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Ironman
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EyePod @ COSI
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Welcome Dinner 2012
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SVOSH
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Welcome to the autumn issue of the BuckEYE Optometry Alumni Magazine.  

As I review this issue, the many achievements of our faculty, students, alumni, and staff members makes me thankful that I am associated with so many wonderful people and that 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.

**David King (OD’86)** practices a weekly exercise regimen that any one of us would find daunting, to say the least. As he trains for triathlons, running, swimming, and bicycling are all just a day’s work at the gym for him. A valuable insight he picked up from a fellow Ironman competitor translates into so many other areas of life: “just keep going.” Whether facing a serious personal crisis or simply coming up against a deadline you feel is impossible to meet . . . just keep going.

**Gerald Lowther (BS Optom’66, OD’67, MS’69, PhD’79) and Joe Barr (OD’77, MS’79)** have obviously held to that mantra as they both earned the highest honors from The Ohio State University Alumni Association and The College of Optometry’s Alumni & Friends, respectively. Dr. Lowther received the Alumni Medalist Award during a formal ceremony on campus during Alumni Weekend in September. Dr. Barr received the Distinguished Alumnus Award in a separate ceremony also during Alumni Weekend. We are so proud of them and so fortunate to know them as friends and colleagues.

Our faculty continues to engage in significant research. **Melissa Bailey (OD/MS’01, PhD’04)**, assistant professor at the College, is conducting ground-breaking research on the ciliary muscle in children. She is using a Carl Zeiss Meditec Visante OCT at her new “portrait” studio called the “EyePod” at COSI (Center of Science and Industry), near downtown Columbus. Our faculty is also increasing in number **Catherine McDaniel (OD/MS’08)** and Dean VanNasdale, OD, PhD recently joined our College family. Dr. McDaniel returned to Ohio State this past summer as Chief of our Binocular Vision and Pediatrics Service. Dr. VanNasdale received his OD and PhD from the Michigan College of Optometry and Indiana University, respectively, joined us this summer as an assistant professor. Welcome to them both!

Welcome also to Kerry Gastineau, our new Alumni Coordinator. We feel fortunate to be the College who lured her away from a 17-year stint at The Ohio State University College of Engineering!

As always, we are proud of our students. Read about **Rachel Rothstein’s (’14)** and **Craig O’Dell’s (’13)** experiences as Optometry students.

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. I would be more than remiss in not mentioning **Bob Wright’s (OD’60)** extraordinary $1M gift to the College several months ago. A truly inspiring and generous man, we are incredibly fortunate to count him among our friends.

Best wishes to you and yours for a wonderful holiday season and for health, happiness and prosperity in 2013!

**Melvin D. Shipp, OD, MPH, DrPH**
Dean, OSU College of Optometry
Fall 2012

It's always a little concerning for me to have to write these messages as I usually have to search the archives of my brain to find topics to cover. But this time of year makes it much easier as a lot happens in the fall. Football season is over and we all have our opinions about the NCAA. I'll leave that topic now as I could fill the whole magazine with my sentiments.

One of the activities that Optometry Alumni and Friends funds for the first year students is the Welcome Dinner. This is a get together of the class after their first day of classes. They have an opportunity to meet student leaders from the College as well as the faculty and staff. I get to address the class with a welcome from alumni to our great profession. I remind them the College exists because of their interest and their tuition dollars and they must feel comfortable in challenging the faculty to fulfill their obligations to teach them in the best possible manner that will help them succeed in our profession.

Homecoming weekend kicked off the new capital campaign at The Ohio State University. Optometry's quest in this 2.5 billion dollar endeavor is targeted at ten million dollars. Since I am very fiscally conservative, I usually ask why I should be moved to commit my dollars to such an initiative. Dean Patrick Lloyd of Dentistry answered that question. After I heard him say, “Your degree is only as good as the last one given by your college”, the light turned on for me. Presently, our Doctor of Optometry degree bestowed by THE OSU College of Optometry is second to no other program. As alumni, we understand the competition just to get into the program and we definitely know of the efforts taken to complete the curriculum. Our board scores historically speak for themselves when compared to grads from other programs.

The Optometry degree from our College will be at risk in the not too distant future. The applicant pool is fixed each year and OSU has been able to continue to attract the best and brightest of the group. However, new programs and other institutions are providing state of the art facilities and this may dwindle the quality of our applicants. Our facilities continue to age and can't compete in this area. State dollars for operations continue to shrink which drives up student tuition and debt. These two factors are going to drive the best and brightest away from our program. Our reduction in student quality will certainly affect board results and our reputation.

As an alum, you can help protect YOUR degree. Our gifts are truly needed. For thirty nine years I have been proud to be a Buckeye optometrist. I selfishly want my son who is a 2008 grad to be able to have the same pride in his degree from The Ohio State University College of Optometry for at least that long. I hope that you will help to maintain the quality of your OD degree.

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

Roger L. Saneholtz (OD'74)
President, OSU Optometry Alumni & Friends
How Do You Spend It?

The resource of time is a great equalizer. In a day, 24 hours, 1440 minutes, 86400 seconds. In a month, 30 days, 720 hours, 43200 minutes, 2,592,000 seconds. In a year, 365 days, 8760 hours, 525,600 minutes, 31,536,000 seconds. In a lifetime of 75 years, 27393 days, 657432 hours, 39,445,920 minutes, 2,366,755,200 seconds.

The question is how will you spend those seconds, minutes, hours & days? Some have pointed out that on your tombstone, your birth and death year will be noted, i.e., “1900-1975”, and that the thing that matters is the dash between the dates. How did you spend your time? What do you do that was productive, meaningful, instructive, or beneficial?

Almost all of us will spend a third of that time sleeping. Over the course of a 40 year career, most of us will spend about 70000 hours performing on the order of 150,000 patient encounters. Some people will spend their time working to advance our profession. Some will serve their favorite volunteer group, whether faith-based, hobby-based, environment-based or even fraternal group. Some people will spend their time entertaining us and building their craft. Some will spend their time playing sports, on an amateur or professional basis.

But with a finite amount of time available for each of us, we cannot be everything nor do everything. Athletes at the top of their game are usually doing only that. They are not also concert pianists. Most people involved in direct patient care, while they may do some clinical research, are not world-class researchers. Folks who have committed their life to public service and politics are not usually leaders in faith-based organizations.

Anyone who would be ‘world-class’ in any area of interest must devote time, effort, attention, and energy to that area of interest to the sacrifice of other areas of life. Likely you will not find someone who is a Star Trek enthusiast, knowing every detail of every character, show and plotline, who also possesses the sailing skills necessary to win yachting’s America’s Cup. The time needed to become expert in any interest precludes expertise in multiple areas. So, we prioritize our time, effort, attention and energy. If we don’t choose how to prioritize those resources, someone will choose for us.

You might already know your priorities. And they do change with time. Whatever you might claim are your priorities can be verified with just 3 simple questions:

1. What do you think about?
2. Where do you spend your time?
3. Where do you spend your money?

The answers to these questions are your real priorities. Maybe they are right where you would like them to be. Maybe they are not. Here’s the thing; you can determine what your priorities are. A new year on the calendar provides an opportunity for reflection and realignment if needed.

One of our family’s newest priorities is pictured with this article. Sladen Scott Shoup was born May 18, 2012 and joins sister, Isla, as the grandchildren in our lives. Great news – he has not yet seen the Buckeyes lose a football game.

Jeffrey A. Myers (OD’84)
BuckEYE Editor
Many of us enjoy a nice walk in the neighborhood after dinner. Some of us enjoy a brisk swim of a few laps in the morning. Some even enjoy cycling, pedaling long distances for fun or a good cause. And some really love to run, chalking up dozens of miles in a week. But how about running a marathon (26.2 miles), after cycling 112 miles, and after swimming 2.4 miles, all in one day? Most of us would say that is a little crazy, but it is exactly the challenge that Ironman triathletes like David King (OD’86) accept willingly and enthusiastically.
Dave’s love of the outdoors, swimming and hiking came as a youth in the Scouting program, and included completing the Mile Swim. While an undergraduate at Ohio State, he was a member of The Ohio State University Marching Band (The Best Damn Band in the Land or TBDBITL) and played trombone. He started running then with some TBDBITL buddies to get fit for that physical commitment. He has run a total of six marathons since his optometry graduation in 1986.

Three years ago, Dave’s children’s high school swim coach challenged him to do the triathlon in Panama City Beach, Florida. He accepted the challenge. His motivation? To keep up with his kids and to work to stay fit. Additionally, he has found it to be a great stress relief from the rigors of his practice in China Grove, North Carolina, and he finds it serves as an excellent exercise example for patients, especially those with diabetes.

Preparing for a triathlon takes time. Dave takes about a year to prepare. Each week includes focus on each of the three events. He finds running to be the most natural for him, although the marathon portion of the triathlon is really about survival. The swimming portion is held in open water with 2500 other people all starting at the same time. It is difficult to imitate this event when training. He will spin indoors a couple times a week, and weekends allow for long bike rides and long runs. He also uses the P90X exercise program for adjunct training.

He reports his diet is not specialized while training; he just tries to get plenty of protein to build muscle and eat plenty of calories. Chocolate milk is his favorite recovery drink. He finds that a fear of drowning in the triathlon to be a great motivator to stay fit. Athletically, he describes himself as short and slow, best suited for long distance events.
The original Ironman Triathlon was staged in February 1978 in Honolulu, Hawaii in an effort to settle a debate about whether the most fit athletes were runners, swimmers or cyclists. Fifteen athletes accepted that challenge, and 12 completed the race. The winner of the competition completed in just less than 11 hours, 47 minutes. It has grown into competitions held throughout the world, with a best time for the event of just less than 7 hours, 46 minutes.

Conditions at Panama City Beach on November 3, 2012 were windy, creating 6-foot waves for the swim portion. Not only was much more energy needed to complete the swim, but it is more challenging to swim in a straight line. Swim time: 1:20.35. The winds created more energy to be expended during the bike portion as well. Crosswinds during much of the course and headwinds during the last 25 miles challenged all participants. Bike time: 6:20.36

Back spasms began to hamper Dr. King late in the bike portion, and continued into the run portion. This physical challenge surprised and disappointed
him as he felt pretty good prior to that. His pace was steady, but a little slower than he wished. He visited with a Michigan grad while running for about a 5-mile stretch before revealing his college affiliation, and took personal satisfaction in beating the Michigan grad by 15 minutes.

“An Ironman is like life; you just keep going.”

a 71 year old Ironman participant

He also shared part of the run portion of the journey with a 71 year old man whose 11 grandchildren were waiting for him at the finish line. When asked about his secret, the fellow replied, “An Ironman is like life; you just keep going.” Dr. King’s emotions were mixed as he ran up the finish ramp; proud of his personal accomplishment, and grateful for the support surrounding him. And his new friend’s inspirational words continued to ring in his ears... “just keep going”.

Dr. King reports that one of the prerequisites for doing a triathlon is a solid marriage. He has been married to Sue for 28 years. She was with him as he graduated from the College of Optometry, and while he completed the Chillicothe/Columbus VA residency. Interestingly, Sue has two brothers who are also optometrists; Brian Mathie (OD’90), practicing in Alliance, Ohio, and Bruce Mathie (OD’92), is in Louisville, Ohio. Both Drs. Mathie were excellent athletes in their own right, but neither is yet a triathlete.

The Kings have four children. Katie is 25 and married to Curt Morgan and is a middle school science teacher in Concord, North Carolina. Emily is 23, single and an Intensive Care Unit nurse in Salisbury, North Carolina. Sarah is 21, single and a senior in the College of Nursing at East Carolina University. Patrick is 19, single and a freshman in computer science at Pfeiffer University in Misenheimer, North Carolina.

Dave’s future plans for triathlons? He plans to return to Panama City Beach in 2013. He thinks he would like to do one with one of his children. Maybe he can do one in Australia, or Louisville, Kentucky, where the swim is downstream. Actually, he says he will do the triathlon wherever his wife wants him to do it. She prefers Australia. Congratulations to Dr. Dave King for accepting and completing the physical and mental challenge of two triathlons!
Gerald E. Lowther (BS Optom’66, OD’67, MS’69, PhD’72) received The Ohio State University Alumni Association’s (OSUAA's) highest honor, the Alumni Medalist Award, in a formal ceremony at the Fawcett Center on September 14 in front of over 250 distinguished university alumni, faculty, and friends. Dr. Lowther is the first Ohio State University College of Optometry graduate to receive this recognition, which is presented to an alumnus who has "...gained national or international distinction as outstanding exponents of a chosen field or profession and who has brought extraordinary credit to the university and significant benefit to mankind."

In his brief public remarks, Dr. Lowther, who grew up in Lancaster, Ohio, and as a young man worked on his grandparents’ farm and then in the construction industry, said he had never been on a plane before he graduated from Ohio State. This was indeed a remarkably humble comment coming from a leader in the optometric profession whose career brought...
optometric education and better vision to people in six countries on three continents!

After he received his OD degree in 1967, he spent a brief time in private practice. But then he returned to his alma mater and received two more degrees, with a research focus on contact lenses. He credits Dean Emeritus Richard M. Hill for mentoring him in the late 1960’s and early 1970’s. Following faculty appointments at Ohio State, the Michigan College of Optometry, and the University of Alabama in Birmingham, he served as dean at the Indiana University School of Optometry from 1998 to 2008.

On the international front, Dr. Lowther also worked at the Cornea and Contact Lens Research Unit in Sydney, Australia, with Professor Brien Holden. At the Karol Marcinowski University of Medical Science in Poznan, Poland, he helped establish the first optometry program in that country and promoted optometry at two additional universities while there. He helped establish an optometry clinic in Guanajuato, Mexico, which was a cooperative effort with the Indiana University School of Optometry and the Mexican Department of Infants and Family. For his extraordinary efforts in Thailand, he was awarded an honorary PhD by Bangkok’s Ramkhamhaeng University – home to 600,000 students! –for helping to develop that country’s first optometry program. He has also served in advisory roles for optometric education and practice in Chinese optometry centers.

Congratulations Jerry! You are a wonderful living example of Ohio State’s beloved motto: Education for Citizenship!!

“... gained national or international distinction as outstanding exponents of a chosen field or profession and who has brought extraordinary credit to the university and significant benefit to mankind.”
Joseph T. Barr (OD’77, MS’79) received the OSU Optometry Alumni & Friends 2012 Distinguished Alumnus Award on September 14 at the Longaberger Alumni House in front of over 150 colleagues, friends, and family members. The award had only been given four times previously: to Dr. Ruth Morris (2008), Dr. Jerry Lowther (2009), Dr. Paul Gamertsfelder (2010) and Dr. Arol Augsburger (2011).

The Optometry Alumni & Friends Distinguished Alumnus Award is presented annually by the Board of Directors to someone who is a graduate of The Ohio State University College of Optometry, a current member of Optometry Alumni and Friends, and who reflects positively on the College through distinguished service to the profession, community, and/or world.

Jeff Myers (OD’84) editor of our college’s BuckEYE Magazine, served as emcee for the gala event and used three words to describe Dr. Barr: loyal, inquisitive, and a model doctor (ie, teacher). Jim Sheedy (OD’74, PhD’77), Richard Weisbarth (OD’80) and Karla Zadnik, OD, PhD gave congratulatory remarks interspersed with humorous recollections of their memories of Joe’s exceptional career in optometric practice, education, research, administration, and at two global companies, Dow Corning and Bausch+Lomb.

Dr. Barr retired from The Ohio State University College of Optometry in 2007 where he served as the E.F. Wildermuth Professor in Optometry and Associate Dean for Clinical Services and Professional Programs. He was also the director of the Collaborative Longitudinal Evaluation of Keratoconus (CLEK) Photography Reading Center and a member of the CLEK Executive Committee. Dr. Barr is a past chairman of the Section on Cornea and Contact Lenses of the American Academy of Optometry, former editor of Contact Lens Spectrum, and the founding editor of the Contact Lens (CL) Today weekly email newsletter. He is a member of the American Optometric Association, International Society for Contact Lens Research, International Association of Contact Lens Educators, and the Association of Optometric Contact Lens Educators. He is also the author or co-author of over 50 peer-reviewed publications in the area of cornea and contact lenses. Dr. Barr currently serves as the Global Vice President of Medical and Clinical Affairs for Vision Care at Bausch + Lomb.

Congratulations Joe!! We miss you at the college; but we appreciate all that you have done to advance optometry at OSU, in the United States, and around the world.
Have you heard about the new portrait studio at COSI’s (Center of Science and Industry) Labs in Life exhibit in Columbus? The photographers don’t take the kind of portraits you’ll want to hang on the wall or send to relatives. These portraits are of the muscles in your eye. The studio is called the EyePod and the head photographer is Melissa Bailey (OD/MS’01, PhD’04), assistant professor at The Ohio State University College of Optometry.

For eight years, Dr. Bailey has done clinical research on the ciliary muscle, which changes the shape of the lens in our eyes so we can focus. She started the EyePod in June 2012 after Ohio State’s Office of Research offered her an empty lab space at COSI. They chose her project because it’s fun and easy for children to participate in. Since June, she and her graduate students have taken over 150 pictures of ciliary muscles.

So far, the most interesting development for Dr. Bailey is that parts of the muscle appear to respond to work load. The apex of the muscle gets larger depending on how much a person focuses. Farsighted people have a thicker muscle because their eyes focus constantly. Muscle differences related to work load have never been seen in any other eye studies, and Dr. Bailey is seeking publication for the discoveries she’s made.

There is also a preliminary patent on the image analysis methods, which were developed in collaboration with Dr. Chiu-Yen Kao, associate professor at Claremont McKenna College, Claremont, CA. Dr. Kao specializes in image analysis and worked with Dr. Bailey to develop a computer program that measures the muscles by the pixels in the pictures.

Nobody has ever studied the ciliary muscle in children before, possibly because there wasn’t a safe, easy way to do it. An MRI would be dangerous and uncomfor-
able for the patient. Instead, Dr. Bailey uses a Carl Zeiss Meditec Visante OCT that emits infrared light and measures how much of the light bounces back, a process similar to ultrasound. Visante takes over 200 infrared scans of a single eye to create an image of the muscles under the white of the eye. The process is non-contact, non-harmful, and it happens so quickly that it’s over before the patient realizes it started, even if the patient is only two years old. No need to worry about fussy toddlers in these pictures.

The project focuses on children because Dr. Bailey wants to see how the ciliary muscle develops between ages. Every year she scans the eyes of 1st through 5th graders at Blacklick Elementary School and Chapelfield Elementary School. In both schools, she is usually overbooked with children eager to earn one of the colorful eye patches that she hands out after each scan. She compares the infrared scans to each child’s reading scores and keeps track of which children become nearsighted. Before the EyePod, her research was limited by school holidays and summer break. Now she can test children all year.

So, be sure to stop by the EyePod next time you visit COSI. Walk-ins are always welcome.
The Welcome Dinner for the Class of 2016 was held on Wednesday August 22nd at the OSU Faculty Club. Members of the new class were warmly welcomed by faculty, staff, and student leaders. Special guests included Optometry Alumni & Friends President Dr. Roger Saneholtz, OOA President-Elect Dr. Brenda Montecalvo, and Student Council president Amber Slezak, 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.
College News

Dr. Michele Shipp, Alicia Powers ('16), Derrick Forney ('16), Jordan Stidham ('16), Dean Mel Shipp, Dr. Brenda Montecalvo, Amber Slezak ('14), and Janet Harawa ('16)

front row: Jordan Lesher ('16), Lien Nguyen ('16), Justin Gries, Bethany Bloemhard ('16), and Meredith Kiess ('16)
back row: John Langel ('16), Barbara Fink (OD, MS'85, PhD'87), Kelsea Naylor ('16), and Dix Pettey ('15)

Milda Bandza('14) and Christine Cosgrove ('16)
Update on the Diversity Activities of the College of Optometry

Current diversity initiatives of the Diversity Enhancement Committee (DEC) include: I-DOC, Middle School Outreach, and efforts in cultural competency in the optometric curriculum, which are described below. We are also hard at work in diversity dialogues with the students, symposia, web site articles, clinical services for our diverse patients, and many outreach programs.
I-DOC

The purpose of Increasing Diversity of Optometric Careers (I-DOC) is to attract underrepresented minority high school and undergraduate college students to careers in optometry. Since 2008, this three-day summer program has introduced participants to coursework and hands-on experiences in eye care and vision. Jeffrey Walline (OD, PhD’02) and Vondolee Delgado-Nixon, PhD along with other members of the DEC, review applications and coordinate programming for I-DOC each year.

Already the I-DOC program has shown significant success. Of the thirty-one former participants that have responded to our surveys, twelve have been accepted to or are now attending a college of optometry in the U.S. An additional thirteen students have completed an application to a college of optometry, and three additional students still plan on applying to a college of optometry once their prerequisites are completed. This past June marked the first graduation of an I-DOC alumnus.

Information about the I-DOC program can be found on the College of Optometry diversity website at http://optometry.osu.edu/IDOC/. Please contact Ms. Rachel Childress, Director of Development, at RChildress@optometry.osu.edu if you would like to support this or any of the other diversity programs at the College.

Middle School Outreach

In May of 2012, the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO) funded our proposal, “Community Middle School Outreach: Pipeline to I-DOC.”

Cultural Competency Training

Our cultural competency training includes “Safe Zone Training,” developed to reduce heterosexism, homophobia, and transphobia. The first-year optometry students also participate in Open Doors, a four-hour anti-bias training program coordinated by the Multicultural Center in the Office of Student Life working to address and eliminate bias.
Our team of seventeen students and four doctors departed the evening of August 11th, loaded down with 14 boxes of equipment including over 2000 pairs of glasses, 1500 pairs of sunglasses, and medications. We arrived in LaPaz, Bolivia, which has the highest international airport in the world at 13,300 feet above sea level, in the early morning on Sunday to the sun rising over the Andes. After breakfast in the airport, we headed by taxis to the bus station in El Alto. From there we caught a bus down to the city of Oruro.

Following a delicious lunch and exploring the big mining city, we caught an overnight bus to the village of Llica. After 16 hours and having to turn around to search for two boxes of supplies that fell out during the middle of the night, we finally reached our destination. We spent two days seeing patients in Llica during the town’s anniversary celebration. We saw close to 300 patients in those two days, diagnosing and managing diabetes, glaucoma, and corneal problems while correcting many patients with significant refractive error. From Llica, we caught another bus across the Salar de Uyuni, the largest salt flat in the world. After having a chance to explore the salt flat, we hopped back on the bus and headed into the town of Uyuni.

We spent two days in Uyuni seeing patients. Despite encountering issues with power outages, bitter cold temperatures and the effects of working at over 12,000 feet above sea level, we performed over 400 eye exams and sadly had to turn away more patients than we were able to see. We encountered an incredible amount of pathology including retinal disease, sebaceous cell carcinoma, traumatic cataracts, and corneal infections. There were many patients with large amounts of refractive error that we were able to correct with the glasses we took with us or the special order glasses we made.
once we returned to the United States. By the time the four days of clinic were over, we had seen close to 700 patients and had given away all the sunglasses and reading glasses we brought with us on top of all the prescription lenses we dispensed.

After our time in Uyuni, we caught another overnight bus back to La Paz. From there, we checked into our hotel, ate breakfast and headed out to explore the North Yungas Road also known as "The Most Dangerous Road in the World". It was an incredible experience to be up in the clouds, weaving in and out of the mountains on this dirt road. Our last day in Bolivia, we headed out on a catamaran tour of Lake Titicaca, the world’s highest navigable lake. From the coastal town of Copacabana, we departed for Sun Island, the birth place of the Inca empire. After exploring the island and learning about the ancient Inca culture, we headed back to our hotel. To top off the week, we finished with a grand feast of local Bolivian cuisine. It was an intense trip with a number of challenges encountered along the way but overall, it was an experience we will never forget. The opportunity to bring sight to those who have little to no access to such care is nothing short of a blessing. It is what brings us back year after year.

Kneeling: Felipe Kittelson (our host), Valeria Mardoñez (translator)
Row 1: Gisela Carrasco (translator), Reed Lape (extra help), Ximena Sanjinés (translator), Jamie Casper (OD’04), Richard Frick (OD’97), Kaitlynn Bock (’14), Milda Bandza (’14), Masoud Nafey (’13), Kyle Wilson (’13).
Row 2: Brian Wolanin (’13), Cibele Saporito (’13), Vida Kazempour (’14), Shannon Guo (’13), Linda Nguyen (’13), Kim Nguyen (’14), Courtney Andersen (’13), Melanie Clark (’13) and Cody Kidd (’13)
Row 3: Jamz Porzio (’14), Justin Manning (’13), Bruce Manning (OD’81), Nikki Klein (’13), and Meredith Jeffrey (’13).
New Faculty Members

Catherine McDaniel, OD, MS, FAAO

Dr. McDaniel joined the College last summer as a clinical associate professor. She received her Doctor of Optometry and Masters in Vision Science in 2008 from The Ohio State University College of Optometry (OSUCO). She subsequently completed a residency in pediatric optometry and binocular vision at the University of Houston College of Optometry (UHCO). After finishing her residency, she was hired as a Clinical Assistant Professor at UHCO where she worked for three years. Her clinical practice and teaching focused on pediatrics, binocular vision, neuro-optometric rehabilitation and optometric procedures. She also was the founding director of the Neuro-optometric Rehabilitation Residency at UHCO. Dr. McDaniel returned to her alma mater in July of 2012 to take on the role of Chief of the Binocular Vision and Pediatric Service. She continues to focus her clinical practice and teaching in pediatrics, binocular vision and neuro-rehabilitation. In addition, she is now leading the grade-school vision screenings for the third year students.

Dean VanNasdale, OD, PhD

Dr. VanNasdale joined the College last summer as an assistant professor. He earned his OD degree from the Michigan College of Optometry in 2003. He then completed a cornea and contact lens residency at Indiana University in 2004, working the following year as a clinical faculty member. Dr. VanNasdale began retinal imaging research in 2005, emphasizing polarization-sensitive changes in the retina associated with normal aging and disease. He earned a PhD in Vision Science in 2011 at Indiana University and completed a separate Masters degree the same year in Clinical Research. Before coming to The Ohio State University College of Optometry, Dr. VanNasdale completed postdoctoral work in a high magnification retinal imaging lab at Indiana University, studying photoreceptor and microvascular changes in normal aging and diabetic retinopathy.

Dr. VanNasdale will be engaged in clinical instruction, teaching Public Health and Environmental Vision, as well as establishing a research program centered on advanced imaging of the eye.

Dr. VanNasdale’s wife, Suzann, also works at Ohio State as the University’s conflict of interest administrator and compliance manager in the Office of Research Compliance. She manages conflict of interest and export control issues for faculty and staff both at the University and the Wexner Medical Center.
Kerry Gastineau, Alumni Coordinator

We welcomed Kerry Gastineau on August 13 as our new Alumni Coordinator. Kerry works part-time and can usually be found at the College of Optometry Monday through Wednesday.

Kerry grew up in Philadelphia and moved to Columbus in 1986, where she attended St. Francis de Sales High School. She earned her communications degree at Otterbein College and completed an internship for John Glenn’s campaign for the senate. She then decided to work in Washington, D.C. for one year for Pennsylvania Senator Harris Wofford.

In 1995, Kerry accepted a position as program assistant in the College of Engineering, where she worked for the next 17 years. She started in admissions, meeting with prospective students and their parents and advanced to a position in special events in the Dean’s suite, where she teamed up with the development office. In 1998, she traveled with OSU President Kirwan to Asia, including South Korea, China, Taiwan, and Japan.

Kerry is married to Jeff Gastineau and has three children: Lauren (10), Billy (9), and Jack (7). Jeff works at Accenture, a company that provides consulting, technology, and outsourcing services to businesses.

Kerry looks forward to getting to know our alumni and learning about how she can best serve them.

FACULTY PROMOTIONS

Congratulations to the following faculty members who were promoted, effective September 1, 2012:

Jacqueline Davis (OD’81, MPH’09) promoted to Associate Professor of clinical optometry
Nicklaus Fogt (OD’92, PhD’96) promoted to Professor
Marjean Kulp (OD’91, MS’93) promoted to Professor
Gregory Nixon (OD’96) promoted to Professor of Clinical Optometry
Gilbert Pierce (OD’89, MS’92, PhD’94) promoted to Professor of Clinical Optometry
Aaron Zimmerman (OD’06, MS’08) promoted to Clinical Associate professor
Rachel Rothstein (’14)

My name is Rachel Rothstein and I am a third year optometry student. I am from Ada, a small college town in northwest Ohio. In third grade, I failed a vision screening test, which sent me to a local optometrist. As a young myope, I frequently visited my optometrist, Dr. Mark Yoder, and quickly saw his love and enthusiasm for helping others with his career. So, despite not wanting to wear my large round glasses in third grade, I actually found my future career through the experience.

Outside of studying, I am very involved with the Fellowship of Christian Optometrists at OSU. We have biweekly meetings where we discuss how to incorporate our faith into our profession as well as volunteer opportunities in the community. I am currently working on a service project as an Albert Schweitzer fellow. The Schweitzer Fellowship consists of graduate and professional students throughout Columbus and Athens who create year-long service projects to address an unmet need in an underserved population. My project consists of working with an adult day care, teaching people with visual impairments how to live independently longer, as well as training the staff how to assist those with low vision.

Although I always promised I would never even date another optometrist, I met my now husband the beginning of our first year of optometry school. We were quickly known as the “class couple” and got married at the end of our second year. Our goal is to open a non-profit clinic in an underserved area as well as work in an ocular disease and low vision clinic.

Craig O’Dell (’13)

I am a fourth-year student at The Ohio State University College of Optometry. Though I was born in Summersville, West Virginia, my family moved to Prospect, Ohio, which is where I first became a Buckeye and lived until starting college. I completed my bachelor’s degree in biology at Ohio State and became interested in pursuing Optometry as a career during my final year as an undergraduate student.

US News & World Report described optometry as a “cradle to grave career,” meaning an optometrist is uniquely able to impact a patient’s life throughout his/her whole lifespan. Whether educating a patient on the pathological findings of an examination or prescribing a myope her first pair of glasses, optometrists are making a difference. As a fourth-year student, I find this is true every day. The challenges of a student sometimes appear endless; however, the goal of serving others and utilizing the skills obtained while in school make it all worthwhile. I recently completed my first rotation working with the Apache tribe at the Indian Health Service in Whiteriver, Arizona and am currently serving our veterans at the Huntington, West Virginia Veteran’s Administration Medical Center. It is exciting to continue to refine my examination skills. I am frequently reminded of the distance I have yet to go as I accidentally double occlude my patient during refraction and wonder why I am unable to obtain a strong response or sit perplexed at the substantial false positives of my patient only to realize that I have forgotten yet again to have him wear an eye patch.

It has been a great experience to be part of various clubs and organizations while in school. I am in the Fellowship of Christian Optometrists (FCO), SVOSH (where I previously served as the webmaster), the academic fraternity Beta Sigma Kappa (BSK) (where I served as vice president), Inter-Professional Council (IPC), (where I was the lead delegate to the College), and student representative to OSU Optometry Alumni and Friends Society. It has been my honor to work beside my exemplary fellow students and future colleagues who comprise these clubs and societies. Upon graduation in May 2013, I hope to pursue a residency in ocular disease and reside in the Columbus area and remain a Buckeye!
Robert L. Wright, Jr. (OD’60), alumnus of The Ohio State University College of Optometry, made a $1 million estate gift to the College. Dean Melvin Shipp announced the gift during the College’s kick-off of the public phase of its capital campaign at the Ohio Optometric Association’s EastWest Eye Conference in Cleveland, Ohio.

Dr. Wright has been a long-time supporter of the College of Optometry. More than half a century ago, when he decided to pursue optometry, he had to “go north” to do so because southern institutions would not admit African Americans at that time. Upon arriving at Ohio State, he found that his primary and secondary education from segregated southern schools had not prepared him academically for college. With perseverance and determination, he overcame these obstacles to become the second African American to earn his Doctor of Optometry degree from Ohio State in 1960.

Following graduation, Dr. Wright practiced optometry, first in Ohio and later in Georgia. In Georgia, he became politically active and was elected to the Columbus (Georgia) City Council. His leadership activities there brought him to the attention of then President Ronald Reagan, who appointed him to the U.S. Small Business Association. After a two-year stint with this agency, Dr. Wright set off on a new course; he started his own technology-based consulting company. Ultimately, Dimensions International Inc. evolved into a highly successful multinational firm based in Washington D.C.

Perhaps even more admirable than Dr. Wright’s entrepreneurial successes is his concern for others. He manifests an intense desire to pay forward by assisting individuals and programs in their pursuit of excellence. In his early career, this centered on his active involvement in the civil rights struggle in the state of Georgia as a City Councilman. Although his professional career path has taken him away from clinical optometry, he remains true to the profession, which gave him his first experience as a business owner. He has supported scholarships for economically disadvantaged students and has given both financial and personal support to other College and University related activities.

Dr. Wright continues to live and work in Columbus, Georgia and enjoys spending time with his son, daughter and two granddaughters.
On October 4th, The University kicked off the new But for Ohio State Campaign with a goal to raise $2.5 billion by June of 2016. It was an electrifying night with appearances by President Gee, Archie Griffin the OSU marching band and a concert on the Oval.

The following day, at the East/West Eye Conference, sponsored by the Ohio Optometric Association, the College of Optometry kicked off the public part of our own capital campaign. Each college at the University has a component to the overall goal. The College of Optometry is responsible for raising $10M. Monies will be used as they are raised in one or more of the five priorities identified by members of the campaign steering committee.

Student Scholarships – Optometric education is expensive, and our students typically accrue $150,000 worth of debt. We hope to add 30 new scholarships totaling $2M, which will more than double what we are currently able to distribute to deserving students.

Faculty Enhancement – Our College has some of the best faculty from around the world. We are known for the quality of our teaching and our family-like environment. In this campaign, we will raise $2.25M to help recruit and retain exceptional faculty. The possibility of a new professorship would help us attract those desirable educators who are being recruited to many different colleges across the nation.

Modernizing Our Learning Environments – It’s no secret that Fry Hall is in need of replacement or significant renovation. At this time, we are doing the best we can with what we have. In fact, we have recently been given the green light to move forward with a complete overhaul of our pre-clinical space. That project will be completed in 2014. However, other parts of the building are still in need of updating. Our goal is to raise $2M to continue to meet the facility requirements that our students need.

Emboldening the Research Agenda – For many years, research at the College of Optometry has been the life blood of our professional and clinical programs. To continue to build on this strong tradition, our goal is to secure $2.5M in pilot data and research grant proposals.

Innovation and Engagement – Ohio State could well be recognized as the premier place in the country for all of the health sciences because of the special range of programs and the opportunity for integrated study and research. The goal here is to raise $1.25M to cover special projects like outreach and engagement as well as discretionary dollars that can be utilized when needs arise within the College.
Before a campaign is officially announced, a quiet phase has been underway for a few years. It’s during this time that the goals are set, initial gifts are given, and volunteers are recruited. Over the past four years, the College has been working hard to achieve these milestones.

In fact, during the kickoff event, we were able announce an important milestone – we are more than half-way to our goal because of Dr. Bob Wright, OD ’60 who made a significant commitment of $1 million to the College through his estate plans. See more about Dr. Wright and his generous gift on page 25.

In addition, we also received a gift of $50,000 that same day from an anonymous alumnus who graduated in the past 10 years. This will help pay for student equipment, and the name of the new fund he is creating will honor one of our outstanding staff members – Ms. Sally Haltom.

Finally, in September we received a significant estate gift from our good friend Dr. Ruth Morris OD ’43, a member of the College of Optometry class of 1943. Dr. Morris left more than $370,000 to support pediatric optometry. With these gifts and many others, we are now at $5.2 million toward our $10 million goal.

To complement our development and alumni team, we have recruited a very talented campaign committee. This group is responsible for strategizing with the College on how best to reach out to all of our alumni and friends to ask for support. Included in this committee are:

**Jeff Myers (OD’84), Chair**
Karla Zadnik, OD, PhD, Associate Dean

**Michael Earley (OD/MS’88, PhD’92), Assistant Dean**
Joe Barr (OD’77, MS’79), Professor Emeritus

**Mary Jo Stiegemeier (OD’83)**

**Rick Weisbarth (OD’80)**
Mr. Rick Cornett, OOA Executive Director

At this time, we have just under four years to raise the additional $4.8 million needed to reach our goal. Now is the time to begin thinking about how you will be part of this campaign. There are a number of areas to support at the college and so many different ways to make your gift. Annual gifts, pledges over a span of a few years, gifts of stock or other securities and estate gifts are just a few. Director of Development, Rachel Childress is glad to answer any questions you have or help you to find the right place to make your gift that supports your passion within optometry.

We hope that you will want to be part of this exciting time of change and growth. How will you be part of this important campaign and leave your legacy at the College of Optometry?

Please contact Rachel Childress, Director of Development at the College of Optometry at 614-292-2100 or RChildress@optometry.osu.edu.

The Toppled Top Returns!

In 1954, five Ohio State optometry students watched Woody Hayes’ Buckeyes beat Michigan, earning a slot in the Rose Bowl. They brought home a special souvenir called the Toppled Top that’s been lost for 50 years. Read about its history, how we found it, and walk the path it took from the Horseshoe to the E.Y.E. fraternity:

http://optometry.osu.edu/toppledtop


Phil Keller, Richard Ball, Margaret King, Lowell Hone, and Will Stamp on the field during the Michigan game with the toppled top.
Welcome Back!
Alumni Reunion Weekend
September 14-16, 2012
The Buckeyes were victorious against the UC Berkeley Golden Bears 35-28. Approximately 100 alumni and friends celebrated at the annual tailgate in the lobby area of Fry Hall on Saturday, September 15. The Optometry Alumni and Friends group enjoyed Schmidt's Catering with brats, sauerkraut and of course delicious cream puffs. A surprise visit by the OSU Men's Glee Club filled the halls of Fry with favorite Buckeye tunes where renditions of “Carmen Ohio” and “Buckeye Battle Cry” were sung by a large group of energetic students.

The crowds throughout the weekend were entertained with stories of their time at OSU and more importantly the memories that have been a part of their lives since leaving our beautiful campus. For many, this was their first chance to reunite with classmates since graduation. From the class of 1962 grads celebrating their 50th anniversary to the “Toppled Top” coming home, there was so much to be thankful for being a Buckeye. Craig Little, of the OSU Alumni Association reminded us of his Top 5 reasons for “why being a buckeye is so special”:

#5 – Gives us a reason to eat peanut butter dipped in chocolate
#4 – Allows us to accessorize our game day attire.
#3 – Our mascot is poisonous and therefore our opponents are afraid of us!
#2 – Our Band can write in script!!
#1 – No matter where you travel in the world, you will always run into someone from Ohio State who will reply to you I-O for your shout of O-H.
1961 Tim Kime (OD’61) and his wife, Barb, recently celebrated their 75th birthdays by bicycling over San Francisco’s Golden Gate Bridge, which is also celebrating its 75th year. A past AOA President, Dr. Kime continues to practice full time in Toledo, Ohio.

1992 Sharon Pohl (OD’92) has 3 boys: Zach 10, Alex 9, and Nathan 14 months. Husband, Dave, has two more years in the Navy before retirement and is currently the director of Facilities for the Navy Bureau of Medicine in DC. Sharon is home raising the boys in Springfield, VA.

1999 John Kaminski (OD’99) was recently appointed to the Michigan Board of Optometry. Dr. Kaminski is an optometrist for Mid-Michigan Eye Care in Midland, Michigan, where he specializes in gerontology and low vision rehabilitation. He also serves as adjunct faculty for Central Michigan University’s physician assistant program.

2002 Kathryn Richdale (OD’02, MS’05, PhD’11) is the first appointee to the Dr. Alden N. Haffner Innovation Chair at the State University of New York College of Optometry. Named for the founding President of the SUNY College of Optometry, the Haffner Innovation Chair is a partially endowed position. The Chair is generously endowed by Mr. Richard Feinbloom, President of the Board of Trustees of the Optometric Center of New York (OCNY), the College’s foundation, along with generous donations as part of a challenge grant. This is the College’s first endowed chair.

2008 Brie Hevesy (OD’08) welcomed Taryn Suzanne Hevesy on July 3rd (2012). Brie is working in Atlanta, GA.

2009 San-San L. Cooley (OD’09, MS), clinical assistant professor, and her husband, Ben, welcomed Mia Qiansan Cooley on March 12, 2012.

1978 J. Stephen Newell (OD’78) of West Chester, Ohio, passed away on Friday, September 7, 2012, twenty-nine days after being diagnosed with stage IV melanoma of the brain. He is survived by his wife, Sue, daughters Kristine (Christian) Hertl, Anne (Adam) Toohey, son Matthew (Megan), two grandsons, Samuel and George Hertl, and a third grandchild on the way. He is also survived by his mother, Dorothy Newell, of Otterbein, Ohio, and sisters Judith Eaton, Janice (Robert) Salsberry and Beth Heckert. Dr. Newell owned and operated the Mason Vision Center in Mason, Ohio, for twenty-three years.

Call for Nominations!
The 6th Annual Distinguished Alumni Awards Celebration will be held October 18, 2013 in the 4H Building on campus at 7p.m. Don’t overlook this opportunity to publicly recognize outstanding alumni of our College through the Distinguished Alumnus/a and Early Professional Achievement Award. All nominations must be submitted by 5:00PM on January 18, 2013 to Kerry Gastineau, at gastineau.5@osu.edu or via U.S. mail to 338 West 10th Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43210. Please contact Kerry Gastineau with nominations 614-688-1363. Each nomination package must contain a nominating statement as to why the nominee is worthy of such recognition (please include a CV when available.)

For more information go to http://optometry.osu.edu/alumni/nominations.cfm
Optometry’s Got Talent . . .

We just know it. Share your special hobby or your secret ability with us.
We would love to know about it and highlight it in an upcoming issue!

contact Dr. Jeffrey Myers at jamod@core.com