



Dear Esteemed Colleagues,

It is my pleasure to greet you as we join our voices in beautiful San Diego in furtherance of the important work of the International Conference of Funeral Service Examining Boards. To our members, educators, directors and staff, I cannot begin to express my deep gratitude for the opportunity to preside over this, our 115th Annual Meeting, and The Conference Board, for the past several months.

I am also pleased to share some of the projects that we have been working on to advance the mission of The Conference and our commitment to the needs of its members. The Model Internship guidelines that will be voted on this year represent a melding of best practices from across the funeral service profession. We have also rededicated our efforts toward providing a superior candidate experience and, to that end, have completed an extensive review of our communication prior to, and following, the examination. We look forward to sharing our 2018 Annual Report which provides insight into Conference services.

The past five years have required a level of perseverance to protect the integrity of our examination results that has been unparalleled in Conference history. This difficult and litigious experience reaffirmed the need to continually educate all stakeholders about the examination process and the need to remain vigilant to preserve the credentials necessary to be a true professional. We commend those who stand with us to protect that standard.

We hope that you will be enthusiastic participants at this annual meeting and look forward to the dynamic conversations that inevitably occur when we convene each year. Please enjoy the beautiful backdrop of San Diego while we learn from each other and strive to advance regulation within the funeral profession. Please know that your entire board of directors and staff look forward to greeting you and stand ready to assist you in the honorable work you perform each day.

Yours Sincerely,

Mark Ransford  
President, ICFSEB

