



ABFAS NEWSLETTER

for Board Qualified Candidates

August, 2019

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ABFAS' Board of Directors Elects New Officers

This past July, the ABFAS Board of Directors met in Salt Lake City and elected new officers effective September 1, 2019.

The new officers are Keith Jacobson, DPM, President; William Adams, DPM, President-elect; Amberly Paradao, DPM, Secretary/Treasurer; and Danny Choung, DPM, Immediate Past-president. Thank you to Matthew Williams DPM, current Immediate Past-president as he steps off the board.

These officers join the already announced 2019-2020 Board of Directors. These directors include Nicole Bauerly, DPM; Michelle Butterworth, DPM; Dennis Chaney, DPM; Jeffery Giesking, DPM; John T. Marcoux, DPM; and Michael VanPelt, DPM.

ABFAS Sits Down With Dr. Michelle Butterworth - Newly Elected to the Board of Directors

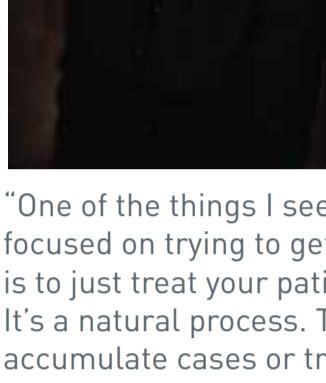
"I think I can be helpful with my experience and it's kind of a labor of love. It's a passion, you just want to help, you want to pay it forward with your profession."
- Dr. Butterworth

Michelle Butterworth DPM, was just elected into a new role on ABFAS' Board of Directors. While Dr. Butterworth's term starts on September 1, 2019, she is very familiar with ABFAS, having served for years on numerous committees. These committees include the Communications Committee, Online Study Guide Task Force, and Bylaws Task Force. She is currently a member of the Cognitive Examinations Committee and serves as a Case Reviewer.

ABFAS sat down with Dr. Butterworth to discuss her career, her new role, and her service to ABFAS.

Dr. Butterworth, how did you start your board certification process?

"After getting your training in residency you start focusing on the future. And then you start thinking about board certification and your long-term career. So, fortunately, I had great instructors and residency directors who were very familiar with ABFAS. From the very beginning, in my residency, it was always just a given that your goal was to become ABFAS board certified. Yes, you're a skilled surgeon. We're going to teach you all the techniques, but you need to become board certified. That's going to be sort of your ultimate achievement and your success as a surgeon."



What does ABFAS board certification mean to your patients?

"I think it's exactly like the tagline says. It's a credential you can trust. ABFAS is the board for podiatric foot and ankle surgery and patients look for a board certified surgeon in any type of surgery. My certificates hang on the wall, and patients comment about it. It gives them more trust in you as a surgeon, that they know that you've gone through this rigorous process and ultimately become board certified and you've got the skills and the training."

What would your advice be to residents thinking about their own career path?

"One of the things I see with residents or those that are just out in the practice, they are focused on trying to get their numbers. They worry about the number of procedures. My advice is to just treat your patients, regardless of whether you're trying to achieve board certification. It's a natural process. Treat your patients as you would regardless of whether you're trying to accumulate cases or trying to go through the credentialing process."

To read more of the Dr. Butterworth interview, [click here](#).

Annual Fee

On July 1, your annual fee invoice became available on your ABFAS profile. On July 15, ABFAS mailed your annual fee invoice to your address on file. We encourage you to pay online, but you can use that invoice to either fax in or mail in your payment. You can pay online with a credit card by logging into your profile page.

If ABFAS has not received payment by October 1, 2019, ABFAS will add a \$100 late fee onto your annual fee invoice. If you haven't paid by October 15, 2019, ABFAS will send a certified letter notifying you of the final October 31, 2019 deadline. If you do not pay your annual fee plus the late fee by that date, ABFAS may revoke your status.

ABFAS will be sending out numerous reminders during this time to help you avoid paying late fees.

Annual Fee Important Dates

- July 1, 2019** – Invoices became available online
- July 15, 2019** – Invoices mailed out
- October 1, 2019** – Late fee assessed
- October 15, 2019** – Certified letter mailed
- November 1, 2019** – Status revoked



2020 Case Review Prep: Case Log Requirements

The 2020 Case Review registration will open in November. All candidates (regardless of if your plan on sitting for Case Review this year) should continue to log all cases in PLS.

RRA Surgery Case Review minimum log requirements have changed. RRA Surgery Certification requires logging a minimum of 30 RRA procedures. ABFAS requires a minimum of 12 procedures from the following list:

RRA Elective Osseous

- 5.2.4 midfoot, rearfoot, or ankle fusion
- 5.2.5 midfoot, rearfoot, or tibial osteotomy
- 5.2.9 ankle implant
- 5.2.10 corticotomy or osteotomy with callus distraction/correction of complex deformity of the midfoot, rearfoot, ankle, or tibia

RRA Nonelective Osseous

- 5.4.1 open repair of adult midfoot fracture
- 5.4.2 open repair of adult rearfoot fracture
- 5.4.3 open repair of adult ankle fracture
- 5.4.4 open repair of pediatric rearfoot/ankle fracture or dislocation
- 5.4.5 management of bone tumor/neoplasm (with or without bone graft)

Logging in PLS

Ensure that you are correctly log procedures into PLS. Case reviewers evaluate procedures based on the category you have assigned. For example, if a joint salvage procedure with cheilectomy only is logged as a joint salvage procedure with distal metatarsal osteotomy, you will receive a low or failing score for that case. Open management of fracture or MTPJ dislocation cases must include internal or external fixation.

Procedures are evaluated based on surgical decision-making, preoperative clinical assessment, preoperative radiographic assessment, perioperative ancillary laboratory assessment, technical skills assessment, and outcomes analysis.

Here are some additional tips to make sure your case logs are logged correctly in PLS:

- Ensure that cases are logged with the correct procedure code in PLS. (Note: Failure to correctly log procedure type is a common error.)
- Ensure that you are listed as Surgeon (not Co-surgeon, Assistant Surgeon, or any other designation) on all operative reports and all chart materials for every procedure on the list.
- Ensure that you are listed as the surgeon of record (not co-surgeon) in the intraoperative anesthesia record or circulating nurse notes.
- List every procedure performed and documented in the operative report.

Part II Board Certification Exams

Did you know that you can take the Part II CBPS board certification exam before submitting cases for Case Review? ABFAS board certification requirements allow Board Qualified DPMs to take Part II CBPS and Case Review at different times – different years, if the candidate so chooses.



Introducing ABFAS Podcasts

ABFAS is proud to launch new podcasts focused on important foot and ankle surgery topics. You can find these recordings at ABFAS.org/podcasts where they can be downloaded and shared.

"**ABFAS Exam Preparation Materials**" guides you through all ABFAS produced materials that you can review before taking your Part II Board Qualification Exams.

The "**Case Review Preparation and PLS Logging**" is a comprehensive overview on candidate's preparation for case review. This will be an excellent resource when you are preparing for Part II Case Review.

Another podcast "**The New 2020 Certification Process**", reviews the changes in the new ABFAS certification process. This podcast explains the NEW CBPS exam, and the timeline for the changes. It also outlines the new Part II Certification process, effective in September 2020.

Finally, the podcast "**The Value of ABFAS Certification**" highlights the importance of board certification.

Please feel free to listen to [these podcasts](#), download them, and share with #abfas.

ABFAS Board Certification Examinations Schedule

Part II Foot Surgery CBPS Part II RRA Surgery CBPS

- November 4, 2019** – Registration Opens
- April 29, 2020** – Registration Closes
- May 6, 2020** – Last Day to Withdraw w/o Penalty
- May 13, 2020** – Exam Date

Foot Case Review RRA Case Review

- November 4, 2019** – Registration Opens
- December 6, 2019** – Registration Closes
- December 10, 2019** – ABFAS sends candidates instructions for Facility Procedure List Attestation
- January 10, 2020** – Deadline for Facility Procedure List Attestation
- January 21, 2020** – List of procedures for Case Review is available on the PLS website
- March 20, 2020** – Deadline for candidates to upload case documentation. You must submit by 11:59 Pacific Time on March 20, 2020
- April 23 – 25, 2020** – Case Reviewers meet. Candidates do not attend Case Review.

For more information on exams, including dates and fees, [click here](#).



Sarah Mele, DPM, Director of Podiatric Medicine and Surgery Residency Program at the New Mexico VA Health Care System with the residents and attendings of the program.

#footfirst

ABFAS would like photos from ABFAS DPMs across the country! We are looking for photos of surgeons performing cases, interacting with feet, performing on feet, or even just hanging out with other DPMs.

Send your best photos to footfirst@abfas.org so we can share them on social media, in our newsletters, AND our new website! We will select a monthly winner with the best photo who will receive a great ABFAS prize and recognition on our Facebook page. Don't forget to share your photos using #footfirstABFAS

Join us!

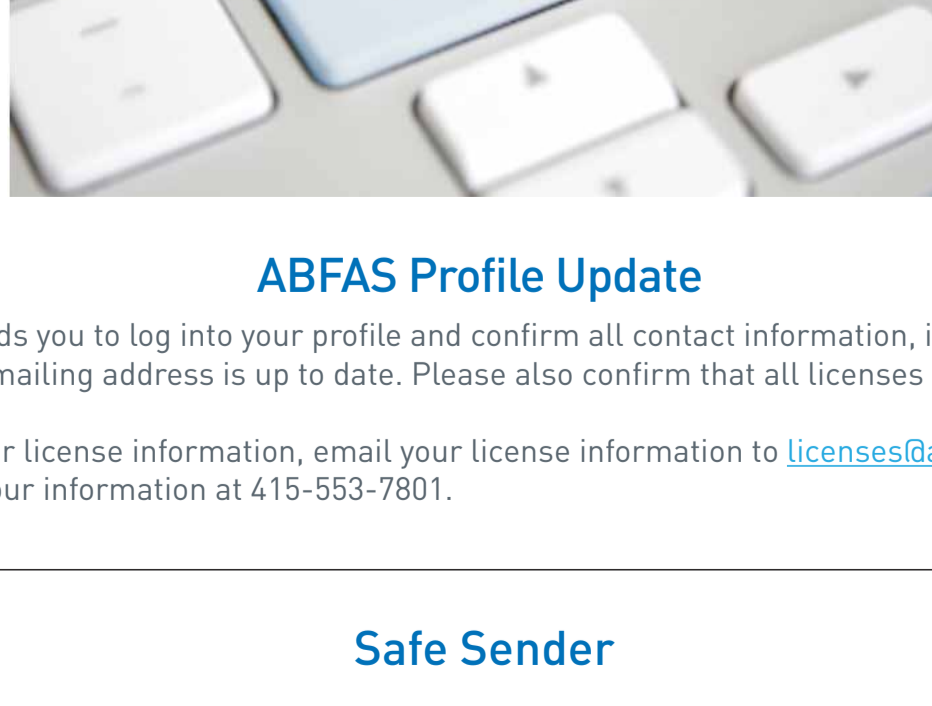
ABFAS will be attending the ASPS conference in Chicago in August and the TPMA conference in Frisco, TX in September.

7th Annual ASPS Surgical Conference

August 2-3, 2019
Swissotel
Chicago, Illinois

TPMA Southwest Foot and Ankle Conference

September 12-14, 2019
Embassy Suites Hotel & Convention Center
Frisco, TX



ABFAS Profile Update

ABFAS reminds you to log into your profile and confirm all contact information, including email address and mailing address is up to date. Please also confirm that all licenses are up to date.

To update your license information, email your license information to licenses@abfas.org or you can fax your information at 415-553-7801.

Safe Sender

ABFAS would like all communication to find its way to your inbox. Please add info@abfas.org, updates@abfas.org, and scheduling@abfas.org to your safe sender list to ensure that all of our emails arrive in your inbox and not in "spam".

Since 1975, ABFAS' mission is to protect and improve the health and welfare of the public by the advancement of the art and science of foot and ankle surgery.

ABFAS.org



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