



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **American Board of Audiology Announces Newly Elected Directors to Board of Governors**

**Reston, VA, September 14, 2015** — The American Board of Audiology® (ABA) today announced that three audiologists have been elected by their peers to serve on the 2016 ABA Board of Governors. These new directors will work to support the vision of the organization and set its strategy for the coming years, according to John Coverstone, AuD, Board Certified in Audiology®, chair of the ABA Board of Governors.

"We are pleased to welcome Dr. Deborah Hayes, PhD, to her first term on our Board of Governors and to welcome back Dr. Ed Harless, PhD, and Dr. Angela Pond, AuD, who are returning for additional terms of service," Coverstone said. "Each of these audiologists brings a great deal of experience and expertise to the ABA, and we greatly appreciate all that they do for the audiology profession."

"The next few years will see us introducing new training certificates, and the guidance and input we receive from our Board of Governors on the creation of these potential programs is invaluable," Coverstone concluded.

The newly elected ABA Board of Governors directors begin serving their terms on January 1, 2016, and include:

**Director Edwin Harless, PhD, Board Certified in Audiology**, was Chief of the Audiology and Speech Pathology Service at the VA Medical Center in Salisbury, NC, for 22 years. He currently serves as a consulting audiologist (fee-basis) at the VA Outpatient Clinic in Winston-Salem. He is a retired Lt. Colonel (audiologist), NC Army National Guard, and served previously on the NC Board of Examiners for Speech and Language Pathologists and Audiologists. Dr. Harless earned his PhD at Vanderbilt University.

**Director Deborah Hayes, PhD, Board Certified in Audiology, PASC**, is the Chair of the Division of Audiology, Speech Pathology and Learning Services at Children's Hospital Colorado. Dr. Hayes provides leadership support to the department and to the audiology practice at Children's Hospital Colorado. She also serves as a professor of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and as a professor in the Department of Speech, Language and Hearing Science at the University of Colorado, Boulder. She earned her PhD at the Baylor College of Medicine.

**Director Angela S. Pond, AuD, LtCol, USAF (ret), Board Certified in Audiology**, is a staff audiologist at the Portland VA Medical Center and a former Chair of the ABA Board of Governors. She is a former President of the Military Audiology Association (2004) and has provided audiological support throughout the lifespan, as well as resident training, hearing conservation program management, and hearing aid rehabilitation for children and adults. LtCol Pond retired in 2009 after serving as Chief, Audiology and Speech Pathology Clinic, at three major DoD Medical Centers, as well as serving as Chief, Occupational Health Clinic at a base with a civilian workforce of 25,000.

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***About the American Board of Audiology® (ABA)***

An autonomous organization, the American Board of Audiology (ABA) is dedicated to enhancing audiological services to the public by promulgating universally recognized standards in professional practice. The ABA encourages audiologists to exceed these prescribed standards, thereby promoting a high level of professional development and ethical practice. To help meet that goal, the ABA administers the Board Certified in Audiology, Pediatric Audiology Specialty Certification (PASC), and the Cochlear Implant Specialty Certification (CISC), all of which are voluntary certification programs. These certifications were created by and are administered by ABA-certified audiologists.