



The Diplomat

The American Board of Endodontics Newsletter
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The ABE 2016

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The President's Message: Experiencing a Cultural Shift

by Donna J. Mattschek

In the not so distant past, it was common to hear the question: "Why are you taking the Boards?" Presently the more frequent question is: "When are you taking the Boards?" When I became a Diplomat in 2000, a room of 100 endodontists would have included only 16 who were Diplomates of the Board. Today, that same room would likely include 25 Diplomates.

In the Fall of 2009, then President of the ABE, Linda Levin wrote of the critical task facing the Board: "To dispel the misconception that the Diplomates of the American Board of Endodontics represent an elitist group", as this myth likely fueled some resistance to pursuing Board Certification by some endodontists. Dr. Levin pointed out that the definition of Board Certification "does not use adjectives like superior, superlative, or exclusive. Instead, it stresses testing to confirm that a Candidate has mastered the very basic skill set and knowledge base that we expect an endodontist to possess."

In the 10 years preceding Dr. Levin's message, the average number of new Diplomates each year was only 28. Since that time, the Directors of the ABE have endeavored to dispel the myth that Board Certification in endodontics is an elitist goal. The Board has made significant changes in each exam to make them more accessible and to increase the flexibility of the process, recognizing the wide diversity among the Candidates. These efforts have resulted in the annual average number of newly recognized Diplomates increasing to nearly 80 each year.

The efforts to increase accessibility and flexibility have, in part, included increasing the options in the order in which the tripartite exam can be undertaken. Additionally, a one-year extension of an eligibility period has been established for candidates that encounter unforeseen and unpredicted obstacles that might occur in one's life.

Accepting a Candidate's Written Exam passing score in perpetuity has also been a very positive change. Recently, the Board has expanded this to include acceptance of ALL successful

exams, regardless of when each was completed. If a Candidate's eligibility lapses, he/she will no longer have to retake a portion of the exam that they have already passed. The process can simply be resumed when Board eligibility is re-established.

Another positive change has enabled Candidates to challenge the Written Exam in the last months of their graduate programs. By changing the date from November, and offering the exam in computer-based format at testing centers around the world eliminates the inconvenience and expense of travel and time away from work and family. This change also allows preparation while still in an educational program rather than starting out in practice. The Board has also sought collaboration from



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Attention Candidates

You can now submit your Case History Exam online!
Visit www.amboardendo.org to register, download instructions and guidelines, and to submit your exam. Questions?
Contact Ivana Bevacqua at ibevacqua@aae.org.

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Meet the New Diplomates

The main objective of each issue of *The Diplomat* newsletter is to recognize the achievement of each of our newly Board Certified members -- the newsletter is even named in their honor! In what has become a rite of passage for each new Diplomat, the ABE asks them to submit a short bio, a photo, and to answer to the following question: What does it mean to you to be a Diplomat? Congratulations to them all, and may their enlightening, thoughtful, humorous and inspiring words encourage us in all of our challenges.



Houman Abtin
West Vancouver, BC Canada
Endodontic Program:
University of British Columbia
Graduated:
6/30/2011
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomat?

- After answering multiple super-multiple questions you realize that Ibuprofen is your best friend.
- You get a chance to see the Gateway Arch.
- You have the privilege of being in the same room with the leading endodontists in the world and the best part is that you are the one talking and they are not as scary as you thought. They are warm and friendly while maintaining strict protocols.
- You get the opportunity to see your patients a year later and give them good news.
- You realize that the moon is brighter on certain nights and learn the difference between "good" and "bad" coffee.
- After a few years of hard work you have a big smile on your face.
- You have reached the highest peak in your profession. ABE exams are designed in such a way that in the process of completing them, your skills have improved, your knowledge has expanded and you have become more detail oriented.

I am grateful to everyone at the University of British Columbia graduate endodontics program for providing me with the knowledge and skills to fulfill the ABE challenges.

Tim C. Adams
Reno, NV
Endodontic Program:
Lutheran Medical Center
Graduated:
6/30/2013
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomat?

Achieving Diplomat status was the pinnacle of my career, where my efforts were validated by a group of colleagues who care about this profession as much as I do. A profession whose standard of treatment is based on evidence-based endodontics.



Samhan Alajmi
Kuwait
Endodontic Program:
University of Pennsylvania
Graduated:
6/30/2014
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomat?

Becoming a Diplomat has been my goal since the first day of my residency. It has been time consuming and rewarding. Being a volunteer faculty, it helped me a lot in every aspect of teaching. I would like to thank my family, faculty and the Board members for their support before and during the exam. It was a fruitful experience!



Obadah N. Austah
San Antonio, TX
Endodontic Program:
University of Texas at San Antonio

Graduated: 6/30/2014

What does it mean to you to be a Diplomat?

I'm honored to achieve the highest recognition in our specialty by becoming a Diplomat of the American Board of Endodontics. I'm so grateful to my mentors at UT San Antonio for their guidance, support and encouragement to achieve this goal. Being a Diplomat is a commitment to myself to lifelong learning and providing the highest level of patient care. I'm so proud to join this distinguished group in our specialty.

Richard T. Bauman
Murray, UT
Endodontic Program:
University of Louisville
Graduated:
6/30/2008
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomat?



It is a great honor and a privilege to be a Diplomat. I'm grateful that I have been challenged in the process that has helped me become a more knowledgeable clinician. I have such respect for all those who have made and continue to make our specialty great. Becoming a Diplomat is a way for me to express my appreciation and gratitude for the specialty of Endodontics and all those who have made it great.



Robert T. Beasley
Minneapolis, MN
Endodontic Program:
University of Iowa
Graduated:
6/30/2012

Anthony T. Borgia
Morgantown, WV
Endodontic Program:
University of Connecticut
Graduated:
6/1/1982



Meet the New Diplomates

What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

Not being the typical endodontist that has recently received Diplomate status, the meaning of being a Diplomate to me is most likely significantly different from most of my younger colleagues. After more than thirty years as a private practice, clinical endodontist, followed by more than five years in academic dentistry, I believe that I have a much deeper appreciation of achieving that goal than do most others. While some may see it as a hurdle to be jumped or a series of exams to take and pass, it is for me the culmination of countless educational experiences, many thousands of patients treated and cared for, immeasurable numbers of invaluable experiences learned and then shared, exhilarating feelings of accomplishment and personal satisfaction, and acknowledgement from colleagues and peers of a job well done. Becoming a Diplomate means being an endodontist who embraces our specialty completely, not for prestige, but for the appreciation of the knowledge that it brings with all the preparation that goes into the process of successfully meeting the challenge it presents. It means more than that we merely just "treat" patients – it is a demonstration that shows a commitment to encompassing the knowledge of scientific justification for everything that we do. It is literally a contribution to the high mindedness and purpose that endodontics provides to the health of our fellow citizens.

Tyler J. Boss
Colorado
Springs, CO
Endodontic
Program:
 Lutheran Medical
 Center
Graduated:
 6/30/2012



What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

The process of becoming a Diplomate allowed me a unique opportunity that required retroactive self-examination of my ever-evolving approach to clinical endodontics and literature examination. Most importantly, it has allowed me the opportunity to rationalize many of my internal "cognitive dissonances". Many view accomplishing Board Certification as the pinnacle achievement and report a new level of confidence and clarity once

achieving Diplomate status. I see it as the opposite. It demonstrates the beginning of a commitment to a lifetime of education fueled by skepticism and an unwillingness to be satisfied with the status quo. The successful completion of this process cannot entirely be credited to me and I must give credit where credit is due. Thank you to my mentors who decided to invest in me: Jonathan Richards, Robert Corr, Ryan Jack, John Kahdemi, John Hatton and Andy Shur as well as all of my educators at Lutheran Medical Center. Above all, my wife Tiffanee deserves credit for being the most supportive, loyal and inspiring person in my life.

Jared T. Buck
Carson City, NV
Endodontic Program: Albert Einstein
 Medical Center
Graduated: 6/30/2009



Christopher
Gene Budig
Overland Park, KS
Endodontic
Program:
 University of
 Alabama at
 Birmingham
Graduated:
 6/30/2008

What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?
 Earning Diplomate status was a significant professional and personal aspiration. Becoming a Diplomate fulfilled a personal commitment to achieve the highest level of distinction our profession has to offer. I found the entire process behind Board Certification revitalized my passion for endodontics by renewing my knowledge in the latest scientific and clinical techniques. The additional knowledge and experience gained by completing the Board Certification process has enabled me to continue to provide the highest level of endodontic treatment for my patients. I would like to extend my sincerest gratitude to my mentors Dr. Paul D. Eleazer and Dr. Larry Alley. They not only provided exceptional training throughout my residency, but also continue to share their knowledge, friendship, and encouragement years later.

Trisha K. Charland
Weehawken, NJ
Endodontic Program: Rutgers School
 of Dental Medicine
Graduated: 6/30/2012

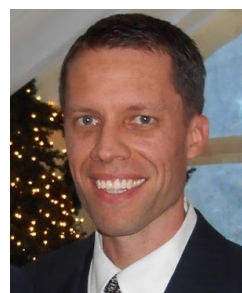
Vanessa
Chrepa
Seattle, WA
Endodontic
Program:
 University of
 Texas at San
 Antonio
Graduated:
 6/30/2014



What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

Becoming a Diplomate means that you enter an elite group of Endodontists that are committed to providing ethical, high quality, evidence-based patient care. It means that you recognize and honor the value of your specialty.

Jeffrey M. Clark
Manhattan, KS
Endodontic
Program:
 University of
 Iowa
Graduated:
 6/30/2012
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?



Achieving Diplomate status was a worthwhile challenge. This process improved my knowledge of endodontics and heightened my appreciation for our specialty. The next challenge is to always put forth my best efforts as a provider, a colleague, and a representative. Most of all, achieving Diplomate status allowed me to show my gratitude for the many wonderful mentors who helped me along the way. Special thanks to Dr. Susie Koagel, Dr. Tom Marino, Dr. Rufus Bandy and the entire University of Iowa Department of Endodontics.

Meet the New Diplomates

Lisa B. Cohen
Passaic, NJ
Endodontic

Program: VA
Medical Center,
New York

Graduated:
6/30/2012

What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?
Being a

Diplomate demonstrates my commitment to striving for excellence. I am honored to be associated with others who share that same commitment.



I am proud to achieve Diplomate status from the American Board of Endodontics as it signifies the pinnacle of our profession. There is a responsibility associated with becoming Board Certified to act as a positive and proactive ambassador for our specialty and profession in the community. I am very grateful to all my professors at the University of Florida for emphasizing the importance of Board Certification since day one of our program. Special thanks to Drs. Pileggi, Nair, Cunningham, Varella, Vertucci, and Haddix for the opportunity of becoming an endodontist and the continual push to attain Board Certification status.

What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

I am so grateful to the United States Army for the encouragement and support in becoming Board Certified. Upon completion of residency with young kids and a neglected wife I was unsure if I would continue this path. My mentors and colleagues in the Army continued to follow up and help keep that desire alive. I am proud to have served and proud to have achieved this goal.



Michael E. Crabtree
Las Vegas, NV
Endodontic
Program:
University of
Florida
Graduated:
6/30/2006
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

Obtaining Diplomate status in the ABE was in one respect the last step of the initial residency training process, albeit several years later, and in another respect the first step in holding myself accountable for maintaining a higher level of patient care and education. It was proving to myself that I am committed and capable of providing high quality endodontic services. The process certainly reinvigorated my appreciation for evidence-based dentistry and, although the process was arduous at times, it pushes one to become better; not solely for oneself but also for one's patients, colleagues, and residents. Of course I would not have been able to complete Board Certification if it were not for the support of others, including the ABE, College of Diplomates, colleagues and my family.

Tyson Curtis
Dana Point, CA
Endodontic
Program:
Oregon Health & Science
University
Graduated:
6/30/2012
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

I consider being a Diplomate the highest achievement that a clinical endodontist can obtain. It is a demonstration of a broad knowledge of the science and techniques relevant to diagnosis and treatment. Personally, I have worked my way through many obstacles throughout my life to get to where I am now. The Board Certification process is challenging, but I encourage others to pursue this great opportunity. I would like to thank the following people for their support and encouragement throughout my certification process: My professors and advisers in the OHSU Advanced Endodontic Program: Dr. Timothy Svec, Dr. Christine Sedgley, Dr. Gordon Marshall, Dr. Dale Barker, and Dr. Kenneth Wiltbank; my longtime friend and fellow Board Diplomate, Dr. Daniel Boehne; my volunteer mentor, Dr. Jeffrey Meckler; and last but not least, my parents and brother Justin.



Beth A. Damas
Orland Park, IL
Endodontic
Program:
University of
Detroit Mercy
Graduated:
6/30/2010
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

Achieving Diplomate status is a tremendous accomplishment. The journey is challenging but the reward is worth it. The multi-step process forces you to challenge yourself to be the best that you can possibly be. Success shows your continued dedication to bringing the latest advancements and knowledge in the field of endodontics into your practice. Crossing the finish line validates one's continued commitment to the profession. I am honored to be named a member of this distinguished group of endodontists. I would like to thank Dr. Michael Hoen, my residency director at University of Detroit Mercy, for his continued wisdom and support throughout this process. His belief in me since day one continually pushed me to cross that finish line.



Jacob D. Cragun
Frisco, TX
Endodontic
Program:
University of
Florida
Graduated:
6/30/2010
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?



Branden L. Dailey
Bakersfield, CA
Endodontic
Program: US
Army Dental
Activity, Ft Bragg
Graduated:
6/30/2010

Pranav D. Desai
Columbia, SC
Endodontic
Program:
Virginia
Commonwealth
University
Graduated:
6/30/2012
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

It is a proud moment to achieve the highest goal and standard in the endodontic specialty and be a part of the distinguished Diplomate community.



Meet the New Diplomates

Meeting all the challenges to become a Diplomate is a very satisfying accomplishment. It also proves that when you achieve something with hard work and persistence, you enjoy and cherish it dearly. One of my professional goals is to be an academician and I know that the Diplomate status is going to be very helpful in achieving that goal. At the beginning of the endodontic residency at the VCU, the seeds of Board Certification were planted by Dr. Karan Replogle and Dr. Richard Archer. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the faculty and co-residents of the VCU endodontics for their guidance and constant encouragement. My sincere thanks to Dr. Van Himel who introduced me to the academic world of endodontics. I would also like to thank Dr. Priya Sharma Chand for her guidance in the Board Certification process. Finally, thanks to my family and colleagues for their continuous support in this process.



Fergus Duddy
County Wicklow,
Ireland
Endodontic Program:
University of Washington
Graduated:
6/30/2011
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

Achieving Board Certification is reaching the pinnacle of our profession and has equipped me to provide the best possible advice and treatment to my patients. It signals the end of a long journey during which I was very fortunate to meet many great people; too many to mention by name. It rewards the sacrifices made by my family Fionnuala, Elaine and Conor when we left Ireland and committed to two years of further study. Finally, it honors a commitment I gave to Dr. James Johnson, mentor and friend, when accepted in to the Graduate Endodontic Program at the University of Washington.



Reham El-Hennawey
Tulsa, OK
Endodontic Program:
University of Detroit Mercy
Graduated:
6/30/2013

What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

Being a Diplomate shows that I have achieved the highest level of studies and certification in the field of Endodontics. Achieving Diplomacy demonstrates that I have undergone examinations and peer review to deem my competence in this specialty, allowing me to practice with confidence. It gives my patients the opportunity to feel assurance that they are in the hands of an Endodontist who has gone above and beyond to excel in this field.

John S. Evered
San Clemente, CA
Endodontic Program: Naval Postgraduate Dental School, Bethesda
Graduated:
6/30/2009



What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

I am extremely grateful for completing the requirements to become a Diplomate of the ABE. I am thankful for all the support I got from family and colleagues. I feel more confident in my practice of Endodontics, but at the same time I feel challenged to continue learning and growing. Thanks to the members of the ABE who were patient and kind to me.

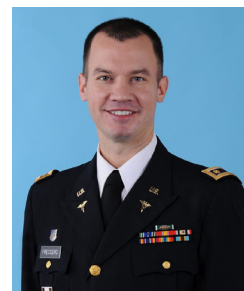


Jamal R. Flowers
Chicago, IL
Endodontic Program:
University of Iowa
Graduated:
6/1/2004
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?
Becoming a

Diplomate means I fulfilled a commitment to my mentors, Program Directors, graduate program, as well as myself. I feel very fortunate to have had the opportunity to learn from such exemplary educators, who have shown great commitment to our specialty. I was inspired early in my endodontic program, not just to become Board Certified, but also to stay committed to the pursuit of excellence. The certification process afforded me the opportunity to become

more clinically sound; and functioned as a vehicle to strengthen my endodontic foundation and enhance my confidence and passion for providing quality patient care. I am thankful to my co-residents; their encouragement and support has been tremendous. I appreciate my family and friends for patience, support and understanding throughout my progression. Overall, I feel a great sense of accomplishment, honor, and optimism. I look forward to impacting those behind me, and continuing my professional journey with certainty and appreciation.

Craig R. Freccero
APO, AE
Endodontic Program: US Army Dental Activity, Ft Bragg
Graduated:
6/30/2014



What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

The honest answer to that question is: it means that I am *finally* done studying for exams.

Johnah C. Galicia
San Francisco, CA
Endodontic Program: University of North Carolina
Graduated:
6/30/2014



What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

One of my aims in life after endodontic residency was to become Board Certified. Being in clinical practice, research and academia, having that Diplomate status shows that I am committed to continuously learn and improve my craft. I am also in a way, helping the specialty to remain recognized by the ADA. I hope that my journey towards Board Certification would inspire the endodontic residents at the University of the Pacific to become Board Certified as well.

Meet the New Diplomates



Simon M. Ghattas
West Palm Beach, FL
Endodontic Program: University of Detroit Mercy
Graduated: 6/30/2012

What does it mean to you to

be a Diplomate? Becoming a Diplomate means having the desire and the passion to achieve the highest standard in both academic and clinical excellence. Board Certification has provided me with a sense of personal and professional achievement: knowing that all of the time, energy and effort involved in participating in the certification process has allowed me to become a well-rounded clinician. It has also reinforced my desire to stay current with literature and technology, ultimately providing a higher quality of care to my patients. I am thankful to my Program Director, Dr. Michael Hoen, for stressing the importance of the process and my wife, Maureen, for being a great support throughout it all.



John Gilbreth
Rio Rancho, NM
Endodontic Program: University of Connecticut School of Dental Medicine
Graduated: 6/30/2013
What does it mean to you to

be a Diplomate?

I am grateful to be recognized as an ABE Diplomate. The training and encouragement I received from my mentors at the University of Connecticut was critical in qualifying for this achievement. Thanks to Dr. Safavi, Dr. Kaufman, Debbie Osborne, and Dr. Hack for their support. I am proud to represent our specialty in this capacity.



Adam K. Harkrider
Beaufort, SC
Endodontic Program: Naval Postgraduate Dental School, Bethesda
Graduated: 6/30/2014
What does it mean to you to

be a Diplomate?

Diplomate status means recognition that an individual has attained a new level of expertise and understanding of the science of Endodontics. I also feel an increased sense of responsibility to promote and educate my community on the benefits our specialty has to offer.



Jaxon Hoopes
Farmington, NM
Endodontic Program: University of Iowa
Graduated: 6/30/2012
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?
To me being a Diplomate means

that I have put forth considerable time and effort to be recognized as a competent and capable clinician. I hope that it is seen as a tip of the cap to the faculty at the University of Iowa as well as the mentors and peers that have helped me along the way. I hope that it strengthens the specialty as a whole, and I hope that referring doctors and patients see it as time and effort spent on their behalf.

Bashir Hosseini
Fayetteville, NC
Endodontic Program: University of North Carolina
Graduated: 6/30/2014

What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

Being a Diplomate means achieving the highest honor in my profession. It is a goal that I set for myself as soon as I started my endodontic residency. I was very privileged to have many wonderful faculty members



and mentors throughout my residency that were very encouraging and influential. They instilled in me the importance of becoming a Diplomate and integrity that comes with it. As a Diplomate I hope to make contributions to my profession, provide the best treatment to my patients and continue to learn and grow as an endodontist.

Sheena M. Howell
San Diego, CA
Endodontic Program: University of California, San Francisco
Graduated: 6/30/2015

What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

It is hard to put into words what being a Diplomate means to me. It has meaning beyond prestige, value, and recognition of excellence. To me, the meaning is far more personal. Becoming a Board Certified endodontist was a goal that I set for myself to prove my determination and dedication to my specialty. It's my way of saying "thank you" to my faculty and mentors, who helped mold and train me. It means that I did my very best to excel in my education, uphold the highest standards in my profession, and utilize my training to provide the best treatment for my patients.



Maryanne Knasas Irwin
Westwood, MA
Endodontic Program: Tufts University
Graduated: 6/30/2008
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?
In being an

endodontist, I have always sought to provide excellence in caring for my patients. Being a Diplomate is most certainly a great personal achievement, but it also reflects my dedication to a lifelong learning process. I hope that being a Diplomate of the ABE assures both my patients and my colleagues that I am committed to provide the most up-to-date information and care in endodontic

Meet the New Diplomates

treatment.



Joanne Jensen-Hawkins
Moraga, CA

Endodontic Program: The Ohio State University
Graduated: 6/1/2005
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

I initially wanted

to start the Diplomate process at the urging of Dr. Reader and Dr. Nusstein when in residency. However, life took over with having three kids, buying a practice and trying to keep afloat. After 7 years of practicing, and hearing my partner, Kenneth Tittle, D.D.S., M.S., ride me enough about starting the process, I pulled my cases and submitted. I was at the end of the three year mark with my accepted cases and knew I had to study and finish the written and oral exams. I started studying and going to review courses, putting much stress on my husband, and family. But they were so supportive through the entire process.

For me, to be a Diplomate means that I have accomplished the highest level of educational recognition possible for a private practitioner. I feel I talk to patients differently, discussing treatments and possible complications with biologically based reasoning. I can see in their eyes that I have achieved trust and confidence. I know that by studying and refreshing after about 10 years in practice has improved my style and bedside manner significantly, as well as renewing my desire for continual learning.



Mo Kwan Kang
Los Angeles, CA

Endodontic Program: University of California, Los Angeles
Graduated: 6/1/2003
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

It has been a very

interesting and humbling experience for me to go through the Board Certification process because of the wealth of

knowledge in the area of Endodontics. It is humbling when I think about the effort and dedication made by former pioneers in our specialty to establish the science and clinical expertise in Endodontics. I greatly appreciate all my friends, colleagues, and my mentors in various areas of my training for supporting my education in Endodontics and basic science. I would like to give special thanks to my family for always being supportive and creating a reviving and joyful environment on a day-to-day basis. Being a Diplomate is clearly a milestone in my career as an academic endodontist and it means to be thankful for the opportunity given to me. It also means to pass on a bigger opportunity to the next generation by cultivating clinicians, educators, and impactful scientists for our specialty.



Jongsung Kim
APO, AP

Endodontic Program: Wilford Hall USAF Medical Center
Graduated: 6/30/2014
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

Being a Diplomate not only carries the cachet of inclusion in an elite cadre of specialists, but it connotes extra effort and diligence to provide the absolute best in endodontic patient care. As a Diplomate, I am challenged to be a true expert in the field of endodontics and to continually improve upon the field of evidence-based dentistry. Being a Diplomate is not just a title, but an ongoing process to maintain the highest standards as an endodontist.

Joanna Ku
Philadelphia, PA

Endodontic Program: University of Pennsylvania
Graduated: 6/30/2007
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

Achieving Diplomate status was a challenging,



but very rewarding journey. The process of Board Certification taught me so much about the specialty and truly made me a better endodontist along the way. Becoming a Diplomate displays my lifelong commitment to the profession and provides the confidence that I am providing the best care for my patients. I am proud to have put forth the effort and am grateful to the Board and my colleagues for helping me reach this goal.

Shawn M. Lafkowitz
Warren, NJ

Endodontic Program: Rutgers School of Dental Medicine
Graduated: 6/30/2010
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

Becoming a Diplomate of the ABE is very much a personal achievement. I have a new sense of pride knowing that I have reached the pinnacle of my educational career and feel I am at the forefront of my specialty. It may not impact my manual abilities or my bedside manner, two very important traits for any dentist. It does, however, motivate me to stay on top of new research and advances in the field, which ultimately aids in my decision-making and helps me become a stronger and more confident endodontist. I was very fortunate to have my father as a role model in this specialty, as well as a remarkably accomplished director of my residency training, Dr. Gary Hartwell, who always stressed the importance of what it means to achieve Diplomate status. For me, becoming a Diplomate means always being committed to learn and striving for excellence in all aspects of my life.



Ryan M. Lavene
Lake Havasu City, AZ

Endodontic Program: Oregon Health & Science University
Graduated: 6/30/2008
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

Becoming a



Meet the New Diplomates

Diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics has been a personal and professional goal of mine since completing residency. All of the work and time involved has made me a better clinician, allowing me to provide the very best care to my patients. Being Board Certified also means representing our profession with the highest ethical, clinical and professional standards. I am extremely grateful to have achieved Diplomate status and feel that I have, in a small way, helped preserve and strengthen our specialty of endodontics. I would like to personally thank my family, colleagues, mentors and friends for all of their support during this process allowing me to achieve this great honor.

Alaina P. Leiendecker
Flagstaff, AZ
Endodontic Program:
 Augusta University, The Dental College of Georgia
Graduated:
 6/30/2012
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?



Being a Diplomate demonstrates ongoing support of the specialty of endodontics and reassures patients that I have been professionally, scholastically, and clinically challenged and satisfactorily approved by a governing body of professionals.



Marcella Borgman Leonard
Evanston, IL
Endodontic Program:
 University of Illinois at Chicago
Graduated:
 6/30/2010
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

To be a Diplomate means I have accomplished the goal I set for myself during my residency which gives me great pride. Obtaining Board Certification has been both personally and professionally fulfilling, and I am very thankful to all of those who helped me achieve my goal, with a special thank you to my husband

Carl for his continual support throughout this endeavor.



Dephne Jack Xin Leong
Singapore
Endodontic Program:
 University of Pennsylvania
Graduated:
 6/30/2013
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

Being a Diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics is the pinnacle of our specialty and it means to me a commitment to perpetual learning and pursuit of excellence. I am extremely honored to be part of this group of dedicated, distinguished and dynamic clinicians, researchers, and educators. This would not have been possible without the support of my family and friends, as well as the invaluable guidance and continued encouragement of the Endodontic faculty at University of Pennsylvania. I am grateful to all of them and I share my success with them. Thank you ABE for mediating this Board Certification process.

Hongsheng Liu
Boston, MA
Endodontic Program:
 Boston University
Graduated:
 6/30/2012
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?



Being a Diplomate of the ABE is one of the biggest honors in my career. Since the first day I became a dental student, I wanted to be the best dentist and offer my patients the best dental service I could. Becoming a Diplomate is a gold standard to recognize my endodontic clinical skills and knowledge. I am very excited to finally get it done after studying for such a long period of time. Being a Diplomate also means I need to use my skill and knowledge to help my patients and "save their natural teeth". Being a Diplomate gives me a lot of responsibility to speak out in my dental community, to bring up the endodontic treatment standard, to

advocate saving natural teeth. Being a Diplomate makes me a better educator to help younger dentists, endodontists and other dental specialists. It guides me to lead and work with all dental professionals to serve our patients with our best knowledge and skills.

John W. Loeffelholz
Fort Worth, TX
Endodontic Program:
 University of Florida
Graduated:
 6/30/2012
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?



Achieving Diplomate status is a great honor that demonstrates a commitment to excellence in endodontics. I am humbled to join this elite group that continually strives to advance the profession. I am appreciative of the support from my family throughout this process. I would also like to thank Dr. Roberta Pileggi, Dr. Charles Cunningham, Dr. Uma Nair and the entire faculty and staff of the University of Florida Department of Endodontics for their encouragement and guidance along the way.

Kristy L. Marker Lawrence, KS
Endodontic Program:
 University of Iowa
Graduated:
 6/30/2007
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?



It is recognition that I have strived to be the best endodontist I can be. I am humbled to be part of a group of endodontists that I respect so much. My hopes are to represent our specialty well and to continue efforts to deserve this honor.

Meet the New Diplomates



David Emory Martin
Round Rock, TX
Endodontic Program: University of Texas at San Antonio
Graduated: 6/30/2012
What does it mean to you to

be a Diplomate?

It means that I have gone above and beyond to gain the knowledge needed to provide the best treatment possible for my patients and surpassed the minimal requirements to be an Endodontist. I think it shows pride in the profession!

Mohammed H. Mashyakh
Jazan, Saudi Arabia
Endodontic Program: University of Southern California
Graduated: 6/30/2014



What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

Being a Diplomate was a dream I have had ever since I decided to be an Endodontist, and it has finally come true. The journey of the residency program and the steps of the Board Certification process, with all the fun, difficulties, and ambition, have taken me to this high level of consciousness I feel about myself as an endodontist today. Residency alone wouldn't take me this far. I am filled with awareness about the science and art behind Endodontics and Board Certification has made me appreciate every single effort made by pioneers throughout the years. All of this is to provide a state-of-the-art, supported by current literature service to the patient. Now, I have a great responsibility toward Endodontics: to share and spread awareness, knowledge and pass it on to the next generation.

Geoffrey L. McMurray
Highland Park, IL
Endodontic Program: Naval Postgraduate Dental School, Bethesda
Graduated: 6/30/2012

What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

Given the challenging Board Certification



process, I am proud and humbled to join the ranks of my fellow Diplomates. The commitment to achieve Diplomate status has advanced my own clinical practice for the

sake of my patients; it is a sign of my dedication to strengthen our specialty; and it is the ultimate way of saying "thank you" to my mentors. Becoming a Diplomate is only the foundation on which my expertise and knowledge will evolve to an even higher level. Thank you to the countless supporters who made sacrifices and contributions during the process.



Ryan P. McNamara
Kent, WA
Endodontic Program: University of Texas at San Antonio
Graduated: 6/30/2010
What does it mean to you to

be a Diplomate?

Achieving Diplomate status has been a goal since graduation and is an outlook to stay current with advances in our field throughout my career. I believe it shows respect for our educators, commitment to our specialty and is a reflection of how we are viewed as "the root canal experts" by our dental peers. I also feel it is valuable for our patients by ensuring they will always receive quality care based on modern evidence.



Brent A. Medema
Grand Rapids, MI
Endodontic Program: University of California, Los Angeles
Graduated: 6/30/2014
What does it

mean to you to be a Diplomate?

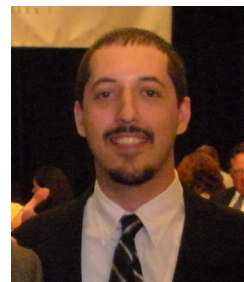
I feel that becoming a Diplomate is representative of the commitment I have to practicing endodontics at the highest level possible. Anyone who completes the examination is willing to go the extra mile, even when it is not required of him or her. The personal satisfaction of passing the tests was enough for me to go through the process. However, if the meaning behind the tests translates to the doctors and patients I work with, the benefit will be tremendous.



Jose A. Medina
San Juan, PR
Endodontic Program: University of Pennsylvania
Graduated: 6/1/1997
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

I have been a practicing endodontist for 18 years. Since my days as a graduate resident I knew that reaching Diplomate status meant to be at the highest level of my profession so, needless to say, for most of this time it felt like I had an unfinished business. Several years ago I finally set my priorities straight and decided to attempt to achieve, once and for all, what was a very important matter to me. Now, having completed the certification process, I can truly say that it has been very rewarding. It has helped me be up to date with the most recent knowledge and advancements in our field, I feel more confident than ever with the treatment I provide, but above all, I feel a sense of professional accomplishment.

Neema B. Mehrkhodavandi
Tarzana, CA
Endodontic Program: Tufts University
Graduated: 6/30/2014
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?



Being a Diplomate comes with many intrinsic rewards, as mentioned by my colleagues. It also serves as my go-to technique, by providing a description of the process

Meet the New Diplomates

involved, for addressing the awkward and frequently asked question by patients: "You look very young. How long have you been doing this?"

Laura L. Milroy
Loveland, CO
Endodontic Program:

University of Minnesota School of Dentistry
Graduated: 6/30/2013

What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

Becoming a Diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics is the pinnacle of achievement in our field. Though the process was challenging, it has been worthwhile and rewarding. It has strengthened me as a practitioner and helped ensure I am practicing endodontics at the highest echelon possible. I know I am providing care based on scientific evidence and giving my patients the best treatment they could receive. I am extremely grateful for the support of my husband Tyler, and my family, friends, and mentors, particularly Dr. Scott McClanahan and Dr. Samantha Roach, and their support of my efforts in the Board Certification process.



provided me with additional initiative to help improve the practice of endodontics. Furthermore, becoming Board Certified reinforced the importance of staying up to date with important literature and new areas in endodontics to better serve our patients. I would like to note a special thanks to the IU faculty, especially Dr. Newton, Dr. Vail and Dr. Spolnik, my colleagues, and my family for their help and support.

Lisa M. Norby
Clarksville, TN

Endodontic Program: US Army Dental Activity, Ft Gordon
Graduated: 6/30/2009



be a Diplomate?

Becoming a Diplomate is surely a significant personal and professional achievement. But it is only the beginning of a life-long pursuit of excellence in endodontics.

Teng Kai Ong
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Endodontic Program:

University of Pennsylvania
Graduated: 6/30/2013

What does it mean to you to

mentors and colleagues who dedicated their time, expertise, and patience towards my development. I would like to thank my husband, Brian, for all of his support during this journey.



Sumesh Potluri
Silver Spring, MD

Endodontic Program: Case Western Reserve University

Graduated: 6/30/2009

What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

Becoming a Diplomate is a great honor for me. Being a Diplomate is a commitment to always practice endodontics with the highest level of knowledge and skill to provide the best possible care for my patients. I would like to express my appreciation to my mentors and friends who have helped me along the journey. I am thankful to my family for supporting me.

Yasaman Ravandoust
Kansas City, MO

Endodontic Program: University of California, San Francisco
Graduated: 6/30/2013



Joyce Nazzal
Houston, TX
Endodontic Program:

Indiana University
Graduated: 6/30/2011

What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

It is a great honor to be recognized

as a Diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics. I felt a great sense of accomplishment and gratitude when I received the correspondence that confirmed my Board Certification. The process is both professionally and personally rewarding. I now have an opportunity to represent our area of practice at the highest level and continue my dedication to excellence in endodontics. The Board Certification process is rigorous and requires that every endodontist be at the very top of their game. It helped me appreciate various areas of our field and

Heath J. Parry
Parker, CO

Endodontic Program: Rutgers School of Dental Medicine
Graduated: 6/30/2012

Alysen L. Phee
Regina, SK Canada

Endodontic Program:

University of Toronto
Graduated: 6/30/2012

What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

I am honored to have achieved Diplomate status with the ABE and see this accomplishment as the final step towards reaching my goals as a dental professional. I am truly grateful to all my



Brenton A. Reavley
Kansas City, MO
Endodontic Program:

Rutgers School of Dental Medicine
Graduated: 6/30/2009

What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

To me, being a Diplomate shows one's steadfast commitment to the specialty of endodontics. Being Board Certified signifies a clinician's willingness to stay abreast of any changes in an ever-evolving profession, to ensure they are practicing at the highest level, and treating patients based upon the best available evidence. I am truly honored to be a Diplomate and am humbled to be part of a group of such dedicated individuals. I would like to thank the Board and its examiners for their dedication to excellence in our specialty.



Meet the New Diplomates

I would also like to thank my Program Director, Dr. Gary Hartwell, for providing me with a strong clinical and academic foundation that has helped propel me to the pinnacle of my chosen profession. My co-resident and Boards mentor, Dr. Jeff Stewart, was also instrumental in helping me achieve my goal. And last but not least, I would like to thank my wife, Kristen, for all her love and support throughout this process.

Verne F. Reed
Kalispell, MT
Endodontic Program: Naval Postgraduate Dental School, Bethesda
Graduated: 6/30/2012



What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

Being recognized as a Diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics is a wonderful honor. Looking back, it represents the product of countless hours of focused study and careful application as it relates to striving to understand and perfect our profession. Looking forward, it represents a constant reminder of the commitment I have made to strive to practice endodontics at the highest possible level. As I consider the many sacrifices it has taken for me to arrive at that this point, I recognize that my efforts were matched many times over by many mentors, colleagues and friends who patiently taught, inspired, encouraged, and lead me along every step of the way. Most importantly, I could not have accomplished this without the unwavering love, support, and understanding of my wife and children, for whom I am forever grateful.

Ashleigh M. Rexford
Indianapolis, IN

Endodontic Program: Indiana University
Graduated: 6/30/2012



What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

Becoming a Diplomate is an honor that I am grateful to have achieved. It means making a commitment

to constantly strive for excellence in my profession, to stay current with research and technology, and to always do my best to provide the highest level of care for every patient I treat. The journey through the certification process was enlightening and challenging, and one that I could not have achieved without the encouragement of my mentors at Indiana University School of Dentistry: Drs. Newton, Spolnik and Vail. I will strongly urge new endodontists to pursue Board Certification and look forward to helping my colleagues through this rewarding and beneficial endeavor in any way I can.

Michael T. Reynolds
Bloomington, MN
Endodontic Program: University of Iowa
Graduated: 6/30/2013



What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

Becoming a Diplomate means that I have accomplished a seemingly insurmountable task. It has always been very important for me to have a solid evidence base for treating my patients; however my knowledge base was drastically improved by accepting the challenge to become Board Certified. The hurdles involved with Board Certification allowed me to grow as a clinician and as a life-long learner. I feel there is no greater privilege in Endodontics than to achieve Diplomate status.



Nahid Roghani
Portage, MI
Endodontic Program: University of Michigan
Graduated: 6/19/2008

What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

It is a privilege to be recognized as a Diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics. The process is challenging and yet rewarding. It takes motivation and commitment to achieve the highest level of distinction in our profession. I feel accomplished and humbled to be among the group of Endodontists I have always admired. I'm grateful to my

Program Director, Dr. Neville McDonald, for providing me with a strong clinical and academic foundation, his continuous mentorship and encouragement and to Dr. Ali Aminlari for tremendous support and help. I'm also thankful to my husband and son for their patience and support during the process. Achieving Diplomate status strengthens my obligation to continue to hold myself to the highest standards of the specialty of Endodontics.

Rand K. Russell
Colorado Springs, CO
Endodontic Program: US Army Dental Activity, Ft Bragg
Graduated: 6/30/2008



What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

The completion of the Board Certification process is a reflection of a commitment that I have had to my practice and to my patients to utilize an evidence-based approach and sound reasoning to guide me in the treatment decision making process. It also shows my continued commitment to stay abreast of the most current treatment protocols and to continued learning. I would like to thank my mentors for the critical help they provided. I was able to stand on their shoulders and the shoulders of the many examples before me of previous residents to complete the Board Certification process coming from the U.S. Army's Fort Bragg residency program.



Steven L. Ryan
Alamo, CA
Endodontic Program: University of Florida
Graduated: 6/30/2012

What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?
Being a

Diplomate affirms my commitment towards continuing education and providing the highest level of endodontic care.

Meet the New Diplomates



Jennifer L. Smith
Waukegan, IL
Endodontic Program: Naval Postgraduate Dental School, Bethesda
Graduated: 6/30/2013
What does it mean to you to

be a Diplomate?

On a personal level, becoming a Diplomate means that I have achieved a significant professional milestone. On a community level, it means that I have contributed to the vitality of the specialty of Endodontics.

Tai D. Truong
Salem, OR
Endodontic Program: University of Southern California
Graduated: 6/1/2005
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?



I am extremely grateful and proud to be a Diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics. Reaching Diplomate status signifies our commitment to excellence in patient care and a commitment to our profession. Studying for the Board required the Candidates to be abreast of the best current evidence-based research to help ensure we give our patients the best possible diagnosis and best possible endodontic care. The Board Certification process required perseverance and a large time commitment. But it was well worth it. I could not have achieved this goal without the support of my family and my close colleague. I would like to thank Dr. H. Clayton Stearns for his encouragement for me to go through the Certification process. I am deeply grateful for the support and love of my wife Melissa, and our children Aivy and Tyler. I hope that this achievement will help inspire our young children to always strive to reach for the pinnacle of their chosen career path.



Aurelia N. Vanderburg
Albany, GA
Endodontic Program: University of North Carolina
Graduated: 6/30/2010
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

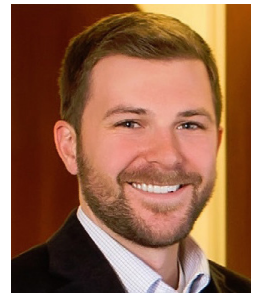
Being a Diplomate means that I have achieved the highest level of Certification in the field of Endodontics. In my view, this accomplishment comes with the responsibility of continuous learning via staying abreast of latest clinical techniques and research, serving as a knowledgeable resource to my patients and fellow dental practitioners and encouraging my colleagues to also become Diplomates in order that Endodontics continues to be acknowledged and valued as a dental specialty. Overall, the process of becoming a Diplomate has made me a better clinician. In this regard I owe deep gratitude to Dr. Eric Rivera, my Program Director, for giving me and other students the encouragement and support to pursue Diplomate status.

Rashi Vohra
Irvine, CA
Endodontic Program: University of California, Los Angeles
Graduated: 6/30/2013
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?



Diplomate status is a major milestone and I am honored to be recognized by the ABE as a new Diplomate. Being a Diplomate means a commitment to always practice endodontics at the highest level of knowledge and skill. Becoming Board Certified has made me a better clinician and I will continually strive to stay current with literature and technology to provide the best possible care for my patients.

Ryan M. Walsh
Fort Worth, TX
Endodontic Program: Texas A&M University Baylor College of Dentistry
Graduated: 6/30/2013
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?



To become a Diplomate of the American Board of Endodontics means reaching the pinnacle of our specialty. It means that I have made a commitment to continue to advance our specialty and to hold myself to the highest standards in our profession. It is an honor and a privilege to become a Diplomate and it would not have been possible without the support of my mentors throughout this challenging process.

Jenny J. Whatley
Madison, AL
Endodontic Program: Indiana University
Graduated: 6/30/2012

Evan R. Whitbeck
Lindenhurst, IL
Endodontic Program: Naval Postgraduate Dental School, Bethesda
Graduated: 6/30/2014
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomate?

Tony Robbins has written, "the secret to living is giving." For me, becoming Board Certified is a commitment to providing the highest quality service that I can, whether it is treating patients directly, educating other dentists or teaching those in the community.



Brent J. Winward
Benton, LA
Endodontic Program: Wilford Hall USAF Medical Center
Graduated: 6/30/2014
What does it mean to you to

be a Diplomate?

It means that I have reached a personal goal I set when I started my endodontic training. It was a long and challenging

Meet the New Diplomates

journey that was well worth the time and effort. It has been an honor to be associated with so many great professionals dedicated to excellence in endodontics. Thank you to all those that helped me achieve this goal!



Nathan J. Wonder
Irvine, CA
Endodontic Program: Naval Postgraduate Dental School, Bethesda
Graduated: 6/30/2010
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomat?

be a Diplomat?

For me becoming a Diplomat is the fulfillment of a promise; a promise to my mentors and my profession that I took the day I began my residency. With this honor comes an obligation to continue to contribute to the health of our profession and to help aspiring Diplomates. I would like to thank my mentors Drs. Patricia Tordik, Terry Webb, Carol Weber and John Allemang for their countless contributions to my professional development.

Nathan G. Woods
Leesville, LA
Endodontic Program: University of Iowa
Graduated: 6/30/2013

Maobin Yang
Philadelphia, PA
Endodontic Program: University of Connecticut
Graduated: 6/30/2012
What does it mean to you to be a Diplomat?



Becoming an ABE Diplomat is an important accomplishment in my academic career. The Board Certification process has been an invaluable learning experience, which will continue to help me to practice evidence-based endodontics, train future endodontists, advocate for our specialty and strive for excellence. I am truly grateful to my mentors and co-residents at UConn for their inspiration and encouragement, and also to my colleagues and my family

for their unconditional support.

Ross A. Yost
RAF
Lakenheath, United Kingdom
Endodontic Program: Keesler Medical Center
Graduated: 6/30/2014



What does it mean to you to be a Diplomat?

From the very start of my endodontic education, the goal of attaining Board Certification was an ever-present driving force that pushed me to gain a deeper and more comprehensive understanding of evidence-based practice in endodontics. Though becoming a Diplomat is a recognition of the highest achievement in our specialty, it is also the beginning of a life-long pursuit of top quality patient care, high ethical standards, and continued education. I feel much gratitude and so fortunate to have had the best educators and mentors, who were willing to invest the time and dedication to help me achieve this personal and professional goal. As a Diplomat, I know that it is now my responsibility to share what I have learned with others to help advance the highest standards of our specialty. I could not have put in the time and effort required for Board Certification without the unyielding support and understanding of my wife and children, of which I am so very grateful.

President's Message

graduate Program Directors in requesting questions for the Written Exam, so that the exam will accurately reflect the current topics covered in graduate endodontic programs.

Reducing the required number of cases in the Case History Portfolio Examination to a minimal but statistically meaningful number has made the Case History Exam more approachable. The types of cases are now specified, and some of the significant stumbling blocks have been removed, such as the requirement for a medically compromised patient. The Case History Exam has now also evolved to an electronic format, allowing online submission of the materials for a Candidate's portfolio. Four instructional videos have also been created to guide each Candidate through the preparation and submission process. Confirmation of receipt is communicated to the Candidate via an automatic e-mail response stating that the portfolio has been received, eliminating the anxiety that it might have been lost in shipping. This has also made evaluation of the portfolios more efficient as examiners no longer have to ship them along to the next examiner, allowing concurrent grading.

Although the Board often makes changes to improve the process of Board Certification, it continues to fulfill the guidelines established by the ADA regarding the recognition of dental specialties and maintains the high standards of excellence in the specialty of endodontics. All actions that have been taken by the Board in this regard have been focused on ensuring that our process is valid and that the rigorous nature of the exams is maintained.

The increased number of Candidates seeking Board Certification has necessitated some logistical changes by the Board as well. The current arrangement for the Oral Examination allows up to 120 Candidates during each exam cycle, using a large testing center specifically intended for this purpose. The participation of past ABE Directors in this process has allowed this goal to be accomplished in an efficient and nearly seamless transition. However, the increased amount of preparation required to offer the exams has led the Board to increase the number of Directors from the current nine members up to the maximum of twelve allowed by CDEL. Beginning in 2016, one additional Director will be elected each year for three years to bring

the size of the Board to twelve.

In a time when general dentists often advertise endodontic services, Board Certification can differentiate the endodontist from the general dentist in the eyes of the public. New and existing Diplomates alike should encourage our colleagues to pursue Board Certification to strengthen our specialty and secure our future. Participation in the College of Diplomates is an excellent way to become involved in this process. The mission of the College is to encourage educationally qualified individuals to pursue Diplomate status through advocacy and mentoring.

Certainly the responsibility to adapt and evolve the certification process falls upon the Board, but sharing your experiences with colleagues has served to reshape the image of the Board, the process, and ultimately the distinction of Board Certification. Thank you to all Diplomates for your role in our cultural shift.

During AAE 16 in San Francisco, the exciting new programming formats and top-notch educational sessions will take the forefront. In addition, a refreshed Boardwalk presentation will be offered, highlighting the most recent updates to the process and provide information for valuable resources along a Candidate's journey to Board Certification. As always, the Directors of the ABE will offer this presentation and be available to answer any questions that might arise from Candidates and graduate Program Directors alike. At this year's Grossman Ceremony, the Directors of the American Board of Endodontics will publicly recognize 79 new Diplomates who have demonstrated exceptional knowledge and technical skill in the specialty of endodontics. The recognition ceremony will again be followed by a reception sponsored by the College of Diplomates to celebrate the accomplishment of these individuals as well as provide an opportunity for all to learn more about the College, their educational events, and mentoring opportunities.

As I come to the conclusion of my tenure as a Director of the American Board of Endodontics and reflect back of the last six years, I feel a great amount of humility to have been allowed to serve our specialty in this capacity. It has truly been a privilege. Experiencing the passion, talent and collaborative efforts of the all of the sitting and past Directors of the ABE has been incredibly gratifying. We welcome

three new Directors this year, Drs. Brian Bergeron, Tom Mork, and Clara Spatafore. I wish them well and know that their experience as a Director of the ABE will be nothing short of rewarding.

In closing, I extend my sincere gratitude to our wonderful staff, COO Margie Hannen and Communications Director, Ivana Bevacqua for their hard work and dedication to our mission. Ms. Bevacqua has been critical in the launch of the digital portfolio as well as creating the instructional videos for that process. Ms. Hannen has been with the Board since 1998 and has overseen the journey of 759 Diplomates. She has been their guide and cheerleader. Her support of our mission as to certify Diplomates of the American Board of Endodontics is indispensable.



The Diplomat

American Board of Endodontics Newsletter

Editors: Dr. Scott McClanahan &

Dr. Cindy R. Rauschenberger

c/o The American Board of Endodontics

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