Q: Where are you located?
A: Olympia Fields, Illinois, United States

Q: What year did you earn your Fellowship?
A: 2010

Q: When did you earn your doctorate?
A: 2007

Q: What inspired you to pursue optometry as a career?
A: My own experience as a teenager receiving glasses was the catalyst that pushed me toward optometry.

Q: What is your most rewarding patient or professional experience?
A: I helped start an advanced low vision clinic within the VA system after residency, which incorporated a team approach and provided patients with very comprehensive low vision care. The clinic has grown and still helps many veterans annually. Though I no longer work in that clinic, I am proud to have served those who have served us all.

Q: How did you become involved with the Academy?
A: I first became involved in AAO as a student when I had a poster, which was authored with one of my professors, accepted. I really enjoyed the experience and have been attending yearly since then.

Q: What has your involvement meant to your career?
A: I look forward to the annual meeting because of the great education, but it has also pushed me toward continued excellence and my pursuit of becoming a Diplomate.

Q: What is the best part of being an OD?
A: Making an impact and improvement in the quality of patients’ lives has been the best!

Q: Tell us a fun fact about you or an interesting hobby you have?
A: As a child, I once spent the summer reading the entire dictionary. Fun!

Parres Wright
OD, FAAO

FRIDAY FELLOW Q&A