybe: 10.9%

Do you feel that optometrists in your state would participate in non-punitive self assessment programs integrated into the CE process?

- Yes: 48.2%
- No: 28.6%
- Maybe: 23.2%

Would your Board be interested in a self assessment program that could be used as a controlled assessment to determine remedial programs for disciplinary actions?

- Yes: 58.9%
- No: 23.2%
- Maybe: 17.9%

How much has the ARBO Annual Meeting, speakers and discussion influenced your position on Board Certification?

- A lot: 27.1%
- A little: 23.7%
- Not at all: 49.2%

Is your Board planning to evaluate your CE system with respect to Maintenance of Licensure?

- Yes: 49.1%
- No: 28.3%
- Don’t Know: 22.6%

Would your Board grant “Deemed Status” as outlined by the Citizen Advocacy Center (defined as utilizing a third party process for MOL)?

- Yes: 12.3%
- No: 56.1%
- Don’t Know: 31.6%
Resolution 1: Maintenance of Licensure of the Optometric Profession Resolution

WHEREAS, the mission of the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO) is to assist our member boards in the protection of the public; and

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the regulatory boards to assure the public of the continued competence of our licensed professionals throughout their careers; and

WHEREAS, all regulatory jurisdictions require renewal of one’s license to practice optometry and have in place a system of mandatory continuing education known as Maintenance of Licensure (MOL) to assure continued competence; and

WHEREAS, whereas recent indications from public advocacy groups, government agencies, evidence based research and profession-wide stakeholder groups have suggested that the current continuing education system is inadequate in proving this assurance; and

WHEREAS, the delegates (regulatory board members) attending the 2010 ARBO Annual Meeting reaffirmed the state regulatory boards’ responsibility to protect the public by assuring competency of its licensees; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry, at this 92nd Annual Meeting (2011), accepts these issues as valid and a call to action; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry, at this 92nd Annual Meeting, that a system of Maintenance of Licensure (MOL) used for relicensure is the purview of the state or jurisdictional regulatory boards of optometry and is used for demonstrating continued competence for the benefit of the public; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry, at this 92nd Annual Meeting, acknowledges that the MOL process can include advanced competency assessment methods including self-assessment modules or other evaluation tools including Continuing Professional Development (CPD) to demonstrate maintenance of competence for the public welfare.

Resolution 2: Continued Competence of the Optometric Profession Resolution

WHEREAS, the mission of the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO) is to assist our member boards in the protection of the public; and

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the regulatory boards to assure the public of the continued competence of our licensed professionals throughout their careers; and

WHEREAS, all regulatory jurisdictions require renewal of one’s license to practice optometry and have in place a system of mandatory continuing education known as Maintenance of Licensure (MOL) to assure continued competence; and

WHEREAS, whereas recent indications from public advocacy groups, government agencies, evidence based research and profession-wide stakeholder groups have suggested that the current continuing education system is inadequate in proving this assurance; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry, at this 92nd Annual Meeting (2011), accepts these issues as valid and a call to action; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry, at this 92nd Annual Meeting, may develop an improved system of demonstrating continued competence for potential utilization by member boards for the benefit of the public; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry, at this 92nd Annual Meeting, acknowledges that this improved system could be utilized by a national program or individual jurisdictions to demonstrate continued competence through maintenance of licensure (MOL) for the public welfare.
Resolution 3: Utilization of ARBO Programs Resolution

WHEREAS, the Council on Optometric Practitioner Education (COPE), the Council on Endorsed Licensure Mobility for Optometrists (CELMO), and Optometric Education (OE) TRACKER are all critical programs of the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO) and are widely utilized by our member boards, and other jurisdictions in North America, and numerous continuing education (CE) providers, and CE administrators, and the profession of optometry; and

WHEREAS, these programs have evolved and been made more effective in influencing and improving the reporting and quality of optometric continuing education for licensure of Doctors of Optometry in North America; and

WHEREAS, these programs are used effectively by ARBO member boards and other jurisdictions in their mission to protect the public by insuring appropriate licensure of practitioners and therefore add significant value to the profession; and

WHEREAS, ARBO and the profession have invested substantial human and financial resources in the development and implementation of COPE, CELMO, and OE TRACKER; and

WHEREAS, ARBO has offered the use of the COPE accreditation program, OE TRACKER database system, and CELMO license mobility program to all organizations within the optometric profession as a framework to utilize in their programs consistent with those of ARBO and the profession; and

WHEREAS, all students of optometry are assigned OE TRACKER numbers upon creation of their National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO) profile, and the OE TRACKER number is used by NBEO for the accurate identification of exam scoring sheets, CSE video- graphies, and remote examiners as well as by some institutions as a student ID in lieu of a social security number; and

WHEREAS, the OE TRACKER number is an essential identifier that has been assigned to all optometrists entering the profession and uniquely designed to serve as the cornerstone for life-long learning and continued professional development; therefore be it

RESOLVED by the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO) House of Delegates and its member boards that we reaffirm our commitment to the utilization of the Council on Optometric Practitioner Education (COPE), Optometric Education (OE) TRACKER, and the Council on Endorsed Licensure Mobility in Optometry (CELMO) as unique means of monitoring and enforcing the quality and appropriateness of optometric continuing education for continuing competence, maintenance of licensure (MOL), and mobility of licensure; and be it further

RESOLVED that should other professional organizations in optometry develop a need for a continuing education accreditation program, optometric database/tracking system and/or license mobility program, the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO) House of Delegates encourages these organizations to consider utilizing the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry’s (ARBO’s) established programs in lieu of duplicating these programs.

Resolution 4: Call for 100% Continuing Education Audit

WHEREAS, the major role of the licensing boards of optometry is the protection of the public; and

WHEREAS, licensing boards of optometry need to have a method to ensure that all licensees meet their requirement to show evidence of continuing education for relicensure; and

WHEREAS, the Optometric Education (OE) TRACKER system has proven to be an accurate and economical system of tracking, storing and maintaining continuing education course data; and

WHEREAS, the Optometric Education (OE) TRACKER system is a recognized tool utilized by continuing education administrators and licensing boards; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the House of Delegates at this 92nd Annual Meeting of the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry, recommend all licensing boards of optometry to pursue 100% audit of their licensees’ continuing education credits for optometric license renewal requirement as an appropriate means of meeting our mission of protection of the public; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry member boards be encouraged to fully utilize the Optometric Education (OE) TRACKER system as it is a cost-effective means of attaining this goal.
Resolution 5: Support of National Center of Clinical Testing in Optometry Resolution

WHEREAS, the National Board of Examiners in Optometry has made an exemplary effort to maintain part I, II, and III candidate examination fees unchanged for over 8 years; and

WHEREAS, great effort has been put into developing the National Center of Clinical Testing in Optometry (NCCTO) with efficiency and cost savings in mind so that the use of space and infrastructure as well as additional staffing is minimized so that examination fees can remain as stable as possible; and

WHEREAS regarding both the NBOME one-site in Conshohocken, PA, and the NBME clinical skills testing models, their sites require a minimum "break even" candidate volume of 6,000-6,600 candidates per testing site; and

WHEREAS, the NBEO currently has a yearly candidate population of only 1,650; and

WHEREAS, considering the extremely costly expenses of duplicating the physical plants, staff, standardized patients, ophthalmic equipment, videography equipment and software, a west coast one-site testing center in a city with an airline hub but no optometry school would increase Part III fees to NO LESS THAN $3,333 per exam; and

WHEREAS, it can be concluded that most candidates understand and accept the considerable advantages to Part III testing at the NCCTO since over 72.5% of candidates have registered to take Part III at a timing of their choice; and

WHEREAS, ARBO represents the jurisdictions that use NBEO Part III results for the purposes of licensure; and

WHEREAS, dramatically enhanced consistency of administration of the Part III NCCTO examination will increase the validity and reliability of the Part III results; now therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry House of Delegates fully endorses the efforts by NBEO in establishing and administering Part III as a centralized NCCTO testing center.

Resolution 6: Resolution Honoring Dr. Jerry Richt

WHEREAS, Dr. Jerry A. Richt has performed an outstanding service for the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry during his service on the Board of Directors of ARBO since being elected in 2006. Dr. Richt has served one term as President 2010-2011, two as Vice President 2008-2010, and one as Secretary-Treasurer 2007-2008; 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. Jerry Richt has given outstanding service to the profession of optometry through his service on the Tennessee Board of Optometry, and in various other capacities; and

WHEREAS, the member boards of this Association wish formally to acknowledge Dr. Jerry Richt’s distinguished contributions to the Association and the profession; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry, at this 92nd Annual Meeting, express its sincere thanks to Dr. Jerry Richt for his many years of distinguished service and outstanding contributions to the profession of optometry, and bestow upon him the status of Life Member in this Association.
2011 ARBO House of Delegates Resolutions

Resolution 7: Resolution Honoring Laurie Mickelson

WHEREAS, Ms. Laurie Mickelson has performed an outstanding service for the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry during her service on several ARBO Committees and to the Board of Directors of ARBO. Ms. Mickelson has served as a liaison to the ARBO Board of Directors, as Chair of the Member Board Executive Directors and Administrators Committee, and as Chair of the CELMO Committee; and

WHEREAS, her service has been exemplified by sterling qualities of leadership which underlie her personal successes and those of the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Laurie Mickelson has given outstanding service to the profession of optometry through her service to the Minnesota Board of Optometry, and in various other capacities; and

WHEREAS, the member boards of this Association wish formally to acknowledge Ms. Laurie Mickelson’s distinguished contributions to the Association and the profession; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry, at this 92nd Annual Meeting, express its sincere thanks to Ms. Laurie Mickelson for her many years of distinguished service and outstanding contributions to the profession of optometry.

93rd Annual Meeting of ARBO Planned

Mark your calendars for June 24-26, 2012 to attend the 2012 ARBO Annual Meeting in Chicago, Illinois. Chicago offers something for everyone—world renowned restaurants, premier shopping, a vibrant theatre community, local music venues, and dozens of neighborhoods with their own unique arts, cultural and culinary offerings.

ARBO’s 2012 Annual Meeting will be held at the Hyatt Regency, McCormick Place. Sweeping views of Chicago and Lake Michigan await you in the spacious guestrooms and famous sights and attractions are just minutes away. Culinary adventures beckon from every street corner as the cultural diversity of the city is offered in a vast array of cuisines.

With thoughtful features designed to pamper every guest, an attentive staff and a premier lakeside setting with a direct connection via enclosed skybridge to McCormick Place Convention Center, this versatile Chicago Hyatt hotel remains the preferred choice for visitors year after year.

You won’t want to miss this meeting. We look forward to seeing you there!

ARBO 2012 Annual Meeting
June 24-26, 2012
Hyatt Regency
Chicago, Illinois

Hyatt Regency, McCormick Place,
Chicago, Illinois
## ARBO 2011-2012 Committee Members

### Executive Committee
- Dr. Michael Ohlson, IA, Chair
- Dr. Ernest Schlabach, VA
- Dr. Roger Pabst, Minnesota
- Dr. Jerry Richt, Tennessee
- Lisa Fennell, Staff

### Industry Relations Committee
- Dr. Roger Pabst, MN, Chair
- Dr. Gregory Moore, West Virginia
- Dr. Ernest Schlabach, VA
- Dr. Donovan Crouch, Consultant
- Dr. Robert Smalling, Consultant
- Dr. Michael Ohlson, IA, Ex-Officio
- Lisa Fennell, Staff

### Finance Committee
- Dr. Ernest Schlabach, VA, Chair
- Dr. Roger Pabst, Minnesota
- Dr. Susy Yu, CA
- Dr. Michael Ohlson, IA, Ex-Officio
- Ron Cassel, Staff
- Lisa Fennell, Staff

### Annual Meeting Planning Committee
- Dr. Ernest Schlabach, VA, Co-Chair
- Dr. Susy Yu, CA, Co-Chair
- Dr. D.R. Gordon, IL
- Dr. William Rafferty, NC
- Dr. Jerry Richt, TN
- Dr. Donovan Crouch, Consultant
- Dr. Michael Ohlson, IA, Ex-Officio
- Lisa Fennell, Staff

### COPE Committee
- Dr. Jill Martinson-Redekopp, ND, Chair
- Dr. Douglas Ayre, KS
- Dr. Lawrence Barger, OH
- Dr. Bruce Rakusin, MA
- Dr. Robert Smalling, AR
- Dr. Jack George Zarybnisky, ID
- Dr. Jerry Richt, TN, Board Liaison
- Dr. Michael Ohlson, IA, Ex-Officio
- Lisa Fennell, Staff
- Anita Matthews, Staff

### International Affairs Committee
- Dr. Gregory Moore, WV, Chair
- Dr. James Bureman, MO
- Dr. Robert Smalling, AR
- Dr. Lise-Anne Chasse, QC
- Dr. Michael Ohlson, IA, Ex-Officio
- Lisa Fennell, Staff

### Judicial Council/Resolutions Committee
- Dr. Jeffrey Kraskin, DC, Chair
- Dr. James Bureman, MO
- Michael O'Hara, J.D., Ph.D., NE
- Dr. Christina Sorenson, AZ, Board Liaison
- Dr. Michael Ohlson, IA, Ex-Officio
- Lisa Fennell, Staff

### Member Board Executive Directors/Administrators Committee
- Dr. Howard Flippin, AR, Chair
- Pat Bennett, MD
- Pam Carper, WV
- Leslie Knachel, VA
- Dr. Gregory Moore, WV, Board Liaison
- Dr. Michael Ohlson, IA, Ex-Officio
- Lisa Fennell, Staff

### National Board Examination Review Committee (NBERC)
- Dr. Joseph Sullivan, KS, Chair
- Dr. Gregory Foster, WI
- Dr. Linda Tharp, TN
- Dr. Robert Smalling, AR
- Dr. Roger Pabst, MN, Board Liaison
- Dr. Michael Ohlson, IA, Ex-Officio
- Lisa Fennell, Staff
**Nominating Committee**

Dr. Joseph Sullivan, KS, Chair  
Dr. Bruce Rakusin, MA  
Dr. Jeffrey Kraskin, DC  
Dr. Steven Eyler, Consultant  
Dr. Roger Pabst, MN, Board Liaison  
Dr. Michael Ohlson, IA, *Ex-Officio*  
Lisa Fennell, Staff

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**OE Tracker Committee**

Dr. Richard Orgain, TN, Chair  
Dr. Dale Dergousoff, BC  
Dr. Howard Flippin, AR  
Dr. Jeffrey Kraskin, DC  
Dr. Michael O’Hara, NE  
Dr. Joseph Sullivan, KS  
Dr. Ernest Schlabach, VA, Board Liaison  
Dr. Jack Terry, Consultant  
Dr. Susy Yu, Consultant  
Dr. Michael Ohlson, IA, *Ex-Officio*  
Lisa Fennell, Staff  
Tony Mancuso, Staff  
Jacqueline Nette, Staff

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**Optometric Competence Committee**

Dr. William Rafferty, NC, Chair  
Dr. James Bureman, MO  
Dr. James Hunter, IN  
Dr. Gregory Moore, WV  
Dr. Jack Terry, Consultant  
Dr. Michael Ohlson, IA, *Ex-Officio*  
Lisa Fennell, Staff

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**Optometric Competence Committee**

Dr. William Rafferty, NC, Chair  
Dr. James Bureman, MO  
Dr. James Hunter, IN  
Dr. Gregory Moore, WV  
Dr. Jack Terry, Consultant  
Dr. Michael Ohlson, IA, *Ex-Officio*  
Lisa Fennell, Staff

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**Other Appointments**

ACOE: Dr. Christopher Olson  
ACOE: Dr. David Reed  
AOSA Liaison: Alan Wegener  
GreenSheet Editor: Dr. Susy Yu  
Parliamentarian: Dr. Christina Sorenson

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**Liaison Appointments**

AAO: Dr. Michael Ohlson  
ACOE: Dr. Michael Ohlson  
AOA: Dr. Jerry Richt  
AOSA: Dr. Ernest Schlabach  
ASCO: Dr. Susy Yu  
CAC: Dr. William Rafferty  
FARB: Dr. Christina Sorenson  
NBEO: Dr. Roger Pabst  
WCO: Dr. Gregory Moore

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**Member Board Liaison Appointments**

Gregory Moore: WV*, PA, OH, NY, VT, NH, MI  
Michael Ohlson: IA*, MO, KS, OK, IL, WI, QU  
Roger Pabst: MN*, ND, SD, NE, MT, WY, AB  
William Rafferty: NC*, SC, GA, FL, PR, NJ, CT, MB  
Jerry Richt: TN*, KY, AL, MS, AR, IN, LA, SK  
Ernest Schlabach: VA*, DC, MD, DE, RI, MA, AP  
Christina Sorenson: AZ*, NM, TX, CO, UT, AK, ON  
Susy Yu: CA*, HI, OR, WA, BC, ID, NV, GU
As a practicing optometrist, please consider becoming a reviewer of courses submitted for COPE accreditation. The time you spend contributing to the COPE review process will help ensure the quality and independence of continuing education. COPE accreditation benefits both practitioners in your jurisdiction as well as the public that we serve.

**What do I need to do to become certified?**
- You must complete and submit a Course Reviewer Questionnaire.
- You must be endorsed by your optometry board; this endorsement will be secured by ARBO once you volunteer.
- You will be asked to complete the online COPE reviewer training that consists of six 10-20 minute self-paced educational modules followed by a short self-assessment.
- Once the training has been successfully completed, you will receive your congratulatory packet of information, including a certificate suitable for framing and a lapel pin.

**How much time will this take from my already busy schedule?**
- COPE reviewers are not requested to review more than two courses at any given time.
- The review of a course typically takes about 30 minutes.

Please consider volunteering and contributing to the COPE review process!

For more information please visit our website at [www.arbo.org](http://www.arbo.org) and click on COPE, then click on “I'd like to become a COPE Reviewer” or send us an email to arbo@arbo.org.

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**OFFICERS**
President—Michael Ohlson, O.D.
Vice President—W. Ernest Schlabach, O.D.
Secretary-Treasurer—Roger Pabst, O.D.
Immediate Past President—Jerry Richt, O.D.

**DIRECTORS**
Gregory Moore, O.D.
William Rafferty O.D.
Christina Sorenson, O.D.
Susy Yu, O.D.

**STAFF**
Managing Director—Lisa Fennell
Program Manager—Anita Matthews
Program Coordinator—Jacqueline Nette
Program Administrator—Donna DeLay
Web Developer—Tony Mancuso
Finance Manager—Ron Cassel

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