Another Successful ARBO Annual Meeting!

ARBO’s 2013 Annual Meeting took place June 23-25 at the Marriott Marquis & Marina in San Diego, California. The meeting was attended by 101 individuals, including 67 delegates from 35 Member Boards. The attendees participated in discussions, presentations, workshops, and conducted the business of the association. A great time was had by all!

Sunday morning began with the National Board of Examiners in Optometry Workshop where Drs. Jack Terry and Sandra Neustel brought the attendees up-to-date on the current activities of the NBEO. Later in the morning, there was a breakout session for Board Administrators and Executive Directors in which Dale Atkinson, ARBO’s legal counsel, discussed the role of Board attorneys vs. Board members.

The 94th Annual Meeting was officially called to order by President Michael Ohlson on Sunday afternoon. Ms. Mona Maggio, Executive Officer of the California Board of Optometry welcomed the delegates to San Diego, and they were treated to a performance by a local mariachi band. The meeting continued with unanimous approval of the membership of the Optometry Board of Australia by the House of Delegates. Reports from ARBO’s President, Executive Director, Secretary-Treasurer, and the approval of the 2012 Annual Meeting minutes followed. Later that afternoon, there were reports from the Judicial Council/Resolutions Committee and the Nominating Committee, followed by reports from the Member Boards, and Member Orientation.

Next, there was a report from the OE TRACKER Committee, which included a demonstration of the mobile app for submitting attendance at CE courses to the OE TRACKER database. The committee also asked some interactive questions of the delegates regarding their auditing process. The Optometric Competence Committee followed with a report giving details about plans for the beta project of the new continuing professional development program. The OCC committee asked some interactive questions of the delegates regarding their potential participation in the beta project. See pages 8-10 for more information on the questions and answers from these sessions. The afternoon concluded with the annual report of the National Board Exam Review Committee and the ARBO/NBEO Director’s report.

The meeting resumed Monday morning with the presentation and approval by the House of Delegates of a resolution honoring the service of Ms. Sherry Cooper. More information on the resolutions that were passed can be found on pages 6-7. Next, Dr. Bernard Lepri of the U.S. Food and Drug Administration Center for Devices and Radiological Health gave a presentation via speakerphone on FDA regulation of medical devices and contact lens safety. Dr. Lepri discussed the importance of reporting complications related to contact lenses and the effect of post-market events on pre-

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It’s an honor to serve as ARBO’s President this year. Thanks to all of our members who attended the 94th Annual Meeting in San Diego. The Annual Meeting Planning Committee put together another excellent meeting and I’d like to thank them for all of their hard work. I’m also very pleased to welcome the Optometry Board of Australia as the newest member of ARBO. We’re looking forward to working with you.

One of the most popular presentations at this year’s meeting was by Dr. Larry Alexander. Dr. Alexander did a great job of stimulating our thoughts regarding continuing education and effective learning modalities. He suggested a variety of learning examples to enhance competency and it’s exciting to see that our COPE and Optometric Competence Committees are already looking into some of the same ideas. As we look to the future, ARBO’s Board of Directors and COPE Committee is continuing the development of an accredited provider model for optometric CE and will present the status of the project at the 2014 Annual Meeting in Philadelphia.

The 2013-2014 committee assignments have been finalized and the complete list can be found on pages 13-14. I want to thank all our volunteers for their commitment to ARBO. We really appreciate the time and talent that you contribute to our organization and its programs.

I am happy to report that utilization of COPE and OE TRACKER by our Member Boards continues to increase. These programs can help decrease costs and increase the efficiency of your Board and staff and assist in meeting our mission of protecting the public. If your jurisdiction would like more information regarding COPE or OE TRACKER we would be happy to send someone to attend one of your Board meetings to give a presentation. Please let us know if you’re interested.

Change is slow and HARD but steady movement in the right direction will bring success in the long run. Hopefully with effort, the suggestion from the annual meeting that we should have better relations with other organizations can be accomplished. Conversations and plans are beginning to take shape to allow for better communication and dialogue.

Thank you in advance for your support throughout the coming year. I’m sure it will be another busy and productive year. I would like to hear your comments and suggestions regarding ARBO or any of our programs. Feel free to send me an email at president@arbo.org.
A Note from the Executive Director

It was wonderful to see so many of you in sunny San Diego at our Annual Meeting. It was great to be able to catch up with old friends and to make some new ones! Those of you who attended the meeting seemed to really enjoy the program this year. For those of you who didn’t get to come, we really hope to see you next year in Philadelphia. You’re going to love the Westin in Rittenhouse square. It will be an excellent venue for our 2014 meeting.

The new committees for 2013-2014 have been appointed by the Board of Directors and the committees will soon be getting to work on their goals and objectives. For the new committee lists please see pages 13 and 14. The ARBO staff and I are excited to be working with all of the committees over the next year. It promises to be another busy and productive year. Thank you to our volunteers for all that you do for ARBO, the profession, and the public we serve.

Speaking of the staff, I’d like to introduce you to the newest member of our team. Candice Cole joined our staff a few weeks ago as a Program Coordinator. She is responsible for providing customer service, sending out OE TRACKER cards, entering CE data into OE TRACKER, and providing support for the CELMO program applicants. She has been a great addition to our team. Next time you call our office, please welcome Candice to the ARBO family!

As we begin the busy CE season, our staff is working to keep up their high level of service. The amount of data we receive every day continues to increase which is keeping everyone very busy. We have some big projects planned for the next year. We’ll be launching a new and improved website, adding new features to the OE TRACKER app, and assisting the COPE Committee with the development of the provider model of accreditation.

Please let me know if you have any questions about any of ARBO’s programs. I welcome your suggestions on any new services we can implement or suggestions for improvements we can make.

2013-2014 ARBO Leaders Elected

At the 94th Annual Meeting in San Diego, the ARBO Board of Directors elected the officers for the 2013-2014 term. Dr. W. Ernest Schlabach of Virginia was elected President of the ARBO Board of Directors. Dr. Schlabach was elected to the ARBO Board in 2008 and has served two terms as Secretary-Treasurer and one term as Vice-President. Dr. Schlabach previously served on the Virginia Board of Optometry.

Dr. Susy Yu from California was elected Secretary-Treasurer, and Dr. Roger Pabst from Minnesota was elected Vice President. Dr. Michael Ohlson from Iowa was re-elected to the Board of Directors and will serve as Immediate Past President as well.

The remaining ARBO Board members are: Dr. Jerry Richt from Tennessee, Dr. Gregory Moore from West Virginia, Dr. Christina Sorenson from Arizona, Michael O’Hara, J.D. Ph.D. from Nebraska, and Dr. William Rafferty from North Carolina.

Report from 2013 NOCEC Released

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 ARBO Board of Directors and the conference planning committee completed a report following the 2013 NOCEC and presented it to the Member Boards at the Annual Meeting in San Diego. You can find the report on the ARBO website: http://www.arbo.org/Documents/Public/2013nocsec.pdf.
clinical testing. This was followed by a report from the American Optometric Student Association (AOSA) and additional reports from the Member Boards. The COPE Committee then gave its administrative report which was followed by the report from the 2013 National Optometric Continuing Education Conference.

Later in the morning, Dr. Larry Alexander discussed the effectiveness of continuing education in its current form and gave some suggestions for better ways to enhance the competency of health care practitioners. The morning concluded with a presentation on the future directions of COPE which included a plan for the development of the COPE Provider Model of CE Accreditation. The delegates were also asked some interactive questions about the criteria their Boards use when approving CE. See pages 6-7 for more information on the questions and answers from this session.

Monday’s afternoon session began with a presentation by Dr. Sherry Green, Chief Executive Officer of the National Alliance for Model State Drug Laws. Dr. Green discussed the use of state prescription drug monitoring programs to assist in protecting public health. Next, Dr. David Heath discussed methods for assessing post-licensure competence and the importance of lifelong learning and continued professional development in the era of health care reform.

Later in the afternoon there was an interactive discussion of disciplinary cases conducted by Dr. Ernest Schlabach and Dale Atkinson. Cases submitted by several of ARBO’s Member Boards were discussed, and the delegates got to weigh in on the appropriate way to handle disciplinary issues. This was followed by Dale Atkinson’s always popular legal update presentation and a report on the activities of the Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards (FARB).

The afternoon session ended with a presentation from Sherry Cooper, retired Associate Director of the AOA State Government Relations Center. Ms. Cooper shared some of her personal reflections on the regulation of healthcare professionals. Following her presentation, Dr. Ohlson gave Ms. Cooper a plaque honoring her service to ARBO and the profession of optometry.

Later that evening, Dr. Ohlson hosted the President’s Reception for meeting attendees, presenters and guests. At the reception the delegates celebrated the 20th anniversary of COPE with speeches, cake and a toast.
ARBO 94th Annual Meeting (continued)

Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO). The meeting concluded with the gavel being passed by all former ARBO Presidents who were in attendance to the new President, Dr. Ernest Schlabach.

We encourage you to start making plans to attend our next meeting in June 2014 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. ARBO's Annual Meeting is a great opportunity to learn about the issues facing your fellow members and to exchange ideas on dealing with the many challenges you encounter every day. Philadelphia is an exciting city full of history and culture. You will definitely want to be there!

Photos from the 2013 ARBO Annual Meeting
Resolution 1: Resolution Honoring Sherry Cooper

WHEREAS, Sherry Cooper assumed staff duties for the American Optometric Association’s (AOA) State Government Relations Center’s Licensure and Regulation Committee in 1992, later becoming Associate Director of State Government Relations; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Cooper attended her first Annual Meeting of the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO) in 1994, and has attended 19 Annual Meetings of ARBO meetings since, 18 of which where she was an invited guest speaker; and

WHEREAS, she has become a recognized and respected national expert on state laws and regulations related to the licensure and regulation of health care practitioners; and

WHEREAS, she has provided accurate, timely and effective advice, support, and resource materials on bill and regulation drafting to optometry board members and staff in the United States, Canada and other foreign jurisdictions; and

WHEREAS, her warm and caring manner, coupled with her cold, clear, accurate analysis made encounters with Sherry both informative and enjoyable; and

WHEREAS, she has been an informational source representative for the optometric profession to the Federation of Associations of Regulatory Boards (FARB) and the Council on Licensure, Enforcement and Regulation (CLEAR); and

WHEREAS, she authored two definitive research papers that serve as valued resources for the profession on license mobility (Optometry, June 2005), and on the legislative history of the expansion of optometry into medical eye care (Optometry, February 2012); and

WHEREAS, Ms. Cooper retired on March 15, 2013, after 22 years of stellar service to AOA, optometry and the public; and

WHEREAS, through her writings, presentations, reports and personal professional activities, Ms. Cooper has been an ardent supporter of independent licensing boards as the most effective way to regulate healthcare professions and protect the public; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Member Boards of the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry at its 94th Annual Meeting in San Diego, California hereby extends to Sherry Cooper their collective gratitude and deepest appreciation for her decades of dedicated service to the profession of optometry and the public it serves, and their sincere wishes for her good health and happiness in the years ahead.
Resolution 2: Resolution Honoring Dr. Christina M. Sorenson

WHEREAS, Dr. Christina M. Sorenson has performed an outstanding service for the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry during her service on the Board of Directors of ARBO since being elected in 2004. Dr. Sorenson served two terms as President (2007-2009), one as Vice-President (2006-2007), and one as Secretary-Treasurer (2005-2006); and

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

WHEREAS, Dr. Christina M. Sorenson has given outstanding service to the profession of optometry through her volunteer leadership roles in the Arizona Optometric Association, American Academy of Optometry, National Board of Examiners in Optometry, Accreditation Council on Optometric Education, and Arizona Board of Optometry, and in various other capacities; and

WHEREAS, the Member Boards of this Association wish formally to acknowledge Dr. Christina M. Sorenson’s distinguished contributions to the Association and the profession; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry, at the 94th Annual Meeting in San Diego, California, express its sincere appreciation to Dr. Christina M. Sorenson for her many years of distinguished service and outstanding contributions to the profession of optometry and the public it serves.

Celebrates 20th Anniversary

ARBO’s Member Licensing Boards celebrated the 20th anniversary of COPE at this year’s Annual Meeting in San Diego. COPE was formed in 1993 by a resolution that was passed by the House of Delegates at the ARBO Annual Meeting. Over the past 20 years COPE has grown to be accepted by all U.S. and several Canadian Boards of Optometry as continuing education for license renewal. More than 37,000 courses have been accredited by COPE since the program began.

A major milestone in the history of COPE was achieved in 2009 when ARBO’s House of Delegates passed a resolution to implement the COPE Standards for Commercial Support to assure that COPE CE is transparent and not influenced by any company, product or brand. The program continues to evolve with the latest development being the creation of a new model to accredit CE providers.

COPE’s 20th anniversary was celebrated at the President’s Reception, which was co-sponsored by Allergan and VSP. The celebration included speeches by former COPE Committee members, a champagne toast and cake for all the attendees.

Photos from COPE’s 20th Anniversary Celebration
Council on Optometric Practitioner Education (COPE) Survey Results

At the 2013 Annual Meeting the COPE Committee did a survey of the meeting attendees using an audience response system. The questions they asked and the responses are below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Would your Board recommend that COPE require Providers to upload course presentations into the COPE database for review by your Board after the course is given?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Uncertain</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Is your Board comfortable with Providers assigning course category designation prior to the Activity with post-Activity COPE audit of the category assignment?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Uncertain</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Does your jurisdiction have specific credentialing requirements for instructors who teach CE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Uncertain</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Has your Board adopted formal written standards or evaluation criteria for the CE accredited within your jurisdiction?</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Uncertain</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Does your Board’s written CE criteria consist of:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. An Approved Provider list</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Specific educational steps which Providers must follow to be accredited</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Both of the above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. None of the above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Uncertain</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
COPE Survey Results (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Yes</th>
<th>No</th>
<th>Uncertain</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Do your Board’s written CE criteria include requirements for an educational needs assessment of the learners or practice gap analysis?</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Do your Board’s written CE criteria include a requirement for CE outcome measures?</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>96%</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

It’s Not Too Early To Start Planning for the 95th ARBO Annual Meeting!


ARBO’s 2014 Annual Meeting will be held at The Westin Philadelphia. Situated in the heart of a city rich with history, The Westin Philadelphia elegantly enhances its desirable Rittenhouse Square address with comfort and style. Steps from upscale shopping, award-winning restaurants and conveniently connected to the offices at Liberty Place, The Westin provides guests with the premiere downtown location. Museums and historical attractions, including the Liberty Bell, Independence Hall, and the Constitution Center, promote the cultural wealth of Philadelphia. We hope to see you in Philadelphia next June!
Optometric Competence Committee (OCC) Survey Results

At the Annual Meeting in San Diego, the Optometric Competence Committee asked attendees to respond to some questions regarding the beta project of the program they are developing. The questions and responses are below.

Would you be willing to encourage your licensees to participate in a program like this?

- Yes: 64%
- No: 14%
- Maybe: 22%

With your current statues/rules, can your Board allow CE credit for participation in the OCC interventions?

- Yes: 68%
- No: 18%
- Not sure: 14%

With your current statues/rules, can your Board allow CE credit for participation in the OCC self-assessment?

- Yes: 46%
- No: 27%
- Not sure: 27%

Does your Board have the ability to approve continuing education?

- Yes: 92%
- No: 8%
## OE TRACKER Committee Survey Results

At the Annual Meeting in San Diego, the OE TRACKER committee asked attendees to respond to some questions regarding licensing and audits using an audience response system. The questions and responses are listed on the next two pages.

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>0–10%</td>
<td>35%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11–20%</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21–50%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51–99%</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>100%</td>
<td>50%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### How often does your Board audit your licensees’ CE attendance?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Frequency</th>
<th>Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Every year</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Every 2 years</td>
<td>47%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Every 3 years</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our Board doesn’t audit CE attendance</td>
<td>6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Does your Board currently use OE TRACKER in your license renewal/audit process?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Response</th>
<th>50%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>No</td>
<td>48%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not sure</td>
<td>2%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### If your Board uses OE TRACKER in your license renewal/audit process, please tell us how:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>We accept paper certificates and CE transcripts from OE TRACKER.</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We verify CE hours of SOME licensees using OE TRACKER.</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We verify CE hours for ALL licensees using OE TRACKER.</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We have an automatic interface with OE TRACKER for online license renewal and CE verification</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We currently do not use OE TRACKER in our license renewal/audit process.</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### If your Board does NOT use OE TRACKER, please tell us why:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reason</th>
<th>Response</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Our current audit process works fine, no need to change.</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our State Association puts on most of the CE and they don’t use it.</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We do not want our licensees to have to pay to use OE TRACKER.</td>
<td>8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We do not have the staff or the time to implement a new system.</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>We do not audit our licensees’ CE attendance hours.</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The information in OE TRACKER is not always reliable.</td>
<td>4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Our rules require a random audit, thus we can’t audit 100% of licensees.</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>29%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
OE TRACKER Committee Survey Results (continued)

Have you had an opportunity to use the OE TRACKER app at a CE event?

1. Yes 45%
2. No 55%

Would you be interested in having someone from ARBO come to one of your Board meetings to talk more about OE TRACKER?

1. Yes 43%
2. No 57%

Become One of a Select Few!

As a practicing optometrist, please consider becoming a reviewer of courses submitted for COPE accreditation. The time you spend contributing to the COPE review process will help ensure the quality and independence of continuing education. COPE accreditation benefits both practitioners in your jurisdiction as well as the public that we serve.

What do I need to do to become certified?

- You must complete and submit a course reviewer questionnaire.
- You must be endorsed by your optometry licensing Board; this endorsement will be secured by ARBO once you volunteer.
- You will be asked to complete the online COPE reviewer training that consists of six 10-20 minute self-paced educational modules followed by a short self-assessment.
- Once the training has been successfully completed, you will receive your congratulatory packet of information, including a certificate suitable for framing and a lapel pin.

How much time will this take from my already busy schedule?

- COPE reviewers are not requested to review more than two courses at any given time.
- The review of a course typically takes about 30 minutes.

Please consider volunteering and contributing to the COPE review process!

For more information please visit our website at www.arbo.org 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 2013-2014 Committee Members

**Executive Committee**

Ernest Schlabach, OD, Virginia, Chair  
Roger Pabst, OD, Minnesota  
Susy Yu, OD, California  
Michael Ohlson, OD, Iowa  
Lisa Fennell, Staff

**Finance Committee**

Roger Pabst, OD, Minnesota, Chair  
Susy Yu, OD, California  
Michael O’Hara, JD, PhD, Nebraska  
Ernest Schlabach, OD, Virginia, *Ex-Officio*  
Ron Cassel, Staff  
Lisa Fennell, Staff

**Industry Relations Committee**

Roger Pabst, OD, Minnesota, Chair  
Gregory Moore, OD, West Virginia  
Donovan Crouch, OD, Consultant  
Ernest Schlabach, OD, Virginia, *Ex-Officio*  
Ron Cassel, Staff  
Lisa Fennell, Staff

**Annual Meeting Planning Committee**

Donovan Crouch, OD, Chair  
Gregory Moore, OD, West Virginia  
Michael O’Hara, JD, PhD, Nebraska  
Michael Ohlson, OD, Iowa  
Roger Pabst, OD, Minnesota  
William Rafferty, OD, North Carolina  
Susy Yu, OD, California  
Ernest Schlabach, OD, Virginia, *Ex-Officio*  
Donna DeLay, Staff  
Lisa Fennell, Staff

**COPE Committee**

Susy Yu, OD, California, Chair  
Douglas Ayre, OD, Kansas  
Larry Barger, OD, Ohio, Consultant  
Thomas Bobst, OD, Ohio  
James Campbell, OD, West Virginia  
Dale Dergousoff, OD, British Columbia  
Jill Martinson Redekopp, OD, North Dakota  
Michael O’Hara, JD, PhD, Nebraska  
Jerry Richt, OD, Tennessee  
Robert Smalling, OD, Arkansas  
Ernest Schlabach, OD, Virginia, *Ex-Officio*  
Donna DeLay, Staff  
Lisa Fennell, Staff  
Sierra Rice, Staff

**International Affairs Committee**

Dale Dergousoff, OD, British Columbia, Chair  
Richard Kniaziew, OD, Ontario  
Robert Smalling, OD, Arkansas  
Colin Waldron, Australia  
Gregory Moore, OD, WV, Board Liaison  
Ernest Schlabach, OD, Virginia, *Ex-Officio*  
Ron Cassel, Staff

**Judicial Council/Resolutions Committee**

Jeffrey Kraskin, OD, District of Columbia, Chair  
Marla Moon, OD, Pennsylvania  
Patrick O’Neill, OD, Minnesota  
Michael O’Hara, JD, PhD, NE, Board Liaison  
Ernest Schlabach, OD, Virginia, *Ex-Officio*  
Lisa Fennell, Staff
ARBO 2013-2014 Committee Members (continued)

**Member Board Executive Directors/Administrators Committee**

Pat Bennett, Maryland, Co-Chair  
Jan Murray, Kansas, Co-Chair  
Randy Snyder, Minnesota  
Pam Carper, West Virginia  
Howard Flippin, OD, Arkansas  
Jeff Greene, Ohio  
Gregory Moore, OD, WV, Board Liaison  
Ernest Schlabach, OD, Virginia, *Ex-Officio*  
Lisa Fennell, Staff

**Optometric Competence Committee**

William Rafferty, OD, North Carolina, Chair  
James Bureman, OD, Missouri  
James Hunter, OD, Indiana  
Gregory Moore, OD, West Virginia  
Larry Alexander, OD, Consultant  
Murray Turnour, OD, Consultant  
Ernest Schlabach, OD, Virginia, *Ex-Officio*  
Lisa Fennell, Staff

**National Board Examination Review Committee (NBERC)**

Joseph Sullivan, OD, Kansas, Chair  
Mary Lou French, OD, Illinois  
Marla Moon, OD, Pennsylvania  
Robert Smalling, OD, Arkansas  
Gregory Moore, OD, West Virginia, Board Liaison  
Ernest Schlabach, OD, Virginia, *Ex-Officio*  
Ron Cassel, Staff

**OE TRACKER Committee**

Richard Orgain, OD, Tennessee, Chair  
Mary Lou French, OD, Illinois  
Carrie Hruza, OD, Missouri  
Richard Kniaziew, OD, Ontario  
Mona Maggio, California  
Joseph Sullivan, OD, Kansas  
Jeff Yunker, OD, North Dakota  
Ernest Schlabach, OD, Virginia, *Ex-Officio*  
Sierra Rice, Staff  
Lisa Fennell, Staff  
Tony Mancuso, Staff

**Member Board Liaison Appointments**

Gregory Moore: IN, ME, NJ, OH, PA, QC, WV*  
Michael Ohlson: IA*, IL, MA, MB, MI, MO  
Michael O’Hara: AB, KS, NE*, NH, SD, VI, WY  
Roger Pabst: AK, MN*, MT, ND, ON, SK  
William Rafferty: CT, FL, GA, NC*, PR, RI, SC  
Jerry Richt: AL, AR, KY, LA, MS, OK, TN*  
Ernest Schlabach: AP, DC, DE, MD, NY, VA*, VT  
Christina Sorenson: AZ*, CO, ID, NM, TX, UT  
Susy Yu: BC, CA*, GU, HI, NV, OR, WA

*Board member’s home board

**Affiliated Organization Liaison Appointments**

AAO: Michael Ohlson, OD  
ACOE: Michael Ohlson, OD  
AOA: Ernest Schlabach, OD  
AOSA: Gregory Moore, OD  
ASCO: Christina Sorenson, OD  
CAC: Michael O’Hara, JD, PhD  
FARB: Ernest Schlabach, OD  
NBEO: William Rafferty, OD  
WCO: Gregory Moore, OD
New ARBO Website Coming Soon!

ARBO will soon be launching a new and improved website! The website is being designed to be more user-friendly with easier navigation. We think the improved functionality of the new site will benefit all our customers including our Member Boards, CE providers/administrators, CE instructors, and optometrists.

The new website will be going live later this year. Check back soon at www.arbo.org to see the new site and let us know what you think!

Member Boards’ Usage of OE TRACKER Continues to Increase

OE TRACKER use among ARBO’s Member Boards has increased considerably since the 2012 Annual Meeting in Chicago. One example of this is the Ohio State Board of Optometry which implemented the use of OE TRACKER for auditing in October 2012. The Ohio Board of Optometry made the decision to allow licensees to choose to be audited electronically using OE TRACKER rather than mailing in paper certificates. This saves the Board save significant time and paper.

The North Dakota State Board of Optometry also began requiring licensees to use OE TRACKER in January 2013 and the Board has paid the annual OE TRACKER fee for all their licensees. The Massachusetts Board of Registration in Optometry will perform their audit using OE TRACKER at the end of 2013 using a custom report designed by the ARBO Staff. Additionally, the Missouri Board of Optometry plans to utilize OE TRACKER for a sample audit this year.

ARBO also recently attended a California Board of Optometry meeting to give a presentation on OE TRACKER and how it can be used to streamline the Board’s auditing and license renewal process. If you would like ARBO to come to one of your Board meetings to tell you more about how OE TRACKER can help you, please contact Sierra Rice, Program Manager, at srice@arb.org or 704-970-2771 for more information.
NBEO Call for Nominations

One of the ARBO seats on the National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO) will be open in December of 2013. Dr. Christina Sorenson will be concluding her second term on the NBEO Board and is not eligible for re-election. The ARBO Board of Directors will be nominating at least three candidates from which the NBEO Board will elect Dr. Sorenson’s replacement. This call for action is an organizational request for potential candidates to nominate.

The NBEO is an established, non-profit corporation primarily engaged in testing and evaluation. The National Board has a full-time staff of eleven, utilizes over 750 people nationwide in support of its examination programs, and has an annual budget in excess of $3.9 million.

As a Board Member of the NBEO, the member must have familiarity with the profession of optometry and knowledge of the mission and programs of the organization as well as the governing documents (e.g., articles of incorporation, bylaws) and policies and procedures. The NBEO Board Member term commitment is for four years, with this term beginning in December of 2013 and ending in December of 2017.

In addition, the Board Member must be willing to:

- Serve as a member of any Board committees as appointed by the President and function as an active participant in discussions.
- Serve as a committee chair as appointed by the President.
- Communicate regularly with Board members and the Executive Director.

To be eligible for nomination of an ARBO seat on the NBEO Board, the candidate must currently be a member of an ARBO Member Board in good standing, or have served within the preceding twelve months. Additionally, any current members of the ARBO Board of Directors are eligible for nomination. Since the NBEO examinations are only used within the United States, it is unlikely that a member outside of the US would be elected to the NBEO Board.

If you are interested in submitting your name to the ARBO Board for consideration and you meet the requirements listed, please send your CV and a letter of interest to Lisa Fennell, ARBO Executive Director, at lfennell@arbo.org by October 15, 2013.