A Member Board of the American Board of Medical Specialties

4555 Forest Park Boulevard, Suite 119 • St. Louis, Missouri 63108-2173 • Telephone: (314) 367-2225 • E-mail: abnm@abnm.org • Website: www.abnm.org

## **Message from the Executive Director**

2016 Financial Report



George M. Segall, M.D.

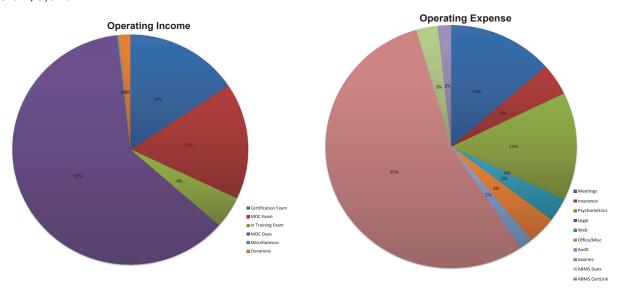
Executive Director. ABNM

The ABNM fiscal year is January 1 through December 31. A full audit is conducted every two years by a certified public accounting firm, UHY. The firm conducts a less extensive financial review in alternate years. In 2016, UHY reviewed ABNM's financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2015. The report dated July 7, 2016, concluded, "We are not aware of any material modifications that should be made to the accompanying financial statements in order for them to be in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America." The firm noted total assets of \$3,142,634, with an increase of \$19,314 compared to the prior year.

The United States Income Tax Return, Form 990, filed by all non-profit organizations, is publically available. There are many websites that provide free access to the tax returns, including the returns filed by the ABNM. One such website is:

http://foundationcenter.org/find-funding/990-finder

The ABNM started 2016 with a budget of \$828,156 in operating income and \$826,211 in expenses. At the end of the year, total non-investment income was \$881,409. Operating expense was \$877,363. The ABNM ended the year with a net income of \$5.046.



A break down of the major income and expense categories for 2016 is shown in the following diagrams.

The largest percentage of income (62%) is derived from Maintenance of Certification (MOC) annual dues. Annual dues were \$150 when they were instituted in 2007. They were increased to \$175 in 2010. The dues were increased to \$400 in 2012, partially to offset the fee paid by diplomates for the MOC examination. As a result, the MOC exam fee, which was \$2,050 in 2011, has been decreased by \$205 per year. The 2017 exam fee will be \$820. It will be phased out completely in 2021. The same decreasing fee schedule will be used for diplomates participating in CertLink™, a new longitudinal learning and self-assessment program being offered in 2018 as an alternative to the MOC exam.



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## Message from the Executive Director - continued

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The largest expense is salary for six employees, including the Executive Director (0.25 FTEE), Associate Executive Director (0.25 FTEE), Administrator, Data Analyst, and two Secretaries. The percentage of expense for salary has decreased from 58% in 2011 to 55% in 2016. ABNM operations and exam production is handled by ABNM staff in St. Louis and directors located throughout the United States using email and conference calls. The ABNM also meets twice a year. These two meetings account for 13% of expenses. The ABNM is one of 24 member boards of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS). ABMS membership dues account for 14% of expenses.

The ABNM has \$2.25 million in an investment portfolio as of December 31, 2016, which is managed by Wells Fargo Advisors. The value of the portfolio increased 6.4% since December 31, 2015. The investment portfolio is the ABNM's reserve fund for unexpected financial difficulties, and major new initiatives.

The 2017 budget is balanced, with expected income and expense of \$875,970. The ABNM is financially robust, but maintaining a balanced operating budget is becoming more challenging. The ABNM has not increased annual MOC dues of \$400 since 2012, or the initial certification exam fee of \$2400 since 2009. The MOC exam fee has been decreasing by \$205 each year, and will be zero in 2021. At the same time, expenses have been steadily increasing due to inflation. The ABNM plans to meet the financial challenges in 2017-2021 by increasing diplomate participation in Maintenance of Certification by making it easier and more valuable with new programs