

News, comments, and service announcements

Brazilian Board of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics holds first examination

The Brazilian Board of Orthodontics and Dentofacial Orthopedics (BBO), founded to address the need for standards of excellence in the practice of the specialty in Brazil, held the first examination March 19-21, 2004, in São Paulo. Dr Jack Dale, former president of the American Board of Orthodontics (ABO), participated as an examiner.

The decision to establish the BBO and create an objective examination to certify specialists was taken by leading practitioners in a meeting held in October 1998, during the Congress of the Brazilian Association of Orthodontics.

The first board of directors was elected in August 2000. Former ABO presidents evaluated the officers during the American Association of Orthodontics meeting in Toronto, May 2001. The bylaws of the BBO were also subject to approval by the Brazilian Association of Orthodontics. The following specialists are founding directors of the BBO: President, Roberto Mario Amaral Lima Filho; President-Elect, Carlos Jorge Vogel; Secretary, Estélio Zen; Treasurer, Ana Maria Bolognese; First Director, José Nelson Mucha; and Second Director, Telma Martins de Araújo.

The objectives of the BBO are to stimulate high professional standards of the specialty, to establish and maintain continuing education in orthodontics, and to award certificates of clinical competence.



Estélio Zen, José Nelson Mucha, Ana Maria Bolognese, Jack Dale, Roberto Mario Amaral Lima Filho, Telma Martins de Araújo, and Carlos Jorge Vogel.

Jack Dale reports from Brazil

It was my honor and privilege to be invited as an external consultant for the first BBO examination. I found the treatment to be superb and the organization by the board of directors outstanding. BBO President Roberto Mario Amaral Lima Filho, who earned his American Board of Orthodontics certification and was honored with his wife, Anna Leticia Lima (now deceased), with the first Case Report of the Year award from the College of Diplomates of the American Board of Orthodontics, has set an excellent example and is a role model for all applicants.

The examination was in 2 parts: a written examination and a case report display. For the written portion, 18 candidates were given 4 hours to examine 2 case reports they had never seen. They were required to establish a diagnosis and problem list, objectives, treatment plan, and alternative treatment plans. They were allowed to make cephalometric tracings and carry out any procedures they used in their practices. I sat in the room for the 4 hours

allotted for the examination, and the more I observed the candidates working at their tasks, the more my admiration and respect grew.

The case report display presented 180 case reports by the 18 candidates. Each candidate submitted 10 cases, including 6 with specified malocclusions and 4 optional. The documentation was standardized, uniform, and beautifully done. You could examine any of the 180 case reports on display and find that the presentation was identical to the others. How I wish that this standard of excellence existed all over the world. Board members examined the case displays on Friday and Saturday, and discussed them at a 2-hour round table that involved all 18 candidates. It was a most valuable and constructive session.

The motto of Brazil is “Ordem e Progresso”—order and progress. The BBO exemplified this motto to perfection.

Jack Dale

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