Each year the Academy recognizes individuals who have demonstrated their contributions to the advancement of the Academy, optometry and vision science.

We look forward to seeing you at the Fry and Prentice Lectures and Awards Program on Friday, October 13 from 8 to 10 AM in E351 of McCormick Place Lakeside. Join us to hear the Charles F. Prentice Lecture and the Glenn A. Fry Lecture (1 hour of CE provided for the 2 hour program) and to recognize and honor these outstanding individuals.

Continued on page 2
The Academy Presents

2017 AWARDS

2017 Charles F. Prentice Medal and Lecture

The Charles F. Prentice Medal is the Academy’s top award and lecture at the annual meeting, and is presented to an individual who has made a significant contribution to the advancement of knowledge through research in the visual sciences.

Eli Peli, MSc, OD, FAAO, is a truly outstanding clinician-scientist-engineer with a career-long record of advancement of knowledge in vision science, especially vision rehabilitation. In his pursuit of this area he has contributed important developments and concepts to basic vision psychophysics, engineering, and human factors research.

2017 Glenn A. Fry Award and Lecture

The Glenn A. Fry Award and Lecture is sponsored by the American Academy of Optometry Foundation and recognizes a distinguished scientist or clinician for his or her current research contributions.

Mitchell Scheiman, OD, PhD, FAAO’s work using clinical research to address key clinical questions and controversies has had a tremendous impact on the profession of optometry and on optometric practice. He served as Study Chair for the NIH-funded Convergence Insufficiency Treatment Trial (CITT) which provided definitive evidence that office-based accommodative-vergence therapy results in a significantly greater improvement in symptoms and clinical measures compared to other treatments.

Irvin M. and Beatrice Borish Award

The Borish Award recognizes an outstanding young researcher who has shown exceptional promise to conduct independent optometric research directly related to etiology, prevention, detection, diagnosis or management of clinical eye disorders.

Ava K. Bittner, OD, PhD, FAAO, is a productive, multi-tasking young scientist who maintains a funded laboratory while training students and proctoring in the clinic in her area of expertise — vision rehabilitation.

AAO-Essilor Award for Outstanding International Contributions to Optometry

The International Award recognizes an individual(s) or organization whose direct efforts and contributions have resulted in unquestionable significant and extraordinary advances in optometry and eye care internationally.

This year’s International Award will be awarded to Luigi Bilotto, MS, OD, FAAO. As Global Director of Human Resource Development for the Brien Holden Vision Institute, he has been at the forefront of optometry’s development of capacity and qualified human resources to provide sustainable means of addressing avoidable blindness and providing comprehensive quality eye health services worldwide.

Brien Holden Humanitarian Award

The Brien Holden Humanitarian Award is presented to an individual or organization who has made significant contributions to improve eye care in developing communities.

C. Ellis Potter, OD, FAAO, has a long and distinguished career with Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity (VOSH), working tirelessly to change the VOSH paradigm. He has played a key role to help VOSH evolve from its original model that provided care in week-long clinic trips to developing countries to a model that works with local optometry and health providers to create more sustainable eye care.

Carel C. Koch Memorial Medal

The Carel C. Koch Memorial Medal is awarded to a person who has made outstanding contributions to the enhancement and development of relationships between optometry and other professions.

Joseph Fontenot, MD, CLVT, is this year’s Koch Award recipient because of his work in assisting visually impaired people, for promoting access to low vision rehabilitation care, and for building bridges between professionals who care for people with vision impairment.
Julius F. Neumueller Award in Optics
The American Academy of Optometry Foundation’s Julius F. Neumueller Award in Optics is awarded to a student pursuing the Doctor of Optometry degree in a school or college of optometry who submits a first-authored original research paper on one of the following topics: Geometrical Optics, Physical Optics, Ophthalmic Optics, Optics of the Eye.

This year the Awards Committee selected two recipients. Laura A. Goldberg, OD, MS, wrote “Opposing effects of atropine and timolol on the color and luminance emmetropization mechanisms in chicks,” during her studies in the combined MSc/OD optometry program at the New England College of Optometry.

Celia R Gong, OD, wrote “Accommodation and Phoria in Children Wearing Multifocal Contact Lenses,” in the OD-MS program at the State University of New York College of Optometry.

Vincent Ellerbrock Clinician Educator Award
The Vincent Ellerbrock Clinician Educator Award is presented to a distinguished clinician who has made outstanding and sustained contributions to the Academy’s Lectures and Workshops program.

Richard Madonna, MA, OD, FAAO, is Chairman of the SUNY College of Optometry’s Department of Clinical Education. Dr. Madonna has improved eye care by sharing his expertise with his colleagues at more than 20 Academy meetings, encompassing over 54 lectures, posters or case reports.

Eminent Service Award
The Eminent Service Award honors those persons who have rendered extraordinary and/or distinguished long-term service to the Academy.

This year the Awards Committee selected Harue J. Marsden, OD, MS, FAAO, to posthumously receive the Eminent Service Award. Dr. Marsden’s tireless and energetic contributions to the Academy spanned work on the Exhibits Committee helping to make the Academy’s exhibits what they are today, to the Section on Cornea, Contact Lenses & Refractive Technologies, to teaching at the Leadership InSight™ program for many years.

Life Fellowship Award
The distinction of Life Fellowship was created to provide recognition to those Fellows who through long-time membership in the Academy have rendered distinguished service to the science and art of optometry.

This year there are two recipients of this award. Bert C. Corwin, OD, FAAO, has served the Academy since 1975, first as Chair of Clinical Papers of the Cornea and Contact Lens Section. He was elected to the Board of Directors and served as President of the Academy from 1988 to 1990. Dr. Corwin co-chaired the first international Academy meeting and has the rare distinction of being a past president of both the American Academy of Optometry and the American Optometric Foundation.

Avrum Richler, OD, PhD, FAAO, received his Fellowship in 1965. He conducted myopia research that is still cited today, mentored others to follow academic careers, and has encouraged many other Canadian optometrists to pursue candidacy for Fellowship.

Garland W. Clay Award
The Garland Clay Award is presented to the authors of the manuscript published in Optometry and Vision Science that has been most widely cited in world research literature in the preceding five years and has the vote of the Optometry and Vision Science Editorial Board.

The 2017 Clay Award paper is “Multifocal Contact Lens Myopia Control” and its authors are Jeffrey J. Walline, OD, PhD, FAAO, Katie L. Greiner, OD, MS, FAAO, Mary Elizabeth McVey, OD, MS, and Lisa A. Jones-Jordan, PhD, FAAO (pictured clockwise from top left). The article was published in Optometry and Vision Science, 90(11):1207-1214, November 2013.

Michael G. Harris Award for Excellence in Optometric Education
Presented by the American Academy of Optometry Foundation, the Harris Award recognizes an optometric educator who has demonstrated ongoing and consistent excellence in education of optometry students and/or advancement of optometric education.

This year the Harris Award is awarded to Lorraine Lombardi, PhD. Although not an optometrist herself, Dr. Lombardi is an optometric education icon after her more than 45 years of teaching at Salus University Pennsylvania College of Optometry. The Harris Award will complement her 25 college awards as Educator of the Year.
## Section Awards

### Max Schapero Memorial Lecture Award
The Schapero Award, which is the Section’s highest award, honors a clinician, researcher, or scholar who has made a significant contribution to the cornea and contact lens field by virtue of his/her publications, lectures, or research efforts.

**Suzanne M.J. Fleiszig, OD, PhD, FAAO**, is an accomplished clinician scientist with an outstanding research track record evidenced through her large number of publications in highly respected journals, high citation rate, continuous government research funding for her work, international awards and invitations to contribute to meetings, and her ability to communicate the implications of her work with the pathogenesis of contact lens-related Pseudomonas aeruginosa keratitis to the profession.

### Founders’ Award
The Founders’ Award is presented to an individual, group, or company who has made an outstanding contribution to the clinical aspect of the art or science of contact lens fitting.

**Lynette Johns, OD, FSL, FAAO**, is one of the world’s most respected authorities in the field of contact lenses, and more specifically in developing specialty scleral GP contact lens fitting and technology.

### Henry B. Peters Memorial Award in Public Health and Environmental Vision
The Henry B. Peters Memorial Award, administered by the American Academy of Optometry Foundation, recognizes an individual for his/her exemplary contributions to public health and/or environmental vision over many years.

**Melvin D. Shipp, OD, MPH, FAAO**, provided service to the Federal government on behalf of optometry including working with the Food and Drug Administration, the Health Resources and Services Administration, the National Advisory Eye Council of the National Eye Institute/National Institutes of Health, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. He served as the President of the American Public Health Association (APHA), the leading national public health organization in the United States. Dr. Shipp was the first optometrist to lead the APHA and promoted optometry within that organization and to the public at large. Dr. Shipp also served as Dean of The Ohio State University College of Optometry.

## Coming This Fall: New Online Learning Center

Are you looking for ways to earn CE credits online? Did you miss a particular session at a past Academy meeting? Looking for ways to engage with your colleagues and keep your skills sharp year round?

Academy Online is your answer! As an Academy member you will have complimentary access to the new online learning platform.

You will also be able to view posters from last year’s meeting and interact with presenters in an online forum. COPE-approved distance learning CE credits will also be available ($25 test fee applies).

Watch for more information about this exciting resource!
Attend any high profile medical, scientific meeting, and you will notice they all have a prominent poster session. Attend a poster session, and you will quickly realize that unlike podium presentations, posters are a different manner of sharing knowledge by communicating research, academic, clinical and even social professional information. Pay close attention to the poster session at the meeting and you might even realize that poster presentations often outnumber professional educational podium presentations!

For the researcher, posters are a way to show your peers where your research path is taking you. For academicians, posters are a unique way to share your academic area of interest and mastery of the presented subject matter. For the clinician, posters are a way of sharing a particular managed case. For the audience, posters provide a snapshot of research findings, academic interest or clinical work with the intent to engage with the author and generate a discussion. Often conversations in the poster sessions give participants diverse points of view that often become a new wayward point providing a compass heading for new projects and collaborations.

Unlike podium presentations that provide a broad overview of a subject, poster presentations are a very efficient way to communicate and share topic-specific information and findings by presenting a detailed story. Posters must undergo the scrutiny of a peer review process for acceptance into a meeting’s poster session. This fact assures that the poster is a high quality presentation while being a treasured way for authors to have an opportunity to present their work, often as an initial step before submission for publication in peer reviewed literature.

The poster session is very dynamic with different posters being presented every day. Posters are grouped by general topics involving contact lenses, public health, anterior or posterior segment disease among others, making it easy for the attendee to identify a topic and area of interest. Posters also present a wide array of information to conference attendees. For example, some are designed to highlight resources such as Academy Chapters, Sections, Special Interest Groups (SIGs), academic or research programs and residency programs.

Posters are a way to deliver high-level findings while offering a unique manner in which the presenter and the audience engage, facilitating the exchange of information and enabling networking for like-minded peers. The value of poster sessions is that posters facilitate a conversation, but most important, posters are all about engagement with peers and fellowship. Two tips for visiting the poster session:

1) Posters are grouped by topic. It is suggested you start with a topic of interest. It is often much more comfortable discussing and asking questions on a familiar subject, but remember that one learns more in asking questions of topics that are less familiar.

2) Posters are all about engagement. Authors like to discuss the origin of their project and their findings. A great way to break the ice would be asking the author to explain his or her poster and findings.

most important, posters are all about engagement with peers and fellowship
About 30% of registrants will be attending their first American Academy of Optometry meeting in Chicago this October. Whether you’re one of the new attendees or a tried and true longtime Academy Fellow, here’s what you need to know to get the most out of your time at Academy 2017 Chicago.

**Housing and Transportation**

The Academy will provide complimentary shuttle service to and from McCormick Place for attendees staying in our contracted hotels. Attendees should be prepared to show their hotel keys to the shuttle driver in order to ride. Shuttles will arrive/depart every 15 minutes or sooner during peak hours and every 20 minutes during non-peak hours. The ride is approximately 20 minutes one-way, but attendees are strongly advised to plan to travel early as weather, traffic and other factors could lengthen the ride time significantly.

**Academy.17 Meeting App**

Use the time spent on the shuttle to your advantage by reviewing your daily schedule in the Academy.17 meeting app. You can use the app to browse available CE sessions, find exhibitors, and complete session evaluations. Search for Academy.17 in the Apple App Store or Google Play to download the app to your device.

**Registration Check-In**

Beat the Wednesday morning registration rush by picking up your badge and materials on Tuesday. Registration Central in McCormick Place will be open 1 to 8 PM. In addition, two satellite registration sites—one at the Palmer House Hilton and one at the Hyatt Regency Chicago—will be open from Noon to 8:00 PM. Satellite registration will also be open on Wednesday/Thursday mornings from 6:30 to 9:00 AM. While you’re at registration, be sure to pick up a Green Sheet that lists every event happening during the meeting. You can also pick up an Education Grid that lists all educational offerings.

**Education**

The headlining event is this year’s Today’s Research, Tomorrow’s Practice® Plenary Session: The Eye as a Mirror of the Brain, to be held on Wednesday, October 11 from 10 AM to Noon. Leading researchers will present on the role of the retina in brain diseases such as Parkinson’s, Alzheimer’s, and multiple sclerosis. Speakers will include Dr. Robert Sergott of the Wills Eye Hospital, Dr. Christopher Hudson from the University of Waterloo School of Optometry, and Dr. Marina Bedny of Johns Hopkins University.

This year’s education program will again feature a variety of rapid fire courses that will offer you fast-paced, captivating talks in 12-minute increments. Pick from 14 topics including Keratoconus and Beyond, Advanced Therapeutic Treatment in Clinical Practice, and Amblyopia Challenges: 3 Perspectives. See the education grid or Academy.17 app for specifics.

One highlight of this year’s program is a series of interprofessional education (IPE) courses that bring in experts from other health care professions to help cultivate collaborative practice and encourage patient-centered health care. These courses have been marked on the Education Grid.

Do you need Continuing Education with Examination (CEE) credits to help fulfill your state license requirements? These courses, also marked on the Education Grid, offer examinations from the University of Houston to help you meet those requirements. Attendees who do not need CEE are also welcome to attend those courses.
Have 15 minutes in between meetings or classes and want to earn some extra CE? Stop by the Scientific Program paper or poster sessions! Posters will be displayed during a special evening poster session on Thursday from 4:00 to 6:00 PM (be sure to check your registration materials for a free drink ticket for this event) or Friday from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM. Paper sessions will also take place throughout the meeting.

Lastly, support current optometric residents by engaging with them during the Residents Day presentations on Saturday, October 14. Residents will present their interesting case reports or the results of their research projects. Papers will be presented from 8:00 AM to Noon and posters from 1:30 to 3:30 PM.

Exhibit Hall
We’ve extended the hours this year to offer you more opportunity to visit the exhibit hall. Start by attending the Welcome Reception on Wednesday evening for complimentary refreshments and to visit with over 150 companies. On Thursday and Friday plan to stop by the exhibit hall for free lunch, and Thursday evening will feature a reception from 5:00 to 6:00 PM.

Thursday from 10:00 to 11:30 AM will be Student Focus Hours in the exhibit hall. Also, don’t miss the schedule of Vision Theater presentations in which companies will conduct product information sessions on the show floor!

Social Events
Friday evening’s schedule is overflowing with social events. Most of the schools and colleges of optometry will host alumni receptions at the Palmer House Hilton. Those who studied optometry outside of North America are invited to attend the International Reception. Finally, don’t miss the Australia Party, co-sponsored by the Brien Holden Vision Institute, from 9 PM to 1 AM to hear live music from Bad Habits – the official eye docs of rock. Check your registration materials for your complimentary Foster’s beer ticket.

On Saturday evening join us for the annual Fellowship Banquet to honor the incoming Fellows and Diplomates. A few things have changed this year – dress up or dress more casually if you’d like. The event will feature The Second City, a Chicago-based comedy group, as the emcee. Tickets are no longer automatically included in your registration fee, but can be purchased in advance for $25 each.

Miscellaneous Events
One hidden gem of the meeting is the Resident / Practitioner Match Event, generously sponsored by Allergan. This event pairs practicing optometrists wanting to hire with residency trained ODs. The event is held on Thursday, October 12 from 4:00 to 5:30 PM. Watch for more information on how to RSVP.

Join us again this year at Product Information Breakfasts during the meeting. The Academy provides continental breakfast to attendees, and companies share latest information on their products and services to help your practice thrive. No cost to attend, no CE provided. Check the Academy.17 app for the most up to date time and location information.

Interested in a high level overview of the most newsworthy scientific presentations and new products being presented at the meeting? Attend the Press Conference! That’s right, it’s not just for press. Join us on Wednesday, October 11 from 7:30 to 9:30 AM.

Don’t forget to explore Chicago while you’re there! Visit www.choosechicago.com to plan your leisure time outside of the meeting.
As we approach Academy 2017 Chicago, I would first like to congratulate all those who obtained their degrees after many years of hard work and study. Second, I would like to encourage students to take advantage of a wonderful opportunity to attend Academy 2017 Chicago this October.

While the rigors of optometry school enhance our skills, there is an opportunity to further extend our knowledge and dedication to the profession by joining the Academy and becoming involved. Involvement in the Academy as a student paves the way to staying committed to providing quality, evidence-based medicine. Patient care is a vital part of our profession and patients should know that their eyecare provider values their health. By joining the Academy and becoming a Fellow after graduation, you will demonstrate that value.

What does the Academy do for you?

The Academy provides cutting-edge speakers at national meetings, allows a unique experience of camaraderie and unity among various eyecare professionals, and stimulates those professionals to continue learning and developing. At the meeting, you will be able to hear lectures (ranging from glaucoma to contact lenses) about the forefront of the profession and how it’s evolving.

A motto of the Academy is, “Today’s Research, Tomorrow’s Practice®,” meaning that new techniques, treatments, and research strategies presented at the Academy meeting can be implemented in the clinic to make a difference in the lives of patients.

The poster sessions and papers will allow you to change your mentality and engage in topics from a different point of view.

The Academy community also opens other windows of opportunity that can help lead to a successful career. The letters “FAAO” symbolize prestige, integrity, and fraternity/sorority among the best in the optometric field. Employers understand the rigors of becoming a Fellow and highly regard those who have successfully completed the process.

In conclusion, I would like to invite everyone to attend Academy 2017 Chicago. Within the chaos in our day to day lives, there lies a wonderful opportunity at the meeting. Please attend CE lectures, symposia, and workshops, engage in networking opportunities, and find your inspiration for excellence.
Student and Resident Events

Student Welcome Reception
Wednesday, October 11, 5:00 - 7:00 PM
Kick off the annual meeting at this students-only reception.

Special Student Focus Exhibit Hall Hours
Thursday, October 12, 10:00 – 11:30 AM
Students will have a special opportunity to meet and network with over 150 exhibitors in attendance while playing Optometric Pursuit. While you’re there, stop by the Academy membership booth (#551) to ask a Fellow any question you have about membership or the Academy.

New! Student Awards Lunch
Thursday, October 12, 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM
This year, the Academy will hold its first annual Student Awards Lunch. This luncheon will honor the best student scientific program presenters from Academy 2016 Anaheim and the 2017 student travel fellowship recipients.

Student Networking Luncheon
Friday, October 13, Noon – 1:30 PM
Meet and network with students from other schools. Staff from residency programs will be available to answer questions.

Resident/Practitioner Networking Event
Thursday, October 12, 4:00 – 5:30 PM
Network with practitioners from the US and abroad looking to hire residency trained ODs in the near future. RSVP required – look for your invitation this summer!

Residents Day
Saturday, October 14, 8:00 AM – Noon and 1:30 – 3:30 PM
Residents Day is a forum where residents have the opportunity to present their interesting case reports or the results of their research projects! Papers will be presented 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM and posters, 1:30 – 3:30 PM. This special event is for current residents to showcase their work with meeting attendees, but all are welcome to attend.

Residents Day Luncheon
Saturday, October 14, Noon – 1:15 PM
Enjoy this opportunity to meet and network with residents from other programs. Don’t forget to submit your Candidacy for Fellowship application during the meeting to be entered into a prize drawing! Winners will be announced at the luncheon.

Residents Day Reception
Saturday, October 14, 3:30 - 4:30 PM
Celebrate the end of Residents Day by enjoying complimentary refreshments and mingling with your peers.

Student Workers Needed
Students are needed to assist at Academy 2017 Chicago. Students will earn $50 per 4 hour shift worked (maximum of $100 for 8 hours worked). If you’re interested in participating, please contact Betty Rodriguez at BettyR@aaoptom.org.
ENGAGE
EXCHANGE
EVOLVE

The exhibit hall gives you one-stop access to the tools you need to take your practice to the next level.

Academy 2017 Chicago Exhibit Hall Hours
Wednesday, October 11: 4 to 7 PM
Thursday, October 12: 10 AM to 6 PM
Friday, October 13: 10 AM to 3 PM

Welcome Reception, Wednesday, 5 - 7 PM
Attendee Reception, Thursday, 5 - 6 PM
Student Focus Hours, Thursday, 10 - 11:30 AM

Lunch provided for attendees in the exhibit hall on Thursday and Friday

Exhibitors (as of July 31, 2017)

ABB Optical Group
AccuLens Inc.
Aerie Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Akorn Pharmaceuticals
All About Vision
Alcon Laboratories
Allergan
American Academy of Optometry
American Foundation for the Blind
American Optometric Association
Annidis Corporation
Art Optical Contact Lens, Inc.
Bausch + Lomb
BiD LLC
BioTissue
Blanchard Contact Lens, Inc.
BlephEx LLC
Boston Foundation For Sight
Brien Holden Vision Institute
Bruder Healthcare Company
Bryn Mawr Communion
CareCredit
Chadwick Optical, Inc.
Checkedup
Coburn Technologies
Compulink
CooperVision, Inc.
DemandForce
Designs for Vision, Inc.
Diopixs
Electron Eye Technology
Elsevier, Inc.
EnhancedVision
Eschenbach Optik of America
Essilor of America
Euclid Systems Corporation
Eye Care and Cure
Eye Designs LLC
Eye Photo Systems, Inc.
eyeBrain Medical, Inc.
Eyecheck LLC
EyeMed Vision Care/Luxottica Group
Fashion Optical Displays
Fellows Doing Research SIG Study
Freedom Scientific Inc.,
Good-Lite Co.
Haag-Streit USA/Reliance
Hartley Institute for the Blind and Visually Impaired
HAI Laboratories, Inc.
Heart of America Eye Care Congress
Heidelberg Engineering
Heine USA, Ltd.
Hero Practice Services
HOYA Vision Care
Icare-USA
Illinois College of Optometry
iMatrix
ImprintRx
Indigo Iris Designs, LLC
Innexus by Interactive Media
INVISION Magazine
IrisVision
Johnson & Johnson Vision
Keeler Instruments, Inc.
Konan Medical USA
Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, Wolters Kluwer Health
Lombart Instrument
LS&S Products Inc.
M&J Technologies Inc.
MacuLogix, Inc
Marco
Menicon America
MIBO MEDICAL GROUP
Modern Design Architects
Moria, Inc
National Vision, Inc.
NBEO - Board Certification, Inc.
Nidek
NOVA Southeastern University
Novabay Pharmaceuticals, Inc
Oculus, Inc.
Ocushot, Inc.
Ocutech Inc.
Optiwash
Opto Multimedia
Optometry Times
OptoPrep
Optos Inc.
Optovue, Inc.
OpTranlate
Pentavision
Practice Director
Precision Vision
Premier Ophthalmic Services, Inc.
Premise Brands
Primary Care Optometry News
Promptly
Proof Wear
Quanta USA
Reichert, Inc
Review Of Optometry
RightEye LLC
Scan Optics
ScienceBased Health
Shire
Sjogren's Syndrome Foundation
Solutionreach
SpecProtect
Stella Lighting Inc
Stereo Optical Company, Inc.
SUN Ophthalmics
SynergEyes, Inc.
TearLab, Corp.
TearScience, Inc
Telscan
Topcon Medical Systems, Inc.
Tru-Form Optics
Valley Contax, Inc.
Vision Service Plan
Visionary Optics LLC
Visioneering Technologies, Inc.
Vivid Vision
Vmax Vision Inc.
VOLK Optical
VOSH International
VRS Magic
Walla International Inc., Click Heaters
Wells Fargo Practice Finance
Western University of the Health Sciences
College of Optometry
Williams Group
X-Cell Specialty Contacts
Younger Optics
Zeal Vision
Zeiss

The exhibit hall gives you one-stop access to the tools you need to take your practice to the next level.
I have long respected the American Academy of Optometry and had the good fortune to attend an Academy Fellow recruitment session at the Heart of America Contact Lens meeting in February 2016.

During the session, I learned the Academy has a path for industry professionals to earn Fellowship status. In fact, I made a pact with an optometrist during that meeting to complete the requirements during 2016. I’m very thankful I attended that session as I was unaware that the Academy offered an opportunity for industry professionals to earn Fellow status in the prestigious organization.

The Fellowship guidelines and process are well defined with multiple opportunities to earn the required points. Though understandably rigorous, I found the process to be clearly defined and achievable. I submitted my application and planned to complete the requirements to the Academy shortly after the Heart of America meeting.

To assist in my journey, the Academy graciously assigned a mentor, Dr. Chris Lievens, to provide guidance during the process. Dr. Lievens’ assistance was very helpful and I completed the requirements in time to sit for my oral interview at Academy 2016 Anaheim. After successfully completing the interview process I was inducted with the other new Fellows during the Saturday evening Fellowship Banquet.

I encourage all optometry industry professionals interested in becoming a Fellow of this prestigious organization to contact the Academy office or review details on their website to learn how to become a Fellow.

I’m very proud to be a Fellow of this wonderful organization and know you will be too!

There is so much that happens behind the scenes all year long to put together the annual meeting, one of the largest in optometry. The logistics, planning and human capital required to offer a conference of this caliber could never happen without the support of our sponsors and exhibitors.

Attendees may not realize that their registration fees alone are not enough to cover the cost of the meeting. We rely on the support of our corporate partners to engage in a mutually beneficial relationship. Our attendees receive world-class educational opportunities, and our sponsors receive the opportunity to showcase their new technologies to the best and brightest in optometry. In some instances, corporate support even allows us the ability to offer special educational opportunities, such as last year’s Plenary Session with Malcolm Gladwell. It’s a relationship that demonstrates our mutual commitment to our members and meeting attendees.

Of course, the value of having exhibitors and sponsors at our meeting doesn’t end there. The Exhibit Hall offers the products, services, and networking opportunities to help you take your practice to the next level. Product information sessions allow you to learn about product offerings during the meeting before CE begins. Some attendees may even discover a not-so-hidden secret—that at our annual meeting much valuable education happens outside the classroom (and that includes in the Exhibit Hall).

So as you attend Academy 2017 Chicago and after you return home, please keep in mind that when you support our corporate partners, you are also supporting the Academy and our ability to consistently provide you with an exceptional meeting experience.
Member Spotlight: Joan Exford

We interviewed the Academy's first female president (1993-1994) about her time spent in Academy leadership and on being a leading female figure in the profession. (Pictured: Dr. Joan Exford (center) with the other Academy Past Presidents in 2013.)

Why did you decide to get into optometry?

My father was an optometrist and served as a role model and encouraged me to become an optometrist.

What was it like to be President of the Academy at a time when the profession was still largely dominated by men?

Gender was never an issue. It was such a privilege to be President of the Academy. I was so fortunate to have been a part of a Board of Directors whose members were dedicated, cooperative and respectful and to have worked with so many colleagues serving in the volunteer positions of the Academy, all collaborating as a team with a common goal. I had been the only female student in my optometry school class, where gender was also not an issue. In both situations my experiences were very positive, personally and professionally.

Who from the profession has inspired you, and why?

First, my father, who always encouraged me. I attended my first Academy meeting with him while I was a student. He was very active in volunteer roles in optometry and from him I learned the importance of this commitment for the advancement of the profession.

Second, my husband Donald Korb, whose commitment to excellence in clinical care and clinical research has been an inspiration to me as well as to countless others.

You were one of the early advocates for the Academy investing in and cultivating students. What advice do you have to students entering the profession today?

Supporting students has been very important to us. We have been fortunate to have always had students working with us in our practice. The advice I would offer is to be very good observers, to adhere to the highest standards of care, to continue the educational process and, of course, to become a Fellow of the Academy!

What does being a part of the Academy mean to you personally and professionally?

Being a part of the culture of excellence in clinical care, research and education, and the Academy’s mission has provided the greatest influence in my career. In addition, being a part of the volunteer structure has been inspiring, rewarding and resulted in lasting friendships.

Student Travel Fellowship Recipients at ARVO 2017

Thanks to our generous sponsor, Johnson and Johnson Vision, six students received $750 student travel fellowships (STFs) to help offset the cost of attending the ARVO meeting to present their research. The awardees are pictured with Dr. Barbara Caffery (far left) and Dr. Karla Zadnik (far right) at the Academy and AOA Optometric Research Reception in Baltimore, MD in May.

2017 ARVO STF Recipients (pictured from left to right)

- Billie Beckwith-Cohen, DVM, MBA, FAAO
- Gareth Hastings, MPhil, BOptom
- Bright Ashimatey, OD
- Jakaria Mostafa
- Yifei Wu, BscOptom
- Cornelia Peterson, DVM
Meet Alcon’s Vision Care and Surgical Leadership and learn more about the many ways we partner, together and with you, to help improve your patients’ quality of life and the health of your practice.

Thursday October 12th, 2017
7:00pm – 9:30pm

Palmer House Hilton,
Red Lacquer Room (4th floor)
Chicago, Illinois

Arrive anytime between 7:00pm and 9:30pm and enjoy hors d’oeuvres and refreshments.

The Alcon Experience at the American Academy of Optometry Annual Meeting is an interactive evening showcasing Alcon’s 70 years of innovation and partnering to improve patient and practice outcomes.

Register Now at www.tinyurl.com/AlconAAOEVENT
to guarantee your spot at this one-of-a-kind event and to receive updates about the exciting interactive information as they become available.
Arizona Chapter

Save the date for the Arizona Chapter’s Fall Meeting on September 9, 2017. Six hours of COPE approved CE will be provided at Midwestern University in Glendale, AZ. For more information or to register visit http://www.aaopt.org/AZChapter.

Florida Chapter

Save the date for the Florida Chapter’s meeting on April 20-21, 2018 at the Mission Inn in Howey-In-The-Hills, Florida. Speakers will include Drs. Brad Sutton, Jeff Perotti, John McClane, and Albert Woods. Florida Optometric Jurisprudence and Medical Errors will be provided. Attendees can earn a total of 10 hours of CE over the two days. For more information email Dr. Art Young at eyeguy4123@msn.com.

Maine Chapter

The newly approved Maine Chapter is tackling the business aspects of establishing a chapter. The chapter looks forward to holding its first meeting in the fall or early winter.

New Jersey Chapter

The New Jersey Chapter invites Academy Fellows to attend their End of Year CE Dinner on November 8, 2017 at the Jumping Brook Country Club in Neptune, NJ. The topic and lecturer are to be determined. For more information contact Dr. Candice Tolud at candice.tolud@gmail.com.

North Carolina Chapter

In May 2017 the chapter held its 5th Annual Roger Cummings Resident Symposium in Salisbury, NC. There were a total of 10 resident speakers including residents from the W.G. Hefner VA Medical Center in Salisbury, NC, The Womack Army Medical Center in Fort Bragg, NC, and The Greenville VA Outpatient Clinic in Greenville, SC. This year’s winner of the “Red Eye” Award was Dr. Matthew Levernosh from the W.G. Hefner VA Medical Center with his presentation titled, “Preventing and Treating Eye Disease through Diet: A Managing Approach with Fewer Adverse Side Effects.”

The chapter will be holding its next meeting on Saturday, October 7th at the National Board of Examiners in Optometry office in Charlotte, NC. Retinal Specialist Dr. Omar Punjabi from CEENTA (Charlotte Eye Ear Nose & Throat Associates) will lecture on medical and surgical retina cases. Dr. Matthew Levernosh will lecture on Nutrition and the Eye. For more information regarding the upcoming meeting or the North Carolina Chapter, please contact Dr. Beth Cody at Elizabeth.Cody@VA.gov or visit us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/NCAAO.

Nova Southeastern Student Chapter

The Nova Southeastern Student Chapter is proud to announce that 38 students completed their Student Fellowship at Academy 2016 Anaheim. Their enthusiasm and commitment to the profession is impressive. The chapter will hold an informational session in early fall to discuss this year’s Academy meeting in Chicago.

University of Waterloo Student Chapter

The chapter was honored to host Dr. Barbara Caffery recently for a presentation to students about the Fellowship process, and clinical research opportunities after optometry school. The chapter also recently put together a cake sale to raise money for student travel fellowships for Academy 2017 Chicago. The chapter was also pleased to recognize eight new Student Fellows during a pinning ceremony, where Dr. Tanya Polonenko spoke to the students about the Academy and becoming a Fellow after graduation.
After 20 years in several different modes of practice beginning with a VA residency, followed by 6 years in commercial practice, and now private group practice, I continue to look for ways to improve my clinical skills. I know we all want to provide the best care to each of our patients, however life sometimes keeps us from going above the ordinary and to the extraordinary.

At last year’s Academy meeting I was privileged to present two cases alongside some of the best minds in eye care. At the beginning of one of my cases I asked the audience to respond by audience response texting what percentage of their patients have dry eye disease. The great majority of the group said over 50% of their patients have DED, yet we know statistics show that we are not actively treating that same number. There is a disconnect when we look at the facts. I believe this is because life gets in the way.

When I first became aware of this disconnect in my practice I started to improve. I looked at the prevalence of dry eye and then evaluated my patient base to see how I was doing statistically in diagnosis and treatment. After becoming aware of the problem, I looked for opportunity. I realized that I was not consistently giving my patients a dry eye questionnaire and not consistently giving them educational materials on DED and helping them to understand the seriousness of the disease upon diagnosis.

I learned from the book Triggers by Marshall Goldsmith that if you want to change your behavior it can be helpful to create a trigger to remind you of the action you want to take. The triggers I use are to carry a sample of prescription DED medication in my jacket pocket while seeing patients as well as keeping educational materials front and center in my exam rooms. I know that prevalence data supports the fact that I should be having a conversation and writing a prescription for 2 patients a day and so I challenge myself to make certain these patients are not falling through the cracks and that I am not letting “life” get in the way.

I encourage you to look at the prevalence of the big four eye diseases and then evaluate your patient data to see if you are diagnosing and treating the statistically expected number. If you are not, then find a way to set up protocols (triggers) to keep from letting anyone fall through the cracks and to move to the level of extraordinary clinical care.
Future Meetings

Academy 2018 San Antonio
November 7 - 10, 2018

Academy 2019 Orlando
October 23 - 26, 2019

Academy 2020 Nashville
October 7 - 10, 2020

Academy 2021 Boston
November 3 - 6, 2021

Academy 2022 San Diego
October 26 - 29, 2022

Academy 2023 New Orleans
October 11 - 14, 2023

Academy 2024 Washington DC
November 6 - 9, 2024

Academy 2025 Boston
October 8 - 11, 2025

Future Meetings

SAN ANTONIO

Academy 2018 San Antonio
November 7 - 10, 2018

About This Issue

Friday, October 13, 2017
10:00 AM to 5:00 PM
E256, McCormick Place Lakeside Center
Watch for more information to schedule your appointment.

The American Red Cross is the nation's largest blood collection organization, supplying approximately 40% of the blood and blood products used in our country. For more information visit www.redcross.org.
President’s Welcome

Dear Colleagues,

The recipients of your generosity and the American Academy of Optometry Foundation (AAOF) Board of Directors thank you for your support! This year the Foundation will provide over $450,000 in fellowships, scholarships, awards, and grants to deserving students, residents, and faculty.

During Academy 2017 Chicago, the AAOF is proud to present two inaugural awards – the Korb-Exford Dry Eye Career Development Grant and the Joseph T. Barr Early Cornea and Contact Lens Research Award. These awards are in recognition of extraordinary contributions to the profession of optometry. In addition, the Foundation will support an increased number of students by awarding four Student Travel Fellowships and 16 Student Giving Matching Travel Grants.

The AAOF is thankful for the ongoing commitment of the members of the President’s Circle, who have made a contribution of $10,000 or greater. We look forward to recognizing more than 10 new members during this year’s Academy meeting.

I invite you to stop by AAOF booth #539 in the Exhibit Hall to learn more about how your contributions are Advancing Optometry’s Future. I also encourage you to participate in the Cycle for Sight 20/20 Challenge, which will raise an additional $25,000 for the AAOF through the generosity of the Alcon Foundation. Together, we can make a greater impact on vision and eye health to improve clinical patient care.

I look forward to seeing you in Chicago in October!

Sincerely,

David G. Kirschen, OD, PhD, FAAO
President, AAOF
The AAOF has selected eleven outstanding vision researchers to receive the esteemed Ezell Fellowships. Now in its 68th year, the Ezell Fellowship program, named after AAOF founder Dr. William C. Ezell, is intended to recognize talented optometric researchers who are pursuing careers in research and education.

This year’s recipients were chosen based on their educational qualifications, research abilities, and current plus future teaching capabilities. Candidate reviews were made by the AAO Research Committee, in collaboration with the AAOF Programs Approval Committee and approved by the AAOF Board of Directors.

Fellowships are for one year with each receiving support funds, travel grants to the annual meetings of the American Academy of Optometry (AAO) and the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO), a commemorative plaque, and complimentary registration to Academy 2017 Chicago. The Ezell Fellows will be recognized at the annual AAOF Celebration Luncheon on Saturday, October 14, 2017.

“We look forward to honoring this year’s eleven Ezell Fellowship awardees. They represent our next generation of optometric researchers and teachers. From the looks of their collective CVs, research, and practice, the optometric profession has a bright future,” said AAOF President Dr. David Kirschen.

The Ezell Fellowship program is made possible through the commitments of generous endowments, the ongoing contributions of membership donors and friends of the Foundation, and through the visionary support of corporate leader Essilor of America.

American Academy of Optometry Ezell Fellow
Maria K. Walker, OD, MS, FAAO
University of Houston, College of Optometry
Research Focus: Evaluating the inflammatory response of the keratoconic eye during scleral lens wear

Merton C. Flom Leadership Ezell Fellow
Phillip Thomas Yuhas, OD, MS, FAAO
The Ohio State University College of Optometry
Research focus: Understanding the physiological mechanism of intrinsically photosensitive retinal ganglion cells

AAO Section on Cornea, Contact Lenses & Refractive Technologies Ezell Fellow
Erin Rueff, OD, MS, FAAO
The Ohio State University, College of Optometry
Research focus: Defining the relationship between contact lens discomfort and binocular vision/accommodative disorders

Michael G. Harris Ezell Fellow
Elise N. Harb, OD, MSc, FAAO
University of California, Berkeley School of Optometry
Research focus: Investigating the role of human behaviors, using novel objective, including wearable, technologies, in myopia development

American Academy of Optometry Foundation Ezell Fellow
Karla Zadnik Ezell Club Fellow
Katherine M. Bickle, OD, MS, FAAO
The Ohio State University, College of Optometry
Research focus: Comparison of the ocular surface in pediatric and adult soft contact lens wearers

Optometric Glaucoma Society Ezell Fellow
Nevin W. El-Nimri, OD, MS, FAAO
University of California, Berkeley School of Optometry
Research Focus: Mechanisms underlying the increased risk of glaucoma in myopic patients and the therapeutic potential of topical ocular hypotensive drugs for controlling both myopia progression and reducing the risk of glaucoma

Baycross Christian Family Foundation Binocular Vision and Pediatrics Ezell Fellow
Ann M. Morrison, OD, MS
The Ohio State University, College of Optometry
Research focus: Investigating early detection and correction of infant farsightedness

John H. Schoen Ezell Fellow
Kevin Thomas Willeford, OD, MS, FAAO
State University of New York College of Optometry
Research focus: How oculomotor target selection utilizes simultaneous behavioral and neural data

Irvin M. Borish - Essilor Ezell Fellow
Ian Erkelens, OD
University of Waterloo School of Optometry and Vision Science
Research focus: Characterizing the neural control and dysfunction of sensorimotor adaptation within vergence eye movements

Vision Impact Institute Ezell Fellow
Kaitlyn Anne Sapoznik, OD
Indiana University School of Optometry
Research Focus: The study of outer retinal tubulation using adaptive optics scanning laser ophthalmoscopy (AOSLO)

Mike Daley - Essilor Ezell Fellow
Suraj Upadhyaya, OD, FAAO
University of Houston, College of Optometry
Research Focus: Eye movements, strabismus and its neurophysiology
Inaugural Awards at Academy 2017 Chicago

The AAOF is pleased to announce two new awards being presented at Academy 2017 Chicago.

The Joseph T. Barr Early Cornea and Contact Lens Award will be awarded to Yuno Iwabuchi, fourth year OD/MS student and teaching assistant at Pacific University College of Optometry. The award is intended to provide an MS, PhD, vision science, or physiological optics student attending a North American school/college of optometry research seed funding for a project in cornea/ocular surface or contact lenses.

The Korb-Exford Dry Eye Career Development Grant is designed to support an individual to further their knowledge in the broad area of dry eye. The successful individual must have a demonstrable interest in either a clinical or basic science area of dry eye and may be a clinician, educator, researcher; or student. The recipient will be recognized at this year’s Celebration Luncheon at Academy 2017 Chicago.

Support the AAOF on Amazon.com!

When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon donates a portion to the AAOF.

Visit the AAOF Booth

We look forward to seeing you at Academy 2017 Chicago. Stop by the American Academy of Optometry Foundation booth #539 in the Exhibit Hall to meet the 2017 Ezell Fellows and other awardees. While visiting the booth, you can bid on many exciting silent auction items or make a donation in support of optometry’s future.

The Alcon Foundation Cycle for Sight 20/20 Challenge

At Academy 2017 Chicago, the Alcon Foundation and the AAOF will once again co-host the Cycle for Sight 20/20 Challenge. Academy attendees can participate by stopping by Booth #631 to ride a stationary bike to help reach the cumulative goal of 2,020 minutes of riding.

When the goal is reached, the Alcon Foundation will make a $25,000 donation to the AAOF to fund optometric education and research. The support of the Alcon Foundation has, and will continue to have, far-reaching impact on the optometric profession and patient care.