



## Press Release

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### **The National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners Installs New Board Chair**

PHILADELPHIA (Conshohocken), December 21, 2011 – The National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners (NBOME), the testing organization that provides the pathway to licensure for osteopathic physicians in United States, recently installed **Janice Knebl, DO, MBA**, as the new Chair of its Board of Directors. Dr. Knebl of Ft. Worth, Texas replaces John Thornburg, DO, PhD of Okemos, Michigan, who had been Board Chair for two years.

Others elected during the NBOME's Annual Board meeting held in San Diego, California included Vice Chair, **Wayne Carlsen, DO** of Athens, Ohio, and four new board members: **Bruce Bates, DO**, of Biddeford, Maine; **H. Timothy Dombrowski, DO, MPH** of Stratford, New Jersey; **Lori Kemper, DO, MS** of Glendale, Arizona; and **Roberta Wattleworth, DO, MHA, MPH** of Des Moines, Iowa.

Dr. Knebl, a native of Philadelphia, is a tenured Professor of Medicine and Chief, Division of Geriatrics/Department of Medicine at the Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine/University of North Texas Health Science Center (UNTHSC/TCOM) at Fort Worth. She received the Dallas Southwest Distinguished Endowed Chair in Clinical Geriatrics in 2003 and has been Chief of the Division of Geriatric Medicine within the Department of Medicine at UNTHSC/TCOM since 1988. In 2009, Dr. Knebl became Project Director of the UNTHSC Reynolds Geriatrics Education and Training in Texas (GET-IT) program, whose goal is the creation of curriculum in geriatric medicine for osteopathic medical students, residents in training and practicing osteopathic physicians. Dr. Knebl was appointed to the NBOME Board of Directors in 1999, elected to the executive committee in 2003, served as Secretary/Treasurer from 2005 to 2009 and served as Vice Chair since 2009. She completed her osteopathic medical education at Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

"Becoming Chair of the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners' Board is truly an honor, privilege and a highlight of my academic medical career," said Dr. Knebl. "I am very excited to take on this leadership role at the NBOME, as we begin implementing our 'Integrating Excellence' initiative throughout the organization and into all of our programs, products and services.

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## **NBOME Installs New Chair – Continued**

"I fully support and endorse the mission to protect the public by providing the means to assess competency in osteopathic medicine and related health care professions," Dr. Knebl added. "I look forward to working with the NBOME's Board of Directors, President, Senior Leadership and staff."

### **New NBOME Vice Chair**

Dr. Carlsen is Assistant Dean for Clinical Education and Associate Professor of Geriatric Medicine/Gerontology at the Ohio University Heritage College of Osteopathic Medicine, where he has been a faculty member since 1993. He serves on the College's Executive Committee, and is the Medical Director for the College's Community Health Programs and Area Health Education Center. He has served as Medical Director of several skilled nursing facilities in southeast Ohio, and has been a practicing geriatrician for 20 years. Dr. Carlsen is a graduate of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey School of Osteopathic Medicine. He maintains Fellowship status in both the American College of Osteopathic Internists and the American Geriatrics Society. Dr. Carlsen has served in a variety of capacities since he became involved with the NBOME in 1989. He has served on the NBOME Board since 2005, and prior to his appointment as Vice Chair, was also a member of the NBOME Executive Committee.

### **New NBOME Board Members**

Dr. Bates is Associate Dean for Clinical Services and Chair of the Department of Geriatric Medicine at the University of New England College of Osteopathic Medicine (UNECOM). He is also Medical Director for Allegiance Hospice of Maine and MatureCare, a multi-professional group in long-term care. His career spans more than 25 years of clinical practice and medical education, and his areas of specialty include Geriatric Medicine, end-of-life care, clinical skills and standardized patients. Dr. Bates is certified in Family Practice and has been recognized as a Fellow in the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians. He is also certified as a medical director in long term care by the American Medical Directors Association. Dr. Bates attended Bates College in Lewiston, Maine and received his Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine from the Kirksville College of Osteopathic Medicine in Missouri. Dr. Bates is a former President of the Maine Osteopathic Association. A longstanding member of the NBOME's National Faculty, Dr. Bates has served as Chair of the Case Development Committee for the COMLEX-USA Level 2-Performance Evaluation since 2007, and as a member of the Clinical Skills Testing Advisory Committee and the COMLEX-USA Level 2-Cognitive Evaluation's Standard Setting Panel.

Dr. Dombrowski is an associate professor and the Chair of the Department of Medicine at the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey-School of Osteopathic Medicine (UMDNJ-SOM). A graduate of the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine, Dr. Dombrowski has been a member of the UMDNJ-SOM faculty since 1985. Dr. Dombrowski is board certified in Internal Medicine, with additional certifications in Critical Care Medicine and Geriatrics. In 2008, he earned a master's degree in Public Health from the UMDNJ-School of Public Health. Dr. Dombrowski is an attending physician at Kennedy, Virtua Health System and Marlton Rehabilitation Hospital. In addition, he is a member of the executive board of the New Jersey Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons. Dr. Dombrowski has been a member of NBOME's National Faculty in a number of roles, most recently as Coordinator for Health Promotion and Disease Prevention for the Department of Cognitive Testing, and as a member of the COMVEX Subcommittee.

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## **NBOME Installs New Chair – Continued**

Dr. Kemper is the Dean of Midwestern University, Arizona College of Osteopathic Medicine (AZCOM) where she is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Family Medicine. In addition, Dr. Kemper maintains an active medical practice at the Midwestern University Multi-Specialty on-campus clinic, where she also serves as Acting Medical Director. Dr. Kemper's nearly 30-year career encompasses independent practice, graduate medical education and the osteopathic medical school setting. She has practiced as a family physician since 1982, starting her career with the National Health Service Corps, providing care for the underserved population in south Phoenix, Arizona. She served as Director of Medical Education and Family Medicine Residency Program Director for Tempe St. Luke's Hospital in Tempe, Arizona, from 1993 to 2007; as the Chief of Staff at Tempe St. Luke's Hospital from 2005 to 2007; and was previously Associate Dean of Graduate Medical Education at AZCOM. Dr. Kemper was nominated to the NBOME Board by the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine (AACOM), replacing Dr. Stephen Shannon, who completed his third term on the Board.

Dr. Wattleworth is Chair of the Department of Family Medicine at Des Moines University-Osteopathic Medical Center (DMU). She has spent the past 30 years in various health care roles, including 10 years in solo private practice. In addition to serving as Chair of the Department of Family Medicine, she is also a professor of family medicine at DMU. Dr. Wattleworth is a Fellow of the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians and is the recipient of the 2001 George W. Northup Outstanding Educator of the Year Award. She was inducted into the National Academy of Osteopathic Medical Educators in 2009, and is a member of the Society of Osteopathic Medical Educators. Dr. Wattleworth earned a doctor of osteopathy degree as well as master's degrees in health care administration and public health, all from DMU. Since 2005, Dr. Wattleworth has held leadership roles with COMLEX-USA Level 3, having served as Level 3 Vice Coordinator from 2005-2008, and as Level 3 Coordinator from 2008-2011.

### **About the National Board of Osteopathic Medical Examiners**

The NBOME's mission is to protect the public by providing the means to assess competencies for osteopathic medicine and related health care professions. The NBOME developed and is the sole administrator of the Comprehensive Osteopathic Medical Licensure Examination of the United States (COMLEX-USA), the testing pathway to licensure for osteopathic physicians in the United States.

*For more information about the NBOME, its mission and its evaluation and testing tools for the osteopathic medical profession, go to [www.nbome.org](http://www.nbome.org).*

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