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SEE BRILLIANTLY
That’s a Wrap!

Academy 2020 At Home Highlights

Thank you to all who attended the American Academy of Optometry’s first virtual annual meeting, October 7-22, 2020! 6,472 attendees from 55 countries around the world joined us virtually for over 300 hours of CE with the opportunity to earn over 80 COPE approved CE credits. Attendance included 1,853 students and residents and over 2,700 first time Academy meeting attendees.

Academy 2020 At Home launched with the Plenary Session: Today’s Research, Tomorrow’s Practice: A New Look at Some Old Medical Guidelines. Drs. Mark Glazer, Lianne Gensler, and Louis Philipson presented updates in standards of care, diagnostic standards, and targets which optometrists and vision scientists can use to provide the best patient care.

Those with interests in research attended the Ezell Fellows Presents on Advances in Clinical Imaging that included three Ezell Fellowship recipients, Drs. Danielle Robertson, Suresh Viswanathan and William Tuten. They also enjoyed the Hirsch Symposium on topics that seem futuristic, but are actually here and now: the impact of space travel on the visual system, the use of technology in autonomous driving, and socially assistive robotics.

Scientists attending the paper sessions at this year’s meeting would have been very surprised by the size of the audience! Twelve paper sessions within a variety of topics presented the very latest in research on optometric practice patterns and service delivery to mechanisms of myopia.

A major highlight of Academy 2020 At Home
was the ASCO, NOA and AAO cosponsored symposium on diversity, equity and inclusion, the first of its kind, but definitely not the last. Three expert speakers spoke about the issues of diversity in optometry, as well as other medical fields, and offered strategies for working toward a more diverse, culturally sensitive, and inclusive profession.

Both the new Academy Classroom Exchange (ACE) courses and the Grand Rounds sessions were a feature of the Academy 2020 At Home meeting. ACE courses were designed to be smaller and more interactive at the face-to-face annual meeting, but instead were a very intimate group on Zoom. Grand Rounds presenters were put to the challenge of presenting live on Zoom as well, and these were extremely well-attended.

We’re excited to share that the Best of Academy At Home “Florida Edition” will be available January 8-10, 2021! By special mandate, Florida ODs can meet their CE requirements through live in-person OR virtual live interactive online formats between December 1, 2020 and February 28, 2021.

Continuing education courses required by the Florida Board of Optometry will be included in the 22 hours of COPE and CE Broker approved education offered. The full education schedule can be found on our Upcoming Education Events page.

Reserve your spot today!
- Fellows/Members: $149
- Non-Members: $199

Please note: According to the Florida mandate, these educational sessions will be broadcast live, with the speaker presenting live. It is important to note that in order to receive the credit hours, it is required that you attend and view the sessions live when they are aired at the appointed time, with your camera live streaming your attendance.

Florida Edition Meeting:
www.aaopt.org/annual-meeting/upcoming-education-events
## Congratulations to the 2020 New Diplomates!

**Anterior Segment Section**

- Zanna Kruoch, OD, FAAO

**Low Vision Section**

“Becoming a Low Vision Diplomate has been a lifelong professional goal for me. I consider this the highest honor one can get in the field of low vision and I am thankful for my mentor that helped me through the process. This is the quintessential glass ceiling for me and to break that has been extremely rewarding both professionally and personally.”

- Bhavani R. Iyer, OD, FAAO

**Section on Cornea, Contact Lenses & Refractive Technologies**

- John Gialousakis, OD, FAAO
- Rajeswari Mahadevan, PhD, FAAO (posthumous)
- Kenneth E. Maller, OD, FAAO, FSLS

**Public Health & Environmental Vision Section**

- Jacqueline Yvette Goings Davis, OD, MPH, FAAO
- Diane Russo, OD, MPH, FAAO
- Susy Yu, OD, MBA, FAAO

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Congratulations to the 264 New Fellows who completed their Candidate for Fellowship oral exams virtually during Academy 2020 At Home!

Reza Abbas Farishta
Layelle Abi-Rached
Obinna Akano
Christopher Albright
Waleed Alghamdi
Ashley Allee
Okechi Amaechi
Obed Amoah-Smith
Jonathan Andrews
Laura Armitage
Angela Arvanitogiannis
Paymaun Asnaashari
Enowntai Nkongho Ayukotang
Donald Baker
Alaina Bandstra
Chad Bechtle
David Beckett
Nicholas Bem
Jacqueline Benoit
Graham Berg
Monica Bhatt
Ana Bonaldi
Chelsea Bradley
Brittney Brady
Simran Brar
Kathryn Brogan
Paul Brown
Joan Browne
Olivia Bruno
Franklin Bui
Allegra Burgher
Margaret Burton
Courtney Cape
Efrain Castellanos
Laura Lai Ming Chan
Yangdi Chen
Emily Cheng
 Ngozi Chidi-Egboka
Cheuk Hang, Patrick Chiu
Allison Choi
Abbot Clark
Allison Coll
Sydney Cooper
Morgan Cornelius
Christian Corzo
Jacquelyn Cosgrove
Maria Coward
Randy Cox
Alexandra Cross
Maciel Cruz
Bradley Daniel
Ananya Datta
Elizabeth Davis
Natalie DeCook
Nathan Dederman
Jordan DeMarco
Alicia Donahue
Kyra Dorgeloh
Sarah Driscoll
Pritam Dutta
Jennifer Elder
Nicole Ethridge
Daddi Fadel
Raha Fahimi
Elizabeth Fahy
Sahba Fakhra
Nicholas Flebotte
Shenita Freeney
Timothy Fries
Mari Fujimoto
Adam Garcia-Manfredi
Timothy Gawne
Bruce Gaynes
Stephanie Gee
Matthew Geiger
Michael Gerstner
Rachel Gilles
Michael Goering
Abigail Gonsalves
Kristin Goodling
Daniel Greathouse
Janet Harawa
Marc Harrie
Beth Healy
Carissa Hintz
Kathleen Hoang
Michelle Hoff
Kathryn Hohs
Justin Holbrook
Katalin Hotsenpiller
Renee Houser
Judy Hu
Amber Huleva
Carrie Hvezda
Mila lousisfova
Fatima Iqbal
Elysia Ison
Anita Jacob George
Bradley Jansen
Jessica Jasien
Katherine Johns
Jacqueline Anne Julio
Konstantina Kalas
Aleen Kaltakdjian
Ugochi Kalu
Min Kyung Kang
Vasantha Kanukuntla
Isabel Kazemi
Lucy Kehinde
Michael Kelleman
Erica Keller
Caitlin Kelly
Ryan Kern
Zahraa Khan

“I see becoming a Fellow as the next step in distinguishing myself as an optometrist. Fellowship creates the opportunity to enhance knowledge, provide optimal patient care, and strive for excellence and progress in the field.”

Morgan Cornelius
Lindsay Kleinschmit
Thomas Kolodge
James Komornik
Brian Koning
Jennifer Krech
Bryce Krehbiel
Arun Kumar Krishnan
Irina Krupin
Shelby Kruse
Kim Krusell
Jordan Kuipers
Stephanie Kwan
Katherine Lai
Thanh Le
Kevin Leahy
Juna Lee
Meagan LeGrand
Valerie Lim
Josephine Lin
Luke Lirones
Michelle Lising
Chia-Yang Liu
Jia Yu Liu
Kelly Liu
Shelly Lomax
Alanna Louie
Alyssa Louie
Christopher Lowe
Kim Ly
Jasmine Lynn
Miriam Madry
Pooja Mahadev
Frank Mai
Sato Mananian
Kailey Marshall
Scott Martinson
Brooke Mathie
Danielle Mayne
Mark McKenzie
Noah Merhar
Kevin Messier
Lindsay Michaud
Michelle Marie Mijares
Shundale Mixon
Amir Moezzi
Natalya Mokhor
Nancy Molinar-Arguello
Nathan Morrow
Rachel Muesnel
Alex Müntz
Samantha Myers
Elizabeth Nace
Rajkumar Nallour Raveendran
Ghazal Naseri
Linh Nguyen
Mylan Nguyen
Ryan Nguyen
Lauren Nicholas
Marisa O'Brien
Craig O'Dell
Justine O'Dell
Tara O'Rourke
Karachi Onwu
Matthew Orgill
Allison Orr
Eugene Osae
Enrique Palacios
Puja Parekh
Amy Parsley
Jami Parsons Malloy
Manali Patel
Sonali Patel
Adam Peiffer
Alexis Pelowski
Cody Peterson
Logan Powers
Ellen Prewitt
Ivan Prpic
Sarah Quan
Tanya Rana
Paige Reasor
Kelly Reed
Kristin Reed
Caitlyn Reynolds
Dana Rhea
Olivia Ricci
Brittany Rigdon
Jennifer Risting
Ben Roach
James Rogala
Lindsay Sallecchia
Carly Salomon
Lovelee Sayomac
David Schaeffer
Michael Scheidt
Christopher Sek
Brittany Setzer
Gauri Shrestha
Kimberly Skyles
Keith Slayden
Ryan Socwell
Timothy Soh
Kaitlin Spikes
Stephanie Stanley
Emily Stephey
Kelsey Sterk
Abigail Strauss
Alice Sui
Jessica Sun
Laila Tawfik
Katherine Thomas
Jessica Thornton
Katherine Tkach
Ashley Toland
Melinda Toomey
Mhing Tran
Sarah Truman
Tiffany Truong
Senija Turan
Jennifer Turano

“I chose to become a Fellow because I desire to continue to grow. The prestige of this organization stands for continued growth and education, pushing the limits of optometry. I wish to be at the forefront of that growth, continually challenged and always learning.”

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Keith Slayden

Renu Tyagaraj
Wesley Uwangue
Lisa Van
Stefanie Varghese
Ajay Kumar Vijay
An Vo
Aleice Vujnovich
Sandra Wagner
Lenna Walker
Karen Walsh
Adam Walter
Yiyi Wang
Christine Watson
Joe Wheat
Heather Whyte DeMarco
Jana Widell
Sarah Williams
Skylar Williams
Corinne Wong
Jennifer Wong
Samatha Wong
Zhichao Wu
Mike Yang
Danica Yang
Chang Yaramothu
Fiona Yuan
Jessica Yuen
Evelyn Zhang
Wendy Zhen
Larae Zimprich

“Becoming a Fellow is an honor. It is exciting to join a group of exceptional individuals who together uphold the high standards of optometric care.”

-------------------- Mike Yang

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New Academy Board Member

Get to know our newest Academy Board Member, Dr. Chris Wilmer!

Chris S. Wilmer, OD, FAAO

Dr. Chris Wilmer attended the University of California Santa Cruz and the University of California Berkeley School of Optometry. She completed a residency program in Primary Care Optometry at the San Francisco VA Medical Center. She is currently the Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs and a Health Sciences Clinical Professor at the UC Berkeley School of Optometry. She has been involved in residency education throughout her academic career as the Chief Mentor of the Primary Care and Contact Lens residency program and currently serves as the Director of Affiliate Residency Programs. Dr. Wilmer lectures locally, regionally, and nationally on a number of topics. She has been involved with section leadership within the AAO and has previously served as the Chair of the Anterior Segment Section and she most recently served as the Diplomate Written Exam Chair. She has been involved in the National Board of Examiners Part I Committee and Council for many years and currently is a member of the Part Ill Exam Development Committee.
The American Academy of Optometry Foundation is pleased to welcome two new board members, Drs. A. Mika Moy and Suresh Viswanathan.

A. Mika Moy, OD, FAAO
Dr. Mika Moy graduated from UC Berkeley School of Optometry and completed a residency in Pediatrics and Cornea/Contact Lenses there. She is a Health Sciences Clinical Professor at Berkeley Optometry where she teaches the Anterior Segment Disease course and is a clinical instructor as well as a mentor for the Primary Care and Pediatric residents. Her clinical interests include anterior segment disease, pediatrics, and neuro-optometry and she is a frequent lecturer nationally and internationally. She serves as a Remote Examiner for the National Board of Examiners in Optometry and as a Senior Consultant for the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education. She is a Diplomate and current Chair of the Anterior Segment Section and was presented the California Optometric Association Excellence in Optometric Education Award. In her spare time, she enjoys cooking, embroidery, and breaking out of escape rooms with her husband and teenage children.

Suresh Viswanathan, MS, PhD, FAAO
Dr. Suresh Viswanthan is currently the Chair of the Department of Biological and Vision Science at the State University of New York College of Optometry where he also serves as the Director of Institutional Research. He earned his Optometry degree from India and subsequently an MS degree from Pacific University and a PhD in Vision Science from the University of Houston. Prior to his move to New York, Dr. Viswanthan was a faculty member at the Indiana University School of Optometry. Currently Dr. Viswanathan serves as the chair of the research pillar of the Academy’s Strategic Plan Implementation Committee and as the Academy’s representative on the National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research professional society member council. Previously he has served as the Chair of the Academy’s Scientific Program Committee, Vision Science SIG, and as a member of the Academy’s Awards and Admittance Committees. As a graduate student, Dr. Viswanathan was awarded the Ezell fellowship for three consecutive years. He became a fellow for the American Academy of Optometry in 2000 and is an ardent supporter of AAOF.
This year the Academy welcomed 104 exhibitors to our virtual exhibit hall, sharing over 250 products, 100 videos and nearly 50 press releases. Exhibitors and attendees exchanged over 330 emails over the course of the meeting and nearly 40 appointments were conducted. The virtual exhibit hall had 8,391 unique ebooths visits.

Academy 2020 At Home was generously supported by 27 industry partners who collectively sponsored Industry Innovation and Vision Theater sessions, entertainment, special events, student and resident initiatives, and much more!

Thank You to Our Industry Partners!

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