This annual national award, sponsored by Alcon, is available to optometry students during any point of their professional program at an ASCO-affiliated school or college of optometry in the U.S., Puerto Rico and Canada. The application consists of an essay of up to 1,500 words describing any one of the following scenarios:

- A patient based case-study that the student encountered as part of their clinical learning experience.
- A research based case scenario that the student has encountered during their clinical or didactic learning experience.
- A professional ethics based scenario that the student has encountered during their clinical or didactic learning.

The essay must describe and discuss the ethical theories and values that were used in the decision making process and address relevant state laws relating to the case (if applicable). The essay must be submitted in a publishable quality format. Each school or college of optometry is permitted to submit only one essay through the assigned award coordinator for their school. A committee of the ASCO Ethics Educators SIG (Special Interest Group) will make the selection of one national recipient. The award will consist of a plaque and a cash award of $1,000. The essay, publication release form, as well as a digital photo of the student must be submitted electronically to the Sara Lau by Feb. 15, 2018.