The American Association of Orthodontists (AAO) House of Delegates elected Roberto Hernández-Orsini, DMD, MPH, MS, of Juana Díaz, Puerto Rico, to serve as a director of the American Board of Orthodontics (ABO) on Friday, May 4. The House of Delegates convened in conjunction with the 2018 AAO Annual Session in Washington, D.C.

The ABO is the only orthodontic specialty board recognized by the American Dental Association and in affiliation with the AAO. Board certification is a process by which an individual orthodontist is voluntarily examined by his/her peers as to orthodontic knowledge and clinical skills. The passage of the examination process is a demonstration to the dental profession and the general public of the orthodontist's pursuit of continued proficiency and excellence in orthodontics.

Each ABO director represents one of the eight constituent organizations of the AAO and serves an eight-year term, which culminates in the position of the president. The ABO directors are responsible for establishing policy with regard to the board certification of specialists in orthodontics. Dr. Hernández-Orsini, who represents the Middle Atlantic Society of Orthodontists (MASO), will become president of the ABO in 2025.

Dr. Hernández-Orsini is associate professor in the graduate orthodontic program at the University of Puerto Rico School of Dental Medicine. He is also an associate adjunct professor in orthodontics at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Dentistry, and maintains a private practice in Guaynabo, Puerto Rico. He is board certified and an examiner for the ABO. He is also a member of the Edward H. Angle Society of Orthodontists, Midwest Component.

Dr. Hernández-Orsini said, “With more than 28 years in clinical orthodontics and academics, I am deeply honored to serve as a director of The American Board of Orthodontics. Our specialty is experiencing an evolution today, and the ABO’s work is essential by promoting excellence in orthodontics. I am committed to giving distinguished representation from the Middle Atlantic Association of Orthodontists on the ABO board.”