

After more than 18 years of service to ASCO as Senior Consultant, Dr. Les Caplan is retiring on Dec. 31. Dr. Caplan was the founder of the Association of Clinic Directors/Administrators of Schools and Colleges of Optometry, which became ASCO's first Special Interest Group (SIG) in 1995. Since then he has provided invaluable expertise and leadership to the Clinic Directors/Administrators SIG as well as to the Externship Directors SIG.

Dr. Caplan's career has spanned the decades and encompassed a successful private practice in Baltimore, Md., entrance into academic life as a faculty member and clinic director at the University of Alabama at Birmingham where he will forever be Professor Emeritus, and election into the National Optometry Hall of Fame in 2011.

"I know I speak for everyone at ASCO — especially the clinic directors and administrators from the schools and colleges of optometry who have crossed paths with Dr. Caplan over so many years — by saying he will be sorely missed and certainly never forgotten," said ASCO Executive Director, Marty Wall, CAE. "Dr. Caplan will leave considerable and enduring contributions to ASCO and to optometric education."



*Dr. Les Caplan (center front) during the recent meeting of the Clinic Directors/Administrators SIG in St. Louis, Mo., with (left to right) Dr. Joseph Fleming, Optometry Chief of Staff, University of Alabama at Birmingham; James O'Connor, Marketing Manager, Accutome; Dana Beards, University Outreach Coordinator, VSP; Pete Mastores, President, Volk Optical; and Irwin Kronenberg, Vice President, Specialty Division, Haag-Streit.*