Grads Illustrate Success of ICO Diversity Program



Dr. Agen Herring



Dr. Candace Hines



Dr. Laura Martinez

Now entering its sixth year, the Illinois College of Optometry's (ICO) week-long Focus on Your Future program has had remarkable success in attracting under-represented minority community college, undergraduate and post-baccalaureate students to the profession of optometry. Three participants from the inaugural program graduated as part of ICO's Class of 2013: Drs. Agen Herring, Candace Hines and Laura Martinez. From a total of 96 participants, 11 Focus on Your Future alumni have enrolled at ICO, and another is joining the school this fall. Since its inception, the program has received consecutive Diversity Mini-Grants from ASCO.

Also: ICO approved a new five-year strategic plan. Primary areas of focus are interprofessional education, physical plant and student recruitment.