

# AMERICAN BOARD OF VETERINARY OPHTHALMOLOGY

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## American Board of Veterinary Ophthalmology (ABVO) Annual Report, October 10, 2015

### Annual Credentialing Summary

All 40 examination applications received in 2015 were approved; 24 were first-time and 16 were repeat candidates. Of these, 38 (24 first-time and 14 repeat) candidates elected to take at least one portion of the certification examination. Sixteen of 38 (42%) of all candidates (10 (42%) of the 24 first-time candidates and 6 (43%) of the 14 repeat candidates) passed all required portions of the ABVO Examination and were conferred ACVO Diplomate status. A breakdown of exam performance by exam section and candidate type is provided in the following table.

	Portion of the Exam	# Taking Exam	# Passing Exam	% Successful
First-time Candidates	Written	24	18	75
	Image Recognition	24	14	58
	intraocular surgery	24	19	79
	Extraocular surgery	24	17	71
	Animal examination	24	18	75
Repeat Candidates	Written	7	2	29
	Image Recognition	9	2	22
	Intraocular surgery	7	4	57
	Extraocular surgery	10	7	70
	Animal examination	6	5	83

### ABVO Policies Changes and Notable ABVO Activities, 2014-2015

**Credentials Committee:** The Credentials Committee approved 20 new ABVO residents during this year. No credentialing policy changes were made in 2015. The Credentials Committee continues to work toward integrating the credentialing process into the online database. It is the ABVO's intention to have the online database available for use in the upcoming 2015 credentialing cycle.

**Residency Committee:** The ABVO currently has 64 approved residency programs. No changes in residency training policies were made in 2015; however the Residency Committee and ABVO Board continue to examine the question of whether a minimum of 2 Supervising Diplomates should be required to train an ABVO resident. At the 2015 ACVO conference, the Residency Committee hosted its annual meeting for prospective residents at which Supervising Diplomates presented brief reviews of their upcoming programs.

**Examination Committee:** For the first time in 2015, the Hofstee method was used to set the cut score for the practical portions of the certifying examination. The cut scores for the Intraocular Surgery, Extraocular Surgery and Animal Examination portions of the examination were 69.0, 68.0 and 70.0, respectively; similar to the fixed pass score of 70.0 used in previous years. Cut scores were provided by

the testing service within 3 business days after the conclusion of the Practical Exam permitting expedient reporting of results to the candidates.

Maintenance of Certification (MOC): Compliance with MOC is mandatory for all ACVO Diplomates certified during and after 2015. Persons obtaining their ACVO Diplomate status prior to 2015 are encouraged but not required to participate. Full details of the MOC policies are available in the ABVO Policies and Procedures document available on the ABVO website ([www.ABVO.US](http://www.ABVO.US)).

Appeals Procedure: Appeals to adverse credentialing decisions continue to be handled by an ad hoc appeals committee that operates independently from the ABVO Board and ABVO Committees. A detailed description of the appeals process is provided in the ABVO Policies and Procedures document available on the ABVO website ([www.ABVO.US](http://www.ABVO.US)).

Current and Future Supervising Diplomate Lunch: During the 2015 ACVO conference in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho the Residency, Credentials, and Examination Committees hosted a luncheon for residency program mentors to discuss residency training issues. This is a valuable informational meeting now offered annually. Please attend this at future ACVO meetings if you are, or plan to become, a Supervising Diplomate for an ABVO resident.

ABVO Website: The ABVO has continued to maintain and update its website [www.ABVO.US](http://www.ABVO.US), which was launched in 2014. Here, ACVO Diplomates, prospective residents, residents in training, and members of the public can access all ABVO documents, including its Charter from the ACVO, Policies and Procedures, all resident and program application materials, policy statements, certification requirements, maintenance of certification requirements, a list of all ACVO Diplomates, and important credentialing deadlines. The ABVO Board acknowledges the excellent work of Stacey Daniel and the ABVO/ACVO Office staff, and the ABVO Credentials, Residency, Examination, and Maintenance of Certification Committees in maintaining and updating the ABVO website.

ABVO Elections: At its Fall meeting, the ABVO welcomed Dr. Ian Herring to his 3-year term on the ABVO Board and thanked Dr. Mark Nasisse for his productive term on the inaugural ABVO Board. As inaugural Chair of the ABVO, Mark has led with clarity and diplomacy, steering us through these major changes designed to protect the ACVO membership. Dr. David Maggs was elected as the new Chair of the ABVO. Dr. Cindy Cook will complete her term as ABVO Board member in Fall 2016, therefore a call for nominations and a subsequent election will be held between May and June of 2016.

The ABVO Board encourages ACVO Diplomates with questions or feedback related to our credentialing program to contact the Board at any time.

Submitted by,

The ABVO Board

Drs. Ellison Bentley, Cynthia Cook, Ian Herring, & David Maggs (Chair), and Mr. Douglas Jack (Public Member)