Report of the American Board of Pediatric Dentistry

June 1, 2004 will be two years since the opening of the Board office in Iowa City and the initiation of administrating the Board’s business. The transition has been almost flawless and we are most appreciative of our staff: Arthur Nowak as executive director, Linda Sojka as executive assistant, William Boone, psychometrician; and Chris White as editorial assistant/librarian.

The financial status of the Board remains stable with documentation of auditing procedures and outcomes provided to the AAPD Executive Committee in a separate report from our Executive Director when the 2003-2004 audit will be completed.

Periodically we are requested information on the number of AAPD members who are Diplomates. As of February 2004 there are 3,782 AAPD members who are eligible for certification. Of those eligible for certification 1,340 are ABPD Diplomates and 1,334 are Board Eligible. Of the Board Eligible 667 are actively pursuing certification having completed at least one of the two examinations required.

For comparison with the other specialties (April 2003):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Specialty</th>
<th>Certified (Active)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Oral Surgery</td>
<td>4,224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orthodontics</td>
<td>2,023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Periodontics</td>
<td>1,492</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Pediatric Dentistry</strong></td>
<td><strong>1,340</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Prosthodontics</td>
<td>715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Endodontics</td>
<td>707</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Pathology</td>
<td>272</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Health Dentistry</td>
<td>146</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oral Radiology</td>
<td>95</td>
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</tbody>
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The Comprehensive Review course in Pediatric Dentistry sponsored by AAPD allows ABPD a venue to provide information for candidates and answer specific questions of candidates privately. ABPD Headquarters assisted AAPD staff in selecting Diplomates to participate in a panel at the courses in Boston and Chicago. Executive Director Nowak was present at the Boston, New Orleans, and Chicago courses representing the Board.

Amnesty Promotion: At the April 2003 meeting the Board of Directors approved an amnesty promotion that would encourage candidates who were inactive because their eligibility expired. The vast majority of these candidates had successfully completed one of the examinations toward certification, but for many reasons did not complete the process. As of March 17, 2004, 235 have accepted the Board’s invitation and are again Board Eligible. A follow-up postcard has been sent to encourage these candidates to pursue certification. We are pleased with the numerous calls and expressions of interest to begin the examination process.
The Advisory Council continues to play a very important role for this Board in developing reading lists and item writing. The Advisory Council made up of 16 Diplomates, all selected by a multifaceted process that includes the College of Diplomates of ABPD and the AAPD, completes their activities during the year and then at an annual session during the AAPD annual meeting held in May.

In July 2003 the Board made available to all Diplomates and candidates the opportunity to use MasterCard or Visa on the annual statements and examination application forms. The response has been phenomenal and continues to grow monthly.

For the November 2003 Case Review Section examination the ABPD Board was appreciative to have the AAPD Boardroom available to us. AAPD Headquarters staff was very supportive and helpful. The facility was excellent for our examination. Thank you for allowing us to use the room. It was been reserved again for the November 2004 examination.

The Board is exploring examination formats that may be considered for the examination process:

- In November 2003 Dr. Mary Lunz from Measurement Research Associates conducted a workshop for the Board on clinical oral examinations – standardization, validity, reliability, scoring, and analysis.
- During January 2004, staff prepared and distributed a RFP for computer based testing. Proposals will be discussed at the annual Board of Directors meeting.
- In February 2004, Board members Killian and Dean were guests of the ABOMS during the orientation and administration of their oral examinations.

The ABPD Annual Board of Director’s meeting was April 16-17, 2004 at the ABPD Headquarters office in Iowa City, Iowa. The Case Review submissions for the April 14 examination were graded by the Board of Directors. We appreciate the participation of AAPD President Paul Reggiardo during the ABPD Annual Meeting.

The ABPD Web site, www.abpd.org, continues to be the primary site for communicating with Diplomates, candidates, and the public. The site is updated annually and additional pages added periodically. The Board feels that the site is very user friendly; nevertheless revisions will be made to further increase its friendliness.

Additionally the use of the 1-800 phone number increases monthly as Diplomates, candidates and AAPD members take advantage of this service.

The ABPD informational articles had been historically published in Pediatric Dentistry. In consultation with Gina Sandova, and the Communications Dept of the AAPD, it was suggested that we consider publishing articles in Pediatric Dentistry Today. It was reported that AAPD members are more likely to read the newsletter before the journal.
The transition was completed as of September 2003. All members of the Communication Department have been very helpful and we thank them.

Examination Outcomes:

**Comprehensive Written Section Examination:**
Administered on November 1, 2003............................52
   - 39 Pass
   - 8 Incomplete (discussed below)
   - 5 Failures
Scheduled for May 26, 2004 (as of 3/17/04) ..............77
   - Residents = 42

The Board initiated a new policy starting with the November 1, 2003 examination that each of the examination's four sections will be individually scored on a Pass/Fail basis. Candidates passing three sections and failing one must retake that failed section within one year (two test sessions) from the initial examination date. If a candidate is not successful during one of these two sessions, they will be required to retake the complete examination. The eight-year time-limited certification process begins on the date of the initial examination.

**General and Applied Knowledge Examination:**
Administered on November 1, 2003.............................2
   - 2 Failures
Scheduled for May 26, 2004 (as of 3/17/04) ...............1
   - 1 Repeat from 11/1/2003

There are currently 15 people still in this format who need to complete their clinical section prior to the expiration of the 8-year certification process. The written portion of this format will be phased out in 2005.

**Case Reviews Section – November 1, 2003 Exam:**
   - Registered.........................................................16
   - 11 Pass
   - 4 Incompletes
   - 1 Failure
   - Registered for April 14, 2004 Exam .......................12

**Site Visits (as of 3/17/2004):**
   - Registered .....................................................14
   - Carryover from 2002-2003 .................................5
     - 6 Passed
     - 2 Incompletes
     - 3 Failures
     - 8 Scheduled
We wish to express our continued appreciation for the support from the AAPD Headquarters staff over the past year in coordinating many activities of the ABPD. This cooperation reflects a very positive approach the AAPD leadership and the Headquarters staff have taken regarding mutual interests with the ABPD. Thank you Drs. Reggiardo and Rutkauskas for the ongoing support as we look toward 2004-2005.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen Wilson, DMD, MA, PhD
President, ABPD Board of Directors