The American Academy of Optometry’s mission is to promote the art and science of vision care through lifelong learning.
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Dear Colleagues,

It’s been a very successful year for the Academy!

The annual meeting is the event of the year for the Academy. And Academy 2008 Anaheim set new records for both the highest attendance ever with 4,875 attendees and the largest number of students – more than 700! At the meeting you were introduced to the new Academy logo, you donated more than $17,000 at the American Optometric Foundation silent auction, you chose from nearly 270 hours of continuing education and you viewed the showcases of more than 190 exhibitors.

There was non-stop action throughout the entire meeting. The education received outstanding evaluations, exhibits were filled with vendors with the latest optometric products and technologies, and more than 50 affiliate groups held their meetings and events in conjunction with the Academy’s program. The meeting ended on a high note with the induction of 151 new Fellows and 6 new diplomates.

Throughout the meeting there was evidence of the importance of our vision statement, “Today’s Research, Tomorrow’s Practice®” and the dedication of our attendees to our mission, “Promote the art and science of vision care through lifelong learning.”

In 2008 the Academy leadership re-affirmed both the vision and mission in its review and update of the strategic plan. And looking ahead, the leadership set the following goals for the near future:

- Be the premier provider of post graduate education in optometry
- Define the Academy’s role in optometric certification
- Increase the number of members while maintaining our standards
- Evaluate the Academy’s structure of specialty areas
- Develop a plan to promote the Academy to various audiences
- Encourage the discovery of new knowledge in vision science and increase the resources to support it
The Academy is fortunate to have wonderfully dedicated volunteers. Our members give their time, energy and expertise to continually advance the Academy and the profession.

Our journal Optometry & Vision Science (OVS) continues to rank among the highest of all eye and vision care scientific journals, as determined by Impact Factor. This year saw two feature issues; Glaucoma: Research Spotlight on Patient Care, and Dry Eye: Clinical and Research Challenges. In addition, OVS held its third annual continuing education course at the Academy’s annual meeting.

The American Optometric Foundation, the Academy’s philanthropic arm providing financial support for optometric research and education, provided over $400,000 in scholarships, fellowships, and research grants. The Foundation’s assets grew to $3 million this year, up from $1 million just five years ago. This included an outstanding gift of $200,000 from the estate of Jill Mertz, the widow of the late Dr. George Mertz.

This Annual Report highlights the activities and accomplishments of the Academy throughout the year. But we can’t look back for long…Academy 2009 Orlando is right around the corner! We hope to see you there.

Richard E. Weisbarth, OD, FAAO
President, 2007 & 2008

Lois Schoenbrun, CAE, FAAO
Executive Director
Academy 2008 Anaheim was an excellent opportunity for those in optometry and vision science to learn about the latest research and network with their colleagues. With 4,875 attendees this year, it was the highest attended conference in Academy history. There were nearly 270 hours of cutting edge lectures and workshops, 15 section symposia and hundreds of scientific papers and posters.

The Plenary Session this year, “How Does the Future Affect Today?” focused on the future in the profession of optometry. Ed Barlow, MA, a noted futurist, provided insight on the future of optometry and health care delivery in a changing world. Kay Dickersin, PhD, shared information about The Cochrane Project, an international non-profit that produces and disseminates systematic reviews of healthcare information and promotes the search for evidence in the form of clinical trials and other studies. She presented ways that practitioners can benefit from research results and contribute to data collection. Donald O. Mutti, OD, PhD, FAAO, ended the session giving the audience examples of ways The Cochrane Project will bring today’s research into tomorrow’s practice, specifically in his area of expertise, the study of myopia.

This year’s meeting launched an exciting joint program of the Academy and the Optometric Glaucoma Society (OGSs) during which some of the world’s premier glaucoma specialists presented “Pathogenic Mechanisms of Glaucoma: Basic Science and Clinical Implications.” Featured speakers included Douglas Anderson, MD; Claude Burgoyne, MD; Jack Cioffi, MD; and John Morrison, MD. Attendees learned more about retinal ganglion cell axonal flow, the biomechanical aspects of glaucoma, and influences on glaucomatous optic neuropathy.

The Academy’s Sections presented the latest research in each topic area and provided a forum to discuss divergent viewpoints. The ARVO/AAO Joint Symposium topic, “Assessing the Structure and Function of the Visual System Using Novel Imaging Technologies” was sponsored by the Vision Science Section. This symposium brought together leaders in the area of biomedical imaging of the visual system to present the latest developments in the field. Topics ranged from imaging the anterior segment to mapping the visual cortex. The Binocular Vision, Perception, & Pediatric Optometry section presented “Case Management of Refractive Error in Preschool Children: Can We Agree?” where presenters from both optometry and ophthalmology defended their opinions on the best refractive practices for preschool children. The Section on Cornea and Contact Lenses presented “Beyond Oxygen - the Future of Contact Lenses” that addressed important issues limiting contact lens wear and the causes of complications for wearers, namely: contact lens induced discomfort and dryness, corneal inflammation and infection.
“Contemporary Disease Management – Point/Counter Point” presented by the Disease Section was the popular Wednesday evening symposium where diplomates discussed interesting ocular disease cases on the ocular manifestations of both systemic and neurologic disease. The Section's second symposium was “The Clinical Applicability of Selected NEI Trials” which highlighted reviews of NEI trials that the average practitioner can utilize in daily practice. The Low Vision section presented “Low Vision of Special Needs Populations,” a discussion about the vision care of individuals with disabilities, infants/toddlers and those with severe brain injury; and “Perspectives on a Low Vision Research Agenda,” an overview of low vision needs from a historical perspective, around the globe and in the military.

The Optometric Education Section presented “Developing a Career Path for Optometric Faculty” which encouraged optometrists interested in pursuing a career in academics. The Primary Care presentation “Primary Eye Care: Today and Tomorrow” discussed primary care practices that will improve patient management and clinical care, and to prepare primary care optometry for upcoming changes in the health care field. The Public Health and Environmental Optometry and Optometric Education Sections jointly presented “Electronic Health Records (EHR) in Eye Care – The Great Leap Forward.” The Public Health and Environmental Optometry Section also presented “Eye Injury Prevention – Strategies for Success,” which was a forum for experts to provide successful strategies for eye safety in various hazardous environments.

The sunny weather in Southern California was ideal for the Academy meeting, and attendees found time for networking and social events, too. The student networking lunch was a forum to recognize students who have displayed exceptional leadership and it provided an opportunity for students to network and learn more about residency programs. Although the luncheon was targeted for students, many residents came to benefit from the networking opportunity. The Australia Party was a big hit living up to the tradition of great music, lots of dancing and late night pizza.

The President’s Roundtable Banquet concluded the meeting with the induction of 151 Fellows into the class of 2008, plus six new diplomates. The Roundtable Banquet ended with the live auction of an original piece of art, painted and donated by Dr. Irv Borish, that provided $2,500 of the more than $17,000 raised at the conference for the American Optometric Foundation.

A highlight of the conference was the introduction of the new Academy logo at the meeting. The work of focus groups held at Academy 2007 Tampa showed that the shield that the Academy had used in its logo for so many years not only represented the past, but to many was not memorable. There was a desire to find a logo to exemplify the Academy’s commitment to excellence and the passion for the future that is the Academy. The new logo will take the Academy into an era with a renewed focus and meaning. The letters “AAO” have been transformed into an eye shape, and the organization’s name is aligned alongside in a forward-looking yet traditional font.

Academy 2008 Anaheim was a great success! With the introduction of the new AAO logo, the excellent education, and the highest attendance in all of Academy history, this meeting was the place to be for the optometry profession.
More than 700 students attended Academy 2008 Anaheim. The Academy had two successful student-only events, a Student Welcome Reception Sponsored by VISTAKON® and a Student Networking Luncheon sponsored by CooperVision. In addition, Allergan sponsored the highly successful Residents Day, a day of papers and posters presented by residents, and capped off with a well-attended reception.

Students had the opportunity to attend all of the outstanding continuing education and fun social events at the meeting. A total of 127 students and residents were awarded a $750 travel fellowship to help defray the costs of attending Academy 2008 Anaheim.
TRA VEL FELLOWSHIPS

Frank W. Weymouth Student Travel Fellowship
*Debra Cheung
*Sruthi Srinivasan, PhD

Irvin M. & Beatrice Borish Student Travel Fellowship
PremNandhini Satgunam, PhD
*Walter Wittich, MA

Funded by an educational grant from VISTAKON*
*Raju Babu, MSc
*Juliana Boneta, OD
*Michele Buckland, MS, OD
*Sharanjit Burny, OD
*Naveen Challa
*Jack Chan, MS
*Davie Chen
*Inning Chen, OD
*Amber Colling
*Brian Cox, DDS
*Lauren Ernst
*Christina Gant
*Kristin Glavine, MA
*Sowjanya Gowrisankaran, MS
*Harry Green, OD, PhD
*Paula Handford, OD
*Jean-Marie Hansens, MSc
*Kristina Haworth, OD
*Erich Hinkel
*Meredith Jansen
*Samuel Kimball
*Qiing Liu, MD
*Doerte Luensmann
*Dimitra Makrynioti, MSc, PhD
*Jyotsna Maram
*Marc Matthias-Schulze
*Krishika Nandakumar
*Charlie Ngo
*Christopher Paulett
*Daniel Powell, OD
*Padmapriya Ramamoorthy, MS
*Subam Rao, MPhil
*Angelique Sawyer, OD
*Simone Schneider, MSc
*Jay Seshadri, MS, PhD
*Mahesh Shivanna, MPHarm
*Lesley Sobeck, OD
*Vidya Subramanian, MS
*Tiffany Yuen

Illinois State Chapter Student Travel Fellowships
funded by the Illinois College of Optometry
Student Chapter and
Illinois College of Optometry
*Kristal Christensen
*Alicia Feis
*Jamie Ho
*Kelly Klein
*Laura MacDonald
*Leslie Patterson
*Allyson Seiler
*Lindsay Sicks
Allison Walz

Indiana Chapter Student Travel Fellowship
Yuen Chui, MSc, PhD

The Michael G. Harris Student Travel Fellowship Award for Leadership
Ray Prozzolo

The Robert D. Newcomb Student Travel Fellowship Award for Leadership
*Melissa Zarn

Heart of America Chapter Student Travel Fellowships funded by an educational grant from Alcon
*Bradley Borelo
*Chad Morgan

Binocular Vision, Perception & Pediatric Optometry Section
Resident Travel Fellowships funded by an educational grant from Alcon
*Leanna Dudley, OD
*Paula Handford, OD

Disease Section Resident Travel Fellowships funded by an educational grant from Alcon
*David Hicks, OD, FAAO
*Sara Beth Radney, OD

Low Vision Section Resident Travel Fellowship funded by an educational grant from Alcon
*Nicole Mills, OD

Primary Care Section Resident Travel Fellowships funded by an educational grant from Alcon
*Kim-Anh Jow, OD
*Jennifer Weier, OD

Cornea And Contact Lenses Resident Travel Fellowships generously sponsored by Bausch & Lomb
Ellin Chen, OD
*Gloria Chiou, OD
*Kristine Dalton, OD
*Karen DeLoss, OD
*Olivia Do, OD
*Eva Duchnowski, OD
*Andrew Emch, OD, MS
*Ashley Fortney, OD
*Jacqueline Haro, OD
*Emily Kachinsky, OD
*Daniel Krall, OD
*Nancy Lee, OD
*Clifford Leong, OD
*Grace Lytle, OD
*Rasa Maksimaviciute, OD
*Lisa Meadows, OD
*Veronica Pagé, OD
*Sara Rajot, OD
*Janelle Routhier, OD
*Kim Sakai, OD
*Nina Sera, OD
*Anita Ticak, OD, MS

*Member of the American Academy of Optometry

Poster presenters Dr. Hoening and Dr. Yuen
2008 Academy Volunteers

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IA, IL, IN, KS, MI, MN, MO, NE, ND, OH, SD, WI

Region 4 Clinical Candidates
AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NV, NM, OR, UT, WA, WY

Region 5, Clinical Candidates
International
Feike Grit, Chair
Wolfgang Cagnolati, Vice Chair
Catherine A. Chiarelli, Committee Member
Mary Cregg, Committee Member
Macarena Fernandez-Baca, Committee Member

Region 6 Clinical Candidates
Federal Service
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Ken Whitwell, Committee Member
Nancy N. Wong, Committee Member

Group II
Nancy A. Nichols, Co-Chair
James D. Carrell, Committee Member
John F. Mileiski, Committee Member

Robert W. Morris, Committee Member
Annette J. Williamson, Committee Member

Group III
Steven G. Ferrucci, Co-Chair
Adrienne B. Ari, Committee Member
Keith Cespon, Committee Member

Region 7 Scientist/Researchers
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Jason J. Nichols, Vice Chair
Suresh Viswanathan, Committee Member
Carol A. Westall, Committee Member

Region 8, Special Category Candidates
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Robert E. Dister, Vice Chair
Mary E. Eastwood, Committee Member

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Anthony J. Adams, Vice Chair
Mark W. Eger, Committee Member
Gunilla Haegerstrom-Portnoy, Committee Member

Communications Committee
James E. Sheedy, Chair
Carmen N. Barnhardt, Committee Member

Binocular Vision, Perception & Pediatric Optometry Section
Graham B. Erickson, Section Chair, Program Chair
Rachel E. Coulter, Section Vice-Chair
David E. Fitzgerald, Section Officer
Regina S. Carriotti, Diplomate Chair

Chapters Committee
Dennis M. Kuwabara, Chair, Hawaii

International
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Wolfgang Cagnolati, Europe
Langis Michaud, Canada - Quebec
Paul A. Naude, South Africa

United States
Carolyn C. Begley, Indiana
G. Richard Bennett, Pennsylvania
Victor M. Finnemore, New England
Michael H. Greenberg, Northeastern Ohio
Scott A. Jens, Wisconsin
Thomas R. Karkkainen, Tennessee
Steven Lieberman, New York
Kevin Manning, New Jersey
Robert W. Morris, North Carolina
Dominick Opitz, Illinois
Eric E. Polk, Heart of America
Joseph A. Reichert, Oklahoma
Gay K. Tokumaru, Virginia
Meredith M. Whiteside, California
Arthur T. Young, Florida

Communications Committee
James E. Sheedy, Chair
Carmen N. Barnhardt, Committee Member
The exhibit hall at Academy 2008 Anaheim was a huge success. Meeting attendees were able to learn about the most cutting-edge optometric technologies, try out the latest products and discuss optometric trends with their colleagues.

A successful exhibit hall is important to a great meeting. It provides attendees an opportunity to access information about the latest in optometry trends. The exhibit hall is also a source of financial support for the Academy. We would like to extend a warm thank you and heartfelt appreciation to the exhibitors for their support!

### Academy 2008 Anaheim Exhibitors

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<td>Sonogage</td>
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<td>Southern California College of Optometry</td>
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<td>Stereo Optical Company Inc.</td>
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<td>Synemed Inc.</td>
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<td>SynergEyes, Inc.</td>
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<td>TeleVox</td>
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<td>Telscreen</td>
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<tr>
<td>The LifeStyle Gp Company</td>
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<tr>
<td>Topcon Medical Systems, Inc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tri-Form Optics</td>
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<tr>
<td>Unilens Corp., USA</td>
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<tr>
<td>Veatch Instruments</td>
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<td>Vision Advantage International, Inc.</td>
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<td>Vision Technology, Inc.</td>
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<td>VisionScience Software, Inc.</td>
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<td>VISTAKON</td>
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<td>Visual Pathways, Inc.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Volk Optical Inc.</td>
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<td>VOSH International</td>
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<td>VSP</td>
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<td>Walters Low Vision Optics</td>
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<td>Western University of Health Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>X-Cel Contacts</td>
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<td>Younger Optics</td>
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<tr>
<td>ZeaVision</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ziemer USA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Fellows of the American Academy of Optometry (FAAO) Class of 2008

congratulations!

Canada
Sherman Gin Yung Tung
Frederic Gagnon
Patrick Simard
China
Bing Tin Tam
Hong Kong
Yu Fai Ng
Law Kwai Mei
Ho Wai Patrick Chu
Netherlands
Hendrik Peter Derksen
Nigeria
Monica O. Obaedo
Singapore
Rebecca Yong Kee Chew
Thailand
Jerry E. Vincent
United Kingdom
Keyur Patel
A. Jonathan Jackson
Alabama
Joseph B. Fleming
Janene Sims
Arizona
Tina R. Porzukowiak
Chad A. Carlsson
Danielle L. Weiler
Amanda E. Mendez
Roberts
Angelica Salamanca
Ronda L. Olson
Jeffrey D. Wine
Arkansas
Jonathan F. Shaver
California
Dan B. Carver
Gregory G. Horn
Jeffrey R. Anshel
Randall F. Fuerst
Angela M. Shihady
John Devin Blackburn
Christie Chan
Jeffery A. Calmer
Tonya Watson
Kathy Tran
Abhiram S. Vilupuru
Wendy W. Harrison
Stacey Gin
Jennifer N. Tam
Maria Sandra Torres
Sheldrake
Annie Tsuen Chin
Samuel Hardy Jarvis
Karen Young Wong
Andrew Burton Wong
Rex B. Villegas
Ling C. Huang
Jan L. Cooper
Puja S. Goel
Ryan Roger Manning
Colorado
Barbara Massey
Florida
Kevin J. McGowan
Neeta Kapoor Chhabra
Jilma H. Ellison
Donald Ellison
Chris R. Choat
Sanjeet Kaur Shahi
Marlon James Demeritt
Georgia
Ricardo Fukuwato
Thao M. Vu
Nacoondus G. Gamble
Fenghe Lu
Hawaii
Khan Ghen Wai Lau
Idaho
Nathan C. Price
Chea-Yo Chang
Illinois
Andria M. Pihos
Jennifer S. Harthan
Angie Abdallah Chanyayem
Eric A. Baas
Lauren Maloney
Indiana
Brandy L. Deckard
Kansas
Amy L. Langford
Kentucky
Jennifer Elam
Maryland
Lisa Ostrin
Helen M. Viksnins
Farrah Lakhani
Massachusetts
Dennis Preston Pardo
Babara Asefzadeh
Catherine Johnson
Kerri Kimi Yoshiyama
Jazmin A. Logendra
Alexandra Rae Bowers
Michigan
Kierstyn Napier-Dovorany
Minnesota
Gina A. Stokes-Johnson
Tomohiko Yamada
Missouri
Barbara W. Brown
Carrie Riley
Montana
Barbara Suzanne Cohn
Nevada
Stella K. Lau
New Jersey
Nidhi Rana
Richard Y. Baird
New Mexico
Christopher C. Cordes
New York
Katherine M. Mastrotta
Rebecca Nally
Pamela Hooker Schnell
Hilla Abel
Marina Epelman Meye-rovit
Andrew J. Di Mattina
Stephanie P. Su
Heather Mira McLeod
Maria A. Bosco
Lisa M. Modesto
Chester Ng
Terry Luk
Tam Nguyen
North Carolina
Dennis A. O’Neal
Terry W. Ellington
Ryan M. Beyer
Stacy Marie Schorner
Ryan K. Patel
Kate T. Lanier
Cara D. Hamm
Ohio
Andrew J. Tolle
Sara J. Huffman
Jessica Anne Simon
Aaron B. Zimmerman
Kelly E. Kingsbury
Joy Marie Ellerbrock
Ryan Glenn Palmer
Heather Chandler
Oregon
Ronald R. Guley
E. Winter Lewis
Fraser C. Horn
Tracy C. Doll
Randall McClellan
Rhode Island
Sarah Alma Huet Radny
Georgia Patsiopoulo
Tennessee
Daniel E. Smith
Sarah Miller Watkins
Daniel Arnett Taylor
Texas
Tonya G. Ketcham
Darren P. Rhoton
Randal D. Jentzen
Scott C. Martin
Danielle Marie Robertson
Sangita Patel Vadapalli
Heather Anne Anderson
Dave C. Sattler
Sunny Marie Field
Vermont
Jennifer R. DeVita
Virginia
Walter O. Whitley
Evan Joel Staver Kaufman
Peter E. Carra
Janel Chou
Stacy Martinson
Jessica L. Hillner
Washington
Jasvinder Kaur Pabla
Michael L. Giese
Landon J. Jones
Wisconsin
Elizabeth A. Sanders
Aaron W. Bronner
Overseas Military
AE, APO
John J. Kim
Robert Patrick Senko
Adreain Maurice Henry
2008 Award Recipients

Charles F. Prentice Lecture
Clifton M. Schor, OD, PhD, FAAO
Surgical Correction of Presbyopia with Intraocular Lenses that can Accommodate

Glenn A. Fry Invited Lecture*
Laura Frishman, PhD, MSc, FAAO
Non-Invasive In Vivo Assessment of Retinal Ganglion Cell Function Using the Electrotetogram

Irvin M. and Beatrice Borish Award
Konrad Pesudovs, BScOptom, PhD, DipAdvClinOptom, FCLSA, FAAO, FVCO

AAO-Essilor Award for Outstanding Contributions to International Optometry
Feike Grit, BSc, DSc, FAAO

William Feinbloom Award
Henry A. Greene, OD, FAAO

Garland W. Clay Award
Raymond A. Applegate, OD, PhD, FAAO, Charles Ballentine, BA, Hillery Gross, BA, Edwin J. Sarver, PhD, Charlene A. Sarver, BS

Carel C. Koch Memorial Award
Brien Holden, BAppSc, PhD, DSc, OAM, FAAO

Michael G. Harris Family Award for Excellence in Optometric Education*
Charles Wormington, OD, PhD, FAAO

Julius F. Neumueller Award in Optics*
Bret Lehman, BS

Section on Cornea and Contact Lenses Awards

Max Schapero Memorial Lecture Award
Noel Brennan, OD, PhD, FAAO
Corneal Oxygenation with Contact Lens Wear

*Administered by the American Optometric Foundation

Membership Categories by Gender

The Academy membership continues to become more diverse. In 1996, 11 percent of the Fellows were female; now women represent 28 percent.
Vision Research Exploration at the Academy 2008 Anaheim

Academy 2008 Anaheim showcased cutting edge research in optometry and vision science. As is the Academy’s hallmark, research results and their translational applications were presented in various formats: Lectures and Workshops, Residents Day, symposia, poster presentations and scientific papers, and at the press conference.

As described in a report of the 1925 annual meeting of the Academy in Buffalo, NY: “While the discussion sometimes became rather heated, it was the fire generated by opinion conflicting with reference to scientific procedure and interpretations.”

A select number of the most remarkable studies were presented at the annual press conference. These included such topics as:

- the treatments for symptomatic convergence insufficiency in children,
- the relationship between the tear film lipid layer and the minimizing of tear film thinning in contact lens wearers,
- changes to orthokeratology epithelial due to cessation of lens wear,
- microorganisms in the lids of children that wear contact lenses,
- the viewing distance compared to visual discomfort while using handheld displays,
- the effects of simulated altitude on color discrimination using the Farnsworth D-15 and Lanthony desaturated D-15 tests,
- multivariate analysis of factors associated with discontinuation from silicone hydrogel contact lens daily, and
- outputs of compact fluorescent lamps consistent with the claims made.

The focus of the annual Monroe J. Hirsch Research Symposium was generative diseases of the retina that presently have no cure. Two such diseases, retinitis pigmentosa (RP) and age-related macular degeneration (AMD), both leading causes of blindness, initially affect photoreceptors or retinal pigment epithelial cells in the outer retina. Joseph Rizzo, MD, co-founder and director of the Boston Retinal Implant Project, spoke about the progress in the development and use of microelectronic prostheses in human patients. Gislin Dagnelie, PhD, FAAO, an expert on testing vision in patients with advanced eye disease, presented the challenges involved in testing the limited vision of patients.
nal cell types can be recorded noninvasively from the cornea using a flash, or multifocal electroretinogram (ERG). The elements of the ERG that originate from retinal ganglion cells are affected early in eyes with glaucoma and other optic neuropathies, suggesting that the ERG may have utility for early detection of functional changes in these diseases.

The Scientific Program included 26 hours of paper sessions, including research results on ocular surface, corneal and refractive surgery, visual and low performance, posterior segment, glaucoma and retina, epidemiology, public health and optometric education, binocular vision and pediatrics, image quality, ocular disease and contact lens, and refractive error and peripheral refraction. The posters were defended by their respective authors throughout three days of the meeting. The wide variety of poster topics included viewing distance compared to visual discomfort of using handheld displays, student loan debt after optometry school, global efforts to eliminate blindness, and low vision and the health and safety of children wearing contacts. Attendees also heard current residents present case reports in both paper and poster presentations during Residents Day, in its second year.

The Academy is a unique forum for vision science professionals to communicate innovative research and new methods for advancement of eye care that can be used in daily practice. What we invest today in optometric research and education will affect the future, as is expressed in the Academy’s mission: “Today’s Research, Tomorrow’s Practice!”

The Awards Lecture provided an opportunity for attendees to share in two groundbreaking research projects that are advancing the field of optometry. Clifton M. Schor, OD, PhD, FAAO, recipient of the Charles F. Prentice Award, presented “Surgical Correction of Presbyopia with Intraocular Lenses That Can Accommodate.” The results of his research show that the accommodative system is capable of adapting to optimize neuro-muscular control of accommodating intra-ocular lenses (A-IOLs) that are designed to change dioptic power of the presbyopic eye. This ability is augmented by optical factors that extend the depth of focus including the natural aberrations of the cornea, multifocal lenses, and monovision corrections. Laura Frishman, PhD, MSc, FAAO, recipient of the Glenn A. Fry Award, presented “Non-Invasive In Vivo Assessment of Retinal Ganglion Cell Function Using the Electroretinogram.” Her research showed signals from the various retinal cell types can be recorded noninvasively from the cornea using a flash, or multifocal electroretinogram (ERG). The elements of the ERG that originate from retinal ganglion cells are affected early in eyes with glaucoma and other optic neuropathies, suggesting that the ERG may have utility for early detection of functional changes in these diseases.

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The American Optometric Foundation (AOF) is the Academy’s philanthropic arm. While the Annual Meeting provides a forum for presentation of research, and Optometry and Vision Science promotes the publication of new research, it is the Foundation that directly supports research. By funding the future of optometry through its scholarship and awards programs, the Foundation gives exceptional students a chance to continue their education and propel the field of optometric science forward. The Foundation also administers the Glenn Fry Lecture Award, the Michael G. Harris Family Award for Excellence in Optometric Education, and the Julius F. Neumueller Award in Optics. These are listed elsewhere in this Annual Report.

George and Jill Mertz
The Foundation received a donation of $200,000 from the estate of Jill Mertz, the widow of former Foundation President George Mertz. Friends and family gathered in October to share memories of Jill and George and to scatter their ashes in the San Francisco Bay. In recognition of this extraordinary donation, the Foundation Board renamed the George Mertz Scholarship Fund, the George and Jill Mertz Scholarship Fund.

Celebration Luncheon
The Foundation’s Celebration Luncheon was attended by a record 250 supporters and honorees. Six individuals or couples were welcomed into the Foundation’s Presidents Circle in recognition of gifts or pledges of $10,000 or more. In a special presentation, VISTAKON® was recognized for $1 million of support of the Foundation. The brief program highlighted the many individuals impacted by VISTAKON®’s longstanding vision and leadership.

Thank You to Donors
The Foundation enjoyed a successful meeting in Anaheim with Academy Fellows and other registrants contributing over $56,000. Meeting attendees donated $6,935 with their Annual Meeting registration. $15,896 was received in donations at the Foundation Booth in the Exhibit Hall. More than 20 lecturers donated their honoraria to the Foundation for a total of $8,165. $7,795 was contributed with RSVPs for the Foundation Luncheon. The Silent Auction at the Celebration Luncheon plus the live auction at the Banquet raised $17,570. This includes more than $6,000 for four paintings donated by Dr. Irv Borish.

2008 RESEARCH GRANTS
2008 VSP Seed Grant
Nathan Efron, BScOptom, PhD, DSc, FAAO
Queensland University of Technology

2008 VISTAKON® Research Grants
Danielle M. Robertson, OD, PhD, FAAO
UT Southwestern Medical Center
Lyndon Jones, PhD, FAAO
University of Waterloo

2008 EZELL FELLOWS
The William C. Ezell Fellowships were established to provide financial support to postgraduate students who plan to pursue an academic career in optometry and vision science. 2008 was a special year in that it marked the awarding of the first Optometric Glaucoma Society-Ezell Fellowship.

Essilor Ezell Fellow
Bradley Dougherty, OD, MS
The Ohio State University

George Mertz Ezell Fellow
Wendy Harrison, OD, MS
University of California, Berkeley

Bausch & Lomb Ezell Fellow
Jessica Mathew, OD
University of Houston

CIBA Vision Ezell Fellow
Tracy Nguyen, OD, FAAO
Indiana University

CIBA Vision Ezell Fellow
Zan Pan, MS, MD
SUNY College of Optometry

VISTAKON® Ezell Fellow
Joe Phillips, BS
University of Houston

American Optometric Foundation Presidents Circle Ezell Fellow
Rachel Redfern, OD
University of Houston
American Optometric Foundation Presidents Circle Ezell Fellow
Kathryn Richdale, OD, MS, FAAO
The Ohio State University

American Academy of Optometry Section on Cornea and Contact Lenses Ezell Fellow
Eric Ritchey, OD, MS, FAAO
The Ohio State University

American Academy of Optometry Ezell Fellow
Patrick Scott, OD, MS
Boston University

Bausch & Lomb Ezell Fellow
James Su, MEng
University of California, Berkeley

VISTAKON® Ezell Fellow
Lakshman Subbaraman, BSOptom, MS, FAAO
University of Waterloo

Borish Ezell Fellow
Dean VanNasdale, OD
Indiana University

Optometric Glaucoma Society Ezell Fellow
Joe Wheat, OD
University of Houston

2008 VISTAKON® RESIDENCY AWARDS
2008 George Mertz Contact Lens Residency Awards
Catherine Pannebaker, OD
The Ohio State University
John Laurent, OD, PhD, FAAO
University of Alabama at Birmingham

2008 Sheldon Wechsler Contact Lens Residency Awards
Neeta Chhabra, OD, MS, FAAO
NOVA Southeastern University
Trevor Irish, OD
Northeastern State University

2008 Terrance N. Ingraham Pediatric Optometry Residency Awards
Megan Allen, OD
Illinois College of Optometry
Emma Vicuna, OD
University of Houston

2008 CARL ZEISS VISION FELLOWS
The second class of AOF-Carl Zeiss Vision Fellows—a student from every school and college of optometry in the US, Canada and Puerto Rico – was honored at Academy 2008 Anaheim. These outstanding individuals represent the future of our profession and each received a $5,000 fellowship and a travel award to attend our next meeting in Anaheim, and will be sponsored to attend Academy 2009 in Orlando where they will help welcome the third class of Carl Zeiss Vision Fellows.

Aarlan Aceto
New England College of Optometry
Rachel Brackley
Salus University
Michelle Calder Cardwell
Michigan College of Optometry
Elissa Dornbach
University of Houston
Eric Gengenbach
Southern College of Optometry
Scott Noal Gunderson
University of California, Berkeley
L’Erin Harmon
Indiana University School of Optometry

James Freddie Hill III
University of Alabama at Birmingham
Gelea Ice
Nova Southeastern University
Nathan Lighthizer
Pacific University
Debbie Luk
University of Waterloo
Teresa Mathew
University of Missouri-St. Louis
David Meyer
Southern California College of Optometry
Billie Jayne Prinzen
Illinois College of Optometry

Stephane Rivard
Université de Montréal
Ashley Scantling
Northeastern State University
Susana Toledo
Inter-American University of Puerto Rico
Lynn Trieu
SUNY State College of Optometry
Jennifer Truong
The Ohio State University
Academy Membership

The Academy was founded in 1922. Its mission to promote the art and science of vision care through lifelong learning includes:

- Sponsoring educational programs that provide practitioners current information about all aspects of clinical practice
- Disseminating current knowledge that allows an understanding of new products and technology
- Initiating and supporting research programs in optometry and related sciences
- Creating opportunities for sharing results of research in vision
- Encouraging reporting of exceptional and instructive conditions encountered in practice
- Disseminating knowledge through *Optometry and Vision Science*, the official journal of the American Academy of Optometry
- Promoting the highest ethical and professional standards in practice.

The Academy has three categories of membership: Fellow, candidate for Fellowship and student.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Type</th>
<th>Total</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Male</th>
<th>Female</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Fellows</td>
<td>3942</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>2836</td>
<td>1106</td>
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<tr>
<td>Candidates</td>
<td>431</td>
<td>8%</td>
<td>168</td>
<td>263</td>
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<tr>
<td>Students</td>
<td>915</td>
<td>17%</td>
<td>243</td>
<td>672</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>5288</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
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</table>

The recruitment of high quality candidates for Fellowship is one of the Academy's highest priorities and is vital to our future.
Geographic Distribution of Fellows

ACTIVE FELLOWS BY STATE AND COUNTRY (AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2008)

Alabama AL 63 Nebraska NE 18 Overseas Military APO 29
Alaska AK 14 Nevada NV 27 United States 3479
Arizona AZ 81 New Hampshire NH 17
Arkansas AR 9 New Jersey NJ 85
California CA 493 New Mexico NM 26
Colorado CO 69 New York NY 248
Connecticut CT 27 North Carolina NC 97
Delaware DE 7 North Dakota ND 10
Florida FL 279 Ohio OH 154
Georgia GA 69 Oklahoma OK 59
Hawaii HI 21 Oregon OR 63
Idaho ID 15 Pennsylvania PA 153
Illinois IL 150 Puerto Rico PR 4
Indiana IN 90 Rhode Island RI 18
Iowa IA 30 South Carolina SC 18
Kansas KS 33 South Dakota SD 10
Kentucky KY 23 Tennessee TN 65
Louisiana LA 11 Texas TX 203
Maine ME 16 Utah UT 19
Maryland MD 78 Vermont VT 6
Massachusetts MA 124 Virginia VA 69
Michigan MI 90 Washington WA 88
Minnesota MN 51 Washington DC DC 4
Mississippi MS 4 West Virginia WV 11
Missouri MO 62 Wisconsin WI 42
Montana MN 14 Wyoming WY 13

Argentina 1 Australia 56 Austria 4 Bahamas 1 Belgium 1
China 15 Canada 146
Denmark 3 France 3 Germany 11
Guyana 1 Hong Kong 7 Hungary 1
India 3 Islamic Republic of Iran 1
Ireland 4 Israel 3 Italy 3
Jamaica 1 Japan 5
Lebanon 1 Malaysia 2
Mexico 1

Netherlands 15 New Zealand 10 Nigeria 13
Norway 3 Pakistan 3
Philippines 2 Portugal 1
Russian Federation 1 Saudi Arabia 1
Singapore 2 South Africa 10
Spain 21 Sweden 3
Switzerland 24 Thailand 2
United Kingdom 78

Other Countries 463

Grand Total 3942
Chapters

The Academy has 21 chapters, including seven student chapters. They were established as a membership catalyst and serve to provide the continuous exchange of ideas in promoting the mission of the Academy.

**Geographic: 21**
- European (Continental)
- Great Britain
- Quebec (Canada)
- South Africa

**Student: 7**
- ICO Illinois College of Optometry
- NECO New England College of Optometry
- NOVA Southeastern College of Optometry
- SU Salus University (Formerly PCO)
- SCCO Southern California College of Optometry
- SUNY State University of New York
- UCBSO University of California Berkeley School of Optometry

**Highlights of activities conducted by some of the chapters during 2008:**

**California**
The California Chapter provided 8 students with optometric project funds, sponsored one hotel room and 20 registration fees for students attending Academy 2008 Anaheim. The chapter created a newsletter with information on funded student projects and recruited 56 members at a membership drive.

**New Jersey**
The New Jersey Chapter held a Summer Seminar offering seven credits of continuing education with 195 attendees. The chapter also held its NJAO Golf Conference in Myrtle Beach, SC offering 16 credits in continuing education with 50 attendees. A donation of $10,000 from the seminar proceeds was made to Pennsylvania College of Optometry to provide travel fellowships to New Jersey students attending the Academy annual meeting.

**Florida**
The Florida Chapter held a meeting May 2-3, 2008 in Howey-In-The-Hills, FL with 67 attendees with Fellows Tammy Than, OD, and Immediate-Past Academy President Jack Yager, OD as speakers. They also sponsored two student travel grants for students to attend Academy 2008 Anaheim.

**Great Britain**
The Great Britain Chapter charged its executive committee with 1) revitalizing the Chapter by developing a vision for optometry, and 2) being a resource for optometrists. The chapter created the Accessing Advanced Optometry program that focuses on specialized skills such as advanced contact lens practice, therapeutics, co-management, low vision and pediatrics.

**North Carolina**
Twenty-eight attendees participated in the North Carolina Chapter meeting December 4, 2008 in Charlotte, NC on the evolving management of retinal disorders using injectable therapy.

**Virginia**
The Virginia Chapter continued their 10+ year program of monthly grand rounds. The program is open to all optometrists, students and residents. Typically, the meetings are held at the VA hospital eye clinic where participants have the opportunity to examine patients and have discussions. The chapter annual dues help subsidize residents’ costs to attend the Academy annual meeting.
Fellows meet rigorous written requirements before taking and passing an oral examination to be a “Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry (FAAO).” Fellows are private practitioners, vision scientists, and educators in vision science; they work for the federal government and in other settings in an optometric capacity. 151 new Fellows were inducted in 2008. The Class of 2008 included representatives from 9 countries and 33 states.

**Geographic Distribution**

- United States: 88%
- Canada: 4%
- Australia: 1%
- United Kingdom: 2%
- Other: 5%

**Member Categories**

- Fellows: 75%
- Candidates for Fellowship: 8%
- Students: 17%

**Fellows Professional Setting**

- Private Practice: 44%
- Retired: 8%
- Federal Service: 12%
- Multidisciplinary: 11%
- Vision Scientist: 4%
- Educator: 14%
- Other: 7%

**Fellows Who See Patients**

- Yes: 86%
- No: 14%
Membership Sections

The Academy has eight areas of shared interest referred to as sections. Each Academy section conducts and fosters clinical, educational, research or related activities, including outstanding programs for the annual meeting and diplomate programs.

- Binocular Vision and Perception and Pediatric Optometry
- Cornea and Contact Lenses
- Ocular Disease
- Low Vision
- Optometric Education
- Primary Care
- Public Health and Environmental Optometry
- Vision Science

New Diplomates

Section on Cornea and Contact Lenses
Mr. William Long, Dacula, GA
Mr. Stefan Schwartz, Hildesheim, Germany
Dr. Colleen M. Riley, Jacksonville, FL
Dr. Peter A. Simmons, Irvine, CA

Low Vision Section
Dr. John Rundquist, Amherst, NY

Vision Science Section
Dr. Wayne A. Verdon, Berkeley, CA

Diplomate Programs

Seven of the eight sections administer diplomate programs, which offer opportunities for Fellows to demonstrate the highest level of expertise in a specialty area.

- Binocular Vision and Perception and Pediatric Optometry
- Cornea and Contact Lenses
- Ocular Disease
- Low Vision
- Optometric Education
- Primary Care
- Public Health and Environmental Optometry
- Vision Science

303 Fellows, about 8 percent of the Academy membership, have attained this distinction of being a Diplomate. Among the benefits of becoming a Diplomate of a section are:

- Professional growth and goal achievement
- Recognition of expanded knowledge and skill in their research or practice area
- Participation in referral network of qualified colleagues
- Camaraderie and fellowship with leaders in the field
# Consolidated Statement of Activities

## For the Year Ended June 30, 2008

## REVENUE, SUPPORT, AND GAINS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Unrestricted</th>
<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
<th>Permanently Restricted</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Annual Meeting</td>
<td>$1,729,495</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>$1,729,495</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>1,203,400</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>1,203,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>24,400</td>
<td>423,169</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>447,569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>In-Kind Contributions</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Investment Earnings</td>
<td>(65,507)</td>
<td>(25,773)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>(93,280)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Publications</td>
<td>18,210</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>18,210</td>
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<tr>
<td>Royalties</td>
<td>162,063</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>162,063</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sections</td>
<td>10,280</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>10,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Revenue</td>
<td>6,198</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>6,198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Net Assets Released from Restrictions</td>
<td>462,338</td>
<td>(462,338)</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Revenue, Support, and Gains</strong></td>
<td>3,548,877</td>
<td>(64,942)</td>
<td>-</td>
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## EXPENSES

### Program Expenses:

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### Fundraising Expenses:

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## CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

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### American Optometric Foundation

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### Consolidated Totals

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- $1,729,495 - $1,729,495
- 1,203,400 - 1,203,400
- 1,455,252 - 1,455,252
- 267,406 - 267,406
- 962,761 - 962,761
- 1,230,167 - 1,230,167
- 18,210 - 18,210
- 162,063 - 162,063
- 10,280 - 10,280
- 6,198 - 6,198
- 925,448 - 925,448
- 4,274,062 - 4,274,062
- 1,804,370 - 1,804,370
- 458,227 - 458,227
- 55,684 - 55,684
- 451,233 - 451,233
- 3,865,317 - 3,865,317
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- 794,492 - 794,492
- $1,023,794 - $1,023,794
- $1,309,118 - $1,309,118
- $422,144 - $422,144
- $2,755,056 - $2,755,056
- $3,805,429 - $3,805,429
- $1,935,383 - $1,935,383
- $637,554 - $637,554
- $6,378,366 - $6,378,366
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Paragon Vision Services
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SLACK/Primary Care Optometry News
Topcon
Western University
X-Cel Contacts
ZeaVision

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**Future Annual Meetings**

**Academy 2009**
Orlando
November 11 – 14, 2009

**Academy 2010**
San Francisco
November 17 – 20, 2010

**Academy 2011**
Boston
October 12 – October 15, 2011

**Academy 2012**
Phoenix
October 24 – October 27, 2012

**Academy 2013**
Seattle
October 23 – 26, 2013

**Academy 2014**
Denver
November 12 – 15, 2014