New Board Director
At the 2018 Fall Meeting, the ABTS elected Dr. Joseph S. Coselli (Houston, TX) to be an At-large Director on the Board. Dr. Coselli will serve a six-year term until 2024.

New Congenital Cardiac Surgery Index Case Requirements
The ABTS approved changes to the congenital index case requirements for initial certification. The Board will now accept 3 Systemic-to-pulmonary artery shunt procedures instead of 5 cases, 5 Right Ventricle-to-pulmonary artery conduit insertion/replacement instead of 10 cases, and 5 AVSD/IAVD of which 2 must be AVSDs instead of 2 cases each.

New Congenital Cardiac Surgery Residency Length Option
At the Spring Board Meeting, the ABTS agreed to allow CHS Fellowships to be either one or two years in length. Candidates for certification must complete twelve (12) or twenty-four (24) consecutive months of residency training in congenital heart surgery in a single program, accredited by the ACGME RRC-TS. Programs will need to seek approval from the ACGME to change from a one-year to a two-year residency program.

Synchronization of the Subspecialty Certificate to the Primary Certificate
The ABTS has implemented a plan that will synchronize the valid through date on the congenital cardiac surgery subspecialty certificate with the Diplomate’s primary certificate. The goal is for the two certificates to have the same valid through dates, which will allow a Diplomate to maintain both certificates at one time.

SESATS XII (12)
The ABTS is pleased to announce the release of SESATS XII (12). Similar to previous versions, SESATS 12 is a web-based, self-assessment education tool that covers all areas of thoracic surgery, including adult and congenital cardiac, general thoracic and critical care. Diplomates can earn up to 70 CME hours for taking SESATS 12. SESATS 12 may be purchased at www.sesats.org.

MOC Part III Exam Format
The ABTS continues to offer its Maintenance of Certification (MOC) Exam in a Mastery Learning format using SESATS questions. Instead of taking the exam at a Pearson Testing Center, Diplomates enrolled in the 10-year MOC process will take the exam on their home or office computers provided it have Internet-capability. The MOC Exam format is specialty specific (Adult Cardiac, General Thoracic, Cardiothoracic, and Congenital) and consists of approximately 100 questions. The goal of this exam format is
to provide a learning opportunity using judgement and decision-making as well as knowledge.

**Pathways to Certification**
Eligibility to enter the ABTS’ certification process may be achieved by completing one of four training pathways and fulfillment of the other requirements. Details about each pathway can be found on the Board’s web site.

**Examinations**
The ABTS administered the Part II (Oral) Examination to 133 individuals on June 8-9, 2018. The pass rate for the examination was 77%. The next Oral Exam will be on June 7-8, 2019 in Chicago.

The ABTS administered the 2018 Written Exam to 138 candidates on December 3, 2018. The pass rate has not yet been determined.

**Congenital Cardiac Surgery Subspecialty Certificate**
The ABTS administered the Congenital Cardiac Surgery Oral Exam on June 7, 2018 for the fellows who were successful on the Qualifying Exam. The pass rate for the exam was 73%. The next Oral Exam will be on June 6, 2019.

The ABTS administered the 2018 Congenital Cardiac Surgery Written Exam on November 19, 2018. The pass rate has not yet been determined.