The ARBO Board of Directors and Staff are saddened by the loss of Dr. Kenneth Lawenda who passed away on April 16, 2023, after a battle with pancreatic cancer. Dr. Lawenda was elected to the ARBO Board of Directors in 2021 and was serving as Secretary-Treasurer this year. He was actively involved with ARBO for many years, serving on the COPE Governing Committee, Judicial Council/Resolutions Committee, OE TRACKER Committee, and CELMO Committee.

Dr. Lawenda graduated from Southern California College of Optometry and practiced optometry for nearly 40 years in Beverly Hills, California. During this time, he was active in the California Optometric Association, where he served as President. He also served for eight years on the California Board of Optometry. Dr. Lawenda relocated to British Columbia, Canada, and served on the British Columbia College of Optometrists for two years. He eventually moved to Montreal, Canada, and started practicing in Vermont. He served on the Vermont Board of Optometry since 2016 and was a member of the Vermont Optometric Association. Dr. Lawenda was active in the American Optometric Association and volunteered on several committees where he worked on the Federal Level with Legislators in Washington DC, discussing eye-care related issues that had state and national implications.

A respected clinician and leader, Dr. Lawenda leaves behind a legacy of contributions to ARBO and the profession of optometry. His involvement in various state and national organizations gave him vast experience in legislative and regulatory issues in the profession of optometry. Dr. Lawenda’s years of service to the profession connected him with a multitude of people from differing backgrounds, and his network of colleagues enabled him to be a unifier when dealing with challenging issues. His background in leadership positions provided him with the insight that the main concern of regulators should always be to protect the public’s health and welfare, and he worked hard to spread this message throughout the optometric community.

Dr. Lawenda was passionate about continuing education and lifelong learning. He loved music and photography and often shared stories and photos from his travels on social media. He leaves behind a legacy of contributions to ARBO and optometry and many in the profession will miss him greatly. He leaves behind his beloved wife Myrna Harrison, son Brian Lawenda and daughter Karen Lawenda, grandchildren Alexis Tahlia and Ronin Harrison, and sister Marilyn Lawenda.

Contributions in his memory may be made to the “Ken Lawenda Memorial Fund” c/o the Jewish General Hospital Foundation, (514) 340-8251, or http://secure.jghfoundation.org/goto/Kenneth_Lawenda

Here are some thoughts about Dr. Lawenda from people who worked with him at ARBO and COPE:

“I had the pleasure of working closely with Ken over the past 3 years as members of the COPE Committee and the ARBO Board of Directors. Ken often volunteered for assignments that were very time consuming and his opinions were well thought out before he would speak. His knowledge, passion and expertise cannot be replaced. I will miss him.” Jeff Yunker, ARBO Vice President. (Continued on page 2)
Dear ARBO, as I finish up my time as President, I would like to express my gratitude to all member boards for their support and guidance as we move forward to improve how we can protect the public. I am thankful to all of you that have volunteered to be on our committees.

We have had great success with our COPE committee with your help and the contributions from ASCO and Academy. The changes they have made with synchronous and asynchronous CE, and remaining ACCME equivalent, keeps our accredited CE at the highest level while providing you flexibility for licensees.

OE TRACKER is making it even easier for all licensees to submit, track and plan for their CE requirements. The new dashboard makes it easy for Member Boards to see in a glance how your licensed professionals are doing on their requirements for continued licensure. Our staff is always ready to help you with either full auditing of your licensing pool or using OE TRACKER at CE events.

We have also put together a model practice act that we will be unveiling at our annual meeting. Thanks to those who helped. Hopefully this will help all the boards with a starting point when there are enhancements to your practice act.

I would like to thank our great ARBO staff for helping use run ARBO and all it’s programs. They do a great job and are very helpful with getting COPE and OE TRACKER questions answered quickly.

Lastly, I would like to thank the many ARBO Board members that have helped move us forward. We work well together and are only ever worried about helping you fulfill your many obligations as a licensing Board in protecting the public.

We lost a great ARBO member this year. Ken Lawenda was a great friend with extensive experience and knowledge in the world of Optometry. He would always volunteer no matter how busy his schedule. He worked tirelessly in all his endeavors. He will be greatly missed by myself and ARBO. I am grateful that I had the privilege of knowing Ken and working with him.

Finally, I would like to request that if any of you would like to help keep ARBO moving forward, to please volunteer for a committee. We will need great Board members in the future and getting involved early will help you become more knowledgeable and prepared to be a Board member. It takes some time and effort, but it is very rewarding and you get to work with some of the best people.

Thanks again for the opportunity of serving on the ARBO Board.

(Continued from page 1) Thoughts about Dr. Lawenda from people who worked with him at ARBO and COPE:

“Ken never seemed to tire of using his experience and skills for the betterment of patient care. He would often roll up his sleeves to take on tasks that consumed a lot of time and energy”. Jim Campbell, OD, ARBO Board Member and Past President.

“In respect to my service with Dr. Lawenda in both the California State Board of Optometry and ARBO: Dr. Lawenda was a tremendous leader in optometry. He knew how to listen to others and take their opinions into account. Ultimately, he would lead towards the actions that best protected patients. Dr. Lawenda led positive changes in optometry with grace.” Glenn Kawaguchi, OD, ARBO Board Member.

“We share a tremendous loss with the passing of Ken. He was a friend, respected colleague, a leader in many of our profession’s stakeholder organizations, and a reliable voice for advancing optometry. Unquestionably, he was a staunch advocate for service to the profession. With his involvement in COPE, he expressed loyalty to uphold the highest standards for optometric continuing education. He will be missed.” Brett Bence, OD, FAAO, COPE Governing Committee Chair.
Spring is here, and it’s hard to believe that our annual meeting is right around the corner. ARBO’s 2023 Annual Meeting is taking place at the Hilton Old Town Hotel in Alexandria, Virginia, on June 18-20. Hopefully, you’ve already made your plans to attend the meeting. The planning committee has developed a very informative meeting agenda with topics that we heard you wanted to discuss. You can check out the meeting agenda on page 5 for more information.

Our committees have been working hard this year. The COPE Governing Committee presented several posters, implemented the new synchronous and asynchronous formats, and are looking at how to incorporate DEI into accredited CE. The OE TRACKER Committee has continued outreach to promote the importance of 100% audit and to increase utilization of the OE TRACKER mobile app. The Model Practice Act Task Force has drafted a model act for optometry that will be introduced at the annual meeting.

Our staff have also been extremely busy as usual working with our committees and preparing for the annual meeting. Hopefully you’ll be able to meet some of them in Alexandria. We are also spending a great deal of time keeping up with all of the spring CE activities. COPE course and activity submissions have continued to increase and OE TRACKER is being used by more member Boards, CE Providers, and optometrists than ever before.

Also, just a reminder, if you haven’t sent me your Board report yet, please make sure to send it by May 12th. It’s important to give an update on the activities of your jurisdiction, even if you’re not able to come to the meeting. I’m looking forward to seeing you all in June!

I’d also like to say a few words about Dr. Ken Lawenda, ARBO’s Secretary Treasurer, who recently passed away. Ken was a dedicated volunteer and he was also a good friend. He was one of the kindest, most genuine people I’ve ever known. He was a deep thinker and a leader and he leaves behind a legacy of accomplishments at ARBO and within the profession of optometry. He was one of a kind and I will miss him greatly!

OE TRACKER Reaches 7 Million Courses!

ARBO’s OE TRACKER database has reached a major milestone. As of April 2023, over 7.3 million individual CE courses have been uploaded into OE TRACKER. Designed to assist ARBO’s Member Licensing Boards with verification of continuing education hours for license renewal purposes, OE TRACKER also aids optometrists in tracking their CE hours, licensing Board requirements, and their progress towards meeting the requirements.

OE TRACKER can be used by optometrists and ARBO’s Member Boards to electronically track, report, and audit CE hours. Attendance data is often supplied directly to ARBO by CE providers, but optometrists can also submit CE certificates through the mobile app or the website to have the hours added to their OE TRACKER account. Currently, there are over 63,000 active optometrists in the OE TRACKER database who are licensed in the US and Canada and 97% of them have CE data in their accounts.

Optometrists can log into their OE TRACKER account through the mobile app or online at www.arbo.org to view a history of the CE courses they have attended. When they log in online, they can also use the CE Analysis feature to view the CE requirements in all jurisdictions where they are licensed and view their progress towards meeting the requirements in the current renewal period. Plans are in place to add the CE analysis function to the OE TRACKER mobile app this summer.

ARBO’s Member Boards use OE TRACKER to electronically review and audit the CE credits earned by their licensees, allowing them to quickly and easily perform a CE audit. Some of ARBO’s Member Boards have set up an automatic transfer of data from OE TRACKER, so when an optometrist applies to renew their license, the CE credits are automatically transferred to the Board’s electronic licensing program which streamlines and speeds up the license renewal process. ARBO performs the CE audit for other Member Boards and provides a compliance report so the Boards can quickly and easily see who has met their requirements and who hasn’t.

For more information on how OE TRACKER can assist you in your license renewal process, or to arrange for someone from ARBO to come and speak to your Board about OE TRACKER, please contact Lisa Fennell, ARBO Executive Director at LFennell@arbo.org.
ARBO 2023 Call for Nominations for the Board of Directors

In accordance with ARBO’s Bylaws, the Board of Directors has appointed a Nominating Committee consisting of the following individuals:

- Carey Patrick, OD, Chair (TX)
- Joan Hansen, OD (BC)
- Daniel Hennessey, OD (AR)
- Mariah Smith, OD (NV)
- Patrick O’Neill, OD, Board Liaison
- Coby Ramsey, OD, Ex-officio

There are three positions that will be open on the ARBO Board of Directors this year.

1. **One 4-year term**—Dr. James Campbell is completing his second term. Not eligible for re-election.
2. **One 4-year term**—Ms. Margaret Whelan has served a partial one-year term. She is now eligible for a full 4-year term and is intending to run. (The person elected must be a Member Board Executive.)
3. **One 2-year partial term**—Dr. Kenneth Lawenda unfortunately passed away before completing his first term. There are two years left on his term. The person elected will be eligible to serve two full 4-year terms after the partial term is completed.

Any Board Member or Member Board Executive of an active ARBO Member Board wishing to be considered by the Nominating Committee for service on the ARBO Board of Directors shall send a letter of intention and a current CV, to Ms. Lisa Fennell, Executive Director, at lfennell@arbo.org by May 8, 2023. The Nominating Committee will be holding virtual interviews with all the candidates prior to the annual member meeting in June.

ARBO 2023 Call for Resolutions

In accordance with the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO) Bylaws, the 2023 Judicial Council/Resolutions Committee has been established. The committee consists of the following individuals:

- Dr. Linda Tharp (TN), Chair
- Dr. Robert Easton, Jr. (FL)
- Mark Jinkins (WI)
- Dr. Daniella Rutner (NY)
- Dr. Terri Haley, ID, Board Liaison
- Dr. Coby Ramsey, Ex-officio

Please submit any proposed resolution for the Resolutions Committee to consider by sending them to Ms. Lisa Fennell, ARBO Executive Director, at lfennell@arbo.org, by May 10, 2023. The committee will consider proposed resolutions referred to it by any active member board, any voting delegate, or the Board of Directors that are submitted in advance of the annual meeting. Only resolutions considered to be of an urgent nature will be accepted during the meeting. The committee will report all proposed resolutions which it has approved to the House of Delegates at the annual meeting for consideration.
Join Us for the 2023 ARBO Annual Meeting in Alexandria, Virginia!

Meeting Information

ARBO’s 104th Annual Meeting will be held at The Hilton Old Town Hotel in Alexandria, Virginia from June 18–20, 2023. Located in historic Old Town Alexandria, it is one of the most convenient hotels in Alexandria for travelers visiting Washington, DC. Members and staff of the Regulatory Boards of Optometry in the US, Canada, Australia and New Zealand are invited to attend this important meeting to discuss current regulatory issues.

The theme of the meeting this year is “Regulation: The Long and Winding Road.” The ARBO Annual Meeting provides a forum for keeping up-to-date with regulatory issues. This is a great opportunity to interact with your regulatory colleagues, discussing hot topics and shared concerns in the regulatory community. You definitely won’t want to miss this meeting!

Registration Fee: $550 for Delegates, $650 for Observers. To register, please visit our website: https://www.arbo.org/meetings/2023

Hotel Information

Hilton Old Town Alexandria Hotel
1767 King Street
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Phone: (703) 837-0440

Location
Explore two cities in one trip – Alexandria & Washington D.C. Located on vibrant King Street; it’s just a quick stroll to enjoy the boutique shops, waterfront restaurants and unique architecture of Old Town Alexandria. The King Street Metro Station is across the street, providing easy access to Washington D.C. and Reagan National Airport.

Group Room Rate
$189.00 (plus taxes and fees) per night (single/double). Hotel reservations can be made through the ARBO website or by calling 703-837-0440 and giving the code ARB. Room reservations must be made by May 26, 2023, in order to take advantage of the group rate.

Travel Assistance Available For the Annual Meeting

If your Board has restricted travel allowances and you require additional support in order to attend, please let us know. ARBO is offering financial support for the 2023 Annual Meeting.

$1,000 Travel Stipend: Travel stipends are available for Board Members and Staff of Boards that do not cover 100% of your travel expenses. A limited number of stipends are available and they will be rewarded on a first come first served basis (up to $1,000 per jurisdiction).

To apply for the travel stipend or scholarship please fill out the attached travel support request application and email it to Ron Cassel at rcassel@arbo.org or fax to 888-703-4848 by May 22, 2023.
ARBO 2023 Annual Meeting Travel Support Request Application

Please fill out this application and email it to Ron Cassel at rcassel@arbo.org or fax to 888-703-4848 by May 22, 2023.

_____ I would like to apply for the ARBO $1,000 Travel Stipend. My Board does not cover 100% of my travel expenses to come to the ARBO Annual Meeting and I plan to attend all three days of the ARBO Annual Meeting (Sunday, Monday and Tuesday morning).

ARBO Member Jurisdiction Represented:__________________________________________________________

Date of Application: __________________________________________________________________________

Delegate Name: ______________________________________________________________________________

Email: ________________________________________________________________________________________

Phone #: ______________________________________________________________________________________

After your attendance has verified at the meeting you will be sent a check. Please provide the address where you would like your check sent.

___________________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________________

### ARBO Annual Meeting Agenda *(Session Times and Topics Subject to Change)*

#### SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Registration and Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Call to Order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Welcome to Virginia</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Statement of Quorum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- President’s Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Executive Director’s Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Secretary Treasurer’s Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Nominating Committee Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Regulatory Board Best Practices</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15 am</td>
<td>Member Exchange of Information Session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15-1:15 pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:15 pm</td>
<td>National Board Exam Review Committee Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 pm</td>
<td>National Board of Examiners in Optometry Update</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>Introducing ARBO’s Model Practice Act for Optometry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00 pm</td>
<td>Breakout Sessions:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- OE TRACKER Report and Demonstration</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- COPE Report and CE Planning Q&amp;A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:15 pm</td>
<td>License Mobility and Portability</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:45 pm</td>
<td>Meet the Board of Directors Nominees</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00-7:00 pm</td>
<td>President’s Reception</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### MONDAY, JUNE 19, 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Registration and Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Call to Order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Statement of Quorum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Finance Committee Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Judicial Council/Resolutions Committee Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Regulatory Legal Update</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 am</td>
<td>Update on the New NBEO Part 3 PEPS Exam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:15 am</td>
<td>Telehealth Trends and Advancements</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30-1:30 pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 pm</td>
<td>State Legislative Update</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:15 pm</td>
<td>Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in Optometry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:15 pm</td>
<td>Afternoon Workshops:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Regulatory Roundup with Dale Atkinson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- A Deep Dive into the Licensing Exams with NBEO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:15 pm</td>
<td>Recess</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2023

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Call to Order</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Statement of Quorum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>- Adoption of 2024 Budget</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:45 am</td>
<td>ARBO Board of Directors Election:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:15 am</td>
<td>Final Resolutions Committee Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Regulation in the News</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 am</td>
<td>New Technologies in Optometry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 am</td>
<td>Introduction of 2023-2024 ARBO Officers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:45 am</td>
<td>ARBO Member Survey</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 pm</td>
<td>Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE) Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15 pm</td>
<td>Old Business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:20 pm</td>
<td>New Business</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 pm</td>
<td>Adjourn</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

*Washington DC is a short Metro ride away from the ARBO annual meeting hotel.*

---

Join Us For Future ARBO Annual Meetings:
- June 16-18, 2024 in Nashville, Tennessee
- June 22-24, 2025 in Minneapolis, Minnesota
Members of the COPE Governing Committee presented a research poster at the Alliance for Continuing Education in Health Professions’ February 2023 meeting in National Harbor, Maryland. The poster, titled “Addressing Access to CE Through Accreditation Policies” highlights COPE’s extensive research over the past few years into how CE format impacts learning outcomes and the data/feedback that ultimately led to the committee’s decision to update its course formats to Synchronous and Asynchronous.

Future opportunities for continued research into the evolution of CE delivery were also highlighted. The poster received a great deal of foot traffic and a variety of questions/comments from both health care CE providers and other US health care education accreditors.

ARBO Regulatory Webinars

ARBO has introduced a new member benefit, regulatory webinars. ARBO’s Member Boards are invited to attend the ARBO Happy Hour regulatory webinars held the third Tuesday of every other month. The Regulatory Happy Hours cover current information relevant to optometry regulation and ARBO programs and services. The sessions are interactive and are open for all of ARBO’s member regulatory Board members, Board staff, and Board attorneys to attend. You won’t want to miss these exciting opportunities to engage with your peers and exchange valuable regulatory information.

The next ARBO Happy Hour will be on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 8:00 pm ET / 7:00 pm CT / 6:00 pm MT / 5:00 pm PT. The topic of the May webinar is: An Update on the New NBEO Part III Exam. Dr. Jill Bryant, NBEO Executive Director will be giving an update on the development of the new Patient Encounters and Performance Skills Exam. We hope to see you there!

To register or for more information about ARBO’s Regulatory Happy Hours, please go to our website: https://www.arbo.org/regulatory-webinars. The Regulatory Happy Hours are complimentary for ARBO’s members. A Zoom link for the webinars will be sent out approximately one week prior to the date of the webinar to all who register on our website.

ARBO Regulatory Webinars

ARBO has introduced a new member benefit, regulatory webinars. ARBO’s Member Boards are invited to attend the ARBO Happy Hour regulatory webinars held the third Tuesday of every other month. The Regulatory Happy Hours cover current information relevant to optometry regulation and ARBO programs and services. The sessions are interactive and are open for all of ARBO’s member regulatory Board members, Board staff, and Board attorneys to attend. You won’t want to miss these exciting opportunities to engage with your peers and exchange valuable regulatory information.

The next ARBO Happy Hour will be on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 at 8:00 pm ET / 7:00 pm CT / 6:00 pm MT / 5:00 pm PT. The topic of the May webinar is: An Update on the New NBEO Part III Exam. Dr. Jill Bryant, NBEO Executive Director will be giving an update on the development of the new Patient Encounters and Performance Skills Exam. We hope to see you there!

To register or for more information about ARBO’s Regulatory Happy Hours, please go to our website: https://www.arbo.org/regulatory-webinars. The Regulatory Happy Hours are complimentary for ARBO’s members. A Zoom link for the webinars will be sent out approximately one week prior to the date of the webinar to all who register on our website.
COPE Updates Course Formats to Synchronous and Asynchronous

Over the past few years, the COPE Governing Committee has completed a thorough review of COPE’s course format options and the effectiveness of these formats within optometry and the healthcare continuing education system. The committee also completed an extensive literature review and research into CE/CME formats in numerous healthcare professions. Based on these efforts, COPE made the determination that the overall quality of continuing education is more important than the location of the course. Continuing education delivery methods changed during the pandemic, and technology now allows for immediate interaction with a course instructor regardless of learners being present in the same room.

In February 2022, COPE proposed updating its course formats to Synchronous and Asynchronous to align with modern educational terminology. The new COPE Synchronous In-Person, Synchronous Virtual, and Asynchronous formats were implemented on January 1, 2023. To prepare for this change, COPE created a webpage dedicated to the new formats that includes the following: COPE Synchronous/Asynchronous Format Chart (including definitions and examples), Attendance Monitoring and Outcomes Measurement Guide (includes definitions and examples) and a COPE Format FAQ. Please visit New COPE Format Info to view all information regarding COPE’s Synchronous and Asynchronous formats or contact Sierra Powell at spowell@arbo.org.

**2023 COPE Course Formats**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NEW COURSE FORMAT</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION</th>
<th>EXAMPLES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SYNCHRONOUS IN-PERSON FORMERLY “LIVE”</td>
<td>INTERACTIVE CONTINUING EDUCATION For Synchronous In-Person and Virtual: Lecturer and learner are together at the same time Real time communication between the instructor and the learner Learners can receive immediate feedback Fixed schedule; learning takes place only once at a specific date and time</td>
<td>SYNCHRONOUS IN-PERSON: -Face-to-face -Hands on workshop -Interactive posters with authors presenting in real time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SYNCHRONOUS VIRTUAL FORMERLY “INTERACTIVE DISTANCE LEARNING”</td>
<td>*NOTE: Post-course tests will NOT be required for courses presented in a synchronous format unless the course is for CEE credit. See CEE definition below.</td>
<td>SYNCHRONOUS VIRTUAL: -Interactive webinars in real time -Videoconferences -Interactive posters with authors presenting in real time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ASYNCHRONOUS FORMERLY “ENDURING DISTANCE LEARNING”</td>
<td>NON-INTERACTIVE CONTINUING EDUCATION Lecturer and learner are not together at the same time No real time communication between the instructor and the learner Learners do not receive immediate feedback Content is created and made available for attendance at a later date No fixed schedule, learner-paced</td>
<td>Recorded webinar without instructor interaction Journal article Webcast/podcast</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*NOTE: Post-course tests will be required for ALL courses presented in an asynchronous format.*
News From the NBEO

The National Board of Examiners in Optometry® (NBEO®) expresses sincere appreciation to all who assisted us in advancing the assessment of optometric competency over the last year. We are committed to public protection through the development, administration, scoring, and reporting of examinations that reflect contemporary optometry. Please review the following key updates and organizational announcements.

**New Part III PEPS Examination Launch Date Expected by Year-End**

NBEO has made substantial progress towards the development of the new Part III exam, known as the Part III PEPS (Patient Encounters and Performance Skills) examination, which will replace the current Part III CSE (Clinical Skills Examination) once it goes live. The NBEO licensure examination consists of three parts. The revised Part III exam format will complement the Part I ABS® (Applied Basic Science) and Part II PAM/TMOD® (Patient Assessment & Management / Treatment and Management of Ocular Disease) exams in assessing a candidate’s competency for initial licensure for the independent practice of optometry.

NBEO has worked with a diverse range of subject matter experts at every step of examination development. Contractors completed renovations last summer to add new examination rooms to the National Center of Clinical Testing in Optometry (NCCTO®) in preparation for the new Part III PEPS examination. Currently, we are focused on software development, expansion of our scenario databank, and pilot testing. We are excited for the continued progress and expect to announce before the end of the year the launch date for Part III PEPS.

**Part III PEPS: Current Priorities**

[NCTO Construction](#) [Software Development](#) [Scenario Databank Expansion](#) [Development Resources](#) [Pilot Testing](#) [Announce Launch Date](#)

**NBEO Board of Directors – Public Member**

As you may know, the NBEO Board of Directors is composed of eight (8) members, including one public member. Four of the members are nominated by the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO). Three of the members are nominated by the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO). One member is a public member. Each board member serves a term of four years and is eligible to serve two terms. The current public member on the NBEO Board will be completing his second term on December 31, 2023. Thus, NBEO is beginning to search for its new public member. If you know someone who may be interested in being considered for the public member board seat, please contact Dr. Jill Bryant, NBEO Executive Director at jill.bryant@optometry.org. More information will be shared at the ARBO Annual Meeting in June.
New Part I ABS® Practice Items Databank Now Available, Part II PAM/TMOD® Practice Items Databank Expected Fall 2023

We are excited to announce that Part I ABS candidates now have a new subscription-based, online tool to help prepare for the Part I ABS examination. This tool allows candidates access to NBEO Part I ABS items that are no longer being used. Candidates may select from items based on examination content or may complete an entire examination session (total of 185 items).

With the purchase of a one-month subscription, candidates have unlimited access to items in the Part I ABS Practice Items Databank for one month. Candidates may subscribe to the new Part I ABS Practice Items Databank after registering for the Part I ABS examination.

In the fall of 2023, NBEO is planning to make available a Part II PAM/TMOD Practice Items Databank to Part II PAM/TMOD candidates through the same online tool and at the same cost. More information will be provided on our website as the date nears.

Laser and Surgical Procedures Examination (LSPE®)

There has been a steady increase in the number of candidates registering for the Laser and Surgical Procedures Examination (LSPE®), which is designed to assess optometric cognitive and technical ability to appropriately manage and perform laser and surgical procedures. Administered at the NCCTO, LSPE is the only nationally standardized examination of its kind, measuring competency in laser and surgical skills, decision-making, and patient management. It is a stand-alone, elective examination containing both laser and surgical sections. Each of these sections includes a performance of clinical skills and computer-based multiple-choice items.

LSPE will be entering its fifth administrative year beginning in August 2023. Registration is open to 4th-year optometric students, optometric residents, and optometric practitioners. Candidates may register to take LSPE in its entirety or have the option to take the laser or surgical sections separately as needed. For more information on LSPE, please visit our website: https://www.optometry.org/exams/lspe.
If you are interested in volunteering to serve on an ARBO committee for the 2023-2024 administrative year, please list the committee(s) that interest you below in order of preference. A list of current committees is shown on the next page. The Board of Directors will be making committee appointments after the annual meeting and volunteers will be notified of appointments in late summer of 2023. The Directors attempt to have all committees regionally balanced; therefore, you may or may not be selected to serve depending on a variety of circumstances.

I would like to be considered for the following ARBO Committee(s) for 2023-2024:

1. ________________________________________________

2. ________________________________________________

3. ________________________________________________

Your Jurisdiction: __________________________________

Name: _____________________________________________

Address: ___________________________________________

Mobile Phone: ________________________________

Email Address: ___________________________________

Expiration of Your Board Term: ________________________

Please complete and return to Lisa Fennell, ARBO Executive Director at lfennell@arbo.org or fax to 888-703-4848.
Volunteer for an ARBO Committee

**ARBO Committees**

**Bylaws Committee**
This committee reviews the ARBO Bylaws to recommend changes to be voted upon at the following year’s Annual Meeting.

**Contemporary Issues Committee**
This committee researches and gathers information on contemporary issues in optometry and reports their findings and recommendations to the House of Delegates at the ARBO Annual Meeting.

**Council on Endorsed Licensure Mobility for Optometrists (CELMO)**
This committee develops and implements policy/programs for a license mobility vehicle by which state optometry boards can address the difficult task and burden of how to deal with the issue of licensure by endorsement in a uniform and consistent manner.

**Council on Optometric Practitioner Education (COPE)**
COPE’s primary purpose is to administer a centralized, uniform CE accreditation process. The COPE Committee also oversees the implementation of guidelines for selecting and monitoring course reviewers, evaluates the requirements for course qualification and CE administrator approval, conducts periodic quality assessment reviews, and continuously refines the policy and procedures for the functioning of COPE.

**International Affairs Committee**
This committee seeks and encourages international membership in ARBO and maintains reciprocal relations with other international organizations. The International Committee gathers information relating to licensing and regulatory boards of optometry in all jurisdictions of the world, and recommends methods to establish and maintain reciprocal relations among them.

**Judicial Council/Resolutions Committee**
The Judicial Council’s purpose is to review and approve all resolutions passed by the ARBO House of Delegates and is charged with reporting its deliberations to the President. After the resolutions review is complete, the Judicial Council is renamed the Resolutions Committee and is then charged with reviewing and screening resolutions for appropriateness when they are submitted to the House of Delegates for adoption at the Annual Meeting.

**Member Board Executive Committee**
The purpose of the Member Board Executive Directors/Administrators Committee is to develop content for inclusion at the Annual Meeting for the benefit and education of Member Board Executive Directors/Administrators and staff.

**National Board Examination Review Committee (NBERC)**
The role of this committee is to review the content of the examinations developed and administered by the National Board of Examiners in Optometry. The committee presents a report to the NBEO and to the House of Delegates at the ARBO Annual Meeting with recommendations on how examinations may be improved to meet optometry board needs.

**Nominating Committee**
The Nominating Committee’s purpose is to make a report at the Annual Meeting of the names selected for vacant directorships of ARBO and the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education. The committee accepts names for nomination before and during the Annual Meeting. The committee reviews pertinent information regarding candidates, conducts an interview process, and presents a slate of nominees to the voting delegates at the Annual Meeting.

**OE TRACKER Committee**
This Committee oversees the ARBO program designed to capture and track attendance data at educational meetings, making it available to both the optometrist and their boards of optometry to verify attendance information needed for continuing education requirements for license renewal.
Become One of a Select Few!

As a regulatory board member and an optometrist, please consider becoming a reviewer of courses submitted for COPE accreditation. The time you spend contributing to the COPE review process will help ensure the quality and independence of continuing education. COPE accreditation benefits both practitioners in your jurisdiction as well as the public that we serve.

What do I need to do to become certified?
- You must complete and submit a course reviewer questionnaire.
- You must be endorsed by your optometry licensing Board; this endorsement will be secured by ARBO once you volunteer.
- You will be asked to complete COPE reviewer training.
- Once the training has been successfully completed, you will receive your congratulatory packet of information, including a certificate suitable for framing and a lapel pin.

How much time will this take from my already busy schedule?
- COPE reviewers are not requested to review more than two courses at any given time.
- The review of a course typically takes about 30 minutes.

Please consider volunteering and contributing to the COPE review process!

For more information please visit our website at www.arbo.org and click on COPE, then click on “COPE Reviewers” and “Become a Reviewer” or send an email to arbo@arbo.org.

ARBO BOARD OF DIRECTORS

OFFICERS:
President—Coby Ramsey, OD
Vice President—Jeffery Yunker, OD
Secretary-Treasurer—VACANT
Immediate Past President—Patrick O’Neill, OD, FAAO

DIRECTORS:
James Campbell, OD
Terri Haley, OD
Glenn Kawaguchi, OD
Margaret Whelan, MPA
Donovan Crouch, OD, Consultant

ARBO STAFF
Lisa Fennell, Executive Director
Kalimah Bayne, Program Coordinator
Ron Cassel, Director of Operations
Hope Cole, Program Coordinator
Donna DeLay, Program Manager/COPE Administrator
Brittany Howard, Program Specialist
Sierra Powell, Manager, Accreditation Services
Jessi McVean, Customer Service Manager
Audrey Vazquez, Program Specialist