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Educating Our Students for the Future

There is no escaping the fact that an optometric education is a challenging endeavor. To succeed, optometry students must work hard to master the knowledge and skill necessary to become a Doctor of Optometry. But beyond the very demanding curriculum, optometry students and educators are faced with another formidable challenge that never goes away: the future.

The practice of optometry will inevitably evolve and change dramatically in the years to come. Some of these changes will be driven by new knowledge and understanding or new technologies and techniques. Others will come as a result of healthcare reform and changes in the way care is delivered. Regardless of what precipitates them, each of these changes will have to be successfully navigated in order to prepare our students to thrive.

With the implementation of the Affordable Care Act placing a greater emphasis on patient outcomes, care coordination and interprofessional practice, we are seeing an evolution occur in optometry. Different models and staffing structures for care delivery are likely to develop, and a greater emphasis will be placed on the utilization of technologies to adapt to this new paradigm. And that’s just the beginning of what we can expect to see and what we must prepare our students to handle.

These changes mean that we cannot simply educate our students for what was required of them yesterday or even today. We need to anticipate what is to come and make every effort to prepare them for it. While the future will never be completely knowable, Abraham Lincoln once said that “the best way to predict your future is to create it.” Fortunately, our schools and colleges of optometry are on the leading edge of the profession, often acting as incubators and beta testers for new technologies and new prototypes of care delivery. Many of our institutions engage in research designed to build knowledge and spark new developments. In keeping with this tradition, we must also work hard to prepare our students to succeed and innovate in the rapidly evolving healthcare environment.

These are interesting and exciting times in health care and we must do our best to ensure that our students enter the field prepared to lead it forward.

Dr. David A. Heath
Registration Opens in December for ASCO’s Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice Summit

Planning is well under way for ASCO’s Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice Summit, which will be held Feb. 5-6, 2016 in Fullerton, Calif. Hosted by ASCO with additional funding provided by Allergan, Alcon, Johnson & Johnson Vision Care and HOYA Vision Care, the Summit will bring together representatives from ASCO member institutions and other champions of interprofessional collaboration. Participants will gather at Southern California College of Optometry at Marshall B. Ketchum University to share current best practices and ideas about future development of interprofessional education (IPE) and interprofessional practice (IPP).

Dr. Jennifer Coyle, ASCO Immediate Past-President and Chair of ASCO’s Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice Committee, comments, “Our goals for the Summit are to generate ideas and action plans to implement sustainable interprofessional education and practice programs at every ASCO institution, and to engage all stakeholders in the profession to improve optometry’s ability to promote our role in team-based health care.”

In preparation for the Summit, ASCO’s Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice Committee recently surveyed member schools about the current state of IPE at their institutions. The committee will use the information to plan an agenda that will allow participants to explore future options for enhanced engagement in IPE and IPP and to develop strategies for assessing the impact of IPE and IPP on patient outcomes.

Participation in the Summit is by invitation only and includes one faculty member from each ASCO member school and, if possible, a faculty member from an affiliated health professions school. Independent member schools are welcome to bring two representatives from optometry. In addition, representatives of affiliated optometric organizations and other health professions education associations will be invited.

Registration will open in December. For more information, e-mail Joanne Zuckerman, MSEd, ASCO’s Manager, Data Services and Special Projects.

Dr. Hoppe Represents ASCO at IOM Global Forum on Innovation in Health Professional Education

ASCO is proud to be a sponsor of the Institute of Medicine (IOM) Global Forum on Innovation in Health Professional Education. The Global Forum brings together organizations and institutions with common interests in the future of health professional education to explore issues related to educating future healthcare workers and preparing them to provide care in multidisciplinary, collaborative settings.

Dr. Elizabeth Hoppe, ASCO Secretary-Treasurer and Founding Dean of Western University of Health Sciences College of Optometry, represents ASCO at the Forum. Dr. Hoppe recently attended a planning meeting and open session where strategic planning discussion was framed by the topic “Rethinking Health & Education for Breaking Professional Silos.” The next day, the Forum hosted an open session of an IOM ad hoc consensus study committee focusing on “Educating Health Professionals to Address the Social Determinants of Health.” The consensus study is currently being written.
The Global Forum on Innovation in Health Professional Education will hold a workshop in April 2016 on the subject of accreditation.
ASCO Welcomes 22nd Member

ASCO recently welcomed its newest member institution, the University of Pikeville Kentucky College of Optometry (KYCO).

KYCO is the 22nd member of ASCO and the first optometry school in Kentucky. The program’s Founding Dean is Dr. Andrew Buzzelli, and its inaugural class is currently being recruited for fall 2016. Sixty students will be admitted per class for a total of 240. With no other colleges of optometry in Kentucky, West Virginia, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina or Georgia, KYCO will be the most accessible college of optometry in the Southeastern portion of the country. The Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE) has granted KYCO the pre-accreditation classification of “Preliminary Approval.” As stated by ACOE Chairman Dr. J. Bart Campbell in a KYCO press release, “The classification of ‘Preliminary Approval’ is granted to a professional optometric degree program that has clearly demonstrated it is developing in accordance with council standards. The program has approval to begin student recruitment, selection and admissions and to begin offering the program.”

A continuation of the university’s strategic focus on health sciences, KYCO, the Kentucky College of Osteopathic Medicine and the Elliott School of Nursing will serve as an integrated healthcare model for rural medicine.
ASCO Board Holds Fall Meeting in New Orleans

The Board of Directors of the Association of Schools and Optometry (ASCO) held its fall meeting in New Orleans on Oct. 6. The meeting included a warm welcome to ASCO’s new Executive Director Dawn Mancuso, MAM, CAE, FASAE. (Read a Q&A with Dawn.)

ASCO President Dr. David Heath (SUNY) began the meeting with his President’s Report consisting of updates on the Inter-Organizational Communications and Cooperation Committee, Executive Committee activities, his President’s Priorities and a recent joint Board meeting with the National Board of Examiners in Optometry.

Also at the meeting:

? ASCO President-Elect Dr. Karla Zadnik (OSU), who is leading the special task force created to design and steward ASCO’s strategic planning process, discussed procedure, time lines, themes and priorities.

? ASCO’s FY15 audit was received and accepted.

? The Board approved a motion to forego distributing Partnership Endowment funds from FY15 for a year.

? The Board approved funding to hold a second Online Clinical Educators Forum.

? ASCO’s Immediate Past President Dr. Jennifer Coyle (PUCO) updated the Board on plans for the Interprofessional Education and Collaborative Practice Summit that ASCO is hosting in February 2016.

? Dr. Kierstyn Napier-Dovarany (WUCO), Chancellor of the Beta Sigma Kappa Central World Council, presented information on student and fellowship grants available through Beta Sigma Kappa, the International Optometric Honor Society.

? James Jorkasky, Executive Director of the National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research/Alliance for Eye and Vision Research, presented an update on federal funding for vision research.


? Standing and ad hoc committees presented updates on their activities to the Board for discussion.
The ASCO Board of Directors meets three times per year. Its next meeting will be in Scottsdale, Ariz., in March 2016.
Attention Schools and Colleges of Optometry: Post Faculty Position Openings with Us

Do you have a job opening at your school or college of optometry? Posting your position on the Career Opportunities in the Schools and Colleges of Optometry page at the ASCO website is great exposure.

For pricing and other information, e-mail Sara Lau.
Five Optometry Organizations Meet to Discuss Collaboration

Representatives from ASCO, ARBO, NBEO, AAO and AOA at the October meeting of the Inter-Organizational Communications and Cooperation Committee in Denver.

Key leaders from five prominent associations in optometry, a group now known as the Inter-Organizational Communications and Cooperation Committee (IOCCC), met Oct. 25-26 in Denver to discuss opportunities for current and future collaboration. The IOCCC consists of representatives from ASCO, the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry (ARBO), the American Academy of Optometry (AAO), the American Optometric Association (AOA) and the National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO). Representing ASCO at the meeting were President Dr. David Heath, Immediate Past President Dr. Jennifer Coyle and Executive Director Dawn Mancuso, MAM, CAE, FASAE.

Among the items discussed were ways to coordinate messaging to the profession and to external audiences; efforts to build a stronger applicant pool for optometry schools; exploration of the establishment of formal subspecialties in optometry; data collection; CE accreditation; identification and assessment of core clinical skills, including critical thinking skills, necessary for licensure; and opportunities for engaging a larger cohort of practitioners, academicians and researchers in important advocacy efforts.

It was decided that each IOCCC organization will consider participating in an advisory work group composed of communications staff that will focus on promotion of optometry in the minds of the public and other medical professionals. In addition, an exploratory work group on subspecialties has been formed and will continue its investigation into how formal subspecialties might be implemented.

The IOCCC meets twice a year, once via conference call and once in person. The next in-person meeting is scheduled for August 2016.
Committee Co-Sponsors Academic Career Workshop for Students

The 2015 American Academy of Optometry (AAO) annual meeting in New Orleans was the setting for a workshop jointly developed by the AAO and the ASCO Academic Affairs Committee (AAC). “Charting Your Career in Academic Optometry and Research: A Session for Optometry and Graduate Students,” held Oct. 9 at the convention center, was part of the AAC’s effort to market graduate education to students. The workshop built on the previously created PowerPoint presentation, “Career Opportunities for ODs in Academia: Teaching & Research Needs,” which is available at ASCO’s website.

The session was developed for students and graduate students who are considering a career in optometric research, and it featured experienced clinician/scientists from industry and academia who discussed their experiences and shared suggestions for success. Dr. David Troilo (SUNY), lead planner of the program, Chair of ASCO’s Academic Affairs Officers group and member of the AAC, delivered introductory remarks.

The following gave presentations:

Dr. David Troilo

Dr. Kelly Nichols
• Dr. Sue Cotter, SCCOMBKU (career paths for clinician/scientists in academia)

• Dr. Joe Rappon, Alcon (clinician/scientists in industry)

• Dr. Michael Twa, UABSO (degree program information)

• Dr. Kathryn Richdale, SUNY (degree program information)

• Dr. Rachel Redfern, UHCO (optometric research)

• Dr. Troilo (on behalf of Dr. Jeff Walline, OSU - clinical research and clinical trials).

A panel Q&A took place after the presentations. The session was recorded and will be made available through ASCO.

Dr. Troilo explained the impetus behind the creation of the session, saying “Research is the backbone of all health professions. Basic, translational and clinical research in optometry and vision science informs and moves the profession and patient care forward. The session was developed by ASCO in partnership with the Academy to help students and young optometrists appreciate the scientific basis of the profession and consider graduate programs and career paths in optometric research.” AAC Chair Dr. Kelly Nichols (UABSO) also commented on the workshop: “ASCO is committed to continued excellence in optometry through faculty development. This session highlighted the career path of academic optometry and translational research, and it is very possible that future faculty leaders were among the attendees and presenters in the room! We hope to see this program grow in future years.”

For more information about the session and other efforts of the AAC, e-mail Carol Brubaker.
It’s Time for Students to Enter to Win Clinical Ethics Essay Contest

The deadline to enter to win ASCO’s Student Award in Clinical Ethics is Feb. 15, 2016. This annual award is available to optometry students during any point in their professional program at an ASCO-affiliated school or college of optometry in the United States, Puerto Rico or Canada. The award is given based on an essay of up to 1,500 words describing any one of the following scenarios:

• a patient-based case study the student encountered as part of a clinical learning experience

• a research-based case scenario the student encountered during a clinical or didactic learning experience

• a professional ethics-based scenario the student encountered during 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 of publishable quality.

Each school or college of optometry is permitted to submit only one essay through its assigned award coordinator. A committee of the ASCO Ethics Educators Special Interest Group will select one award recipient. The award consists of a plaque and $1,000.

Before submitting the essay, digital photo of the author and publication release form to Sara Lau via e-mail, entrants should review the complete contest requirements at the ASCO website.
New Podcast from ASCO

The latest podcast released by ASCO (ASCO and New Beginnings) features President Dr. David Heath and Executive Director Dawn Mancuso, MAM, CAE, FASAE, who discuss the latest news from the Association as well as changes within the climate of optometric education and health care in general and how they will be addressed. They also provide insight into the new strategic plan ASCO is developing, which will involve continued and enhanced engagement with organizations both inside and outside of optometry.

Previous podcasts include Optometry and Interprofessional Education, Why Academic Optometry? and Is Optometry For Me?

Each podcast is available at the ASCO website, on iTunes and on ASCO’s YouTube channel.
ABO to be Listed as Certifying Board on Physician Compare

On Oct. 30, the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services (CMS) issued a final rule updating its policies for services furnished under the Medicare Physician Fee Schedule on or after Jan. 1, 2016. Included with the updates is the decision to include “certifying board” with provider credentials on the Physician Compare website at Medicare.gov. Specifically, American Board of Optometry (ABO) Board Certification will be recognized.
ASCO Faculty Members Named AAO Diplomates and Fellows

Congratulations to faculty from ASCO member schools and colleges who were named Diplomate or Fellow at Academy 2015 New Orleans, the 94th annual meeting of the American Academy of Optometry.

**Diplomates**

- Dr. Swati C. Modi, University of Houston College of Optometry
- Dr. Ava K. Bittner, NOVA Southeastern University College of Optometry
- Dr. Karl Citek, Pacific University College of Optometry

**Fellows**

- Dr. Mariem Abdou, NOVA Southeastern University College of Optometry
- Dr. Anna Ablamowicz, University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Optometry
- Dr. Kristin Anderson, Southern College of Optometry
- Dr. Baskar Arumugam, University of Houston College of Optometry
- Dr. Erin Brooks, University of Missouri at St. Louis College of Optometry
- Dr. Julia Canestraro, State University of New York College of Optometry
- Dr. Judy Cao, Western University of Health Sciences College of Optometry
- Dr. James Caruso, New England College of Optometry
- Dr. Andy Cheng, State University of New York College of Optometry
- Dr. Karen Chester, University of California - Berkeley School of Optometry
- Dr. Luanne Chubb, Salus University Pennsylvania College of Optometry
- Dr. Sheryl Guillory, University of California - Berkeley School of Optometry
- Dr. Sarah Hinkley, Michigan College of Optometry at Ferris State University
- Dr. Alison Jenerou, Michigan College of Optometry at Ferris State University
- Jasleen Jhajj, NOVA Southeastern University College of Optometry
- Dr. Spencer Johnson, Northeastern State University Oklahoma College of Optometry
- Dr. Jennifer Lynn Jones, Southern College of Optometry
Dr. Karen Kehbein, Southern College of Optometry

Dr. Aaron Kerr, Southern College of Optometry

Dr. Michael Kozlowski, Midwestern University Arizona College of Optometry

Dr. Jamie Kuhn, Midwestern University Arizona College of Optometry

Dr. Reena Lepine, Southern College of Optometry

Dr. Katherine Lynch, Illinois College of Optometry

Dr. Nancy McNamara, University of California - Berkeley School of Optometry

Dr. Bhawanjot Minhas, Salus University Pennsylvania College of Optometry

Dr. Charlie Ngo, University of California - Berkeley School of Optometry

Dr. Caroline Ooley, Pacific University College of Optometry

Dr. Fredy Otalora, NOVA Southeastern University College of Optometry

Dr. Athanasios Panorgias, New England College of Optometry

Dr. Sharon Park, State University of New York College of Optometry

Dr. Austin Roorda, University of California - Berkeley School of Optometry

Dr. David Simpson, Northeastern State University Oklahoma College of Optometry

Dr. Anne Tasaki, University of California - Berkeley School of Optometry

Dr. Jenny Terrell, University of the Incarnate Word Rosenberg School of Optometry

Dr. Kelli Theisen, Illinois College of Optometry

Dr. Caitlin Walsh, University of California - Berkeley School of Optometry

Dr. Mark Wu, University of California - Berkeley School of Optometry

Dr. Florencia Yeh, Midwestern University Arizona College of Optometry

E-mail Kim O’Sullivan if someone is missing from the list.
ASCO Strategic Planning Under Way

For the first time in many years, ASCO is embarking on a comprehensive strategic planning process to develop a five-year, organization-wide plan that will drive priority initiatives, annual work plans and budgets for the Association. The process will be as inclusive as possible and will include input from ASCO committees, special interest groups, staff and other stakeholders.

The ASCO Strategic Planning Task Force is chaired by Dr. Karla Zadnik (OSU), ASCO’s President-Elect, and includes President Dr. David Heath (SUNY), Immediate Past President Dr. Jennifer Coyle (PUCO), At-Large Board Member Dr. David A. Damari (MCO), Board Member Dr. Larry J. Davis (UMSL), Board Member Dr. Lewis Reich (SCO) and Executive Director Dawn Mancuso, MAM, CAE, FASAE.

The task force is assigned with designing and stewarding the planning process, which is in its initial phase. The goal is to have a finalized plan before spring 2017. More information on ASCO’s strategic plan will appear in future issues of Eye on Education.
ASCO and NBEO Hold Joint Meeting

The Boards of Directors of ASCO and the National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO) held a joint meeting Sept. 21 to discuss a number of issues of importance to both organizations. Hosted by NBEO in Charlotte, N.C., the meeting enhanced rapport among members of the Boards, enriched understanding of the interests and priorities of each organization and renewed commitment to continue this level of dialogue in the future.

Topics discussed at the meeting included:

• ways to improve communications around test results in order to better serve student-candidates’ goals
• the NBEO Parts I, II and III test-design process
• the importance of ethics training and NBEO forensics
• consideration of changes to the current approach to test administration.

The two organizations are considering the establishment of two joint task forces to work together throughout the year on these issues. Future outcomes will be reported in upcoming issues of Eye on Education.
Optometry Residency Match is Now Open

ASCO’s Optometry Residency Match (ORMatch) opened for applications on Oct. 1. ORMatch, facilitated by National Matching Services Inc., is an application service and match that places applicants into optometry residency training positions based on a mutual ranking algorithm.

For 2016, 229 programs with 428 available positions are participating. The match results will be released to applicants and programs on March 7.

Visit the ORMatch website or e-mail Paige Pence, ASCO’s Director of Student and Residency Affairs, for more information.
Applicant, Entering Class, Post-Graduate Data Available Online

ASCO’s “Profile of Applicants to OD Degree Programs for Fall 2015 Entering Class” is available on the Association’s website. The report lists the numbers of male and female applicants, the numbers of applicants who were in-state, out-of-state or from a foreign country, applicants’ average GPA and average Optometry Admission Test score as well as other data. “Profile of the 2015 Optometry Entering Class” provides similar information and is also available at the website, as are two reports on post-doctoral and fellowship programs.

Questions about any of these reports should be directed to Joanne Zuckerman, MSEd, ASCO’s Manager, Data Services and Special Projects.
Firm Cites Optometry as Top Industry for Women

The business research firm IBIS World has listed “optometrists” on its list of Top US Industries For Women. Using its database of more than 700 industry reports, in conjunction with Bureau of Labor Statistics employment statistics, the firm chose six industries it sees as offering unique employment advantages for women based on 2009-2014 data. The industries are characterized by strong growth in revenue and employment, particularly in the number of female workers.

Among the positive aspects of the outlook for optometry, IBIS World noted that industries across the medical sector have experienced hiring surges as a result of the Affordable Care Act (ACA). It also stated that demand for pediatric optometrists in particular has increased because the ACA designated pediatric vision services a mandatory benefit under all health plans.
Fifth Optometry Virtual Fair Held in October

ASCO sponsored its fifth Optometry Virtual Fair on Oct. 28. All of schools and colleges that were ASCO members at that time participated in the Fair, giving nearly 300 prospective applicants a chance to online “chat” with school and college representatives.

The Virtual Fair is part of the ASCO-American Optometric Association Project on Further Developing a Robust, Diverse, and Highly Qualified National Applicant Pool. The Fair is promoted along with the profession of optometry through an e-mail campaign targeting prospective applicants, pre-optometry clubs and health professions advisors. It provides a convenient platform for people who are considering applying to optometry school to ask questions about the profession, the OptomCAS application process and school-specific requirements.

The next Virtual Fair will be held on Jan. 27. For questions or more information, e-mail Paige Pence, ASCO Director of Student and Residency Affairs.
Interested in Being a Guest Blogger for ASCO?

Did you know that ASCO has a blog? Would you like to contribute to it? It’s an opportunity to promote your school, your profession or any topic related to being a Doctor of Optometry.

If you’re interested in writing a post for the blog, e-mail Kimberly O’Sullivan.
Gel Drops a New Option for Dry Eye Sufferers

Refresh Optive Gel Drops, a new aqueous gel for patients who need or desire a more viscous artificial tear to relieve dry eye symptoms, are now available from Allergan. Gel Drops are designed to bind to the surface of the eye to provide long-lasting relief from dry eye discomfort, day or night. According to Allergan, in a multicenter, double-masked, randomized study, dry eye patients using Refresh Optive Gel Drops showed a statistically significant reduction in symptoms at day 30.

Also: Partnering with the U.S. First Responders Association to launch the Refresh America campaign, Allergan is helping the nation’s first responders, who often work in conditions that expose them to heat, smoke, wind and dust, to alleviate dry eye symptoms and perform at their best. Until July 31, 2016, every purchase of a specially-marked package in the company’s Refresh Optive product line will lead to donations of Refresh eye drops to select first responder groups nationwide.
App Promotes Importance of Eye Protection

Polaroid Sunglasses launched an international campaign to increase understanding of the risks of UV radiation. As part of the campaign, the brand has also launched a free app that measures UV radiation and alerts users when it reaches dangerous levels. The Polaroid UV Alert app also includes information about Polaroid polarized sunglass lenses and lens technology, detailed information on UV radiation protection and clear directions to where to buy Polaroid sunglasses. Polaroid uses only UV400 polarized lenses, which are designed to block all harmful UVA, UVB and UVC rays and do not allow horizontal light to pass through, eliminating glare and providing clear vision and accurate color perception.

The app, which is designed exclusively for iPhones and the Apple Watch and compatible with iPads and the iPod Touch, is available for download from the Apple’s iTunes Store.
Dry Eye Diagnostics in One Report

The JENVIS Dry Eye Report is a new way for eyecare professionals to create a convenient one-page overview of the exam results generated by the Oculus Keratograph 5M, a corneal topographer with a built-in real keratometer and a color camera optimized for external imaging. In addition to the meibography, NIKBUT, tear meniscus height, lipid layer and bulbar redness information from the Keratograph 5M, data collected from other tests, such as tear osmolarity, blink rate and the OSDI Dry Eye Questionnaire can be entered into the report.

The Dry Eye Report, which includes the practice logo, combines screening and consultancy. For the patient, it also provides the doctor’s treatment recommendations and easy-to-understand explanations of abbreviations and technical terms. Click here to see an example of the report.
Grant Program for Students Open Now

Through a new 2015-2016 grant program, National Vision Inc. is encouraging students to pause and reflect on why they are interested in practicing primary care optometry and to consider the key issues affecting their future profession. All third- and fourth-year optometry students in the United States are eligible to apply for the chance to win a $5,000 grand prize.

To enter, applicants must write a 500-word essay or create a short video describing their perspectives on the need for affordable primary eye care in today’s changing healthcare environment. A flyer with additional information and requirement details can be found on the Student section of NVIOptometry.com.

According to Alex Louw, National Vision’s Senior Vice President, Professional Services, an online survey conducted for the company showed that a top reason people give for not visiting their eye doctor is that they cannot afford it. “We want to hear what ideas future optometrists have for extending the affordability of eye care to more patients and inspire them to think about this when they are considering where their first job will be and what they hope to accomplish in their careers,” Louw said.

All submissions and questions regarding the program should be sent to Mauricio Wissinger by January 31. The winner and two runners-up will be announced before March 1.
Company Acquires Doctor’s Allergy Formula Diagnostic Test

BAUSCH + LOMB

Bausch + Lomb has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire Doctor’s Allergy Formula LLC. The company markets an FDA-approved in-office test that enables eyecare practitioners to objectively identify the root cause of patients’ ocular allergies. The noninvasive, three-minute, in-office test utilizes a panel of 60 allergens that are specific to each region of the country. Results are obtained within 15 minutes.

The Doctor’s Allergy Formula test, which is typically covered by medical insurances, helps doctors to distinguish between ocular allergies and other ocular surface diseases, which often share similar signs and symptoms.

For more information, visit the [Doctor’s Allergy Formula website](http://www.doctorsallergyformula.com).
Best Practices Winners to be Announced

In January 2016, CooperVision Inc. will announce the inaugural honorees in its Best Practices initiative. Best Practices discovers and recognizes U.S. eyecare practices that have found unique ways to make their businesses thrive. The initiative is designed to share stories of creativity and success to inspire new ways of thinking and drive excellence in eye care.

Honorees will be presented with opportunities to help educate and elevate the profession through the telling of their stories across the country. Practices receiving the honor may be invited to serve on high-profile professional panels, meet with members of the eyecare and medical news media, and contribute to knowledge-building white papers. In addition, honorees will be able to participate in enhanced training and educational meetings at CooperVision facilities or other locations.

Visit the [Best Practices website](http://bestpracticesopted.org) for more information.
Device Streamlines Slit Lamp Imaging

At this year’s Vision Expo West meeting, Marco unveiled its Ion Imaging System, an all-in-one anterior segment imaging device that combines an intra-optics beam-splitter/camera adapter with the computing and imaging power of the latest Apple technology to create a highly sophisticated “mainstream” imaging system that emphasizes image quality, simplicity and efficiency. The Ion combines all of the components (digital camera, adapter, computer, monitor, multiple cables, keyboard, mouse, etc.) of the traditional photo slit lamp, into one streamlined device.

Marco says the Ion enables eye doctors to “capture, integrate and educate” with every diagnosis. It includes an app dedicated to anterior segment imaging that consists of patient demographics, pre-set photography modes for maximizing various lighting techniques for video or still images, and auto storage to the Cloud or to a local network for EMR or for PACS integration. Find more information online.
FDA Clears First OCT Angiography System

AngioPlex OCT Angiography from Zeiss Medical Technology is the first such technology to receive 510(k) clearance from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. With a single additional OCT scan that takes just seconds on the Cirrus HD-OCT system, images of the retinal vasculature at a depth and clarity not previously available can be obtained.

AngioPlex OCT Angiography delivers high-resolution, depth-resolved visualization of the separate layers of the retinal and choroidal vasculature without the need for injection of a contrast dye. In addition, FastTrac enables follow-up OCT angiography images to be acquired at the same location for monitoring of treatment efficacy and disease progression. AngioPlex OCT Angiography can complement traditional FA as a safe and efficient part of routine eye care, potentially enabling earlier detection and management of micro-progressions. For more information, see the Zeiss website.
Student Scholarship Competition Returns

Project Foresight, the Walmart and Sam’s Club Health & Wellness optometry scholarship competition, has returned for the 2015-2016 academic year. The national business plan competition highlights the vision of Walmart & Sam’s Club Health and Wellness to provide quality, affordable, accessible health care for everyone. Students create their own two-member teams to compete for a $1,500 team scholarship in their region and the chance to travel to the 2016 American Optometric Association meeting in Boston to compete for the grand prize (first place - $15,000 team scholarship; second place - $5,000 team scholarship).

Teams are asked to design an optometric practice that impacts their community. The practice must demonstrate how it will promote the profession of optometry as well as respect for the individual, service to customers, excellence and integrity. Project Foresight is open to students at all Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO) member institutions who are enrolled in their first, second or third year of school during the 2015-2016 academic year. Detailed information about the competition is being sent to each ASCO member school and college of optometry.
Topcon has introduced two new tools for eyecare offices, the IS-5500 Instrument Stand and the SP-1P Specular Microscope.

The IS-5500 Instrument Stand features several new functions, including a white LED overhead lamp; a smaller and more compact design that brings the control panel and charging wells closer to the user; and an illuminated liquid-proof membrane control panel that allows easy operation in darkened environments and provides full control of the stand, chair and room light functions. The EZ-Lock Brake Release mechanism enables effortless movement and easy storage between exams.

The SP-1P Specular Microscope is fully automated and designed for documentation and analysis of the corneal endothelium. Its 10.4-inch rotatable touch panel monitor eliminates the need for a control lever and can be turned to various angles, allowing operation of the instrument from virtually any position. The microscope offers comprehensive Analysis Software and a Wide Angle “Panorama” Photography Mode that substantially increases the size of the analyzed area.

For more information, visit the Topcon website.
ASCOC Journal Invites Authors to Submit Papers for Two Theme Editions

*Optometric Education* announces that two future editions of the journal will each focus on a specific theme.

? Diversity and Cultural and Linguistic Competence

*(Deadline to submit papers: Dec. 31, 2016)*

This edition will focus on the diversity of our students, faculty and profession and all aspects of cultural and linguistic competence, including professional, organizational and individual responsibility.

For additional information about this theme edition, contact Dr. Gary Chu, New England College of Optometry, or journal Editor Dr. Aurora Denial.

? International Optometric Education:

Global Expansion and Transformation

*(Deadline to submit papers: June 1, 2016)*

Over the past 20 years, the profession of optometry has undergone dramatic global changes: expanding scope of practice, increasing quality assurance expectations, significant diversification of students, and the accelerating impact of information technology. Underpinning these changes has been the critical role of international optometric education in supporting and catalyzing this transformation. The same global forces that are driving the transformation of the profession are also creating challenges and opportunities for optometric educational institutions. Student, faculty, patient and institutional expectations are converging and greater accountability is expected. This includes such areas as clinical competency, professional ethics, interprofessional collaboration and curricular innovation.

Authors are invited to submit scholarly articles that address this theme and underscore the growing innovation and impact that educational institutions are having on their students, the profession and the communities they serve. We encourage scholarly articles that are translational and promote global dissemination.

We are pleased to have Dr. Anthony F. Di Stefano, Salus University, serve as the Guest Editor of this issue. For more information, please contact journal Editor Dr. Aurora Denial.
Kentucky College of Optometry Seeks Faculty Members

The University Of Pikeville, the Leading University of Central Appalachia, is currently seeking faculty for its Kentucky College of Optometry. Professional educators are sought in the areas of Primary Care, Binocular Vision, Ocular Disease and Pharmacology. Candidates should be passionate and experienced regarding classroom and clinical instruction. Through education, training, and mentoring, faculty members will provide students with the knowledge and confidence they need to succeed at the highest level of professional optometric services. This unique career opportunity affords an individual the opportunity to work and teach in a state of the art eye care facility while at the same time enjoying the unparalleled beauty and tranquility of the Appalachian mountain region.

The faculty member is expected to teach in the Kentucky College of Optometry program while accepting the following responsibilities:

1. Course preparation which will include lecture and laboratory presentations as well as student testing and evaluation.
2. Participating in and recommending curriculum development and assessment.
3. Providing office hours for student’s guidance and tutorials.
4. Traditional scholarly activity and University service.

Requirements:

1. Must have an O.D. and/or Ph.D. (or equivalent) in a discipline related to Optometry or its associated basic sciences.
2. Optometrist applicants should be eligible for licensure in the state of Kentucky and are expected to participate in patient care services.
3. Must have excellent organizational, communication, teaching and decision-making skills.
4. Prior college teaching experience is strongly preferred.

The University of Pikeville offers a competitive salary commensurate with qualifications and experience. UPIKE offers a competitive benefits package including medical, dental, vision, and life insurance, telemedicine, long term disability, tuition waivers, a 403(b) retirement plan, and HSA, FSA, & dependent care accounts.

Important Notes: Resume and other application materials will be reviewed to determine if you meet the required qualifications for the position. If it is determined that you meet the required qualifications, your application materials will be used to identify a top group of the most highly qualified candidates. Please, specifically address the qualifications, competencies and desired qualifications in your resume and application materials.

The University of Pikeville is committed to providing a safe and productive learning, living and working community. To achieve this goal, we conduct background investigations for all final applicants being considered for employment. Background investigations include a criminal history record check, and when appropriate, a financial and/or motor vehicle history.

The University of Pikeville is an equal opportunity and affirmative action employer committed to assembling a diverse, broadly trained faculty and staff. In compliance with applicable laws and in furtherance of its commitment to fostering an environment that welcomes and embraces diversity, the University of Pikeville does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex (including pregnancy), disability, age, veteran status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, genetic information, political affiliation or political philosophy in its programs or activities, including employment, admissions, and educational programs. Inquiries may be directed to the University of Pikeville Title IX Coordinator by calling 606-218-5216.

Click here for more information about the University of Pikeville. Interested applicants should complete the online application. In addition to the application, interested applicants are requested to attach to their application a letter of interest, current resume, and the contact information for three to five professional references.
Dr. Smith Among “Most Influential in Optometry”

As part of its 50th anniversary celebration, *Optometric Management* magazine is recognizing optometrists who have made significant contributions to the profession. The University of Houston College of Optometry (UHCO) announced that its Dean, Dr. Earl Smith III, is included on the magazine’s “Most Influential List.” An article in the magazine notes, “Dr. Smith’s research on refractive development has helped define the operating characteristics of the vision-dependent mechanisms that regulate ocular growth. In particular, he demonstrated that peripheral vision has a significant impact on central refractive development. These results motivated the development of peripheral optical treatment strategies for slowing myopia progression in children.”

Dr. Smith, a member of the ASCO Board of Directors, is joined by three other Board members on the “Most Influential List”: Dr. Arol R. Augsburger, Dr. Karla Zadnik and Dr. Kelly Nichols.

Also: UHCO’s Dr. Pat Segu received the 2015 Distinguished Service Award from the American Public Health Association - Vision Care Section (APHA-VCS). A Clinical Associate Professor, Dr. Segu established the Student Public Health Vision
Care Association (SPHVCA) as part of a pilot program to increase student engagement within the APHA-VCS. The SPHVCA is focused on patient education and promoting the importance of regular eye exams. It gives students opportunities to participate in mentorship, research and leadership programs. Dr. Segu also serves as Regional Director of Houston Community Based External Clinics and Director of the Kids Vision for Life Greater Houston - See to Succeed program.
UCB Dean Elected College of Optometrists Life Fellow

Dr. John Flanagan

Dr. John Flanagan, Professor and Dean of the University of California at Berkeley School of Optometry and member of the ASCO Board of Directors, was one of three eyecare professionals to be elected a Life Fellow of the United Kingdom’s College of Optometrists this November. Fellowship of the College is awarded to individuals who have made an outstanding contribution to the profession or to the College. Dr. Flanagan was recognized specifically for his research in glaucoma and diabetic eye disease and his contributions to the development of optometric education in the U.K. and Canada.
Dr. Johnson Receives SCO Lifetime Achievement Award

Southern College of Optometry (SCO) recently presented its Lifetime Achievement Award to Dr. Jarrett Johnson, who was recognized for her significant contributions to the profession of optometry.

A Past President of the New Orleans Optometric Society, Dr. Johnson serves on the Board of Trustees of SCO, her alma mater, and owns Primary Eye Care, a successful practice celebrating 25 years in New Orleans. Dr. Johnson has worked in numerous public service roles, including Coordinator of Mobile Clinics for Vision Service Plan and the Red Cross' Hurricane Katrina Project. She has also held several positions with the Great Expectations Foundation, including Vice President of Community and Organizational Development, in which she oversaw the Infant Mortality Review Project. Dr. Johnson has also been a consultant for various federal healthcare grant programs, and served as Chief of Optometry for the New Orleans Health Corporation and Minority Outreach Coordinator with a New Orleans AIDS Task Force. She has been a member of the board for Lighthouse Louisiana and the Pontchartrain Chapter of the Links Inc. In addition to serving on the board for VSP, Dr. Johnson has published a number of articles and is an advisor to the Louisiana Healthcare Quality Forum's Quality Measurement Committee.

The Lifetime Achievement Award is the highest honor SCO bestows upon its graduates.
Record Number of SUNY Students Receive Scholarships

Winners and presenters of the 2015-2016 Dr. Nathan and Laura Millman Scholarships at SUNY, from left to right: Meredith Stallone (2018), Emily Freeman (2018), Mrs. Merri Millman, Dr. Ronald Millman, Sarah Gleason (2018) and Jennifer Nguyen (2018).

The State University of New York College of Optometry (SUNY) reports that the number of scholarships given to its students has steadily increased in recent years. A recent scholarship event at the College provided a unique opportunity for many of the creators and donors of the scholarships to meet the 2015-2016 student recipients.

Thirty-six students, a record number, received one of the following scholarships:

- Milton Scholarships
- Alumni Scholarships
- Alumni Memorial Scholarship
- New York State Optometric Association Dr. Alden Haffner Scholarships
- Dr. Mark S. Feder Scholarship for Clinical Excellence in Primary Care
- Dr. Mark S. Feder Scholarship for Excellence in Compassionate Patient Care and Communication
- NJOA Scholarship
- Dr. Nathan and Laura Millman Scholarships
- Dr. Jerome Weiss Scholarship
- Mary and Samuel Gurkin Memorial Scholarship
- Dr. James F. Kelly Scholarship
- Dr. Harold Solan Scholarship
- Harold M. Spielman Scholarship
- Barbara Saltzman Scholarship
- Dennis and Lesley Gehr Scholarship
- Gregory Hess Scholarship
- Fred Friedfeld Memorial Scholarship
• Dr. Sanford and Claire Levy Scholarships

• Jeff White Memorial Scholarship

• Scott Tasker Folsom Scholarships
ICO Provides Manpower for CURE Network Event

ICO faculty, staff and students helped to provide eye care to hundreds of people at a CURE Network event this fall.

Illinois College of Optometry (ICO) faculty and staff members joined 58 ICO students to participate in the CURE (Collaborative Underserved Relief and Education) Network’s annual event this September. The ICO contingency helped to provide eye care to more than 700 patients during the event.

The network was created to meet the vital and ever-growing need to bring free medical services to the underinsured and those without insurance in the greater Chicagoland area. Since its inception in 2010, the network has provided more than $2,700,000 worth of free medical, dental and vision care to more than 4,000 patients.

Also: The work of the five-member ICO communications team was recognized among the best of Chicago-area PR and marketing when it received a Golden Trumpet Award for its campaign “It's About More Than Just the Eyes.” The campaign shares the personal journeys of patients and illuminates why the Illinois Eye Institute is so important to Chicago. The campaign also won a Pinnacle Award of Excellence from the Illinois Society for Healthcare Marketing and Public Relations. The ICO communications team also won two social media Awards of Excellence this year as part of the 27th Annual Awards for Publication Excellence (APEX).
NECO Director of Research Appointed to NIH Advisory Council

Dr. Jane Gwiazda

Dr. Jane Gwiazda, Professor of Vision Science and Director of Research at the New England College of Optometry, has been appointed to the National Advisory Eye Council for the National Institutes of Health National Eye Institute (NEI). The Council is a diverse group of professionals who provide guidance to NEI programs, including research and training. The twelve members meet three times a year in Bethesda, Md., to provide a second-level review of grant and cooperative agreement applications and to discuss other issues that relate to the NEI. Appointments to the committee last for four years.

Dr. Gwiazda is known internationally as an expert in myopia research. She served as lead investigator and chair of the Correction of Myopia Evaluation Trial (COMET). Dr. Gwiazda previously conducted research on infant vision development, and in the past two decades her research interests shifted to include both the risk factors for myopia development and the evaluation of treatments for slowing myopia progression.
Renovation of Clinics Complete at OSU

Dr. Roanne Flom, Professor of Clinical Optometry and Chief, Low Vision Rehabilitation Service (left), and Dr. San-San Cooley, Clinical Assistant Professor, recently toured the newly renovated Binocular Vision/Pediatrics and Low Vision clinics with other faculty and staff members at The Ohio State University College of Optometry.

The Binocular Vision/Pediatrics and Low Vision clinics at The Ohio State University College of Optometry were recently renovated. The new state-of-the-art space allows for comprehensive evaluations and specialized testing in an environment that meets the needs of patients with wide-ranging symptoms. As part of the renovations, existing space was reconfigured to create many different rooms for exams, therapy and consultations.
SCCOMBKU Students Learn from IPE Poverty Simulation

During a Poverty Simulation exercise, SCCOMBKU students were among those learning about the hardships some of their future patients may experience.

As part of the interprofessional healthcare curriculum, first-year students at the Southern California College of Optometry at Marshall B. Ketchum University (SCCOMBKU), along with physician assistant students, recently participated in a Poverty Simulation, which was intended to help them understand the realities faced by low-income and poverty-stricken members of the communities they will work with as healthcare professionals. Tables placed in a common area represented community resources that low-income families may interact with, such as a bank or community action agency. The resources were “staffed” by university staff and faculty members. The students were randomly placed in families with varying levels of hardship, e.g., homelessness or raising their grandchildren, and tasked with using the services to survive the month. Some families ran out of money before the end of the month, while others had trouble obtaining a bus pass to get from one service to another.

University President and former ASCO President Dr. Kevin Alexander commented about the event for an article at the MBKU website, saying “At Marshall B. Ketchum University, we’re not only training future healthcare providers, but also members of a community. It’s important that they graduate with the hard skills to do their jobs well, and also the soft skills to provide the best care possible for all of their future patients.”
WUCO Helps Vision-Impaired Children Benefit from EVMs

From left to right: Dr. Linda Pang, Western University of Health Sciences College of Optometry Chief of Vision Rehabilitation Service; Jeff Haddox, Sight Savers America Founding President/CEO; Rachel Barbosa, representing LA County Supervisor Hilda L. Solis; and Stephan Terwolbeck, President of Optelec. (Photo by Jeff Malet)

With help from Western University of Health Sciences and Sight Savers America, five California children received training and took home their own electronic video magnifiers (EVMs) to help them with their homework and daily activities. The children, who received their training and devices at the university’s Eye Care Center in Pomona, were referred to the Sight Savers America/WesternU program through an agreement with the California School for the Blind, which is operated by the California Department of Education. Sight Savers America gave EVMs to each of the children through generous donations from The Million Dollar Roundtable and Optelec International.
Salus/PCO Adds Neuro-Ophthalmic Disease Residency Program

A new two-year advanced residency program in Neuro-Ophthalmic Disease is now being offered biennially at The Eye Institute of Salus University (TEI). Residents will work directly with optometrists who focus on neuro-ophthalmic disease at TEI, receiving intense training in examination, diagnosis, treatment and management.

In announcing the new program, Dr. Lori Grover, Dean of the university’s Pennsylvania College of Optometry, stated, “We are extremely pleased to have developed a first-of-its-kind two-year residency training program for optometrists. Thanks to the efforts of Salus/PCO faculty members Dr. Kelly Malloy, Director of the Neuro-Ophthalmic Disease Service, and Dr. Erin Draper, two residents will learn the intricacies of neuro-ophthalmic disease under their mentorship.”

Also: Dr. Thomas L. Lewis, Salus University Professor and President Emeritus and former member of the ASCO Board of Directors for more than two decades, was recently profiled in Primary Care Optometry News as a “pioneer of interprofessional education.” Dr. Lewis was also the first recipient of ASCO’s Lifetime Achievement Award in 2009, which recognized his more than 30 years as an educator dedicated to advancing optometry’s role in eye and vision care.
UMSL Professor Wins Award for Excellence in Optometric Education

Dr. Edward S. Bennett

Dr. Edward S. Bennett, Professor and Assistant Dean for Student Services and Alumni Relations at the University of Missouri-St. Louis College of Optometry (UMSL), is one of two 2015 winners of the Michael G. Harris Family Award for Excellence in Optometric Education. The award, bestowed by the American Optometric Foundation, recognizes optometric educators who have demonstrated ongoing and consistent excellence in the education of optometry students and/or the advancement of optometric education. Each candidate is judged by his or her contribution and excellence in optometric education by virtue of performance in any or all of the following areas: teaching (classroom, laboratory, clinic, distance learning), scholarship that enhances optometric education, organizational work that enhances optometric education.

A UMSL blog post describes Dr. Bennett’s innovative teaching style. Dr. Steven Schwartz, State University of New York College of Optometry, is the other 2015 winner of the award.
Optovue’s Commitment to ASCO and the Ophthalmic Community

Eyecare practitioners throughout the ASCO community and across the globe have helped to validate the importance of OCT technology as a standard of care. Optovue understands the critical role these partnerships play in furthering continued innovation, and with this mindset has expanded its relationships with the ASCO community and solidified the Optovue brand in the broader ophthalmic community.

Since its founding in 2003, during the era of time-domain OCT, Optovue has held the mantle of OCT specialist because of its single-minded dedication to pioneering spectral-domain (SD-OCT), beginning with the release of the RTVue System in 2008. The first-mover advantage allowed Optovue to leverage its initial technology investment across a broad spectrum of additional SD-OCT systems designed to address specific market segments. In rapid succession, the iVue OCT, the fully automated iScan OCT, the iFusion (combined retinal camera and OCT) and, most recently, the Avanti XR systems have been introduced.

In addition to these major platform initiatives, Optovue has pioneered software advances aimed at improving resolution and efficiency and powerful analytics for early detection and management of ocular disease. One of Optovue’s most significant contributions to early diagnosis is embodied in the iWellness Screening Scan. Separate from a medical scan, since its introduction, the iWellness scan has detected early disease in hundreds of cases that otherwise may have gone undetected by traditional diagnostic tools. Optovue’s latest product innovation, the AngioVue Imaging System, uses a non-invasive method to identify vascular flow in the retina. In combination, Optovue technologies address a broad range of ophthalmic practices by providing a complete diagnostic tool that includes early detection, disease management and treatment analysis.

In addition to product development, Optovue also understands the importance of education and customer support within the ASCO community. In addition to webinars and educational symposia, Optovue Academy, introduced in 2015, is an online tool that houses hundreds of images, articles, clinical and training videos and brochures designed to enhance the OCT clinical expertise of faculty, students and technicians. Throughout the industry, Optovue is recognized as the leader in post-sale customer support and training.

*Information for this Industry Spotlight was supplied by Optovue and not independently verified by Eye on Education.*
SIG News

Click here for SIG contact information.

BINOCULAR VISION AND PERCEPTION EDUCATORS


Chair: Dr. Pia Hoenig/Dr. Christina Esposito

(Dr. Marc Taub ran the meeting in Dr. Esposito’s absence)

Chair Elect: Dr. Alicia Feis

Discussion Topics: Dr. Efrain Castellanos will investigate creation of an online portal that can be used for sharing documents, such as a description of each school’s program, and a listing of all primary, secondary and tertiary SIG representatives ... Increasing the number and involvement of pediatric faculty in the SIG ... Suggestions and inquiries regarding a survey of services and manpower at individual institutions ... Dr. Taub will spearhead grand rounds for the next meeting ... Creation of a document and promotional video to educate students, incoming students and college administration/recruiters about BV/VT

BIOMEDICAL SCIENCE EDUCATORS

Met: Oct. 9, 2015 in New Orleans

Chair: outgoing, Dr. Ruth Trachimowicz; incoming, Dr. Jan Bergmanson

Actions: Dr. Lourdes Fortepiani elected Vice Chair (for 2015-16 and 2016-17)

Discussion Topics: Potential ways in addition to e-mail and Google Drive for SIG members to communicate and share information ... How to best achieve interprofessional education ... Increasing NBEO transparency to better guide basic science faculty as to topics included on the NBEO outline and matrix ... Use of cases in basic science courses to emphasize what optometrists need to know; sharing cases among SIG members

Members of the Clinical Directors/Administrators SIG during their October 2015 meeting.
CLINIC DIRECTORS/ADMINISTRATORS

Dr. Glenn Hammack (right) Founding President, NuPhysicia LLC, was awarded the first Dr. Lester Caplan (left) Honorary Lecture. His presentation was titled “Telemedicine - Recent and Coming Issues of Technology, Regulation, Ethics, and the Social Contract of Licensed Practice.”


Chair: Mr. Richard Stroud

Discussion Topics/Speakers: Healthcare Compliance: Dr. James Chapman, Assistant Dean of Clinical Affairs, UIWRSO ... Building a Healthcare Compliance Program: Dr. Chapman ... Medical Quality Assurance: An Overview: Dr. Christopher Choat, Assistant Clinical Professor, UIWRSO ... Risk Management and Patient Safety in Health Care: An Overview: Dr. Choat ... Compliance Overview: Dr. Peter Cass, Managing Partner, Optometric Business Solutions and Consultant, Crystal Practice Management ... ICD-10 Coding Guidelines: Dr. Cass ... ICD-10 in Clinical Practice: Dr. Cass ... Coordination of Care: Dr. Cass ... Doctrine of Corporate Responsibility: Clinical Privileging: Dr. Chapman

Award: Dr. Glenn Hammack, Founding President, NuPhysicia LLC, received the first Dr. Lester Caplan Honorary Lecture award. Dr. Hammack’s presentation was titled: Telemedicine - Recent and Coming Issues of Technology, Regulation, Ethics, and the Social Contract of Licensed Practice.

Sponsor Panel Discussion: Enhancing Optometric Education Through Industry Provided Resources. Moderator: Mr. Mark Risher, Senior Manager, Optometric Academic Development, Allergan. Panelists: Ms. Cindy Braden, VP, Sales, RevolutionEHR; Dr. Anne-Marie Lahr, Director of Education, Hoya Vision Care; Mr. Pete Mastores, President, Volk Optical.

**CONTINUING EDUCATION DIRECTORS**

**Met:** Oct. 6, 2015

**Chair:** Dr. Kaila Osmotherly

**Actions:** Dr. Laura Falco, NSU, was elected to serve as Chair for a one-year term; Dr. Joan Potello, SUNY, was elected Chair-Elect

**Discussion Topics/Speakers:** Bio Sim Lab, Dr. Heather Anderson ... Practical Survey Updates and Discussion, Dr. Helene Kaiser ... HER Presentation, Dr. James Miller ... Remediating the Failing Student: Didactic and Laboratory, Dr. Srihari Narayanan and Dr. Eunice Lee ... NBEO CSE Passage Rates: Remediation and Curriculum Changes, Dr. Carrie Lebowitz ... New vs. Traditional Technology, Dr. Fuensanta Vera-Diaz and Dr. Ryan Bulson

**Sponsors:** Keeler Instruments Inc.

**DEVELOPMENT DIRECTORS**

**Met:** Oct. 9, 2015

**Co-Chairs:** Dr. Elizabeth Grantner (ICO), Dr. Betshally Torres (SUNY)

**Discussion Topics/Speakers:** Interprofessional Education: Dr. John H. Nishimoto ... COPE Policy Change: Dr. Susy Yu and Ms. Lisa Fennell, ARBO Executive Director

**Roundtable Discussions:** National CE calendar ... Time management ... Best practice ... CE workshops

**Sponsor:** National Vision

**Met:** Oct. 8, 2015 in New Orleans

**Chair:** Ms. Andrea Carthew, Associate Director of Advancement, University of Waterloo School of Optometry and Vision Science

**Actions:** The 2016 meeting will be held on Nov. 17 at the Southern California College of Optometry at Marshall B. Ketchum University ... 2016 Planning Committee: Chair, Ms. Connie Scavuzzo, Sr. Director of Alumni Relations, Illinois College of Optometry; Chair-Elect, Ms. Erika Bernal, Director of Development & Alumni Relations, Southern California College of Optometry at Marshall B. Ketchum University; Past Chair, Ms. Carthew

**Discussion Topics/Speakers:** Stewardship as the New “Ask,” Mr. David Kinahan, VP Development, Tulane School of Medicine ... Current Trends in Communication, Ms. Peggy Striplin, Senior Director of Development/Director of Alumni Affairs, UAB School of Optometry ... (Sweet) 16 Months In: A New Dean’s Perspective on Development, Dr. Karla Zadnik, The Ohio State University College of Optometry

**Roundtable Discussions:** Engaging young alumni ... What do you with an alumni association ... Angry/disgruntled alumni ... Strategic priorities – coordinating efforts when everyone is asking

**Sponsor:** International Vision Expo
EXTERNALSHIP DIRECTORS


Chairs: Dr. Cheryl Ervin, SCO, and Dr. Harue Marsden, SCCOMBKU

Discussion Topics/Speakers: Practice Management in Externships: Dr. Peter Kehoe, Professional Relations Advisor, Transitions Optical. The SCO Model: Dr. Ervin, Director of Externship and Residency Programs, SCO. Distance Learning Modules/Externship Implementation: Mr. Mark Risher, Senior Manager, Optometric Academic Development, Allergan. Online Training of Preceptors: Dr. Marsden, Associate Dean for Clinical Education, SCCOMBKU. Industry Resources to Support Externships: Mr. Tom Duchardt, Director Professional Relations - Academic Development, Alcon

Annual Reports of Affiliated Extern Programs: VA: Dr. John Townsend. Navy: Dr. Kevin Jackson (via conference call). United States Public Health Service: Dr. Pamela Conrad (via conference call)

Roundtable Discussion: Impact of proposed changes by the ACOE on externships

Sponsors: Alcon, Allergan Inc.

INTERNATIONAL OPTOMETRIC EDUCATORS

Met: Oct. 9, 2015

Chair: Dr. Hector Santiago, IAUPR

Discussion Topics/Speakers: ASCO survey: Dr. Andrés Pagán. Survey Latin American Association of Optometry and Optics (ALDOO): Dr. Santiago. Opportunities for north-south cooperation: Dr. Santiago, Dr. Janet Leasher, Dr. Marcela Frazier

Presentations by other groups: VOSH, WCO, BHI, OGS

LOW VISION EDUCATORS


Chair: Dr. Sharon Lee

Discussion Topics: Advanced Level Competencies and Learning Objectives survey results. Updates on development of Low Vision iBook. Financial update and fundraising efforts

Guest Speakers: Dr. Joanne Wood (University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia) on her research in the area of vision, aging and driving. Chadwick Optical on latest product updates

Next meeting: July 14-16, 2016 at Midwestern University Arizona College of Optometry

NEURO-REHAB EDUCATORS

Met: Oct. 8, 2015
Chair: Dr. Valerie Wren

Discussion Topics: The SIG will determine entry-level competencies and raise awareness for a new graduate to be able to treat traumatic brain injury, stroke and the neurologically challenged without additional residency training (new graduate minimum competency). This is an area of growth for optometry, and this project will address the needed care for this underserved population and foster interdisciplinary/interprofessional management for future optometrists.

PUBLIC HEALTH EDUCATORS

Met: Oct. 8, 2015

Chair: Dr. Patrick Yoshinaga (SCCOMBKU)

Actions: Learning objectives and core competencies will be written by assigned SIG members and will be collected in December so that the new version of “Public Health and Environmental Optometry Learning Objectives and Competencies for Schools and Colleges of Optometry” can be drafted.

Discussion Topics: The PHE SIG document “Essential Public Health and Environmental Optometry Curriculum Content for Schools and Colleges of Optometry” and its progress towards ASCO approval ... Development of entry level competencies and learning objectives based on the “Essential Public Health and Environmental Optometry Curriculum Content for Schools and Colleges of Optometry” document and ASCO’s “Attributes of Students Graduating from Schools and Colleges of Optometry” document ... Development of a central teaching resource site that would be available to all of the SIG members and include teaching techniques, course outlines, video links, etc.

RESIDENCY EDUCATORS

Met: Oct. 8, 2015 in New Orleans

Chairs: Dr. Doug Hoffman and Dr. David Loshin

Discussion Topics/Speakers: ASCO Residency Affairs Committee update, Dr. Stanley Woo ... ORMatch update, Dr. Karen Fern ... Accreditation Council on Optometric Education update, Dr. Bart Campbell ... AAO Residents Day update, Dr. Wes DeRosier ... VA residencies update, Dr. John Townsend and Dr. Debbie Hettler ... ASCO remarks, ASCO President Dr. David Heath ... Residents and the ASCO Future Faculty Program, Dr. Joan Portello

Roundtable Discussions: Technology utilized by residency programs ... Research/other projects in residency programs ...

Sponsor: Alcon

VISION SCIENCE LIBRARIANS

Met: Oct. 7-9, 2015

Chair: Ms. Kristin Motte, NECO

Actions: The SIG’s next meeting will be Nov. 9-12, 2016 in Anaheim, Calif.

Discussion Topics/Speakers: How to find evidence-based references and resources (Ferimer, Holland, Motte) ... Annual
reviews in vision science, overview and Q&A (Lopez) ... A Solution in Sight grant update and new grant-funded project (Anton, Sieving) ... Mentor and train a less experienced resident as a vision science librarian (Liu) ... What statistics and other kinds of assessments do libraries keep? (Wells) ... New and innovative resources and services members are offering their communities; how are our libraries changing? ... Optometry eBooks from Ridgevue Publishing (Bullimore) ... ICO’s redesign (Weber) ... The PharmLib model and future meeting format ideas (Matthews) ... ASCO update (Motte) ... Futuring discussion, part 1: Where is the organization now and how does it need to change to meet the needs of members today? Changes in membership and the field; how do we meet the needs of all our members? (Wells) ... Challenges and opportunities in information resources for global vision health: A Solution in Sight (Banu, Gurupari, Sieving) ... Slides, videos, etc., what should we do with antiquated formats? (Holland) ... Mentoring (Anton, Sieving) ... Website design and website committee discussion ... Futuring discussion, part 2: Conclusions ... Cochrane/evidence-based medicine and Altmetric (Sieving) ... Book distribution partnership (Holland) ... Overview of TOMS One for One Giving Sight program and World Sight Day activities (Kent, via phone) ... Information literacy, evidence-based practice and the Association of College & Research Libraries’ Framework for Information Literacy in Higher Education