



## Chairman's Message

### Report from the 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Board Meeting



**Eric M. Rohren, M.D., Ph.D.**  
*Chairman, ABNM*

The ABNM recently had its summer meeting, the 89th meeting of the Board since its incorporation in 1971. Dr. Frey has completed his term, and I have assumed the position of Chair for the 2013 term. Although one of the important functions of the Board is the design and administration of the three examinations (In-Training Examination, Certifying Examination, Maintenance of Certification Examination), the Board is increasingly involved in programs designed to assist diplomates in their maintenance of certification efforts.

A guest at this year's meeting was Dr. Lois Nora, the President and CEO of the American Board of Medical Specialties (ABMS). The Board had an opportunity to discuss with Dr. Nora her vision for the ABMS going forward. The MOC program continues to be at the center of the ABMS roadmap, and the ABNM is committed to aiding our diplomates through a new website and web-based portal under development. One exciting trend is toward allowing the individual member boards more autonomy in the development and administration of MOC efforts by diplomates. The Board was able to discuss this with Dr. Nora, and exchange ideas for Nuclear Medicine MOC efforts in the future.

The Board is working on ways to streamline and automate as much as possible the documentation of CME hours, including credits awarded for self assessment modules (SAMs). The Board is also investigating ways to foster practice performance assessment (PPA) projects, which could be developed internally, developed in collaboration with other boards, or developed externally by societies such as the Society of Nuclear Medicine and Molecular Imaging and accepted by the ABNM. Dr. Nora was very receptive to the thoughts and ideas of the Board, and was supportive of its efforts to initiate and carry through these projects.

In answer to some of the challenges and burdens facing the Boards and their diplomates, the ABNM is exploring ways to collaborate and partner with other ABMS member boards to find efficiencies and synergies, and to avoid duplication of efforts. One example is the development of a Patient Safety Module, which has been recommended as a dedicated MOC learning activity by the ABMS. The ABNM, with Dr. Frey in the lead, is tailoring a Patient Safety module originally developed by the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology that will satisfy the Patient Safety requirement, and yield SAM credits to the participants. The ABNM is also working with the American Board of Radiology to identify areas of overlap and alignment in our operational and strategic initiatives, so that the two boards can work more closely together on issues pertaining to MOC and beyond.

Our new website is under development, and should be going live soon! An updated portal is needed, with access to MOC information, updates on board activities, and important links to resources around the web.

I hope you enjoy this issue of Tracers. As you will see in the articles that follow, MOC continues to occupy a large part of everyone's efforts and attention. Although the requirements of MOC may at times seem burdensome, at their core is the goal of ensuring and fostering quality care.