

## **COUNCIL ON ORTHODONTIC EDUCATION (COE)**

Our most recent meeting took place in October in St. Louis. BOT liaison, Dr. **Kendall Dillehay**, updated the Council on key BOT initiatives. The BOT approved formation of a Resident Champion Program for implementation and funding. This new program is designed to engage orthodontic residents and is a critical step toward maximizing AAO membership, loyalty and advocates. Each resident champion would receive an Annual Session travel stipend of \$500 beginning in 2018 and further be recognized with a name badge ribbon. All training programs now have advocates.

Another BOT recommendation included a comprehensive review of all Commission on Dental Accreditation (CODA) for Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics Standards. This was conducted by a committee appointed by the previous AAO President, Dr. **Dwayne McCamish**, to make recommendations for changes to insure that superior educational standards are maintained among all accredited orthodontic training programs. The committee included three COE and three SOE members, one ABO representative and one BOT representative. Discussions of the pertinent standards have been held among educators including members of AAO's delegation to the 2017 ADEA Annual Session, SOE and CODA staff members. Some important revisions to the CODA Accreditation Standards are being proposed for review and comment as they relate to Standard 2 considering minimum FTE per resident for clinic coverage. Currently, the standard states:

2.2 The number and time commitment of faculty must be sufficient to provide full supervision of the clinical portion of the program.

Resident:faculty ratios have been the focus of the committee discussions. The optimal FTE faculty is currently under review. There is no doubt that some programs may have many FTE's that are able to educate as well as programs with fewer FTE's. However, there can be little doubt that the program that is adequately staffed will provide the resident a greater opportunity to receive a well-rounded education in preparation for entering private practice and providing the very best of patient care.

Other recent COE activities included the 2017 American Board of Orthodontics sponsored Educator's Symposium, *Intelligently Adapting to Change*, honoring Dr. **Thomas Cangialosi** which was held November 17-18, 2017, in St. Louis. The prevailing opinion among the educators is that board certification is necessary and increasing the percentage of board certified orthodontists is an imperative. The Board is considering revisions to the clinical examination as well as certificate renewal options. Scenario based testing is one several options under consideration.

Mark your calendars for 2018 **Rolf G. Behrent's** Educational Leadership Conference of the Society of Orthodontic Educators (SOE) on Friday, May 4, 2018, in Washington, D.C. Hope to see many of you there!

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