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on the cover:
Karla Zadnik, OD, PhD, president of the American Academy of Optometry with OSU Optometry friends at the Boston meeting.
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Dear Optometry Alumni and Friends:

Welcome to the autumn issue of the BuckEYE Optometry Alumni Newsletter.

As I review this issue, the many achievements of our faculty, students, alumni, and staff members jump off the pages at me and fill me with gratitude. I am grateful you have chosen to affiliate yourselves with The Ohio State University College of Optometry; that you excel at what you do; and that I get to celebrate your accomplishments.

**Drs. Randy and Mary Lynn Blevins (OD’84)**, both of whom could be very content with their three successful private practices, raise thoroughbred horses in their “spare” time. Not only that, but their horses win races! Eyes Amazed!

Our students and faculty continue to receive awards while taking/teaching classes, serving as officers in national organizations, assuming administrative responsibilities, and, generally, excelling at everything else they are doing.

Since our last issue, we’ve bid farewell to Mr. Paul Todd, our long-time assistant director for student affairs. Paul touched many aspects of our students’ lives over the past 15 years from assisting with their financial aid to preparing their hoods for graduation. We wish him well in his retirement. We also bid an untimely farewell to **Ruth Morris (BS’43)**, who passed away earlier this fall. She and her husband, **Warren Morris (BS’49)**, have left quite a legacy within the state of Ohio and for optometry. Finally, just weeks before going to press, we extended our well wishes to Ms. Gayle Glanville, former director of development, who started working as the senior director of development for Northeast Ohio Medical College on December 1st.

During this holiday season, my thoughts turn gratefully to those who have made our progress possible over the past year. I am deeply appreciative of our faculty, staff, students, alumni and friends not only for their continuing support of the College and its missions but also for their inspiring achievements. Thank you for your commitment and enthusiasm. It is your steadfast support that facilitated this year’s successes and will sustain us in the coming year. Best wishes to you and yours for a wonderful holiday season and for health, happiness and prosperity in 2012!

**Melvin D. Shipp, OD, MPH, DrPH**
Dean, OSU College of Optometry
One Ohio State

As Optometry’s representative to the Alumni Advisory Council, I was honored to be able to attend the fall meeting November 18 and 19. This Council consists of representatives from each College within the University, each of the regional campuses, and various business offices within Ohio State. The objective of the meeting was to foster the concept of One Ohio State. The present culture is to look at the University setting in which each academic unit is a separate silo. Each college functions within its own silo and may not reach out to other silos within the University.

One Ohio State is being presented to encourage collaboration between all entities of the University in order to maximize the resources within each college. Examples of the One Ohio State initiative is creating research that involves several different disciplines rather than research within just one college. One Ohio State means collaborating on usage of space and combining building projects to provide space more efficiently. Also, centralized purchasing can provide large savings if all offices do things such as use one supplier for all office products.

In order for the Advisory Council to get a feel for how this concept is being fostered at the College level, a panel of members was asked to interview the Dean of their College. There were five panel members and I was asked to represent Optometry and Dean Shipp. The message was easy to deliver as Dean Shipp has supported these concepts since his first interview at OSU. My main area of emphasis was on the condition of our physical space. Patients entering the College use doors that have not been changed since at least 1956. It is hard to make a great first impression as new patients approach our building. Also, our facilities certainly have an impact on student recruitment as well. Optometry has collaborated with Dentistry on proposing a building project which falls in line with One Ohio State.

After attending the Alumni Advisory Council meetings, I can say that Optometry is well known and well respected within the university. It’s amazing to me to get to look at Ohio State from the aspect of the Council. I get insight into things that are going on and that puts me in awe of the University and the people responsible for creating the University. I hope you are proud to be a Buckeye and I hope that you can be supportive of our College so that there can be a next generation of optometrists.

As always, "Affirm thy Friendship, O-HI-O!"

Roger L. Saneholtz (OD’74)
President, OSU Optometry Alumni & Friends
Can’t Shake the Legacy

It’s interesting how we remember certain people by specific accomplishments in their lives. Often, these are noteworthy accomplishments. They may be a singular event or an accomplishment that is the culmination of years of work. It is their legacy.

Alfred Nobel, the namesake and creator of the Nobel prizes, is remembered about this time of year when the Nobel Laureates are recognized. Often, he is remembered as the creator of dynamite. The rest of the story is that his brother was killed in an explosion at the family’s armaments factory. That, in part, drove him to develop a method to stabilize nitroglycerin, resulting in dynamite, a stable way to transport nitroglycerin. It was only one of his over 350 patents.

Marie Sklodowska-Curie is often remembered for her pioneering research on radioactivity. Sometimes, people forget that she discovered 2 chemical elements, and died of aplastic anemia as a result of her exposure to radioactivity. She is also one of a handful of people to win 2 Nobel Prizes, and is the only person to win prizes in 2 different sciences, both before the age of 45.

December is also the time for presentation of the Downtown Athletic Club’s Heisman Trophy. While we know that it is presented to the outstanding collegiate football player, we often forget that John Heisman was an outstanding college football coach, founded the Touchdown Club of New York, and the National Football Coaches Association. Each recipient of the Trophy is almost always introduced as a Heisman Trophy winner. Around Columbus, Archie Griffin is still introduced as the only 2-time Heisman Trophy winner, a unique accomplishment from 35 years ago. I often wonder, though, if Archie ever hopes someone will recognize some of the things he has done in the last 35 years, a number of which are noteworthy on their own.

Earlier this summer, at an educational conference in Columbus, a celebration of the 20th anniversary of the passage of the therapeutics law in Ohio was held. Two of the key players in the passage of that law, Arol Augsburger (OD/MS’71), and Kevin Alexander (OD’76, MS’77, PhD’79), were in attendance and spoke about the efforts to pass the law. Much like the other folks mentioned, they are remembered for this singular accomplishment from two decades ago. Each has accomplished much since that effort. But their legacy cannot be told without this highlight of dedication to the profession.

What about you? Do you ever think about your legacy? What are doing that people will remember you for? Maybe it is something big like a Nobel Prize or leading your profession into the future. Maybe it is the way you give of your time and services to others to help them to have a better life. Maybe it is the way you have raised your children, or cared for parents in the last days of life. Maybe it is something that no one will ever know that you did.

Whatever it is, each day of life can contribute to that legacy. Make it one worthwhile.

Jeffrey A. Myers (OD’84)
BuckEYE Editor
Lead Story

Having Fun with a Lazy Eye

by Jeffrey A. Myers (OD’84)
photos Joyce Myers

Drs. Randy and Mary Lynne Blevins
with Eye Slew the City
Once upon a time, a little girl decided she wanted to live on a farm. Her mother told her that to live on a farm, she would need to have a career that had an above average income. At the same time, a young fellow was growing up almost 250 miles away, immersed in the culture of horses, particularly race horses, really growing up at River Downs in Cincinnati. They both made a career decision for optometry and met 31 years ago at the Varsity Club on Lane Avenue. Their first date was to Beulah Park where his grandmother’s horse was racing, and won. So began a love affair and partnership that includes the farm she always wanted and the breeding of racehorses that he is passionate about for Randall Blevins (OD’84) and Mary Lynne (Gulling) Blevins (OD’84).

They married not long after completing optometry school and began practice in northeast Ohio. A few
years later, they bought an 80-acre farm near Lou-
ville, Ohio, near where Dr. Mary Lynne grew up. (Louisville is pronounced 'Lewis ville', not like the city in Kentucky). The dream was to breed thoroughbred racehorses, and they named the farm, 'Lazy Eye Farm.' More than two decades after beginning the dream, they are still living the dream.

A breeder has the privilege of selecting the colors of racing silks for jockeys and horses to wear in races. Dr. Randy chose scarlet/gray. And true to his optometry roots, virtually every horse he has bred has 'eye' in its name. A table with samples of some of the horse names is included in this article. As you may know, the pedigree of a thoroughbred race horse is important.

Horses tend to deliver their babies in the night. Some of the names for the horses have been selected based on the song playing on the radio about the time of their birth and most often, aiming for an 'eye' reference. The exception is ‘Gordon,’ whose grandfathers are ‘Seattle Slew,’ winner of the Triple Crown in 1977 (winning the Kentucky Derby, Preakness Stakes and the Belmont Stakes as a 3 year-old) and ‘Alysheba’ (a winner of the Kentucky Derby and Preakness). The birth of ‘Gordon’ was particularly challenging. While Dr. Randy has delivered many horses, this delivery was not going well as the horse was not coming down the birth canal properly. The help of his neighbor in the delivery, whose name was Gordon, earned this horse the same name. ‘Gordon’ won three races in 14 starts.

Raising thoroughbreds is about breeding well and great training. Dr. Randy and Mary Lynne have had their fair share of success. ‘Eye Slew the City,’ currently pregnant, and a granddaughter of ‘Seattle Slew’ achieved five wins, three places, and four shows in 15 starts. ‘Eyes a Screamer,’ had three wins, six places and one show in her 15 starts. ‘Eyes for Hannah,’ in 94 starts, had 15 wins, 14 places and 20 shows. ‘Eyes a Jazz Dancer,’ achieved three wins and two shows in 10 starts. ‘Eyes of Berthold,’ a daughter of ‘Alysheba’ also won a few races.

Pedigree does not always make a champion. ‘Mary Lynne and Eye’ was sired by ‘Thunder Gulch,’ a Ken-
tucky Derby and Belmont winner in 1995. While this horse was beautiful and did win one of the three races it started, it really couldn't outrun Dr. Randy and did not have a great racing career. ‘Holy Bullseye,’ whose father is ‘Holy Bull’ (whose career racing record is 13 wins in 16 races, and earned almost $2.5 million) and whose great-grandfather is ‘Seattle Slew,’ ended up...
Lead Story

Dr. Singh and his wife Amanda pose for a classic Africa shot.

Eye Can’t Hear You with Dr. Randy

Dr. Randy and Dr. Mary Lynne

Holy BullsEye in his stable
being a midget by the standards of Lazy Eye Farm. He is still a good-sized horse, but not the racehorse height that they are accustomed to.

When a second grade class from St. Louis Elementary school visited the farm, they were given the privilege of naming a newly born horse. They chose the name, 'Eagle Bright Eyes'. When a horse wins a race, the breeder gets a special portion of the purse. This horse won three of the 10 races it started and the Blevinses gave the breeder's portion of the purse to the class for the school's use.

Probably Dr. Randy's favorite horse is 'Eye Can't Hear You.' When this horse was bred, Dr. Randy was at a breeder's barn with 15 excellent stud stallions on each side of the barn. An old farm hand sitting on a bucket suggested 'Hatchet Man' for the breeding opportunity. Dr. Randy took the old man's advice. The horse was born with a fused ear (kinda looks like Spock from Star Trek for the non-horsemen in the crowd). His favorite snack is Starlite mints, and he raced 57 times. He had 11 wins, seven places and eight shows in his career, and even won races at the age of ten. This horse is now 18 years old and has changed from being a dark brown horse early in life to a grey horse today. Only the tattoo inside his upper lip will conclusively identify him.

Horses from Lazy Eye Farm race regularly at Thistle-down in the Cleveland area and at Beulah Park in Columbus. But their horses have raced also in Arkansas, Florida, Kentucky, West Virginia, and New York. They have also been part owners in two other stables. One is Buckerine stables, a partnership that was made with a University of Michigan graduate before knowing he was a Michigan graduate. While the other partner wanted maize & blue racing silks, they compromised on stars and stripes. The other stable is Doin’ Time Stables and the racing silks are black & white prisoner style silks.

Drs. Randy and Mary Lynne would love to have a horse in the Kentucky Derby, an event they have attended together every year since 1982. So far, it hasn't happened, but the time may come yet.

Life on the farm is a little different in terms of gift giving at various holidays. Her gifts to him have included a hay wagon, a new brush hog, and a manure spreader, none of which he wanted to return. Dr. Mary Lynne has tried her hand at raising chickens, a potential profit center that didn't work out due to actions of a raccoon.

She has also recently planted grapevines in the hopes of eventually having grapes to produce wine. She is reported by her husband to be an excellent gardener and an awesome cook.

Drs. Randy and Mary Lynne maintain three practice locations: Louisville, North Canton, and Canton. They have used their practices to promote optometry and have mentored a number of students including Eric Ritchey, Brandy Mosier, Haley Unkerfer, Derek Gresko, Lyndsay Deiffenbaugher, and Mark Mason. They have one son, Joe, who is a star high school athlete.

Keep an eye out (sounds like the name of a horse) for a horse with “eye” in the name in a future Kentucky Derby race. If it is there, it is likely one of Drs. Randy and Mary Lynne's horses.
IDOC 2011: Another Huge Success

“...the wealth of information provided, along with the undeniable commitment of OSU as a school and individual faculty and staff members to increase diversity.”

IDOC participant, describing their favorite elements of IDOC
The Summer 2011 Improving Diversity in Optometric Careers (IDOC) program drew high praise from both participants and instructors. One I-DOC student commented that she primarily liked, “…the wealth of information provided, along with the undeniable commitment of OSU as a school and individual faculty and staff members to increase diversity.” The applicant pool rose from approximately 15 in past years to 75 this year, and the selection process yielded a group of extremely bright, talented, and ethnically diverse students. A total of 26 high school and college students were chosen to participate; all the college-age I-DOC individuals were non-Ohio residents.

I-DOC is designed to assure that diverse students are exposed to the wonderful career opportunities that optometry offers. Alumni can assist in many ways, ranging from assisting with recruitment efforts (we will provide recruitment materials for presentations), serving as a mentor to a prospective or enrolled minority student, or donating to minority student scholarship funds. The biggest obstacle for most diverse students in their quest to become an optometrist is program cost, especially for out-of-state students.

The I-DOC program ran for three days. The students learned basic eye anatomy and vision standards, shadowed local optometrists and optometry students, toured campus, and they learned details about optometry ranging from career opportunities to politics. The students’ favorite part is typically shadowing a local doctor for an afternoon.

The IDOC students were very impressive. We would love to have all of them attend the OSU College of Optometry. With your support, we may be able to achieve that goal! Contact Dean Shipp to learn more about the Diversity Recruitment Task Force and to explore ways that you can partner with this exciting new initiative. Help us encourage these talented students to pursue a career in optometry by attending the best College of Optometry…OSU!
The 2011 College of Optometry Jeffrey and Joyce Myers Lecturer is Dr. Anthony Adams. This Lecture Series is designed to feature a guest speaker from outside The Ohio State University with special expertise across the domains of optometry and vision science. Annually, there is one lecturer every autumn quarter, and the presentation is held as a free-standing event in the evening. This year’s presentation took place on October 24th.

After completing optometric training in Australia in 1962, Dr. Adams earned a Ph.D. at Indiana University in 1970, mentored by Dr. Gordon Health. He taught from 1966 to 1968 at Indiana University. He joined the faculty at the University of California, Berkeley in 1970. Working with his first graduate student, Adams carried out research on retinal ganglion responses that earned him and the student the prestigious (and inaugural) Glenn A. Fry Award from the American Academy of Optometry in 1971. At UC Berkeley School of Optometry he served as Assistant Dean for Academic Affairs (1985-1992) and Dean (1992-2001). His 45-year research career has concentrated on the application of psychophysics and electrodiagnostics to the early detection of ocular disease.

He has also served as editor of Optometry & Vision Science (2004-present), President of the American Optometric Foundation, a member of the Executive Council of the American Academy of Optometry.
(1991-2001), and President of the AAO (1999, 2000). In 2003, he was the recipient of the AAO's highest honor, the Prentice Medal, and in 2004 he received the AAO's Eminent Service Award.

From 1987 to 2001, he has served on the editorial boards of the journal of the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO), Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual Science, Ophthalmic and Physiological Optics, and Clinical & Experimental Optometry. He was a member of the National Advisory Eye Council (1996-2000), a major consultative body for the Director of the NEI. He has also served on NIH study sections for review of vision research grant proposals and on NEI Policy Advisory Panels.

He has also been elected to the National Optometry Hall of Fame and named Educator of the Year by the California Optometric Association. He was an appointed member of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) Committee on Vision and was chairman of an NAS working group which published the results of a four-year national study on the prevalence and progression of myopia. He is a past chairman of the Committee on Vision of the National Research Council (NRC).

Previous to the evening lecture on October 24th, Dr. Jeffrey Myers conducted an “Inside the Actors’ Studio” type interview with Dr. Adams in front of an audience of faculty, staff, and students. You can watch the interview on YouTube at:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G1qlEeqQRC8

The College thanks Dr. & Mrs. Myers for making this lecture series possible. It is very important to give our faculty, staff, students and alumni this opportunity to hear from the people who have shaped our profession and the people who will continue to do so into the future. Optometry has a rich tradition of collegiality and mentorship. Bringing the shining examples of optometry's tradition of collegiality and mentorship to Ohio State to hear their stories is invaluable to continuing the tradition.

“Dr. Adams has made important contributions to vision science and optometry throughout a career spanning nearly 45 years. His career has concentrated on the application of psychophysics and electrodiagnostics to the early detection of ocular disease,”

Don Mutti
Ryan Corte Receives OSU Board of Trustees Student Recognition Award

Ryan Corte, a member of the Class of 2012, received an Ohio State University Board of Trustees Student Recognition Award at the June 2011 meeting. At each monthly meeting, the Board recognizes two exemplary students from two different colleges, nominated by their respective deans. The students who receive this award may stand out in the academic arena, demonstrate outstanding research in his/her field, promote diversity, and/or excel in civic/university service.

Ryan is originally from Novi, Michigan. He earned a BS in nutritional science from Michigan State University, where he was president of MSU’s Pre-Optometry Group. During his time in the College of Optometry, Ryan has demonstrated impressive skills in both leadership and service to the College, to his fellow students, and to the discipline of Optometry. He currently serves as president of the American Optometric Student Association (AOSA), representing over 6000 optometry students from the twenty schools and colleges of optometry throughout the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico. Previous to his appointment, he served for two years on the AOSA Board of Trustees. Despite his busy schedule, Ryan also serves as the College’s lead delegate to The Ohio State University Inter-Professional Council, vice president of the University’s Sports Vision Club, and service committee chair for Epsilon Psi Epsilon Professional Optometric Fraternity. He is also a member of the American Academy of Optometry, Beta Sigma Kappa, Optometry Ambassadors, Private Practice Club, and SVOSH (Student Volunteers for Optometric Service to Humanity).

Students Get New NBEO-Style Exam Room

The optometric procedures portion of the National Board of Examiners in Optometry Test used to be conducted at schools and colleges of optometry. Now the testing is all conducted at the National Center of Clinical Testing in Optometry (NCCTO) located in Charlotte, North Carolina.

The NBEO observed several inconsistencies in the way the candidates were evaluated, specifically with respect to inter-evaluator variability, non-standard “patients,” and different instrumentation. The Board then decided to centralize the CSE and to construct a state-of-the-art clinical facility at the NBEO headquarters. The NCCTO examines candidates from the United States and Canada by scheduling a specific day some time during their fourth year of optometry school.

To make the transition easier from exam rooms at the OSU College of Optometry to those at the NCCTO, new practice rooms on the second floor of Fry Hall have been furnished and equipped exactly like those Opt IV students will be using for their on-site NBEO clinical examination.

To help our students, and other students from throughout the country, Ryan Corte (‘12), President of the American Optometric Student Association, wrote a very informative article about the new location and the logistics of scheduling the CSE test. He concluded his article by telling his fellow students to “Relax! You’ve been thoroughly trained to perform all the techniques on this clinical skills examination!”

For OSU students, practicing their skills in the new NBEO-style exam rooms should help them breathe a little easier when they are being tested in Charlotte.
Earley Receives Michael G. Harris Award

Michael J. Earley (OD’88, PhD’92), Assistant Dean for Clinical Services, is the 2011 recipient of the Michael G. Harris Award for Excellence in Optometric Education. This award is presented by the American Optometric Foundation (AOF) to an optometric educator who has demonstrated ongoing and consistent excellence in the education of optometry students and/or the advancement of optometric education. Each candidate is judged by his or her contribution and excellence in optometric education by virtue of performance in any or all of the following areas: Teaching, scholarship that enhances optometric education, and organizational work that enhances optometric education.

Dean Melvin Shipp said, “Dr. Earley is one of our most dynamic teachers, who consistently receives high marks in his classroom teaching from both students and peers alike.” A distinguishing feature about Dr. Earley’s lectures in the area of Binocular Vision, his area of expertise, is his foundation of the neuro-anatomy of the visual system (as explored with fMRI, electrophysiology, autopsy, etc.) as the framework for clinical findings.

Dr. Earley’s scholarly activities have resulted in numerous published abstracts for posters and papers presented at both the American Academy of Optometry and the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology. He also is very actively involved in several funded research projects within the College. Dr. Earley has a gift for integrating his excellent teaching and outstanding service into his scholarly activity and making very complex information accessible.
New Faculty Member: Deyue (Dion) Yu, PhD

Deyue Yu, PhD, joined our faculty as an assistant professor on September 1, 2011. Dr. Yu earned her PhD in cognitive and biological psychology from the University of Minnesota in 2009. She also has a Master’s degree in optical engineering and a Bachelor’s in physics, with an emphasis in applied optics, both from Nankai University, China. After obtaining her PhD, she worked as a postdoctoral researcher in the School of Optometry at the University of California, Berkeley. The focus of her research has been visual perception and cognition and their neural basis in normal and low vision.

Dr. Yu met her husband, Xiaobo Gong, in graduate school at Minnesota, where they married in 2008. Dr. Gong earned his PhD in chemical engineering and materials science from the University of Minnesota. Upon graduation, they moved to California . . . each to a different city in order to take jobs in their respective fields. The move to Columbus eliminates the need for weekend flights (180 over two years) between Orange County and Berkeley or 14-hour drives to see one another. They are very happy and grateful that they can have peaceful Sunday nights and not have to worry about Monday flights getting delayed because of foggy or rainy weather in San Francisco.

Admissions Update

Dr. Gil Pierce (OD’89, PhD’94) has been appointed chair of the College Admissions Committee, succeeding Dr. Mike Earley (OD’88, PhD’92) who assumed his new role as Assistant Dean for Clinical Services in early October. Sally Haltom will continue in her role as a member of the committee, and a rotating group of College faculty will also serve, including Drs. Jackie Davis (OD’81, MPH’09), Barbara Fink (PhD’87), Don Mutti and Jeff Walline (PhD’02).

The interview day schedule for candidates has been modified over the years. Candidates now arrive mid-morning on interview days and are greeted by members of the Office of Student Affairs who provide an overview of the day and information about the admissions process and the OD program curriculum. Candidates are then hosted by student Optometry Ambassadors for a tour of the College, a brief campus tour, and lunch at the Ohio Union. After lunch candidates return to the College for their interview with the Admissions Committee and a financial aid information session. Candidates also watch a series of informational videos including a piece on the unique OSU Optometry Business Management program.

Young Scholars Program and the College of Optometry

The Young Scholars Program (YSP), sponsored by the OSU Office of Diversity and Inclusion, annually seeks out and serves hundreds of academically talented first generation college students from economically challenged backgrounds in the nine largest urban school districts in Ohio. Each summer, students choose a broad area of interest to further explore on Ohio State’s campus prior to actually enrolling in college. Students in the Health Services Career Exploration unit learn much about Optometry each summer.

Nearly 30 high school students spent three hours with us, meeting with current students, faculty, and members of our student affairs staff. Most came to us with no knowledge of optometry and left with a great interest in the career. Students participated in eyeball dissections, a discussion on the ins and outs of the profession, a current student panel, admission and financial aid overview, and tips for academic preparation towards optometry school. The excitement of the students was inspiring! We hope the impact of this visit brings them back to our doors in the future!
The College’s Communications Task Force launched an O-H-I-O photo contest earlier this year. The Task Force used this as a good way to generate awareness of the College’s Facebook page while also making sure that Optometry O-H-I-O photos were prominently displayed on the University’s O-H-I-O page. The contest was open to all faculty, staff, and students in the College.

Since the University website is set up so that anyone can go to the O-H-I-O page (http://osu.edu/O-H-I-O/) and submit an O-H-I-O picture for everyone to see, the Task Force encouraged people to do just that, indicating their College affiliation.

All such pictures appearing on the University’s O-H-I-O page were then posted on Optometry’s Facebook page. The contest was broken down into three separate phases.

And the winners are:


Phase 1: O-H-I-O with the Dean, Katie Woeste, Milda Bandza, Joe Razzano, and Avi Hanono.

College of Optometry 3rd-year students Courtney Jones, Kim Lust, Kelsey Shiley, Holly Moose, and Amanda Joseph demonstrate how myopes see O-H-I-O with the help of professor/myopia researcher Dr. Don Mutti.

The winners of the first phase, for which the prize was four Huntington Club level tickets to the OSU vs. Michigan Men’s Basketball game, were determined by the number of “likes” their picture generated after it was posted to the Optometry Facebook page.

The second phase winners, who were competing for lunch with Dean Shipp at the Faculty Club, were selected by OSU President, E. Gordon Gee.

Finally, the third phase winners were competing for tickets to a Columbus Clippers game. The voting for the third phase, open to all previous submissions as well as new, was conducted through an online survey that gave the faculty, staff, and students the ability to vote for the best overall O-H-I-O picture.

Congratulations to all participants, and especially to the winners.
Government funding for cancer has been flat in recent years, despite the fact that one in two men and one in three women will be diagnosed with this disease in their lifetime. As Director of the OSU Comprehensive Cancer Center and distinguished research physician, Dr. Mike Caligiuri recognized the need to expand current research funding. Inspired by the broad success of grass roots initiatives supporting other nationally based cancer programs, Dr. Caligiuri and cancer survivor Tom Lennox rode 163 miles in the summer of 2008 across Cape Cod in support of the Dana Farber Cancer Institute. The experience created a strong bond between the two. Later that fall, Lennox resigned from Abercrombie & Fitch and founded Columbus based Pelotonia.

The business model of Pelotonia was and remains simple: Corporate partners cover the expenses, so that every cent of every dollar raised by Pelotonia riders goes directly to fund cancer research. Pelotonia was initially funded with a five-year, $12.5 million commitment from NetJets, and the goal was to raise $40 million during this time period.

In August 2011, a group of seven riders and two virtual riders banded together to create a peloton (the bicycle racing name for a team of riders) to raise money and ride toward one goal: end cancer. The College of Optometry’s team, The Rolling Eyes, raised $5,839 and helped the larger OSU student team raise over $260,000.

At the writing of this article, the total raised by Team Buckeye (all riders associated with Ohio State) exceeds $1.8M. For comparative purposes, in 2010 OSU had 990 riders and raised $1.4M. The total amount raised by Pelotonia ’11 will not be disclosed until Thursday, November 10 but we can safely say in excess of $10M.

Planning for Pelotonia 2012 is upon us. Alumna Lynn Scullion ’88 is hoping to put together a peloton of Optometry alumni to compete with the Dentistry Alumni group. Please contact her at: (330) 337-0745 if you are interested in riding for the goal to cure cancer.
Baby Curtner Born

Shawn Curtner (Assistant Director of Clinic Services) and his wife Jenny welcomed daughter Reagan into the family on October 28th. Reagan weighed in at 7.1 pounds.

Introducing Becca Roby

The College of Optometry Office of Student Affairs is very excited to welcome aboard Rebecca (Becca) Roby, who started in early August as the Student Data Manager. Becca comes to the College from the OSU School of Allied Medical Professions, where she was a staff member in the Physical Therapy and Athletic Training Divisions.

Becca was born and raised outside of Peñasco, a small town near Taos, New Mexico. She spent her winters working as a ski instructor at Sipapu Ski and Summer Resort, the oldest and smallest ski area in NM. After graduating valedictorian of her high school class, she attended the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque and attained a BA in English with a minor in Theater.

Becca moved to Columbus in 2003 with her now husband, Jamey, a Columbus native. They are currently adjusting to their life as new parents of a beautiful baby girl, Anya, born in May 2011. Along with their dog, Dudley, and cat, Arthur, their house is suddenly a flurry of activity and Becca says she is enjoying every minute of it. Although she is proud to have a Buckeye baby, she looks forward to taking Anya to visit her hometown in New Mexico and exposing her to all of the activities that she and Jamey enjoy, especially skiing.

Before having her own, Becca spent a few years caring for other people’s children as a preschool teacher, first at a small day care in Worthington and then at the OSU Childcare Program. She eventually decided that higher education would be a better fit for her and she came to work at the School of Allied Med. While working there full-time, Becca attended the Fisher College of Business and in March of 2011 graduated with a Masters degree in Labor and Human Resources. She is excited to be applying her new skills in her current work with students, faculty and staff in Optometry. Welcome Becca!
Paul Todd Retires from Student Affairs

Earlier this year, Paul Todd, former assistant director of student affairs and college secretary, retired after 15 years of service to the College. Graduates from that time period will remember him handling scheduling, financial aid, coordinating the student evaluation of teaching process, as well as managing the student lockers and mailboxes. In his life before Ohio State, he was a high school band director in Bellefontaine, Ohio. His passion for bands has continued as he volunteers with Bands of America, traveling to various BOA competitions, and mentoring high school instrumentalists.

Paul’s legacy here at the College will be one of compassion, generosity, dedication, and exemplary service to students, staff and faculty. His retirement will include time with grandchildren, Ava and Gianni, who live in Columbus, woodworking projects, or adding to his list of six rehabbed houses for sale. Whatever the future holds, we thank him for his commitment to the College and wish him much happiness and personal fulfillment in his retirement.

Dean Shipp Named Ohio Optometrist of the Year

Melvin Shipp, OD, MPH, DrPH, is the Ohio Optometric Association’s 2011 recipient of the Warren G. and Ruth P. Morris Optometrist of the Year award. Drs. Warren and Ruth Morris epitomized the words “boundless dedication” in the profession of optometry through their legendary service to five generations of patients and countless, adopted “optometric kids.” They left an incredibly positive impact upon professional optometry in their quest to preserve and enhance the wonderful gift of vision for humanity.

Congratulations Dean Shipp!

FACULTY PROMOTIONS

Congratulations to the following faculty members whose respective promotions within the College and University became effective October 1, 2011:

Dr. Jeffrey Walline was promoted to the rank of associate professor with tenure.

Dr. Dawn Goedde was promoted to the rank of clinical associate professor.

Dr. Jeffrey Myers was promoted to the rank of clinical associate professor.

Dr. Joan Nerderman was promoted to the rank of clinical associate professor.

Dr. Sandra Anderson was promoted to the rank of clinical assistant professor.

Dr. Lisa Lex was promoted to the rank of clinical assistant professor.
Ruth Penrod Morris (BS’43) passed away this fall. Her career spanned almost five decades, and her service was at the local, state, and national level for the profession and profession women. Her pioneering efforts in her hometown of Toledo, the state of Ohio and nationally were undeniable and set a high standard for optometrists and showed that being a woman in the profession was a non-issue.

She and her husband, Warren G. Morris (BS’49) created a legacy of recruiting pre-optometry students and ‘adopting’ optometry students, providing invaluable counsel and resources to assure each achieved his/her professional goals. Their practice, home, and time at professional meetings, were always open to these adopted children.

The Ohio Optometric Association recognized Dr. Morris with its Distinguished Service Award and Optometrist of the Year Award, a recognition that bears her and her husband’s name. The College awarded her the H. Ward Ewalt Medal for service to the profession, and Optometry Alumni and Friends recognized her with its inaugural Distinguished Alumnus Award. She was also named a Distinguished Practitioner of the National Academies of Practice and received an honorary Doctor of Ocular Science from the Illinois College of Optometry.
The Welcome Dinner for the Class of 2015 was held on Wednesday September 21st at the OSU Faculty Club. Members of the new class were warmly welcomed by faculty, staff, and student leaders. Special guests included Optometry Alumni and Friends Representative Dr. Jeff Myers, OOA President Dr. Heath Gilbert, and Student Council president Masoud Nafey, who each provided words of wisdom and inspiration to the newest members of the OSU Optometry community.

As always, the College extends sincere thanks to the OSU Optometry Alumni and Friends Society for their generous sponsorship of these important student welcome events.
Class of 2015 at the Welcome Dinner

Jon Andrews ('14), Joe Razzano ('14), Kaitlynn Bock ('14),
Ann Morrison ('14),
Masoud Nafey ('13), Julie Stickel ('15), Laurence Rahardjanoto ('15),
Rawzi Baik ('15), and Cari Gallagher ('15)
Arol Augsburger (OD/MS ’71) received the coveted Distinguished Alumnus Award for 2011 at the Ohio Union on Friday, September 9, in front of his family, friends, colleagues, and OSU’s President E. Gordon Gee.

Dr. Augsburger served on the OSU College of Optometry faculty for twenty-three years before he left Columbus to become dean at the University of Alabama in Birmingham (UAB) School of Optometry in 1994. He was later named interim provost at UAB. In 2002, he was named president of the Illinois College of Optometry (ICO).

President Gee remembered Arol’s love for and dedication to The Ohio State University when they served together on the Campus Campaign during Dr. Gee’s first term as OSU’s president in the early 1990s. “We wanted to encourage faculty and staff to give back to this great institution,” Dr. Gee said, “and we planned to recognize the colleges that raised the most money. But Arol said that method of recognition would penalize the smaller colleges, like Optometry. So, we decided instead to recognize those colleges with the highest participation rate of their own faculty and staff members. It was such a great idea that we continue to do that today.”

Walks down memory lane with Dr. Augsburger were led by Robert D. “Buckeye Bob” Newcomb (OD ’71, MPH), Greg Good (OD ’75, MS ’79, PhD ’81), and Kevin Alexander (OD ’76, MS ’77, PhD ’79).

Dr. Newcomb recalled several experiences he shared with Arol as a member of the Class of 1971. Dr. Good shared his memories of Arol as his teacher and later as his colleague on the faculty. Dr. Alexander,
“In the past 40 years, Arol Augsburger has served Optometry with the wisdom of a seasoned statesman and the wonder and enthusiasm of a new grad.”

Kevin Alexander (OD’71, PhD’)

who is a past-president of the American Optometric Association and the current president of the Southern California College of Optometry, called Arol his optometric “Big Brother” and said he continues to discuss important issues in optometric education with him.

It was a gala evening for a truly special alumnus, his family, and his many friends. Congratulations, Dr. Augsburger! And thank you for your innumerable contributions to our College and to our profession.

“...is an extraordinary leader in optometric education. Over the past 40 years, he has provided unique and lasting contributions to OSU, UAB, ICO, and the profession at large.”

Robert D. Newcomb (OD’71, MPH)

Members of the class of 1961 attending the Alumni banquet:

Welcome Back!
Alumni Reunion Weekend
September 9-10, 2011

Dekunte Edwards, Lisa Frenicks, Gayle Glanville, Barb Kime, and Archie Griffin showing off their Heisman poses.

Michelle Staarmann (OD’86), Tim Staarmann (OD’85) and their son show their Buckeye spirit.
September 9 and 10 were beautiful days on campus to renew old friendships and begin new ones at the College of Optometry. Over 200 optometry alumni attended some or all of the events, which culminated in a Buckeye win over the Toledo Rockets football team.

Friday’s activities included campus tours around the many construction projects and a visit to the beautiful Ohio Union, where some posed for pictures with the bronze Brutus Buckeye statue. Later that evening, Optometry alumni from the past fifty years gathered at the Ohio Union to honor the College’s 2011 Distinguished Alumnus, Arol Augsburger (OD, MS ’71). The fifty-year class from 1961, the forty-year class from 1971, and the thirty-year class from 1981 were all recognized as well.

Saturday morning began at 10:00AM with a delicious catered breakfast by Schmidt’s Sausage Haus. And, before everyone left for the TBDBITL’s traditional ramp entrance, the following new officers for Optometry Alumni and Friends, Inc, were unanimously elected: President Roger Saneholtz (OD ’74), Treasurer Terry Huston (OD ’73, MBA, PhD), and Secretary Vince Driggs (OD ’85). Congratulations Roger, Terry and Vince. Go Bucks!!
SPEAKER:
Richard W. Hertle, MD, FAAO, FACS, FAAP

TOPICS:
Anatomy and Physiology of The Developing Visual System (1 hour)
Classification of Eye Movement Disorders (1 hour)
Supranuclear Disorders (1 hour)
Infranuclear Disorders (1 hour)
Pharmacological Treatment of Common Pediatric Eye Disorders (1 hour)
Common Surgical Treatment of Pediatric Eye Disorders (1 hour)
Nystagmus In Infancy and Childhood (1 hour)
1955 Thomas Adams (OD’55) and his wife Pauline celebrated 55 years of marriage on July 1, 2011. They celebrated with their family: Nicholas (Annette and granddaughter Nicole), of Chandler, Ariz.; Dean (Sheri), of Cuyahoga Falls; and Jason (Joanna and granddaughter Julianna), of West Akron, and friends at the Annunciation Greek Orthodox Church in Akron, where the couple has served for 55 years.

1973 Terry Huston (OD’73, MBA, PhD) received the Ohio State University Alumni Association’s Outstanding Alumni Society Leader award at the close of the September, 2011 Alumni Leader’s Conference on the campus of The Ohio State University.

Glanville to NEOMED
Gayle Glanville, former director of development for the College has announced her change of employment to become the senior development officer at Northeast Ohio Medical College near Akron, Ohio. She leaves the College after 11 years of work in Development as well as serving as the College alumni relations liaison. The opportunity to work closer to family, including a special niece, Alexandra, was influential in the decision.

In her letter to the College community, she said, “…You are kind, sincere, generous people who love what you do. You improve not only the health of millions of people, but the quality of their lives.” We thank her for her service to the College and wish her well in her new opportunity.