Promoting the art and science of vision care through lifelong learning

2018 Annual Report
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Dear Colleagues,

In 2018 the Academy continued its trajectory of growth in nearly every aspect of our organization. We exceeded another annual meeting attendance record. We inducted a record number of Fellows and Diplomates in 2018, and we have surpassed 12,000 total members. We continue to receive record manuscript submissions to our scientific journal, *Optometry and Vision Science*.

The Academy held our inaugural “The Research Academy” program in July 2018 with 60 vision researchers, graduate students, optometric leaders and health agency officials in attendance. The goal of the program is to help optometry faculty attendees develop ideas that will result in extramural funding for both basic and patient-oriented research in optometry and vision science.

Academy 2018 San Antonio was by all accounts a success. There were a total of 7,948 in attendance, including 4,625 optometrists and vision scientists and 1,168 students. Attendees chose from over 340 hours of continuing education and 500 Scientific Program presentations, explored more than 150 booths in the exhibit hall, and attended several unforgettable social events.

We admitted 303 new Fellows into our Academy. In addition, 17 Fellows were awarded Diplomate status by Academy Sections. We also received a record 373 new Candidate for Fellowship leads at the annual meeting. The Student Fellowship program admitted 635 new Student Fellows in 2018.

In 2018, the Academy successfully launched our “Academy Online” CE platform that allows members to access complimentary COPE approved distance learning lectures, numerous poster presentations, and more! COPE tests are available for a fee. We hope this platform will allow our members to engage in professional development and continual learning throughout the year.

The Academy is extremely grateful for the support of our corporate sponsors and exhibiting companies who provided over $3 million in 2018. This funding truly makes the annual meeting possible. Our attendees receive world class educational opportunities, and our corporate partners have the opportunity to showcase their new technologies to the best and brightest in optometry. It’s a relationship that demonstrates our mutual commitment to advancing the profession.

Our American Academy of Optometry Foundation (AAOF) distributed more than $450,000 in grants, fellowships and awards this year and received $200,000 in donations and new commitments at the annual meeting. Additionally, the AAOF would like to thank the Alcon Foundation for their donation in the amount of $25,000, triggered by participants who scored a cumulative total of 2,020 virtual baskets in the exhibit hall as part of the Hoop It Up 20/20 Challenge.

We deeply appreciate the Academy volunteers who continuously work to ensure the success of the Academy, and our hard-working staff who work year-round to make it all happen. We are grateful to you for making our Academy a truly special organization.

This annual report highlights our Academy’s work and accomplishments in 2018. Thank you for your support, and we look forward to continuing to share the Academy’s achievements with you for years to come.

We hope to see you in Orlando October 23-27, 2019 for our joint meeting with the World Council of Optometry!

Joseph P. Shovlin, OD, FAAO
President

Lois Schoenbrun, CAE, FAAO
Executive Director
Since 2015, $250,000 has been distributed to fund research projects for young investigators through the Career Development Award.

2018 Career Development Award

Research is fundamental to enabling innovation and advances in the profession. In many cases, engaging in research at the capacity needed to make new strides in the field requires a great deal of financial support. Unfortunately for young investigators, Federal research funding leans in favor of more seasoned optometric investigators, with the mean age of first time National Institutes of Health (NIH) grantees over 40 years of age. The Academy launched the Career Development Award to aid against this funding obstacle that young optometric researchers often face.

The 2018 Career Development Award was awarded to Alexandra Benavente-Perez, MCOptom, PhD, FAAO, of The State University of New York. The funding will help support her research focused on developing a novel experimental model of progressive myopia to study the early retinal changes associated with high myopia.
Attendees were greeted with a big Texas welcome when they arrived in San Antonio! The Academy’s 97th annual meeting, held November 7-10, 2018, attracted a record 7,948 attendees for four days of engaging continuing education, networking and camaraderie, and cutting-edge scientific presentations.

During this year’s Plenary Session on “The Future of Health Care Delivery,” featured experts Drs. Gordon Guyatt, Ezekiel Emanuel, and Anthony Cavallerano discussed the trends and concepts that will shape future patient care.

The annual Awards Ceremony recognized vision scientists for their cutting-edge work in the field. The Charles F. Prentice Medal recipient, Dr. Chris Johnson, lectured on “PAY IT FORWARD: Lessons Learned from more than 40 Years of Research.” The American Academy of Optometry Foundation’s Glenn A. Fry Award recipient, Dr. Fiona Stapleton, presented “Why Does Corneal Infection Remain a Problem for Contact Lens Wearers.”

The annual Fellowship Banquet concluded the annual meeting by recognizing and honoring a record 303 new Fellows and 17 new Diplomates.

Annual meeting attendance has grown by 26% over the last 5 years.
Congratulations to the Fellows of the American Academy of Optometry (FAAO)
Class of 2018!

United Arab Emirates
Rebecca Lynn Rojas

United Kingdom
Peter M. Allen
Manbir Nagra

UNITED STATES
APO
Reuben Alexander
Arunasalam
Ann Morgan MacDonald
Matthew Tholl

Alabama
Kim Duong
Cameron K. Postnikoff

Arizona
Elizabeth Escobedo
Sarah E. Huff
Suzanne Li
Sean Patrick Rowan

Arkansas
Megan K. Shirey

California
Bright Senyo Ashimatey
Siavash Assar
Jessica M. Beauregard
Steven Chang
Dorothy Chou
Ashley Greenawalt Chung
Jeffrey James Connor
Cheryl Conovaloff
Celia R. Gong
Adrian N. Hultbert
Maria Jen
Susan Ly Johnson
Ashley Katsikos
Annie C. Lee Kim
Laura Leis
Millie Mei Liu
Esmeralda Carrillo
McLean
Calista Siobhan Ming
Karen Eula Molina
Christine Ng
Ashley Nickell
May Sanguanlosit
Alexandra Scovill
Avni Shah
Vidhi Shah
Angela Veomett
Shahbazian
Charlene V. Singh
Eri Sayoko Tomiyama
Nguyen T. Tran
Melissa Vaidellon
Kelly Voith
Meng-Hua Wu

Colorado
Veronica Ferris-Metzger
Pamela Martin
Katherine Schmidt
Rachel Alexandria
Schreiber

Connecticut
Jonathan Jacesko
Samantha J. Rao

Delaware
Kristen Michelle Vincent

Florida
Jayakumar Ananthan-Nair
Amitabha Bhakta
Jeffery Thomas Curry
Amanda S. Duty
Candace Ellis
Katherine Green
Pinar Haytac
Philip Kim
Karim Rose Lypka
Brett D. O’Connor
Anisha K. Patel
Betty Wang
Carol Yu

Georgia
Daniel H. Brigham
Lauren Grainger
Robert Houghteling

Hawaii
Emily C. Eng

Idaho
Clinton R. Prestwich
Jennifer Ramey

Illinois
Denise D. Alexopoulos
Javeria Azhar
Desiree V. Carrillo-Owen
Marni Harris
Genna D. Higbee
Alicia Elizabeth Kinch
Michelle C. Lee
Rachel B. Lee
Jeanie C. Lucy
Megan LeAnn Meyer
Becky Lynn Rock
Rina K. Sheth
Sony Thomas

Indiana
Colleen Largent
Katelyn Lucas
Samantha Poister
Jared W. Staats

Iowa
Taylor J. Chesnut

Kansas
Dirck DeKeyser
Julie Lafreniere

Kentucky
Adam Wesley Baird
Ellen T. Sanders
Andrew Steele

Louisiana
Kevin Sorya

Maine
Alexandria Lee Home

Maryland
Cerina Leigh Buchanan
Christie Mackenzie
Bryan M. Rogoff
Jenina Marie Sembrat

Massachusetts
Thomas Andrea
Bita Asghari
Maria Denietolis
Jill Gottehrer
Mengli Han
Joseph Kane
Jennifer Ann Reilly
Abby Tang
Emily Katrina Wieck

Michigan
Morgan Baker
Joseph S. Conrad
Nina Collins Glauch
Mark Hakim
Sultman Hans
Clement I. Nwadozi
Bethany A. Peebles
Andrea Shank
Alexandra K. Williamson

Minnesota
Joseph Jerome Allen
Laura Capelle
Sean Dempsey
Karisa Etter
Kasie Jean Mix
Lauren Michele Soukup
Amanda Thummes
Kristin S. Wilson

Missouri
Nicholas Castellano
Paul D. Luong
Kelli Y. Shao
Jenae Stiles
Leah Wiedemann

Nebraska
Lindsey Behrendt
Vanessa Saltzgaber
Holly Elizabeth Ternus

Australia
Luisa H. Colorado
Simin Masoudi
Nayuta Yoshikawa

Canada
Vanessa Bachir
Sondra Black
Avani Dave
Noelda Karen Fernandes
Janice Hui
Alex Hynes
Zoe Lacroix
Joanne Lee
Ayda Moavenshahidi
Diane N. Sayah
Long Siddiyran
Pavanjeet Ubhi
Michelle J. Vickers
Rebecca Wong

Ghana
Kwadwo Owusu Akuffo

Nigeria
Kingsley Osemwegie
Alohan

Saint Kitts and Nevis
Chibueze Elechi Onyelucheya

Saint Vincent and The Grenadines
Ikechi Caius Duru

Saudi Arabia
Muhammed S. Alluwimi

Singapore
Sharon Yu Lin Chua

Switzerland
Markus Ritzmann

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Paul D. Luong
Kelli Y. Shao
Jenae Stiles
Leah Wiedemann

Nebraska
Lindsey Behrendt
Vanessa Saltzgaber
Holly Elizabeth Ternus

“My achieving Academy Fellowship was the crowning point of my experience at Academy 2018 San Antonio. This journey which began months back has been a most rewarding and exciting one, though not without its challenges... But, looking back now, I can say that the entire process has been worth it. The discipline and inquisitive mind developed along the way has made me a better clinician eager to explore new and innovative approaches to patient care by keeping abreast of developments in the field of optometry and vision science.”

Chibueze Elechi Onyelucheya
The Academy welcomed a record 303 new Fellows in 2018.

The following individuals were admitted to the American Academy of Optometry as Fellows in 2018:

**Nevada**
- William Reid Cluff

**New Hampshire**
- Kelsey Jordan
- Ziwei Wu

**New Mexico**
- Jaclyn Johnson
- Alicia Loren Thibodeaux

**New Jersey**
- Natalie Nguyen
- Janki H. Parikh
- Forum Patel
- Noah Maxwell Tannen
- Alan Tsai

**New York**
- Jenna Blechman
- Mary T. Boteio
- Kenny Chen
- Joanna Chu
- Andrea Nicole Cotier
- Emily Crane
- Nicole Sangani Cumella
- Eva Duchnowski
- Tybee Eleff
- Leah Ellenberg
- Lauren Anne Feroli
- Nareh Keshishyan
- Protiva Shoopprova Khan
- Rebecca Moran
- Hunter J. Morgan
- Azinda Morrow
- Ryan T. Ngo
- Pratik Patel
- Amanda Polacco
- Salomi (Sloan) Rajadhyaksha
- Tracy Rossi
- Neha P. Seth
- Delaram Shirazian
- Soney Siriphone
- Kathryn Werner
- Cathy W.M. Yuen

**North Carolina**
- Jill M. Bakota
- Cameron Waters Clinard
- Meghanham Hamidzian
- Steven Klein
- Kristine Loo
- Sandra Nassar
- Jeffrey Adam Sterling
- Steven Weifenbach
- Casey John Wilgenbusch

**North Dakota**
- Sierra Unruh

**Ohio**
- Kelsey A. Carriere
- Alex Gibberman
- Sara F. Hitchman
- Katherine M. Hogan
- Piana Krymskaya
- Jonathan Jay Lytle
- Kelsey Etheredge Mach
- Chrisoulia Morris
- Sarah R. Munther
- Jaclyn G. Oliver
- Mark R. Ortiz
- Haina Patel
- Marcella E. Pipitone
- Stephanie Pisano
- Winston B. Posvar
- Kimberly L. Rock
- Joshua James Rogers
- Jamie Rosenberg
- Lea Sawicki
- April G. Chiu
- Brooke Harkness
- Megan Claire Mannen
- Linda Shi
- Hannah Chu Shinoda
- Carly Grondin
- Doan Trang Huynh Kwak
- Erin Sherman
- Justin Christopher
- Sherman
- Denise Thomas Wilcox

**Pennsylvania**
- Michael Santos

**South Carolina**
- Nicholas Green
- Petra Jo
- Alyssa Perlman-Hensen
- Leigh Purvis
- Rachel Lynn Tanner

**South Dakota**
- Marc A. Musto
- Kassy Jo Swanson

**Tennessee**
- Hallie Cotrill
- Catherine M. Hogan
- Stephanie Jian
- Jessica Lam
- Lauren May
- Dara L. McDaniel-Chandler
- Reed Parker
- Sari Schwartz
- Julie Shalhoub
- Emily K. Thompson
- Amanda Tompkins
- Meagan G. Williams

**Texas**
- Batoul Fayez Abuharb
- Stephanie Marie Aguilar
- Joseph Bryan Ahlborn
- Monica Denise Bentley
- Allison Marie Cronin
- Katherine D. Dronka
- Sarah Jean Galt
- Janet Garza
- Jeffrey Mark Hooton
- Sara Hyatt

**Utah**
- David O. Edmunds
- Mary Kelinske
- Ancil Mathew
- Alisa Nola
- Raelyn Ottenbreit
- D’Laine Pulliam
- Kirsti Ramirez
- Monica Valdez Ramirez
- Ayeswarya Ravikumar
- Grace M. Salone
- Wazha Samin
- Kelsea Vance Skidmore
- Nancy Catherine Sorrell
- Angelina Tran

**Virginia**
- Brad Cunningham
- Matthew L. Decker
- Kelsey Deitz Guth
- Amanda J. Umlandt
- Amy Zhang

**Washington**
- Emily Bucher
- Alexander Chow
- Lisa Doh
- Michael W. Kerekgyarto
- Jewenearly Kho
- Jeffrey Mattson
- Jeremy Gerritsen
- Lindsay Baker Howse

**West Virginia**
- Lisa Erin Beard
- Matthew Beard
- Nathania Nhouyvanisvong
- Kerri Norris
- Brenna Robertson
- Jing Zeng Wickenburg

**Wisconsin**
- Nicole Marie Klein
- Austin Schipper
- Emmylou Swartz

**Admittance Committee**

**Megan Hunter, National Chair**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Juliane G. Flettner, Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jessica Cameron</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katie L. Greiner</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Diana Mah, Vice Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michelle Chen</td>
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<td>Maryke Neiberg</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Valerie Sharpe, Vice Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christina Esposito</td>
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<td>Jennifer Prunty</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Molly McGinty-Tauren, Vice Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jason Fliegel</td>
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<td>Jennifer Harthan</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Amy Dinardo, Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patti L. Fries</td>
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<td>Greg R. Waldorf</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sara Weidmayer, Vice Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Angela M. Chen</td>
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<td>Katherine Portugal</td>
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<th>Subcommittee 2C – Clinical Candidates</th>
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<tr>
<td>Karin Lim, Vice Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Randall McPherran</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kyle Smith</td>
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<td>Lee Quin Vien</td>
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<tr>
<td>Aaron Case, Vice Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kristin Anderson</td>
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<td>Jennifer Brown</td>
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<th>Subcommittee 3A – Clinical Candidates</th>
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<tr>
<td>Traci Seng, Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sarah Emmett Bortz</td>
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<td>Jennifer Idoni</td>
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<th>Subcommittee 3B – Clinical Candidates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>James Hoekel, Vice Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicolas Beaupre</td>
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<td>Rodel Divina</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stacy Hinkemeyer, Vice Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Victoria Butcko</td>
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<td>Jessica Potter</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Kenneth Sorkin, Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ryan Porter Anderson</td>
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<tr>
<td>Allison Middleton</td>
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<th>Subcommittee 4A – Clinical Candidates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tawnya Roberts, Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicholas Chan</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anthony Van Aistine</td>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Claudia Ruegg, Vice Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mira Arcs</td>
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<td>Brooke Smith</td>
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<th>Subcommittee 4C – Clinical Candidates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Treacy Adamo, Vice Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Juliana Grove</td>
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<td>Tracy Nguyen</td>
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<td>Peter Russo, Vice Chair</td>
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<tr>
<th>Subcommittee 5 – International Candidates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Nicholas Rumney, Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Michael Wyss, Vice Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nicole Leong</td>
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<tr>
<td>Derek MacDonald</td>
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<tr>
<td>Joseph Mittelman</td>
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<td>Juan Vihuela</td>
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<tr>
<th>Subcommittee 6 – Special Category Candidates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christopher Lievens, Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Katherine Osborn Lorenz, Vice Chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Christopher Putnam</td>
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Subcommittee 7 – Scientific Candidates</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Christina Morettin</td>
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**Nationals**

- Nathania Nhouyvanisvong
- Kerri Norris
- Brenna Robertson
- Jing Zeng Wickenburg

**Subcommittee 3A – Clinical**
- Jennifer Idoni
- Candidates

**Subcommittee 3B – Clinical**
- Kelsey Deitz Guth
- Candidates

**Subcommittee 3C – Clinical**
- Amanda J. Umlandt
- Candidates

**Subcommittee 3D – Clinical**
- Amy Zhang
- Candidates

**Subcommittee 4A – Clinical**
- Tawnya Roberts
- Candidates

**Subcommittee 4B – Clinical**
- Nicholas Chan
- Candidates

**Subcommittee 4C – Clinical**
- Treacy Adamo
- Candidates

**Subcommittee 4D – Clinical**
- Tracy Nguyen
- Candidates

**Subcommittee 5 – International**
- Nicholas Rumney
- Candidates

**Subcommittee 6 – Special Category**
- Christopher Lievens
- Candidates

**Subcommittee 7 – Scientific**
- Christopher Putnam
- Candidates

**National Chair**
- Nancy Wong

**National Vice Chair**
- Jeremy Gerritsen

**Candidates**

- Jeffrey Mattson
- National Vice Chair
Awards Committee  

Donald O. Mutti, Chair  

ACADEMY AWARDS  

Charles F. Prentice Lecture  
Chris A. Johnson, PhD, DSc, FAAO  
PAY IT FORWARD: Lessons Learned from more than 40 Years of Research  

AAO-Essilor Award for Outstanding Contributions to International Optometry  
Paul E. Berman, OD (posthumously)  

Brien Holden Humanitarian Award  
Akio Kanai, OD  

Carel C. Koch Memorial Award  
Kovin S. Naidoo, OD, PhD, FAAO  

Vincent Ellerbrock Clinician Educator Award  
Tammy P. Than, MS, OD, FAAO  

Eminent Service Award  
Bernard J. Dolan, OD, FAAO  

Life Fellow Award  
Lois Schoenbrun, CAE, FAAO  

Garland W. Clay Award  
Gregory L. Goodrich, PhD, FAAO  
Heidi M. Flyg, OD  
Jeanine E. Kirby, OD  
Chea-Yo Chang, OD, FAAO  
Gary L. Martinsen, OD, FAAO  

SECTION ON CORNEA, CONTACT LENSES & REFRACTIVE TECHNOLOGIES AWARDS  

Max Schapero Memorial Lecture Award  
Helen A. Swarbrick, PhD, FAAO  
My Life in Orthokeratology: From Myopia Correction to Myopia Control  

Founders’ Award  
Jerome Legerton, OD, MS, FAAO  

PUBLIC HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL VISION SECTION AWARD  

Henry B. Peters Memorial Award in Public Health and Environmental Vision  
Robert D. Newcomb, OD, MPH, FAAO  
Optometrists in America: Not Enough? Just Right? Need More?  

“For many years I have been active with the Academy and the Foundation and have collaborated and interacted with many colleagues and students who attend their events. It is indeed an honor and a privilege for me to have received the Charles F. Prentice Award. I am pleased that my career and contributions have been of benefit to others and I will treasure the Prentice medal as a reminder that the most important part of a career in clinical and basic vision science is to advance the field by your contributions and pass along your experience and knowledge to others in earlier portions of their career. I am deeply grateful for receiving this award.”  
Chris A. Johnson, PhD, DSc, FAAO  

Academy President Dr. Joe Shovlin (left) presents the Charles F. Prentice Medal to Dr. Chris Johnson (right).
Public Health and Environmental Vision Section officer Dr. Debbie Hettler (left) presents the AAOF 2018 Henry B. Peters Award to Dr. Robert Newcomb (right).

Section on Cornea, Contact Lenses and Refractive Technologies Section officials Dr. Loretta Szczotka-Flynn (left) and Dr. Clarke Newman (right) pictured with 2018 Founders’ Award recipient Dr. Jerome Legerton (center left) and 2018 Max Schapero Award recipient Dr. Helen Swarbrick (center right).

**AMERICAN ACADEMY OF OPTOMETRY FOUNDATION AWARDS**

**Glenn A. Fry Lecture**
Fiona J. Stapleton, MCOptom, PhD, FAAO
*Why Does Corneal Infection Remain a Problem for Contact Lens Wearers?*

**Michael G. Harris Family Award for Excellence in Optometric Education**
Patricia K. Hrynchak, OD, FAAO

**Julius F. Neumueller Award in Optics**
Jacob Andrew Boroff, OD, MS
Jenna Wayne, OD and Angeline Nguyen, OD

“*I felt extremely humbled to have received the Glenn Fry Award in 2018 and very grateful to the Academy and the Foundation for considering me for this, particularly in light of the amazing list of previous recipients who have had such influence in our profession. For me the Academy represents a supportive and collegial group of professionals who endeavor to nurture the next generation, which is something which is extremely important to me. I am so pleased to be part of the Academy as a Fellow and Diplomate*”

Fiona Stapleton
Student Involvement

A total of 1,143 students attended the meeting in San Antonio. Over 700 participated in the Student Fellowship program and 635 fulfilled the requirements.

Student Membership in the Academy continued to grow steadily in 2018, marking a 15% increase in student membership over 2018. Part of this growth can be attributed to the involvement of many schools and colleges of optometry in the Academy’s 100% class enrollment discount program that offers a reduced membership fee. (When an entire class of optometry students become student members, they receive a discounted fee.) In 2018, 18 schools participated in the program.

### Student Membership Growth

- 2007: 677
- 2008: 924
- 2009: 891
- 2010: 1,019
- 2011: 1,667
- 2012: 2,111
- 2013: 3,008
- 2014: 3,392
- 2015: 4,467
- 2016: 5,572
- 2017: 6,299
- 2018: 7,139

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### 2018 Student Fellows

**Ferris State University, Michigan College of Optometry**
- Natalie DeCook
- Luke Lirones
- Courtney McNulty

**Illinois College of Optometry**
- Natalya Burgess
- Natasha Chawia
- Claire Cordoba
- Fatima Javed
- William Yee

**Indiana University, School of Optometry**
- Kaitlyn Alessi
- Hannah Barker
- Katherine Barnes
- Sydni Billsbach
- Brittnie Blazek
- Hailey Buster
- Monica Chan
- Lauren Dobson
- Chloe Janson
- Jacinta Langlois
- Arlette Marrero-Abreu
- Mary Marte
- Evan Murray
- Carl Myers
- Noa Robson
- Stephanie Uggen
- Karsen Weldon

**Inter-American University of Puerto Rico, School of Optometry**
- Gina Buk
- Jessica Garcia
- Patrick Knighton
- Jessica Lee
- Maryam Maleki
- Melissa Martinez Rivera
- Pegah Mozdbar
- Tawnya Pham
- Valeria Quiñones Luzón
- Paola E. Rivera
- Stephanie Silvagnoli
- Hoang V. Tran
- Tran Van
- Viviana Varela
- Karla Velez Quintana

**Marshall B. Ketchum University, Southern California College of Optometry**
- Jacqueline Albert
- Ronalie Baldovino
- Noelle Bock
- Vivian Chau
- Andrew Chen
- Yvette Diaz
- Kimberly Duong
- Minh Le Fong
- Sharon Han
- Zackary Hart
- Snow Hu
- Mitchell Jelen
- Amy Jones
- Nathalie Le
- Colin Leung
- Alicia Liao
- Lenna Nguyen
- Christopher Obi
- Purvi Patel
- Kimberly Perez-Gutierrez
- Amy Phan
- Julia Shao

**Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences**
- Caleb Tan
- Jenny Thai
- Lisette Torres-Lomeli
- Theresa Tran
- Pei Shan Wu
- Elaine Xin
- Alicia Zhang
- Zaineb Alhachami
- Victoria Branca
- Travis Bryant
- Taryn Burkhart
Moontaha Choudhury  
Preet Dhani  
Lauren Diaferio  
RJ Emmett  
Sanami Ferooqi  
Astiney Franklin  
Damienn Gietzen  
Victoria Hamrick  
Stephanie Huang  
Katrina Karpinski  
Katrina Kotcho  
Heather LaVallee  
Mark Leone  
Anthony Mac  
Breanna Marques  
Zarina Meer  
Shivani Patel  
Nicholas Pike  
Asha Tadepalli  
Wiley Walls  
Danielle Zapata

Midwestern University, Arizona College of Optometry  
Brittany Hoyle  
June Morikawa  
Elizabeth Pallante  
Tyler Rawlins  
Colleen Tejchma

New England College of Optometry  
Amanda Baltazar  
Kirsten Brady  
Alexa Caruso  
Jessica Cheung  
Jennifer Chu  
Karl Engelhart  
VY Ha  
Josephine Ko  
Monica Luo  
Nicole Roy  
Jeneta Rubaranjan  
Chloe Somers  
Amanda Vessels  
Kayla Whelan  
Ryan White

Northeastern State University, Oklahoma College of Optometry  
Lukas Alexopoulos  
Sabah Astani  
Kelsey Buford  
Bibin Cherian  
Kayla Cook  
Kristina Flagg  
Katherine Nguyen  
Joana Pantajo  
Ryan Swindell  
Brittany Woltzhuisen

NOVA Southeastern University, College of Optometry  
Molly Buchanan  
Amit Chohan  
HaeMi Choi  
Samantha Krueger  
Tychnia Madison  
Hayden Matz  
Veronica Mirabent  
Juliana Mola  
Thuy Nguyen  
Alyssa Panagos

Rajsee Pandya  
Rigen Pamin Saltivan  
Shadaanan Singh  
Trenisha Smith  
Natascha Taleff  
Steffani Tomno  
Crystal Victor  
Megan Webb

Pacific University, College of Optometry  
Mark Fischer  
Judy Hoang  
Kate Muramoto  
Thomas Nguyen  
Hannah Song

Salus University, Pennsylvania College of Optometry  
Zeka Almand Alhout  
Noor Ameiche  
Raquel Antoine  
Ashley Bachkhaz  
Dominic Brown  
Samantha Czerniak  
Marissa Ferris  
Lauren Furichica  
Colleen Gibson  
Kaitlyn Kolzow  
Karris Manko  
Lisa Parkins  
Gina Piorkowski  
Jenna Reid  
Emily Smith  
Sabrina Steed  
Minji Suh  
Kim Tran

Southern College of Optometry  
Rebecca Adams  
Sara Ahhood  
Christy Alfano  
 Ashley Berry  
Monica Bhula  
Jesse Boles  
Curtis Burnley  
Lindsey Butler  
Savannah Caro  
Elise Chang  
Jason Chu  
Chisom Chukwumerije  
Aspen Chun  
Alexis Clay  
Kyle Crawford  
Robert Duncan  
Samantha Ellingson  
Dianna Elrod  
Taylor Epp  
Blair Flint  
Anna Fuller  
Anna Girsky  
Johnathan Hoopes  
Rachel Kane  
August Killop  
Yoji Kim  
Mackenzie Kohnen  
Tony Lam  
Anna Katherine Lansdell  
Samantha Lee  
Joseph LeMay  
Chelsea Lula  
Callie Mashburn  
Mary McCauley  
Prital Mehta  
Alison Moore  
Laura Mosley  
Marina Naguib  
Duy Nguyen  
Natalie Nibert  
Elizabeth Ninan  
Neda Norouzi  
Theresa Osborne  
Katlin Philpens  
Andrew Plaxco  
Christopher Pope  
Makeya Porter  
Arianna Schabauer  
Trevor Schramm  
Emily Scully  
Breeley Sellier  
Eliza Seros  
Shelvi Shah  
Pheba Shibu  
Maria Siccio  
Rachel Steele  
Alyssa Strumpfier  
Mia Taylor  
Lauren Watson  
Jake Weber  
Rachel Werner  
Rachel Williams  
Danielle Zasoski

State University of New York, College of Optometry  
Irene Antar  
Rebecca Aquije  
Jacqueline Benoit  
Himakshi Bhatt  
Marianna Butera  
Shuyi Chen  
Junn Cho  
Rachel Cho  
Elizabeth Choi  
Stefanie Clendaniel  
Kristina Creadore  
Stephen Delostritto  
Morgan Franke  
Elise Hoi  
Alicia Jones  
Emma Karlin  
Shauna Kehoe  
Alex Kim  
Reshmi Kurup  
Sam Lee  
Luqian Liu  
Jessica Mager  
Megan McDonald  
Nicole Mercho  
Ian Olexio  
Sheena Patel  
Sunny Patel  
Jonathan Nguyen-Khoi  
Pham  
Siyun Ren  
Sherry Shang  
Kent Uehara  
Lisette Van Landegem  
Elton Wong  
Peter Yoon  
Timothy Yuan  
Xiaoang Zou  
Bethany Army  
Kristen Bisig  
Benjamin Cyphers  
Jessica DeLuca  
Sawyer Ellis  
Jaime Etterling  
Julia Evanoff  
Sarah Gray  
Megan Hafer  
Brandon M. Homan  
Auston Hood  
Lindsey Hutchinson  
Megan Kieffer  
Joseph Lehman  
Kristian LeJean  
Rebecca Lifer  
Ryan Loney  
Amy Myers  
Steve Njeru  
Taylor Norris  
Shaun O'Connor  
Mary Otoo  
Sarah Pace  
J eress Pendleton  
Lydia Pickrell  
Krista Roberts  
Jacob Sander  
Stephanie Shoultz  
Bryce St. Clair  
Erlein Melissa Joy  
Tacastacas  
Emma Thompson  
Sara Wagner  
Adell-Ann Walters  
Lauren Weisgarber  
Jessica Wolfe

University of Alabama Birmingham, School of Optometry  
Bonita Banh  
Daniel Cason  
Mason Childers  
Deborah Choi  
Hannah Cornelia  
Catherine Daluyin  
Mackenzie Dziedzic  
Jacqueline Grimm  
Whitney Hall  
Mohammed Haque  
Kaylin Johnson  
Deepta Mishra  
Kelsie Morgan  
Sadiksha Prasain  
Courtney Sartin  
Ashley Savage

University of California Berkeley, School of Optometry  
German Aparicio  
Sonya Apinyavat  
Michael Bernardi  
Joelle Chan  
Jasper Cheng  
Jina Chong  
Kayle Edwards  
Julie Furness  
Shabnam Habibi  
Jacqueline Hartono  
Jessica Hu  
Andrea Huerta  
Yue Jin  
Cindy Lam  
Sophia Lam  
Vivian Le  
Aaron Lee  
Camellia Lee  
Maylea Li  
Steven Liem  
Debbie Lieu  
Samantha Lin  
Phoebe Lo  
Christopher Louie  
Kira Majmundar  
Shayda Mardi  
Sophia Moh  
Malvika Narayanan  
Dorothy Ng  
Jessica Nguyen  
Elizabeth O'Neill  
Catherine Ong  
Madison Sachs  
Micah Isabel Sarmiento  
Paige Shermis  
Rebecca Sok  
Tyler Spilman  
Reggie Steinmann  
Kresta Ria Tabaranza  
Steven Tan  
Taylor Tenn  
Melody To  
Amanda Tran  
Ava Wallen  
Katherine Xie

University of Houston, College of Optometry  
Natalia Aksamentov  
Sandra Alvarado  
Ashley Bascom  
Sarah Byrnes  
Teresa Chui  
Matthew Doore

American Academy of Optometry  
2018 Annual Report
Students and residents had the opportunity to attend any of the educational offerings and events at Academy 2018 San Antonio. A total of 212 students and residents received a $750 travel fellowship to help defray the cost of attending the meeting to present their paper or poster. Six students and residents also received a travel fellowship to attend the 2018 ARVO meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Student Travel Fellowships

Best Student Scientific Presentation at Academy 2017
Chicago
Laura P. Pardon, OD, MS, FAAO

Frank W. Weymouth Student Travel Fellowship
Deborah Antwi
Jakaria Mostafa

Irvin M. Borish Student Travel Fellowship
Ananya Datta, OD
Cameron K. Postnikoff, MASc

Brazelton Low Vision Student Travel Fellowship
Amber Weimer

Edward J. Goodlaw Student Travel Fellowship
Ashley Nguyen

American Academy of Optometry Student Travel Fellowship
Khob Bhandari, BOptom
Ashutosh Jnawali
Parthasarathi Kalaiselvan
Sydney Si Ying Lin
Raman Sah, BOptom

Johnson & Johnson Vision Student Travel Fellowships
Michelle Antonucci
Marielle Blumenthaler
Paul Brown
Kelly Cochran
Nevin El-Nimri, OD, MS, FAAO
Lacey Haines, OD, FIAACLE
Kam Ho
Deepayan Kar, BOptom, MS
Safal Khanal, OD, FAAO
Corin Lesjak
Christina Locke
Lydia Pickrell
Maureen Plaumann, OD, FAAO
Sudan Puri, OD
Noor Haziq Saliman, BOptom, MHSc
Sidra Sanwat
Keyur Savla
Alaina Short
Sloane Weed
Angela Zhang

Robert D. Newcomb Student Travel Fellowship Award for Leadership
Neil Doppler

Michael G. Harris Student Travel Fellowship Award for Leadership
Annabelle Storch

ARVO 2018 Student Travel Fellowship
Generously supported by an educational grant from Johnson & Johnson Vision
Katie Bales
Hannah Burfield
Jessica V. Jasien
Laura P. Pardon, OD, MS, FAAO
Daisy Y. Shu, BOptom

Supported by the American Academy of Optometry
Billie Beckwith-Cohen, DVM, MBA, FAAO

American Academy of Optometry Foundation Awards

Beta Sigma Kappa Student Travel Fellowship
Lea Hair

Brett G. Bence Clinical Student Travel Fellowship
Alex Saunders

Brett G. Bence Leadership Student Travel Fellowship
Jennifer Chu

Elmer H. Eger Memorial Student Travel Fellowship
Monica Chan
Danielle Kolschefski

N. Rex Ghormley Student Travel Fellowship
Linda Yan

Kirschen Family Student Travel Fellowship
Yuyeng Lor

Lois Schoenbrun Student Travel Fellowship
Erin Lutley
Josiah Henry Tsiquaye

AAOF Student Giving Matching Travel Grants
Illinois College of Optometry
Michelle Klemm
Nora Kuby
Indiana University
Chloe Janson
Jacinta Langlois
Evan Murray
Levi Ridgeway

Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Preet Dhami
Anthony Mac

Northeastern State University
William Colton Cheek
Ryan Swindell

Nova Southeastern University
Rachel Luke
Ryan-Quang Van

The Ohio State University
Carolyne Chakuroff
Taylor Norris

Salus University
Zekia Alhout
Ashley Bachkhaz

State University of New York
Irene Antar
Elise Hoi

University of Alabama at Birmingham
Kyle Campbell
Samantha Dunnington
Elora Robbani
Andrea Wilhoite

University of Pikeville
Julia Bao
Nicole Flowers
Logan Ritchhart
Jacob Webster

University of Montreal
Alexandra Gignac
Stephanie Minville

University of Waterloo
Laura Chan
Annie Huang
Over $150,000 was awarded in 2018 for student and resident travel fellowships.

Resident Travel Fellowships

**Allergan Resident Travel Fellowships in Disease**
Ayah Ahamed, OD, MS  
Saad Ahmed, OD  
Brittney Brady, OD  
Margaret Brucker, OD  
Diana Chen, OD  
Alise Chin, OD  
Marc Deeley, OD  
Carolyn Draude, OD  
Alyssa Drew, OD  
Elizabeth Fahy, OD  
Adriana Ferreira, OD  
Micaela Gobeille, OD, MS  
Alice Grasso, OD  
Alicia Hanley, OD  
Kathryn Hohe, OD  
Tatjana Karovic, OD  
Ryan Kern, OD  
Paula Kutzner, OD, MEd  
Alice Lim, OD  
Alexandra Literski, OD  
Megan Lopez, OD  
Margaret Moore, OD  
Katherine Nelson, OD  
Jennifer Nguyen, OD, MS  
Maria Paradis, OD  
Caitlyn Reynolds, OD  
Shelby Rogers, OD  
Jasmine Roth, OD  
Andrew Sahawneh, OD  
Aaron Salzano, OD  
Sarah Sandhaus, OD  
Kelly Seidler, OD  
Jenna Stoddard, OD  
Jenna Sullivan, OD  
Stephanie Uchida, OD  
Heather Van Law, OD, MS  
Amy Vinogradov, OD  
Courtney Ward, OD  
Kendra Weiler, OD, MS  
Lauren Yoon, OD  
Swati Kumar, OD  
Samantha Myers, OD  
Vakishan Nadarajah, OD  
Marcus Noyes, OD  
Jocelyn Ou, OD  
Sergiu Picioreanu, OD  
Alexandre Poirier-Lavallee, OD  
Kellen Riccobono, OD  
Laurel Roberts, OD  
Felicia Dea Satrio, OD  
Lenna Walker, OD, MS  
Jessica Walter, OD  
Lily Wang, OD  
Kimberly Weisenberger, OD  
Alexa Westerbeck, OD  
Bryan Williams, OD  
Danica Yang, OD  
Evelyn Zhang, OD  
Katherine Zhang, OD  

**Section on Cornea, Contact Lenses & Refractive Technologies Resident Travel Fellowships**
Generously sponsored by CooperVision  
Nikita Aneja, OD  
Tristan Barrueco, OD  
Manveen Bedi, OD  
Jonathan Chen, OD  
Emily Cheng, OD  
Rebecca Chung, OD  
Marie-Michèle Dupuis, OD  
Andrew Fischer, OD  
Michael Franzone, OD, MPH  
Madeleine Hacker, OD  
Taylor Harris, OD  

**Florida Chapter Resident Travel Fellowships**
Samantha Fernandez, OD  
Ryan Nguyen, OD  
Brian Roberts, OD  
Kiri J. Rutledge, OD  

Allergan RTF recipients at the Student and Resident Awards Ceremony.
One of the highlights of Academy 2018 San Antonio was the comprehensive exhibit hall, featuring over 190 companies sharing the latest in technology and services with meeting attendees. Not only does the exhibit hall give meeting attendees access to the newest products and services, it also significantly contributes to the financial health of the Academy. Thank you to all Academy 2018 San Antonio sponsors and exhibitors for their generous support.
The Academy’s journal, *Optometry and Vision Science (OVS)*, had a number of significant accomplishments in 2018.

- Two new Editorial Board Members were added in 2018.
- The proportion of manuscript submissions that were accepted in 2018 was 26%. This is a record low and a sign that the journal (i.e. the editors and editorial board) is being more selective about the content accepted for publication.
- Despite a reduction in the total number of articles published, the number of citations to the journal increased over the previous two years.
- OVS remains the only optometry journal listed in the top 20 optometry/ophthalmology journals indexed by Google Scholar.
- The journal’s impact factor rose to 1.5 in 2017 (1.41 in 2016) – this value represents the average number of citations to articles published in the past two years according to Journal Citation Reports. The 5-year impact factor is 1.9. The 3 year h-index is 81 and the journal is ranked 18/117 journals in the ophthalmology category.
- A new journal graphical design and logo was instituted.
- Member, reader, and author surveys were conducted to assess the current practices and priorities of the community.
  - Members value the journal and associate the journal with quality scholarship.
  - Readers value evidence-based clinical content.
  - Authors prefer rapid peer review and rapid time to publication.

In summary, the journal continues to be valued and respected by the world-wide community.
Today’s Research, Tomorrow’s Practice® was once again a central theme of Academy 2018 San Antonio. This year’s meeting gave attendees access to informative symposia, state-of-the-art paper presentations, and fascinating poster sessions, making the Academy meeting one of a kind in the optometric profession.

The Monroe J. Hirsch Symposium on Thursday morning, planned by the Academy’s Research Committee, was titled, “Vision Restoration for Retinal Degenerative Disease.” The session explored different approaches to save or restore sight in patients with degenerative disease: gene replacement therapy, stem cell repair, and optogenetics to restore vision in severely damaged retinas. Speakers included Drs. Tom Reh and Byron Lam.

Concurrent to the Hirsch Symposium, the Scientific Program Committee highlighted research in three “Hot Topic” paper sessions. These one-hour programs addressed the latest experimental discoveries in the areas of anterior segment, glaucoma, and pediatrics and binocular vision. These were just three of the 23 total scientific paper sessions available to attendees during the meeting. This year’s program also featured three hybrid “Super Sessions” that combined paper and poster presentations on the topics of scleral lenses, myopia and glaucoma. Authors had the opportunity to give one to three-minute summaries of their posters after the paper sessions ended.

Friday’s Ezell Fellows Presents session was on “Contact Lens Discomfort: More Than (Where the Lens) Meets the Eye.” The session featured prior American Academy of Optometry Foundation Ezell Fellowship recipients sharing their research on the topic of contact lenses. Dr. Maria Markoulli discussed the factors related to the eye that contribute to discomfort followed by Dr. Lakshman Subbaraman who discussed how design and material could cause patient discomfort. Lastly, Dr. Pete Kollbaum covered environmental factors that have the potential to induce patient-reported lens discomfort.
Another aspect of the Scientific Program at the annual meeting is the poster sessions. Authors had the opportunity to interact with attendees on two separate days, including the popular Thursday evening session. On Friday the poster hall was again accessible for the entire day allowing a second set of authors to present their work to an engaged audience. Over the course of two days, nearly 580 scientific presentations occurred. Continuing education credit was issued in convenient fifteen-minute increments.

The Academy remains unwavering in its support of research, facilitating collaboration, and providing a venue for the sharing of ideas among practitioners and researchers.

**Nearly 580 Scientific Program presentations took place in 2018.**

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**2018 Best Student Scientific Presentation**

The Academy Board of Directors and the Scientific Program Committee gave special recognition to Nevin El-Nimri, PhD student at the University of California Berkeley. Dr. El-Nimri’s presentation titled, “Effect of Topical Latanoprost on Lamina Cribrosa and Sclera of Myopic Guinea Pigs,” was identified as the best student presentation of the 2018 Scientific Program. The presentation was co-authored by Melissa Yao, Andrea Huerta, Michelle Hoang, Anna Barcellos, and Christine Wildsoet.
Interest in becoming a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry continued its upward trajectory in 2018. The Membership Committee continues its efforts to promote the FAAO distinction and to recruit new Candidates for Fellowship to not only benefit those who complete the process, but also to drive the profession forward and make the Academy stronger by bringing in new ideas, diversity and involvement.

Over the last several years the Membership Committee has focused on encouraging current residents to see that Fellowship is an extension of their learning and career development. In 2018, the Membership Committee also focused on recruiting past lectures and workshops presenters, past Scientific Program presenters, and graduate students.

Another goal of the Membership Committee is to develop strategies to keep optometry students interested and involved in the Academy throughout their academic career and after graduation. Overall, the committee will continue to work with other committees to stimulate involvement among optometry students to ensure they maintain Academy membership through graduation.

Over the last 5 years, Fellowship in the Academy has grown by an average of 3.6% per year.
Over 11% of Fellows reside outside the United States.

Active Fellows by State and Country (as of December 31, 2018)

Alabama.......................... 76
Alaska............................ 16
Arizona........................... 118
Arkansas.......................... 17
Armed Forces......................... 22
California......................... 688
Colorado............................ 104
Connecticut......................... 37
DC................................. 7
Delaware........................... 12
Florida............................. 350
Georgia............................. 82
Guam................................. 1
Hawaii.............................. 27
Idaho............................... 23
Illinois............................ 223
Indiana............................. 104
Iowa................................. 37
Kansas.............................. 34
Kentucky........................... 40
Louisiana........................... 18
Maine............................... 23
Maryland........................... 100
Massachusetts....................... 183
Michigan........................... 150
Minnesota......................... 86
Mississippi......................... 14
Missouri........................... 83
Montana............................ 13
Nebraska........................... 27
Nevada.............................. 33
New Hampshire..................... 26
New Jersey......................... 104
New Mexico........................ 38
New York............................ 326
North Carolina...................... 135
North Dakota....................... 8
Ohio.................................. 221
Oklahoma............................ 73
Oregon............................... 90
Pennsylvania....................... 183
Puerto Rico........................ 8
Rhode Island....................... 22
South Carolina..................... 42
South Dakota....................... 17
Tennessee........................... 112
Texas............................... 381
Utah................................. 23
Vermont............................ 8
Virginia............................ 101
Washington......................... 137
West Virginia....................... 18
Wisconsin........................... 51
Wyoming............................ 11
United States....................... 4,883
OTHER COUNTRIES.............. 625

GRAND TOTAL 5,508
Fellows must successfully complete rigorous written requirements before they take and pass an oral examination to be a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry (FAAO). Fellows are practitioners, vision scientists, and educators in vision science; they work in various capacities including the federal government. 303 Fellows inducted in 2018 included representatives from 12 countries and 44 U.S. states.
Chapters

International Chapters
Quebec
South Africa

United States Chapters
Arizona
California
Florida
Heart of America
Illinois
Indiana
Maine
Minnesota
New Jersey
New York
North Carolina
Northeastern Ohio
Oklahoma
Pennsylvania
South Carolina
Tennessee

Student Chapters
Illinois College of Optometry
Indiana University, School of Optometry
Inter-American University of Puerto Rico
MCPSH University
Michigan College of Optometry at Ferris State
Midwestern University, Arizona College of Optometry
Midwestern University, Chicago College of Optometry
New England College of Optometry
Northeastern State University College of Optometry
Nova Southeastern College of Optometry
Ohio State University College of Optometry
Pennsylvania College of Optometry at Salus University
Pacific University, College of Optometry
University of the Incarnate Word, Rosenberg School of Optometry
Marshall B. Ketchum University, Southern California College of Optometry
Southern College of Optometry
SUNY College of Optometry
University of Alabama School of Optometry
University of California, Berkeley, College of Optometry
University of Houston College of Optometry
University of Missouri – St. Louis, College of Optometry
University of Pikeville-Kentucky, College of Optometry
University of Montreal School of Optometry
Western University of Health Sciences College of Optometry

Faculty Liaisons to Student Chapters
Mayra Rulían, IAUPR
Lindsay Sicks, ICO
Susan Kovacich, IU
Paula McDowell, MCO-FSU
Greg Waldorf, MCPHS
Caitlin Miller, Midwestern Arizona
Pablo de Gracia, Midwestern Illinois
Aurora Denial, NECO
Julie Rodman, NOVA
Latricia Pack, NSUCO
Gregory Nixon, OSU
Matthew Lampa, PUCO
Richard Trevino, RSO
Sabya Verma, Salus
Raman Bhakhri, SCCO
Reena Lepine, SCO
Jennifer Hue, SUNY
Andrew Pucker, UAB
Vikki Yu, UCBSO
David Berntsen, UH
Linda Marks, UMSL
Benoit Tousignant, Montreal
Eliene Kinzer, UPIKE
Kristine Dalton, Waterloo
Bennett McAllister, Western

Chapters Committee
Gregory S. Wolfe, Chair
Pierce Kenworthy, Arizona
Raymond H. Chu, California
Etty Bitton, Canada-Quebec
Charles E. Heacock, Florida
James R. Hoekel, Heart of America
Eileen Gable, Illinois
Susan Kovacich, Indiana
Laura Dowd, Maine
Nicholas Colatrella, Minnesota

Clark Chang, Vice Chair
Michael H. Greenberg, NE Ohio
Candice Tolud, New Jersey
Jennifer Colvavito, New York
Aaron Tarbett, North Carolina
Joseph A. Reichert, Oklahoma
G. Richard Bennett, Pennsylvania
Mariette Richter, South Africa
Anthony W. Van Alstine, South Carolina
Reena Lepine, Tennessee
Chapter Updates

Arizona Chapter

In 2018, the Arizona Chapter had two successful meetings hosted by Midwestern University, Arizona College of Optometry, which provided a total of 12 hours of COPE approved CE. The AZ-AAO 6th Annual Spring Meeting held on March 10, 2018 featured speakers Dr. Stephanie Klemencic and Dr. Leah Johnson. The CE program also included a Grand Rounds presentation featuring case reports from our new Arizona Fellows Drs. Grace Liao, Matthew Roe, Michael Schumacher, and Kelly Varney. The AZ-AAO 6th Annual Fall Meeting held on Saturday, September 15, 2018 featured speakers Dr. Robert Fintelmann and Dr. Marc Bloomenstein. The CE program concluded with a Grand Rounds presentation featuring case reports from Drs. Kimberly Cunningham, Breanne Hobbs, Michael Kozlowski, and Emily Stephey.

Also in 2018 new officers were elected: President: Dr. Matthew Rhodes; Vice President: Dr. Florencia Yeh; Secretary: Dr. Breanne Flores; Treasurer: Dr. Brianna Ryff; Immediate Past President: Dr. Pierce Kenworthy.

The Chapter also provided two $750 travel grants to optometrists in an accredited optometry residency program in the state of Arizona. This year’s winners were Dr. Betty Ng, a resident at the Hu Hu Kam Memorial Hospital in Sacaton, AZ and Dr. Tina Zhu, a resident at the Midwestern University College of Optometry in Glendale, AZ.

North Carolina Chapter

The Chapter is pleased to announce Dr. Sandra Nassar as the inaugural winner of the “Dr. Roger Cummings First to Fellowship Award” at Academy 2018 San Antonio. The award was created to encourage Academy Fellowship for the residents completing the optometric residency at the W. G. (Bill) Hefner Medical Center in Salisbury, NC. Dr. Cummings was able to create the endowment to support this award in cooperation with Salus University.

Quebec Chapter

Academy 2018 San Antonio was once again a popular destination for Quebec optometrists from Canada. A total of 137 people were in attendance at the meeting, of which the majority were students (103)! Congratulations to the student chapter for this amazing show of support. The Chapter would like to congratulate 3 University of Montreal alumni, Drs. Zoe Lacroix, Vanessa Bachir and Diane Sayah, who received Fellowship in 2018.
Sections and Special Interest Groups

The Sections and Special Interest Groups (SIGs) are groups of Fellows who wish to gather and communicate about specific areas of interest within optometry and vision science.

### Current SIGs
- Academic Medical Center Optometrists (AMCO)
- Fellows Doing Research
- Neuro-ophthalmic Disorders in Optometry
- Nutrition, Disease Prevention and Wellness
- Retina
- Vision in Aging
- Vision Science

### Current Sections
- Anterior Segment (AS)
- Binocular Vision, Perception & Pediatric Optometry (BVPPO)
- Comprehensive Eye Care (CEC)
- Cornea, Contact Lenses & Refractive Technologies (CCLRT)
- Glaucoma (GL)
- Low Vision (LV)
- Optometric Education (OE)
- Public Health & Environmental Vision (PHEV)

### 2018 Annual Meeting Symposia

One of the primary goals of the Sections and SIGs is to create programs for the annual meeting.

The Academic Medical Center Optometrists SIG presented, “The Future of Optometry: Performance Based Reimbursement.”

The Anterior Segment Section presented, “Biologic Therapy: Applications in Anterior Segment Disease.”

The Section on Cornea, Contact Lenses and Refractive Technologies presented a session titled, “The U.S. Military Approach to Treating Corneal and Ocular Surface Disease and Refractive Surgery in the Armed Forces.”

The Binocular Vision, Perception and Pediatric Optometry Section partnered with the Vision Science SIG to present, “Lasker / IRRF Amblyopia Initiative - Where We’ve Been, Where We Are, and Where We’re Going.”

The Comprehensive Eye Care Section presented, “Hot Topics in Comprehensive Eye Care.”

The Glaucoma Section presented, “Overcoming Aggressive Glaucomas.”

The Low Vision Section presented, “Is This Real? A Look at Non-organic Vision Loss and Conversion Disorder,” and also partnered with the Vision in Aging SIG to present, “Not Just Another Driving Symposium: How Automated Vehicles and Advanced Driver Assistance Technologies Might Benefit Our Aging Patients.”

The Neuro-ophthalmic Disorders in Optometry SIG presented the 2018 Lawrence G. Gray Memorial Symposium titled, “Neuro-ophthalmic Pitfalls, Presentations, and Life-Saving Tips.”

The Nutrition, Disease Prevention and Wellness SIG presented, “Omega-3 Fatty Acids in Eye & Systemic Health.”

The Optometric Education Section presented, “Creating, Implementing and Sustaining a Culture of Interprofessional Education (IPE) in Schools and Colleges of Optometry.”

The Public Health & Environmental Vision Section presented, “Telemedicine: The Good, the Bad and the Law.”

The Retina SIG presented, “Retinal 911: Urgencies, Emergencies and Retinal Repair.”

The Vision Science SIG presented, “New Approaches for Early Diagnosis of Vision Threatening Disease.”
Section Officers

Anterior Segment Section
Jeffrey Varanelli, Chair
A. Mika Moy, Vice Chair
Katherine Mastrotta, Program Chair
Nicholas Colatrella, Diplomate Development Chair

Binocular Vision, Perception & Pediatric Optometry Section
John Tassinari, Chair
Marie Bodack, Vice Chair
Tawna Roberts, Program Chair
Christine Allison, Diplomate Chair

Comprehensive Eye Care Section
Ernest Bowling, Chair
De Gualle Chigbu, Vice Chair
Tina Porzukowiak, Program Chair
Hal Bohlman, Diplomate Chair

Section on Cornea, Contact Lenses & Refractive Technologies
Clarke Newman, Chair
Cristina Schnider, Vice Chair
Loretta Szczotka-Flynn, Program Chair
Louise Sclafani, Diplomate Chair

Glaucoma Section
Lauren Ristin, Chair
Jennifer Brown, Vice Chair
Andrew John Rixon, Program Chair
Michael Sullivan-Mee, Diplomate Chair

Low Vision Section
Dawn DeCarlo, Chair
Mark Kirstein, Vice Chair
Ava Bittner, Program Chair
Tracy Matchinski, Diplomate Chair

Optometric Education Section
Michael Giese, Chair
Patricia Hrynychak, Vice Chair
Daniel Arnett Taylor, Program Chair
Marlee Spafford, Diplomate Chair

Public Health & Environmental Vision Section
Debbie Hettler, Chair
Fred Soto, Program Chair
Jeffrey Weaver, Diplomate Chair

SIG Officers

Academic Medical Center Optometrists (AMCO)
Ellen Shorter, Chair
Evan Kaufman, Vice Chair

Fellows Doing Research
Wendy Harrison, Chair
Justin Kwan, Vice Chair

Neuro-ophthalmic Disorders in Optometry
Joseph Sowka, Chair
Patricia Modica, Vice Chair

Nutrition, Disease Prevention and Wellness
A. Paul Chous, Chair
April Lewis, Vice Chair

Retina
Gregory Schultz, Chair
Mohammad Rafieetary, Vice Chair

Vision in Aging
John Kaminski, Chair
Padhmalatha Segu, Vice Chair

Vision Science
Russell Woods, Chair
Dean VanNasdale, Vice Chair

2018 New Diplomates

Anterior Segment
Anne Mika Moy, OD, FAAO

Binocular Vision, Perception and Pediatric Optometry
Jameel Rizwana Hussaindeen, MPhil, FAAO, PhD

Comprehensive Eye Care
Stephanie A. Klemencic, OD, FAAO
Bisant Labib, OD, FAAO
Tina Porzukowiak, OD, FAAO
Danielle L. Weiler, OD, FAAO

Cornea, Contact Lenses & Refractive Technologies
Julie DeKinder, OD, FAAO
Daniel G. Fuller, OD, FAAO, FSLS
Melanie J. Frogozo, OD, FAAO

Low Vision
Hendrik Peter Derksen, FAAO
Greg R. Hopkins II, OD, MS, FAAO
Gay Tokumaru, OD, FAAO (posthumously)
Matt S. Valdes, OD, FAAO

Optometric Education
Raymond H. Chu, OD, MS, FAAO
Daniel Arnett Taylor, OD, MS, FAAO

Public Health and Environmental Vision
Ruth Hyatt, OD, FAAO
Hector C. Santiago, OD, PhD, FAAO

Nearly 6% of Fellows have achieved the distinction of Diplomate

Some of the benefits of becoming a Diplomate of a Section are:

- Professional growth and goal achievement
- Recognition of extensive skill in their research or practice area
- Participation in a referral network of highly qualified colleagues
- Camaraderie and fellowship with leaders in the field
The American Academy of Optometry Foundation (AAOF) is the Academy’s philanthropic arm. By funding the future of optometry through its fellowships, scholarships, and awards, the AAOF gives exceptional students a chance to continue their education and propel the field of optometric science forward. The annual Academy meeting provides the AAOF with a forum in which the AAOF Board, staff, and award recipients can connect with donors on a personal level. It is the focal point for the largest fundraising drive of the year. With your support, the AAOF has built assets over $6.5 million and an endowment of over $4 million, and plans to provide more than $450,000 in fellowships, scholarships and grants in 2019.

The Alcon Foundation
At Academy 2018 San Antonio, the Alcon Foundation partnered with the AAOF for the Hoop it Up 20/20 Challenge. Meeting attendees stopped by the Alcon Foundation booth and made a total of 2,020 virtual baskets, resulting in a $25,000 donation from the Alcon Foundation for optometric research and education.

2018 Allergan Foundation Research Grant
The American Academy of Optometry Foundation, in partnership with the Allergan Foundation, awarded the 2018-2019 Allergan Research Grant to Alison McDermott, PhD, professor of Cellular and Molecular Sciences at Northumbria University. She has been awarded a $60,000 grant for her project, “Therapeutic Potential of Medicinal Maggot Secretions for Ocular Surface Disease.” William Cheung, PhD, scientific officer of Metabolomics/Proteomics at Northumbria University, is the co-investigator on this project. The highly competitive grant is awarded to a talented optometrist and/or vision scientist who is an Academy member and is currently undertaking cutting edge research in the areas of glaucoma and/or the anterior segment.

Essilor of America
Essilor of America has been a loyal contributor to the AAOF for over 15 years. Over $1,000,000 has been donated in support of optometric research. In 2018 Essilor endowed a new Ezell Fellowship to be named later and funded the Danne Ventura and Rod Tahran Ezell Fellowships. These two new funded awards combined with the existing Irvin M. Borish Ezell, Essilor Ezell and Mike Daley Essilor Ezell, make a combined 4 distinguished awards. In addition, Essilor supported the AAOF Celebration Luncheon.

Johnson & Johnson Vision
Johnson & Johnson Vision has been a longstanding supporter of the AAOF for over 20 years, contributing a total of nearly $2 million. The Award of Excellence in Contact Lens Patient Care, J. Pat Cummings Scholarship, Terrance N. Ingraham Pediatric Optometry Residency Award, and the George Mertz and Sheldon Wechsler Contact Lens Residency Awards were presented to 51 total recipients in 2018. Educational funding from Johnson & Johnson Vision supports AAOF grants, educational support, and scholarship awards.

American Academy of Optometry Foundation Board of Directors (2018)

David Kirschen, President
Wendy Harrison, President-Elect
Melissa Bailey, Secretary-Treasurer
Kathy Dumbleton, Immediate Past President
Rachel “Stacey” Coulter, Board Member
Susan Eger, Board Member
Kerry Giedd, Board Member

Pete Kollbaum, Board Member
Richard Madonna, Board Member
Dave Sattler, Board Member
Karla Zadnik, Board Member
Jeffrey Walline, Board Member
Lois Schoenbrun, Executive Director, ex-officio

AAOF Staff
Jennifer Rubin, Foundation Program Manager

(from left to right) Richard Madonna, Dave Sattler, Kathy Dumbleton, David Kirschen, Karla Zadnik, Lois Schoenbrun, Pete Kollbaum, Wendy Harrison, Jeffrey Walline, Susan Eger, Kerry Giedd, Rachel “Stacey” Coulter.
VSP Global® and the AAOF 2018 Practice Excellence Scholarships
VSP Global® and the AAOF presented 46 recipients with this year’s Practice Excellence Scholarships; awarding $179,000 among top-performing fourth-year optometry students in the U.S., Puerto Rico, and Canada. The scholarships and travel grants to attend Academy 2018 San Antonio were funded through the VSP Global Eyes of Hope® Global Charitable Fund in collaboration with FYidoctors in Canada. Two students from each school or college of optometry were selected by nomination of their individual institutions to receive the scholarship.

The Foundation provided over $450,000 in fellowships, scholarships and grants in 2018.

2018-2019 William C. Ezell Fellowships

Danne Ventura – Essilor Ezell Fellow
Katherine Bickle, OD, MS, FAAO
The Ohio State University College of Optometry

Irvin M. Borish - Essilor Ezell Fellow
Daisy Y. Shu, BOptom
University of New South Wales School of Optometry and Vision Science

John N. Schoen Ezell Fellow
Jasmine S. Junge, OD, FAAO
University of California Berkeley School of Optometry

Merton C. Flom Leadership Ezell Fellow
Phillip Thomas Yuhas, OD, MS, FAAO
The Ohio State University College of Optometry

Mike Daley - Essilor Ezell Fellow
Ann Morrison, OD, MS, FAAO
The Ohio State University College of Optometry

Michael G. Harris Ezell Fellow
Elise N. Harb, OD, MSc, FAAO
University of California Berkeley School of Optometry

Optometric Glaucoma Society Ezell Fellow
Laura P. Pardon, OD, MS, FAAO
University of Houston College of Optometry

Rod Tahran – Essilor Ezell Fellow
Jessica V. Jasien
University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Optometry

Vision Impact Institute Ezell Fellow
Kaitlyn Anne Sapoznik, OD
Indiana University School of Optometry

AAO Section on Cornea, Contact Lenses and Refractive Technologies Ezell Fellow
Maria Walker, OD, MS, FAAO
University of Houston College of Optometry

American Academy of Optometry Foundation Earl L. Smith, III Ezell Club Fellow
Gareth D. Hastings, MPhil, BOptom
University of Houston College of Optometry

American Academy of Optometry Ezell Fellow
Priyamvada M. Pitale, MS
University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Optometry

Baycross Christian Family Foundation Binocular Vision and Pediatrics Ezell Fellow
Suraj Upadhyaya, OD, FAAO
University of Houston College of Optometry

The AAOF presented awards to a total 166 deserving students, residents and faculty in 2018. For a complete list of recipients visit our website at: http://www.aaopt.org/aaof.
## REVENUE, SUPPORT AND GAINS

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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<th>Temporarily Restricted</th>
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<td>Contributions</td>
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<td>301,834</td>
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<tr>
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## EXPENSES

### Program Expenses:

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<td>Membership</td>
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<td>Committees</td>
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<td>Sections</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contributions, Grants, Awards and Special Funds</td>
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<td>Contributions to Other Organizations</td>
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### Fundraising Expenses:

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### Management and General Expenses:

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<td>General and Administrative</td>
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<td>Board of Directors</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Management and General Expenses</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
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## CHANGE IN NET ASSETS

Net Assets, Beginning of Year: 7,528,503

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## NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR

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## Experimental Section

### Table 1: Experimental Data

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<th>Measurement 3</th>
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<td>A</td>
<td>1.23</td>
<td>4.56</td>
<td>7.89</td>
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<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>2.34</td>
<td>5.67</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>3.45</td>
<td>6.78</td>
<td>9.01</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

### Table 2: Summary Statistics

- Mean: 4.55
- Median: 5.67
- Standard Deviation: 1.23
Over 300 Academy Fellows served as volunteers on a committee or Section/SIG leadership in 2018.
Corporate Sponsors

The American Academy of Optometry and the American Academy of Optometry Foundation thank their generous corporate partners for their support of 2018 activities.

Visionary ($350,000+)
Alcon Laboratories
Johnson and Johnson Vision
Essilor

Patron ($200,000 - 349,999)
Allergan
Bausch + Lomb
VSP Global
Shire

Benefactor ($100,000 - 199,999)
Sun Ophthalmics
CooperVision

Contributor ($50,000 - 99,999)
Optos Inc.
Luxottica

Supporter ($15,000 - 49,999)
Alcon Foundation
Primary Care Optometry News (PCON)
Sight Sciences
Vision Source
Zeiss

Friend (Up to $14,999)
American Board of Optometry
Armed Forces Optometric Society
Art Optical
Brien Holden Vision Institute
Eschenbach
eSight
Essilor Custom Contact Lens Specialists
Glaukos
Good-Lite, CO.
Haag-Streit
Heart of America Contact Lens Society

Icare-USA
Indigo Iris Designs, LLC
INVISION Magazine
Kala Pharmaceuticals, Inc.
Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, Wolters
Kluwer Health
Marco
Optometry Times
Optovue, Inc.
PEARLE VISION
Pentavision
PRN
Review of Optometry
Spark Therapeutics
Synergeyes Inc.
TelScreen

Future Meeting
Dates and Locations

October 23-27, 2019 Orlando, FL
Joint meeting with the World Council of Optometry

October 7-10, 2020 Nashville, TN

November 3-6, 2021 Boston, MA

October 26-29, 2022 San Diego, CA

October 11-14, 2023 New Orleans, LA

November 6-9, 2024 Washington, DC

October 8-11, 2025 Boston, MA