

Board News

Paul R. Young, M.D.

Board of Directors

At its annual meeting in April, the Board of Directors elected 3 new members to replace those whose term had expired. Retiring from the Board were Dr. Harmon Holverson of Emmett, Idaho; Dr. Janet Realini of San Antonio, Texas; and Dr. George Sturtz of Watertown, New York. Replacing Drs. Holverson and Realini are Dr. James Shetlar of Frankenmuth, Michigan, and Dr. Michael Hagen of Lexington, Kentucky. From the American Board of Pediatrics, Dr. Thomas L.W. Roe of Eugene, Oregon, was elected. All directors serve a 5-year term and are not eligible for re-election.

The new officers of the Board include Dr. Charles Smith of Little Rock, Arkansas, President; Dr. Joe Johnston of Mount Olive, Mississippi, Vice-President; Dr. Howard Rabinowitz of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Treasurer; and Dr. Kenneth Frederick of Cincinnati, Ohio, Executive Committee Member-at-Large.

Sports Medicine

The ABFP, along with the American Board of Internal Medicine, the American Board of Pediatrics, and the American Board of Emergency Medicine, will offer an examination to qualify for

a Certificate of Added Qualifications in Sports Medicine in 1993. The process of test development is underway. There will be practice eligibility available for at least 5 years from 1993. After that time, eligibility will be limited to those who have completed an accredited sports medicine fellowship.

Accelerated Residency

With the cooperation of the ABFP, the Department of Family Practice at the University of Kentucky has developed and implemented an experimental program in graduate training. This program allows selected 4th-year medical students to complete their requirement for graduation from medical school by completing the curriculum for the first year of family practice residency. If the student performs satisfactorily and receives the M.D. degree, he or she may enter the 2nd year of residency and be eligible for certification after 2 years of postgraduate training in that program.

The results of the experimental program were found sufficiently favorable to expand the program to other institutions who might be interested. At this writing, the other institutions have not yet been selected. The Board intends to limit the number of programs to approximately ten. This program has also been accepted by the American Board of Internal Medicine and is currently being considered by the American Board of Pediatrics.

The objectives of the program are to make better use of the 4th year of medical school for those who are prepared to accept the challenge of clinical responsibility and to decrease the duration and thus the cost of formal graduate medical education. These programs bear close observation and evaluation. If successful, accelerated residency may help to clarify the interface between undergraduate and graduate medical education. This program also represents a rare opportunity for the Boards to influence undergraduate medical education.



Dr. Charles Smith