What other innovations has the Board implemented?
The ABO’s Web site, www.americanboardortho.com, was completely revamped and updated for its June 2006 introduction. We continuously refine and improve the site. The site is divided into two major components, the first being the public side, which lists all currently active Diplomates by name and ZIP code. It also provides a listing of all satellite offices. The other component is the professional area containing the information, applications, rules and regulations that currently apply to the board certification process.

An exciting project on which the Board is currently working involves the development by which an examinee can submit case reports in a totally electronic format. In other words, all images, digital casts and written materials will be ultimately submitted to the Board in this manner. We hope that it will be ready for either the 2009 or the 2010 clinical examinations.

Our final exciting change is the move of the clinical exam from the St. Louis Airport Marriott to a specifically designed facility for the administration of clinical examinations in Dallas. We are renting this facility from the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Our first examination at the new location will be in February. The venue is extremely impressive, with individual examination rooms that contain computers, modern furnishings and sound proofing.

Please tell us about your personal journey as an ABO director?
In a word – unbelievable! I would think all my colleagues on the Board, both past and present, would express a similar response. The humbling sensation that occurs when your orthodontic colleagues ask you to administer a system that judges their knowledge and clinical skills is a remarkable experience. I have, as have all orthodontists, the privilege to improve my patients’ oral health and appearance. That has been my life’s work, and what a satisfying journey it has been. But to have the opportunity to impact the quality of care for all patients of our boarded orthodontists is a thought that seems mind-boggling. I truly believe that all ABO directors take the monumental responsibility with which they are presented and hold it with careful hands.

I would take this opportunity to encourage all board certified orthodontists to seriously consider the possibility of serving. The feeling of accomplishment, the development of long-lasting relationships with fellow directors and the ability to work with our highly professional and capable central office staff all culminate in an extremely satisfying eight years of service.

What closing remarks do you have?
Again, I express my appreciation for the Ortho Tribune giving the ABO an opportunity to inform your readers.
I hope this article may encourage some of our non-boarded colleagues to consider pursuing the rewarding certifying process that encourages each of us to be the best that we can.

Ortho Tribune would like to thank Dr. Moffitt for donating his time and effort, and for sharing his expertise with us!

About the doctor
Dr. Allen H. Moffitt was born and raised in Paducah, Ky. He graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Kentucky College of Dentistry in 1970 and served two years in the U.S. Navy. In 1974, he attained a certificate and master’s of science in dentistry from the University of Washington Dental School and subsequently began his clinical practice of orthodontics in Murray, Ky.

Dr. Moffitt has served dentistry as a state delegate and 12 years as Program Chairman for the Purchase Dental Society. He has served the orthodontic specialty as President of the Kentucky Association of Orthodontists and six years as Director to the Southern Association of Orthodontists. He is a member of the Midwest Component of the Edward H. Angle Society, a Fellow of the American College of Dentists, a Fellow of the International College of Dentists, and the College of Diplomates of the ABO. For the past seven years he has been the ABO Director from the Southern Association of Orthodontists. Dr. Moffitt has provided presentations to many organizations and orthodontic graduate programs and has authored several published papers.

Dr. Moffitt has participated in the affairs of his local community as a director of the Chamber of Commerce, a director of the Murray/Calloway County Economic Development Corporation and a trustee for the Murray/Calloway County Hospital Board. Dr. Moffitt and his wife of 39 years have one son, who is an endocrinologist, a daughter-in-law and two young grandsons.