DANB Board Summary

Date: March 16, 2009
To: Interested Organizations
From: Dental Assisting National Board, Inc. (DANB)
Re: Summary of DANB Board Action Taken at the Feb. 13-14 Meeting

Below please find a summary of action taken by the Dental Assisting National Board, Inc. (DANB) at its February 13 - 14 Winter Board of Directors meeting. The DANB Board of Directors consists of Brenda Fell, CDA, CDPMA, Chair, Howard Bell, D.D.S., Vice Chair, Patricia Sippel, CDA, Secretary, and Directors Marlene Futterman, M.A., Richard Hunt III, D.D.S., Donna Kotyk, CDA, RDH, M.A., Karen Minca, CDPMA, Carla Schneider, CDA, RDA, and James Watkins, D.D.S. For further information, contact DANB’s Executive Director Cindy Durley, MEd, MBA at 1-866-357-3262 or cdurley@danb.org.

- Effective 2/16/09, the DANB Board of Directors voted to update the current DANB CPR guidelines to more closely reflect state requirements for dentists, dental hygienists and dental assistants. DANB will now accept CPR cards from the following providers (CPR must be part of the course), if the candidate was given a clinical (hands-on) examination.

  Accepted Providers:
  - American Red Cross
  - American Environmental Health and Safety
  - American Heart Association
  - American Safety and Health Institute
  - Canadian Red Cross
  - Emergency Care and Safety Institute
  - Emergency First Response
  - Emergency Medical Training Associates
  - Medic First Aid
  - National Safety Council (Green Cross)
  - ProCPR (added Feb 2009 – not all courses include the hands-on exam so check with provider before taking course to be sure it will be accepted by DANB)
  - Saudi Heart Association

- The DANB Board approved a more contemporary DANB brand design. The new design will be used for the covers of DANB’s test preparation books, when next published. In the meantime, the new brand will be applied to DANB’s Certified Press, the DANB calendar and other DANB marketing material.

- A committee of the board approved pricing for DANB merchandise available for purchase by dentists for their DANB Certified Assistants. The new items include a “CDA” pin, a visor, a bag and a travel mug. The items are offered for purchase following a Certified Assistant’s milestone anniversary every five years.
• Depending on the number of DANB Certified Assistants in a state, changes to state dental assisting requirements and other factors, the DANB Board announced plans for DANB to exhibit at more state dental meetings. The state/regional shows can attract a higher volume of traffic and offer opportunities for advertising and measuring ROI that are not available for the larger shows.

• DANB released new, coated wallet cards printed with DANB’s Code of Professional Conduct, available for all DANB Individuals. The cards will be sent to new Certificants and distributed at dental meetings and trade shows. DANB’s Code of Professional Conduct is now also printed on the back of the wallet cards received by DANB Certificants upon annual renewal of their Certification.

• DANB is developing a two-part PowerPoint presentation available this spring for use by directors of CODA-accredited dental assisting programs. DANB will also continue to work toward an interactive, electronic way for dental assisting students to be introduced to DANB national exams and Certifications.

• No new written exam sites may be established under a new policy approved by the Board. Only existing sites may continue to test in June only, as long as there is a minimum of 5 candidates scheduled to test.

• The Board of Directors re-elected Karen Minca, CDPMA to a second three-year term beginning in August 2009. Ms. Minca had been re-nominated by the American Dental Assistants Association (ADAA) as one of two ADAA clinical dental assistants serving on DANB’s Board of Directors. (Carla Schneider, CDA, RDA is the second ADAA clinical dental assistant, serving her second three-year term.)

• Carolyn Breen, CDA, RDH, Ed.D. was elected to her first of two possible three-year terms on DANB’s Board of Directors, from a slate of dental assisting educator candidates nominated by the ADAA. Dr. Breen will begin her first term on DANB’s Board at the close of the August 2009 meeting.

• The DANB Board of Directors will vote on nominations for two other board positions by conference call prior to its August 2009 meeting: a certificant-at-large voted on by DANB Certified Assistants, and a candidate nominated by the American Association of Dental Examiners.

• Based on reviews of content validation studies, DANB’s Orthodontic Assisting (OA) Exam Committee and General Chairside (GC) Exam Committee both made recommendations to the Board. The OA Exam Committee recommended making changes to the OA exam blueprint based on the content validation study. The GC Exam Committee recommended repeating the GC content validation survey. The board accepted both Committees’ recommendations.
In the spring of 2008, DANB was informed by her estate that dental assisting educator and author Hazel O. Torres, CDA, RDAEF, M.A. bequeathed $2000 to DANB to be awarded on a one-time basis to an outstanding DANB Certified Assistant. The Board of Directors endorsed the choice of Virginia “Ginny” Jorgensen, CDA, EFDA, EFODA, AAS as the winner of the Hazel O. Torres Memorial Award.