NEWS FOR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OPHTHALMOLOGY AND VISUAL SCIENCES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

FALL 2012 VOLUME 5 ISSUE 2

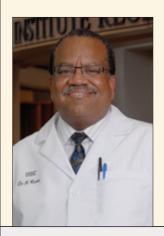
Welcome to the new look of *lowa Vision*. our department's news publication! We hope you enjoy the new layout as well as the stories, images, and updates. There is a great deal happening that we would like you to know about.

Let us know what you think. Email us at iowaeyecare@uiowa.edu. We look forward to hearing from you!

Freit Carta

KEITH M. CARTER, MD Professor and Head

Lillian C. O'Brien and Dr. C.S. O'Brien Chair in Ophthalmology



Preserving vision and providing hope

Pediatric eye care part of a comprehensive network of children's medical care

When Suzie Moorman was born she wasn't given much of a chance to live. Born with a buildup of fluid inside the skull that leads to brain swelling (severe hydrocephalus) and a rare congenital brain disorder (alobar holoprosencephaly) in which the forebrain fails to completely separate the two hemispheres, Suzie faced long odds. The holoprosencephaly can cause serious defects in the development of the face and in brain structure and function.

Suzie's parents, Heather and Mark Moorman, were in shock from the diagnosis and instructed to place their newborn daughter in hospice care, which they reluctantly did. They also were told that Suzie would have significant hearing and vision problems if she were to survive.

Undaunted by the prognosis and wanting to improve the quality of their daughter's young life, the Moormans decided to seek another opinion at the University of Iowa Children's Hospital where Suzie was evaluated by a team of physicians and medical professionals and at 2 months old received a life-saving shunt in her brain for the hydrocephalus. Since then numerous specialists, including several doctors from the UI Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, have taken over care of the now 8 year old Suzie.

Pediatric ophthalmologists at the UI Children's Hospital first evaluated Suzie at 15 months old. They felt her case was unusual but something that could be improved through proper attention and careful follow-up. Suzie was seen by pediatric ophthalmology and strabismus doctors, as well as doctors in



"When Suzie was born, the first doctors thought she would never see. The University of Iowa eve clinic was just one of several clinics that instilled hope in my husband and I when we had very little."

HEATHER MOORMAN

"Providing hope" continues on page 6



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IOWA VISION PATIENT CARE & CLINICAL UPDATES

Familiar face rejoins Vitreoretinal Service



Karen M. Gehrs, MD, returns to the Midwest and our Vitreoretinal Service as an associate professor of clinical ophthalmology after a stint in private practice in Florida. She specializes in the treatment of age-related macular degeneration (AMD), diabetic retinopathy, uveitis, macular holes, and other

vitreomacular traction disorders. Her research interests include the development of genetic testing for AMD. Dr. Gehrs will see patients at the new University of Iowa Health Care – Iowa River Landing facility in Coralville, Iowa.

Carver College of Medicine welcomes new dean



The University of Iowa Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine has new leadership. **Debra A. Schwinn, MD**, will be the next dean of the College of Medicine. Dr. Schwinn was professor and chair of the Department of Anesthesiology and Pain Medicine, the Allan J. Treuer Endowed Professor of Anesthesiology, and adjunct

professor of Pharmacology and Genome Sciences at the University of Washington in Seattle. Her appointment is effective Nov. 1, 2012, pending approval by the Iowa Board of Regents.

Dr. Schwinn succeeds Paul B. Rothman, MD, who was appointed dean of the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine and CEO of Johns Hopkins Medicine.

Now scheduling at Iowa River Landing



University of Iowa Health Care now offers the same world-class care in a new, convenient setting. Opened Oct. 8, 2012, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics-Iowa River Landing offers primary and specialty care, including ophthalmology, in Coralville.

Find out more at 319-467-2000 or www.uihealthcare.org/irl

New cornea surgeon joins the department



There is a new physician on our Cornea, External Disease and Refractive Surgery Service. **Mark A. Greiner, MD**, joins the department as an assistant professor of ophthalmology. Dr. Greiner completed his medical school and residency training at the University of California at Davis School of Medicine. He comes from Portland, Ore.

where he recently completed a clinical fellowship in Cornea and External Disease at Devers Eye Institute under renowned corneal surgeon, Dr. Mark Terry.

Dr. Greiner specializes in corneal transplantation, endothelial and lamellar keratoplasty, and keratoprosthesis. His research interests include new surgical techniques and outcomes involving Descemet membrane endothelial keratoplasty, Descemet stripping automatic endothelial keratoplasty, and keratoprosthesis.

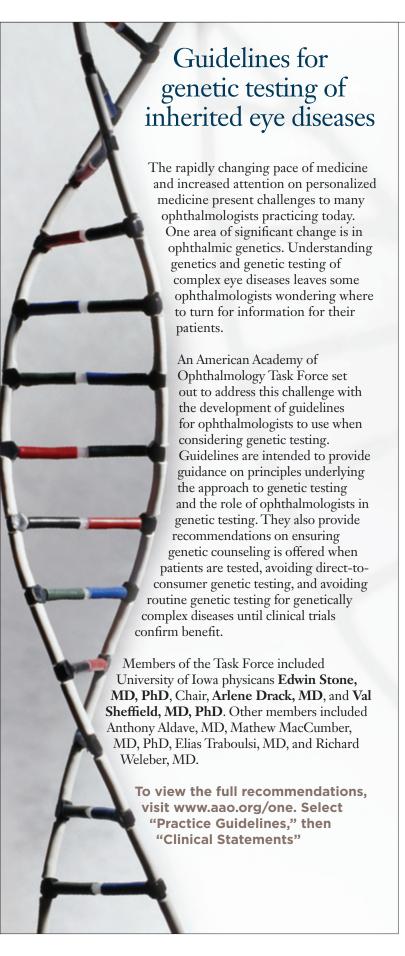


New orthoptist

Our Pediatric Ophthalmology and Adult Strabismus Service experienced a changing of the guard. Orthoptist **Amy Ellis-Iverson, CO** (right), left the department for a new opportunity in Sydney, Australia. In her place, **Megan Campell, COT** (left), joins us from Tennessee where she completed orthoptic training at the Vanderbilt Eye Institute.

U.S.News & World Report's best hospital rankings for 2012-13 places the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics among the best in country. Ranked at #6 nationally, Iowa's eye program is the best in the Midwest.





Photographing eye disease

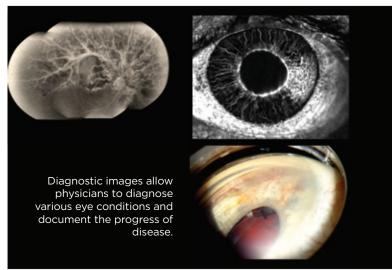
Providing the finest eye care requires a team of physicians, nurses, technicians, and other professionals who can deliver a comprehensive set of services. One service that benefits patient care is the Ophthalmic Diagnostic Imaging Service. Diagnostic imaging combines art and science to produce images that help physicians diagnose eye diseases and conditions. Images document the progress of treatment and also aid in teaching and ophthalmic research.

Brice Critser, CRA, director of diagnostic imaging, combines his photography and science background to lead this service. Like many of the ophthalmology staff, Brice has been with the department and University of Iowa for many years. He is responsible for the diagnostic imaging service where he photographs patients, maintains the image database and aids physicians with special projects,

including research. Most of his duties revolve around ensuring the best diagnostic imaging is provided.

"Patient care is one of the best things about being in a top program like Iowa," states Brice. "Not only do we get the chance to help patients with their vision problems, but we are also fortunate to have a technologically advanced imaging service. Our ability, as a diagnostics group, gives us the opportunity to use the most current imaging technology to help patients being seen in clinic."





IOWA VISION RESEARCH ACTIVITY & AWARDS

UI physician receives foundation's highest research award



(Left to right) Dr. Ed Stone; Gordon Gund, FFB Co-Founder and Chairman; Ed Gollob, FFB President; and Dr. Stephen Rose, FFB Chief Research Officer. Credit: Craig Huey

The Foundation Fighting Blindness (FFB) recently named **Edwin Stone, MD, PhD**, as the recipient of the Llura Liggett Gund Award, the FFB's highest research honor.

The award recognizes the "best of the best" researchers who have, throughout their careers, made the greatest contributions to the study of blinding retinal diseases. Since its inception 41 years ago, the recognition has now been awarded for only the seventh time.

Dr. Stone and his team have discovered genes associated with multiple vision disorders, including age-related macular degeneration, glaucoma, retinitis pigmentosa, Leber congenital amaurosis, Stargardt disease, and Bardet-Biedl syndrome. Stone and his team are actively pursuing gene- and stem cell- based treatments for these disorders. He is also an investigator of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

March of Dimes funds vision research at UI



Steven Stasheff, MD, PhD, assistant professor of pediatrics and ophthalmology, was awarded \$260,000 by the March of Dimes for research into the causes and treatments of incurable hereditary retinal diseases that cause childhood blindness.

The three-year project involves the study of developmental mechanisms and treatment alternatives for Leber's congenital amaurosis (LCA), a group of early-onset retinal degenerative diseases. The study seeks to more precisely define fundamental disease mechanisms in certain forms of LCA, as well as shed light on the timing associated with treatment alternatives being developed. Principles identified are likely to apply to the development of more effective treatments for a wide variety of degenerative diseases throughout the nervous system.

The March of Dimes supports research aimed at preventing birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality.

For more information regarding Dr. Stasheff's research, visit www.healthcare.uiowa.edu/labs/stasheff/

The University of Iowa Institute for Vision Research and our research program completed another solid year of grant and sponsored research funding. Collectively, we received \$9.3M in research funding from federal, private, and other granting sources for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2012.

Knights Templar supports UI vision researchers

Two University of Iowa researchers were each awarded \$50,000 career starter grants from the Knights Templar Eye Foundation for their research into eye disorders.

Seongjin Seo, PhD, assistant professor of ophthalmology, received a grant for evaluation of therapeutic targets for retinal degenerations and inherited eye diseases. **Gulab Zode, PhD**, research associate, received a grant for his research into a treatment for Juvenile-onset open angle glaucoma. Drs. Seo and Zode work in the laboratory of **Dr. Val Sheffield**, professor of pediatrics and ophthalmology and Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator. Sheffield was a recipient of early career funding from the Foundation.

The Knights Templar Eye Foundation supports clinical or basic researchers committed to the prevention and cure of potentially blinding diseases in infants and children. The organization has a history of funding University of Iowa researchers that dates back to 1989. Over the past 20-plus years, the organization has provided vital early career and basic research funding to a number of UI scientists.





David Dryer, KCT, a representative of the Grand Encampment of Knights Templar, presents checks to Drs. Seo and Zode. While visiting Mr. Dryer had an opportunity to learn more about the research projects and tour the labs.

Iowa Glaucoma Center receives new RO1 grant for glaucoma research

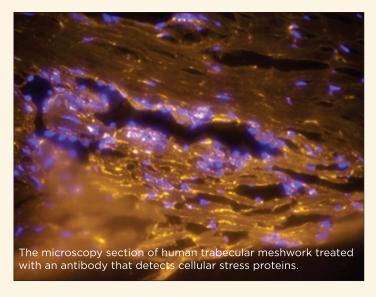
A University of Iowa research lab has received a three-year, \$1.13 million grant from the National Eye Institute for continued research in glaucoma.

Markus Kuehn, PhD, associate professor of

associate professor of ophthalmology and director of the Glaucoma Cell Biology Laboratory, and his colleagues were awarded the grant to investigate whether cellular stress within a certain group of eye cells

leads to the increased eye-fluid pressure that is associated with glaucoma.

The project builds on earlier research done in collaboration with **Val Sheffield, MD, PhD**, professor of pediatrics and director of the Division of Medical Genetics at UI Carver College of Medicine, which focused on an important eye protein called myocilin.



Genetic mutations in myocilin are a major cause of glaucoma, and the UI team previously discovered that mutated myocilin causes cellular stress and cell death in eye cells known as the trabecular meshwork.

In the new study, the UI team will utilize mouse models, cell cultures and stem cell biology to investigate how exactly this type of stress occurs. The Kuehn lab will work in collaboration

with the Sheffield lab and the lab of **Budd Tucker**, **PhD**, assistant professor of ophthalmology at UI Carver College of Medicine.

The study seeks to improve the molecular understanding of glaucoma and could lead to entirely new approaches aimed at preserving vision in people with the disease. For more information, visit http://iowaglaucoma.org/

Pediatric ophthalmologist receives physician-scientist career award

Arlene Drack, MD, associate professor of pediatric ophthalmology and ophthalmic genetics, was granted a \$100,000 RPB Physician-Scientist Award by Research to Prevent Blindness (RPB). These awards allow physicians at medical institutions in the U.S. to devote more time to clinical eye research activities, providing greater opportunities for specialized study with direct application to the human condition. Dr. Drack is one of 53 physician-scientists at 27 institutions who has received the award since it was established in 2000.

RPB is the world's leading voluntary organization supporting eye research. Since it was founded in 1960, RPB has channeled hundreds of millions of dollars to medical institutions for research into the causes, treatment and prevention of blinding eye diseases. For information on RPB, go to www.rpbusa.org

Fingert awarded an American Glaucoma Society Midcareer Award

John Fingert, MD, PhD, associate professor of ophthalmology and visual sciences, was awarded a \$40,000 Mid-Career Physician Scientist Award by the American Glaucoma Society. Awards target individuals between 5 to 20 years after fellowship and are designed to assist individuals starting new avenues of research.

Dr. Fingert's research focuses on identifying the genes associated with glaucoma and characterizing their role in the development of disease. He will use the funding to generate and study a transgenic mouse model of glaucoma. Fingert states, "We are engineering mice to have the same genetic defect that causes glaucoma in some of our patients. By doing so, we hope to better understand the disease and to develop new treatments that are tailored to its specific cause. It is my hope that this research will provide new insights in glaucoma diagnosis and ultimately lead to a new class of sight saving, pressure-independent therapy."

Information about Dr. Fingert and the Glaucoma Genetics Laboratory is at http://www.glaucomagenetics-lab.org/

FALL 2012

TOWA VISION RESIDENT & EDUCATION NEWS



Guest judges included (left to right) Andrew Doan, MD, PhD ('05R); Michael Wagoner, MD, PhD, Research Day Program Director; J. Douglas Cameron, MD, MBA; and John Kitchens, MD ('03R).

Research day recap

A broad spectrum of vision research projects were showcased at the annual Resident and Fellow Research Day held this spring. Residents, fellows, graduate students, and other researchers presented their work to faculty and a distinguished panel of guest judges who evaluated the research projects to select the P.J. Leinfelder Award winners.

Awardees for best research included:

- Resident Performance John J. Chen, MD, PhD
- Fellow Performance Gina M. Rogers, MD
- Basic Scientist Performance Erin Burnright, PhD
- Kolder Humanitarian Memorial Award Jeffrey Lynch, MPH, MD

Enhancing a tradition: Putting research into rounds

Grand Rounds, often referred to as Morning Rounds, are a long-standing tradition in the department. Held Monday through Thursday from 8 am-8:45 am, Rounds allow residents and fellows an opportunity to present interesting cases for discussion with faculty and colleagues. Clinical cases are complemented with discussions involving patient care, communications, ethics, and systems-based care.

This activity was enhanced to include more discussions involving vision research and how it translates to patient care. Ophthalmology Research Rounds has been introduced into the rotation with once a month sessions devoted to vision research taking place at the University of Iowa.

Morning Rounds are a great representation of our academic mission to provide the highest quality patient care, collaborative research, and the best in ophthalmic education.

"I think it's given us some good perspective about everything that goes on behind the scenes in the lab, all the work that goes into improving the care we can deliver patients. (It) Also helps us generate our own research questions and to think critically. It's also nice for the researchers to get their ideas and projects out there, have a chance to show off their successes and interests, and collaborate with clinicians," according to third-year resident, **Justin Risma**, **MD**.

"Providing hope" continues from page 1

the contact lens and vision rehabilitation clinics, and experienced several treatment options for her farsightedness (hyperopia) and inability to see details (amblyopia). She attempted to wear glasses but soon afterwards began wearing contact lenses to improve her visual function and development. Starting from age 3, Suzie has also undergone a series of surgeries to correct the vertical alignment and crossing of her eyes.

"We've pursued a highly individualized treatment plan for Suzie as we work to improve her visual function. She has made remarkable progress and brightens our clinic each time she visits," comments **Susannah Q. Longmuir, MD**, assistant professor of pediatric ophthalmology.

The Moormans are pleased with Suzie's improving health as well as their encounters with the UI Children's Hospital. "Our experiences have always been exceptional," says Heather. "They all have believed in Suzie and focused on taking little steps with her and waiting patiently to see what Suzie would be able to see or do next."

Doctors in the eye clinic continue to see Suzie and her family but less frequently than in her early years. Through all the surgeries, X-rays, CT scans, and procedures, Suzie maintains a positive attitude and always has a smile on her face. She is an outgoing little girl who enjoys reading to her parents.

"We have had several situations in which we were unsure what the future might hold for our daughter. The staff, no matter where we are in the hospital, tends to instill hope in us when we are so worried about our daughter," states her mother, who adds, "This is the hospital which saved our child's life and makes miracles happen every day for our child and many more!"

Cases like Suzie's provide valuable teaching lessons for our resident and fellow physicians. Details of her case are presented on Eyerounds.org, an educational website produced for ophthalmologists in training. Search "Holoprosencephaly".

Doctor's vision: Eyeglasses for the underserved

As a UI medical student in 2006, Jeffrey Lynch, MD, MPH ('06MD/MPH, '12F), volunteered in Peru where he witnessed local residents sifting through boxes of donated eyeglasses, trying them on, and looking back to their families for approval. "Who knows if the lenses were even in the ballpark of their prescription," he says.

In 2011 during his ophthalmology residency at St. Louis University, Lynch created ReSpectacle, a nonprofit organization that collects used eyeglasses and distributes them to underserved individuals in the United States and abroad.

ReSpectacle helps people find used eyeglasses that match their prescription strength, not just eyeglasses with frames they like. At **www.respectacle.org**, users with a lens prescription can easily browse a database of about 1,500 eyeglasses, submit an order if they find a match, and receive the glasses free by mail.

Volunteers in several U.S. cities collect and catalog donated eyeglasses. The ReSpectacle chapter in Iowa, where Lynch recently completed a pediatric ophthalmology fellowship at UI Hospitals and Clinics, is led by UI medical students Tyler Risma and Katie Lynch, Jeff's sister. The chapter has over 20 active volunteers.

As leader of the student group UISight, Risma encourages its members to volunteer on an occasional Saturday when the ReSpectacle group meets to inventory new donations. "Students have the opportunity to meet health care professionals and learn how to use specialized equipment, like a lensometer for reading lens prescriptions," Katie Lynch says. The sessions where volunteers inventory donations also allow her to touch lives all over the world. "With each donation, there's the potential that I could be helping a person in a Third World country whom I'll never meet, or the next patient I see at UI Hospitals and Clinics. There aren't many ways that I could spend my time to help so many people," she says.

Risma monitors the ophthalmology and pediatric ophthalmology departments at UI Hospitals and Clinics where donations are collected. ReSpectacle hopes to start accepting used glasses at drop-off sites in libraries, grocery stores, and optical shops around the Iowa City area. To date, the group has shipped glasses to seven states, mostly in the Midwest, and five countries. Shipping costs are supported by grants from the Mildred Brady and Rena Martin Charitable Eye Foundation and the Saint Louis University Auxiliary, as well as private donations received through the ReSpectacle website.

Jeff Lynch, who moved to a practice in St. Paul, Minn., upon completion of his fellowship in June, won the inaugural Kolder Humanitarian Award from the UI Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences earlier this year for his work with ReSpectacle.

Keith Carter, MD, chair of ophthalmology, supports the ongoing involvement of UI medical students and Re-Spectacle, as well as Lynch's initiative. "It's exciting to see one of our former trainees address an important health issue. We wish him continued success and will support the project in whatever way we can," Carter says.



Medical students gather to process and ship unwanted eyeglasses.

Want to Donate Eyeglasses?

UI Hospitals and Clinics accepts used eyeglasses for ReSpectacle at the reception desk in the Primary Eye Care Clinic in the Pomerantz Family Pavilion (elevator L, level 1). ReSpectacle chapters around the country receive about 150 pairs of eyeglasses each month, but not all donated pairs can be reused. ReSpectacle does accept eyeglasses in poor condition but cannot redistribute eyeglass donations with extremely scratched lenses or bent, broken and unwearable frames. More information at www.respectacle.org



TOWA VISION PEOPLE & EVENTS

Welcome our new residents and fellows



Class of 2015 First-year residents (left to right):

Jeffrey Welder, MD

BA (Philosophy and Biochemistry), Cornell College; MD, University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine

Jesse Vislisel, MD

BA (Biology), University of Iowa; MD, University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine

Jonathan Hager, MD

BM (Violin Performance), Baylor University; MD, Baylor College of Medicine

Bradley Sacher, MD

BS (Biology), University of Illinois, Champaign; MD, Rush Medical College, Chicago

C. Blake Perry, MD

BA (Politics), Princeton University; Post-Bac. Pre-Med., Scripps College, Claremont, California; MD, George Washington School of Medicine



lowa residents **Matthew Weed, MD** ('14R) (left) and **Justin Risma, MD** ('14R), pose with Ruth D. Williams, MD, President of the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) at the AAO 2012 Mid-Year Forum in Washington, DC. This annual forum provides an opportunity for Academy members and leaders of allied ophthalmic organizations to identify and discuss critical issues facing ophthalmology. For residents in training it offers valuable insights into the profession and the legislative issues relevant to ophthalmology.

New Fellows



Katrina A. Mears, MD, MSc, MRCOphth UK Retina

MD, School of Medicine, National University of Ireland, Galway; Ophthalmology Residency, Kresge Eye Institute, Detroit, Mich.



Meagan B. Seay, DO
Ophthalmic Pathology

DO, Texas Osteopathic Medicine, University of North Texas Health Science Center, Fort Worth, Texas



Elizabeth O. Tegins, MD Retina

MD, SUNY Downstate Medical School, Brooklyn, New York; Ophthalmology Residency, Krieger Eye Institute, Sinai Hospital of Baltimore



Shandiz Tehrani, MD, PhD Glaucoma

MD, PhD, Washington University School of Medicine, Saint Louis, Mo.; Ophthalmology Residency, Casey Eye Institute, Oregon Health Science University, Portland, Ore.



Kimberly M. Winges, MD Neuro-Ophthalmology

MD, New York Medical College; Fellowship, Howard Hughes Medical Institute Medical Student Research Training (Neurology); Ophthalmology Residency, University of California -Davis, Sacramento, Calif.



Timothy W. Winter, DO Pediatric Ophthalmology

DO, Western University of Health Sciences, Pomona, California; Ophthalmology Residency, Oklahoma State University Medical Center, Tulsa, Ok.; Fellowship, Neuro-Ophthalmology, Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, Miami, Fla.

Graduation 2012

lowa's graduates are pursuing opportunities from coast to coast and several places in between.

Photographs from this year's graduation ceremony are online at: www.iowayealumni.shutterfly.com/



Resident Class of 2012 (left to right):

Chris Watts, MD, joins Eye Physicians and Surgeons in Iowa City.

Esther Hong, MD, enters private practice with Kaiser Permanente in Oakland, Calif.

Priya Gupta, MD, is pursuing a Glaucoma Fellowship at Wilmer Eye Institute in Baltimore, Md.

Matthew Ward, MD, is staying for a Fellowship in Cornea and External Diseases.

Shaival Shah, MD, goes to the University of Wisconsin-Madison for a Fellowship in Pediatric Ophthalmology.



2012 Fellows

Andrew Davis, MD, is pursuing a military medicine career with the U.S. Army at the Madigan Army Medical Center in Fort Lewis, Wash.



Jeffrey Lynch, MPH, MD ('06 MD/MPH), joins Associated Eye Care, a private practice in Woodbury, Minn.



Alethia Pantazis, MD, is pursuing a private practice position in Ocala, Fla.



Gina Rogers, MD ('11R), moves to Chicago, Illinois to join Eye Physicians & Surgeons of Chicago.



A.Brock Roller, MD ('10R), joins Texas Retina Institute in Round Rock, Texas.



Brian Tienor, MD, is pursuing a position with Arbor Centers for EyeCare in Homewood, III.



Xiayu Xu, PhD, in Dr. Abràmoff's research group completed her PhD in Biomedical Engineering and is remaining at the University of Iowa to complete a postdoctoral fellowship.



Orthoptics Program Grant Casey, CO, joins Casey Eye
Institute-Elks Children's Eye Clinic in
Portland, Ore.

ALUMNICORNER

The American Academy of Ophthalmology recognizes several University of Iowa alumni for their contributions to the Academy and specialty.

- Jane C. Edmond, MD ('90F), from Texas Children's Hospital, Houston, Texas, was appointed Trustee-at-Large to the 2013 AAO Board of Trustees
- Life Achievement Honor Award
 - Edward J. Holland, MD ('85F)
- Senior Achievement Award
 - Laurie Gray Barber, MD ('84MD)
- Achievement Award
 - Michael V. Boland, MD, PhD ('05R)
 - Thomas A. Graul, MD ('00F)
 - Susan K. Mosier, MD ('99R)
 - Rahul T. Pandit, MD ('02R, '03F)
 - Jonathan D. Walker, MD ('94F)

Secretariat Award

- Andrew G. Lee, MD (faculty member '00-'09, current adjunct faculty)
- Thomas A. Oetting, MD ('95R, current faculty)
- Stephen R. Russell, MD ('88F, current faculty)
- Christopher J. Rapuano, MD ('91F)

Congratulations to each of our alumni and colleagues for your hard work and dedication on behalf of the field of ophthalmology!

If you receive a special award or distinction, let us know. Email us at iowaeyecare@uiowa.edu

Named positions support enhanced patient care, training and new lines of research

Philanthropy helps fund research, training and patient care innovations and also provides unrestricted resources that can be used when and where the need is the greatest. The UI Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences is pleased to have the most endowed positions of any department in the UI Carver College of Medicine.

The generosity of our faculty, alumni, colleagues, and patients has been essential to creating endowed positions that allow faculty to pursue novel cures to eye diseases, enhance ophthalmic education, or offer enhanced levels of service to eye patients.



"The Keech Professorship allowed me to start a pediatric genetic eye disease clinic where each patient gets individualized attention. Our goal is to develop genebased therapies for inherited eye diseases," says **Arlene V. Drack, MD**, holder of the Ronald V. Keech, MD, Associate Professor of Ophthalmic Genetics Professorship.

She adds, "This professorship is unique in that it creates a new position in the eye department: a physician-scientist position dedicated to finding cures for blindness in children. This type of position is becoming very rare. Because of the Keech Professorship, someone will always be able to do this important work at the UI."

Endowed positions (Faculty member holding position):

- Lillian C. O'Brien and Dr. C.S. O'Brien Chair in Ophthalmology (Keith D. Carter, MD)
- The Seamans-Hauser Chair in Molecular Ophthalmology (Edwin M. Stone, MD, PhD)
- Frederick C. Blodi Chair in Ophthalmology (Wallace L.M. Alward, MD)
- The Pomerantz Family Chair in Ophthalmology (Randy H. Kardon, MD, PhD)
- The Martin and Ruth Carver Chair in Genetics (Val C. Sheffield, MD, PhD)
- The Roy J. Carver, Jr. Chair in Bioinformatics and Computational Biology (Thomas L. Casavant, PhD)
- William Edwin Scott Education Chair for Pediatric Ophthalmology (supports Pediatric Ophthalmology training)
- Clifford M. and Ruth M. Altermatt Professorship in Glaucoma (Young H. Kwon, MD, PhD)
- Donald H. Beisner, MD and Judith Gardner Beisner Professorship (James C. Folk, MD)

- Marion and Frederick Fuerste, MD Professorship in Ophthalmology (H. Culver Boldt, MD)
- Dina J. Schrage Professorship in Macular Degeneration Research (Stephen R. Russell, MD)
- Ronald V. Keech, MD Associate Professorship in Opthalmic Genetics (Arlene V. Drack, MD)
- Hansjoerg E.J.W. Kolder, MD, PhD Professorship in Best Disease Research (Robert F. Mullins, PhD)

The department also has numerous named lectures and awards that recognize excellence in teaching, research and clinical care. Many of these also recognize past leaders among our faculty in the field of ophthalmology. These include:

- Alson E. Braley Lecture
- Charles D. Phelps Memorial Award
- Fuerste Family Distinguished Alumni Lecture Series
- Hansjoerg E. Kolder Award for Excellence in Ophthalmology
- Mansour F. Armaly Lecture
- * P.J. Leinfelder Award
- Wolfe Foundation Lecture

To learn more about how endowment funds support our mission and advance our efforts against eye disease, visit http://givetoiowa.org/eye

Why do you support the University of Iowa?

"I choose to give back to the Iowa training program for the following 3 reasons: 1. Iowa Ophthalmology has a rich tradition in education that needs to continue. This program is the one that sets the bar for how education in ophthalmology should be. 2. I am eternally grateful for the skills and confidence the program at Iowa gave me. 3. Because I can," states David Zumbro, MD ('05F), of Alaska Retinal Consultants in Anchorage, Alaska.

Dr. Zumbro adds, "The thing I appreciated most about my time at Iowa is the patience of the staff....I am very much in awe of the staff who continually train a bunch of rookies every year. When I left, I had confidence in my skills and felt like I had seen just about everything."

IOWA VISION FACULTY & DEPARTMENT NEWS

Promotions



Michael D. Abràmoff, MD, PhD, was promoted to professor of ophthalmology. Dr. Abràmoff is with the Vitreoretinal Service. His research interests include a focus on large-scale detection and diagnosis of retinal disease and glaucoma. Learn more about lowa's image analysis research at http://www.biomedimaging.uiowa.edu/



Markus H. Kuehn, PhD, was promoted to associate professor of ophthalmology. Dr. Kuehn leads the Glaucoma Cell Biology Laboratory, which is focused on determining the molecular events that lead to retinal ganglion cell death in a variety of retinal diseases. Find out more online at http://myweb.uiowa.edu/kuehnm/

Alward receives Iowa Regent Faculty Excellence Award



Wallace L.M. Alward, MD, professor of ophthalmology and vice-chair has been selected to receive the 2012 Regents Award for Faculty Excellence. The award is given by the Board of Regents, State of Iowa to honor faculty members for work representing a significant contribution to excellence in public education and

contributions to the University of Iowa academic community.

lowa's residency program director to serve on AAO Board of Trustees



The American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) nominated **Thomas A. Oetting, MD**, professor of ophthalmology and residency program director, as a Trustee-at-Large to the AAO Board of Trustees for 2013. The AAO Board of Trustees manages and directs the business affairs of the Academy

in furtherance of its mission and strategic goals.

Tehrani receives Heed fellowship

Glaucoma fellow, **Shandiz Tehrani**, **MD**, **PhD**, has been awarded a Heed fellowship for 2012-2013. Since it's founding in 1945, the Heed Ophthalmic Foundation has provided over \$10 million in funding to assist young men and women in pursuing postgraduate studies in ophthalmology. The appointed individuals receive a monetary Merit Award and are recognized as Heed Fellows.



Iowa Eye meeting recap

The 2012 Iowa Eye Annual Meeting this past June was a big success! Ophthalmologists from across the Midwest and beyond gathered to hear the latest in comprehensive ophthalmology, cataract surgery, pediatric ophthalmology, and retinal disease. We also celebrated the careers of several of our ophthalmology colleagues and enjoyed some time on the golf course. See you next June!

Photographs from the event and activities are at www.iowaeyealumni.shutterfly.com/

IOWAVISION

IOWA VISION is published for alumni, colleagues, and friends of the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences at the University of Iowa.

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Photography

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Benson & Hepker Design

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Department news, events and information may be found at www.medicine.uiowa.edu/eye



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Join us in the Windy City

The American Academy of Ophthalmology is returning to Chicago this year for the annual meeting. Join University of Iowa colleagues and alumni for our annual reception in the Edelweiss Penthouse on the 43rd floor of the Swissôtel Chicago on Sunday, November 11 from 6:30pm-9:30pm.

To rsvp, please contact joe-schmidt@uiowa.edu

Find a listing of faculty, residents and staff who are presenting or participating in the meeting at http://goo.gl/ajGq4

TOWA VISION **EVENTS**

The 2012-2013 Clinical Conference Series

December 7, 2012 Neuro-Ophthalmology

Joseph F. Rizzo, III, MD, Massachusetts Eye and Ear

February 1, 2013 Oculoplastic Surgery

Phil Custer, MD, Washington University

March 15, 2012 Retina

Baruch Kuppermann, MD, PhD, University of California,

Irvine

April 19, 2013 Glaucoma—Mansour F. Armaly Lecture

Harry A. Quigley, MD, Wilmer Eye Institute

Other Events

November 10-13, 2012 AAO - 2012 Annual Meeting, Chicago

November 11, 2012 Iowa Eye Association Alumni Reception, AAO Annual

Meeting, Chicago

May 16-17, 2013 Resident and Fellow Research Day, Iowa City

May 5-9, 2013 ARVO 2013 Annual Meeting and Iowa Alumni

Reception, Seattle

May 10, 2013 15th Annual Iowa Optometric Conference, Iowa City

June 7-8, 2013 UI Carver College of Medicine Alumni Reunion

(Classes of '43, '48, '53, '58, '63, '68, and '73), Iowa City

June 14-15, 2013 Iowa Eye Association Annual Meeting, Iowa City