

Planning has begun for ASCO's sixth biennial Summer Institute for Faculty Development, which will be held July 12-15, 2015, at the Eric P. Newman Center of Washington University Medical Center in St. Louis. While up to two applicants from each school and college of optometry will be selected to participate in the program, institutions are encouraged to submit additional applicants. The program is co-chaired by Dr. David Damari and Dr. Tiffenie Harris. The goal of the Institute is to promote increased retention of faculty in the schools and colleges of optometry while providing participants with an opportunity to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to enhance their success in an optometric academic environment as career-long, productive faculty members. The targeted participants are full-time faculty members for more than two but less than 10 years.

ASCO's third biennial Future Faculty Program will be held July 12-14, 2015, in conjunction with the Summer Institute for Faculty Development. Twenty-one residents and graduate students from the schools and colleges of optometry will be selected to participate in the program, which is co-chaired by Dr. Shilpa Register and Dr. Joan Portello. The goal of the program is to provide participants with an opportunity to gain the knowledge and skills necessary to enhance their success in an optometric academic environment as career-long, productive faculty members. This program is geared toward individuals who have an OD degree or are earning a PhD.

Both the Summer Institute for Faculty Development and the Future Faculty Program are ASCO initiatives aimed at addressing its strategic objective of faculty promotion and development. Program participants will meet with assigned faculty/mentors and attend sessions covering areas in teaching and learning, scholarship and academic culture. The Association thanks Alcon, Essilor and Vistakon for generously contributing to the Institute, and Walmart for funding the Future Faculty Program.

Applications for the programs are now being accepted. All applications must be approved by the dean/president of the applicant's institution prior to submission to ASCO. For more information, e-mail [LaShawn Sidbury](mailto:LaShawn.Sidbury@asco.org), CMP, Manager, Programs and Meetings, or call her at (301) 231-5944 ext. 3012.