Soar to the Peak of Exceptional Knowledge with the American Academy of Optometry!

Postcards from Academy 2013 Seattle will read, “Wish you were here!” On October 23-26, 2013, attendees will enjoy the unique vistas of the Puget Sound and the Cascade Mountain Range from the Space Needle. They will be experiencing the sights, sounds and smells of the Pike Place Market, while increasing their knowledge and expanding their network of friends and colleagues during education sessions and at the exhibit hall. Meeting registration and hotel reservations open May 6!

Plenary: “Today’s Research, Tomorrow’s Practice®: Stem Cells and Ocular Regenerative Therapies”
When you register, be sure to add the Plenary Lunch, Wednesday, October 23, 12 noon – 2 PM, to your registration! This session will take a fascinating look at the research and clinical applications of ocular regenerative therapies with stem cells. Speakers will explore the unique properties of adult and embryonic stem cells and their capabilities for regenerative treatment for anterior and posterior ocular diseases.

Amander T. Clark, PhD, will cover “Stem Cells: To Infinity and Beyond” and is a cell biologist and geneticist who was recruited to the UCLA Department of Molecular Cell and Developmental Biology and Institute for Stem Cell Biology and Medicine to establish a new and exciting research program in stem cell biology. She participated in pioneering work that was the first to demonstrate that human embryonic stem cells could be used to differentiate the human germ cell lineage in vitro.

“Regenerative Therapies for Retina and Optic Nerve” will be presented by Jeffrey Goldberg, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute of the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. His research is directed at neuroprotection and regeneration of retinal ganglion cells and other retinal neurons. His laboratory is developing novel stem cell and nanotherapeutic approaches for ocular repair. Victor L. Perez, MD, Associate Professor of Ophthalmology at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, will discuss “Cell Therapies for the Cornea and Ocular Surface.” His research is focused on immune responses to ocular allo- and auto-antigens.

Monroe J. Hirsch Research Symposium: “Clinical Application of Advanced Ocular Imaging”
Thursday morning, be sure to attend the Monroe J. Hirsch Research Symposium. Enjoy a continental breakfast as you learn more about retinal imaging! The Academy’s Research Committee brings the

Academy 2013 Seattle

Registration and hotel reservations open May 6, 2013!
www.aaopt.org

This newsletter has been made possible by a generous grant from

Alcon
It’s time to send in nominations for the Academy 2013 Seattle Awards! The distinction, knowledge and expertise of the nominees and candidates continue to get better with each passing year. Help make Academy 2013 Seattle the best it can be by nominating your colleagues who have made significant contributions to optometry, and who deserve to be recognized and honored for their achievements.

The deadline for nominations is April 1, 2013. Full information about the various awards can be found on the Academy’s website at http://www.aaopt.org/Meetings/Academy2013/Awards. Nominations consist of a nomination letter, a seconding letter and the curriculum vitae of the individual being nominated. Please email these materials to Helen Viksnins, Senior Director of Programs, at HelenV@aaoptom.org. The Awards Committee will select the nominees from all submissions.

Be sure to identify the specific major accomplishments of the nominee in the opening paragraph so that the Awards Committee will be apprised of their primary contributions from the beginning of the nomination package. In particular, those accomplishments that are most directly related to the specific award should be emphasized. Also, please remember that candidates who did not receive the awards in the previous few years can be re-nominated. This is not just a one-time, one-year process. Existing letters and curriculum vitae information from the prior year can be used again, or a new set of letters and curriculum vitae material can be submitted to indicate recent progress. The Awards Committee will contact the primary nominee to determine which option they would like to select, and a complete package will be prepared for the candidate.

Academy 2013 Seattle is shaping up to be a truly outstanding meeting, and we appreciate your effort and assistance in making the 2013 Awards Ceremony a true highlight. Let the nominating begin!

Place Your Nominations for the 2013 Academy Annual Awards by April 1
OUR SURFACE DEFENDS AGAINST DAILY DEPOSITS.

Only AIR OPTIX® brand contact lenses have a unique surface technology that's proven to maintain wettability** and resist deposits better than other available two-week or monthly replacement SiHy lens.*†

Superior Surface with Moisture and Consistent Comfort

Unique Plasma Surface Technology

Creates a Hydrophilic Environment

That Resists Lipids & Deposits

AIR OPTIX® BRAND
Family of Contact Lenses

See our superior surface deposit resistance and wettability*** data at MYALICON.COM

References:
1. In vitro measurement of contact angles on unworn lenses; significance demonstrated at the 0.05 level; Alcon data on file, 2009. 2. Nash VJ, Gabrié M, Nowery-Makave M. A comparison of various silicone hydrogel lenses, lipid and protein deposition as a result of daily wear. Optom Vis Sci 2010;87: R-Abstract 102910. 3. In vivo measurement of lipid deposits on lenses worn daily wear through manufacturer recommended replacement period. CLEAR CARE® Cleaning and Disinfecting Solution used for cleaning all contact lenses. Significance demonstrated at the 0.05 level; Alcon data on file, 2008.

See product instructions for complete wear, care, and safety information.

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Step Across The Imaginary Divide

Andrew B. Mick, OD, FAAO, Vice-Chair, Scientific Program Committee

You can’t turn on the television these days or overhear a conversation on the street without constant reminders of what divides us. You either have one political view or the other, you talk on an iPhone or an Android, or you cheer for the Wolverines or the Buckeyes (Full disclosure, I am a Michigan alumnus).

Many Fellows perceive such a divide within the American Academy of Optometry. There are the clinicians that value our annual meeting for the world-class continuing education and the affordability of getting so many high-quality lecture hours at one low price. And then there are the scientists who recognize the meeting as a premier place to showcase their research and collaborate with other leading investigators from around the world. When it comes to Academy meetings, some have the perception that these are two very different groups. To be completely honest, early in my career I thought such a dichotomy existed.

But since then I have attended the annual meetings and truly experienced all they have to offer. My involvement as a member of the Scientific Program Committee has further cemented that there is no such divide. The leadership of the Academy, from the Board to the committees involved in planning the content of the meetings, strives to showcase the best of the full continuum of optometry. Whether we are primarily researchers or clinicians, our patients benefit the more we know across this continuum from the laboratory to the exam chair.

By attending the scientific content of the meeting, clinicians can gain valuable insight into the basic functioning of the eye, the pathophysiology of ocular diseases they see daily, and the mechanisms of the drugs they use to treat them both now and in the future. By attending clinical lectures and interacting with clinicians, scientists can glean new research ideas from unanswered questions and from an understanding of where innovation is most needed to help our patients. This cross-pollination is what makes the American Academy of Optometry meeting unique and drives our profession forward.

I encourage all optometrists at the meeting in Seattle, whose job is primarily clinical, to step across the imaginary divide. Attend at least one scientific paper session on a topic area that centers on the type of patients you see daily. Look through a poster session to read about unique clinical cases and the questions that your Academy research colleagues are attempting to answer to better care for our patients. Ask questions and share your clinical experiences at paper and poster sessions as it may be those questions that lead the presenters down a difference-making research path. In doing so, you will get so much more out of the American Academy of Optometry meeting. You never know, that person you inspire, or who inspires you, might even be a Buckeye!

What is the Scientific Program?

The Academy’s Scientific Program offers scientists, educators, and clinicians the opportunity to exchange the latest information in optometry and vision science in two formats: research paper presentations and scientific or clinical posters. Thanks to the vision and hard work of the Academy leadership, you can get continuing education credit, even in 15-minute increments, by attending both paper and poster sessions.

How can I be a part of the Scientific Program?

You can submit an abstract to the Scientific Program Committee to present a paper or poster at Academy 2013 Seattle during the submission window from May 1 – May 31. Go to http://www.aaopt.org/meetings/academy2013/scientificprogram to learn more about submission categories, get tips on preparing your submission, read submission guidelines, and even listen to a podcast on ways to improve your chances of a successful submission.
Top 10 Reasons to Stay at a Contracted Hotel for Academy 2013 Seattle!

10) The Academy has negotiated competitive rates for the contracted hotels. You’ll be able to enjoy downtown Seattle at the best rates!

9) In order to secure sleeping rooms for the annual meeting, the Academy signs contracts for a minimum number of room nights. If we do not fill our room block, financial penalties will be due to the hotels. This impacts the fiscal health of the Academy.

8) Sleeping room usage helps the Academy secure meeting space for education, committees and section functions. If we don’t use a minimum number of sleeping rooms, our future educational offerings will be limited.

7) Keep up with your home or office while you’re away by staying in one of the hotels’ guest sleeping rooms designed for the business traveler.

6) Take advantage of the networking opportunities – the “fellowship” and camaraderie that we value so much – by staying at a property with many of your colleagues.

5) Use the hotel concierge for great ideas on Seattle sightseeing! It could be your best resource.

4) Get your exercise in the hotel’s gym or fitness center, or explore the immense shopping and dining opportunities near the Washington State Convention Center.

3) Enjoy the liveliness and excitement of the city just outside of your room by staying at our contracted hotels.

2) The Academy’s contracted hotels are in the heart of downtown Seattle. You’ll be just steps away from world-class restaurants, Puget Sound, Pike Place Market, and public transportation. Experience all the culture and history that Seattle offers!

1) The contracted hotels are a very short walking distance away from the Washington State Convention Center!

Hotels for Academy 2013 Seattle

Sheraton Seattle Hotel (Headquarters Hotel)
1400 6th Avenue, Seattle, WA, 98108
Single and Double: $209/night; Triple: $234/night; Quad: $259/night
Highlights: This hotel is within walking distance to the convention center and to many restaurants, entertainment options, and attractions. Some features that this hotel offers include an indoor swimming pool, 24-hour fitness center, and complimentary Internet.

Crowne Plaza Hotel Seattle
1113 6th Avenue, Seattle, WA, 98101
Single and Double: $195/night; Triple: $215/night; Quad: $235/night ($25 rollaway bed charge)
Highlights: This hotel is walking distance to the convention center, and many restaurants, entertainment options, and attractions. This hotel offers a 24-hour fitness center and business center.

Hyatt at Olive 8
1635 8th Avenue, Seattle, WA, 98101
Single and Double: $242/night; Triple: $267/night; Quad: $292/night
Highlights: This hotel is walking distance to the convention center and other downtown Seattle attractions including the Pike Place Market and the Puget Sound. Amenities include a 24-hour fitness center and business center and a complimentary daily newspaper.

Hilton Seattle
1301 6th Avenue, Seattle, WA, 98101
Single and Double: $207/night; Triple: $227/night; Quad: $247/night
Highlights: This hotel is walking distance to the convention center, with views of the Puget Sound. Amenities include a fitness center, business center, and sight-seeing tours.

The Paramount Hotel (Student and Government Hotel)
724 Pine Street, Seattle, WA 98101
Student Rate*: $149 Single and Double; $20 each additional person.
Government Rate**: $137/night
Highlights: This boutique hotel is only one block from the convention center, combining modern amenities with personalized service.

*Meeting attendees must have student ID at check-in to receive the contracted rate.
**Meeting attendees must show government ID at check-in to receive the contracted government rate. Only a limited number of rooms available at this rate.
Embrace the Breath-Taking Beauty of Seattle!

Don't miss the chance to explore the emerald city during Academy 2013 Seattle. Recently named by Travel & Leisure Magazine as one of the top ten favorite cities to visit, Seattle is a dynamic, creative city that has its own unique blend of history, culture, and fun.

Staying in the center of this vibrant city will give you easy access to exciting nightlife, gourmet restaurants, and world-class shopping. Visit classic Seattle attractions like the Pike Place Market and the Space Needle, or immerse yourself in the international flavor of Seattle’s Chinatown. Seattle also boasts gorgeous natural features such as the Puget Sound and Mount Rainier.

Whether you love history, art, shopping, or just a good strong cup of coffee, Seattle has something for everyone!

This session will bring together experts in advanced imaging and clinical researchers to educate clinicians and vision scientists about the rapidly changing field of retinal imaging, with an emphasis on new techniques which provide information targeted towards glaucoma and diabetic changes. Speakers include Ann E. Elsner, PhD, FAAO, Ruikang Wang, PhD, David Huang, MD, PhD, Stacey Choi, PhD, John Flanagan, BsC, PhD, FAAO, and Stephen A. Burns, PhD, FAAO.

Anterior Segment SIG Symposium: “Highlights and Achievements in Ocular Drug Delivery Systems”

This symposium will focus on current and future advancements in ocular drug delivery systems. This discussion will include the impact these technologies will have on the management of various anterior segment conditions. Speakers include Kelly Nichols, OD, PhD, FAAO, Ken Oakland, OD, Scott Hauswirth, OD, FAAO, and Jim Thimons, OD, FAAO.

Anterior Segment SIG Dinner and Seminar: “Management of Complex Anterior Segment Conditions”

This seminar will discuss optometry’s role in the management of complex anterior segment conditions. This rapid fire discussion will include both pharmaceutical and surgical treatment options available and provide tools for proper management. Speakers are David Kading, OD, FAAO, Derek Cunningham, OD, FAAO, Tracy Schwartz, OD, FAAO, and Larry Henry, OD, FAAO.

Binocular Vision, Perception & Pediatric Optometry Section Symposium: “Management of Adult Strabismus: Controversies & Conundrums”

Strabismus treatment is not only for kids! Adult strabismus, whether recent-onset or longstanding, compromises binocular function, can cause diplopia and other symptoms, and is associated with wide-ranging effects on various aspects of patients’ lives, particularly psychosocial functioning. Clinical pearls for non-surgical and surgical management and pre- and post-surgical considerations for patients with adult strabismus will be provided. Speakers are Susan Cotter, OD, MS, FAAO, David Stager Sr., MD, Jonathan M. Holmes, MD, and Richard London, MS, OD, FAAO.

Section on Cornea, Contact Lenses & Refractive Technologies Symposium: “New Frontiers in Corneal Transplantation”

Penetrating keratoplasty (PK) has been the gold standard for the surgical treatment of most corneal pathologies for decades. More recently however, lamellar keratoplasty has evolved as an alternative by virtue of innovations in surgical techniques which have been developed, modified or improved with new instrumentation. This has created a veritable alphabet soup of procedures with which the contact lens and anterior segment specialist must become acquainted. Speakers are Mark Terry, MD, Loretta Szczotka, OD, PhD, FAAO, Louise Sclafani, OD, FAAO, and Victor Perez, MD.

Glaucoma SIG Symposium: “Point-Counter Point: Evidence-Based Decisions in Glaucoma Management”

This symposium will be composed of 3 panelists and 1 moderator, and will discuss glaucoma management decisions via point-counter point analysis with support from the peer reviewed literature in glaucoma. Each panelist will take part in reviewing recent noteworthy clinical studies in glaucoma and utilize this data to discuss management conundrums where the treatment strategy may differ. Panelists include Aaron A. Kuzin, MD, Richard Madonna, OD, FAAO, and Kathy Yang-Williams, OD, FAAO.

Low Vision Section Symposium: “Prosthetic Vision: Where We Are Now and Where We Are Going”

Hundred of thousands of people worldwide suffer from retinal degenerative diseases that have left them with little or no vision. The FDA is currently considering the approval of a retinal prosthesis, making it imperative that optometrists understand this technology to better serve their patients. This symposium will provide the most up to date information about the challenges of working with a degenerating retina for prosthetic vision, the different prosthetic vision projects going on worldwide, rehabilitation of patients with prosthetic vision, and psychological considerations for people who have received or are contemplating implantation of prosthetic vision devices. Speakers include Gislin Dagnelie, PhD, FAAO, Bryan Jones, PhD, Duane Geruschat, PhD, and Frank Lane, PhD.

Ocular Nutrition SIG Symposium: “Conclusions and Controversies: AREDS II and Future Directions to AMD Management”

This session will provide a brief overview of AREDS II conclusions and a review of controversies related to this study. Speakers will include Dennis Ruskin, OD, FAAO, Kimberly Reed, OD, FAAO, Larry Alexander, OD, FAAO, Stuart Richer, OD, PhD, FAAO, and A. Paul Chous, MA, OD, FAAO.

Continued...
Optometric Education Section Symposium: “Blended Learning in Clinical Optometric Procedures Education”
This session will highlight research studies related to blended learning models in education. Speakers are Robert DiMartino, OD, MS, FAAO, Rebecca Kammerer, OD, PhD, FAAO, Denise Goodwin, OD, FAAO and Len Hua, OD, PhD, FAAO.

Primary Care Section Symposium: “Obesity and Eye Care”
During the past 20 years, there has been a dramatic increase in obesity in the United States. More than one-third of U.S. adults (35.7%) and approximately 17% (or 12.5 million) of children and adolescents aged 2—19 years are obese. The medical care costs of obesity in the United States are staggering. In 2008 dollars, these costs totaled approximately $147 billion. This symposium will bring the primary care optometrist up to date on the obesity epidemic as well as what they should do in their practice to intervene. Speakers include Melvin D. Shipp, OD, MPH, FAAO, Kimberly Reed, OD, FAAO, and Gregory S. Wolfe, OD, MPH, FAAO.

Public Health & Environmental Vision Section Symposium: “Integration of Public Health and Primary Care to Improve a Population’s Health”
This session will address issues of why we should explore the integration of population health and primary care, as well as how the integration can be accomplished and the expected outcomes. This session will also highlight the changes that must occur in clinical practice in order to accomplish these changes. Speakers will include Debbie L. Hettler, OD, MPH, FAAO, Andrew M. Archila, OD, MBA, FAAO, Catherine P. Kaminetzky, MD, MPH, Betty Bekemeier, PhD, MPH, RN, and Beth Kneib, OD.

Vision in Aging SIG Symposium, co-sponsored with the Public Health & Environmental Vision Section: “Maintaining Independence through Technology”
Older adults are the fastest growing age group using technology. We all adapt our devices to suit our needs (change font, contrast, brightness, size). Are adaptations for those who are older a continuum of what younger people do naturally or do older people need specific advice in order to use technology to its best advantage in the face of changes to vision, hearing and dexterity? This symposium will describe aging changes that may present barriers to the use of technologies, and how adaptations of the technology itself and optometric intervention can enable continued use of technology which is important to the maintenance of independence. Speakers include George Demeris, PhD, FACMI, Douglas Lane, PhD, ABPP, and Daniel Hubbell Sr.

New Academy Board Member Q & A
Jeffrey Walline, OD, PhD, FAAO

What inspired you to go into optometry?
To be honest, the initial inspiration was the Dodge Daytona (I set my sights high!) that the visiting optometrist drove when I was in high school. However, I believe my inspiration to be an optometrist may have actually begun in second grade when I was an unconvincing malingerer. Did you know that scratching the cornea does not make you nearsighted? I didn’t in second grade. As with most people, it was a visit to the optometrist, Dr. Stanley Cushing, that convinced me I wanted to be an optometrist, even after unsuccessfully trying to insert my own contact lens for over one hour.

How have you been active with the Academy prior to joining the Board of Directors?
I began volunteering for the American Academy of Optometry as the American Optometric Student Association Liaison to the American Academy of Optometry (and I will never have a longer title). However, my first assignment in the Academy volunteer structure was on the Communications Committee. I also served on the Scientific Program Committee and on the Faculty/Student Liaison Committee. I served as Vice Chair of the Scientific Program Committee and as Chair of the Faculty/Student Liaison Committee. I have enjoyed every minute of my volunteer time for the American Academy of Optometry.

How would your optometry students describe you?
I think they would describe me as extremely enthusiastic about optometry, as knowledgeable about pediatrics and contact lenses, and, judging from my student evaluations, as a difficult test-writer. Truly, interacting with students is what makes optometry fun for me. They are passionate, diligent, and intelligent. The future of optometry is strong!

What are you most looking forward to about Academy 2013 Seattle?
Academy 2013 Seattle will be an entirely new experience for me. As a new member of the Board of Directors, I will see the entire meeting from a different perspective. I look forward to the new opportunities and challenges as a member of the Board of Directors. I look forward to potential changes in scientific presentations, ranging from how posters are presented to the timing of scientific lectures. I hope that these new changes make innovative science more accessible to the practitioner, in order to advance our profession quicker and with better scientific evidence. I also look forward to meeting old and new friends, discussing the past and future of our profession, and simply having an exhausting and exhilarating four days.
Merton C. Flom Leadership Insight™ Program

Sponsored by

Under the leadership of Merton Flom, OD, PhD, twenty-eight optometrists representing different segments of the profession met from 1991 to 1994 to consider the rapid changes taking place in optometry. The focus of their discussions was to identify ways to deal with these changes proactively and effectively. Subsequently, the group recommended forming a leadership program. Dr. Flom was not only an outstanding vision scientist, clinician and educator; he was also a visionary with a passion for leadership. With his passing in February 2010, the profession and the Academy lost a giant in optometry. In memory of him and his inspiration to us all, the Academy was proud to name the program in his honor. This year marks the 20th year that Leadership InSight™ courses will be offered at our Annual Meeting.

**FUNDAMENTALS OF LEADERSHIP - PART I:**

What is Leadership?

Instructors:

Rick Weisbarth OD, FAAO
Barbara Caffery, OD, MS, FAAO
Muriel Schornack, OD, FAAO
Ray Pasko, BS, MBA
David Kirschen, OD, PhD, FAAO
Harue Marsden, OD, MS, FAAO
Julie Schornack, OD, MEd, FAAO

**Wednesday, October 23**

8:00 AM - 11:00 AM

$50 Fee (Students $10)

Regardless of position, everyone can benefit from learning about leadership and how to bring about change through leadership. Part I of this course will focus on such topics as definitions of leadership, the differences between leadership and management, traits and characteristics of leadership, and using leadership to influence organizational culture. Part I of this course also discusses individual strengths and different leadership styles. Enrollees will be mailed a workbook of pre-course readings and assignments.

Enrollment is limited to 50 people.

**FUNDAMENTALS OF LEADERSHIP - PART II:**

Putting Leadership into Action

Instructors:

Karla Zadnik, OD, PhD, FAAO
Sally Dillehay, OD, EdD, FAAO
Linda Casser, OD, FAAO
Steven Eyler, OD, FAAO

**Thursday, October 24**

8:00 AM - 11:00 AM

$50 Fee (Students $10)

Building upon the foundation of Part I of this course, Part II will examine the real world aspects of leadership and how to put leadership into action. This course will focus on Kotter’s model of leadership and how to use it to establish a vision, align people to that vision, and motivate them to stay with the vision. The course will also include a discussion of how communication can be used to support leadership efforts. Enrollees will be mailed a workbook of pre-course readings and assignments.

**Note:** Part I of this course is strongly recommended prior to taking Part II. If you have taken the Fundamentals of Leadership Course previously, Part II will also be a valuable refresher on how to actively practice leadership in every day situations.

Enrollment is limited to 50 people.

**INTERMEDIATE LEADERSHIP COURSE: The Secrets of Successful Mentoring**

Instructors:

Bobby Griffin III, MBA
Katie L. Greiner, OD, MS, FAAO
Harue J. Marsden, OD, MS, FAAO
Glenda Secor, OD, FAAO
Jeffrey J. Walline, OD, PhD, FAAO

**Thursday, October 24th**

1:30 PM - 4:30 PM

$75 Fee (Students $20)

Mentoring focuses on the growth and development of future leaders as its outcome. This three hour intermediate course is multifaceted; combining presentations, real life experiences and group discussion sessions. Emphasis will be placed on developing a frame work and model for successful coaching & mentoring, sharing keys to effectively working with and developing a mentee, and maximizing the effectiveness of the mentor / mentee relationship. Best practices of mentors and mentees will be shared. Enrollment is limited. Taking “Fundamentals of Leadership” first is recommended but not required.

Enrollment is limited to 50 people.

We hope to see you at this year’s Leadership InSight™ courses!
The American Academy of Optometry Cowbell

In 2001, Raphael Eschmann, MSc, FAAO and Wolfgang Cagnolati, MSc, FAAO, gave a cow bell to Dr. Robert Newcomb, President of the American Academy of Optometry, during the Academy meeting in Philadelphia. This cow bell is a distinctive original piece that was handmade by a famous cow bell artisan from the region of Berner Oberland, Switzerland. The stamps on the bell are completely unique, making the piece a truly one of a kind gift.

The loud bell first rang at the beginning of dinner in order to encourage members to attend the International Academy Meeting in the Alps held the following year in 2002. Meeting organizers, Raphael Eschmann, Tom Lewis and Wolfgang Cagnolati promoted a range of activities from skiing in the Alps to golfing in Interlaken. International Academy meetings occurred every two years from 1992 to 2004, ranging in locations from England to Australia to Spain.

The cowbell now rests prominently in a display case in the Academy office with a descriptive plaque—a nostalgic reminder of the International Academy Meeting in the Alps and the Fellows from whom it came.

“The event still is in all our minds and memorized as one of THE events where colleagues of different countries could meet and communicate in many ways, many friendships were established and still are being cultivated.”

Raphael Eschmann, MSc, FAAO

History of the American Academy of Optometry: 1987-2010

The Academy is pleased to announce the launch of its most recent book, The History of the American Academy of Optometry: 1987-2010, written by Drs. Robert Newcomb and Mark Eger. Dr. Newcomb writes, “The American Academy of Optometry is a very special and unique organization to me; and I hope those who read its recent history, and learn of its traditions, will feel the same sense of belonging to it that I have.” The book can be purchased for $25 with proceeds benefiting the American Optometric Foundation. Please email Betty Rodriguez at BettyR@aaoptom.org for more information on ordering.

“As I was researching the Academy’s rich history of facts and stories between the years of 1987 and 2010, I realized I had the unique opportunity to introduce a new generation of Academy Fellows to some of optometry’s greatest leaders.

I also wanted to document for posterity the locations and highlights of our annual meetings, as well as compile a comprehensive list of all our distinguished award recipients.

Finally, I wanted the reader to understand how our venerable organization has prepared itself to maintain its preeminent position in continuing optometric and vision science education for the 21st century.

Robert D. Newcomb, OD, MPH, FAAO
Recognition for Best Scientific Poster & Paper Presentations of 2012

In 2012, the American Academy of Optometry first recognized selected scientific posters and oral paper presentations by awarding one prize for the best presentation of the meeting in each category. This competition included all Scientific Program session presentations from senior scientists as well as students and residents. Members of the Scientific Program Committee initially selected candidates for these awards from more than 600 scientific abstract submissions received. Candidate submissions were selected based upon novelty, scientific merit, and quality of writing. Final selections were then made by the Committee based upon the quality of the presentation at the annual meeting. The winners won complimentary registration for Academy 2013 Seattle.

2012 Best Scientific Paper

The paper recognition was presented to Dr. Alan Ng of the University of Waterloo (Co-Authors: Miriam Heynen, Dr. Lakshman Subbaraman, and Dr. Lyndon Jones) for his work entitled: Optimization of a novel fluorescent based lysozyme activity assay for contact lens studies.

“It is a great privilege to receive this prestigious recognition from the American Academy of Optometry. I would like to truly thank the co-authors of this scientific paper, as well as the Academy for recognizing our work.”

Dr. Alan Ng

2012 Best Scientific Poster

This year’s inaugural poster recognition was presented to Dr. Nicole Carnt of Moorfields Eye Hospital (Co-authors: Dr. Mark Wilcox, Dr. Fiona Stapleton, John Dart) for her scientific poster presentation titled: Association of SNPs of IL-17 with susceptibility and severity of contact lens keratitis.

“Presenting a poster at the Academy gave me the opportunity to discuss my research with a wide range of professionals, from optometrists thinking about how it may impact practice to scientists not currently working in the area but with experience and suggestions from previous work. It was a great surprise to be recognized for the best scientific poster award in its inaugural year. I thank the Academy for this honor and great initiative.”

Dr. Nicole Carnt

Maintenance of Fellowship

The Maintenance of Fellowship (MOF) bylaws amendment was passed at the Academy’s 2009 annual meeting in Orlando. This amendment states that any Fellows inducted on or after November 2010 must meet the MOF requirements every 10 years in order to maintain Fellowship in the Academy. This initiative was designed to ensure that all Fellows remain dedicated to professional growth and to supporting the Academy. Read on for answers to MOF frequently asked questions.

What are the requirements?
Each Fellow is required to obtain 15 points during each 10 year period after Fellowship is earned. Points can be earned in a variety of ways including attending the Academy’s annual meeting (3 points), attending CE at the Academy’s meeting (1 point/2 hours of CE), or authoring an article in one of the peer reviewed journals approved by the Academy (up to 4 points). A full explanation of the points can be found on the MOF homepage.

How can I view my MOF progress?
You can view a detailed record of your progress on the Academy’s website at www.aaopt.org. Login by clicking the link in the upper left-hand corner. Select “My MOF” from the left-hand profile menu. This application allows you to view current point totals and to upload authorship information for points. All Academy related points such as meeting attendance, CE attendance and poster/paper presentations will be automatically uploaded to the system.

Why should I participate if it is not required of me?
It shows a commitment on your part to stay current and active in the Academy structure. Many Fellows will earn the necessary points for MOF just by continuing their annual meeting attendance. The MOF program provides additional encouragement and recognition for those who support Academy functions and strive for a lifetime of learning.

For more information about MOF, please view the MOF webpage at http://www.aaopt.org/fellows/mof.
Student Fellowship at Academy 2013 Seattle

Begin your career in the optometric field before you even graduate!

The Academy launched the Student Fellowship program in 2011 to encourage students to experience the entire annual meeting, hoping that it will stimulate improved integration of all of the opportunities offered at the meeting, encourage future involvement, and persuade students to become Fellows upon graduation. Since 2011, the Academy has inducted over 400 new Student Fellows.

The Student Fellowship program is a great opportunity for students to engage in cutting edge knowledge and technology through lectures, workshops, posters and much more! The program is designed to guide students to develop their skills as an optometric or vision science professional.

The entire process of becoming a Student Fellow happens at the Academy’s annual meeting. Students must be Student Members of the Academy in order to participate, and must attend an orientation breakfast meeting. Please note that all requirements must be completed prior to graduation from optometry school. Upon completion, students will receive a Student Fellow lapel pin, Candidacy for Fellowship application dues waived during the year of graduation and free student registration to the next Academy meeting.

PLEASE NOTE: Obtaining Student Fellowship status does not give a student any points or credentials that can be used toward Fellowship in the American Academy of Optometry (FAAO).

For more information on the requirements or to sign up to participate, please visit http://www.aaopt.org/students/fellowship.

New! Academy Blog

Missed a previous President’s Calling? You can now view an archive of past President’s Callings on the Academy’s blog site at http://americanacademyofoptometry.blogspot.com.

Check back often for new content and to leave comments!

Join Our Social Media Network

www.facebook.com/AAOPT
Stay connected with your colleagues and receive up to date Academy information.

www.twitter.com/aaopt
Don’t forget to use the official Academy 2013 Seattle hashtag #aaoptom13

www.linkedin.com
Search for “American Academy of Optometry” in the Groups section.

www.youtube.com/AmerAcadofOptometry
Watch videos about all of the exciting upcoming events at Academy 2013 Seattle!
Clinical Pearls from the 2012 Academy Scavenger Hunt

Clinical Pearl #1: For optic nerve evaluations, you must determine if abnormalities are congenital or acquired.

NECO Team
(from the Optic Nerve Jeopardy lecture)

Clinical Pearl #2: The history is the most important part of the exam.

SCO Team

Clinical Pearl #3: When looking at the fundus make sure to use the red free filter!

ICO Team

Clinical Pearl #4: AMD treatments are aimed at the compliment cascade.

UMSL Team

Student Travel Fellowships for Academy 2013 Seattle

The Academy wants to help defray travel costs for students and residents attending Academy 2013 Seattle as accepted paper/poster presenters. Academy meetings are not only a fantastic opportunity for students to learn about cutting edge research and technologies from optometry’s best, but also a chance to network with peers and stalwarts in optometry!

The Academy will provide a number of $750 travel fellowships to students and residents to attend this year’s meeting. Only applicants with an accepted abstract to the annual meeting will be considered for a student travel fellowship, so be sure to submit your abstract between May 1 and May 31 on the Academy’s website. Travel fellowships are awarded based on accomplishments and potential in optometric research and education. Other criteria used by the reviewers include the applicant’s one page statement, the faculty evaluation, and the quality of the abstract. Each student may only be the recipient of one travel fellowship per meeting.

Please check the Academy’s website at www.aaopt.org for more information!
Chapter News

California Chapter

The California Chapter sponsored two hotel rooms for each California-based optometry school at Academy 2012 Phoenix. The chapter has also been busy encouraging chapter participation through its annual membership drive, e-newsletters and a poster at Academy 2012 Phoenix. For more information about the California chapter, contact Chapter President Dr. Raymond Chu at rchu@seco.edu.

Florida Chapter

The Florida Chapter is hosting its 2013 Educational Meeting at the Mission Inn in Howey-in-the-Hills, Florida on April 19-20, 2013. Featured speakers include Carlo Pelino, OD, FAAO, Albert Woods, OD, FAAO, and John McClane, OD, FAAO. There will be 10 hours of COPE approved courses, including 6 hours of CEE or TQ hours. For more information, contact Dr. Arthur Young at eyeguy4123@msn.com.

Illinois Chapter

The annual business meeting of the Illinois Chapter, held at Academy 2012 Phoenix, included the election of new officers as well as a presentation of student travel grants to two students from the Illinois College of Optometry. The chapter held its biannual Rosenbloom Rounds in January. At this event, the topic of sports vision was presented through the eyes of a private practitioner, a consultant for DePaul University, AAU Jr Olympics and other organizations, a private practitioner who works with vision therapy in patients with sports vision needs, and a clinical researcher studying concussion and its effects on the visual system. The chapter offered continuing education credits for the first time and tripled attendance from previous events. Another presentation of Rosenbloom Rounds is scheduled in April with two credits of continuing education being offered. The chapter invites all Illinois Fellows to attend!

New York Chapter

The New York Chapter is planning a 100 year anniversary party for its members in good standing and their spouses/guests in June of 2013. The New York Chapter will honor the support its members have shown through many difficult and financially stressful years. For more information, contact Dr. Jerome Martin Garber at Dorthok@aol.com.

North Carolina Chapter

The North Carolina Chapter had its year end meeting on December 8, 2012 at the Hawthorne Inn and Conference Center in Winston-Salem. Members enjoyed two hours of continuing education entitled “Dermatology and Current Concepts in Ocular Disease.” The lecture series featured Dr. Erica Kelly, MMS, PA-C, who spoke on clinical pearls in the management of skin lesions, Jarett Mazzarella, OD, FAAO who lectured on OCT and glaucoma management, and Dr. Justin Cole, who spoke on new ophthalmic medications. The chapter’s next meeting will be April 18, 2013 at the Salisbury VA and will include 3 hours of CE featuring Salisbury VA and Ft. Bragg resident case presentations. Please contact Eddie Chu at Edward.Chu@va.gov with any questions about the organization or join the North Carolina Chapter on Facebook.

New Jersey Chapter

The New Jersey Chapter will host its first continuing education event of 2013 on March 20th. Dr. Mitchell W. Dul, a professor in the Department of Biologic and Vision Science at SUNY, will present an oral CE course titled “Prescribing Oral Therapeutics in Today’s Optometric Practices.” During the same meeting, the New Jersey chapter will also make its annual scholarship donation of $10,000 to SUNY. Continuing its goal of strengthening partnerships with local academic institutions and growing student involvement, the New Jersey Chapter sponsored the inaugural meeting for SUNY Student Academy Chapter February 6th. In addition, the Chapter has been nominated for the Public Service award, which is awarded to the organization that has made significant contributions to both the optometric profession and Salus University.

University of Alabama School of Optometry Student Chapter

The University of Alabama School Of Optometry will host an Academy student chapter fundraiser/CE event on April 25, 2013 from 6:30-8:30 PM at the school. The event will help fund student travel grants to attend Academy 2013 Seattle. The topic of the night is titled, “Rapid Fire: Current Topics in Eye Care.” In rapid fire format, late-breaking trends, treatments, and technologies in eye care will be highlighted. UAB faculty members, who are also Academy Fellows, will be the featured speakers. The event will be worth 2 CE hours. The students are greatly appreciative to the faculty members and staff who are giving up their time to support this cause, and they look forward to greeting everyone who attends the event.
New! Academy Chapters Speakers Bureau

The Section on Cornea, Contact Lenses and Refractive Technologies (CCLRT) has secured funding to 1) allow Academy chapters to supplement their CE courses with presentations by Diplomate speakers on a variety of cornea, contact lens and refractive technology related topics and 2) allow faculty at schools and colleges in the U.S., Canada and Puerto Rico to supplement their curriculums with presentations by Academy Diplomate speakers on a variety of cornea, contact lens and refractive technology related topics.

Alcon (formerly through CIBA Vision) has funded the faculty program for many years. The Chapter program is new, courtesy of VISTAKON®. Chapters or schools interested in participating must submit a funding request at least one month prior to the event to the Speakers Bureau Chair, Dr. Karen K. Yeung at impyeyes99@yahoo.com.

Thank You to Our Corporate Sponsors

The American Academy of Optometry and the American Optometric Foundation thank their generous corporate partners for their support of 2012 activities.

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Fellows Celebrate Anniversary Milestones

Class of 1963, 50 Years!

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Dr. Samuel Arbital of Hicksville, NY
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Dr. Alan Robertson of Florence, OR

Dr. Ralph Gundel of Little Neck, NY
Dr. Gunilla Haegerstrom-Portnoy of Berkeley, CA
Dr. James Hall of Malvern, PA
Dr. Peggy Hart of Houston, TX
Dr. Jon Hayashida of Cerritos, CA
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The American Optometric Foundation would like to thank our sponsors, donors, awardees and volunteers for making Academy Phoenix another huge success. The meeting resulted in over $177,000 in generous donations and pledges.

Approximately 270 supporters attended the Foundation Celebration Luncheon and Silent Auction that featured several Irvin M. Borish paintings. Donors bid over $10,000 to help fund AOF programs. In addition, thirteen new individuals and couples joined the Presidents Circle by making pledges or donations of $10,000. The Presidents Circle now has 100 total members!

Optometry Gives Big in Phoenix!

The American Optometric Foundation (AOF), in collaboration with the Frederic and Marion Rosemore Family Foundation, announce the 2013 recipients of the Frederic Rosemore Low Vision Educational Grants. Two $2,000 grants were awarded to outstanding optometry faculty through their respective institutions for projects intended to increase interest and reward excellence in the field of low vision at North American schools and colleges of optometry. The grants are designed to enable institutions to provide care, support personnel, student education, or provide equipment directly related to the field of low vision.

The 2013 Rosemore Low Vision Educational Grant recipients and their projects are:

**Sarah Hinkley, BS, OD, FCOVD**
Michigan College of Optometry at Ferris State University
*Interprofessional Collaboration in Vision Rehabilitation for Student Education and Patient Care*

**Marsha S. Snow, OD**
University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Optometry
*A High-Tech Visual Impairment Demonstration Class for Optometry Residents and Students*

Recipients will be recognized at the AOF Celebration Luncheon during the American Academy of Optometry’s Annual Meeting to be held in Seattle, Washington, Saturday, October 26th.

Rosemore Low Vision Grants Awarded
Goss Family Makes Pledge to Endow Optometry History Fellowship

Former William C. Ezell Fellow, David A. Goss, OD, PhD, FAAO, (Indiana University School of Optometry) and his wife Diane have made a significant pledge to the AOF to help endow a research fellowship, the David and Diane Goss Optometry History Fellowship.

Upon reaching the fundraising goal, the Fellowship will provide $1,000, on a biennial basis, to support one researcher or student to visit a library, archives, or museum to conduct research with a goal toward publication in Hindsight, the Optometric Historical Society’s quarterly publication.

Details and guidelines will be posted on our website as they become available. You can help reach the fundraising goal. Visit the AOF website today and make a donation at: www.aaopt.org/AOF/Donate.

Like the AOF’s Page on Facebook!

Like the AOF’s page on Facebook to connect with your colleagues and to receive important updates related to AOF’s programs!

Like the page today at www.facebook.com/AmericanOptometricFoundation

Focus on the Future

The AOF has launched a new website feature called, “FOCUS ON THE FUTURE Past Ezells; Where Are They Now?” at www.aaopt.org/AOF/donate/ezell.

Each month we will highlight the achievements and career choices made by former William C. Ezell Fellows that led to their success.

This month read about Anthony Adams, OD, PhD, FAAO, and how the foundation helped launch a career.
Dumbleton Steps Up to AOF Presidency

Kathy Dumbleton, MSc, MCOptom, FAAO, was unanimously chosen by the AOF Board of Directors during Academy 2012 Phoenix to lead the foundation over the next two years.

Kathy graduated in optometry from the University of Wales. She completed a pre-registration year at Moorfields Eye Hospital in London and received Master of Science degree in Vision Science from the University of Waterloo, Canada. She is head of Clinical Logistics at the Centre for Contact Lens Research and an Adjunct Associate Professor at the University of Waterloo. She is a Fellow of the British Contact Lens Association, a Diplomate of the Cornea, Contact Lens & Refractive Technologies Section of the American Academy of Optometry, and a council member of the International Society for Contact Lens Research.

Kathy looks forward to the challenge and recently reflected that “The American Optometric Foundation is proud to be the Academy’s Foundation, your Foundation. We will continue to take great pride in its growth and the successes of the exceptional individuals that we have supported.”

You Asked and We Listened!

Several donors ask the AOF to make giving easier. We listened! Check out the new online donation module on the AOF website: www.aaopt.org/AOF/Donate. Read about the great projects that AOF administers.

To make a donation just click on the Donate button next to the fund of your choice and you will be taken to the secure donation site. Fill in your donation information. If you are an Academy member, you can even log in with your Academy membership ID and the system will auto fill your contact information. You can even designate if your donation is in remembrance of a special person, honor someone for an accomplishment, or notify pledge processing that you are making a pledge payment by using the email feature at the top.
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