

Academy President Letter  
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From the Desk of J. R. Brandt DC, MPS, FACO  
President  
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I hope this finds your new year off to a good start! The Academy is off and running this new year with some very important activities.

The Academy is proceeding with the paperwork and requirements for accreditation with the Institute for Credentialing Excellence (ICE). We are in the process of going through the architecture for compliance with NCCA standards for credentialing body accreditation. This is an extensive task, but we are moving through each point. We will have a good deal of focus on this for the time being, but other programs and activities have not and will not change. We have more Diplomates that have stepped up to help when asked. Thank you! This is your organization and it's great to see doctors participating.

The Academy Board has voted to make some significant changes in the Diplomate examination process. This is in keeping with the recommendations of our advisors and Board members. Beginning this summer, the candidates will have access to a Part I examination. This will be a distance based multiple choice (MCQ) examination. The psychometric and testing organization that we are using has over 300 sites where the examination can be taken. This examination will be designed to follow the job analysis description document that was completed by the Academy, American College of Chiropractic Orthopedists, Council on Chiropractic Orthopedists and the Texas Council of Chiropractic Orthopedists. The candidate must pass this examination prior to sitting Part II or the OSCE examination. These tests have been and are undergoing fundamental changes to meet the requirements. Should the candidate fail, they can reset the test as early as the following day. Three unsuccessful attempts will require 30 hours of postgraduate study in an orthopedic based Diplomate level program to qualify to take the examination again.

In keeping with the necessary activities to obtain our credentialing, the Academy has fulfilled a Board position for a member of the profession who is not a Diplomate. This member represents our pool of potential candidates for the examination process. This member is Dr. Jerry Grod from Etobicoke, Ontario Canada. Dr. Grod has an extensive background in education, the testing process and development as well as one of the initial developers in the Master of Science: Clinical Chiropractic Orthopedics (the 2010 project). He has been appointed to the Programmatic Committee of the Academy. This Committee is spearheading our NCCA accreditation. This is a 2 year appointment. Welcome Jerry.

I'm pleased to announce that Dr. John Ventura has joined the Journal of the Academy of Chiropractic Orthopedists (JACO). John is an instructor at New York College of Chiropractic, a clinical instructor in the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Rochester School of Medicine, author, lecture, active clinician as well as a member of the Academy. Welcome John and kudos to the Editor-in-Chief Bruce Gundersen and Editor Stan Bacso for continuing to improve our journal.

I'm sorry for repeating myself on this issue, but in Minnesota we have a list serve for the state association. Members can contact other members in a "blast" type e-mail. Several times during the month doctors are requesting if anyone knows a doctor in such-and-such a place. I always copy and paste from our membership directory and send it back to the requesting doctor. Hopefully some of you have seen some of these patients from Minnesota. Please get your "mini website" on the membership page up to date. This is a great benefit to patients and the referring doctor.

The status has not changed for your re-certification. Later this year there will be some changes, but currently the process remains the same.

The Academy has developed a new committee this month. It's already active and its charge is to help design an orthopedic residency program. More on this later.

The Academy continues to operate as a point source verification for members. We are asked frequently by government agencies, insurance, managed care groups and the legal profession if this doctor is credentialed by the Academy. If they are not members, we cannot verify they are an orthopedic Diplomate. We know this because a doctor will become a member and let us know.

You can see we have "lots of irons in the fire", but there is so much going on and we must continue to move forward in several areas. One area I would like to see jump this year is for each member to bring in a friend or acquaintance as a member of the Academy. You would be not only helping the Academy, but yourself. Don't think the other person will do it, you do it! Thanks!

The ACCO conference in San Diego is in April, go the website for details. [www.dorthoacademy.com](http://www.dorthoacademy.com)

By the way....no dues increase for 2012. It's stayed the same now for several years!

*Learn to use ten minutes intelligently. It will pay you huge dividends.....William A. Irwin*

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