Satisfying ASWB’s mission

Each year the Exam Committee finds unique ways to honor their own

The 2017 Exam Committee held its second and final meeting of the year in October. The committee met less frequently this year because the Examination Development department was preparing for launching exams in January based on blueprints developed following the latest practice analysis. The annual awards ceremony was also held to recognize committee members rotating off the committee.

The committee and form reviewers met in Reston, Virginia, to approve pretest items for the item banks and to develop the second exam forms for all exam categories to launch in January. Two forms per category must be released in January so that candidates who elect to retest after failing the exam have access to a different form.

ASWB President M. Jenise Comer attended the meeting to present the awards. She serves as Board liaison to the committee. Comer opened the ceremony saying: “It is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge the work of the Exam Committee that helps to satisfy ASWB’s mission.”

Rather than appoint new members for a partial year, committee members whose terms ended in

The 2017 Exam Committee held its final meeting in October. Front row: Charu Stokes-Williams (HI), Adolpha Bassett (NC), Bachelors co-chair Mary Stebbins (VA), Michelle Piper (AL), Karen Slovak (OH). Middle row: Clinical co-chair Bora Sunseri (LA), Kelli Cortes (GA), Masters co-chair Stephanie Washington (TX), June Yee (AB), Sharon Cutts (CT). Back row: Jay Memmott (SD), Liz Johnston (CA), Tammy Dyson (BC), Susie Hendrickson (KS), Ben Rosenberg (NY). Not shown: Luz Alquicira (TX), Carl Hokanson (MN), and Debby Jones (BC).
2016 were asked to serve this year. For their additional year of service, the following committee members received Jefferson cups: Bachelors exam committee—co-chair Mary Stebbins of Virginia; Masters exam committee—Adolpha Bassett of North Carolina and June Yee of Alberta; Clinical exam committee—Liz Johnston of California, Debby Jones of British Columbia, and Jay Memmott of South Dakota.

Members who received “tombstone awards” (so named for their shape) for completing three years on their subcommittees were: Bachelors exam committee members Tammy Dyson of British Columbia, Susie Hendrickson of Kansas, Carl Hokanson of Minnesota, and Ben Rosenberg of New York; Masters exam committee member Kelli Cortes of Georgia; and Clinical exam committee member Sharon Cutts of Connecticut. Masters co-chair Stephanie Washington of Texas received a rosewood box to commemorate the ending of her two-year term as co-chair.

As has been the custom, each subcommittee celebrated their departing committee members with personal gifts. The Bachelors exam committee chose to hold their celebrations after the meeting concluded. The Masters exam committee announced that they donated to disaster relief in honor of departing co-chair Stephanie Washington, who was personally affected by hurricane Harvey. Washington recognized Kelli Cortes of Georgia for her service with a personalized plaque from the committee.

Clinical exam committee members presented their personal gifts during the awards ceremony. Gifts were representative of the giver’s jurisdiction. Item development consultant Greg Winkler of Janesville, Wisconsin, for example, presented a Parker pen set to Liz Johnston of California, noting that Parker is headquartered in his hometown. Co-chair Bora Sunseri of Louisiana gave baseball caps from Louisiana State University and gumbo mix to committee members ending their terms. Other committee members presented similarly representative gifts to service award winners.

“Committee members develop close friendships working together over a number of years,” said Lavina Harless, director of exam development. “The awards ceremony gives everyone the opportunity to celebrate those close ties.”