

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF
OPTOMETRY

Hello Board members,

July 1, 2017



I am delighted to be serving as president—thank you for your confidence in my leadership. We are facing transformational issues throughout the coming year, and I look forward to our journey together.

We begin with the adoption of the re-imagined strategic plan and the recent sunset review proceedings that will guide us in our analysis and response to emerging issues, including online refractions and mobile optometric facilities. I am quite excited to be moving forward with the start-up of the Dispensing Opticians Committee (DOC), not only fulfilling the Board's statutory requirements but also establishing new and productive communication pathways with opticians throughout the state.

Although these issues are priorities for the Board, we remain focused in our commitment to strongly advocate for public protection through our actions as a unified public policy voice. We remain resolute in our concern for children and underserved communities, forging strategic relationships to help advance access to comprehensive eye exams and quality care.

We will also enhance our organizational effectiveness to assist us in achieving our strategic goals. Empowered Board committees and workgroups will develop and advance recommendations to the full Board for thoughtful consideration within the current committee configuration and potentially through new task-based workgroups as pressing issues arise. At our August quarterly meeting, we will engage in a conversation to assure we utilize the unique skill sets of both the professional and public members. We want all members to feel that their input is valued and their voices are heard. As committees meet during the months between quarterly Board meetings, I will be asking each chair to share a summary of the discussion items and suggested actions. I will share this with you, as well as with the public.

While most committees will appoint their leaders during their first noticed meeting, I am appointing DOC leadership to reflect the recent Board action for selecting its representative since their first meeting is in approximately two weeks. I am pleased to share the appointments of Martha (Ruby) Garcia, committee chair, and William (Bill) Kysella, committee vice chair.

I look forward to a productive year and to advancing our mission to protect the health and safety of California consumers.

Enjoy the start of your summer, and I'll see you in August.

Cyd