



Greetings from cold and snowy Chicago! I would like to introduce myself -- I am Dave Mahon, a general and trauma surgeon and a certified wound specialist physician from Arlington Heights, IL. I am a full-time practicing surgeon who also specializes in wound care. I have been involved in wound care since the late '90s and have been active in the American Board of Wound Management for almost a decade, including two terms as your treasurer. I first became involved in wound care as a young surgeon when I noticed the same patients returning to the hospital from nursing facilities with the same wound issues. For several years, I visited nursing homes and learned wound care from the experts – the nurses, physical therapists and other health care professionals who were “in the trenches” providing excellent wound care every day. Thank you to all those professionals whose patience and persistence taught me the importance of good wound care. Based on my experience, I am a strong advocate of a multi-disciplinary and multi-dimensional approach to wound care.

Enough about me....as the incoming president of your organization, I have some specific goals for the next two years. First, I believe it's time to stop being modest about what we do and start actively promoting the value of good wound care and ABWM certification to the public. As diplomates of the ABWM, you already realize the importance of our certification. You know that the specialty of wound care is advancing at a rapid pace with new treatments and modalities emerging every year. I believe the challenge now is to educate our patients about the value and importance of the work we do. I want our patients to know that ABWM certification means we are uniquely trained and armed with the most up-to-date information to heal their wounds. With this goal in mind, I will be working with the Board and our marketing team as well as our partners on the ABWM Foundation to educate the public about the role and significance of ABWM certification. I hope you will join me in communicating to your patients the importance of certification and the fact that wound care has its own experts – you! Your patients need to know that your hard work and your ABWM certification are integral components to achieving good wound outcomes.

Secondly, building on the efforts of my predecessors, I would like to further expand involvement in our organization. This includes developing a network of “ambassadors” who represent our organization in local communities and provide our Board and Foundation with feedback and input on critical issues. These ABWM certified ambassadors would be from a variety of backgrounds – both geographically and in terms of their expertise – and would play an important

role in raising public awareness about the importance of good wound care and ABWM certification.

In closing, please know that as ABWM president, I represent you – and would like to make my contact information available to you. I can be reached via the ABWM website, phone number or my professional email: dmahonmdcwsp@gmail.com. I hope you will feel free to contact me with ideas, questions or concerns.

Warmest regards,

Dave Mahon, MD, FACS, CWSP®