UAB Graduate Named Optometric Association Student of the Year



Hannah Greenfield, left, and School of Optometry Dean Nichols at graduation

Hannah Greenfield, a 2018 graduate of the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Optometry, has been named the first recipient of the American Optometric Student Association's student of the year award. The inaugural award is given to a student who has shown leadership skills when serving their profession, patients and community.

"The AOSA is a wonderful organization made up of my peers and some of the hardest-working students in optometry," Greenfield said. "Being selected by them —knowing their passion and drive —makes me feel extremely honored. I am flattered beyond words that I'll be representing UAB on a national level."

Greenfield's commitment to bettering a patient's health and quality of life stood out among other recipients and was an integral part of the nomination process by her professors. Greenfield was recognized at the American Optometric Association's annual meeting in June.

"Recognition by the AOSA with this award provides validity and appreciation for student dedication and perseverance during what is likely to be the most stressful years of their lives," said Elizabeth A. Steele, OD, associate professor of Optometry. "Each year, I work with a different group of student leaders, and I can honestly say that Hannah will stand out in my mind as one of the best for years to come."

Greenfield is pursuing residency in Gallup, New Mexico, as a hospital resident at the Gallup Indian Medical Center specializing in ocular disease and primary care.