Midwestern University Welcomes New Chicago College of Optometry Dean



Kathleen H. Goeppinger, PhD, President and Chief Executive Officer of Midwestern University, announced the promotion of Melissa Suckow, OD, FAAO, to Dean of the Chicago College of Optometry (CCO). Dr. Suckow joined Midwestern University in 2015 and has served as CCO's Associate Dean of Academic Affairs for the past year.

"Dr. Suckow brings a wealth of experience to her role at Midwestern University," Dr. Goeppinger said. "Shortly after joining the University, she was appointed Chair of the Student Promotion and Graduation Committee, led policy discussions with the faculty, and produced the Uniform Course Policies document that is in use today."

Dr. Suckow earned a Doctor of Optometry degree and completed a residency in pediatric optometry/binocular vision at the New England College of Optometry, where she was then appointed as a full-time Assistant Professor. While there, she served as the Clinical Director at Seamark Vision Clinic and the Cotting School, which serves children with special needs in Massachusetts. After relocating to Illinois, Dr. Suckow served for several years as an optometrist for the Chicago public schools' Health Kids, Healthy Minds Enhanced Vision Program. In 2011, she joined the clinical faculty of the Illinois College of Optometry and was a preceptor for third- and fourth-year students on rotation at the Illinois Eye Institute at Princeton School.

As Dean of the Chicago College of Optometry, Dr. Suckow will provide guidance and leadership for the College, which welcomed its inaugural class in the fall of 2017. CCO students earn a Doctor of Optometry (OD) degree following an intensive four-year program where they learn to diagnose, treat, and manage injuries and diseases of the eye and visual system.