



AMERICAN ACADEMY
of OPTOMETRY

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For Immediate Release
November 7, 2012
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204 New Fellows Inducted at Academy 2012 Phoenix

Academy 2012 Phoenix was the 91st annual meeting of the American Academy of Optometry, and the 3rd largest meeting for the Academy with 5,155 total registrants. This included 3,016 optometrists and vision scientists and 936 students and residents. Attendees engaged in high-quality learning, experienced new products and technologies in a packed Exhibit Hall, and met the optometrists and vision scientists who are not only conducting the research, but also bringing the results to their clinics and practices.

Autism was a featured topic of several events including the Plenary Session, “Today’s Research, Tomorrow’s Practice®: Autism Spectrum Disorders.” Ricki Robinson, MD, MPH, a nationally-sought after expert in autism, and David G. Amaral, PhD, spoke to approximately 1,700 attendees on the current state of knowledge on the disorder from a clinical perspective.

A highlight of the meeting was the President’s Banquet on Saturday where 204 new Fellows were inducted into the American Academy of Optometry. Fellows of the Academy must complete a candidacy process that includes submitting written work demonstrating their skills as an optometrist and sitting for an oral exam at the Annual Meeting of the Academy. About 10% of practicing optometrists in the United States are Fellows of the American Academy of Optometry. Optometrists, scientists, educators, librarians, administrators and editors are eligible to become Fellows of the Academy and earn the right to use FAAO after their name.

In addition, nine individuals were awarded Diplomate status by sections of the American Academy of Optometry. Diplomates are Fellows of the Academy who wish to demonstrate their skill in a specific area. Currently seven section offer Diplomate programs: Binocular Vision, Perception and Pediatric Optometry, Cornea, Contact Lenses & Refractive Technologies, Low Vision, Optometric Education, Primary Care, Public Health & Environmental Vision, and Vision Science.

The American Optometric Foundation would like to thank our sponsors, donors, awardees and volunteers for making Academy Phoenix another huge success. The meeting resulted in over \$100,000 in generous donations and pledges. Approximately 270 supporters attended the Foundation’s Celebration Luncheon and the silent auction, featuring several Borish paintings, resulting in over \$12,000 in donations. In addition, thirteen new individuals and couples joined the Presidents Circle by making pledges or donations of \$10,000. The Presidents Circle now has 100 total members.

The next Annual Meeting of the Academy will be October 23-26, 2013 at the Washington State Convention Center in Seattle, WA.

2012 New Diplomates

Cornea, Contact Lenses & Refractive Technologies

Sheila Hickson-Curran of Jacksonville, Florida
Jeff Sonsino of Nashville, Tennessee
Rainer Bronner of Kirchzarten, Germany

Low Vision

Christopher Choat of Orlando, Florida

Public Health & Environmental Vision

Andrew M. Archila of Yuma, Arizona
Stephen J. Dain of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia
Lori L. Grover of Baltimore, Maryland
Sandra Wang-Harris of Dulles, Virginia
Patrick D. Yoshinaga of Whittier, California

New Fellows Class of 2012

Carmen Abesamis-Dichoso - Makati City, Philippines
A. Philip Aitsebaomo - Houston, TX
Megan Alberts - Kerrville, TX
Marie M. Alzi - Brooklyn, NY
Jacqueline R. Anderson - Yuma, AZ
Jeremy W. Anderson - Manchester, TN
Shannon G. Ardaiole - Gallup, NM
Brian A. Arvidson - Olympia, WA
Sherry Audycki - Dartmouth, MA
Yin-Yin Aung - Fremont, CA
Raman Bhakhri - Orange, CA
Saysha Blazier - Jersey City, NJ
Christopher J. Borgman - Pleasant Hill, IA
Michael Buyske - FPO, AP
Aaron W. Case - Fort Wayne, IN
Alvaro Castillo - Fresno, CA
Ka Yin Chan - Kowloon, Hong Kong
Tiffany Lauren Chan - Baltimore, MD
Amy Chang - Vass, NC
Tina Ting-Li Chang - San Diego, CA
Lisa W. Christian - Waterloo, Canada
Marlena A. Chu - El Cerrito, CA
Jacobi T. Cleaver - Houston, TX
Brian M. Colander - Ashland, KY
Emily Rhetta Conn - Senatobia, MS
Nyssa Connell - Middleboro, MA

Stephanie Cooper - Broken Arrow, OK
Alissa M. Coyne - Philadelphia, PA
Benjamin D. Crowell - Renton, WA
Kimberly Cunningham - Polacca, AZ
Debra C. Currie - Houston, TX
Brandon Dahl - Fort Irwin, CA
Kelley Dasinger - Memphis, TN
Michael Craig Dasinger - Memphis, TN
Pablo De Gracia Pacheco - Madrid, Spain
Karen DeLoss - Ann Arbor, MI
Kimberly May Dillivan - Columbia, SC
Eric Drey - Chicago, IL
Janette D. Dumas - Memphis, TN
James A Eddis III - Columbia, SC
Meghan Elkins - Bridgeport, WV
Marta C Fabrykowski - New York City, NY
Nataly M. Fahim - Westminster, CA
Fred Farias, III - McAllan, TX
Sandra Farnham - Gastonia, NC
Charles A. Faron - Downers Grove, IL
Ronald R. Ferrucci - Milford, MA
Chadwin L. Fleming - Wichita, KS
Elissa Bunick Fleming - Knoxville, TN
Dennis W. Fong - Berkeley, CA
Melanie J. Frogozo - Iowa City, IA
Jessica Fulmer - Rocky Point, NY
Nadine Maria Furtado - Toronto, Canada

Joseph W. Gallagher - Grantham, NH
Joanna Bomkamp Gebhardt - Chicago, IL
Alexander Gentle - Waurin Ponds, Australia
Angella Gentry - Columbia, MO
Carla Gilbertson - Portage, MI
Mary Gilman - Northborough, MA
Ragna Godtland - Sartell, MN
Carly Goldberg - New York, NY
Lauren G. Goldsmith - Goodlettsville, TN
Marcus B. Gonzales - Carrollton, TX
Frankie F Goolsby - Antioch, TN
Piper G. Groppe - Greenwood, IN
Steven P. Gutierrez - Columbus, GA
Vadim Guy - Rochester, NY
Andreas Hartwig - Heikendorf, Germany
Shirin E. Hassan - Bloomington, IN
Gina Heck - Rhinelander, WI
David M. Hicks - San Jose, CA
Caren A Hirata - Torrance, CA
Erin Noel Hitzelburger - Macomb, MI
Lauren Hoffman - Charlotte, NC
James O. Holt - Sugar Land, TX
Cheyenne Huber - Martinez, CA
Li-Fang Hung - Sugar Land, TX
Peter Im - Fleming Island, FL
Erica Ittner - Chicago, IL
Katherine B. Jensen - Oakland Park, FL
Jennifer Larkin Johnson - Boerne, TX
Lee Michael Johnson - San Antonio, TX
Michael L. Johnson - Phoenix, AZ
Pauline Kang - Sydney, Australia
Muhammad Kashif - Peshawar, Pakistan
Jennifer Keiser - Riverton, UT
Thomas A Keith - Birmingham, AL
Micah Kinney - Virginia Beach, VA
Scott D. Klemens - Phoenix, AZ
Elizabeth A. Knighton - Houston, TX
Nikki S. Kokel - Houston, TX
Nicole M. Kosciuk - Arlington Heights, IL
William D. Kress - Bartlett, TN
Zanna Kruoch - Carrollton, TX
Frank Kuchera - Colorado Springs, CO
Jane Kuo - Atwater, CA
Ruhee Dhalla Kurji - Edmonton, Canada
Justin Kwan - Orange, CA
Delia G Landy - Jamestown, NY

Briana Michelle Larson - Austin, TX
Tressa Lee Larson - Springfield, VA
Kelley Lynn Lawrence - Chandler, AZ
Nicole Le - Oxnard, CA
Lindsey K. Lear - Pittsburgh, PA
Benjamin H. Leishman - Salt Lake City, UT
Candace Lipshy - Amarillo, TX
Haixia Liu - Irvine, CA
Yue Liu - Union City, CA
Holly I. Lorentz - Hamilton, Canada
Laura Ashley E. Lossing - Columbus, OH
Josh T. Lotoczky - Stanwood, MI
Gayle E. Lowe - Baltimore, MD
Edward Lum - Epping, Australia
Derek R. MacDonald - Waterloo, Canada
Sara T.S. Mach - Saint Louis, MO
Richard L Maharaj - Brampton, Canada
Carolyn E Majcher - Johnstown, PA
Natalka Manastersky - Chicago, IL
Karina Cecile Marcovitch - Toronto, Canada
Rebecca Marinoff - New York, NY
Kristin McDougall - Hilliard, OH
Paula S. McDowell - Big Rapids, MI
Hilari McFarland - Purvis, MS
Jennifer L. McGrath - Gibsonia, PA
Ryan O. McKinnis - Brecksville, OH
Michael Merry - Wattsburg, PA
Lernik Mesropian - Tujunga, CA
Heather R. Miller - Holland, PA
Lauren Miller - Houston, TX
Alejandro Molina - Finleyville, PA
Andrew S. Morgenstern - Rockville, MD
Andrea L. Murphy - West Lebanon, NH
Esther Nakagawara - Raleigh, NC
Ellen Nguyen - Metairie, LA
Madeline Diep Nguyen - Houston, TX
Thanh Binh Nguyen - Pomona, CA
Samantha L. C. Nogales - Tuscon, AZ
Ivana Obradovic - Miami, FL
Aghafekokhian B. Osaiyuwu - Benin City, Nigeria
Kaila Osmotherly - Glendale, AZ
Sonal R. Pandya - Streamwood, IL
Ann Anjuley Patel - Coral Springs, FL
Bhavini Manharlal Patel - Carrollton, TX
Hina N. Patel - Bartlett, IL

Nisha Patel - Arlington, VA
Shephali Patel - Lodi, NJ
Amy L. Pedersen - Redlands, CA
Tuyet-Suong Pham - Lake Worth, FL
Laroushna Pierre - Glendale, AZ
Stacy A. Potwin - Beckley, WV
Adam Preston - Quantico, VA
Vandana Rajaram - Big Rapids, MI
Scott A. Read - Brisbane, Australia
Kimberly Riordan - Jacksonville, FL
Mark W. Roark - Fishers, IN
Essence N. Robinson - Beaumont, TX
Nicole C. Ross - Towson, MD
Monica Roy - Fort Worth, TX
Diane Russo - Staten Island, NY
Hadassa Rutman - New York, NY
Christopher C. Schnelle - Woodbury, MN
Jayasree Seshadri - Mansfield, MA
Nahrain M. Shasteen - Columbus, OH
Sara Shkalm - Elkins Park, PA
Lindsay A. Sicks - Peoria, AZ
Frances M. Silva - Fort Bragg, NC
Kyla Smith - Bangor, ME
Kelvin So - Vancouver, Canada
Ashley Scheurer Speilburg - Chicago, IL
Elesha R. Starkey - Litchfield Park, AZ
Magdalena Stec - South Barrington, IL
Glen T. Steele - Memphis, TN
Ira Strenger - Springfield, NJ
Sandra Su - Virginia Beach, VA
Erin Frances Swift - San Diego, CA
Jeremiah Tampoya - Temecula, CA
Kyle Tate - Bixly, OK
Azzrah Thobani - New York, NY
Jack C. Thomas - Amarillo, TX
Christian J. Thompson - Chinle, AZ
Anita Ticak - Houston, TX
Candice Bernice Tolud - Pscataway, NJ
Yi Tong - Hong Kong, China
Zulmaris Torres Cruz - San German, PR
Lynn Hong Trieu - Philadelphia, PA
Anthony J. Turin - Raeford, NC
Christina Maria Twardowski - Kansas City,
MO
Snehali Upadhyay - Schaumburg, IL
Tara Vacharkulksemsuk - Chino Hills, CA

Jose A. Vega - Pleasanton, CA
Fuensanta A. Vera-Diaz - Cambridge, MA
Ryan Vida - Rochester, NY
Shalini Vilsack - Murrysville, PA
Melissa A. Vitek - Huntington Valley, PA
Alison G. Webb - Jacksonville, FL
Jeannette Aidee Wong-Powell - New
Braunfels, TX
Stephanie Woo - Lake Havasu, AZ
Kristy B. Wooler - Bridgewater, MA
Bradley Alan Wruble - Belmont, NC
Shirin Yousefi - Houston, TX
Deyue Yu - Columbus, OH
Xiao X. Yu - Hollywood, FL
Elena Zaharova Biffi - Cambridge, MA
Richard Zimbalist - Columbia, MO