

The University of Houston College of Optometry (UHCO) recently recognized two faculty members with appointments to new named professorships. Dr. Jan Bergmanson, Professor and Founding Director of the Texas Eye Research and Technology Center, holds the first Brien Holden Professorship, and Dr. Vallabh Das, Professor and Chair of the Department of Basic Sciences, is the first Benedict-Pitts Professor.

The Brien A. Holden Professorship Endowment supports a faculty member who exemplifies the commitment to the profession and the ideals Professor Holden championed throughout his lifetime with regard to vision science and innovation and are still being carried out today via the Brien Holden Vision Research Institute. The Benedict-Pitts Professorship Endowment supports a faculty member who exemplifies the commitment to practice management and the ideals that Bill C. Benedict and Dr. Donald Graves Pitts demonstrated for the optometric profession in all facets.

For more information about Dr. Das, Dr. Bergmanson, Professor Holden (1942-2015), Benedict (1925-2014) and Dr. Pitts (1927-2012), [visit the UHCO website](#).



*Dr. Jan Bergmanson, left, and Dr. Vallabh Das.*