

# EYE on EDUCATION

## Monthly Newsletter



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January 2026

## ASCO NEWS

### Call for Nominations for ASCO Achievement Awards



**Deadline to submit nominations is January 15, 2026.**

The Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry is now accepting nominations for the various achievement awards that will be presented at the ASCO Annual Business Meeting in June 2026.

[Learn More...](#)

### ASCO Student Award in Clinical Ethics



**Deadline to submit essays is February 20, 2026**

The Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry is now accepting essays for the 2026 Student award in Clinical Ethics.

[Learn More...](#)

### Clinic Directors and Administrators and Externship Directors Special Interest Groups Joint Meeting at Indiana University, School of Optometry



The Clinic Directors and Administrators and the Externship Directors special interest groups convened for their annual meetings at Indiana University, School of Optometry, from November 12–14. The program opened with a joint reception, providing members from both groups an opportunity to network with one another as well as with attending sponsors.

[Learn More...](#)

## 2026 Future Faculty Program



The 2026 Future Faculty Program is officially underway! Designed for individuals exploring a potential career in academia, this program welcomes participants with an OD degree, current optometry residents, and PhD candidates.

[Learn More...](#)

## The Optometric Education Leadership Institute Is Coming Soon



The Optometric Education Leadership Institute (OELI) will be held on April 8-9, 2026, at the Alcon headquarters in Fort Worth, Texas.

[Learn More...](#)

## Board of Directors Convened in Boston for Fall Meeting



The Board of Directors of the Association of Optometry Schools and Colleges held its Fall Board Meeting in Boston in conjunction with the American Academy of Optometry's (AAO) Annual Meeting.

[Learn More...](#)

## **Applicant, Entering Class, Post-Graduate Data Available Online**



ASCO's "Profile of Applicants to OD Degree Programs for Fall 2025 Entering Class" is now available on the Association's website.

[Learn More...](#)

## **Research Awards to Optometry Schools and Colleges Increase**



Following a 12% decrease last year, direct costs for research at ASCO member institutions rose 3.8% in 2024-25 to about \$36.6 million, according to ASCO's latest [Research Survey Report](#).

[Learn More...](#)

## **ASCO Launches Eye Opener Sessions, a Shadowing/Mentorship Opportunity and Matching Service for Potential Optometry Students and Practicing Doctors of Optometry**



The Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO) announces *Eye Opener Sessions*, a complement to ASCO's public awareness campaign, *Optometry Gives Me Life*.

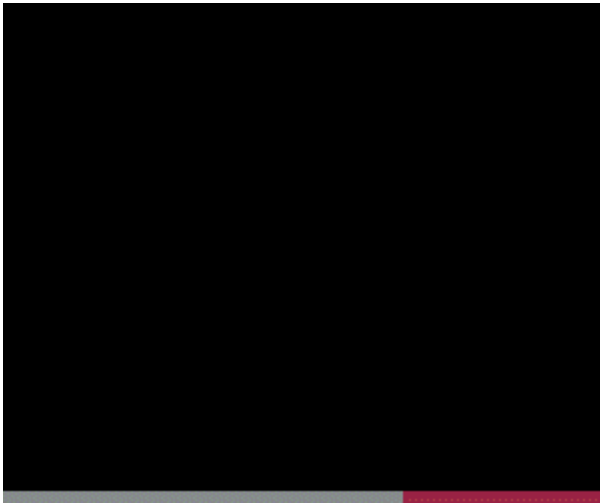
[Learn More...](#)

## ASCO Online Career Center



The Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry offers a [Career Center](#) resource, hosted by Boxwood.

[Learn More...](#)



## CORPORATE CONTRIBUTOR NEWS

### Alcon News



Alcon Completes Acquisition of LumiThera

[Learn More...](#)

### CooperVision News



Stronger Together: How The Myopia Collective is Advancing Optometry

[Learn More...](#)

### FYIdoctors News



2025 Highlights: Advancing Eye Care, Strengthening Communities

[Learn More...](#)

### Johnson & Johnson Eyecare News



Johnson & Johnson Eyecare Welcomes Dr. Erin Rueff

[Learn More...](#)

## **NIDEK News**



Let NIDEK Help Your Practice with Proven Topography Performance

[Learn More...](#)

## **Oculus, Inc. & Wave Eye Care News**



Advancing Optometry's Future: Supporting Students, Educators, and Scientific Discovery

[Learn More...](#)

## Topcon News



Topcon Healthcare, Inc. Receives 510(k) Clearance and Announces Launch of OMNIA - a 4-in-1 Automated Pretesting Solution

[Learn More...](#)

## VSP Vision News



VSP Vision Awards 2025 Vision of Hope Scholarship to Sydnee' Lowe

[Learn More...](#)

## Walmart News

Optometry Student Internships Available

[Learn More...](#)

## MEMBER NEWS

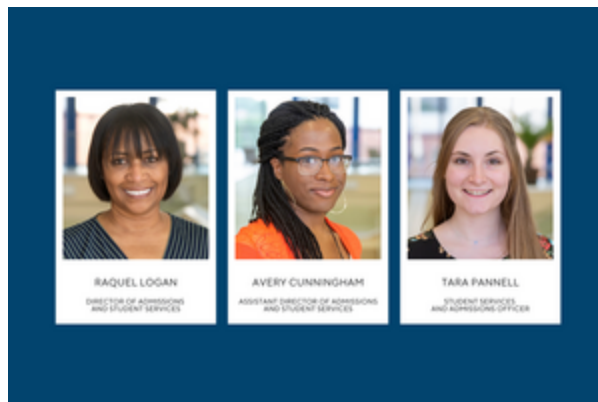
### Remembering Dr. Ruth Manny



Dr. Ruth Manny passed away unexpectedly on the morning of January 3rd, 2026. In consultation with the family, the University of Houston College of Optometry (UHCO) will host a memorial service for her on January 26th from 4:30 pm to 6:30 pm at UHCO in the Texas State Optical Alumni Auditorium. The memorial will be streamed live as well. The link will be posted on the college website prior to the event at <https://www.opt.uh.edu/>.

[Learn More...](#)

### Southern College of Optometry Announces Promotions



Southern College of Optometry (SCO) announces three promotions for key leadership roles within the institution's Student Services department. The department oversees the Admissions and Records process, student governance, financial aid, and other key functions.

[Learn More...](#)

### Researchers at the Forefront on Breakthrough Concussion Studies



There's been a great deal of interest in concussions over the past decade, especially as they relate to concussion-related vision problems, according to Mitchell Scheiman, OD, PhD '16, FAAO, FCOVD, senior associate dean of research at the Pennsylvania College of Optometry at Drexel University.

[Learn More...](#)

## **PCO Student Receives American Academy of Optometry Foundation Scholarship**




Kirsten Tran '27OD admits she's been feeling a little burned out, and during her busiest and most demanding weeks, it's easy for her to lose sight of what she's working toward in graduate school.

[Learn More...](#)



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## NEWS TO SHARE

### News from the American Optometric Association



## Save the Date—Optometry's Meeting 2026

Optometry's Meeting® will be held June 17-20, 2026, in Phoenix, at the Phoenix Convention Center. As the profession's premier annual event, Optometry's Meeting intersects peerless, contemporary optometric continuing education and professional development with influential networking and business opportunities among colleagues, industry professionals, and our profession's leaders, as well as special AOA+ student and new grad programming.

[Learn More...](#)

## 2026 AOA Annual Awards Submissions Now Open



Nominations are officially open for AOA's 2026 annual awards, including the AOA Excellence Awards—featuring the 2026 Optometric Educator and Student of the Year awards.

[Learn More...](#)



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