New COPE Accreditation Processes Implemented

The new COPE Accreditation processes were implemented on February 1, 2017. Changes to the accreditation process were made to help COPE better serve the public, regulatory boards and the profession by promoting improvement in competence, performance and patient outcomes. The new accreditation processes offer advantages to optometrist learners, continuing education (CE) providers, and the public by assuring that educational activities assist optometrists in maintaining or improving their practice of optometry.

COPE is unique among CE/CME accreditors in that it now offers two options for accreditation of optometric continuing education: activity accreditation and provider accreditation. Larger providers are more likely to choose provider accreditation, which allows for creativity and freedom within the educational planning process, but also requires up-front documentation of the organization’s overall processes. Activity accreditation, modified from COPE’s long-standing event accreditation process, is more likely to benefit smaller providers that have fewer resources. CE providers are free to choose either accreditation option. The processes differ somewhat, but both provider and activity accreditation share the same Accreditation Criteria and Standards for Commercial Support (SCS).

Dr. Jim Campbell, COPE Committee Chair, commented, “I’m very pleased with the positive response we have seen since implementing the new COPE accreditation processes. COPE made these changes to bring optometric CE up to the level of the other healthcare professions. We are also the only accreditor to offer a hybrid system with both activity and provider accreditation, which allows us to better meet the needs of all our CE providers.”

The key components of COPE’s provider accreditation process involve submission of a self-study report and a performance in practice activity review. The self-study report is a documented narrative of the processes a provider uses in the planning, administration, and analysis of their educational activities. Providers also demonstrate their execution of COPE’s Accreditation Criteria and SCS through a performance in practice review of actual educational activities. Applicants for provider accreditation also participate in an interview with COPE to discuss their CE program and their organization’s policies and practices to ensure compliance with COPE’s requirements.

The first COPE accredited provider received accreditation in December 2016. The Veteran’s Health Administration Employee Education System (VHA EES) is accredited by 17 different professions to provide CE/CME to their clinicians. The VHA EES serves nearly 1000 optometrists who care for Veteran patients. Their goal is to improve patient-centered care and increase Veterans’ access to integrated, high-quality health care.

Dr. Greg Moore, ARBO President, commented, “We’re thrilled to partner with the VHA EES to provide COPE-accredited CE for their optometrists. They have been a great organization to work with as we’ve worked to evolve COPE’s requirements to improve the quality of continuing optometric education.” Dr. Diana Durham, Associate Director for Accreditation/Support Division of the VHA EES, said, “Partnering with the ARBO/COPE staff and the Council on Optometric Practitioner Education Committee to create best practices and streamlined mechanisms for planning COPE accredited activities and series continues to be a rewarding experience for VHA EES Accreditation. We see so many benefits for our VHA Doctors of Optometry and the Veterans they serve. We are honored to have the opportunity to collaborate with COPE!”

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:
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WOW! It’s hard to believe this ARBO year is in the home stretch. We have had a very busy year.

I can tell you that you have a hard-working and dedicated group in your current Board of Directors. Each one carries a passion for what we do that creates pretty intense board meetings. Those meetings are producing some very solid directions as we chart a course to assist you in protecting the public through these ever-changing health care economies we are all facing.

I encourage you all to come to the annual meeting in Washington, DC, to get the full details. Here is just a very small sampling of what we have been doing:

- Last year you gave us a directive to continue the dialogue with stakeholders concerning CE accreditation. I am happy to report we have done that. After attending the AOA CE summit in October where we suggested a joint task force be formed to find common ground, a task force was appointed in October made up of representatives from ARBO, AAO, AOA, and ASCO. They have worked very hard over the past six months and are still going strong. We plan to give you a full report of their discussions at our annual meeting in June.

- Last year we reported to you that we had extended our agreement with NBEO for one year so we’d have more time to work out the terms for a new agreement. We’ve had a task force working on that all year and by the time this goes out, the Executive Committees of both Boards of Directors will have had at least one face-to-face meeting. We will be able to share where we are in the discussions at the June meeting and hopefully be able to get some direction from you as to ARBO’s plans moving forward.

- OE TRACKER is going strong and growing as more and more Member Boards are taking advantage of the efficiency it offers in allowing you to audit 100% of your licensees to ensure protection of the public without spending your limited resources in that endeavor.

- Our Contemporary Issues Committee has also been looking at telehealth and emerging technologies. As these new technologies become more widespread, more issues are sure to arise that could affect all of health care. We are seeing our regulatory authority being challenged by everything from online contact lens sales to those claiming to offer online eye exams. We have to be very aware of those technologies that might be harmful to the public without impeding those technologies that will be able to offer quality care in different delivery methods than have historically been used in optometry. We will be updating you on our efforts in that regard at our annual meeting as well.

- We are also assisting our international members who look to us for guidance in that we have already been down the road many of them are just starting to travel. You may recognize Damien Koppens who has represented New Zealand for several years at our annual meeting. The picture below was taken in Pikeville, KY, in April, when he and Darren Savage came to visit. I’d like to offer special thanks to our International Committee Chairman, Dr. Jim Bureman, for setting up the meeting. Damien is no longer on the New Zealand Board but is passing that torch on to Jennifer Craig and Jayesh Chouhan. Be sure to make them welcome when you see them in DC.

Space does not permit me to tell you all the other work that we have accomplished this year. I have barely scratched the surface of what we will be discussing at our annual meeting. I hope you are making plans to attend; you don’t want to miss this one.

In closing, I want to say a very special thank you to our Executive Director, Lisa Fennell. She has been nothing short of amazing. Also, to each of the ARBO staff who work tirelessly to help us accomplish our goals. They are without a doubt the backbone of our organization and we are truly blessed to have each and every one of them.

See you in DC in June.

Gregory S. Moore, OD
ARBO President

Darren Savage, Dr. Greg Moore, and Damian Koppens
Hello from the ARBO office! I can’t believe it’s time for the annual meeting already. Hopefully, you’ve already made plans to travel to Washington, DC, to attend our 98th meeting. The theme of the meeting this year is “Focus on Regulation in a Changing Environment”. ARBO and our members are definitely in the middle of a rapidly changing environment with all the changes to healthcare on the horizon and new technologies that are available. The Planning Committee, led by Dr. Donovan Crouch, has some excellent speakers lined up that you will really enjoy. DC is such a great city to visit with so many sights and things to do. Hopefully, you’ll have the opportunity to stop by some of the monuments and museums when you’re there.

Our staff and committees have been working hard since the last meeting. The new COPE accreditation requirements have been implemented and educating our CE providers on the new processes has kept us very busy. The OE TRACKER Committee is exploring the possibility of expanding the program into a repository for professional credential as was discussed at last year’s annual meeting. Our members were all sent a survey to let us know what information they would find helpful to be added to OE TRACKER. You’ll hear more about this at the annual meeting. The National Board Exam Review Committee is working on their report to give feedback on the National Board Exams, and the Contemporary Issues Committee is busy researching telehealth. All of our committees will be updating you on their activities at the annual meeting. I can’t thank all of our many volunteers enough for all their hard work and dedication.

In the office, the project to upgrade our website is nearing completion. This investment is going to really pay off by improving functionality for our members, our customers and our staff. The staff has also been extremely busy as the spring CE activities start ramping up. COPE course and activity submissions are at an all-time high and OE TRACKER is rapidly heading towards having 3.5 million courses uploaded. It’s very exciting to see all the hard work that’s been done by our committees coming to fruition.

I hope that all our members are able to take advantage of the tools that ARBO provides. If there’s anything that we can do to help you, or any questions that you have, please let me know. Also, if you have budgetary concerns that may be preventing you from attending the annual meeting this year, please check out our website for information on the travel assistance that we’re able to provide. I look forward to seeing you all in Washington, DC, in June!

ARBO Southern Regional Meeting

The 2017 Southern Regional Meeting was held March 4th in Atlanta, Georgia. The meeting was chaired by ARBO President, Dr. Greg Moore. Other ARBO attendees were Dr. Don Crouch, Dr. Roger Pabst, Dr. Bill Rafferty and Lisa Fennell.

There were 18 attendees at the Southern Regional Meeting from eight State Boards and three optometry schools. ARBO gave reports on the upcoming annual meeting, COPE, and OE TRACKER. The NBEO also gave a report on their recent activities.

ARBO’s Member Boards in attendance also gave reports on the activities in their jurisdictions. Some of the additional issues that were discussed at the meeting included board consolidation/umbrella boards, marijuana regulation, and illegal contact lens sales.

ARBO holds the Southern Regional Meeting every year in conjunction with SECO. We hope to see you there next year.

Dr. Marla Moon Elected to NBEO Board of Directors

Marla Moon, OD, FAAO, was elected to the National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO) Board of Directors in December 2016. Appointed to serve on the Pennsylvania Board of Optometry in 2007, Dr. Moon also served as Board Chair for five years. Her contributions to ARBO include serving on numerous ARBO committees including the By-Laws and Resolutions Committees, Nominating Committee and National Board Examination Review Committee (NBERC), which she served as Chair of from 2014-2015.

Dr Moon is a founding partner of Nittany Eye Associates in State College, Pennsylvania, which opened in 1997, and has more than 35 years of optometric experience. She is a graduate of the Pennsylvania College of Optometry, qualified as a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry in 1995 and was awarded with Optometrist of the Year by the Pennsylvania Optometric Association in 2000.
Join Us for the 2017 ARBO Annual Meeting in Washington, DC!

Meeting Information

ARBO’s 2017 Annual Meeting will be held at The Grand Hyatt DC in Washington, DC, from June 18 –20, 2017. Members and staff of the Regulatory Boards of Optometry in the US, Canada, Australia and New Zealand are invited to attend this important meeting to discuss current regulatory issues.

The theme of the meeting this year is “Focus on Regulation in a Changing Environment.” The ARBO Annual Meeting provides a forum for keeping up-to-date with regulatory issues. This is a great opportunity to interact with your regulatory colleagues, discussing hot topics and shared concerns in the regulatory community. You definitely won’t want to miss this meeting!

Registration Fee: $475 for Voting and Non-Voting Delegates. To register, please visit our website: https://www.arbo.org/2017_meet.php

**SPECIAL RATE:**
Register one delegate at full price by May 15, 2017, and get a second delegate registration at no charge!

Hotel Information

Grand Hyatt DC
1000 H Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20001
Phone: 202 582 1234

Location
Premier location in Penn Quarter, across from City Center DC and the heart of downtown Washington, DC, blocks from popular attractions, dining, shopping and nightlife

Group Room Rate:
$265 (plus taxes and fees) per night (single/double). Hotel reservations can be made through the ARBO website or by calling 888-421-1442 and referencing ARBO. Room reservations must be made by May 26th in order to take advantage of the group rate.

Transportation:
Reagan National Airport – 4.2 miles / 11 mins
Dulles Int’l Airport – 27 miles / 32 mins
Baltimore / Washington Int’l. Airport – 32 miles / 43 mins

Travel Assistance Available This Year!

If you require travel assistance in order to attend the Annual Meeting, please let us know. ARBO and NBEO are jointly offering two financial support programs for the 2017 meeting:

**$500 Travel Stipend:** 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 Travel Scholarships:** A limited number of travel scholarships are available and 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, noting that your Board does not pay 100% of your travel expenses, to Ron Cassel of ARBO at rcassel@arbo.org or fax to 888-703-4848 by May 26, 2017.
### 98th ARBO Annual Meeting Agenda

**SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 2017**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
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| 9:00 am    | National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO) Workshop<br><br><i>Topics will include:</i><br>  
- News from the NBEO<br>  
- Examination Updates<br>  
- Why do students cheat?<br>  
- Why is forensics important in Computer-Based Testing?<br>  
- Exam Statistics 101<br>  
- Standard Settings<br>  
- The Exam Development Process |
| 11:00 am   | Executive Director/Administrator Workshop: Discussion with Dale Atkinson, Esq., The Ideal Board |
| 12:00 pm   | Lunch for Delegates<br> OR<br> Lunch and Executive Director/Administrator Workshop: What’s New in Your Jurisdiction? |
| 1:00 pm    | Plenary Session: Call to Order<br> Gregory Moore, OD, ARBO President<br> District of Columbia Welcome<br> Jeffrey Kraskin, OD; Vincent Gray, Chairperson, DC Committee on Health |
| 1:45 pm    | Board Member Training<br> Dale Atkinson, Esq.                                              |
| 3:00 pm    | OE TRACKER Committee Report                                                                 |
| 3:30 pm    | National Board of Examination Review Committee (NBERC) Report                              |
| 3:45 pm    | ARBO/NBEO Directors Report                                                                  |
| 4:00 pm    | Member Board Breakout Session I                                                             |
| 5:15 pm    | Recess                                                                                     |

**MONDAY, JUNE 19, 2017**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 am</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Plenary Session: Call to Order&lt;br&gt; Gregory Moore, OD, ARBO President&lt;br&gt; Legal Update&lt;br&gt; Dale Atkinson, Esq.</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Member Board Breakout Session II&lt;br&gt; OR&lt;br&gt; Executive Director/Administrator Workshop: Board Success Stories</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Update on the FDA's Efforts in the Surveillance and Control of Illegal Decorative Contact Lenses&lt;br&gt; Bernard Lepri, OD, FDA</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:45 am</td>
<td>Presentation of the John D. Robinson Founder’s Award</td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00 pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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<td>1:00 pm</td>
<td>Advancing CE in a Changing Healthcare Environment&lt;br&gt; Graham McMahon, MD, ACCME CEO</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>COPE Committee Report</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:30 pm</td>
<td>Member Board Reports from Breakout Sessions</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>Panel Discussion on Regulatory Board Consolidation</td>
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<td>4:30 pm</td>
<td>Contemporary Issues Committee Report</td>
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<tr>
<td>4:45 pm</td>
<td>AOA State Legislative Update&lt;br&gt; David Cockrell, OD, AOA Advocacy Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Open Discussion Time</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:25 pm</td>
<td>Final Nominating Committee Report</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>Recess</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>President’s Reception&lt;br&gt; Sponsored by VSP</td>
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ARBO Annual Meeting Invitation to Member Board Executive Directors and Administrators

Dear Executive Directors and Administrators,

The ARBO Member Board Executive Director/Administrator Committee wishes to take this opportunity to attend the ARBO Annual Meeting June 18-20, 2017, in Washington, DC. The theme of the meeting this year is “Focus on Regulation in a Changing Environment.” The General Session will be full of information with opportunities for interaction with Boards from other jurisdictions. The agenda also includes three specific breakout sessions for Executive Directors and Administrators.

Executive Director/Administrator Sessions:

Sunday, June 18th (11:00 am-12:00 pm): Discussion with Dale Atkinson, Esq. (The Ideal Board - Tips for getting a Board to be more strategic and proactive)

Sunday, June 18th (12:00-1:00 pm): Lunch and Discussion: What’s New in Your Jurisdiction (telehealth, license mobility/reciprocity, etc.)

Monday, June 19th (9:30-10:30 am): Board Success Stories - What works for you? New software, policies, rules? What makes your Board work better and stand apart from others?

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.

You should have already received registration material from the ARBO office. Additional information on the meeting can be found at www.arbo.org. We look forward to seeing you in DC!

Member Board ED/Administrator Committee:
- Pat Bennett (MD), Co-Chair
- Jan Murray (KS), Co-Chair
- Emily Cronbaugh, (WY)
- Robin Jenkins (DC)
- Sandy Matsushima (HI)
- Tom Ryan (WI)
- Jessica Sieferman (CA)
The National Board Examination Review Committee (NBERC) attended the NBEO’s Council Meetings in Charlotte, North Carolina, in October 2016. Most of the NBERC members used their initial experience from attending the 2015 meetings to plan their analysis this year. Instead of rotating among the three phases of the NBEO test creation process, each individual committee member remained in one designed test phase the entire meeting, creating a more focused and concentrated review. Dr. Jack Terry of the NBEO also gave the committee a tour of the National Center of Clinical Testing in Optometry, including a preview of the new “Laser Room.”

Committee members are now working on a report that the committee will present at ARBO’s Annual Meeting in Washington, DC, in June 2017.

Committee Members include: Thomas Bobst, OD, OH, Chair; Gary Avallone, OD, LA; Mary Lou French, OD, IL; Clay McLaughlin, OD, OK; Patrick O’Neill, OD, MN, Board Liaison; and Mr. Ron Cassel, Staff.

ARBO Participates in NBEO Standard Setting Event

The 2017 NBEO Part I Applied Basic Science Examination Standard-Setting Meeting was held at the National Board of Examiners in Optometry office in Charlotte, NC, on April 1-2, 2017. The NBEO Board of Directors extended an invitation to ARBO to send two members to the meeting who are known to have a strong state board interest in psychometrics, standard-setting, scoring, and equating. Dr. Steve Linas (VA) and Dr. Steve Odekirk (WV) were chosen to represent ARBO.

The ABS examination assesses entry-level competence in the basic sciences of optometry and is typically administered to third-year optometry students. The exam is composed of 350 regular, scored, multiple-choice items plus 20 unscored, pre-test, multiple-choice items, for a total of 370 items.

When a high-stakes examination is established or reformatted (i.e., when it is being administered for the first time in computer-based format), it is important to set an appropriate cut-off score, through a formal standard-setting study. Standard-setting is the process of defining performance expectations for the minimally qualified candidate (MQC) and translating those performance expectations into a passing score.

The NBEO appreciates ARBO's willingness to send Drs. Linas and Odekirk to the Part I ABS standard-setting event on behalf of their organization.

ARBO and NBEO Executive Committees Meet

The ARBO Executive Committee met with the NBEO Executive Committee on April 30-May 1, 2017, in Charlotte, NC. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss ways to improve communication between the two organizations, the NBEO leadership change, feedback from the National Board Examination Review Committee, and the NBEO Workshop at ARBO’s upcoming annual meeting.

In attendance were Dr. Greg Moore, ARBO President; Dr. Rick Orgain, ARBO Vice President; Dr. Jim Campbell, ARBO Secretary-Treasurer; and Dr. Susy Yu, ARBO Immediate Past President, as well as Dr. Jill Martinson-Redekopp, NBEO President; Dr. Elizabeth Hoppe, NBEO Vice President; Dr. Jerry Richt, NBEO Secretary-Treasurer; and Dr. Bill Rafferty, NBEO Immediate Past President.

ARBO and NBEO Executive Committee Members
The OE TRACKER Committee held its annual committee meeting on January 21, 2016, in Charlotte, NC. During the meeting the committee reviewed OE TRACKER administrative statistics from 2016, as well as recent Member Board and State Association utilization of OE TRACKER. Member Boards in Maine, North Dakota, Ontario, Tennessee and West Virginia continue to pay their licensees’ OE TRACKER subscription fees and require OE TRACKER for license renewal. The College of Optometrists of British Columbia plans to join these five member boards in requiring OE TRACKER and paying for registrants’ subscription fees within the year. ARBO staff continues to reach out to Member Boards who may be interested in utilizing OE TRACKER for license renewals and audits.

The committee also discussed possible future OE TRACKER program and mobile app enhancements and wrapped up the meeting with brainstorming for both 2017 marketing plans and the committee’s yearly report for ARBO’s Annual Meeting in Washington, DC, in June.

Committee Members include: Jeff Yunker, OD, ND, Chair; Larry Brown OD, GA; Doug Clark, OD, AL; Mary Lou French, OD, IL; Ken Lawenda, OD, VT; Blaine Littlefield, OD, ME; Steve Linas, OD, VA; Coby Ramsey, OD, WY, Board Liaison; James Vaught, OD, SC; Greg Moore, OD, WV, Ex-Officio; Ms. Lisa Fennell, Staff; and Ms. Sierra Rice; Staff.

The COPE Committee held its annual committee meeting on April 8-9, 2017, in Rosemont, Illinois. The committee discussed yearly administrative and course audit information, as well as COPE utilization among Member Boards and COPE Reviewer data. ARBO staff provided an update on the new COPE activity accreditation implementation that began Feb. 1, 2017, as well as an update on the COPE provider accreditation model. Other topics of discussion included various COPE policies and plans for the committee presentation at the 2017 ARBO Annual Meeting in Washington, DC.

Committee Members include: James Campbell, OD, WV, Chair; Thomas Bobst, OD, OH; Jill Martinson-Redekopp, OD, ND; Steven Odekirk, OD, WV; Michael Ohlson, OD, IA; Richard Orgain, OD, TN; Greg Patera, OD, MI; Bill Rafferty, OD, NC; Jerry Richt, OD, TN; Robert Smalling, OD, AR; Susy Yu, OD, CA; Dr. Greg Moore, OD, WV, Ex-Officio; Ms. Donna DeLay, Staff; Ms. Lisa Fennell, Staff; and Ms. Sierra Rice, Staff.

As a regulatory board member and an 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.

What do I need to do to become certified?
• Submit a COPE reviewer questionnaire.
• An endorsement from your Optometry Licensing Board (will be secured by ARBO once you volunteer.)
• Complete the online COPE reviewer training (six 10-minute self-paced educational modules)
• Start reviewing COPE courses!

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.

For more information please visit our website at 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.
ARBO Committee Volunteers Needed

If you are interested in volunteering to serve on an ARBO committee for the 2017-2018 administrative year, please consider the committee(s) that interest you. A list of current committees is shown on the following page. The Board of Directors will be making committee appointments and volunteers will be notified of appointments in early July. 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 2017-2018:

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, or scan and email, the completed form to Lisa Fennell at 888.703.4848 or lfennell@arbo.org by June 3rd.

Forms will also be available onsite during 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.

Contemporary Issues Committee
The purpose of this committee is to research and gather information on contemporary issues in optometry and report their findings and recommendations to the House of Delegates at the ARBO Annual Meeting.

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 and CE administrator approvals, 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 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 Continued 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.
COPE Participates in Health Professions Open House

Representatives from ARBO and COPE attended the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) 2017 Meeting and participated in a Health Professions Open House. Drs. Jerry Richt, Bill Rafferty and Susy Yu attended the meeting in Chicago on April 26, 2017, and represented COPE at the Health Professions Open House along with representatives from eight other professions to discuss alignment with other health professions in the planning of interprofessional continuing education.

The ACCME 2017 Meeting brought together a community of continuing medical education (CME) providers to discuss transforming CME to meet the evolving needs of learners and the healthcare environment. The goal of the Health Professions Open House was to start a dialogue between planners of accredited CME and other professions in healthcare around collaboration in education. By expanding traditional CME to consider and incorporate the perspectives of other professions, organizations accredited in the ACCME system will be able to meet the requirements of ACCME’s new Accreditation Criteria which encourage and reward accredited providers to plan and deliver interprofessional continuing education, as well as engage patient/public representatives of the health professions in the planning and delivery of CME.

ARBO Attends ACEhp Conference

ARBO Program Manager Sierra Rice attended the Alliance for Continuing Education in Health Professions (ACEhp) 42nd Annual Conference, held in January 2017, in San Francisco. This was Ms. Rice’s second year in attendance at the conference, which brings healthcare continuing education professionals together to collaborate with their cohorts to benefit continuing education and professional development. Meeting attendees were from federal healthcare, hospital health systems, industry, medical schools, societies and more.

Ms. Rice attended workshops focused on different aspects of continuing education including standards for commercial support, the role of technology in the future of continuing education, and measuring and analyzing the success of continuing education programs. She represented COPE at a meeting with other healthcare CE/CME accreditors to discuss current happenings within their organizations and future plans for interprofessional education, and also attended a luncheon hosted by the Veterans Health Administration Employee Education System (VHA EES) for their accreditors to meet each other. The VHA EES was recently accredited by COPE as its first accredited provider.

The Alliance is a membership community of healthcare continuing education professionals dedicated to accelerating excellence in performance through quality education, innovation, advocacy and collaboration. Members include healthcare continuing education professionals who represent federal healthcare, healthcare education organizations, hospital health systems, industry, medical education companies, medical schools, medical specialty societies and state medical societies. The Alliance’s mission is to “connect healthcare education professionals to promote best practices that improve patient care.” For more information, visit www.acehp.org.

ARBO Attends FARB Forum

ARBO Board Members and staff recently attended the Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards (FARB) Forum in San Antonio, Texas. ARBO Executive Director, Lisa Fennell; Operations Manager, Ron Cassel; and Annual Meeting Planning Committee Chair, Dr. Donovan Crouch, joined other regulatory professionals at the meeting. Other Forum attendees that might be familiar to ARBO’s membership were Patricia Bennett, Executive Director of the Maryland Board of Optometry, Pamela Carper, Executive Director of the West Virginia Board of Optometry; Emily Cronbaugh, Executive Director of the Wyoming Professional Licensing Boards, and Robin Jenkins, Executive Director of the District of Columbia Department of Health.

There were presentations and discussions on sunset review and annual legislative reports, accessibility, technology, and discipline. Recent regulatory cases and legislation affecting the regulatory community were presented by Dale Atkinson, Esq., FARB Executive Director. It was clear from the discussions during the meeting that all regulatory boards share similar interests and challenges regardless of the profession involved.

FARB is an organization that represents Associations, such as ARBO, that are made up of regulatory boards for a variety of professions. More information on FARB and their upcoming meetings can be found on their website, www.fARB.org. The FARB Forum occurs every year and will be held on January 25-28, 2018, in Coronado, California. The next Regulatory Law Seminar will be held October 5-8, 2017, in Savannah, Georgia.
Dr. Jack Terry Retires from NBEO

After 12 years of service, Jack Terry, OD, PhD, has retired from the National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO). Dr. Terry brought about numerous significant upgrades to the National Board exams during his tenure as Executive Director and Chief Executive Officer of the NBEO.

Prior to assuming the mantle of the chief administrator for the National Board, Dr. Terry participated for many years on various exam development committees and councils and envisioned the need for the development of the Treatment and Management of Ocular Disease (TMOD) Examination. The TMOD significantly impacted the optometric world as the scope of practice rapidly expanded across the nation to include the use of diagnostic and therapeutic pharmaceuticals.

Dr. Terry assisted the NBEO Examination Restructure Task Force in the development of the Content Matrix, the revised Content Outline, and item distribution policy. He re-engineered exam item format and then implemented these changes across all exams. During Dr. Terry’s tenure, the NBEO adopted contemporary standard-setting processes.

In addition, Dr. Terry collaborated with the Board of Directors in conceptualizing the relocation of the NBEO offices within the Charlotte, NC metropolitan area with the goal of developing a centralized, standardized clinical skills exam. Under the Board’s direction, Dr. Terry oversaw the construction of the National Center of Clinical Skills Testing in which today’s standardized part III CSE is administered.

During Dr. Terry’s tenure, NBEO completed the conversion of the Part I Applied Basic Science and Part II Patient Assessment and Management exams to computer-based tests. In addition, NBEO developed a practitioner-level exam, the Continued Professional Development in Optometry, and an advanced competency exam, the Advanced Competency in Medical Optometry.

Dr. Terry enjoyed working with the NBEO Staff, numerous Board members, and hundreds of Examination Committee members over the past four decades. He greatly appreciates having had the opportunity to serve the NBEO in advancing its mission.

Reflecting the past 12 years, Dr. Terry stated, “The NBEO is one of the finest organizations in existence as it strives to assist state boards of optometry in providing members of the public with excellent, safe eyecare that is rendered to them by appropriately qualified optometric practitioners. I know that the National Board will continue to fulfill the entire scope of its state-of-the-art, indispensable, highly effective, board-level testing to accomplish its mission to protect the public welfare, in 2017 and beyond. I firmly believe that the current level of integrity of the profession of optometry depends upon it, as well as the public’s and other healthcare professionals’ respect for, and trust in, the profession of optometry.”

NBEO Appoints Interim Executive Director

The Board of Directors of the National Board of Examiners in Optometry is pleased to announce S. Jill Bryant, OD, has been appointed to the position of Interim Executive Director of the organization. Dr. Bryant has served as Chief Operation Officer of the NBEO since August 2015.

Dr. Bryant came to the NBEO after serving as Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology and Director of Contact Lens service at Duke University from 2006 –2015. Dr. Bryant has also served as a Clinical Examiner for the NBEO Part III examination and as a member of the Continuing Professional Development in Optometry (CPDO) examination development Committee and Council. In addition, she has served as Assistant Chief Clinical Examiner of the North Carolina Board of Optometry.

“Dr. Bryant has shown exemplary performance in her previous roles within the NBEO and we know she will continue to provide valuable assistance to the Board of Directors during this transitional period.” said NBEO Board of Directors President Dr. Jill Martinson-Redekopp.

The NBEO Board of Directors will be conducting a nationwide search to fill the permanent leadership position from the recent retirement of Dr. Jack Terry. Plans for the search process will be announced to the profession within the next few months.
ARBO 2017 Call for Nominations

In accordance with ARTICLE VI, Section 2.C of the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO) Bylaws, the President has appointed a Nominating Committee consisting of the following individuals:

- James Bureman, OD, Chair, Missouri
- Andrew Doyle, OD, Maryland
- Clay McLaughlin, OD, Oklahoma
- Scott Peterson, JD, Massachusetts
- Richard Orgain, OD, Board Liaison, Tennessee
- Gregory Moore, OD, West Virginia, Ex-officio

Two positions will be open on the ARBO Board of Directors this year. Elections will be held at the ARBO Annual Meeting in June:

- One 4-year term – Dr. Michael Ohlson: Not eligible for re-election
- One 4-year term – Dr. Roger Pabst: Not eligible for re-election

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 May 29, 2017. Candidates 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.

OFFICERS
President—Gregory S. Moore, O.D.
Vice President—Richard C. Orgain, O.D.
Secretary-Treasurer—James S. Campbell, O.D.
Immediate Past President—Susy Yu, O.D., M.B.A., F.A.A.O.

DIRECTORS
Michael W. Ohlson, O.D., F.A.A.O.
Patrick W. O’Neill, O.D., F.A.A.O.
Richard C. Orgain, O.D.
Roger D. Pabst, O.D.
William B. Rafferty, O.D., F.A.A.O.
Coby S. Ramsey, O.D.
Jerry A. Richt, O.D.

STAFF
Lisa Fennell, Executive Director
Ron Cassel, Operations/Finance Manager
Candice Cole, Program Coordinator
Donna DeLay, Program Manager/COPE Administrator
Sierra Rice, Program Manager