COPE Joins the Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education™ Collaborative

ARBO is pleased to announce that COPE has joined the Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education™ program. Joint Accreditation offers organizations the opportunity to be simultaneously accredited to provide medical, nursing, pharmacy, physician assistant, and optometry continuing education through a single, unified application process, fee structure, and set of accreditation standards. Launched in 2009, Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education was founded by the Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME), the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education (ACPE), and the American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC). COPE and the American Academy of PAs (AAPA) joined the collaborative in January 2018.

Interprofessional continuing education is when members from two or more professions learn with, from, and about each other to enable effective collaboration and improve health outcomes. CE providers who give interprofessional continuing education can become jointly accredited to give CE/CME to all the professions in the collaborative. Jointly accredited continuing education providers must meet rigorous standards for educational quality and independence. With Joint Accreditation, ACCME, ACPE, ANCC, AAPA, and COPE seek to assure the public that healthcare teams receive education designed to be independent, free from commercial bias, based on valid content, and effective in improving the quality and safety of care delivered by the team.

Since its introduction, interprofessional continuing education has been shown to improve practice and patient outcomes. Jointly accredited CE providers can identify opportunities for team-based education through practice gap analysis and determine how team-based education can support healthcare priorities at much higher levels than the individual level including institutional, community, national, and/or international level.

The accreditation process for the Joint Accreditation program is very similar to COPE’s provider accreditation process, so it will be familiar to any organization that has previously given COPE accredited CE. Once an organization becomes jointly accredited, they are able to issue credit to physician, pharmacist, nurse, optometrist and PA attendees separately or together in their educational activities. However, activities developed for optometrists must have an optometrist as part of the planning committee to ensure that the content is appropriate for the scope and standards of practice for optometry.

COPE was directed to pursue joint interprofessional accreditation of continuing education with other healthcare professions in a resolution that was passed by ARBO’s Member Boards at the 2014 Annual Meeting in Philadelphia. Since then, the COPE Committee has worked diligently to evolve the COPE accreditation process to align with other healthcare accreditors. Dr. Rick Orgain, ARBO President, noted, “ARBO is honored and thrilled that COPE has become a member of the Joint Accreditation team. This is the culmination of over 20 years of work to advance and promote high standards and quality in optometric continuing education. It is also recognition that optometrists are important members of the healthcare team. The mission of COPE has always been to improve patient outcomes. By entering into this collaboration with ACCME, ACPE, ANCC, and AAPA, all organizations can join together to improve the quality of medical care delivered by the entire healthcare team.”

For more information about Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education, please visit the Joint Accreditation website at: http://jointaccreditation.org/ or contact ARBO Executive Director Lisa Fennell (lfennell@arbo.org) or Manager of Accreditation Services Sierra Powell (spowell@arbo.org).

**ALSO IN THIS ISSUE:**
- Letter From the President ......................................................... .2
- Note from the ED ........................................................................ .3
- 2018 Annual Meeting Info ............................................................ 4-6
- ARBO Attends 2018 Alliance ......................................................... 7
- Committee Updates .................................................................... 8
- ARBO Meeting Updates ............................................................... 9
- NBEO News ............................................................................. 10
- New NBEO Director Elected ....................................................... 10
- Call for Nominations ................................................................. 11
Happy Spring, everyone! It’s that time of year where planning for the ARBO Annual Meeting starts ramping up. Our planning committee, led by Dr. Donovan Crouch, is working hard to develop an interesting and educational meeting agenda. The theme this year is “Evolution of Regulation: New Demands/New Opportunities.” I hope that you’re all making your plans to attend the meeting in Denver.

The Annual Meeting is ARBO’s top opportunity to engage in discussion with and receive direction from our members, and we really want to hear from you. Some of the hot topics that will be covered this year are: telemedicine, licensure compacts, open meetings and politicking by regulatory boards. We also have a speaker from the FTC coming to give us their perspective on competition in regulated occupations. All of these issues have an impact on optometric regulation, and we’re expecting some lively discussions.

I’m happy to report that utilization of OE TRACKER is continuing to increase among our member boards as they look for ways to do more with less and yet still meet our mission of protecting the public. CE attendance data is being submitted to the office in record numbers and we now have almost 4 million records in OE TRACKER! I hope that all of you will consider using OE TRACKER for 100% electronic audit to save time and free your staff up for other duties.

COPE continues to accredit both individual CE activities and CE providers with an increase in the number of submissions in the past year. We received the substantial equivalency designation by the Accreditation Council on Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) in July; and in January, COPE joined the Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education program. Both of these endeavors were in response to resolutions that were passed by our members at past annual meetings (2012 and 2014). We will continue to evolve the COPE accreditation system to be the gold standard in healthcare continuing education. If you want to give the highest quality, defensible optometric CE, you might want to promote and demand the premier level of CE in your jurisdiction. THAT IS COPE!

Following your directive at the June 2017 Annual Meeting in Washington, DC, we have continued to reach out to AOA, ASCO and AAO to discuss stakeholder representation on COPE. I will report on the status of those discussions in June. I’ve said many times that creation of another CE accreditation program is a waste of valuable time and limited resources. There are many critical issues affecting optometry today, but CE accreditation isn’t one of them. We already have an accreditation program that is independent from commercial interest and defensible to the legislatures. COPE is recognized as equivalent to medicine and other healthcare professions, and allows optometry to be included in interprofessional continuing education. Let’s put our time and attention to more important issues for the betterment of the public and the profession.

I hope that you have been receiving all of our email communications this year, and that you’ve visited our new blog at blog.arbo.org. I think the information on the blog is very informative and quite helpful to new as well as long-term board members and board staff. If you have any suggestions for future topics that you’d like us to address on the blog, just let us know.

I thank you all for your support. I’m really looking forward to seeing you in Denver in June.

Sincerely,

Dr. Richard Orgain

A Note from the Executive Director

I can’t believe it’s 2018 already. Now that we’re into the New Year, it’s time to start thinking about ARBO’s Annual Meeting. Hopefully, you’re working on your plans to travel to Denver for our 99th meeting. Yes, believe it or not, this will be the 99th ARBO Annual Meeting! The theme of the meeting this year is: “Evolution of Regulation: New Demands/New Opportunities”. There is definitely a lot going on now that is affecting the regulatory boards with calls to make changes to professional regulation, new technologies, and changes to healthcare in general. The Planning Committee is working on the meeting agenda, and we have some great speakers lined up that we think you will really enjoy.

Our committees have been at work for several months now. They will be giving you an update on their activities at the Annual Meeting. Our staff has also been extremely busy keeping up with the many end-of-year license renewals and the spring CE activities. COPE course and activity submissions are continuing to increase and OE TRACKER is about to reach a major milestone of 4 million courses uploaded. It’s very exciting to see all the hard work that began with our committees being realized.

I’d like to introduce you to our newest staff member, Toni Oliver. Toni joined us in November as a temp and has assisted us for several months with data entry. She did such a great job that we decided to hire her full-time. Toni is responsible for providing front line customer service and uploading CE credits into OE TRACKER. Toni has been a wonderful addition to our team. Hopefully, you’ll be able to meet her in person at one of our meetings and welcome her to the ARBO family.

I hope that you are all taking advantage of the many tools that ARBO provides to help you do your job of protecting the public welfare. If you have any questions about our programs and how they can help you be more efficient, I’m just a phone call or email away. Our Board members and I would also be happy to come to one of your Board meetings to talk to you about COPE, OE TRACKER, or ARBO in general. If you’re interested, please let me know.

I look forward to seeing you all in Denver in June!

ARBO Launches New Blog

ARBO launched a new blog in February 2018 as a place to post news and information that is of interest to regulatory boards. The blog is part of our increased effort to communicate with our members. We’d like your input and feedback on future topics for the blog. What issues are you facing now? What issues are on the horizon that you need to prepare for? Let us know by sending an email to lfennell@arbo.org

Visit our blog today at blog.arbo.org.

What is the responsibility of a regulatory board member?

ARBO exists to serve its member boards and to reduce the burden on both your board and the government you serve. Fundamental to our responsibility as a regulatory board member is understanding the lines and boundaries between knowledge of the profession, professional advocacy and regulatory responsibility.

Obligations are not only subject to board members because of the knowledge of the profession. However, our obligations are not to be confused with the profession; it’s as easy to blur the lines of responsibility between what’s best for the public we serve (regulatory) and what’s best for the profession (advocacy). As difficult as this may sometimes be, it’s critical that we know the difference and wear the proper hat at the proper time.

So let’s go over some fundamentals.

Regulatory 101

What's the point of regulation in our profession?

- To reduce the risk of public harm
- Regulation centers in law, licensing and enforcement system

So what exactly do we do as a regulatory board member?

- We enforce initial licence standards by ensuring that new licensees have graduated from an accredited school of optometry, have successfully passed an accredited examination that tests entry level competencies and experience and, finally, are of good moral character.
- We investigate complaints and enforce the Practice Act of our state or province.
- We investigate the cases of discipline of practitioners who fail to meet the standards of practice and/or are

Visit our blog today at blog.arbo.org.
ARBO’s 99th Annual Meeting will be held at The Sheraton Downtown Denver in Denver, Colorado, from June 17–19, 2018. 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 “Evolution of Regulation: New Demands/New Opportunities”. 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/2018_meet.php

**SPECIAL RATE:** Register one delegate at full price by May 18, 2018, and get a second delegate registration at no charge!

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**Sheraton Downtown Denver**
1550 Court Place
Denver, CO 80202
Phone: (303) 893-3333

**Location**
Located in downtown Denver just steps away from the city’s premier attractions, Sheraton Denver Downtown Hotel invites you to experience the best of The Mile High City. Located on a mile-long pedestrian promenade filled with outdoor bistro, shopping and entertainment and situated in the heart of Denver’s financial and business district, it’s a superb choice for both work and play. The hotel is also close to many local landmarks and arenas, including the Colorado Convention Center, Coors Field and much more.

**Group Room Rate:** $189 (plus taxes and fees) per night (single/double). Hotel reservations can be made through the ARBO website or by calling 888-627-8405 and referencing ARBO. Room reservations must be made by May 26th in order to take advantage of the group rate.

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**Travel Assistance Available 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 jointly offering two financial support programs for the 2018 Annual Meeting.

$500 **Travel Stipend:** Travel stipends are available to one person from each jurisdiction who attends all three of the Sunday NBEO presentations at the ARBO Annual Meeting. This stipend is available to those jurisdictions that require parts I, II, TMOD or III of the National Board Exam.

$500 **Travel Scholarship:** Travel scholarships are also available for Boards that do not cover 100% of your travel expenses. A limited number of scholarships are available and they will be rewarded on a first come first served basis (up to $500 per jurisdiction).

To apply for the travel stipend or scholarship, please fill out the travel support request application on the next page and email it to Ron Cassel at rcassel@arbo.org or fax it to 888-703-4848 by May 25, 2018.
ARBO 2018 Annual Meeting Travel Support Request Application

Please fill out this application and email it to Ron Cassel at rcassel@arbo.org or fax to 888-703-4848 by May 25, 2018.

_____ I would like to apply for the NBEO $500 Travel Stipend. I plan to attend all three of the Sunday NBEO presentations at the ARBO Annual Meeting.

_____ I would like to apply for the ARBO $500 Travel Scholarship. My Board does not cover 100% of my travel expenses to come to the ARBO Annual Meeting and I plan to attend all three days of the ARBO Annual Meeting (Sunday, Monday and Tuesday morning) in Denver.

ARBO Member Jurisdiction Represented: ___________________________________________

Date of Application: ____________________________________________________________

Delegate Name: ______________________________________________________________

Email: _______________________________________________________________________

Phone #: ____________________________________________________________________

After your attendance has verified at the meeting in Denver you will be sent a check. Please provide the address where you would like your check sent.

____________________________________________________________________________

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# Preliminary ARBO Annual Meeting Agenda
*(Session Times and Titles Subject to Change)*

## SUNDAY, JUNE 17, 2018
- **7:30 am** Registration and Breakfast
- **8:30 am** Call to Order
  - Colorado Board Welcome
  - Statement of Quorum
  - Adoption of Agenda
  - President’s Report
  - Executive Director’s Report
  - Secretary-Treasurer’s Report
  - Judicial Council Report
  - Nominating Committee Report
- **9:30 am** Board Member Training
- **10:45 am** Bylaws Committee Report
- **11:00 am** Update on NBEO Activities
- **11:45 am** OE TRACKER Committee Report
- **12:00-1:00 pm** Lunch
- **1:00 pm** NBEO Exam Psychometrics Presentation
- **1:45 pm** NBER Committee Report
- **2:00 pm** COPE Committee Report
- **2:15 pm** NBEO Exam Security Presentation
- **3:15 pm** Presentation: *Can Regulatory Boards Politic?*
- **4:00 pm** Member Board Breakout Session
- **5:30 pm** Recess

## MONDAY, JUNE 18, 2018
- **7:30 am** Registration and Breakfast
- **8:30 am** Call to Order
  - Statement of Quorum
  - Finance Committee Report
- **9:00 am** Presentation: *Legal Update*
- **10:30 am** Presentation: *Telemedicine Regulation*
- **11:15 am** Presentation: *Interstate Medical Licensure Compact*
- **12:00-1:00 pm** Lunch
- **1:00 pm** Member Executive Committee Report
- **1:15 pm** Presentation: *Open Records*
- **2:00 pm** Member Board Reports and Discussion of Topics of Interest
- **3:30 pm** Presentation: *FTC Perspective on Regulation*
- **4:15 pm** Bylaws Amendment Discussion and Voting
- **5:00 pm** Final Nominating Committee Report
  - Remarks from Board of Directors Nominees
- **5:30 pm** Recess
- **5:30-7:30 pm** President’s Reception

## TUESDAY, JUNE 19, 2018
- **7:30 am** Breakfast
- **8:30 am** Call to Order
  - Statement of Quorum
- **8:45 am** Adoption of 2019 Calendar Year Budget
- **9:00 am** ARBO Board of Directors Election:
  - 4-Year Term Director Position #1 (Dr. Richard Orgain, OD, eligible for re-election)
  - 4-Year Term Director Position #2 (Dr. Gregory Moore, not eligible for re-election)
- **9:20 am** Nominations for ACOE
- **9:30 am** Resolutions Committee Report – Final
- **9:45 am** Industry Presentations
- **10:30 am** Introduction of 2018-2019 ARBO Officers
- **10:45 am** Presentation: *Regulation in the News*
- **11:45 am** Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE) Report
- **12:00 pm** Old Business
- **12:15 pm** New Business
- **12:30 pm** Adjourn

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*Join Us For Future Annual Meetings:*

**2019 ARBO Annual Meeting** – June 16-18, 2019, in St. Louis, Missouri

ARBO Attends 2018 Alliance for Continuing Education in the Health Professions Meeting

ARBO Executive Director Lisa Fennell and Manager of Accreditation Services Sierra Powell attended the Alliance for Continuing Education in Health Professions (ACEhp) 43rd Annual Conference, held January 20-23 in Orlando, FL. This was ARBO’s third year in attendance at this yearly conference, which brings healthcare continuing education professionals from multiple healthcare professions together to collaborate with their cohorts to benefit continuing education and professional development. Federal healthcare professionals, as well as individuals from hospital health systems, industry, medical schools, societies and more, attended the conference.

Not only did Ms. Fennell and Ms. Powell attend workshops focused on different aspects of continuing education including team-based approaches to healthcare, standards for commercial support and the role of technology in the future of continuing education, they both also participated as panelists in separate sessions within the meeting itself. Ms. Fennell was involved in a session titled “Exploring Roles of Individual Professions on the Healthcare Team: Considerations for Continuing Education.” This session examined the individual roles and responsibilities of various healthcare professions on the healthcare team including; pharmacists, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, psychologists and optometrists. This session also explored barriers to developing continuing education programming for these professionals. The session Ms. Powell was involved in was titled “Continuing Education Accreditors in the Health Professions Overview: Let’s Compare and Contrast.” This session examined how accreditors of family medicine, nurse practitioners, optometry, pharmacy and psychology are similar, unique, and why. The accreditors also discussed how they are working together to simplify accreditation for CE provider organizations and their respective learners.

The Alliance is a membership community of more than 1,500 healthcare continuing education professionals dedicated to accelerating excellence in performance through quality education, innovation, advocacy and collaboration. The Alliance constituents and stakeholders include the broadest universe of medical and healthcare professions, including physicians, nurses, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, pharmacists, among others. Members also 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. For more information, visit www.acehp.org.
The OE TRACKER Committee held its annual committee meeting on January 20, 2018, in Charlotte, NC. During the meeting the committee reviewed OE TRACKER administrative statistics from 2017, as well as recent Member Board and State Association utilization of OE TRACKER. Member Boards in Kansas, Wyoming and British Columbia have joined those in Maine, North Dakota, Ontario, Tennessee and West Virginia to pay their licensees’ OE TRACKER subscription fees. These Boards also require OE TRACKER for license renewal. 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 OE TRACKER program and mobile app enhancements to benefit optometrists and CE providers and wrapped up the meeting with brainstorming for both 2018 marketing plans and the committee’s yearly report for ARBO’s Annual Meeting in June.

Committee Members: Mary Lou French, OD, IL, Chair; Larry Brown, OD, GA; Doug Clark, OD, AL; Clay McLaughlin, OD, OK; Robin Simpson, OD, BC; Richard Orgain, OD, TN, Ex-Officio; Mr. Ron Cassel, Staff.

The COPE Committee held its annual committee meeting on February 10-11, 2018, in Charlotte, NC. During the meeting the committee reviewed OE TRACKER administrative statistics from 2017, as well as recent Member Board and State Association utilization of OE TRACKER. Member Boards in Kansas, Wyoming and British Columbia have joined those in Maine, North Dakota, Ontario, Tennessee and West Virginia to pay their licensees’ OE TRACKER subscription fees. These Boards also require OE TRACKER for license renewal. ARBO staff provides an update on the COPE Activity Accreditation implementation that began one year ago in February 2017, as well as an update on the COPE Provider Accreditation model. Other topics of discussion included COPE’s recent collaboration in Joint Accreditation for Interprofessional Continuing Education with the ACCME, ACPE, ANCC and AAPA, recent COPE presentations made at the January 2018 Alliance for Continuing Education in the Health Professions meeting, various COPE policies, and plans for the committee presentation at the 2018 ARBO Annual Meeting in Denver, CO.

Committee Members: James Campbell, OD, WV, Co-Chair; Thomas Bobst, OD, OH, Co-Chair; Luanne Chubb, OD, PA; Helene Clayton-Jeter, OD, VA; Kenneth Lawenda, OD, VT; Jill Martinson-Redekopp, OD, ND; Steven Odekirk, OD, WV; Greg Patera, OD, MI; Jerry Richt, OD, TN; Monique Root, OD, IA; Robert Smalling, OD, AR; Lisa Wallace-Davis, OD, VA; Susy Yu, OD, CA; Richard Orgain OD, TN, Ex-Officio; Donna DeLay, Staff; Lisa Fennell, Staff; Sierra Powell, Staff.
ARBO Holds Southern Regional Meeting

The 2018 Southern Regional Meeting was held March 3 in Atlanta, Georgia. The meeting was chaired by ARBO President, Dr. Rick Orgain. Other ARBO attendees were Dr. Don Crouch, Dr. Bill Rafferty and Mr. Ron Cassel.

There were 25 attendees at the Southern Regional Meeting from 10 Member 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 background checks, telemedicine 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.

ARBO Attends FARB Forum

ARBO Board members and staff recently attended the FARB Forum in Coronado, California. ARBO Board members Dr. Rick Orgain, Dr. Jim Campbell, and Dr. Pat O’Neill, along with Executive Director Lisa Fennell, joined other regulatory professionals at the meeting. Dr. Bill Rafferty, Executive Director of the North Carolina Board of Optometry and ARBO Director, was also at the meeting.

At the meeting, there were presentations on promoting competition in regulated occupations; economic effects of occupational licensure; open records; and website accessibility. Recent regulatory cases and legislation affecting the regulatory community were also presented. It was clear from the discussions at the meeting that all regulatory boards share similar interests and challenges regardless of the profession involved.

FARB (Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards) is an organization that represents Associations such as ARBO that are made up of regulatory boards for a variety of professions. They hold two meetings of interest to regulatory board members and staff each year. More information on FARB and their upcoming meetings can be found on their website, www.farb.org. The next Regulatory Law Seminar will be held September 27-30, 2018, in Portland, Oregon. The FARB Forum will be held on January 24-27, 2019, in New Orleans, LA.

COPE Hosts Meeting of CE Accreditors in Health Professions

COPE was pleased to host the US Accreditors in Health Professions Meeting on January 21, 2018, in Orlando, FL. This is a biannual meeting where CE/CME accreditors from various healthcare professions come together to discuss current happenings within their organizations and future plans for interprofessional education.

A total of 19 CE/CME accrediting organizations attended this meeting, which took place around the ACEhp’s 2018 Annual Conference. Professions represented included certified counseling, dentistry, medicine, nursing, occupational therapy, optometry, osteopathy, pharmacy, physical therapy, physician assistants, psychology, social work and speech-language-hearing.

Topics discussed during this meeting included similarities and differences among the attending CE/CME accrediting organizations, recent news among the organizations, pertinent CMS updates, and future plans to collaborate on some type of consensus among accreditation requirements, planning, independence, evaluation and credit between the organizations.

Ultimately, the group hopes to offer this consensus information to CE/CME providers to help in navigating the different accreditation systems. The next US Accreditors in Health Professions Meeting will take place in late Summer/Fall 2018.
News From the NBEO

The National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO) announces upcoming changes to examination eligibility.

The National Board of Examiners in Optometry will make changes to its Examination Eligibility Policy effective August 1, 2019. Candidates taking NBEO examinations will be limited to a total of six attempts for each examination (Part I Applied Basic Science, Part II Patient Assessment and Management, Treatment and Management of Ocular Disease, Part III Clinical Skills Examination, and Injections Skills Examination), including but not limited to all attempts prior to August 1, 2019.

The National Board of Examiners in Optometry serves to protect the public and the optometric profession through the development, administration, scoring and reporting of valid examinations that evaluate competence. “We believe these changes are appropriate,” said NBEO President Elizabeth Hoppe, OD, MPH, DrPH. “After much discussion and consultation with the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO), and their member boards, it became apparent that this is a critical step towards ensuring protection of the public and the integrity of the examinations.”

The NBEO examinations are designed to assure state boards that those candidates who pass the three parts demonstrate entry level competence to practice the profession of optometry. ARBO President Dr. Richard Orgain states, “This step shows that the NBEO takes its responsibility and commitment to the state boards very seriously. We are pleased to see NBEO following medicine in its adoption of a six-time attempt limit.”

The NBEO will have an appeals process including submission of a remediation plan for individuals who wish to appeal beyond the six-time limit. Information regarding this process will become available on the NBEO website at www.optometry.org prior to the August 1, 2019, effective date.

About NBEO

Established in 1951, the NBEO is an independent, non-governmental, non-profit organization whose examinations are universally accepted for optometric licensure in the United States and accepted internationally. NBEO’s mission is to serve the public and profession of optometry by developing, administering, scoring and reporting results of valid examinations that assess competence.

Dr. Michael Ohlson Elected to NBEO Board of Directors

Michael Ohlson, OD, FAAO, was elected to the National Board of Optometry (NBEO) Board of Directors in February 2018. Dr. Ohlson recently completed 2 terms on the ARBO Board of Directors. He served as President of ARBO from 2011 through 2013 and is an active COPE Reviewer.

Dr. Ohlson is a past Chair of the Iowa Board of Optometry and the American Academy of Optometry’s Primary Care Section. He serves as Oral Examination Chair of the Academy’s Comprehensive Eye Care Diplomate Program and as Trustee of the American Board of Certification in Medical Optometry. Dr. Ohlson has been inducted as a Distinguished Practitioner and Fellow of the National Academies of Practice and awarded the Optometrist of the Year Award from the Iowa Optometric Association.

Dr. Ohlson practices at the Avera Marshall Regional Medical Center in Marshall, Minnesota, and throughout Iowa as the low vision consultant to the Iowa Educational Services for the Blind & Visually Impaired. Congratulations, Dr. Ohlson!
ARBO 2018 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
- Rebecca Sparks-Dougherty, OD, Kansas
- Coby Ramsey, OD, Board Liaison, Wyoming
- Richard Orgain, OD, Tennessee, 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. Richard Orgain: Eligible for re-election
- One 4-year term – Dr. Gregory Moore: 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 25, 2018. Candidates should be available at the ARBO Annual Meeting for an interview by the Nominating Committee.

OFFICERS
President—Richard C. Orgain, O.D.
Vice President—James S. Campbell, O.D.
Secretary-Treasurer—Patrick W. O‘Neill, O.D., F.A.A.O.
Immediate Past President—Gregory S. Moore, O.D.

DIRECTORS
Thomas Bobst, O.D., F.A.A.O.
William B. Rafferty, O.D., F.A.A.O.
Coby S. Ramsey, O.D.
Jerry A. Richt, O.D.
Susy Yu, O.D., M.B.A., F.A.A.O.
Jeffery Yunker, O.D.

STAFF
Lisa Fennell, Executive Director
Ron Cassel, Operations/Finance Manager
Candice Cole, Program Coordinator
Donna DeLay, Program Manager/COPE Administrator
Toni Oliver, Customer Service Coordinator
Sierra Powell, Manager, Accreditation Services

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