



## **PAUL TOWNSEND ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT**

The NBCE Director of Practical Testing and Research Dr. Paul Townsend has announced his retirement from the National Board of Chiropractic Examiners effective December 31, 2017.

On behalf of the NBCE Board of Directors, President Dr. Salvatore D. LaRusso expressed appreciation to Dr. Townsend for “his professionalism and devotion to Part IV. Under Dr. Townsend’s leadership, the NBCE has continued development of this exam, ensuring its enduring relevance and importance to chiropractic. The fact that all 50 states now accept or require passing Part IV demonstrates its impact upon the profession. The NBCE is extremely proud and grateful to Dr. Townsend. We wish him good fortune, health and happiness in his future endeavors.”

Paul Townsend’s career in chiropractic began graduating with honors and being the class valedictorian of the fall class at Palmer College of Chiropractic in 1973. Later he taught at Palmer as an associate professor in Palmer’s Outpatient Clinic, and in the Department of Post-Graduate Education as a lecturer in Sports Chiropractic. Dr. Townsend first came to the NBCE in 1976 as a Part II Test Committee participant. In 1979, Dr. Townsend left the Palmer faculty and moved to Colorado, where he was asked by the NBCE to become a private contract consultant.

Dr. Townsend was instrumental in the development of the Part IV examination, and led a committee to study feasibility of implementing a nationwide practical examination for chiropractic licensure. The first official Part IV examination was administered on four chiropractic college campuses in January 1996. Today, Part IV is administered on eleven college campuses, and is widely considered a standard of excellence in the chiropractic profession.

“I am excited to know that the NBCE Board of Directors has appointed Dr. Andy Gow, a rising star at the NBCE, to be the new Director of Practical Testing,” said Dr. Townsend. “Under Dr. Gow’s leadership, I am confident that Part IV will continue to be the benchmark for professional licensure testing in the health occupations.”

