



*Dawn Mancuso, MAM, CAE,
FASAE*

The Board of Directors of the Association of Schools and Optometry (ASCO) held its fall meeting in New Orleans on Oct. 6. The meeting included a warm welcome to ASCO's new Executive Director Dawn Mancuso, MAM, CAE, FASAE. ([Read a Q&A with Dawn.](#))

ASCO President Dr. David Heath (SUNY) began the meeting with his President's Report consisting of updates on the [Inter-Organizational Communications and Cooperation Committee](#), Executive Committee activities, his President's Priorities and a recent [joint Board meeting](#) with the National Board of Examiners in Optometry.

Also at the meeting:

- ▶ ASCO President-Elect Dr. Karla Zadnik (OSU), who is leading the special task force created to design and steward [ASCO's strategic planning process](#), discussed procedure, time lines, themes and priorities.
- ▶ ASCO's FY15 audit was received and accepted.
- ▶ The Board approved a motion to forego distributing Partnership Endowment funds from FY15 for a year.
- ▶ The Board approved funding to hold a second [Online Clinical Educators Forum](#).
- ▶ ASCO's Immediate Past President Dr. Jennifer Coyle (PUCO) updated the Board on plans for the Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice Summit that ASCO is hosting in February 2016.
- ▶ Dr. Kierstyn Napier-Dovarany (WUCO), Chancellor of the Beta Sigma Kappa Central World Council, presented information on student and fellowship grants available through Beta Sigma Kappa, the International Optometric Honor Society.
- ▶ James Jorkasky, Executive Director of the National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research/Alliance for Eye and Vision Research, presented an update on federal funding for vision research.
- ▶ Two ASCO corporate contributors, Haag-Streit and National Vision, Inc., gave presentations.
- ▶ Standing and ad hoc committees presented updates on their activities to the Board for discussion.

The ASCO Board of Directors meets three times per year. Its [next meeting](#) will be in Scottsdale, Ariz., in March 2016.