ARBO Hosts Third National Optometric Continuing Education Conference

The 2013 National Optometric Continuing Education Conference (NOCEC) was held April 27-28, 2013 at the Hilton Hotel in Rosemont, Illinois. There were 72 participants representing eighteen optometric organizations, fifteen licensing boards of optometry, nine schools of optometry, four companies within the ophthalmic industry, as well as speakers and panelists from a variety of healthcare professions. The mission of the 2013 NOCEC was "Supporting improvement in knowledge, performance and patient outcomes for the public welfare."

ARBO held the last NOCEC in 2006. One major outcome of the last conference was the implementation by the Council on Optometric Practitioner Education (COPE) of the Standards for Commercial Support. Continued changes in technology and educational methods, new uses for continuing education, and the demand from the public for assurance of continued competence compelled ARBO to bring all stakeholders together for another conference.

The 2013 NOCEC meeting commenced on April 27 with a welcome from ARBO President Michael Ohlson, OD, and Jerry Richt, OD, ARBO Immediate Past President. This was followed by the first keynote speaker, Lawrence Sherman, FACEHP, CCMEP, Senior Vice President of Prova Education, who gave an audience-participation based presentation. Topics during his presentation included CE best practices and measurement of success of CE activities. President and CEO of the AACME, Murray Kopelow, MD, MS (Comm), FRCPC, was the second keynote speaker who gave a presentation on the benefits of provider accreditation in continuing education. The third keynote speaker, Donald Moore, PhD, Director of the Division of Continuing Medical Education at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, presented on the future of learning for the optometric profession. This presentation included examples of outcomes-based education and principles that help the learning process for individuals.

Next, there were three panel presentations. Jill Martinson-Redekopp, OD, moderated the first panel discussion regarding continuing education accreditation in other healthcare fields including medicine, nursing and pharmacy. Members of the panel included Kathy ChapPELL, MSN, RN, Director of the Accreditation Program of ANCC, Katie Regnier, MA, MBA, Deputy Chief Executive and CEO of ACCME, and Dimitra Travlos, PharmD,
Greetings from Iowa. It’s been a busy Spring for ARBO. In April, we hosted the third National Optometric Continuing Education Conference in Chicago. Over 70 CE stakeholders studied and discussed CE with the mission of improving knowledge, performance, and patient outcomes for the public welfare. Keynote speakers included Murray Kopelow, MD of the AC-CME, Donald Moore, PhD of Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, and Lawrence Sherman of Prova Education. Responses to the conference were overwhelmingly positive and the Final Report should be available in June.

As we prepare for the Annual Meeting in San Diego this June, let’s reflect upon the missions of our jurisdictions to promote public safety particularly with regard to CE and continuing competence. The planned evolution of COPE-Accredited CE will create an environment of quality improvement by: 1) linking COPE-Accredited CE to practice and focusing on health care quality gaps; 2) ensuring that COPE-Accredited CE is free of commercial bias and independent of commercial interest in topic selection, planning decisions, and presentation content; 3) supporting ODs in maintenance of licensure; 4) supporting ODs as they complete their own personalized maintenance of certification processes; and 5) fostering collaboration to nurture innovation and interaction to seek outcomes at the patient health and community health levels.

Given the increasing knowledge base of optometry and increasing accountability to the public, it’s crucial that COPE-Accredited CE supports improvements in knowledge, performance, and patient outcomes. Perhaps, we should examine the requirements of our own jurisdictions with open minds and critical eyes. Are we ready for the future?

Michael W. Ohlson, O.D., F.A.A.O.
President
BCPS, Assistant Executive Director and Director of Provider Accreditation of ACPE.

A second panel discussion was moderated by William Rafferty, OD, and covered changes in compliance for industry support of continuing education. Panel members included David Alexander, Director of Global Integrity and Compliance at Alcon, Bhavana Desai, Senior Director of Business Compliance Medical Affairs and R&D at Allergan, Inc., and Dave Ryback, Franchise Health Care Compliance Officer at Johnson & Johnson Vision Care.

Finally, there was a third panel discussion regarding continuing professional development during the era of health care reform, moderated by Steven Eyler, OD. Members of this panel discussion included David Heath, OD, EdM, President of SUNY College of Optometry, Linda Casser, OD, Dean of PCO at Salus University and Elizabeth Hoppe, OD, MPH, DrPh, Founding Dean of Western University of Health Sciences College of Optometry. Moderators allotted time for a Q&A session with the audience during each panel.

In the afternoon, meeting attendees were separated into three different breakout groups to discuss topics related to the overall goal of the conference including: supporting improvement in knowledge, performance, and patient outcomes via CE planning, the pros and cons of provider vs. activity accreditation, and the future modalities of CE. The breakout sessions were followed by reports from each group to all meeting attendees with a Q&A session before wrapping up for the day.

Sunday morning began with a recap of Saturday’s breakout sessions and was followed by a continuation of the breakout group discussions from the previous day. The groups met for about two hours and then reconvened to share final results of the breakout sessions before the meeting adjourned. The ARBO Board of Directors is working on a report from the conference which will be presented to the Member Boards at the Annual Meeting in June.
ARBO 2013 Annual Meeting Rapidly Approaching

Meeting Information

There are only a few weeks left to make your plans to attend ARBO’s 94th Annual Meeting June 23-25 at the Marriott Marquis & Marina in San Diego, California. The theme of this year’s meeting is: “Moving Forward on the Progress of Optometry Regulation.”

The planning committee has developed a full agenda that we think you will find very informative. Some of the topics that will be discussed are: FDA regulation of medical devices and contact lens safety, prescription drug monitoring programs, and continuing professional development in an era of health care reform.

There will also be Executive Director/Administrator breakout sessions, Board member training, reports from each jurisdiction on their activities over the past year, ARBO committee reports, and a discussion of contemporary issues affecting regulatory Boards.

You definitely won’t want to miss this meeting!

Register at www.arbo.org and reserve your place at the delegate table!

Hotel Information

The centerpiece of the inspiring San Diego Bay, the San Diego Marriott Marquis & Marina offers resort-style relaxation. Adjacent to the San Diego Convention Center and steps from the Gaslamp Quarter, the hotel’s location provides convenient access to championship golf and popular attractions like the San Diego Zoo, Sea World San Diego and LEGOLAND California.

San Diego Marriott Marquis & Marina
333 West Harbor Drive
San Diego, California 92101 USA
Phone: 619-234-1500
Toll-free: 800-228-9290

Key Facts
Check-in and Check-out
• Check-in: 4:00 PM
• Check-out: 12:00 PM

High-Speed Internet
(50% off in-room internet for ARBO meeting attendees!)
• Public Areas: Wired, Wireless
• Guest Rooms: Wired*, Wireless

Parking
• On-site parking, fee: 16 USD hourly, 28 USD daily
• Valet parking, fee: 40 USD daily

Driving Directions from Airport
San Diego International Airport – Turn left on Harbor Drive. Follow Harbor Drive along waterfront. Hotel will be on right (about 2 miles).
This hotel does not provide shuttle service.
• Estimated taxi fare: 15 USD (one way)

Travel Assistance Available Again This Year!

If your Board has restricted travel allowances and you require additional support in order to attend, please let us know. ARBO and NBEO are offering two financial support programs again this year:

$500 Travel Stipend: Jointly funded by ARBO and NBEO, travel stipends will be available to one person from each jurisdiction who attends both the NBEO Workshop and the ARBO Annual Meeting. This stipend is available to those jurisdictions that require parts I, II, TMOD or III of the National Board Exam. To apply, or for more information, please contact Andrea Moss of the NBEO at 704.332.9565 or moss@optometry.org.

$500 Scholarships: Also jointly funded by ARBO and NBEO, travel scholarships are available again this year. A limited number of scholarships are available and they will be rewarded on a first come, first served basis ($500 per jurisdiction). Scholarships are only available to those delegates whose Board does not cover 100% of travel expenses. To apply, please send a request on your Board letterhead to Ron Cassel of ARBO at rcassel@arbo.org.
ARBO 2013 Annual Meeting Agenda

Sunday June 23, 2013
Breakfast: 8:00-9:00 am
Morning: 9:00 am-12:00 pm
• NBEO workshop, Jack Terry, O.D. Ph.D., NBEO
• Executive Directors/Administrators Workshops
Luncheon: 12:00-1:00 pm
Afternoon: 1:00-5:00 pm
• Call to Order
• Opening Ceremony
• President’s Report
• Secretary-Treasurer’s Report
• Judicial Council/Resolutions Committee Report
• Nominating Committee Report
• Member Board Reports
• Member Orientation
• Board Member Training, Dale Atkinson, Esq.
• OE TRACKER Committee Report
• Optometric Competence Committee Report
• NBER Committee Report
• ARBO/NBEO Directors Report

Recess
Dinner on your own

Monday June 24, 2013
Breakfast: 7:00-8:00 am
Morning: 7:00 am-12:00 pm
• Executive Directors/Administrators Workshop
• Judicial Council/Resolutions Committee Report
• Finance Committee Report
• “FDA Regulation of Medical Devices: Contact Lens Safety”, Bernard Lepré, O.D., FDA
• AOSA Report
• Member Board Reports
• COPE Committee Report
• NOCEC Report
Luncheon: 12:00-1:00 pm
Afternoon: 1:00-5:30 pm
• “Protecting Public Health: State Prescription Drug Monitoring Programs and Other Tools”, Sherry Green, J.D, CEO NAMSDL
• Interactive Discussion of Disciplinary Cases
• Legal Update, Dale Atkinson, Esq.
• FARB Report
• Nominating Committee Report
• “Personal Reflections: Regulation of Healthcare Professionals”, Sherry Cooper

Recess

President’s Reception: 6:00-8:00pm
Sponsored by: Allergan and VSP

Tuesday June 25, 2013
Breakfast: 7:00-8:00 am
Morning: 8:00 am-12:45 pm
• Elections
• Judicial Council/Resolutions committee Final Report
• Executive Directors/Administrators Workshop
• Industry Panel
• AOA Report, Ron Hopping, O.D., President
• Veteran’s Administration Update, John Townsend, O.D., Director of Optometry Service
• AAO Report, Bernard Dolan, O.D., President
• ACOE Report, J. Bart Campbell, O.D., Chair
• Contemporary Issues Discussion
• ASCO Report, Jennifer Smythe, O.D., President-Elect
• Passing of the Gavel

Adjournment

Dates/Locations of Future ARBO Annual Meetings:

June 22-24, 2014
in Philadelphia, PA

June 21-23, 2015
in Seattle, WA
ARBO Committee Volunteers Needed

Do you want to become more involved with ARBO? Serving on one of our committees is a great way to do it. If you are interested in volunteering to serve on an ARBO committee for the 2013-2014 administrative year, please list the committee/committees that interest you. A list of current committees is shown on the next page. The Board of Directors will be making committee appointments and volunteers will be notified of appointments in the late summer. The Directors attempt to have all committees regionally balanced; therefore, you may or may not be selected to serve depending on a variety of circumstances.

☐ I wish to be considered for the following ARBO Committee(s) for 2013-2014:

1. ________________________________  4. ________________________________
2. ________________________________  5. ________________________________
3. ________________________________  6. ________________________________

Your Jurisdiction: ___________________________________________________________

Name:.................................................................................................................

Address: ...............................................................................................................

............................................................................................................................

............................................................................................................................

Office Phone: ___________________________  Cell Phone: ___________________________

Email Address: ..................................................................................................

Expiration of Your Board Term (if applicable): ________________________________

Please fax completed form to Lisa Fennell at 704-970-2720 by June 15th. Forms will also be available onsite at the Annual Meeting.
ARBO Committees

Bylaws Committee
This committee reviews the ARBO Bylaws to recommend changes to be voted upon at the following year’s Annual Meeting. The current Bylaws were adopted in June 1994; amendments were made at the 1996, 1997, 1998 and 1999, 2000, 2004, 2007 and 2008 Annual Meetings.

Council on Endorsed Licensure Mobility for Optometrists (CELMO)
This committee develops and implements policy/programs for a license mobility vehicle by which state optometry boards can address the difficult task and burden of how to deal with the issue of licensure by endorsement in a uniform and consistent manner.

Council on Optometric Practitioner Education (COPE)
COPE’s primary purpose is to administer a centralized, uniform CE accreditation process of programs/events offered on a national and regional basis. The COPE Committee also: oversees the implementation of guidelines for selecting and monitoring course reviewers, evaluates the requirements for course qualification and CE administrator/provider approval, conducts periodic quality assessment reviews, and continuously refines the policy and procedures for the functioning of COPE.

International Affairs Committee
This committee seeks and encourages international membership in ARBO and maintains reciprocal relations with other international organizations. The International Committee gathers information relating to licensing and regulation boards of optometry in all jurisdictions of the world, and recommends methods to establish and maintain reciprocal relations among them.

Judicial Council/Resolutions Committee
The Judicial Council’s purpose is to review and approve all resolutions passed by the ARBO House of Delegates and is charged with reporting its deliberations to the President. After the resolutions review is complete, the Judicial Council is renamed, becomes the Resolutions Committee, and is then charged with reviewing and screening resolutions for appropriateness when they are submitted to the House of Delegates for adoption at the Annual Meeting.

Member Board Executive Directors/Administrators Committee
The purpose of the Member Board Executive Directors/Administrators Committee is to develop content for inclusion at the Annual Meeting for the benefit and education of member Board Executive Directors/administrators and staff.

National Board Examination Review Committee (NBERC)
This committee reviews the content of the examinations developed and administered by the National Board of Examiners in Optometry. The committee meets once a year, usually in January, during the NBEO Council Meeting in Charlotte, NC. The committee presents a report to the NBEO and to the House of Delegates at the ARBO Annual Meeting with recommendations on how examinations may be improved to meet optometry board needs.

Nominating Committee
The Nominating Committee’s purpose is to make a report at the Annual Meeting of the names selected for vacant directorships of ARBO and the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education. The committee accepts names for nomination before and during the Annual Meeting. The committee reviews pertinent information regarding candidates, conducts an interview process, and presents a slate of nominees to the voting delegates at the Annual Meeting.

OE TRACKER Committee
This Committee oversees the ARBO program designed to capture attendance data at educational meetings, making it available to both the individual optometrist and their boards of optometry to verify attendance information needed for continuing education requirements for license renewal.

Optometric Competence Committee
The purpose of this committee is to identify and establish educational and ethical standards and strategies for optometric licensing boards to implement lifelong learning processes to protect the public.
Invitation to ARBO Member Board Executive Directors and Administrators

The ARBO Member Board Executive Director/Administrator Committee wishes to take this opportunity to offer our special invitation to attend the ARBO Annual Meeting June 23-25, 2013 in San Diego. The General Session will be full of information with opportunities for individual boards to make oral reports to all attendees. The agenda also includes four specific breakout sessions for Board Executive Directors and Administrators.

**Executive Director/Administrator Workshop Sessions: Mission Hills Room**

Sunday, June 23rd, 11:00 am—12:00 pm
- **Role of Board Attorneys vs. Board Members**, Dale Atkinson, Esq.

Sunday, June 23rd, 12:00 —1:00 pm
- **Lunch and Discussion: What’s New in Your Jurisdiction?**, Howard Flippin, OD, Moderator

Monday, June 24th, 7:15 — 8:00 am
- **Uses of OE TRACKER for ARBO Member Boards**, Sierra Rice, ARBO Program Coordinator (*Pick up breakfast in the Carlsbad room at 7:00 am and bring it with you.*)

Tuesday, June 25th, 8:45 – 9:45 am
- **Ontario Quality Assurance Program**, Paula Garshowitz, OD, Registrar, College of Optometrists of Ontario

These sessions for Executive Directors and Administrators, along with other networking opportunities, make this an excellent meeting to attend. Public members attending the ARBO Annual Meeting are also invited to join these breakout sessions. Additional information on the meeting can be found at www.arbo.org. I look forward to seeing you in San Diego!

Howard Flippin, OD
Chair, Member Board Executive Director/Administrator Committee

---

COPE Representatives Attend Meeting of Health Professions CE Accreditors

Representatives of the COPE Committee recently attended a meeting of continuing education accreditors to discuss interprofessional continuing education accreditation. Dr. Jill Martinson-Redekopp, COPE Committee Chair; Dr. Jerry Richt, COPE Board Liaison; and Dr. Susy Yu, ARBO Board Member and COPE Committee Member, attended the meeting in Chicago, Illinois in February 2013. The purpose of the meeting was to share information across the health professions, discuss moving towards common standards of accreditation, and to explore joint sponsorship of interprofessional continuing education.

Accreditors of CE from several other health professions also participated in the meeting including: medicine, pharmacy, physician assistants, EMS, nutrition and dietetics, nursing, psychology, and dentistry. The group discussed their accreditation processes, accreditation standards, the scope of each system, and opportunities for interprofessional collaboration.
2013 Annual Meeting Call for Nominations

In accordance with ARTICLE VI, Section 2.C of the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO) Bylaws, I hereby announce that the Nominating Committee consists of the following individuals:

- Dr. Joseph B. Sullivan, Kansas, Chair
- Dr. Dale Dergousoff, British Columbia
- Dr. James Sandefur, Louisiana
- Dr. Robert Smalling, Arkansas
- Dr. Steven Eyler, Consultant
- Dr. Christina Sorenson, Arizona, Board Liaison

I also announce that two members of the ARBO Board of Directors will be elected for terms as follows:

Two Full 4-Year Terms:
- One 4-year term – Dr. Michael Ohlson -- eligible for re-election, intending to run
- One 4-year term – Dr. Roger Pabst -- eligible for re-election, intending to run

Individuals wishing to be considered by the Nominating Committee for service on the ARBO Board of Directors shall send a statement to that effect, along with a current CV, to Ms. Lisa Fennell, Executive Director, at the ARBO office by June 1, 2013. The candidate should be available at the ARBO Annual Meeting for an interview by the Nominating Committee.

For more information, see ARTICLE V, Section 1 of the Bylaws, on the ARBO Website at www.arbo.org.

W. Ernest Schlabach
ARBO Secretary-Treasurer