President
Roger Saneholtz (OD’74)

Treasurer
Chris Smiley (OD’01)

Secretary
Vince Driggs (OD’85)

Board Members
Cheryl Shaw Archer (OD’84)
Stephanie Baxter (OD’08)
James Bieber (BS’64, OD’68)
Robert D. Newcomb (OD’71, MPH)

Optometry Representative, Alumni Advisory Council
Roger Saneholtz (OD’74)

EYE Alumni Association Representative
David Bejot (OD’93)

Student Representatives
Janel Elamin (‘15)
Michelle Miller (‘16)
Chelsea Monroe (‘17)

Dean
Karla Zadnik, OD, PhD

Editor
Jeffrey A. Myers (OD’84)

Contributing Editor & Faculty Liaison
Michael Earley (OD/MS’88, PhD’92)

Contributing Editors
Barbara Fink (OD, MS’85, PhD’87)
Sally Halton, MA, Director of Student Affairs
Robert D. Newcomb (OD’71, MPH)
Gil Pierce (OD’89, MS’92, PhD’94)

optometry.osu.edu

Back copies of the BuckEYE can be found at: optometry.osu.edu/alumni/magazine.cfm

Optometry Alumni and Friends is a chartered alumni society of The Ohio State University Alumni Association, Inc.

on the cover:
Top - Halftime at the September 6, 2014 Buckeyes football game: The Ohio State University Marching Band honors the College of Optometry’s Centennial by forming “100” on the field. A “pair of eyeglasses” formation soon followed.

Middle (L to R): Herschel Rubin (BS’37) and Brutus; Bad Habits; gala fun; and Amy Grimes (OD’98) and Cynthia Heard (OD’92)

Bottom (L to R): Five deans; Ohio State President Michael V. Drake, MD; and Dean Karla Zadnik
Letter from the Dean ............ 4
Letter from the Alumni President. 5
Letter from the Editor ............ 6
Centennial Celebration ............ 7
Halftime Show .................. 16
Oldest Living Alumni ............ 17
100 Years of Photos ............. 20
Optometry by the Numbers ........ 32
Notable Alumni .................. 34
Optometry Hall of Fame .......... 70
Class Presidents Over the Years 72
Development ..................... 74
Fry Medalist - Dr. Westheimer ... 75
Alumni Weekend ................ 76
College News .................... 78
Mershon Award .................. 80
Optometric Curriculum .......... 81
Blast from the Past ............. 84
Myers Lecture: Dr. Korb ........ 86
Deans’ Statements ............... 87

HALFTIME SHOW
pg. 16

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION
pg. 7

OLDEST LIVING ALUMNI
pg. 17

100 YEARS OF PHOTOS
pg. 20
It’s tough to make predictions, especially about the future. – Yogi Berra

What have I not already said or written about The Ohio State University College of Optometry’s centennial this year? As incoming dean midway through the 100th “birthday” year, I treated it mostly like a chance to celebrate and to publicly laud college contributors’ achievements. Now at the end of the year, as we hand out the last of the commemorative glassware and order a second printing of Bob Newcomb’s (OD’71, MPH) wonderful book on the history of the college, I find I’m in a more reflective mood. That, plus Jeff Walline’s (OD, MS’98, PhD’02) plans to assemble a time capsule for the bicentennial, have me thinking about this trajectory we’re all on together.

Sixteen men enrolled in a two-year program in Applied Optics, housed in the Department of Physics at The Ohio State University on September 16, 1914. We now graduate 60+ women and men each year who then set out to practice a very different profession than the one that emerged in the 1920s or even the late 1960s when the Doctor of Optometry degree was created. Where will we be in 2114? What items in that time capsule will capture what we do today, and how will it be different?

I’ve made some suggestions (“just makin’ ideas” as my daughters would tell you) based on the reactions the objects might elicit upon time capsule opening. A pair of eyeglasses might prompt, “Ha! Look at this. They used to wear glasses that rested on their nose and ears!” A binocular indirect condensing lens such as the custom, scarlet-hued, inscribed centennial one we received from Volk President, Pete Mastores, proud father of Stephanie Mastores (OD’09), could inspire amazement, as in, “Look! They used to examine every fundus with this lens while wearing something resembling a miner’s headlamp!” Other current examination tools like a retinoscope, phoropter, tonometer, etc. will all appear antique, no matter how those measurement techniques have evolved. One might even hear, “Where are the surgical instruments? Oh, that’s right; they couldn’t really use them back then.”

What seems to have survived the first 100 years and will transcend the next 100 is The Ohio State University College of Optometry’s dedication to optometric education and vision research, coupled with optometry’s role in the delivery of healthcare. If the class size remains the same, the college will lay claim to almost 10,000 alumni who will have performed on the order of 600 million eye exams since the OD degree’s initiation. The list of alumni who have led optometric institutions and associations will have grown, perhaps exponentially. A true collaborative model for the delivery of eyecare could originate south of 12th Avenue. Maybe the director of the National Eye Institute will hold an optometric credential in the next 100 years, calling out mentors at Ohio State at every public appearance before Congress. Perhaps an optometrist will have won a Nobel Prize, acknowledging The Ohio State University as he or she does so. Research developments that virtually eliminate preventable blindness could originate here. Suffice it to say, even if sunglasses are a thing of the past because everyone has a UV-protecting, permanent substance injected into his corneas at birth, the future of Ohio State Optometry is so bright, they’ll have to wear shades!

Karla Zadnik, OD, PhD
Dean
Glenn A. Fry Professor in Optometry and Physiological Optics
Fall 2014

Another year is about over, and 2014 has been an outstanding one for our College of Optometry and Optometry Alumni and Friends (OAF). Of course the highlight was our centennial celebration so expertly orchestrated by our new dean Karla Zadnik, OD, PhD. If you were there, you will admit that it was quite the party. Thanks Karla.

OAF members were also in the limelight throughout the year. "Buckeye" Bob Newcomb (OD’71, MPH) authored the new College history book highlighting our first 100 years. Also, Buckeye Bob was recognized in the Nov-Dec 2014 issue of the Ohio State Alumni magazine as a Payforward volunteer. This will be a recurring article, and Dr. Newcomb is the first alum to be recognized. Also in this edition of the magazine was an article illustrating a study being done by our faculty members Nick Fogt (OD/MS’92, PhD’96) and Aaron Zimmerman (OD’06, MS’08).

I expect my grandsons to become the next generation of .400 hitters in baseball!!

OAF was finally able to get a new Alumni Directory into print due to the efforts of our College Alumni Relations Liaison, Kerry Gastineau. Gathering and organizing this information is not an easy task, as databases don’t always jive within the Ohio State framework, but Kerry was relentless in getting this project completed. Please contact her if you would like a copy.

My favorite highlight of the year is about Jeffrey Myers (OD’84). As I hope you are aware, Jeff is the editor of the BuckEYE magazine and writes the feature articles about our alums. Jeff and his OAF nomination committee also write nominations for our alums who have made outstanding contributions that deserve recognition by The Ohio State University Alumni Association. This year we were successful in sneaking around Dr. Myers and getting his nomination placed for consideration and, of course, he was selected for a Ralph Davenport Mershon award. Optometry has now had four award recipients over the past five years, which is significant when remembering that there are more than 500,000 eligible Ohio State alumni.

These success stories are noticed by the University. What also gets attention are our OAF membership numbers. Your support of OAF means more than just fulfilling OAF budgetary needs. Your dues and donations send the message that you appreciate what the College of Optometry has done and continues to do for our profession. Strong OAF membership is very helpful to our College’s administrative team as they lead our next generation of optometrists to their degrees. Remember, your degree is only as strong as the last one presented.

As Always, Affirm Thy Friendship!

Roger L. Saneholtz (OD’74)
President, Ohio State Optometry Alumni and Friends
The Truth of Consequences

No, that is not a typo in the title. The focus is not the game show Truth or Consequences, or even the town in New Mexico. The focus is on the truth of consequences. The axiom might go something like this: For every decision one makes, there are natural consequences. Some consequences are good, some are sacrificial, some are life enriching, some are bad, some are rewarding, and some are penalizing. Let’s consider some examples.

As a student, you often made the decision to study. The natural consequences of that decision might have included missing a social event or some entertainment, but also allowed you to successfully accomplish your goal of becoming an optometrist.

The decision to go see your child’s little league game or school performance during work hours carries the natural consequences of lost production and patient time, but also enhances your family and personal relationships. Many practice situations allow the flexibility to be a part of important opportunities in our lives.

Making the decision to apply to optometry school carried its natural consequences, too. If admitted, you had the next four years carefully planned for you. You were not taking multi-week vacations to exotic places for four years. Your ability to earn income during that time was curtailed by the need to study, but that decision and its ensuing investment in time had the natural consequence of allowing you the skills and privilege to make a difference for patients every day of your career. Few career decisions offer that extraordinary natural consequence.

Early in this college’s history, the decision was made to expand the program from a certificate program to a bachelor’s degree program. The natural consequence was moving the profession forward. When the decision was made to offer the first graduate program in physiological optics, the natural consequence was that leaders in the profession were taught here, a tradition that continues today. The decision 50 years ago to design a program culminating in the Doctor of Optometry degree carried the natural consequence of moving the profession forward yet again. In the last two decades, curriculum decisions to include fourth year extern rotations, as well as the development of the Keystone program, have carried the natural consequence of better trained clinicians graduating from the program and entering practice, ultimately providing better care for patients.

As we celebrate the Centennial of Ohio State Optometry this year, it is clear that college leaders and faculty over the years have made very good decisions that carried very positive natural consequences that advanced the College. We cannot even dream what decisions will be made in the next 100 years, but I expect they will be as transformative as the decisions of the first 100 years.

For us personally, every decision in life carries natural consequences. Wisdom comes in considering the natural consequences before making a decision and then making the decision based on the desired consequences. This applies to what we eat, what continuing education we seek, what entertainment we enjoy, and how we spend our money. Choose the consequences you want wisely as they will guide your decisions.

Jeffrey A. Myers (OD’84)
BuckEYE Editor

Seated: Daughter Amanda Shoup, mother Nancy Myers, granddaughter Isla Shoup, grandson Sladen Shoup, and son-in-law Scott Shoup.
Standing: Daughter Jennifer Myers, great-nephew Chris Clark, sister Deborah Myers, Dr. Myers, and wife Joyce Myers.
It’s common knowledge that The Ohio State University College of Optometry faculty, alumni, students and staff excel in research, teaching, patient care and community service, but at the college’s recent centennial gala, it became apparent that the group also can throw quite a party.

Nearly 850 guests celebrated the past and ushered in a new era on September 5, 2014 at the Ohio Union, with seasoned alumni mingling with current students. Old friends reconnected, and colleagues shared memories.

The black-tie optional event began with a lively cocktail hour in the Ohio Union Performance Hall, followed by dinner in the Archie M. Griffin Grand Ballroom. The program during dinner strayed from tradition and featured “pop-up” entertainment and speakers while attendees enjoyed their meals. The audience was treated to music by the marching band, accompanied by cheerleaders and Brutus Buckeye, the men’s singing group, Buck That!, and an unplugged version of *Hang On Sloopy* by the three alumni members of Bad Habits, the Eye Docs of Rock, namely Michael Raies (OD’89), Pat Dollenmayer (OD’91), and Tony Fenton (OD’89). Short films included alumni of all vintages reflecting on what Ohio State Optometry means to them and an Ohio State Optometry “By the Numbers” account, along with a heartfelt testimonial from honorary doctoral degree recipient, Dr. Brien Holden. Sarah Munther (’15) closed out the formal part of the evening with a moving, operatic, *a capella* rendition of Carmen Ohio as the audience sang and swayed, arm-in-arm, in unison.

The evening featured both planned and impromptu recognitions of September 5 birthdays and anniversaries, and the oldest alumnus, Herschel Rubin (BS’37), who graciously acknowledged a spontaneous standing ovation. An after party featuring Bad Habits kept the fun going until midnight.

As guests departed, they received a “pair of glasses” — wine glasses with the centennial logo — and a hard-bound coffee table book on the history of the college authored by “Buckeye” Bob Newcomb (OD’71, MPH).

As you use those commemorative glasses, raise them to the next 100 years of The Ohio State University College of Optometry — focused on optometric education and vision research.
"The celebration was truly spectacular, and I cannot imagine a more special event."

Heidi Wagner (OD’86, MPH)
1914 - 2014

(L to R, top to bottom)
Jackie Davis (OD’81, MPH)
Sarah Munther (’15)
Kevin Alexander (OD’76, MS’77, PhD’79)
Ted Rudy, MA, Ellen Rudy, RN, PhD, and Kurt Zadnik.
Pete Mastores, Stephanie Augsburger, Arol Augsburger (OD/MS’71), and Mercine Mastores.
The five deans! Richard Hill, OD, PhD, Frederick Hebbard, OD, PhD, Karla Zadnik, OD, PhD, John Schoessler (BS’65, OD’66, MS’68, PhD’71), and Melvin Shipp, OD, MPH, DrPH
Dean Zadnik greets college Business Operations Manager Doris Orsborn and her husband Aaron.
Julie Long Miavez (OD’90) with her husband, David, and son, Jeffrey.
Centennial class of 2014: Kaitlynn Bock (OD’14), Molly Smith (OD’14), Stephanie Pisano (OD’14), Mike Pisano, Ann Morrison (OD’14), Josh Lanzer, Danielle Lanzer (OD’14), and Chrisoula Morris (OD’14)

Dr. Patrick Lloyd, dean of the College of Dentistry with his wife Dr. Joyce Paik.

The band and cheerleaders entertain the crowd.

Walter Clark, Cynthia Heard (OD’92) and Angela Staczek Jackson (OD’97)

Kent Daum (OD’76, MS’77, PhD’79), Donald Leach (OD’76), Brian Dittenber (OD’76), Kim Powell (OD’76), and Jim Albright (OD’76)
1914 - 2014

(L to R, top to bottom)
Tony Fenton (OD'89) and his wife Jeni
Dean Emeritus John Schoessler (BS’65, OD’66, MS’68, PhD’71), Nancy Peterson-Klein (OD’69) and Dean Karla Zadnik, OD, PhD, posing and chatting with University President Michael V. Drake, MD.

Joe Barr (OD’77, MS’79), Janet Barr, Anita Sika, and Neil Sika (OD’77)

Karla Zadnik and her family showing their Buckeye spirit!

Bob Lang, Austen Tanner (’15), Tracy Kitts, and Jeff Rohlf.

It’s a family affair! Raymond Carson (BS’54) and Harry Fagedes (BS’54), Raymond with his daughter Kelly Raies (OD’88), and Kelly and Michael Raies (OD’89)
"We had a spectacular time at the Centennial gala tonight ... I thought you might enjoy this photo of my dad, Dr. Herschel Rubin, with Brutus. What a special moment! Thank you all for giving Dad the star treatment!"

Leon Rubin
"My job is to help you celebrate the past 100 years and look to the college’s bright, bright future."

Karla Zadnik, OD, PhD

1914 - 2014

(L to R, top to bottom)
Dean Zadnik with American Academy of Optometry President Bernie Dolan, OD, MS.

Max McCloy, Doug McCloy (OD’95), Rhonda McCloy, Megan Heffelfinger (’15), and Ethan Leyda (’16).

Chris Smiley (OD’01) and his wife Melissa

Barb Kime with flowers for her anniversary!

Casey Smith (’18), Katherine Fisher (’18), and Kelsey Hanke (’18)

Steven Manning (’18), Joanne Manning, Bruce Manning (OD’81), Justin Manning (OD’13), and Danielle Manning

Designer Kerri McTigue and author "Buckeye" Bob Newcomb (OD’71, MPH) with the history book.
The Archie Griffin Ballroom was filled with more than 800 guests!

Brutus Buckeye was on hand to entertain the crowd and wasn’t too busy to take a selfie!

Christopher Geno, Andra Zadnik, and Melissa Bailey (OD/MS’01, PhD’04)

Freda Dallas, Amanda Zimmerman, and Aaron Zimmerman (OD’06, MS’08)

Chelsea Fox and fiancé Jeremy DePugh (’16)

Lots of guests enjoying the after party!
Everyone had fun dancing the night away at the after party with music from the Bad Habits!
“Buckeye” Bob Newcomb (OD’71, MPH), Karla Zadnik, OD, PhD, and Michael Raies (OD’89) got to experience firsthand that being on the field at an Ohio State Buckeyes football game is an unforgettable experience.

The centennial celebration continued on September 6, as The Ohio State Marching Band closed its halftime show with a “100” formation. The number nimbly shifted into a pair of glasses, while the band played “Eye’ Wanna Go Back to Ohio State” and a new video about the college showed on the jumbotron (go.osu.edu/centennialvideo).

Michael Raies (OD’89), Bob Newcomb (OD’71, MPH), and Dean Karla Zadnik were deeply honored to watch the tribute from their spot on the field at the 50-yard line.
Describe a favorite event while you were in optometry school.
It was our graduation, because it was tough to be in the accelerated program, due to the war. I took my undergraduate and graduate program in three and a half years. We went to class 48 hours a week and were off on Saturday at noon to go to the football game. We went four quarters a year.

Describe a favorite faculty member.
Dr. Glenn Fry - We belonged to the same optometric fraternity. He was trying an experiment with hypnotism and vision, but he had no luck with getting me under. Dr. Ellerbrock was an excellent teacher, too.

Special friend
Julius Lieberman. He had a scooter that he would use to drive me around campus.

Describe your coursework, classes, and topics.
We had a series of physics and chemistry courses that I enjoyed very much.

Where were your classes held?
Mendenhall Lab.

Tell us how you paid for optometry school.
$50 per quarter to attend and $50 per quarter for the advanced courses, or $400 a year. My dad, who was a practicing optometrist, paid for it. I'm actually a third generation optometrist and yet my own boys did not want to pursue optometry. My four sons work at the Pentagon, for Bank of America, as a lawyer, and as a psychologist.

Did you work while in school?
I could not work because I was too busy with classes. After class was over at 5 p.m., I would eat and then go back to my room and study.

Describe your extracurricular activities.
The rifle club through ROTC.

Tell us about your best friend in optometry school
My roommate, who was not in optometry, Edgar Kornhauser.

Where is your optometry diploma?
In the basement.

What advice would you give to the first-year optometry students at Ohio State?
I would tell them do the best they can. When you think of retiring and your health is still good, stay with it!
Memories that stay with me
We were a class of veterans with only two women in the class, both named “Martha.” Almost all of our class had served in the war, and many had college degrees but were on the GI Bill, which paid for tuition and books with an allotment of extra money for living expenses.

What did you do for fun?
When we had extra food money, we would eat at the Worthington Inn, owned by the Boyds, and the owners would kindly feed us and only charge us a nominal amount. The staff at the Worthington Inn enjoyed hosting us. Two waitresses even made slip covers and curtains for our apartment and didn’t charge us.

Did you work while in school?
Shirley taught kindergarten in Bexley and I went to school on a year-round basis. We did not work while at school.

Where did you live?
We had rent control and lived at 20 E. 11th Ave. We had an envelope system for rent, food, insurance, and car, and the last envelope was all the leftover money we spent on fun. We would go to concerts, plays and movies.

Where did you study?
Mendenhall Lab

Favorite Faculty
George Knox and Merrill Allen were both laid back and personable.

How did you get involved in optometry?
Dr. Sam Renshaw, a psychologist at Ohio State, had developed a system to identify aircraft in the war. In 1/100th of a second, you had to determine whether what you saw was friendly or enemy aircraft, so his studies were to help with shapes and the aspects of vision. This study swung me to go toward optometry. My engineering and anatomy studies provided a great foundation for optometry, and I have never regretted the decision.

Best student
Ken Zinnecker

Memories of strong relationships
We were great friends with Ruth and Warren Morris, and I talked to people in practice to see if I could get a partnership. Ruth influenced me to start a private practice in downtown Toledo. So after two years downtown, I moved to Maumee because Warren said it was great to practice in a small town and then opened a satellite in Swanton, Ohio and worked there for 55 years.

How did you market your practice then?
There was a ban on advertising, and the size of your sign was controlled, so you had to conform. The Zone 11 optometric association was strict on signage. Dr. Clifford, a past president of the Ohio Optometric Association (OOA), did a direct mail on pricing and was expelled from OOA for doing so.

Advice for current students
Listen to your patient. Really listen, and as Henry James said, “For a good life, be nice, be nice, be nice.”

Advice for starting a practice
The ancillary people who do the follow-up and confirm patient appointments and do not do a good job, fire immediately … it will never get better.
Describe a favorite faculty member.
Dr. Charlie Bridgeman was a wonderful role model who always challenged me to do my best.

List any special members of your class.
Warren Morris, Lois Bing, Sanford Chesler, Sanford Kaps, Clint Liechty, and Loren Pace.

Describe the coursework you took.
The toughest class was geometric optics with Dr. Pool.

Where were your classes held?
Mendenhall Lab

Tell us how you paid for optometry school.
My dad paid for it and it was $135 a year!

Did you work while in school? Where?
Yes, at a men’s haberdashery called Mo Glassman’s.

Describe your extracurricular activities.
Secretary of the Fraternity Affairs Office.

Where is your optometry diploma?
It hung in my office until I retired in 1988. It’s now in my archives.

Describe professional challenges you experienced in your professional life.
I started from scratch and hung up my license and opened the door and waited for patients.

How has the profession evolved in your lifetime?
It has changed radically. When I started, we did not dilate the pupil or use any medications. Of course, it is all different today.
100 YEARS OF PHOTOS
A photo journey through the years
Oh come, let's sing Ohio's praise,
And songs to Alma Mater raise,
CENTENNIAL PHOTOS
While our hearts, rebounding, thrill,
With joy which death alone can still.
Summer's heat or winter's cold,
The seasons pass, the years will roll.
Time and change will surely show, How firm thy friendship ... O-HI-O!
20/20 and 1914 are some of the most significant numbers in the history of optometry. Take a moment to review some additional impactful statistics.

**FACTS AND FIGURES TO BE PROUD OF!**

- 16 students on the first day of classes on September 16, 1914
- 347 graduate degrees awarded
- 5 directors and 5 deans

---

**OHIO STATE OPTOMETRY BY THE NUMBERS**

1914 - 2014

---

FALL 2014 – CENTENNIAL EDITION
AND ONE GREAT COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY CELEBRATING ITS CENTENNIAL.

3,628 Optometry degrees

9 graduates received a certificate in Applied Optics in the Class of 1916

6 Alumni who have been American Academy of Optometry presidents

14 Alumni who have served as deans and presidents of U.S. schools and colleges of optometry

5 Alumni who were presidents of the American Optometric Association

48 Alumni who were presidents of the Ohio Optometric Association
NOTABLE ALUMNI

As part of the college's centennial celebration, we recognized a group of Notable Alumni. Some of these alumni were notable for what they have done within the profession and some were notable for what they have done outside the profession. Each Notable Alumnus was recognized during 2014 with a biographical sketch posted on the college website and announced via social media. They are listed here in alphabetical order. The biographical sketches appear as they were submitted.

Bernard S. Abrams
Class of 1952
Bernard S. Abrams (1929–2003) was the founder of the Institute of Vehicular Safety. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Visual Optics at Ohio State. Dr. Abrams began pursuing his lifelong interest in traffic safety in 1954 as a member of the Ohio Traffic Commission. Over the years, his interest in night vision and vehicular accidents was enhanced by his work in electrophysiological testing of night vision in the aged. He lectured about vision on three continents; designed and built optical factories in several countries; and was Chairman of the Board of BSA Industries.

Dr. Abrams authored numerous papers and articles dealing with driver visibility, object conspicuity, and nighttime discernibility. He conducted research projects and served on committees related to the vision requirements of older drivers. Dr. Abrams served as a consultant to industry, attorneys, and governmental agencies. He was a nationally recognized expert witness in nighttime/daytime vehicular accidents.

He also had a movie made about his and his wife’s fight for treatment for their young daughter with a rare form of epilepsy that starred Jerry Lewis and Patty Duke, http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fight_for_Life_(film).

Carol L. Alexander
Class of 1987
Dr. Carol Alexander began her journey in optometry as an optometric technician in 1981. As an accomplished technician, Carol was named to the AOA Paraoptometric Council and was instrumental in the development of the first Optometric Technician Certification program. She graduated from The Ohio State University College of Optometry in 1987. Dr. Alexander’s leadership skills were recognized early by her classmates who elected her class president in the second, third, and fourth years. Following graduation, Dr. Alexander began working for two Toledo-area optometrists and in 1991 realized her professional vision to establish her own independent private practice in Sylvania, Ohio, Personal Eyecare. Throughout her career in patient care, Dr. Alexander was also very involved in organized optometry, serving on various committees in local, state, and national optometric associations. Early in her career she was recognized as both the state (1992) and national (1997) Young Optometrist of the Year.

Her contributions included actively pursuing therapeutic legislation in the state of Ohio and spearheading quality assurance initiatives in the profession at both state and national levels, serving as Chair of the American Optometric Association Commission on Quality Assessment and Improvement (“98-99). She was elected to the Ohio Optometric Association (OOA) Board of Trustees in 1994 and was the first woman to serve as President of the OOA in 1999-2000. During her time as President, she chaired the Strategic Planning Committee to change the basic operations of the organization. She was named Ohio’s OD of the Year in 2006.

In 2008, she successfully transitioned her practice to a young OD and took on a full-time role with Vistakon, where she currently serves as Director, Professional Communications and is responsible for doctor led peer-to-peer efforts for the company. In 2010 she was named by Vision Monday as one of the Most Influential Women in the Optical Industry.

Kevin L. Alexander
Class of 1976
Dr. Alexander earned four degrees from The Ohio State University: BS (1974), OD (1976), MS (1977) and PhD (1979). He taught expanded curricular and continuing education courses in pharmacology and ocular disease at the College of Optometry during the 1980s and 1990s and helped Ohio optometrists win the right to use Diagnostic Pharmaceutical Agents (1984) and Therapeutic Pharmaceutical Agents (1992). After establishing a private practice in Columbus, he served as the first Center Director and Residency Director at The Eye Center of Toledo. In 1995, he completed a fellowship in vitreoretinal disease at Retina Vitreous Associates in Toledo and served as their center director. In July of 2000, he was named Dean of the Michigan College of Optometry at Ferris State University. Dr. Alexander has been recognized many times for his outstanding contributions to Ohio State and to the profession. He received The Ohio State University Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching in 1980; the Ohio Optometric Association’s Warren G. and Ruth P. Morris Optometrist of the Year award in 1989; became a Distinguished Practitioner in the National Academies of Practice in 2000; received The Ohio State University College of Optometry H. Ward Ewalt Medal for Distinguished Service in 2007; and, in 2012, was inducted into the National Optometry Hall of Fame. He served as President of the Ohio Optometric Association in 1995-96; President of the American Optometric
Association in 2007–08, President of the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry in 2011-12. In 2008, Dr. Alexander was named the seventh president of the Southern California College of Optometry (SCCO) in Fullerton, California, and, in April, 2013, he became the founding President of Marshall B. Ketchum University in Fullerton, California, leading SCCO’s development into an interdisciplinary health care university.

John and Cheryl Archer
Class of 1975 and Class of 1984

Although they reached the doors of The Ohio State University College of Optometry by different paths, both John and Cheryl are very grateful for the opportunities their education has afforded them. John knew at the young age of 8 years old when he was given his first pair of contact lenses by Dr. Lowell Hone that optometry was to be his chosen profession. Cheryl, on the other hand, changed career paths while in graduate school studying biomedical engineering. Their practice, Premier Vision Group, has three locations in Bowling Green, Lima, and Minster, Ohio. They are privileged to be working with colleagues, Drs. Mike Brujic, Christa Heckman, and Brian Dietz. John graduated received his OD degree in 1975 after first attending Wittenberg College for undergraduate studies. He joined the practice of Robert S. Beattie, OD in Bowling Green, Ohio. Since that time he has been a member of the Toledo Area Optometric Society, the Ohio Optometric Association, and the American Optometric Association. John served on the Board of Directors of the Ohio Optometric Foundation from 2003 to 2009. He has been the recipient of the Ohio Optometric Association’s Key Man of the Year Award. He also has also been involved with the college’s Private Practice Club, and as a trustee for The Sight Center of Northwest Ohio.

Cheryl graduated cum laude from The Ohio State University College of Optometry in 1984 after first receiving her bachelor’s degree from DePauw University. She is a volunteer for the Ohio Optometric Association’s Realeyes classroom initiative, Vision USA, InfantSee, and iSee in-school eye exams. She participated in a VOSH eye care mission in Ukraine. Cheryl currently serves on The Ohio State University College of Optometry Alumni and Friends board of directors and served on the Dean’s Advisory Council. She is a past president of the Ohio Optometric Association and currently serves on the board of directors for the Ohio Optometric Foundation and Optometry Cares. She was recently appointed by Governor Kasich to serve on the Ohio State Board of Optometry. John and Cheryl love to travel and spend time with their family, Jeff, Moira, David, and Audrey and grandsons Kelan and Evan.

Brian Armitage
Class of 1981

As a 1981 OD and 1983 MS graduate, I have been truly blessed professionally and personally all these years since I graduated from Ohio State. Professionally, I have had the opportunity to work in the contact lens industry and private practice. I was employed by Vistakon for over 16 years as a member of their Research and Development team. I contributed to many ACUVUE brands that are on the market today. After leaving Vistakon, I purchased a private practice that I owned for 10 years. I was able to grow the practice into a very profitable business that I sold in January 2014. My proudest accomplishment was establishing a specialty contact lens practice where I enjoyed numerous referrals from my colleagues and MDs for scleral contact lenses. I now spend my time back in research conducting contact lens studies for the major contact lens manufacturers. The best part of my life has been family. My wife, Ann, is a beautiful, smart, funny, and supportive spouse (to be a successful business owner, your spouse must be supportive!). I am very proud of my son, Alex, a 2010 Ohio State alumnus and 2013 University of Akron Law School graduate. He has the skills to become whatever he chooses.

Arol Augsburger
Class of 1971

Dr. Arol Augsburger has served with privilege for more than 43 years at three distinguished optometry programs—The Ohio State University College of Optometry, the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB) School of Optometry and the Illinois College of Optometry (ICO). Following graduation from the OSU College of Optometry, he joined the faculty there, where he served for 23 years. He became dean of the UAB School of Optometry in 1994 and was later Interim Provost of UAB, serving for nine years in those roles. In 2002, Dr. Augsburger was named president of ICO. During his tenure at ICO, he has advanced student performance on National Board examinations, expanded the clinic program to include an electronic health care record system and additional patient care clinics in communities surrounding the college, and provided leadership for the long-term investment in ICO’s assets by overseeing the addition of an enhanced learning center and state-of-the-art Lecture Center. Among his numerous awards are: AOA Optometrist of the Year (1986) and Distinguished Service Award (2008), OSU’s H. Ward Ewalt Medal for Service to Optometry (1993), the Ohio Optometric Association’s Warren G. and Ruth P. Morris Optometrist of the Year (1985), Alabama Optometrist of the Year (2000), the American Academy of Optometry’s Carel C. Koch Award (2001), Illinois Optometrist of the Year (2007), and OSU Optometry Alumni & Friend’s Distinguished Alumnus Award (2011).

He has authored more than 140 articles and chapters, including studies that have been published in the Journal of National Academies of Practice, American Journal of Industrial Medicine, Journal of the American Optometric Association, and the Journal of Optometric Education. Dr. Augsburger received his BS, cum laude, in 1969 from The Ohio State University and his OD, cum laude, in 1971 from The Ohio State University College of Optometry. Throughout his career, Dr. Augsburger will tell you that he has benefitted from professional colleagues who helped to build optometry into the profession it is today. Optometry has changed from its modest roots in the OSU Department of Physics at OSU in 1914, and Dr. Augsburger has been honored to contribute to optometry’s recent evolution as an integral part of the nation’s health system.

Melissa Bailey
Class of 2001

My first official visit to The Ohio State University College of Optometry was in the summer of 1996 with the late John T. Mount, the former Ohio State Vice President and great-uncle of my childhood friend. At the time, I had no idea how important he was to Ohio State. Still, he unbelievably arranged for me to have a tour of our college, gave me a tour of the entire Columbus campus himself, and took me to lunch. During that visit, I decided to become an optometrist, and I only applied to Ohio State. I have been at the college since the fall of 1997. I was fortunate to be one of the students selected to join the first class of National Institutes of Health-
funded Summer Trainees at the College of Optometry. After that, I received a doctorate of optometry and two graduate degrees in vision science (MS and PhD), and I have been very grateful for the excellent optometric and vision research training I have received. I was also blessed to have been accepted to train in the laboratories of fellow colleagues, Drs. Karla Zadnik and Donald Mutti. I know I could not have received better training as a vision scientist anywhere else.

I have often said that I chose a career in academia because I wanted to do more than practice optometry; I want to change how it is practiced forever. In addition to teaching our outstanding students, I have had the privilege to be the first researcher to conduct in-depth studies of the ciliary muscle in humans of all ages. In my laboratory, we have discovered that even though there are not yet any diseases or disorders associated with the ciliary muscle, it is not the same in everyone. It is curiously thicker in some individuals with myopia, and we now know that it continues to grow throughout the elementary school years. Graduate students in my laboratory have also helped me to learn more about how it functions during accommodation and its impact on a patient’s ability to sustain accommodation. For pioneering this area of research, I was awarded the Irvin M. and Beatrice Borish Outstanding Young Researcher Award by the American Academy of Optometry in 2012.

In addition to studying the ciliary muscle, I have taken an interest in developing new ophthalmic devices. I was recently the winner of a $10,000 prize in the Big Ideas for Healthcare and Design at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center for inventing a software application that will allow healthcare professionals to make multiple vision measurements on a single device, including autorefract and eye alignment. I know that I can speak on behalf of my husband of 17 years, Daniel Bailey, and our nine-year-old son, Luke, when I say that we are all grateful for my selection as a notable alumnus and all of the many educational and career opportunities that I have received from Ohio State over the last two decades.

**Neal Bailey**

**Class of 1947**

Dr. Neal Bailey was born in Gadenville, New York, on November 6, 1917 and spent his summers on the banks of the Shiawasee River at a rustic family cabin north of Detroit. After graduating from high school, he completed chiropractic school in San Antonio, Texas.

During World War II, both he and his beloved wife of 57 years, Florence, worked seven days a week at the Ford Motor Company in Detroit, Flo in the payroll department, and Neal ran a steel furnace producing high-grade armor plating for tanks. They moved to Columbus in 1944 when the first of their two daughters was born. Dr. Bailey graduated from The Ohio State University School of Optometry in 1947 with a BS in optometry (summa cum faude) and then again in 1954 with a PhD in physiological optics under the direction of Dr. Glenn A. Fry. He and his family then moved to Bloomington, Indiana, where he created the first contact lens teaching facility at the Indiana University School of Optometry.

In 1958, the Baileys returned to Columbus and opened a private practice of optometry in a three-story home on Ohio State’s Fraternity Row. Dr. Bailey, with Flo’s help, maintained a successful practice in the campus area for many years. Dr. Bailey served the college as clinical associate professor, 1990 convocation speaker, and major benefactor to the college, its students, and faculty. In his convocation address on June 7, 1990, he gave seven sage recommendations to the class, including, “Be sure to find a good lawyer,” “Honor thy teacher—for a really good teacher is hard to find,” and “Don’t confuse professionalism with costly furnishings and spacious offices. Professionalism is an attitude that needs constant nurturing.” Dr. Bailey was the editor and founder of Contact Lens Forum in 1976 and later the editor and founder of the Contact Lens Spectrum in 1986, two leading contact lens journals that have been combined.

Dr. Bailey authored 120 articles and chapters on contact lenses and practice management and was one of the first clinical investigators of soft contact lenses in the United States. He was the recipient of numerous prestigious awards, including Distinguished Practitioner in the National Academy of Practice (1984), the Max Schaper Award from the American Academy of Optometry (1986), the Leonardo da Vinci Award from National Eye Research (1988), and the Dr. Josef Dallos Award from the Contact Lens Manufacturers Association (1988). In 1989, he was honored as the “Contact Lens Person of the Year” by the American Optometric Association’s Contact Lens Section. In 1992, he received the Kevin Tuohy Award from the Contact Lens Society of America. On May 26, 1995, the college honored him again by striking a new medal presented to—and named for—him: the Neal J. Bailey Medal for Development.

Dr. Bailey was affectionately called the “Contact Lens Curmudgeon” by his friends for his insistence upon the highest principles of professionalism. According to Dr. Joe Barr (OD/77, MS’79), “Dr. Bailey was precise, organized and uncompromising as an optometrist and as a businessman. Yet he was one of the most comfortable persons to be with.”

He was famous for joking that the perfect contact lens design was a “holeon” lens: one with a 9-mm overall diameter and a 10-mm fenestration. He once served on a panel at an American Academy of Optometry annual meeting with Dr. Robert Mandell from the University of California, Berkeley School of Optometry, who was also a prominent clinician, educator, researcher, and author in the contact lens field at that time. When someone in the audience asked Dr. Mandell why he wore glasses instead of contact lenses, he replied: “My wife thinks I’m sexier in glasses.” When the same question was posed to Dr. Bailey, he said: “Because Bob Mandell’s wife thinks I’m sexier in glasses too!” Such was the wit of one of Ohio State’s most prominent optometric alumni.

Dr. Bailey sold his private optometry practice at 32 East 15th Avenue in 1981 to Dr. LaMar Zigler (OD/MS’81), and completely retired from practice in 1983. He and Flo then moved to Worthington and later to Laredo, Texas. In his retirement years, he traveled the United States to ride his bicycle on paths created by his favorite non-optometric charity, “Rails-To-Trails Conservancy.” He passed away in December 2006. At its meeting on March 2, 2007, The Ohio State University Board of Trustees approved a Resolution in Memoriam for him.

**Richard Ball**

**Class of 1955**

After graduating in 1955, I spent two years in the Army at the Fort Carson Eye Clinic before returning to Ohio State for a Master’s degree in Physiological Optics with Glenn Fry. Working one-on-one with Dr. Fry was a truly memorable experience—learning from a true genius. I then returned to my hometown of Owosso, Michigan to join my father’s optometric practice that he established in 1916, but also continued my graduate work at Michigan State University with Dr. Howard Bailey, completing a PhD in experimental visual psychology.

I also stayed busy by being actively involved in inter-professional relations. I served as Inter-Professional Relations Chair for the Michigan Optometric Association (MOA) for 36 years and as a member and chair of the American Optometric Association’s (AOA) Interprofessional Relations Committee for nine years. I also served as a member of several state and national committees whose mission was to enhance cooperation between optometry and ophthalmology. I was a founding member of the State of Michigan Health Occupations Council and served on it for 11 years, along with being very active in the establishment of the Ferris State College of Optometry and chairing the Vision Division of the Michigan Public Health Association for ten years.

I served my community as a member and president of the Owosso School Board for 16 years and was a member of the Shiawassee County Health Board for nine years. I was awarded life membership in the MOA and received its Key Man, Optometrist of the Year, and Lifetime Achievement Awards along with life membership in the AOA. I am a life member of the American Academy of Optometry and received the Carel C. Koch Memorial Medal Award from the Academy in 1975 for contributions in the area of...
inter-professional relations. I am a distinguished practitioner and member of the National Academy of Practice in Optometry.

In 2004, I was the first optometrist ever elected to the Michigan state legislature, where I served in the House of Representatives until 2010, since then I have served as a board member for the Michigan League for Public Policy. Along the way, I managed to write 26 articles published in various vision-related journals.

Looking back at 55 years of optometric practice coupled with 41 years of teaching and research as an Associate Professor at MSU, it was a wonderful trip with a great profession. I owe a tremendous amount of credit to the educational foundation I received at The Ohio State University College of Optometry.

Larry Barger
Class of 1968

My experience at Ohio State created a platform for me to have a wonderful practice but also a great experience as an optometrist. Community involvement started very early in my career, joining the practice of Dr. Jack Keith, who encouraged me to get involved with my community. I had the privilege of chairing the 1991 NEC World Series of Golf at Firestone Country Club in Akron overseeing 1000 volunteers and raising almost a million dollars for the Akron community. I also served as President of the Fairlawn Kiwanis and Fairlawn Chamber of Commerce in 1986 and was named Fairlawn’s Citizen of the Year in 1988.

I am very proud of my professional accomplishments as well. Early in my career, I became Zone 3 Governor, continuing through many Ohio Optometric Association (OOA) committees and serving as President of the OOA in 1995. I was named the Warren G. and Ruth P. Morris Optometrist of the Year in 1997. I also have served the profession nationally as chairman of the American Optometric Association (AOA) Professional Relations Committee, as well as chairman of AOA Nominating Committees. I have been on the Association of Regulatory Boards of Optometry’s COPE Committee for the past 12 years, chairing the committee six years ago and continue to be a consultant to the COPE committee. I am also most proud of serving on the Ohio State Board of Optometry for 10 years.

I thank The Ohio State University College of Optometry for giving me the education to represent myself, as well as my profession, proudly throughout my career in optometry.

Joseph T. Barr
Class of 1977

As I look back over the 36 years since receiving my OD degree, I am most grateful for my wonderful mentors: Drs. Jerry Lowther, John Schoessler, Dick Hill, and Neal Bailey. I am so appreciative of all that I learned alongside my great colleagues and graduate students like Drs. Arol Augsburger, Karla Zadnik, Carla Mack, Mo Merchea, and Robert Steffen and all of my other fellow faculty and graduate students. I thank the many staff who have and continue to support our college and me with amazing dedication. Of course, teaching so many motivated, creative, and brilliant students is rewarding beyond belief. Working with Dr. Zadnik to establish the first National Eye Institute-sponsored, multi-center study based in optometry was the result of such remarkable effort by so many. Also, serving as editor of Contact Lens Spectrum for 20 years was the experience of a lifetime. My last six years at Bausch+Lomb have been rewarding, working with great people launching ten new products and working closely with former classmates and graduate students from Ohio State. Leading a major Bausch+Lomb philanthropic effort, the Pediatric Cataract Initiative, has been rewarding as well. More than anything, the support and love of Janet (RPh OSU ’77) and my daughters (Jennifer OSU ’04 and Beth OSU ’05) and watching our family grow, now with four grandchildren, is too good to be true.

Nancy Barr
Class of 1983

My professional accomplishments include Fellow, American Academy of Optometry; Diplomate, American Board of Optometry; and past president of the Georgia Optometric Association. I have been in private practice for most of my professional career but spent several years working for Vistakon in their Professional Affairs department. I volunteer monthly for the Georgia Lions Lighthouse and have been on eye missions abroad as well.

In my newest pursuit (in addition to practicing), I developed a training program designed to teach optometric/ophthalmic assisting skills to young women who have been exploited by human traffickers. At the training center, we have, in addition to our lecture area, an exam lane filled with donated equipment. We have gotten commitments from local practitioners to allow these young women to “shadow” or intern at their offices. This endeavor allows me to combine my passions for female empowerment, education, and eye care!

William J. “Joe” Benjamin
Class of 1979

Dr. William J. “Joe” Benjamin is a tenured Professor of Optometry and Vision Science at the University of Alabama at Birmingham (UAB), School of Optometry (UABSO). He is the director of the Eye Physiology and Ocular Prosthetics Laboratory, a Senior Scientist of UAB’s Vision Science Research Center, and a clinician in contact lens practice and primary eye care. His basic research interests include the physiology of the cornea and ocular surface and are related to his clinical research and practice with prosthetic eye devices such as contact lenses and conjunctival inserts. Dr. Benjamin was the convener (chair) of the contact lens working group of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) for 15 years. He is an active member of the ISO Committee on Ophthalmic Products of the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), the primary editor/author of ANSI Z80.20 and ISO 18369 standards on contact lenses, former chair of the American Optometric Association’s (AOA) Commission on Ophthalmic Standards and the AOA Seal of Acceptance Program, editor/author of the text Borish’s Clinical Refraction (now in its second edition), and an optometric member of the National Academies of Practice. Previously he was the Director of the Institute for Contact Lens Research at the University of Houston and UABSO’s Director of Clinical Eye Research. He is President of the International Society for Contact Lens Specialists and a council member of the International Society for Contact Lens Research, holds a patent on an improved design for a conjunctival insert, and was a coursemaster of the contact lens series at the UAB. He received the Dr. Josef Dallos Award from the Contact Lens Manufacturers Association, the Achievement Award from the Contact Lens and Cornea Section of the American Optometric Association, the Frederik William Herschel Medal from the International Society of Contact Lens Specialists, and the Statesmanship Award from the ISO contact lens working group. He has received sponsorship from companies and associations in 10 different countries and 15 different states in the US and has given presentations or conducted meetings in 25 countries and 27 states. For two years, he was the interim Chair of the UABSO Department of Optometry and Director of the Professional Program there. He is currently the Associate Dean of the UABSO and interim Director of the Professional Program. He and his wife, Dr. Patricia Benjamin, now monitor from afar the progress of their son, Daniel, an engineering graduate of Auburn University in the area of Materials Science.
Burton B. Berk  
Class of 1953

Dr. Burton Berk was born in Cleveland, Ohio in 1930. After graduating high school, he attended Ohio State and earned a BS in Optometry in 1953. Almost a quarter of a century later, he received his OD in 1977! Dr. Berk loved his family. He married Margery Rocco in 1951, and they had four children: Deborah, Bruce, Michael, and Lawrence. He helped Deborah and Margery run a successful travel agency for many years. In turn, son Bruce helped him run his various optometric-related businesses for many years. Michael graduated from the Illinois College of Optometry in 1983, practiced with Burton, and continues to operate the family practice today. Burton partnered with Lawrence on business investing practices.

Dr. Berk was a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry, a member of the National Eye Research Foundation, the American Optometric Association, the Ohio Optometric Association, the Ohio Vision Service Plan, Vision League Ohio, the International Orthokeratology Association, Optometric Extension Foundation, Inc., the Better Vision Institute, Phi Sigma Delta, and Whitehall Lions Club, and a lifetime member of Ohio State’s President’s Club.

When he passed away in 2012, he had 11 grandchildren and four great-grandchildren.

Burton loved the field of optometry. Besides the above achievements, he was always involved in local, state, and national meetings. He believed in his profession and worked hard to provide the best care he could to his patients while striving to improve the profession he loved. He did many research projects on new contact lens materials and solutions. He was on the forefront of orthokeratology, locally and nationally. He opened numerous satellite offices where new graduates could get their feet on the ground in private practice.

Dr. Berk also loved the institution that gave him his education, The Ohio State University. He was in charge of the Class of 1953 scholarship award. He taught as an instructor in the college. He also had a passion for Ohio State athletics, going to every home football game for more than 50 years!

David Berntsen  
Class of 2004

David A. Berntsen, OD, PhD, FAAO completed his Doctor of Optometry degree in 2002 at the University of Houston College of Optometry (UHCO). He completed a Cornea and Contact Lens Advanced Practice Fellowship (2004) and a PhD in Vision Science (2009) at The Ohio State University College of Optometry. During his studies, he was a two-time recipient of an American Optometric Foundation William C. Ezell Fellowship. His research interests include juvenile-onset myopia, contact lenses, and optical aberrations of the eye. Notably, Dr. Berntsen conducted the Study of Theories about Myopia Progression (STAMP), a two-year clinical trial evaluating theories of juvenile-onset myopia progression, which found evidence for an association between peripheral myopic defocus and slowed myopia progression in children. He has also conducted multiple adult and pediatric studies involving contact lenses and higher-order aberrations of the eye.

In 2010, Dr. Berntsen joined the UHCO faculty as an Assistant Professor, and his laboratory there continues to investigate juvenile-onset myopia and contact lenses. Dr. Berntsen teaches in both the professional and graduate programs and has mentored several NEI-supported professional students interested in a research career. He also volunteers as the UHCO faculty-student liaison to the American Academy of Optometry and as the advisor for the UHCO student chapter of the American Academy of Optometry. Dr. Berntsen lives in Houston, TX with his wife Monique (an OSU College of Nursing alumna) and their two children (Ella and Reed).

Lois Bing  
Class of 1948

Children and Youth Committee of the American Optometric Association for 12 years, from 1951 to 1963. She represented the American Optometric Association at the 1950 and 1960 White House Conferences on Children and Youth.

Beginning in 1951 and continuing for the next 45 years, she chaired the annual School Vision Forum and Reading Conference in Cleveland, Ohio. This interdisciplinary conference, which has been held at The Ohio State College of Optometry since 1997, always presents nationally prominent speakers in the fields of optometry, education, and psychology. Her groundbreaking leadership in bringing these three independent and diverse professions together in 1951 set a high standard for formal communication and collaboration that did not previously exist.

In recognition of her work in the areas of vision and reading, Dr. Bing received the Apollo Award for Distinguished Service from the American Optometric Association. She has also been named an Honorary Life Member of three prestigious professional organizations: the American Academy of Optometry, the Ohio Council of the International Reading Association, and the Ohio School Psychologists Association. In 1997, she received the prestigious Carel C. Koch Memorial Medal Award from the American Academy of Optometry. In 2002, she was inducted into the National Optometry Hall of Fame, and in 2006, she was honored by The Ohio State University Alumni Association with its Alumni Citizenship Award.

Dr. Bing and her son, Dr. James D. Bing (BS’60), established the Bing Pediatric Vision Library at the college in 2002, which provides students and faculty both historically-important and “cutting edge” knowledge in the field. Their library is now housed on the third floor of the college’s east (Starling-Loving Hall) wing.

Dr. Bing passed away on February 5, 2009.

Roger G. Boyd  
Class of 1952

From Cary Boyd Criss (Dr. Boyd’s daughter): Roger Boyd came from Cambridge to The Ohio State University after serving in the Pacific Theatre of WWII. During optometry school, he was a captain of Epsilon Psi Epsilon’s softball team, which was intramural runner-up in 1951. In the final game of the 1952 tournament, “Rog” contributed by beating out a bunt, stealing second, and scoring the tie-breaking run as the BuckEYEls won the University Championship! Singing lead in the fraternity’s quartet kept his foot in the arts. Roger was eventually president (and later, alumnus chair) of e.p.e., and yes, he vividly remembers being thrown mid-winter into Mirror Lake!

After receiving his degree in 1952, Roger began his private practice in a two-room building in Fairborn, Ohio. He saw patients in the front and lived in the back. A few moves—and years—later, he’d created quite a large practice, giving seven optometry graduates their career starts along the way. In 1963, Governor Rhodes appointed Roger to the Ohio State Board of Optometry, where he served two terms and was president for three years. In 1968, he was Ohio Optometricist of the Year and the Ohio State Optometry Alumnus of the Year. Roger was a trustee of the Ohio Optometric Association, board member of the International Association of Optometry, and chairman of the Legal Affairs committee of the American Academy of Optometry.
Somehow, Roger managed to raise a family in Fairborn. A daughter and two sons were educated in Buckeye tradition. His granddaughter now has the privilege of being Dr. Michael Earley’s patient, and she always finds Papaw’s picture in the basement of Fry Hall! The Boyd family loves to talk about their annual Canada fishing trips and have hilarious, wonderful memories of “being in the boonies!” Roger’s greatest sporting thrill was catching a 21-pound muskie on an 8-pound test line. In time, he became president of the local chapter of the Ohio State Alumni Association, president of the Fairborn Lions Club, president of St. Mark’s Lutheran Church congregation, and president of the Fairborn Civic Music Association. He loved playing tennis and is a life master in bridge.

Dr. Boyd is most remembered by his colleagues as a different breed of optometrist. He led the way for optometry to establish and maintain a professional, non-commercial image as it matured to its vital eyecare status of today. Roger subscribed to the highest ethical principles, and the best interests of his patients always came first. Caring for and getting to know generations of families has been one of his greatest joys. When Roger retired in 1999, after 47 years of service, the Fairborn Daily Herald said that whatever chapter comes next, “the outfields will be playing him deep.” He just completed his Honor Flight for WWII service.

Tyson J. Brunstetter
Class of 1997

Commander Tyson Brunstetter entered military service in 1996 while an optometry student at Ohio State. He has spent most of his U.S. Navy career working on Research, Development, Test and Evaluation (RDT&E) programs within the Department of Defense (DoD). Some of his favorite career highlights include earning his “wings of gold” as a Naval Aerospace Optometrist; providing quarterly Vision Science lectures at the U.S. Naval Test Pilot School; conducting military-focused medical research, including three landmark “LASIK in Naval Aviation” studies and four FDA Investigational Device Exemption protocols; and deploying as the sole DoD eye care provider for allied service members in Kuwait and southern Iraq. His current duty is to ensure that deployed medical devices (e.g., vital signs monitors, portable ventilators, etc.) are effective, suitable, and survivable in the austere environments encountered by our military forces. Throughout his career, he has relied on his Ohio State training and experiences on a daily basis and is extremely proud to be a Buckeye.

Commander Brunstetter received his OD, MS, and PhD degrees from The Ohio State University College of Optometry and an Executive MBA from the Naval Postgraduate School. He is a Fellow of the Aerospace Medical Association and the American Academy of Optometry. He was named the 2004 Armed Forces Junior Optometrist of the Year and, in 2011, received the Aerospace Physiology Society Paul Bert Award for outstanding aerospace research contributions. In 2012, he was selected as a U.S. Navy candidate for the NASA Astronaut Corps. CDR Brunstetter’s favorite activity is spending time with family, especially his wife, Laura, and his two amazing children, Bayden and Elle.

Jerry Christensen
Class of 1964

Dr. Jerry Christensen, Emeritus Dean and Professor of Optometry, University of Missouri St. Louis College of Optometry

Education: B. Sc. in Optometry, 1964; MSc in Physiological optics, 1966; PhD in Physiological Optics, 1969.

In 1969, after receiving my PhD in Physiological Optics, I took a position as Assistant Professor at the Massachusetts College of Optometry (now New England College of Optometry) in Boston. While in Boston I was appointed Director of the Physiological Optics Tract, Chair of the Student Affairs Committee and the faculty representative to the Board of Trustees. In 1973, I took a position as Assistant Professor at the School of Optometry at the University of Alabama in Birmingham. Two years later, I was promoted to Associate Professor and appointed as the School’s first Assistant Dean of Student Affairs. In 1976 I was awarded an American Council on Education Fellowship in Academic Administration. Following this yearlong program—including three months as a special assistant to the President of the Medical University of South Carolina, in Charleston—I was appointed UAB’s Chairman of the Physiological Optics Department and Director of the Graduate Programs. In 1978, I was appointed a member of the National Advisory Eye Council of the National Institutes of Health, the body that approves funding for all NIH-funded vision research. Over these years, I also taught monocular sensory processes, ocular anatomy, ocular optics, ocular motility, and binocular vision.

In 1980, I applied for and was selected for the position of Dean Designate for a potential school of optometry at the University of Missouri-St. Louis—that is, I was to be dean if the school actually started. Nothing could be done until the school officially came into existence, which it did on June 1, 1980, and I had to hire faculty, ready facilities, and admit students by the start of classes in late August. When I arrived, the school consisted of a desk, a phone and a re-assigned administrative assistant; my first task was to order paper, pens, scissors, and tape. It was hectic, but everything came
Palmer R. Cook  
**Class of 1964**

Our Ohio State Optometry Class of 1964 was the last class that didn’t have the option of obtaining our optometric degree from The Ohio State University without returning for part-time, post-graduate studies. Five of us, John Allen, Roy Schlabach, Glenn Toth, Jack Youshak, and I, elected to continue for our fourth year of optometric education at the University of Houston. Nevertheless, I believe we all still consider ourselves to be Ohio State optometrists at heart. Following graduation in 1965, I practiced in Eaton, OH (the last exit on I-70 before reaching Indiana) for many years.

For my first 20 years in practice I did my bit in wearing out I-70, traveling to Ohio State to serve as a part-time instructor. I was encouraged in this as well as in the study of optics by one of my favorite professors, Brad Wild. I have had a life-long interest in books and reading, and I owned and operated a bookstore café in Grandview for several years. I left the book business in 1995, and in January of 1996 I accepted an invitation to join Diversified Ophthalmics in Cincinnati on a full-time basis. Although I had a great interest in pediatric vision care while I was practicing, I decided to focus on optics and lens design after joining Diversified.

In 2003 I began writing feature articles for 20/20 Magazine and L&T (Lens & Technology) Magazine. Both publications are produced by Jobson Publishing. Although my articles do not always conform to the mainstream opinions of the large manufacturers, my editor at Jobson remains supportive of my efforts to keep clinical lens information within the bounds of fact and science.

When I joined Diversified, I don’t believe I had an official job title. That was probably because they were a bit unsure about what to do with me, a comment I’d heard before. Today I am their Vice-President of Practice Enrichment. I write a weekly bulletin for the Eye Care Practitioner (ECP) Network, a 1000+ member affiliate of Diversified. Both the bulletin and the ECP Network strongly support independent optometric practice. I also write a monthly column for Diversified’s newsletter and a weekly Bulletin for the ECP Network. I frequently consult on lens and eyewear design for optometrists coast to coast.

I have dabbled at writing fiction. The 2012 Goose River Anthology published one of my favorite short stories, “Mr. Willy Talks about Tonsils”, as its lead short story. At present I am still working full time developing a practical device to allow clinicians to measure the index of unknown lenses in-office. I also enjoy cooking, woodworking, reading, writing, and relaxing (in about that order).

Kevin T. Corcoran  
**Class of 1983**

Kevin T. Corcoran, OD, FAAO, is a 1983 graduate of the College of Optometry, having earned both a Bachelor of Science degree in Physiological Optics and his Doctor of Optometry degree from Ohio State. He then completed a residency at the Veterans Administration Medical Center in Cleveland. Since 1984, he has been practicing at the Cincinnati Eye Institute, where he is the Director of Optometric Services and directs an accredited residency in ocular disease in affiliation with The Ohio State University College of Optometry. He is a Clinical Associate Professor at the College.

Through his efforts, residents obtain a vast array of clinical experience. Dr. Corcoran is well regarded as an esteemed teacher and mentor. He has established himself as an expert in the field and has attained many scholarly achievements throughout his career. He is a frequent lecturer and invited speaker at many prominent national meetings and has amassed 120 such speaking engagements. He has published case reports and posters and has participated in dozens of clinical trials.

Dr. Corcoran has a distinguished record of service to the profession, most notably in his involvement with the Ohio Optometric Association (OOA). He has served on the Continuing Education Committee and the EastWest Eye Conference Committee for nearly three decades. He has been recognized for his contribution to optometry by receiving the OOA’s Outstanding Service Award as well as being named the OOA’s Warren G. and Ruth P. Morris Optometrist of the Year in 1994.

Charles Pat Creighton  
**Class of 1958**

Dr. Creighton graduated from The Ohio State College of Optometry in 1958. Dr. Creighton was a pioneer in research and development of soft contact lenses. He authored many books and scholarly papers on soft contact lenses. His first book, *Contact Lens Fabrication Tables*, was published in 1964. The book was a standard reference for laboratories and expert fitters in the United States and abroad, as well as a textbook in some schools and colleges of optometry. The main focus of the book is the use of mathematical systems analysis, the basis for today’s numerous computer lens design programs, the first of which was the Olivetti program.

Dr. Creighton’s second book, *Contact Lens Fabrication Tables for Hydrogels*, was published in 1966. The new methodology presented in this book allowed labs for the first time to custom fit soft contact lenses. Dr. Creighton holds patents covering lens design, polymeric blank processing, and polymeric formulations relating to soft contact lenses. He founded Alden Optical in 1969, which specializes in custom and soft contact lenses. The business is operated today by his son, Charley.

Terry Daniel  
**Class of 1970**

After graduating from The Ohio State University College of Optometry, Dr. Terry Daniel and his wife, Dr. Shirley Daniel, accepted clinical faculty positions at the college. In 1972, they opened a practice in Berea, Ohio and enjoyed practice together until Shirley’s passing in 2006. Their daughter, Dr. Jennifer Engle, and her husband, Dr. Jonathan Engle, joined the practice in 2005.

Dr. Daniel has been involved in Vision Service Plan (VSP) governance since joining its board of trustees in the early 1980s. He was Chairman of the VSP Board in 1983 and later chaired the Northeast VSP (seven states). In 1984, Dr. Daniel also became a staff optometrist at the Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Center and still works at the VA taking care of veterans and training optometry residents and externs. He currently holds adjunct faculty appointments at The Ohio State University College of Optometry, the Illinois College of Optometry, and Case Western Reserve School of Medicine, Department of Ophthalmology.

Dr Daniel is also the proud father of twin sons, Dr. William Daniel worked for Indian Health Services for six years and currently is the staff optometrist at the New Philadelphia VA Clinic. Will’s twin, Dr. Terry L. Daniel, is a periodontist practicing in Columbus, who also holds a faculty position at Ohio State’s College of Dentistry.
When not working, Dr. Daniel enjoys time with his grandchildren, Emmy, Chase, and Ella, at his summer home on Middle Bass Island.

Kent Daum  
**Class of 1976**

Dr. Kent M. Daum graduated from The Ohio State University College of Optometry in 1976. He subsequently received his MS and PhD degrees from Ohio State under the tutelage of Dr. Richard Hill and Dr. Glenn Fry. He has been a faculty member at four optometric institutions (Ohio State, the University of Alabama, Birmingham School of Optometry, the Illinois College of Optometry (ICO), and the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences (MCPHS) and served as Dean of Academic Affairs at ICO and MCPHS. His achievements have included chairing the curriculum committee; directing a faculty intramural practice; managing budgets; recruiting and mentoring faculty; designing, building and renovating new and renovated facilities; and teaching, precepting, and providing patient care. He played a role in the Chicago Vision Outreach program providing eye and vision care to thousands of Chicago schoolchildren and also contributed to the development of the Black Belt Eye Care Consortium. He published a textbook as well as a number of papers in the peer-reviewed literature. He served on the Environmental/Occupational Vision Committee in the American Optometric Association; chaired the Student-Faculty Liaison Committee of the American Academy of Optometry; and served in several roles within the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry. He has provided vision care to patients at the Mobile County Health Department in Mobile, Alabama. Dr. Daum has been married to his wife, Kathy, for 42 years. He enjoys people, running, swimming, reading, and sports.

Jacqueline G. Davis  
**Class of 1981**

These are the things of which I am most proud:
- The Ohio State University College of Optometry graduate in 1981
- Solo private practice in Columbus for 22 years
- Appointed to the Ohio State Board of Optometry by the governor of Ohio. Served for 10 years and was elected twice as president of that board.
- VRICS and PAM Committee member and Chief Examiner for the Clinical Skills test for the National Board of Optometry
- Returned to Ohio State and earned a Masters in Public Health in 2008
- Member of the National Optometric Association and American Optometric Association and a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry
- Currently an Associate Professor of Clinical Optometry at Ohio State
- Mother of two sons and wife of a retired Columbus firefighter

Thanks again for this great honor!

Greg DeNaeyer  
**Class of 1998**

Greg DeNaeyer is a 1998 graduate of The Ohio State University College of Optometry. He completed a hospital-based residency at the Chillicothe/Columbus VA Medical Center. Greg practices at Arena Eye Surgeons in Columbus, Ohio with an emphasis on specialty contact lenses. Greg was a co-founder and past president of the Scleral Lens Education Society and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry. He is a contributing editor for Contact Lens Spectrum and a contributor to Review of Cornea and Contact Lenses and Optometric Management. Greg has lectured internationally on specialty contact lenses and was the 2013 Gas Permeable Lens Institute practitioner of the year. Currently his primary research is focused on scleral lens design.

Greg is married to Dr. Beth Travis DeNaeyer and they have two boys, Ethan (10) and Drew (6). He enjoys attending his boys’ sporting events, fly fishing, and reading.

Patrick Dollenmayer  
**Class of 1991**

I graduated from the College of Optometry in 1991 and immediately went to work with Dr. Ted Smiley in a practice in Columbus, Ohio. In 1997, we became business partners and formed Columbus Eyecare Associates, Inc., which has become an extern practice site for students from the college. We have had a few contact lens studies published in Contact Lens Spectrum as well as being progressive in fitting all types of specialty contact lenses.

I married Sherry Hohman, an optometrist from the class of 1994, who now practices as Dr. Sherry Dollenmayer in Marion, OH. We have four great kids: Simone (15), Ben, Alex, and Renee (all 13 years old). My great family allows me to perform in three bands, playing guitar and singing, both of which have always been an important part of my life. One of those bands happens to be Bad Habits, “The Official Eye Docs of Rock,” who perform nationally at most of the major optometric meetings.

Michael Earley  
**Class of 1988**

June 9, 1988 was a great day. It was the day I earned my OD degree from Ohio State and the day my wife and I decided to stay in Ohio for me to continue my graduate work to pursue my PhD degree. “Let’s give it a year” was our plan then, and now, 26 years later, I realize the opportunities that began that day. My life truly has been a “But for Ohio State…” ride.

I have had the opportunity to teach 1,500 optometrists in the didactic areas of general anatomy, histological anatomy, ocular anatomy, and even in spatial perception – yes, the revered “horopter course.” I worked with Gregory Good and Kelly Nichols in a thorough curricular review and implementation of a clinical diagnostic reasoning course series, Keystone, and have since directed those courses. I teach the first year course in primary care procedures as our students prepare to serve as technicians in the second half of their first year. Teaching these talented individuals is a pleasure in itself. Having received teaching recognition from the students, the university, the American Optometric Association, and the American Academy of Optometry over the years was a tremendous honor.

Our incoming dean, Karla Zadnik, says that what defines a field as a profession (vs. a technical field) is the field’s unique contribution to research. Over the last quarter century, I have had the opportunity to help define optometry as a profession by working with colleagues like Paulette Schmidt, Marjean Kuip, and many others in research projects that have changed the way we practice optometry, e.g., Vision In Preschoolers (VIP), the Convergence Insufficiency Treatment Trial (CITT), and Amblyopia Treatment Studies (ATS). I am currently working with Andrew Hartwick and Cayti McDaniel on a project that just might explain the neural basis of photosensitivity following traumatic brain injury. Where else but Ohio State can a Chicago southsider be given the opportunity to participate in such important endeavors?

Clinically, I served as an attending and chief of service in the Pediatrics and Binocular Vision Service and watched it grow and become a center of
excellence that receives national referrals for many binocular vision issues, aniseikonia, and amblyopia. I served as part of the comanagement team at Ohio State in the care of patients with traumatic brain injury. Over the last two years I served as Assistant Dean of Clinical Services and had the opportunity to work more closely with our attendings and service chiefs who balance clinical care excellence and clinical teaching so well! The future of optometric education is looking very good given the team of clinical educators that has been established at Ohio State! I have also had the honor of working with optometric leaders as a trustee on the board of the Ohio Optometric Association and the board of Optometry Alumni and Friends. Working more closely with Rick Cornett and Linda Fette convinces me that optometry has not passively moved from getting diagnostics, as it did when I was a student, to having the ability to pharmacologically treat all diseases of the visual system without a never-ending amount of work from people like Rick and Linda and all the doctors who volunteer many hours to serve on boards and committees of OOA, AOA, AAO etc. It has been an honor to serve alongside these true leaders.

Of course all of this is secondary to the fact that my career has allowed me to thoroughly enjoy my life with my wife of 31 years, Tracy, and my kids Mick, Sean, and Maggie (some of you may have heard me mention them in 1 or 1000 lectures). I could not love them more or be more proud of all of them despite the fact that, of our kids, only Maggie has decided to pursue a career in optometry. Of course all of this is secondary to the fact that my career has allowed me to thoroughly enjoy my life with my wife of 31 years, Tracy, and my kids Mick, Sean, and Maggie (some of you may have heard me mention them in 1 or 1000 lectures). I could not love them more or be more proud of all of them despite the fact that, of our kids, only Maggie has decided to pursue a career in optometry.

Honestly, I wasn't really sure I liked the whole "But for Ohio State" line when I first heard it, but when I look back over the last 30 years I have spent here as a professional student, graduate student, faculty member, and administrator, I have decided it is actually quite accurate. So thank you to all that so far have made this ride such a truly productive and enjoyable experience! Go Bucks!!

Roy Ebihara
Class of 1963
Roy U. Ebihara, OD, FAAO received the Ohio Optometric Association’s (OOA) Warren G. and Ruth P. Morris Optometrist of the Year award in 1993. He has many memberships and affiliations like Past President of the Lorain County Optometric Society, Past President and life member of the Ohio State Optometry Alumni Association, Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity (VOSH), and a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry. His professional service includes: VOSH Eye Care Missions in Honduras, School Vision Consultant for Lorain County, Founder of the OOA Contact Lens Committee and a presenter of the OOA’s RealEyes program. Dr. Ebihara retired from practice in 1992 and is currently a consultant for the Cleveland Clinic. His community and civic activities include Oberlin NAACP, Chamber of Commerce, Lions Club, Salvation Army, Metro Parks and guest lectures at University of Akron, Lorain County Community College, and Grand Valley State University.

Dr. Ebihara has always felt that, as a healthcare provider, there is a need to provide humanitarian service beyond the office door. Once he retired, he provided eyecare at the County Free Clinic and joined Ohio VOSH in eye care mission to remote areas. Doing those meaningful things have allowed Dr. Ebihara to put together a satisfying closure to his professional career without regrets.

Mark W. Eger
Class of 1968
Mark W. Eger, OD, FAAO has been in private practice for 46 years in Coraopolis, PA. His practice has grown from the one his father Elmer founded in 1942, as a solo practitioner, to become The Eger Eye Group today with his son Noah, two other ODs, and an ophthalmologist. Dr. Eger became a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry in 1971 after encouragement by his father, and he is happy to say that his son is a Fellow as well. Dr. Eger served on the Board of Directors of the Academy for 14 years and served as president of the organization for two years. He now sees patients on a half-time basis, giving him more time to enjoy their five grandchildren with his wife, Susan.

Vincent J. Ellerbrock
Class of 1940
Dr. Vincent J. Ellerbrock was a professor of physiological optics and optometry at Ohio State for 18 years, beginning in 1947. He was a native of Delphos, Ohio and received three degrees from Ohio State: BS (1940), MS (1941), and PhD (1947).

The late Dr. Ellerbrock began his distinguished academic career as an assistant professor on the optometry faculty in 1947 and was promoted to associate professor in 1950; he became a full professor in 1957. He also had a small private practice located on the first floor of the Canterbury Apartments building on Olentangy River Road. He was the author of numerous articles in optometry and vision science, including a textbook and a clinical manual used by Ohio State optometry students.

He chaired the American Academy of Optometry's postgraduate educational courses for many years; because of his extraordinary love of and contribution to the Academy, the organization’s Executive Council named the continuing education portion of its annual meeting after him.

Jess Boyd Eskridge
Class of 1959
Dr. Eskridge began his career in optometric education at the University of Houston College of Optometry, where he taught for four years. In 1958, he enrolled in the Graduate Program in Physiological Optics at The Ohio State University College of Optometry. He then received two degrees from Ohio State—his Master of Science in 1959 and his Doctor of Philosophy in 1964.

Dr. Eskridge began his service on the Ohio State faculty in 1961 and was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor in 1967. While at Ohio State, his “orthoptics oral exams” given at the end of the third year that had to be passed before students could progress on into the fourth year clinics were legendary! He left Ohio State in 1971 for a comparable faculty position at the Indiana University (IU) School of Optometry. He was at IU for only one year; and then moved to the University of Alabama in Birmingham (UAB) School of Optometry, where he was appointed Chair of the Optometry program in 1972 by that school’s founding Dean, Dr. Henry B. Peters. He served as Professor of Optometry and Chairman of the Department of Optometry at UAB for the remainder of his career and retired from there in 1990.

Scholarship was a hallmark of Dr. Eskridge’s academic career. He published more than 70 articles and book chapters in the peer-reviewed literature areas of clinical optometry, binocular vision and strabismus, and glaucoma. Dr. Eskridge was also an early advocate of continuing optometric education for practicing optometrists and provided more than 400 courses to local societies, state, regional, and national optometric programs. He served as the Chair of the American Academy of Optometry’s Ellerbrock Committee on Continuing Education for 24 years; for his unselfish devotion to the Academy, he received that organization’s Eminent Service Award in 1994. He had a great intellect, a positive attitude, and unlimited compassion to help others in their career development. Dr. Eskridge passed away in 2011.
H. Ward Ewalt, Jr.
Class of 1929

Dr. Ewalt began his outstanding optometric career just before the Great Depression of 1929, when he graduated from Ohio State with a BS degree in Applied Optics. After his graduation, he entered private practice in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and conducted research in the areas of vision training, low vision, contact lenses, and aniseikonia. He was a member of the American Optometric Association (AOA) for 66 years and held at least 48 different positions in that organization, from committee member to the 41st President (1962-63).

A study of AOA records shows that during the period from 1940 through 1971, almost nothing of consequence within the profession of optometry took place without Dr. Ewalt’s active involvement. He served as vice-chairman of the Tri-State Conference on Vision and Reading through three decades and was the founder of the Optometric Extension Program’s (OEP) Middle Atlantic Congress. He was the editor of the “Manual of Optometric Tests and Requirements,” Chairman of the AOA Journal committee (1960-61), the author of numerous professional papers and monographs, and a presenter of more than 100 lectures in the US and throughout the world. As Chair of the AOA Education Council (a forerunner of the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education-ACOE), he established a high standard of academic excellence in optometry by directing preparation of the “Manual on Accrediting,” which was accepted by the National Commission on Accrediting and followed by all optometry schools and colleges. The AOA formally thanked him and recognized his service to humanity in 1965 with its highest award, the Apollo Award.

On April 1, 1977, Dr. Ewalt established a permanently endowed fund at the College, the H. Ward Ewalt, Sr. and Jane S. Ewalt Permanent Endowment Fund, to honor his parents. This gift continues to provide the College with critical funds in support of projects related to children’s vision.

In 1990, he received the OSU Alumni Association’s Citizen Award. When asked what was most important to him outside of his family and work, he said, “the effort to make the College of Optometry at The Ohio State University the top optometric program in the world.” Optometric Educators, Inc. also established a medal in his honor that same year, which is given in recognition of exemplary service to the College and the profession.


Steven H. Eyler
Class of 1977

Dr. Steve Eyler is a proud member of the leadership-laden Class of 1977 and played on the infamous Episcotists intramural basketball team, which claimed the Ohio State Grad-Championship. That final game is remembered for classmate and point guard Dr. Joe Barr actually passing the ball to Dr. Eyler three times in that game, a record.

Dr. Eyler is the senior and founding partner of University Eye Associates, an eight-doctor, full-scope, primary care practice in North Carolina (NC). He is the team optometrist for UNC-Chapel Hill’s men’s basketball team. In 2014, the clinic was recognized as the Outstanding Optometric Clinic in the State of North Carolina. He has been involved in several Optometric Associations and has served as President of the North Carolina Optometric Association. He has served as President of the AAO and is a member of the American Academy of Ophthalmology’s Admittance Committee for the last 11 years and has lectured on leadership at the Academy’s Annual Meeting the last five years. Dr. Eyler’s honors include: the University City Rotary Distinguished Service Award (1994), the ARBO Distinguished Service Award (1999), the inaugural NC State Optometric Society Dr. Robinson Clinical Excellence Award (2002), the NC State Optometric Society Dr. Costabile OD of the Year Award (2005), and the American Optometric Student Association Founders Award (2009).

Harry Fagedes
Class of 1954

Hard work got me through The Ohio State University, College of Optometry to achieve a B average. I also ran the dishwasher at Baker Hall -- dirty dishes but delightful women -- where I met my wonderful wife. I spent 3.5 years in the Navy and became the Signal Officer on the USS Intrepid. We returned to Cincinnati and soon established an urban practice with emphasis on contact lenses. Also, at night school, I was awarded an MBA degree, perhaps the first for an OD. I published several articles on the subject of contact lenses and was the first person to publish information on the dangers of thimerosal and the million dollars of damage it caused contact lens wearers. I served two years as Secretary of Radio Reading Services.

Concerned about the future of optometry, I became active in optometric affairs. I caused the state association to take a stand against vertical integration within the optical industry. Look at us now! I served for five years and became the President of the Ohio Optometric Association. In that capacity, I was instrumental in passing the law that allowed us to use diagnostics. I became aware at this time of the dangers of the commercial elements achieving price advantage over the independents and created the name “Diversified Ophthalmics” and worked with my colleagues to make it a major corporation serving the independent optometrists. Optometry has been wonderful to me. I sold my last optical laboratory this year and have retired at age 82. I am so blessed to have a daughter who became an OD.

Tony Fenton
Class of 1989

Shortly after graduating from The Ohio State University College of Optometry in 1989, Dr. Fenton joined a private practice in Dayton, Ohio, Vision Makers, where he is part owner of a group practice. He practices primary care optometry including contact lenses and disease evaluation and treatment. He also practices part-time at the ophthalmology office of Drs. Brian Stahl and James Knowles, where he co-manages cataract, refractive laser, and ocular disease patients.

Dr. Fenton has participated in Prevent Blindness Ohio for the past 20 years where he donates over 200 eye examinations a year. He has served on the board of Prevent Blindness Ohio for several years and is currently the chairman of the Dayton chapter. Dr. Fenton’s practice donates a ton (!) of food each year to the Dayton Food Bank and also is the largest donor of glasses to the Lions Club of Montgomery County.

Dr. Fenton and his wife of 20 years, Jeni, have a son, Aaron, and two daughters, Ryan and Riley. His hobbies include a family-inspired love for music; he plays the guitar and drums. He has played in the all-optometrist band, Bad Habits - The Eye Docs of Rock, since his college days in 1987. He enjoys playing at optometry conventions across the country, providing him the opportunity to travel, play music, and connect with friends and colleagues.

He writes, “But for the opportunities offered by THE Ohio State University, my work in the profession of optometry and my love of music may not have ever happened. Go Bucks!”
Nicklaus Fogt
Class of 1992

Dr. Nick Fogt has been a Buckeye since 1985, when he began his college education at The Ohio State University. Nick graduated from The Ohio State University College of Optometry in 1992. Upon graduation, he completed a residency in hospital-based optometry at the Cleveland Veterans Administration Medical Center. Following his residency, Nick returned to Ohio State and completed his PhD in 1996. In July of 1996, Nick became Assistant Professor of Optometry and Physiological Optics at The Ohio State University College of Optometry.

Nick is well known for his teaching and has received numerous awards as a result. Nick was named The Ohio State University Inter-Professional Council Professor of the Year in 1999 and was awarded the Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching at Ohio State in 2003. He was awarded the Graduate Teaching Award for Vision Science at the college in 2008 and has won the Herbert Mote Award at the College of Optometry five times. Nick is now a full professor at the college.

Nick’s current research involves eye and head movement in baseball. He is named as the inventor on a patent for a device that monitors these movements, and he is currently conducting research with baseball players of all levels.

Nick is married to Jenny Swingle Fogt, who is also a Buckeye and optometrist. They have two children, Mallory and Zachary, who make every day fun! Nick enjoys playing the drums, riding bikes with his family, and cheering for the Buckeyes.

Jon Forché
Class of 1998

Jon Forché OD, FAAO graduated magna cum laude from Miami University in 1993 and from The Ohio State University College of Optometry in 1998. He completed a fellowship in corneal disease/low vision rehabilitation at the Birmingham, Alabama VA medical center in 1999 while his wife, Dr. Nadine Humen Forché, was on the faculty at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Optometry. Dr. Forché is in group practice at Five Points Eye Care in Athens, GA with Nadine Humen Forché, OD/MS’97, FAAO and Meg Byra, OD, FCOVD. Jon was named Georgia’s Young Optometrist of the Year in 2004 and became a fellow of the American Academy of Optometry in 2006. He is a Diplomate in the American Board of Optometry. Dr. Forché has worked as a consultant for vision rehabilitation optometrists for Vision Rehabilitation Services in Atlanta, GA since 2001 and with VISTAS in Athens, GA since 2006. Dr. Forché also enjoys teaching students. He is a preceptor for The Ohio State University College of Optometry’s externship program. Dr. Forché is the current Georgia Optometric Association PAC chairman having served in that position for the past seven years. In his free time, Dr. Forché spends time with his wife and 11-year-old twins. They enjoy gardening, soccer, skiing and hiking.

Nadine Forché
Class of 1997

Dr. Nadine Humen Forché graduated in 1997 with her Doctor of Optometry and Master of Science in Physiological Optics and then completed a Veterans Affairs residency in Columbus and Chillicothe. During that year she married another optometrist, Dr. Jon Forché, and they moved to Birmingham, AL where she was an Assistant Clinical Professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. School of Optometry. Although she loved teaching, she and Jon decided to join a private practice in Athens, GA, Five Points Eye Care. Early in her career she became a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry and lectured on clinical cases and coding. She has been actively involved in the Georgia Optometric Association (GOA) where she was the President of the Northeast Georgia District and is now the Trustee for her district and Chairperson of the Board of Trustees. She is also the GOA Third Party Coordinator. Dr. Forché became a Diplomate in the American Board of Optometry in 2013. She is a preceptor for the extern program at Five Points Eye Care which has students from The Ohio State University College of Optometry and the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Optometry. She truly enjoys teaching fourth-year optometry students and watching them grow during their rotations in her practice. Besides running a private practice, she is also mom to boy-girl twins named Hayden and Adelyn “Addie” and is the Chairperson of the Advisory Council and the Development and Marketing Committees for their school.

Allen James Fortuna
Class of 2005

Dr. Fortuna’s mother, Karen Fortuna, wrote us, “We were very happy to hear that our son Allen, AJ to us, was chosen as one of Ohio State Optometry’s 2014 Centennial Notables. We thank you for this honor that you have given him.

AJ first told us that he was going to be an optometrist when he was 12 years old. We still have the paper he wrote on career day telling of his chosen profession. I don’t know why we kept it, since his career choice changed so many times, but it always came back to this. He was very happy when he was informed that he had been accepted at Ohio State. From the moment he moved into Epsilon Psi Epsilon (the εψε house), he knew he found a new family. He made many wonderful friends there, and they have continued to honor him by naming a room after him and also placing a plaque above the doorway of their meeting room. He loved his years spent at The Ohio State University College of Optometry and he loved his εψε family.

AJ earned his BS degree in Chemistry from Westminster College in New Wilmington, PA before attending Ohio State. His academic and professional achievements earned him membership in the Beta Sigma Kappa International Optometric Honor Society. AJ had a great affinity for children with eye problems and those who could not seek proper care due to financial limitations and was looking forward to helping those less fortunate by volunteering his time. Unfortunately this never came to be.

The impact our son had on his peers in his short life has amazed us. They continue to honor him with a Facebook page. We always knew he was special, but it has been a comfort to us to find that others thought so too. I am attaching a picture of the plaque they hung at the εψε house. Again, we thank you.”

Ralph Freeman
Class of 1963

Professor Ralph Freeman was an undergraduate at Miami University and completed the optometry program at The Ohio State University (BS’63). While there, he did a research project under the guidance of Glenn Fry, which led to an interest in vision research. At the University of California, Berkeley, he did an MS in Physiological Optics and a PhD in Biophysics. He was appointed as an Assistant Professor at UC Berkeley and became an Associate and then Full Professor there. He is associated with Vision Science and Optometry, Bioengineering, Biophysics, and the
Helen Wills Neuroscience Institute at UC Berkeley. He has taught various courses in neuroscience, visual science, and optometry, to undergraduate, graduate, and postgraduate students. Many of the students he has trained have become highly established scientists in their own careers.

He has been a Biophysics Training Fellow, the recipient of an NIH Research Career Development Award, a visiting research scientist at the University of Cambridge, and a Visiting Professor at the Chinese Academy of Science and at Osaka University School of Medicine. He has given a Plenary Special Lecture at the Society for Neuroscience and is an elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He has been an invited speaker in various worldwide locations at universities, research institutes, international conferences, and professional meetings. He has been an advisor to NIH and has served on study sections for NIH grant applications. He has been an advisor to the National Science Foundation, a reviewer for foundations and government agencies and for various scientific journals, periodicals, and publishing companies. He is a member of several scientific societies and editorial boards of scientific journals. He has received a Bing Memorial Award, is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry, gave the Peters Memorial lecture, gave an Alberta Heritage Foundation lecture, was a Fellow of the Japanese Society for Promotion of Science, gave the Brakeman Memorial lecture, was a lecturer in Barcelona, Spain for a Catalanian Studies Program, gave the David Bodian Seminar in Neuroscience at Johns Hopkins University, was a guest lecturer at University of Chile, Santiago, and gave a special lecture at York University, Toronto, Canada.

Dr. Freeman has had a very long and notable research career covering various areas of visual function. He has published extensively and is widely cited in the scientific literature. He is considered internationally as a pioneer and leading experimentalist in visual function. He has received various research grants during his extended career and has been funded in a competitive grant process continually for 41 years by the National Eye Institute, a division of the National Institutes of Health. Dr. Freeman is now retired but remains a Professor of the Graduate School at UC Berkeley. He was recently inducted into the Berkeley Optometry Hall of Fame.

**Glenn A. Fry**

Although Dr. Glenn Fry was not an alumnus of The Ohio State University College of Optometry, it is necessary and appropriate to begin this centennial celebration of our year-long series of notable optometry alumni with his story.

He completed his undergraduate degree at Davidson College in North Carolina in 1929 and his PhD degree in Psychology at Duke University in 1932. Two years prior to joining the faculty at Ohio State, he completed a post-doctoral fellowship in the ophthalmology department at the Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis. In 1935, Dr. Fry joined The Ohio State University as an Assistant Professor. Shortly thereafter, he was put in charge of the courses in Applied Optics in the Department of Physics, which was an academic unit within the College of Engineering. He quickly grasped optometry’s potential in the Ohio State environment and worked tirelessly (some of his students and faculty wondered if he really ever slept at all) to raise optometry’s presence within the university, the state, the nation, and even the world.

How he went about transforming the optometry curriculum at Ohio State, as well as its professional stature both within the university and beyond, was a path with many steps. Key among the steps was his ongoing development of a strong and comprehensive professional curriculum, incorporating not only basic sciences but also the best of clinical theory and practice. He taught nearly all of those courses at one time or another himself, continually amazing both students and faculty with his extraordinary range of interests, from the mathematical complexities of color vision theory to the most detailed aspects of spectacle lens fabrication and frame design. He learned and taught his subjects so well that he was able to take and pass the Ohio State Board of Optometry licensure examination in 1937, even though his original training was as a psychologist.

As Director of the School of Optometry, Dr. Fry continued his strong research interest, which included such clinical areas as skiasometry, visual acuity, and problems related to accommodation and convergence. Dr. Fry believed that optometry must play a university-wide role in fostering research in vision science. As a scientist, he took special pride in the formation of the Graduate Program in Physiological Optics (now Vision Science). During his illustrious career, he advised 45 graduate students (25 MS and 20 PhD students), more than any other optometry faculty member. Many of his graduate students became educators and researchers of great renown, and several have become Deans or Presidents at other schools and colleges of optometry.

Dr. Fry headed the optometry program until 1966, when he was made a Regents Professor. In recognition of his 44 years at the university—and his significant contributions to the profession—the Board of Trustees named the optometry building in his honor in 1983.

Dr. Fry passed away on January 5, 1996, in Columbus.

---

**Jack Fugate**

Class of 1951

Dr. Fugate was born in 1927 and was a lifelong resident of Columbus. He graduated from Bexley High School and then served in the United States Navy during World War II. He attended The Ohio State University, earning a Bachelor’s of Science in Optometry in 1951, a Master’s of Science degree in Physiological Optics in 1953, and then returned to receive one of the first four Doctor of Optometry degrees in 1966 from Dr. Fry. Dr. Fugate taught low vision courses in the College of Optometry and served as a part-time clinical instructor for 41 years. He also practiced optometry for 52 years in Plain City and Columbus and provided exceptional leadership as a member of the boards of Vision Service Plan, the Vision Center of Central Ohio, Prevent Blindness Ohio, and the Ohio Lions Eye Research Foundation.

He was a life member of the American Optometric Association and helped establish the Diplomate in Low Vision program for the American Academy of Optometry. He was nominated for a Jefferson Award, which is given to individuals in recognition of their exemplary public service, for providing vision care to the homeless in central Ohio.

Dr. Fugate retired as a faculty member at the College in 1994. He passed away in April of 2008.

---

**Daniel G. Fuller**

Class of 1984

Dr. Dan Fuller graduated from Purdue University and The Ohio State University, College of Optometry (OD’84). He served as a Lieutenant in the U.S. Navy, practicing in a hospital-based setting, until 1987. He received the Navy Commendation Medal for meritorious service. In 1987 he left active duty to join the faculty at the Southern College of Optometry, teaching in the Ocular Disease Service and holding didactic and laboratory assignments.

He purchased his first private practice in 1991 and a second in 2001 emphasizing specialty contact lens fits and surgical co-management. He returned as full-time faculty to The Eye Center at the Southern College of Optometry in 2008. He is now an associate professor, Chief of the Cornea Contact Lens Service, founding Supervisor of the Cornea Contact Lens Refractive Surgery Residency, and Faculty Chair. He has numerous publications to his credit, has lectured nationally, and continues to produce original clinical research. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry and scleral lens educators society. He has three daughters, Morgan, Abigail, and Claire, who are his greatest accomplishments. He writes, “There is not a day that has passed in my career where I have not thought of the optometric and life lessons learned while at the college.”
One of the greatest lessons learned is that no skill, no knowledge, and no accomplishment holds value if you do not pay it forward in service to others. Thank you for the opportunity to share a small part of this Buckeye’s journey.

Paul Gamertsfelder
Class of 1954
I have always enjoyed helping people. In 1972 I founded a program through my church called Work and Witness. In the early years I traveled with 15 teams to Haiti to give free eye exams and care to Haitians. From this beginning I have now coordinated and traveled on over 65 trips around the world helping in any way needed to work and witness to how Christ can change a life and make life worth living.

I have served my church, Shepherd Church of the Nazarene, in many capacities from the local church to the worldwide denomination. I now enjoy helping with mowing and trimming the church property. I also enjoy music from playing the organ in the past, to singing in the choir now. For the past 45 years I have faithfully worked out at a gym, and in the summer months enjoy riding my bike on the many beautiful trails around Columbus. I am blessed with good health and will soon reach the age of 86.

This past March an 18,000 sq. ft. facility was dedicated in my honor in Frome, Jamaica. You can learn more about the Gamertsfelder Medical Center at www.missionofsight.org.

Lyle Gassmann Jr.
Class of 2002
During his fourth year of study at The Ohio State University College of Optometry, Lyle waged a courageous fight against non-Hodgkin’s lymphoma. He passed away on December 4, 2001, following a bone marrow transplant. A very organized and well-prepared student, Lyle quickly became a leader in his class. His charisma, friendliness, and service to others marked his experience at Ohio State. He was genuinely interested in other people and made friends quickly, probably because people wanted to be around his joyful spirit. Lyle’s determination and his infectious enthusiasm for life will be remembered fondly, and sadly missed by all who knew him.

Dr. Cynthia Heard, Class of 1992, was an Ohio State Optometry clinical faculty member from 1993 to 2007 and remembers Lyle Gassman well. "I think I was the first person that Lyle Gassman spoke to about his diagnosis. He happened to be in the Primary Care clinic the day he received the call from the nurse regarding his diagnosis. He sat in my office and cried. He willed himself to control his emotions and went back to seeing patients. He was a phenomenal guy! I donate every year to the fund named in his honor by his family since it was established. There were many caring people at OSU optometry that helped Lyle and his family get through those tough months before his passing. He is truly missed."

Emeritus Dean John P. Schoessler was dean of the college when Lyle passed away in 2001, and he also remembers him fondly. "I remember Lyle as a servant/leader among his classmates. The Optometry Class of 2002 was a tightly knit group. Lyle encouraged and inspired his classmates, and his classmates surrounded him with compassion and reassurance as his disease progressed. He leaves a testimony of bravery, courage and selflessness. The Doctor of Optometry Degree was conferred to Lyle at convocation in June 2002. The diploma was presented to Dr. Gassmann’s family as a memorial and remembrance of his heartfelt desire to become an optometrist and to serve others through the optometric profession."

The Gassmann family honored Lyle’s life through an endowment. The Lyle Aloysius John Gassmann Memorial Award Fund in Optometry was established December 6, 2002, with gifts from family, friends, and classmates. The annual investment income from this endowment is awarded in its entirety to the graduating optometry student who best exemplifies Lyle’s humanitarian characteristics, leadership qualities, and service to others.

Robert Gerberry
Class of 1970
Dr. Robert Gerberry practices optometry for Eye Care Associates Inc. in Poland, Ohio. He focuses on comprehensive optometry with a specialization in contact lenses. He was the Outstanding Young Optometrist of the Year in 1972 and most recently received the 2014 Distinguished Alumni Award from Cardinal Mooney High School for providing leadership in his parish and community. He has had multiple board appointments including past president and secretary of the Ohio State Board of Optometry, member of the Board of Directors of the Ohio Optometric Association, and Governor of Zone 4. He has served as Medical Consultant of the Youngstown Area Committee and has been involved in the Head Start Program while also working with the Foundation Fighting Blindness. Other service in his career includes Past President, Tippecanoe Country Club, Parish Council, and St. Charles Church; member of the St. Vincent DePaul Society; and President, Cardinal Mooney High School Alumni Society. Dr. Gerber is a member of the Ohio Optometric Association, the American Optometric Association, Epsilon Psi Epsilon and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry.

Heath Gilbert
Class of 1992
Upon graduation from The Ohio State University College of Optometry, I was honored to join the practice of my father, Dr. Ron Gilbert, and brother, Dr. Marc Gilbert. I served on the Ohio Optometric Association (OAO) Board for eight years including a term as President in 2011. My father and I were the first father-son pair to both serve as OOA President; his term was in 1977-78. Throughout my career I have been actively involved in advocacy programs such as InfantSEE, Realeyes, Vision USA, and Prevent Blindness of Ohio.

Volunteering in my local Jewish community has always been important to me. I served as President of the Dayton Jewish Community Center and have chaired many different committees and events. I have been happily married to my wife, Rachel, for seven years. We have a six year-old son, four year-old daughter, and a newborn.

Ronald Gilbert
Class of 1955
Dr. Ronald Gilbert graduated from the Ohio State College of Optometry in 1955 and then served as an Optometry Officer in the U.S. Air Force for three years. He then went into private practice in Dayton, Ohio with Dr. Charles Thomas, who started the practice in 1939. Dr. Gilbert participated in many optometric activities such as the Miami Valley Society of Optometrists, the Ohio Optometric Association, the American Optometric Association, the American Academy of Optometry, and Vision USA. He was joined in practice by his two sons and has a grandson at the college. He was a key man for several Ohio and national legislators receiving the Ohio Key Man award in 2004. His other achievements include the Ohio Optometric Association’s Warren G. and Ruth P. Morris Optometrist of the Year Award in 1967 and President of the OOA in 1977-78.
Some of his local activities and awards included eye care provision for the Dayton VA, Chairman of the Montgomery County Health-a-Rama, President of the Lions Club, Chairman of the Provider Board of CareSource Health Plan, Sunday school teacher, member of the Board of the Dayton Interfaith Forum, and an active participant in the Greater Dayton Jewish Federation. He retired at the end of 2012 after 57 years of practice. His son, Dr. Heath Gilbert, also served as President of the OOA. His wife, Shirilee, served as President of The Women’s Auxiliary to the OOA.

Gregory W. Good
Class of 1975
Dr. Greg Good graduated from The Ohio State University College of Optometry in 1975 and entered active service in the United States Army. After 30 months of active service at Ft. Sill, Oklahoma, he returned to Ohio State to enter the Graduate Program in Physiological Optics. Dr. Good received his PhD in 1981, advised by Dr. Ron Jones, and immediately joined the College of Optometry faculty. Dr. Good began teaching courses in lighting, public health, and low vision; however, during his final 15 years at the College, he primarily taught photometry, color vision, and environmental vision. Dr. Good’s clinical focus was in serving the partially sighted, and he served as the Low Vision Clinic chief for 10 years. Over his last three years of college service, Dr. Good served as Assistant Dean for Clinical Services. Outside the college, Dr. Good served as the AOA representative to the ANSI Z87 Eye Safety Committee and as an officer in the Public Health and Environmental Vision Section of the American Academy of Optometry.

Dr. Good’s primary research interests were in the development of vision standards and eye safety in industry. With the help of Dr. Arol Augsburger (OD/MS’71), Dr. Good developed vision standards for the Columbus Police Department and the Division of Fire. Dr. Good also served as a vision consultant for the Ohio Highway Patrol and Bureau of Motor Vehicles and played a key role in helping establish Ohio’s biopic driving program. Nationally, Dr. Good served as a consultant and helped set vision standards for the US Secret Service, US Immigration and Customs Enforcement, US Customs, and Border Patrol, the Federal Aviation Administration, and the US Forestry Service. Memorable moments with these groups include: riding with a US Customs Special Agent who was putting on his protective vest over his head as he drove at 100 mph chasing a drug runner near the Mexican border; participating in an ambush on the “president” and his protective force at the Secret Service Training Academy; accompanying a border patrol agent to serve an arrest warrant to a non-citizen suspect at 5:00 A.M.; and, while flying in the cockpit of a US Customs radar plane over the Gulf of Mexico, hearing the pilot say “Whoa, that would have been bad,” as he veered to barely miss a flock of large migrating birds.

Terri Gossard
Class of 1996
Dr. Terri Gossard graduated from The Ohio State University College of Optometry in 1996 with her Doctor of Optometry and Masters Degree in Physiological Optics. She moved to Cincinnati upon graduation and shortly thereafter began practicing in a multidisciplinary group, providing comprehensive eye and vision care for the past 15 years. She has served on the Ohio Optometric Association’s (OOA) Board of Directors since 2007 and is currently the President. Dr. Gossard has served on the American Optometric Association’s (AOA) Professional Relations Committee, collaborating to present the AOA’s School Readiness Summit in 2011 that contributed to the “essential” designation of the vision benefit within the Affordable Care Act. She now serves on the AOA’s Health Center Committee.

Starting in 2010, as the OOA’s Children’s Vision Task Force Chair and the Ohio Optometric Foundation, Dr. Gossard began serving on the Executive Team of the nation’s first self-sustaining, school-based vision center at Oyler School. During the 2013-2014 school year, the center provided 2,766 patient encounters and 1,830 pairs of glasses (a 70% need) to the at-risk population of students within Cincinnati Public Schools. The vision center serves as a national model for other cities throughout the country. Dr. Gossard was privileged to present the project to the National Assembly of School Based Health Centers and the AOA Advocacy Meeting celebrating the first 100 days of the pediatric essential vision benefit.

Dr. Gossard is married to Ted, a family physician, and has a daughter Maggie (12) and a son Will (10). Having grown up in Columbus, she bleeds scarlet and gray but is also a fan of both the Cincinnati Reds and Bengals. She is thankful to Ohio State for both a superior education and lifelong friendships, including those of three of her bridesmaids, and she still wonders about the leaf room from time to time.

Robert Klark Graham
Class of 1937
Dr. Graham had an eclectic career in optics and the sciences before making his fame from lightweight, hard plastic eyeglass lenses. His life was filled with professional accomplishments and awards, starting with a degree from Michigan State University, followed by a Bachelor of Science degree in Optometry from Ohio State in 1937. Dr. Graham began his professional career working for Bausch and Lomb Optical Company and then worked for Unvis Lens Co. in Dayton, Ohio where he began research on plastic ophthalmic lenses. In 1946, the research program was discontinued and, along with three other Univis technicians, Dr. Graham moved to Pasadena, California and established Armorlite Lens Co., which is still one of the nation’s leading producers of ophthalmic lenses.

At the same time, Dr. Graham was developing a practice solely for contact lenses. While in California, he served as an associate professor in charge of the contact lenses and low vision courses and clinics at the Southern California College of Optometry.

Due to Dr. Graham’s early efforts and research in contact lenses, more than 80% of the lenses dispensed in the United States today are made from lightweight plastic. He is also credited with the introduction of a reflection-reducing coating for ophthalmic lenses, the development of colorless ultraviolet-absorbing lenses, and the invention of the variable focus lens as well as the invention of the hybrid corneal lens.

Dr. Robert Graham was married to Dr. Marta Everton Graham. They had nine children. He passed away in 1997.

James Gregg
Class of 1942
Dr. James R. Gregg received two degrees from Ohio State, a BS in Business Administration in 1937, and a BS in Optometry in 1942. He then moved to a warmer climate and earned his OD degree in 1948 from the Southern California College of Optometry (SCCO, then known as the Los Angeles College of Optometry). He served on the SCCO faculty for 37 years (1947 to 1984). He was also the interim dean of Academic Affairs at SCCO from 1975 to 1976 and grants administrator there from 1976 to 1984. At his retirement in 1984, he was named Professor Emeritus.

Dr. Gregg was a highly-respected educator and prolific author. He wrote three popular history books for the profession: The Story of Optometry, American Optometric Association: A History, and History of the American Academy of Optometry, 1922–1986. His writings appeared in 200 different magazines or journals, totaling more than 500 articles. In addition to the 15 books he authored, he also wrote more than 900 newspaper columns that appeared in more than 150 newspapers, and about 100 brochures on vision.
He also was successful as an outdoor writer. He published hundreds of articles on fishing, conservation, camping, and travel including cover stories for Field and Stream magazine. He combined his technical writing on optometry and his love of outdoors and became a leading writer on vision for the sportsman, and wrote the book The Sportsman’s Eye.

Dr. Gregg received numerous awards and accolades over his long career, including "Optometrist of the Year" from the California Optometric Association in 1956 and the "Distinguished Service Award," from the American Optometric Association in 1982.

Dr. Gregg died at the age of 94 in September 2009. He was inducted, posthumously, into the National Optometry Hall of Fame in 2010.

Theodore Grosvenor
Class of 1946

Dr. Theodore Grosvenor was born on April 19, 1923 and earned his BS-Optometry degree from Ohio State in 1946. He then practiced for 10 years in Franklin, Ohio, located in the southwestern part of the state. Apparently, private practice was not intellectually stimulating enough for him, because he decided to return to Ohio State for a PhD degree under Dr. Glenn Fry, which he received in 1956.

He served on the Ohio State Optometry faculty for a short time before moving on to faculty appointments at the University of Houston College of Optometry, the University of Waterloo, Ontario, Canada, the University of Montreal, the Illinois College of Optometry, and Indiana University School of Optometry. He was the founding head of the Diploma in Optometry Program at the University of Auckland in New Zealand and was also an adjunct professor at the Pacific University College of Optometry in Forest Grove, Oregon later in his career.

Dr. Grosvenor had an international reputation in optometric education for students in both the United States and abroad. He authored or coauthored seven optometric textbooks, including Myopia Epidemic-Nearsightedness, Vision Impairment and Other Vision Problems in 2002, which was intended for the public. He also chaired the Scientific Program Committee of the American Academy of Optometry for many years and was honored with the Academy’s Garland Clay Award in 1988 and Life Fellowship in the Academy in 1995.


Joseph A. Halabis
Class of 1982

My tenure with the Department of Veterans Affairs is now going on 29 years and my Academy Fellowship more than 25. I owe a great debt to those who have mentored me throughout my career. Early on, they showed me the value in teaching. I have had academic appointments with Indiana University, The Ohio State University, and now Duke University. Twice I have been named Clinical Professor of the Year of the Duke University Ophthalmic Technician Program. I have enjoyed the opportunity to lecture locally, nationally, and, on several occasions, internationally. My articles have appeared in numerous peer-reviewed journals.

My interest in ocular photography dates back to my days as a student at Ohio State. My photographs have graced journal covers, clinical articles, and book chapters. In biweekly rounds presentations, I share my clinical photographs and videos with Duke attendings, residents, and fellows. My images appear in the online Atlas of Ophthalmology and Shield’s Textbook of Glaucoma, Sixth Edition. I have won a number of ocular photography awards, including the 2013 American Academy of Optometry Anterior Segment Grand Prize.

My wife Debi and I met at Ohio State and have been married for 32 years. We both love animals and the outdoors. I have a passion for horses and riding, which has allowed me to volunteer as an Equestrian Coach for Special Olympics. Our home is now Hillsborough, North Carolina.
Cynthia G. Heard  
Class of 1992

Dr. Cynthia Heard received her Doctor of Optometry degree in 1992 from The Ohio State University College of Optometry. She completed a postgraduate residency in Geriatric Vision and Visual Rehabilitation at the Birmingham Veterans Administration Medical Center, which is affiliated with the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Optometry. Dr. Heard taught at The Ohio State University College of Optometry for 14 years in Primary Eye Care, Ocular Disease Service, and as a preceptor for the Primary Care Externship Program. She has been an Associate Professor of Optometry at the Southern College of Optometry since 2007 where she teaches in the Adult Primary Care and Vision Therapy and Rehabilitation Services.

Dr. Heard is a member of the American Optometric Association, the National Optometric Association (NOA), the Tennessee Association of Optometric Physicians, and the West Tennessee Optometric Physicians Society. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry. She is currently a Council on Optometric Practitioner Education reviewer and a volunteer for the Education Quality Assurance Committee for the Academy. Dr. Heard is also past president of the NOA.

Dr. Heard's professional interests include ocular disease management, especially dry eye and glaucoma, and optometric care of low vision patients.

Jay Henry  
Class of 1998

Dr. Henry obtained both his Doctor of Optometry and his Master of Science Degrees from The Ohio State University College of Optometry in 1998. Upon graduation, he joined James Hermann, OD in a private practice in Pickerington, Ohio, and in 2001 Dr. Henry proudly became a full partner at Hermann & Henry Eyecare. Dr. Henry is a Clinical Assistant Professor as well as a Primary Care Extern Preceptor for The Ohio State University College of Optometry. Dr. Henry has a true passion for educating others and speaks nationally and has published numerous articles on topics related to Electronic Health Records, paperless practices, technology, e-prescribing, PQRS (PQRI), and ocular disease. Dr. Henry was the first optometrist in the nation to use optometric software for e-prescribing. He is very proud to have co-written three national lecture series and lectured to more than 12,000 optometrists and optometric staff members over the past five years. Most exciting though is that Dr. Henry was lucky enough to meet his wonderful wife Dr. Julie Henry while in optometry school. She is currently the chief of the Eye Services at the Columbus Veterans Outpatient Clinic. When not lecturing or taking care of patients, the Hens can almost always be found with their two children Jacob (10) and Jillian (6).

Debbie Hettler  
Class of 1980

Dr. Hettler is the Clinical Director, Associated Health Education at VA Headquarters in Washington, DC, where she is involved with the policy and oversight for 40 clinical education disciplines. She is the first optometrist to work in the Office of Academic Affiliations at the Central Office and still sees patients at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Bethesda, MD, and carries an appointment as Adjunct Associate Professor at Salus University. Prior to this position, she established and developed an optometric education program in the VA, which evolved into optometric externships and residencies with four optometry schools, internal medicine rotations, nurse practitioner observations, and interactions with an ophthalmology teaching program.

Dr. Hettler previously was a full-time educator and has also worked clinically in interdisciplinary settings including VA, HMOs, contact lens research clinics, union occupational health offices, and private practices. She is a Regional Quality Assurance Representative conducting office inspections and record audits and consulting with eye care practitioners on improving clinical skills and documentation of patient care. Additional accreditation activities include acting as a consultant for the Council on Optometric Education and the Council on Education for Public Health and as a National Board of Optometry Examiner.

Dr. Hettler is recognized as an expert in optometry-related public health as demonstrated by her Diplomate status and leadership position in the American Academy of Optometry’s Public Health and Environmental Optometry Section and her Distinguished Practitioner in and Co-chair of the Annual Meeting of the National Academy of Practice in Optometry. She has served as chair of several committees and practices of the American Optometric Association, including the Multidisciplinary Practice Section and the Public Health Task Force. She has been an elected leader in local optometric societies in New York, Illinois and Missouri. Currently, she is a VA representative to the Federal Education and Training Interagency Group working on public health and medical education training standards for disaster medicine. She has also been an active leader with APHA and served in all offices of the Vision Care Section and has been the Chair of the APHA Education Board, Co-Chair of APHA Joint Policy Committee, Treasurer of the Metropolitan Washington Public Health Association, and an ex officio member of the APHA Executive Board and the Affiliate Representative Governing Councilor for Region 3 representing Delaware, Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia and District of Columbia in the Council of Affiliates.

Clayton Nathaniel Hicks  
Class of 1970

Dr. Clayton Nathaniel Hicks is the founder and owner of Driving Park Vision Center. For 44 years, Dr. Hicks has provided vision care services to 30,000 patients on Columbus, Ohio’s eastside. In 2010, he was recognized by the Molina Healthcare of Ohio as a respected, community leader and advocate, receiving the Community Champions Award. Passionate about reducing health disparities especially in the Driving Park Community, Dr. Hicks founded the Driving Park Walking Club, which currently serves as a model walking club for the City of Columbus. Since 1976, Hicks has served as the vision care consultant for the Ohio Medicaid Department, using his experience and expertise to ensure those individuals in need of eyecare services receive them. Committed to ensuring that minorities are recruited and provided educational opportunities, Dr. Hicks has served as a Past President of the National Optometric Association and is the current Executive Director of the National Optometric Foundation.

Dr. Hicks is committed to serving others and has demonstrated this commitment through his lifetime service in the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., which recently celebrated his 50-year membership. He is also actively engaged in the Alpha Rho Lambda Education Foundation where he serves as Executive Director. He is a member of the American Optometric Association and the Ohio Optometric Association, a member of Epsilon Psi Epsilon Professional Fraternity, and has served the National Coalition of Black Meeting Planners in several capacities. From 1970-1986, Dr. Hicks served as a clinical instructor at The Ohio State University College of Optometry. He has also served on the Ohio Avenue Elementary School Parent/Community Advisory Board, the Near East Health Advisory Committee, and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Accessibility Task Force and was President of the Livingston Avenue Collaborative for Community Development.

Dr. Clayton Nathaniel Hicks has received numerous honors, awards, and recognitions for his service. Some of his recognitions include National

**NOTABLE ALUMNI**

**Gregory W. Hicks**  
*Class of 1984*  
Dr. Gregory W. Hicks graduated from The Ohio State University College of Optometry in 1984. He completed additional clinical study in vision therapy and pediatric vision care at the State University of New York State College of Optometry.

Dr. Hicks has served the college in the Primary Care, the Binocular Vision, and Pediatrics Clinics. Currently, he is as an Assistant Clinical Professor and has had fourth year optometry externs work alongside him on a daily basis since the inception of the college’s externship program. He is a partner and president of Family Eye Care Centers, which is a multi-doctor group practice with offices in Sandusky, Huron, and Clyde, Ohio. He has also spent 11 years as the staff optometrist at the Ohio Veterans Home in Sandusky.

Dr. Hicks is also the Director of Professional Affairs for HOYA Vision Care, North America, where he is available to independent eye care professionals for input on how to best use HOYA’s products and services. In his role in HOYA Professional Affairs, he is a liaison to and sounding board for HOYA’s management team. He travels extensively across the country speaking on behalf of HOYA and consulting with numerous practices.

An involved member of the professional optometric community, Dr. Hicks belongs to the Ohio Optometric Association (OOA) and the American Optometric Association (AOA). He served as president of the OOA in 2000 and was the OOA Optometrist of the Year in 2004. He served as the AOA appointed member on the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education (ACOE) for nine years. Dr. Hicks has been a part of the AOA volunteer committee structure with a number of national appointments including: AOA Communications Committee, AOA Federal Relations Committee, AOA InfantSee Committee, and the AOA Ophthalmic Council. In 2005, Dr. Hicks was awarded the very first Dr. W. David Sullins, Jr. AOA InfantSee Award for his role in promoting infant eye care issues on both the national and community level.

Dr. Hicks is active in many public service and community organizations: Sandusky Zion Lutheran Church, Sandusky Rotary Club, Erie County Chamber of Commerce, Erie County United Way, OSU Alumni Club of Erie County, Boy Scouts of America, YMCA, American Red Cross, Goodwill Industries, Sandusky Jaycees, Huron Eagles Club, High School Athletic Booster Clubs, and Plumbrook Country Club. Locally, he has been awarded and named the Huron, Ohio Outstanding Citizen for Service to Youth, the Sandusky, Ohio Outstanding Young Citizen of the Year, and the Sandusky, Ohio Jaycey of the Year.

He resides in Sandusky with his wife Vicky. They have three adult children: Jeremy, Cassie, and Jonathan.

**Henry Hofstetter**  
*Class of 1939*  
Dr. Hofstetter was born in Windsor Mills, Ohio, on September 10, 1914, to immigrant parents, Kaspar and Augusta (Kresin) Hofstetter. His father, a dairy farmer, was born in Switzerland, and his German mother was born in West Prussia, now a part of Poland. Dr. Hofstetter had three brothers and seven sisters. He was eighth in the birth order, “Henry the Eighth,” as he sometimes pointed out. Dr. Hofstetter was raised on the family farm near Huntsburg in northeastern Ohio. Growing up in a large family may have played a role in the development of his remarkable organizational skills. He once recalled that neatness, tidiness, and orderliness were paramount at all times in the Hofstetters’ home. There was one hammer in the house used by 13 people, but it was always put back in its place and easily found when needed.

Dr. Hofstetter had no clear career plans in high school, and the Great Depression appeared to make farming a good choice, although the crippling of his left hand by polio at the age of 16 may have steered him away from farming. He wrote the words to the school song for his high school and was voted “Most Likely to Succeed” in his graduating class of 11 students.

With the help of an older sister, Dr. Hofstetter attended Western Reserve University for two years and Kent State University for a summer, after which he obtained an Ohio teacher’s certificate. Then, for three years, he taught all eight grades in a one-room country school in Middlefield, Ohio, where he also performed janitorial duties. His students thought that he had eyes in the back of his head when he wrote on the blackboard in class; what they didn’t realize was that he could see their reflections in the glass covering the portrait of George Washington that hung over the chalkboard. At a 50-year class reunion, many of these students recalled to Dr. Hofstetter the poems he had written for them to deliver at Christmas performances.

While teaching in Middlefield, he lived with one of his older sisters and her husband, a jeweler, who also fitted spectacles and encouraged Dr. Hofstetter to consider optometry as a career. Dr. Hofstetter then entered The Ohio State University, receiving a BS degree in optometry in 1939. He received an MS and PhD in physiological optics at Ohio State in 1940 and 1942, respectively, under Dr. Glenn Fry. He was Dr. Glenn Fry’s first graduate student and also the first recipient of a PhD degree granted by a graduate program in physiological optics in any optometry school or college. It was at Ohio State that he met his wife, Frances Jane Elder. They married on July 5, 1941, in Pasadena, California, her home state. Frieda Shute, the sister with whom Dr. Hofstetter lived while teaching elementary school, also attended optometry school at Ohio State after she was widowed. She graduated in 1946 and practiced for many years in Middlefield.

Dr. Hofstetter’s thesis research was a haploscopic investigation of accommodation and convergence relationships. After completion of his PhD, Dr. Hofstetter accepted a teaching position at Ohio State. He later recalled, in his typically humble fashion, that he became valuable to the school because he was classified 4-F by his physical handicaps and would probably never be drafted for World War II. During the successive depletion of able-bodied students and faculty from the classroom during the war, he had the unique opportunity to teach almost every course in the curriculum to the few remaining students.

In his six years as a faculty member at Ohio State, Dr. Hofstetter advanced from instructor to associate professor. In January 1949, he became dean of the Los Angeles College of Optometry (now the Southern California College of Optometry at Marshall B. Ketchum University). Some of the adjectives used to describe his deanship there were business-like, organized, and efficient.

In 1951, Indiana optometrists were successful in their efforts to convince the Indiana legislature to establish an optometry school at Indiana University in Bloomington. The Indiana University administration wanted a person with excellent credentials to head the new program, and Dr. Hofstetter was recruited for the job. Though he wasn’t seeking to leave Los Angeles, he was convinced to take the position of director of the Division of Optometry at Indiana University starting in 1952. The curriculum, which he designed for the optometry students entering in the fall of 1953, reflected his educational and teaching experiences and philosophies in that it included a broad-based scientific background in optics, visual physiology, and related topics rather than a purely applied-optics approach. One of his early priorities was the establishment of a graduate program in physiological optics, which admitted its first students in 1954. His years guiding the Indiana University program also saw the construction of its current building and the development of an optometry branch library. Dr. Hofstetter served as head of the optometry program until 1970, when he returned to the classroom full-time. He became the Rudy Professor of Optometry in 1974. He formally retired in 1980 but remained very active in optometric organizations and writing. Dr. Hofstetter advised 15 MS and 11 PhD students at Indiana University.

Dr. Hofstetter authored four textbooks, including Optometry: Professional,
Legal, and Economic Aspects (1948, reprinted 1964) and Industrial Vision (1956), and more than 500 scientific papers. He co-edited five editions of the Dictionary of Visual Science, with the fifth edition, titled Dictionary of Visual Science and Related Clinical Terms, published in 2000. He published on several topics, including accommodation, binocular vision, color vision, visual optics, refractive errors, occupational vision, presbyopia, strabismus, optometric education, and international optometry. He also wrote extensively for the newsletter of the Optometric Historical Society and served as one of its editors for more than 30 years. He felt strongly that optometrists should know more about their history because optometry is a discipline with as noble and pervasive a heritage as any, and because historical study shows optometry’s centuries-long existence. Its development from a mercantile trade to its present academic and professional stature shows a truly proud history that includes many prominent and accomplished personalities.

He served many dozens of optometric, scientific, university, and community committees and organizations. He was president of the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry, the American Optometric Association, and the Optometric Historical Society. He served on the Bloomington, Indiana hospital board for six years. He was a member of Rotary International for 40 years, served as president of the Bloomington Rotary Club, and visited hundreds of rotary clubs worldwide. He was a consultant to the National Academy of Science, the United States Public Health Service, the Highway Research Board, the United States Air Force, and the National Science Foundation.

Because of his interest in international optometry, his extensive travels, and his work in numerous professional and scientific organizations, Dr. Hofstetter was known by optometrists worldwide. While at Indiana University, he took three sabbaticals to study modes of optometry practice and the status of optometric education in South Africa, Australia, and Europe. He carried out regular correspondence with optometrists and optometric leaders from all over the world, providing them guidance and encouragement. In 1991, he was recognized as the International Optometrist of the Year by the International Optometric and Optical League. In 1999 he received the first Distinguished Service Award from the World Council of Optometry. That same year, he was inducted into the National Optometry Hall of Fame. Some of his other awards and recognitions include five honorary doctorate degrees, the American Academy of Optometry’s highest award, the Prentice Medal, the American Optometric Association’s Apollo Award, the American Optometric Association’s Distinguished Service Award, the Indiana Optometric Association’s Distinguished Service Award, and the Orion Award from the Armed Forces Optometric Society.

Tara Jayne
Class of 2003

Dr. Tara Jayne graduated from The Ohio State University College of Optometry in 2003 as a recipient of the Air Force Health Professions Scholarship Program. She started her career at Vandenberg Air Force Base in central California for two years before moving on to Osan Air Base, South Korea where she worked as a liaison to the Republic of Korea Air Force and helped return several pilots to flight duty.

In 2006, Dr. Jayne transferred to Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, where she served as President of the Tri-Service Optometric/Paraoptometric Society (TOPS), coordinated information flow and tri-service coverage for the island of Oahu, and organized free continuing medical education for TOPS members. She represented optometry as a forensics expert by identifying the remains of repatriated military members found by the Joint Pacific Accounting Command over a three-year period.

Once she moved to Ramstein Air Force Base, Germany, she gained recognition for optometry as an “aerospace scientist” by providing analysis in the investigation for a destroyed unmanned aircraft, for which she developed an optical system standard in order to define a weapons design flaw, allowing the military to swiftly correct the flaw and keep the airframe from being grounded.

Due to Dr. Jayne’s diverse experiences while teaching optometry and ophthalmology examination techniques in austere environments to local national health care providers on humanitarian missions in eleven cities of four countries, she was selected by the USAF Optometry Chief Consultant to the Surgeon General to author the disease and injury training module for all Air Force optometrists to review yearly to assure their readiness status. Amidst her duties to the Air Force, she attained her Fellowship in the American Academy of Optometry in 2010.

Recently, Dr. Jayne served the Air Force as the Optometry Flight Commander and the Biomedical Sciences Chief Executive officer at Lajes Field, Portugal and is currently at Langley Air Force Base in Virginia. In 2013, Dr. Jayne won the Armed Forces Optometric Society Junior Optometrist of the Year award.

Dr. Jayne spends much of her non-duty time travelling with her seven-year-old twins, Bryson and Dakodah. They are proud to say that they have seen and experienced over 30 countries, and they enjoy their weekends at home kayaking and playing with their dogs.

Sylvia Jones
Class of 2006

Dr. Sylvia L. Jones, a native of Toledo, Ohio, came to The Ohio State University by way of the Ohio State Young Scholars Program. This program provides support throughout high school and full scholarships to academically gifted minority students. In 2002 she graduated from The Ohio State University with a BS in Biology. During her undergraduate studies, she worked at The OSU College of Optometry under the direction Dr. Mark Bullimore and Dr. Karla Zadnik. After graduation Dr. Jones applied and was accepted to the College of Optometry to pursue her OD degree. While at the College she served as the President of the National Optometric Student Association chapter at Ohio State, participated in the National Eye Institute-funded T-35 research program, and was a part of the combined OD/MS program. Dr. Jones graduated in 2006 from The Ohio State University College of Optometry with a Master’s in Vision Science and a Doctor of Optometry.

Dr. Jones has a passion for public health. While pursuing her Master’s degree, she worked with the Ohio Optometric Association to assist in the treatment of diabetic patients. She developed a tool that is now used nationwide by optometrists to efficiently communicate with other healthcare providers about the ocular health of diabetic patients. In 2009, she purchased Dr. Jackie Davis’s private practice and is now the owner and CEO of Divine Family Eyecare, Inc. Through her private practice she serves her community by providing comprehensive vision care. Dr. Jones is a member of the Ohio Optometric Association, the New Salem Missionary Baptist Church, and Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority, Inc. Dr. Jones is happily married and has three beautiful daughters.

Joshua Josephson
Class of 1968

Dr. Josh Josephson is a luminary in the area of cornea and contact lenses and is proud to hail from Ohio State Optometry. His publishing record speaks for itself in journals like Investigative Ophthalmology & Visual Science and Optometry and Vision Science, and he is easily recognized all over the world as a result of his countless talks and continuing education presentations. Prior to his retirement, he had the largest contact lens practice in Canada and was the only Canadian among the founding members of the International Society for Contact Lens Research. Dr. Josephson, however, is notable beyond these “numbers.” In 1978, he published the first observations of corneal infiltrates associated with contact lens wear in International Contact Lens Clinics.

Dr. Josephson was appointed by the Canadian government as Canada’s expert and head of delegation to the International Standards Organization contact lens meetings. Since 1984, he has served for many years as Chairman of the Contact Lens Section of the International Standards Organization.
of the Standards Council of Canada Subcommittee responsible for all ophthalmic device standards (contact lenses and contact lens care products).

Dr. Josephson is a founding shareholder and a director of NoNO, Inc., a private, clinical-stage biotherapeutics company. It is dedicated to the research, development, and commercialization of pharmaceuticals for the treatment of common disorders with unmet needs, including stroke, traumatic brain injury, and pain. Its drug to prevent the complications of stroke is about to enter Phase 3 clinical trials.

Dr. Josephson loves to eat and cook and enjoys traveling and eating around the world. He recently launched an online site (www.cook-book.com). Dr. Josephson continues to publish his restaurant experiences around the world and in Toronto. They can be found on the site link titled “Blog Highlights.” He is also the former president of the Toronto chapter of the International Food and Wine Society, a member and director of La Chaîne des Rotisseurs, and a member of Les Chevalers du Tastevin (the Toronto chapter of the Burgundy Wine Society).

Braden Kail
Class of 1996

After graduating from The Ohio State University College of Optometry in 1996, Dr. Braden E. Kail returned to his hometown of Waynesburg, Ohio to build his optometry practice. Dr. Kail began giving back to his profession by serving as a board member and President of the Ohio Optometric Association’s (OOA) Zone Three. Additionally serving his local community, he became an active member and past president of the local Lion’s Club, often providing free vision screenings at schools throughout the area.

In 1999, Dr. Kail was offered the opportunity to provide eye care for a school farther away in Honduras. This trip began Dr. Kail’s passion to provide free eye care and glasses for people in third world countries and resulted in the establishment of Cross Eyed Missions in 2000. Since then, Dr. Kail has led 18 mission trips to Honduras, Guatemala, Peru, Haiti, Bolivia, Nicaragua, and El Salvador. His teams have seen 19,000 people and distributed 17,000 pairs of used eyeglasses with the help of local Lions Clubs. For these accomplishments he has been recognized with the Lion’s Club International President’s Award (2002), Capital University’s Young Alumni of the Year (2003), OOA’s Young Optometrist of the Year (2004), and Ohio State’s William Oxley Thompson Award (2005).

In addition, Dr. Kail has remained an active member of his community. He has served as President of the Waynesburg Business Association, a board member of Quad Ambulance, and is active at Newpointe Community Church. He has also been integral in the development of youth sports in the Sandy Valley Area. He established the Sandy Valley Little Dribbler’s program, teaching children basketball fundamentals and then co-founded the Press News Basketball League for boys and girls in 2006, providing youth basketball for children in grades 3-6. He also served on the Waynesburg Baseball Association and Sandy Valley Little League boards, coaching Little League Baseball from 2000-2008. He is currently the pitching coach at Sandy Valley High School.

Dr. Kail resides in Waynesburg with his wife, Suzanne, and four children: Jake, Luke, Elizabeth, and newly born Addison.

Jack Keith
Class of 1940

Dr. Jack Thomas Keith, 79, died June 5, 1998. Born in Springfield, Ohio, he was a graduate of Springfield High School in 1935. He attended Wittenberg University in 1936, where he was president of the freshman class, and graduated from The Ohio State University College of Optometry in 1941. He practiced in Cleveland for two years and in Akron from 1943 to 1993 when he retired. Dr. Keith was past president of the Akron Jaycees, the Summit County Optometry Association, the Ohio Optometric Association, the Ohio State Board of Examiners, the International Association of Board Examiners, and the West Akron Kiwanis. He was a member of Adoniram Lodge F&AM, Valley of Akron Scottish Rite, and Tedmor Temple Shrine. Dr. Keith was married to his beloved wife of 56 years, Violet, and had six loving children.

Timothy Kime
Class of 1961

In June 1961, after graduating summa cum laude from The Ohio State University College of Optometry, we returned to Toledo. Within the first 30 days, we purchased our first home and had our first child, and I began to see patients in my father’s practice. In 1963, I established my own private practice. I jumped into Toledo community activities such as service clubs, PTA chair, church superintendent, etc. and was selected three years in a row as one of Toledo’s Outstanding Young Men. Also, in 1963 I received a call from one of the senior optometrists who said, “you are too young and too dumb, but you’re all we have; will you be our next zone governor?” This unexpected call changed my optometry life; I began a 30-year career in the various levels of optometric association activities. In 1965, I was elected to the Ohio Optometric Association (OOA) Board and served seven years, ultimately becoming the youngest President in OOA history in 1970-71. Incidentally, my first assignment as a trustee was to research and prepare a report to the membership on the impact of a new controversial federal program called Medicare. In 1972, I was named Ohio’s Optometrist of the Year.

After OOA service, I was asked to be a part of the American Optometric Association (AOA) leadership structure. Over the next 19 years, I had the privilege and honor to be a member or chair in 35 different organizational entities. In 1977, I was elected to the AOA Board and spent the next nine years on the Board, ultimately becoming the 62nd President of the AOA in 1983-84. Although these years were very draining physically and economically (180 days on the road as AOA President!), it was an incredibly rich experience for our entire family.

After the AOA, we relocated our practice, and I settled into a rather tranquil life in Toledo. There are three ODs in the current practice, and I continue to see patients for about 30 hours per week. Retirement is not in our vocabulary.

My current optometric activity is chairing the annual Eye Ski Optometric Educational Conference in Park City, Utah, now in its 28th year. The meeting draws 70 ODs from all across the country for top-notch education and skiing. Apart from the office, we have been blessed with three very successful and creative “middle-aged” kids: Tammy, Tim Jr., and Todd, along with three beautiful and talented granddaughters. Barb and I celebrated our 54th wedding anniversary on September 5th and have been fortunate to remain in good health. My main vice is the Sylvania Country Club, where I am a past president and play golf four days a week. Barb and I both enjoy all active sports including golf, snow skiing, bicycling, gym work-outs, and hiking, along with traveling throughout the U.S. and abroad.

Yes, indeed, the past 52 years have been very good to us, and optometry was a great decision!
Dakota since 1958, was on the forefront of diagnostic and therapeutic privileges for South Dakota, served as President of the South Dakota Optometric Society, is a charter member and Fellow of the College of Optometrists in Vision Development, chaired a local vision screening day for elementary school students for over 40 years, served as editor of the Focal Point newsletter for the South Dakota Optometric Society for 13 years, lectured extensively on children’s vision issues, won five national awards in the Optometric Editors’ Association International Journalism Contests, and helped form the South Dakota Association for Children with Learning Disabilities.

These were substantial accomplishments on their own, but Dr. King’s uniqueness was really highlighted by two other areas of accomplishment that go well beyond the traditional list of accomplishments used for folks receiving these kinds of awards. First, Dr. King was the “K” of the MKM Reading Systems and the MKM Monocular and Binocular Reading Test. As a child, he experienced many vision and reading problems personally. He remembered having problems keeping print in focus, reading in front of a group, and remembering how to spell words from one day to the next. Finally, in the sixth grade, with the help of his family optometrist, Dr. Stewart Kirkpatrick (BS’56), and a stereoscope, he experienced stereopsis for the first time. Perhaps those memories were the impetus for his research into the area of visual memory and reading. In the early 1960s, he was the primary author and developer of the MKM Reading Systems. Over 5,000 hours behind a portable Smith-Corona typewriter and the input of Dr. Leland Michael and assistant Arlene Moorhead resulted in methods of detecting, remediating, and sometimes preventing learning-related visual problems.

Second, his hobby of magic took him to places few optometrists have been. His father was a dentist and was the kind of guy who enjoyed practical jokes: joy buzzers, whoopee cushions, and the like. That influence and visits to the Palmer House Magic Shop in Chicago guided Dr. King to learn about magic, which had been his hobby since prior to his first magic show in the seventh grade. The hobby allowed him to meet all sorts of people, including Las Vegas showmen Siegfried and Roy. The manual dexterity of his left hand and a substantial amount of perseverance netted him an appearance with Johnny Carson on “The Tonight Show” in 1985. Dr. King was able to move four pennies from the fingers of his left hand and stack all four on his thumb, using just his left hand. Additionally, he could contort his fingers in ways that defied reason and move the tendons on his hand as if they were the keys on a piano. He was a loyal Buckeye fan who rarely missed an alumni weekend with his wife, Margaret, and school chums Drs. Lowell Hone (BS’55), Dick Ball (BS’55), Will Stamp (BS’55) and Don Lewis (BS’54). Dr. King passed away in April of 2012.

Tamara Mault Kuhlmann
Class of 1983

Dr. Tami Kuhlmann has enjoyed 30 years (and still counting) of optometric practice since graduating from The Ohio State University College of Optometry. She is the founder (1987) and owner/partner of EyeCare Professionals of Powell in Powell, Ohio with Jason Miller, OD, class of 1999. She is a Clinical Assistant Professor for the College and mentors fourth-year externs at her office. She volunteers for the Ohio Optometric Association’s RealEyes program, making presentations to local schoolchildren, and conducts AOA InfantSEE exams. Dr. Kuhlmann has been active in several mission trips to deliver optometric services and eyewear to El Salvador (We Care Eye Care medical mission) and Nicaragua (attending doctor for Ohio State SVOSH students). Dr. Kuhlmann is also currently involved in clinical studies for several optometry-related industries. She enjoys traveling around Ohio and the U.S., acting as a doctor liaison with VSP as a State Professional Representative. She is a Past President of the Olentangy Rotary Club.

Tami Kuhlmann has been married for 32 wonderful years to her high school sweetheart, David. Dr. Kuhlmann and her husband love to travel and have seen most of Europe, the Holy Land, and Australia. They are active in their church, leading worship weekly with the crossCurrent band, with David on guitar and Tami on drums/vocals. They have been blessed with two beautiful daughters, Elise and Mallory. Elise is a pharmaceutical sales representative for a dental laser manufacturer and married in 2014. Mallory is a 2012 graduate of The Ohio State University College of Optometry and is currently practicing at the Kansas University (KU) Medical Center and Outpatient Clinic for KU Eye in Kansas City, where she and her husband reside.

Marjean Kulp
Class of 1991

After receiving her OD degree, Dr. Marjean Kulp completed an Advanced Practice Fellowship in Binocular Vision and Pediatrics and joined the faculty in 1993. She has collaborated with outstanding faculty at The Ohio State University College of Optometry and across the US as an integral part of the Convergence Insufficiency Treatment Trial Group, the Vision In Preschoolers Study Group, and the Pediatric and Eye Disease Investigators Group. These studies have led to meaningful answers to important questions in clinical practice that can help doctors provide care for their patients. She is fortunate to have worked with many exceptional faculty and students at the college. She is thankful for her two wonderful daughters and supportive husband and parents.

Susan Gromacki Lathrop
Class of 1993

Dr. Susan J. Gromacki has been named to “America’s Best Optometrists,” the Marquis Who’s Who in America, Who’s Who in Medicine and Healthcare, Who’s Who of American Women, Who’s Who in the World, and The Leading Health Care Professionals of the World (International Biographical Centre, Cambridge, England). She graduated with honors from the University of Notre Dame and received both her OD and MS in Physiological Optics from The Ohio State University College of Optometry in 1993.

Dr. Gromacki lays claim to 450 professional lectures and publications and is a current or former editor of Contact Lens Spectrum, Review of Cornea & Contact Lenses, Contemporary Optometry, and CL. Today, a reviewer for Eye & Contact Lens, and a consultant to industry and Wall Street. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry and a Diplomate in its Section on Cornea, Contact Lenses and Refractive Technologies. She has served the National Board of Examiners in Optometry in the capacity of item writer and case author, and as a member of the Part II Examination Development Committee, Part II Refraction Committee, Patient Assessment and Management (PAM) Patient Care Examination Committee, Part II Examination Council, Standard Setting Panelist, and Part III Patient Care Examination Committee, and as a Part III Examiner.

Formerly a faculty member of the New England College of Optometry and the University of Michigan Medical School, Department of Ophthalmology, where she directed the Contact Lens and Low Vision Clinics, she specializes in difficult-to-fit contact lenses, refractive surgery, low vision and anterior segment disease. Her career has been a testament not only to achievement but also to personal and professional resiliency. As the wife of a military officer, Col. Scott Lathrop, she has lived in seven different locations during her 20-year career and has practiced clinical optometry in the following settings: private optometry practice, HMO, private ophthalmology group, military hospital, VA hospital, commercial practice, optometric college and university, and university medical school/ophthalmology department. “One great characteristic of the profession of optometry in the United States,” says Dr. Gromacki, “is that there are many diverse and quality opportunities for optometrists to practice. There are various ways for each and every one of us to make a difference in our patients’ lives and a positive impact on our world.”
It is a great honor to be selected a Notable Alumnus. When I graduated from The Ohio State University College of Optometry in 1992, I didn’t realize then how proud I would be to be an alumnus of such a great program and how much I would love this profession. My career has been nothing that I had envisioned. The Lord blessed me with the opportunity to be President of the Ohio Optometric Association (OOA) in 2005, and, through many committees in both the OOA and AOA, I have made lasting relationships with great men and women, many who serve this profession much more than I do. Serving on the EastWest Eye Conference Education Committee and doing contact lens research are two areas that are unexpected professional challenges that keep me motivated to stay at the forefront of technology. I was also greatly humbled to receive the OOA Young Optometrist of the Year Award (2001), the AOA Young Optometrist of the Year Award (2002), the AOA’s Admiral Sullins InfantSee Award (2007), and OOA’s Warren G. and Ruth P. Morris Optometrist of the Year award (2012).

Serving my patients is one of the deepest satisfactions I have every day. Being a part of their lives and earning their trust is such a privilege. I have eight wonderful optometric partners and enjoy practicing alongside my wife. Being in group private practice and a business owner has been so satisfying. Serving God as an elder at my church and singing during service hopefully glorifies Him. I am truly blessed with raising three wonderful children with Amy and still having time to golf, travel, and train for the annual Pelotonia bicycle tour.

There is no question that the inspirational leaders I encountered while at The Ohio State University College of Optometry helped set the course for a fantastic voyage in this rewarding profession. They were mentors for professionalism, clinical excellence, effective communication, and service to Optometry. A point of pride is my uninterrupted service as a volunteer in the American Optometric Association (AOA) since 1983. Dr. Tim Kime appointed me to an AOA task force to increase student awareness of the importance of a lifetime of association membership. From that came chairmanships of the following: Diabetes Project Team, Optometric Executives Project Team, Information and Member Services Group Executive Committee, Non-Dues Income Committee, and Assistance to Graduates Project Team. Other AOA service includes time on the Glaucoma Project Team, Communications Technology Project Team, the Resolutions Committee, the Leadership Institute, and 10 years as the President’s Council Moderator. I was the AOA Optometrist of the Year in 2006. Similar volunteer positions in the Ohio Optometric Association (OOA) led to service as President in 2002, its centennial year. I participate in the ReaEyes Classroom Initiative, serve as the liaison to the Northwest Ohio Regional Extension Center/Health Information Partnership, and was chairman of the East-West Eye Conference. The OOA has recognized me with its Outstanding Senior Student, Young Optometrist of the Year, Key Optometrist of the Year, and Warren G. and Ruth P. Morris Optometrist of the Year awards. Service to the community has included past president of the West Toledo Kiwanis Club, Toledo Jaycees, and assistant scoutmaster to Boy Scout Troop 87. There are three thriving practices in the Toledo area that I had a hand in starting from scratch, and my current partner is an awesome Ohio State Optometry grad from the class of 2010. Dr. James Hardie. Barb and I have four children, Robbie, Kristi, Molly, and Andrew, who also share a great appreciation for the gifts of the optometric family in Ohio and across the country.

Following her optometric education at Ohio State, Dr. Meng C. Lin completed her residency training at the University of Alabama School of Optometry in 1997. Thereafter, she pursued her PhD training in Vision Science at the University of California, Berkeley (UCB). She received an NIH Clinician Scientist award (K12) for her post-doctoral training in epidemiology and thin-film theory. Today she is an Associate Professor of Clinical Optometry and Vision Science at the UC Berkeley School of Optometry, where her research laboratory focuses on ocular-surface physiology and mechanisms responsible for tear film stabilization. Dr. Lin is the founding Director of the UCB Clinical Research Center and has led the center since 2004. Dr. Lin also established the Dry Eye Clinic and Ocular Surface Imaging Clinic at UCB, both of which are specialty clinics that provide care to patients with ocular surface diseases. In addition, she is Co-Director of the newly established Translational Research CORE Facility in the UC Berkeley School of Optometry. Dr. Lin’s passion is training the next generation of clinician scientists who are interested in clinical and translational vision-related research. She writes, “I would like to congratulate my alma mater, The Ohio State University College of Optometry, on its centennial, a historic milestone in the history of optometry. Looking back at my career, I feel immensely grateful for the didactic and clinical foundation that the school provided. As an Ohio State Optometry graduate I have benefited greatly from opportunities to meet so many other alumni who are leaders in our field and who have helped me determine the path of my career. Thank you all, and Go Buckeyes!”

David S. Loshin received his BS degree from Rochester Institute of Technology and his MS (74), OD (75) and PhD (77) in Physiological Optics at The Ohio State University. While at Ohio State he was privileged to perform his graduate studies under the supervision of Dr. Glenn Fry.
Dr. Loshin served as a Teaching Assistant in the College of Mathematics the entire time he was enrolled in the optometry program. As a fourth year student he applied for and was awarded an NIH Postdoctoral to complete his PhD. After graduation, he served as a member of both the professional and graduate faculty at the University of Houston for 18 years. During his last five years there, he also held administrative roles as Assistant Dean for Finance and Administration and Chair of the Residency Programs. He has served as Dean and Professor at Nova Southeastern University College of Optometry since 1997.

Dr. Loshin has taught a variety of courses in both the professional and graduate programs with emphasis on geometrical and physical optics. He has also served as a clinical preceptor in primary care and low vision clinics. Dr. Loshin has participated on 18 MS and PhD graduate committees. His major research interests involve design and evaluation of the image quality of lenses and lens systems and assessment of the visual system primarily for patients with visual pathology and low vision. He received grant funding from the National Eye Institute/National Institutes of Health, the NASA Johnson Space Center, the State of Texas, as well as from the university and a number of corporations. He has published over 70 papers, abstracts and technical reports related to his research interests as well as a text book on geometrical optics.

Dr. Loshin has held positions on a variety of college and university committees and professional organizations including serving as President of the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry for two terms. He has received several professional and service awards, including the American Optometric Association’s Low Vision Section’s Vision Care Award, Nova Southeastern University Academic Dean of the Year, and Florida Optometric Association’s Optometrist of the Year and is a Research Diplomate in Low Vision from the American Academy of Optometry.

Gerald Lowther  
Class of 1966

The education I received at Ohio State has allowed me to do things, go places, and meet people from all over the world beyond what I could have ever imagined growing up in southern Ohio and attending Ohio State. I have had the pleasure of teaching, doing research, and publishing at four optometric institutions with the last position as Dean of the Indiana University (IU) School of Optometry. It is a joy to see the success of the graduates. Being involved in the profession in such ways as the American Academy of Optometry as its President, the National Board of Examiners in Optometry, and the International Society for Contact Lens Research have been fulfilling. Being able to help develop optometry programs to provide better vision care for people in countries like Poland and Thailand has been especially rewarding. Likewise, while at IU, being in a position to enable programs to provide vision care to the indigent population in both Indiana and Mexico was gratifying. I have to thank my wife Andrya, also an Ohio State graduate, for her constant support and devotion as well as her involvement in the profession. I am fortunate to still be involved with the World Council of Optometry promoting vision care and optometry worldwide.

Michael Lyons  
Class of 2001

Dr. Michael Lyons was first introduced into eye care at the age of 7. He will never forget the first time he put on his first pair of myopic (and not so stylish) glasses prescribed by the local eye doctor. The immediate gratification of seeing the crispness of the leaves on the trees and clarity of the world around him has forever impacted the way he views his practice and the profession of eye care.

Carla Mack  
Class of 1995

Dr. Carla Mack completed her Doctor of Optometry degree at The Ohio State University College of Optometry in 1995, followed by a hospital-based residency in ocular disease. She also received her Master of Business Administration degree from the Fisher College of Business at Ohio State in 2008. She currently lives in Powell, Ohio with her two daughters, Malia, 17, and Summer, 15. Dr. Mack joined Bausch+Lomb in 2008 as Global Director for Medical Affairs. In that role, she led initiatives in medical education, served as a liaison to academic institutions, instituted the educational grant process, and shared Bausch+Lomb’s scientific work through publications and worldwide educational forums. In her more recent role as Global Director for Professional Marketing at Bausch+Lomb, she increased eye care professional engagement throughout the new product development process and developed and shared best practices with her professional relations colleagues around the world.

Prior to joining Bausch+Lomb, Dr. Mack held dual roles at the College as Director of Optometry Services and as an Associate Professor of Clinical Optometry. She is most proud of her work to advance the clinics at Ohio State and to increase patient exposure for all students. She has never lost her passion for teaching and found that to be her most rewarding work. She participated in clinical research and taught courses in specialty contact lenses, practice management, and glaucoma management. She has written and lectured extensively and served on several editorial advisory boards. Dr. Mack was the editor of Contact Lens Spectrum and the weekly email newsletter, Contact Lenses Today, and is a Diplomate in the Section on Cornea, Contact Lenses and Refractive Technologies of the American Academy of Optometry.

Dr. Mack is currently with Alcon Laboratories providing clinical and professional support and credits her success in industry to her many years at Ohio State.
Brian E. Mathie
Class of 1990
Following graduation from The Ohio State University College of Optometry in 1990, Dr. Brian Mathie finished a residency in the Veterans Administration system under the mentorship of Drs. Bob Newcomb and Bill Schuler. Dr. Mathie has been Clinic Director for both the Ohio Eye Alliance—where he set up a residency and externship affiliated with the Ohio State College of Optometry—and Roholt Vision Institute. He holds the position of Assistant Clinical Professor at the college. He is a past president of the Ohio Optometric Association (OOA) and lectures nationally and internationally on ocular disease and comanagement of ocular surgeries. He was named the OOA’s Warren G. and Ruth P. Morris Optometrist of the Year in 2010. He is currently a member of the Cross Eyed Missions board and has recently participated in a mission trip to Honduras.

Doug McCloy
Class of 1995
After graduating from The Ohio State University College of Optometry in 1995, Dr. McCloy pursued his dream to practice in Jamaica through a volunteer internship at a public hospital while also working in a private setting. The early years he spent practicing in Jamaica developed his global perspective and passion for caring for the underserved, a passion that has continued throughout his career. Doug eventually returned to Ohio and worked in a variety of settings until purchasing a private practice in Marion, Ohio, which he has owned and operated for the last 15 years.

In 2002, Dr. McCloy and his wife Rhonda made a leap of faith and returned to Jamaica to serve with the Mission Corps of the Church of the Nazarene. Out of the need to financially support their volunteer assignment in conjunction with the desire to deliver eyecare, Dr. McCloy opened the first of four private practices. As a result, Professional Eye Care now serves the Southern and Western regions of Jamaica with full scope eyecare services to a population that is both underserved and economically challenged.

One of the greatest impacts of Dr. McCloy’s optometric purpose lies in the functioning of the Gamertsfelder Mission Centre in Jamaica. Created in honor of Dr. Paul Gamertsfelder, this multi-purpose medical, dental, optometric, and eye surgery center serves as a sustainable clinic that also facilitates mission-minded doctors, students and allied professionals to care for the underserved, a passion that has continued throughout his career. Doug eventually returned to Ohio and worked in a variety of settings until purchasing a private practice in Marion, Ohio, which he has owned and operated for the last 15 years.

Julie Long Miavez
Class of 1990
In 1998, she earned an Additional Qualifying Designator (AQD) in Aviation Optometry in Pensacola, Florida before reporting to Naval Hospital Beaufort, South Carolina. Captain Miavez served as Department Head for Tri-Command Beaufort Optometry, which included Naval Hospital Beaufort, Marine Corps Recruiting Depot Parris Island and Marine Corps Air Station Beaufort. She also served as Head, Extended Support Services at the hospital supervising the largest department of 14 separate medical specialties such as Dermatology, ENT (Ear, Nose and Throat), and inpatient wards. While at Marine Corps Recruiting Depot, Captain Miavez provided urgent care, vision examinations, and optical fabrication to Marine recruits. At the air station, she attained Mach 1.03 and pulled 6.9Gs while flying backseat in the fighter attack jet F/A – 18D Hornet courtesy of the Marine Corps squadron, VMFA (AW) 332, the “Moonlighters”.

She transferred to Naval Health Clinic, Hawaii in 2002 and earned designators in Executive Medicine and Managed Care. After six months of providing patient care, she was chosen to lead the Branch Health Clinic Kaneohe Bay, Marine Corps Base Hawaii. In June 2006, she transferred to Naval Health Clinic Patuxent River, Maryland as Head, Specialty Clinics.

In November 2007 to June 2008, she deployed to Camp Lemonnier Djibouti, Africa as Officer in Charge of the Expeditionary Medical Facility team in support of Combined Task Force Horn of Africa and Operation Enduring Freedom. During her deployment, the Commanding General of the Ethiopian National Defense Force (ENDF) Army Hospital hosted Captain Miavez and a few in her unit to the military hospital in Addis Ababa. Her team exchanged medical knowledge with Ethiopian Army physicians to better serve both military health care teams in East Africa. Captain Miavez is the only optometrist in the Navy to have led a deployed medical force.

In June 2009, she was selected to lead the Naval Branch Health Clinic Key West, Florida, as Officer in Charge. In July 2012, she transferred to Naval Health Clinic Charleston, South Carolina, her last tour of duty before she retires from the Navy.

Captain Miavez was named Navy Optometrist of the Year in 2004. In 2009, she was recognized for being ranked in the top three of all Navy optometrists, civilian and military, for patient satisfaction through anonymous survey of caregivers. Her military decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (three awards), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (two awards), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (two awards), and tour and campaign awards.

Captain Miavez is Past President of the Armed Forces Optometric Society, a member of the American Optometric Association and Florida Optometric Association, and a Fellow in the American Academy of Optometry. She is married to David Miavez and they have two children, John (13) and Jeffrey (8). Of her experience while at The Ohio State University, she comments, “In addition to the best band and sports teams in the land, I am grateful and honored to have graduated from an optometry college that provides world-class education, employs compassionate and competent faculty, and yields a network of the best and brightest alumni. Go Buckeyes!”

In addition to this great support, if it were not for the opportunity the College of Optometry at Ohio State provided me, I couldn’t be who I am today. So a HUGE THANKS to the College for taking a chance on an ‘average Joe’ of a student like me.”
performing monthly webinars on a variety of coding and medical records concerns.

I have been fortunate to consult, lecture, and perform research on a wide variety of eye care areas, including contact lenses, myopia control, dry eyes, allergic conjunctivitis, practice management, electronic health records, and billing and coding issues. I am actively involved in writing and have been published in many eye care national publications, including a regular monthly column on contact lens care in Review of Cornea & Contact Lens, Contact Lens Spectrum and Optometric Management.

Within my community, I am active in the Olentangy Rotary Club and have participated in an international eye care mission trip to El Salvador. I reside in Powell, Ohio with my wife, Melanie and our three great kids, Jake (14), Josh (12) and Megan (10).

Dr. Miller received Optometry Alumni & Friends' Early Professional Achievement Award in October 2014.

Yoongie Min
Class of 1989

Dr. Min was born in Seoul, South Korea and immigrated to the United States at age 3. During his youth, he lived in Los Angeles, Texas, Philadelphia, and Wheelersburg, Ohio, where he attended high school.

Dr. Min attended Case Western Reserve University and The Ohio State University and received his undergraduate degree in biology. Dr. Min is a 1989 graduate of the Ohio State College of Optometry.

During optometry school, he served as class president for all four years and student council president for two. He received the Vistakon Award for Contact Lens Excellence and was also named the Outstanding Senior Student by the Ohio Optometric Association.

Upon graduation, Dr. Min became the first optometrist to work at Lakeland Eye Surgeons, a multispecialty ophthalmology practice in Lorain, Ohio where he received extensive experience in pathology and pre- and postoperative care. In 1991, he decided to return to Columbus and enter private practice. Dr. Min opened Northwest Vision Center in the Dublin area and in 1992, he also purchased a practice in Chillicothe and has maintained both offices to this day.

Dr. Min has been active in the Ohio Optometric Association and has served on several committees in the past. He has also maintained ties to the college and has served as President of the Alumni Association and has also served on the Dean's Advisory Council for several years. Dr. Min is also a regular contributor to the online journal, Review of Optometric Business.

Dr. Min is married to Jackie, a graduate recruiter who works for the Ohio State College of Nursing. Dr. Min met Jackie when he was a student clinician and he performed an eye examination on her. He has two sons, Andrew who is studying engineering at Ohio State and Alex, who is a junior at Hilliard Davidson High School. Dr. Min has spent many years coaching his sons and many other young athletes in multiple sports in the central Ohio area. In his spare time, Dr. Min enjoys cooking and traveling. He is a big Buckeye fan attending most home football and basketball games.

Dr. Min truly enjoys optometry as a profession and the relationships he builds with his patients and employees. He is also appreciative of all the friendships he made during optometry school, many of which are still very active.

NOTABLE ALUMNI

Jason Miller
Class of 1999

I am a partner in a three-doctor private practice in Powell, Ohio, an adjunct faculty member for The Ohio State University College of Optometry, and the President-Elect on the Ohio Optometric Association board. In addition, I have had the opportunity to consult alongside Drs. Chuck Brownlow and Walter Whitley with the American Optometric Association as one of the “ask the coding experts” answering coding questions and

Ruth Morris
Class of 1943

While a student at Ohio State, Ruth Penrod funded her optometric education by working for 25 cents an hour at the White Haines Optical Company in Columbus. In her last year of optometry school, she married Warren G. Morris (BS’49). While her new husband was in the Army, she began her practice of optometry in Toledo with an established optometrist who, unfortunately, passed away only nine weeks after her arrival. For the next three years, Dr. Ruth Morris worked hard to learn the business side of an optometric practice; her efforts were so successful that her husband was able to join her after he returned from WWII and later earned his optometry degree from Ohio State.

Dr. Ruth and Warren Morris practiced together for 37 years, until his sudden death in 1986. They served five generations of patients in Northwest Ohio. Their division of labor and love in the office was to have Dr. Ruth care for the vision needs of adolescent and adult patients, including contact lenses, while Dr. Warren cared for the children. Both emphasized visual performance and said, "Our patients must be able to use their vision comfortably and effectively at work and play or we have not done our jobs as optometrists." Together, they assured that each child received vision care regardless of his or her parents’ finances. They educated their patients, as well as the teachers in their community, about the importance of eye safety, vision care, and reading performance.

They also "adopted" many optometry students who visited their office and provided invaluable counsel and resources to assure that each of their "optometry kids" achieved his or her own professional goals. Dr. Kevin Alexander, who was an Ohio State faculty member and then went on to become President of both the Ohio Optometric Association and the American Optometric Association, Dean at the Michigan College of Optometry, and (now) President of the Marshall B. Ketchum University in Fullerton, California, said the Morrises loaned him some money to open his private practice in Columbus; he was told at the time, "Just pay us back whenever you can."

Dr. Ruth served her community as well as her profession on the boards of Toledo civic and performing arts organizations. She participated vigorously at local, state, and national levels in Business and Professional Women (BPW). In her early BPW years, she developed a program to educate the public about seat belts and driver safety. In her later years, she established a vision clinic for indigent patients in Toledo. She chaired the education committee of the Ohio Optometric Association for many years and established the Optometric Recognition Award at the state and national levels for optometrists who attend a higher number of continuing education courses than the minimum necessary for annual licensure renewal. She also served on the American Optometric Association’s Council on Clinical Optometric Care, during which time she helped to establish quality assurance measurements for the profession.

One of the college’s most distinguished alumni, Dr. Ruth gave the Convocation address on June 13, 1991, to that year’s graduating class. She said, “Follow your dream. Be prepared to take some risks. Risk and change will be with you all your life. Both are synonymous with opportunity. Only you can know, shape, and control the dream you have in your heart tonight.”

Also in 1991, Drs. Ruth and Warren Morris (posthumously) were awarded the H. Ward Ewait Medal for Service to Optometry by The Ohio State University College of Optometry. Because of the enduring legacy that Ruth and her beloved husband, Warren, gave to Ohio optometry, the Ohio Optometric Association’s highest annual award is named “The Warren G. and Ruth P. Morris Optometrist of the Year” for outstanding contributions to the profession of optometry and public service. The recipient of this high honor has the privilege of keeping Dr. Warren Morris’s mounted spot retinoscope for one year and then presenting it to the next year’s honoree at the OOA annual meeting.
Warren G. Morris
Class of 1949

Dr. Warren G. Morris lived in the Ohio State Buckeye scholarship dormitory while he was a student in mechanical engineering. During his senior year, he met Ruth Perroud, who was one of very few women in optometry at that time and whom he married six months later, just prior to entering the armed forces as an Army sergeant. He saw battle in Germany during World War II as a machine gunner. While he was fighting in the European theater of WWII, his wife opened her optometry practice in Toledo. She wrote to him daily, and in those letters, she shared with him her thrill of providing vision care to patients in northwest Ohio. Upon his return to the states, Dr. Morris told his wife that he also wanted to become an optometrist so they could practice together. After he graduated from Ohio State Optometry in 1949, he joined his wife in her Toledo practice, where he specialized in pediatric optometry. He told his colleagues that his wife examined adult patients so he could play with children. He not only helped his little patients see better, he also stressed the importance of a good education to them and to their parents. Dr. Morris was so dedicated to children and education that he also worked with special education teachers in the Toledo area to help them understand the role of vision in reading performance.

Dr. Morris served as President of both the Ohio Optometric Association and the Ohio State Board of Optometry. In his honor, a memorial fund for children’s vision research was established at The Ohio State University College of Optometry in 1990.

Herbert Mote
Class of 1935

Dr. Herbert Mote earned his optometry degree from Ohio State in 1935. He, along with Dr. Howard Haines, received the first MS degrees in physiological optics under Dr. Fry in 1938. He had a private practice in downtown Columbus for many years but also taught on a part-time basis at the Ohio State University School of Optometry. For more than three decades, from the 1940s to the 1960s, he served the profession with distinction as an Ohio State optometry student recruiter, registrar, counselor, clinic instructor, placement director, and beloved “father figure.” The annual Epsilon Psi Epsilon professional fraternity’s Distinguished Faculty Member of the Year award is named after Dr. Mote. He was president of the Ohio Optometric Association (1948–1950) and was a Fellow in the American Academy of Optometry. He was president of the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry 1959–1961.

In addition to his many academic duties at Ohio State, he was a consultant on vision to the Ohio State Highway Patrol from 1951 to 1969 and received an honorary badge of Captain from the OSPHP. In 1973, he was named “Optometrist of the Year” by the Ohio Optometric Association. He was also an active contributor to local chapters of the United Way, Camp Fire Girls, the Columbus Recreation Commission, and the Columbus Chamber of Commerce.

Dr. Mote passed away in 1974 at the age of 71.

Elizabeth Muckley
Class of 1997

Dr. Elizabeth Muckley has practiced at Northeast Ohio Eye Surgeons in Kent, Ohio for over 13 years and is the Director of Optometric Services. She concentrates on medical glaucoma and management of anterior segment disease. She is an extern preceptor and Assistant Clinical Professor for The Ohio State University advance practice site extern program. Dr. Muckley is a Fellow in the American Academy of Optometry and was the third woman inducted into the International Optometric Glaucoma Society. She currently serves as Trustee on the Board of the Ohio Optometric Association (OOA). Prior to that, she was co-chair of the OOA legislative committee, where she testified before the Ohio House and Senate for the 2008 scope of practice expansion (HB 149). She was the 2007 recipient of the Jack T. Keith Young Optometrist of the Year award for Ohio and subsequently was named the Young Optometrist of the Year for the American Optometric Association in 2008. Dr. Muckley is married to Tim, who is an attorney and Director of Corporate Real Estate at Sherwin Williams. They have one son, Max, age 9. She enjoys spending time at their summer home on Lake Erie, gardening, and entertaining friends and family--especially for OSU football games!

Dr. Muckley writes, "Graduating from The Ohio State College of Optometry has provided me opportunities in my career that I am forever grateful for. I get up every day knowing that I can make a difference in the lives of patients. I have countless friends and colleagues from my experiences at Ohio State. Congratulations on 100 years! I am proud to be a BuckEYE!"

Jeffrey Myers
Class of 1984

Dr. Jeffrey Myers attended Otterbein College, earning a BA in Chemistry in 1980, and then attended The Ohio State University College of Optometry, where he was class president, graduating in 1984. Following graduation, he began practice in Canal Winchester, Ohio, and also practiced part-time at the Chillicothe Veteran’s Administration Medical Center (VAMC) for more than two decades.

Within the Ohio Optometric Association (OOA), he has served on various committees, on the Board, and as President. He has presented the RealEyes program, an OOA educational program about eyes and vision, to more than 4,000 elementary school children. He has been recognized by the OOA with their Outstanding Service Award, Young Optometrist of the Year, and Warren G. and Ruth P. Morris Optometrist of the Year awards. He has been recognized by Prevent Blindness Ohio four times since 1992 for providing benevolent care to more than 500 patients. He has served as President of the Ohio Optometric Foundation and chaired the East/West Eye Conference. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry, where he has chaired the annual meeting Exhibits Committee. He has served the American Optometric Association on their Industry Relations Committee. In addition, Dr. Myers is a Clinical Associate Professor of Optometry at the College and has served Optometry Alumni & Friends as the Editor of their award-winning magazine BuckEYE Optometry Alumni Magazine. In 2009, he and his wife established the Jeffrey and Joyce Myers Lecture Series at the College. Since 2010, he has chaired the College’s Capital Campaign Committee and served on the University’s Campaign Coordinating Committee.

In scouting, he has served as Scoutmaster, District Vice-Chairman, Council Senior Vice-President, Council Representative to the National Council, Life Member of the Council Executive Board, and Regional Camp Inspector. He led three contingents to the Philmont Scout Ranch and provided leadership to two National Jamboree contingents, including one as contingent leader. He served on staff for more than three dozen adult leader training courses, providing key leadership for eight, including being Course Director for Wood Badge. Scouting’s advanced leadership course. He was recognized with two Scouter’s Keys, the District Award of Merit, Silver Beaver Award, and the Honor Medal with Crossed Palms, for unusual heroism in attempting to save a life at extreme risk to self.

Dr. Myers has been a member of the Groveport United Methodist Church for most of his life where he has served as the religious awards coordinator, seeing over 150 awards earned. He has also served as Lay Leader, Capital Campaign Co-Chair, Education Chair, and Finance Chair. He has led 24 Bible studies, including ten long-term studies of 30 weeks or more. Several local churches have given him the opportunity to preach. For the last four years, he has traveled with another church member to Liberia to interview students for education scholarships. Their work has seen more than 525
students receive scholarships to attend Phebe Community Lutheran School in Bong County over four years, and Dr. Myers has supported two eye clinics with donations of eyewear, equipment, and basic refraction training. In 2000, he was recognized by the Columbus South District with the Towel & Basin Award. He has attended the Walk to Emmaus and has served as a weekend Lay Director twice for the three-day Christian retreat.

In the community, he has served as President of the Groveport Lions Club, is an 18-gallon Red Cross blood donor, was awarded the Medal of Heroism by the Sons of the American Revolution, and was awarded the Outstanding Leadership Award for Community Service by the Ohio Educational Service Center Association.

Jeffrey is married to the former Anita Joyce Maynard and resides in Groveport, Ohio. They have three adult children, Amanda (Scott), James, and Jennifer, and two grandchildren, Isla and Sladen.

Joan Nerderman
Class of 1986
I graduated with 58 of my peers from The Ohio State University College of Optometry in 1986 with the goal of having my own practice. When I discovered I wasn’t a good office manager, I fell into my current position with Mike Weber, OD in Westerville. My experiences with senior extern students since 2001 at Faith Mission homeless shelter, doing eye exams on home-bound patients, and attending in the Primary Vision Clinic at the college have been most rewarding.

My best achievement is my three children: one an Ohio State graduate and a lawyer; one currently at Ohio State; and one soon to be there. I also enjoy fostering animals for Pets Without Parents (a no-kill animal shelter) in Clintonville as well as time with my two dogs, two cats, and fish at home. I also volunteer at the Columbus Zoo. Maybe I should have been a veterinary optometrist; after all, animals need to see too!

Running the outreach clinic has opened my eyes to the unmet needs in the community and the fact that there are a lot of 6.00-D myopes living in their cars—and driving them—around Columbus and many patients with glaucoma who do not have their medications. I hope that my lectures through Optometric Educators, Inc. on street drugs and domestic abuse have opened the eyes of fellow optometrists to what is occurring in our communities.

I am also the advisor for an Ohio State undergraduate outreach group, Eyes on Health, and we have gone on medical missions with Remote Area Medical for the last three years to provide eyecare in Kentucky and Tennessee. Patients wait outside overnight for the very vision care we often take for granted.

Recently, I have become SCUBA certified with my daughter. That activity takes me into a whole new animal environment—no small feat for someone who has never been a good swimmer!

Robert Newcomb
Class of 1971
The decision to become an optometrist was confirmed in Dr. Newcomb’s mind when all the cute girls in his high school began to get contact lenses in the 1960s. He received his OD degree in 1971 and then served in the US Navy for three years. During these three years, his early interest in contact lens patients changed to patients with ocular disease. In 1974, while pursuing a Master’s degree in Public Health at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, he began a 23-year career with the Department of Veterans Affairs where he was given the opportunity to teach optometry students and residents. He retired from federal service in 1997 and accepted a faculty position at the college where he could continue to see ocular disease patients and teach students and residents in the clinic as well as in the classroom. He first served as the Director of Clinics and then later as the Residency Director. He was also the college’s inaugural Vision Service Plan (VSP) Chair for the Advancement of Professional Practice from 1997 until his retirement in 2012.

He maintains his ties with the college by serving on the BuckEYE Optometry Alumni Magazine staff, as a board member of Optometry Alumni and Friends, and as a member of the Centennial Events Planning Committee.

Jason J. Nichols
Class of 1999
Jason J. Nichols was the Kevin McDaid Vision Source Professor at the University of Houston College of Optometry from 2011-14. He received his undergraduate degree in Biology from Hope College (1995), and Doctor of Optometry (1999). Master’s in Public Health (2003, epidemiology), and PhD (2004) from The Ohio State University. He was on the faculty at Ohio State between 2004-2011 where he was an associate professor.

Dr. Nichols has trained numerous graduate students and fellows and has received research funding from the National Eye Institute of the National Institutes of Health to study dry eye diseases including meibomian gland disease, dry eye, and contact lens-related dry eye. He has also received funding from the American Optometric Foundation, in addition to a variety of industrial partners. He has authored 90 peer-reviewed manuscripts and 150 abstracts on these topics. He is currently Editor of Contact Lens Spectrum and Contact Lenses Today®, which reach 50,000 eyecare practitioners worldwide. Dr. Nichols also serves as an associate editor for Eye and Contact Lens Today and is a diplomate in the American Academy of Optometry’s sections of Public Health and Environmental Optometry and Corena, Contact Lenses and Refractive Technology. He is also Chair of the Tear Film and Ocular Surface Society’s Medical and Scientific Advisory Board and Contact Lens Discomfort Workshop.

Gregory J. Nixon
Class of 1996
Dr. Greg Nixon, Clinical Professor of Optometry at The Ohio State University College of Optometry writes: “Congratulations Ohio State University Optometry as you celebrate your centennial! It is truly remarkable to think about the tremendous impact this program has had over the last 100 years. Ohio State has produced innovative researchers whose discoveries have influenced the optometric community and changed the standards of care for our practices. Our clinical program has provided expert vision and eye care to benefit the lives of thousands of patients. The greatest influence of all, however, is that Ohio State Optometry has made dreams come true for its graduates.

I feel blessed to be among those whose dream to become an optometrist came true. As a nearsighted eighth grader, I was enthralled with the effect of my first spectacle correction that had on my view of the world. I gained a new clarity about my surroundings I had never known before. In a broader sense, this experience also focused my career interests toward being able to provide this benefit to others. Enrolling at Ohio State not only trained me to be the best optometrist possible, it has provided me the opportunity to train a generation of optometrists who have shared that same dream.

Today, I am one of thousands of Ohio State alumni who is proud to be a Buckeye OD who has contributed to providing 100 years of great vision. I look forward to Ohio State Optometry striving to preserve and protect that vision for many years to come.”
Since starting in private practice immediately after graduation, Tom’s professional activities have been many. He has been a Zone Governor of the Cincinnati Optometric Association, Executive Board Member of the Ohio Optometric Association, and Board Member and Treasurer of the American Optometric Association Political Action Committee. In 1991, he was named Ohio’s Young Optometrist of the Year for his outstanding professional and community service, and he was named the 2006 Ohio Key Optometrist of the Year in recognition of his legislative activities. Currently, Tom serves on the Ohio State Board of Optometry and is the Vision Source Administrator for Greater Cincinnati.

Tom, a resident of Hamilton, is active in a number of local civic and youth organizations. He currently serves as Trustee of the Fraternal Order of Police Associates, Board Member of the Hamilton-Fairfield Symphony Orchestra, and Treasurer of Dayton Lane Historic Area. Tom is also a former Mayor of Hamilton. He and his wife, Jennifer, have three very active almost-grown children, and are quickly transitioning toward the “empty nest” lifestyle.

Tom has been blessed with a broad range of life experiences, both personally and professionally. He feels strongly that these opportunities would not have come his way “but for Ohio State” and our wonderful optometric profession. He will forever be grateful for the classmates, colleagues, and mentors that have been there for him along the way. Go Bucks!

Dr. Gary Orsborn is Senior Director, Global Professional Relations at CooperVision. He received his Doctor of Optometry degree in 1983 and a Master’s of Science in Physiological Optics in 1985 from The Ohio State University College of Optometry. Gary has worked in the contact lens industry since 1985 in the U.S., Latin America, and Europe, where his responsibilities have included worldwide professional relations, medical affairs, clinical research, and marketing of vision care products. Gary is a Fellow of both the American Academy of Optometry and of the British Contact Lens Association and is a member of the American Optometric Association and of the Association of Research and Vision in Ophthalmology. Gary and his wife, Suyan, live with their daughter in Rochester, New York where they are active in the community’s Landmark Society.

Dr. Pall joined the Research and Development group at Johnson & Johnson Vision Care. He also became a Fellow of the Epsilon Psi Epsilon Fraternity while a student in the College of Optometry.

Dr. Pall is employed as a Senior Principal Research Optometrist at Johnson & Johnson Vision Care. Throughout his career, he has supported material development from prototype to approval followed by support of post-market clinical studies for all of the company’s currently marketed hydrogel and silicone hydrogel materials (etafilcon A, galyfilcon A, senofilcon A, narafilcon A, and narafilcon B). He is also the clinical lead for the combination product programs, including the development and optimization of a silver-containing antimicrobial lens and an anti-allergy contact lens material. Dr. Pall presents clinical research results and lectures on contact lens-related topics worldwide.

Dr. Pall and his wife, Michele, live in Jacksonville, Florida, with their three children: Ellie (born in 2006), Evan (born in 2006), and Abby (born in 2011). He enjoys traveling, playing golf, and spending time with his family.

Looking back on my admission to the optometry program at Ohio State reminds me how fortunate I was to choose both Ohio State and optometry. Because my grades and test scores were adequate, albeit not spectacular, it seems that I interviewed well, and the college took a chance on me. Thus the die was cast, creating the opportunity for a wonderful and fulfilling career.

Following my optometric training I was fortunate to enroll in the Master’s/Residency in Contact Lenses at Ohio State, which in turn cemented my interest in research and led to my first academic position at the Southern California College of Optometry. As well, that Master’s degree opened other doors, and I tell my current Master’s candidates that it will do the same for them.

The training I received at Ohio State was special, due to the long and storied history of the program and, especially, the culture of academic excellence. The college’s programs lay a solid theoretical foundation that allows development of graduates into top-notch clinicians and even academics, if they so choose. I am particularly grateful to my many mentors, among them Drs. Richard Hill, John Schoessler, William Brown, and Kevin Alexander. Moreover, I am proud of my classmates, Drs. Greg Stephens, Tom Quinn, Mark Smith, and Joe and Pat Benjamin for the many unique impacts they have had on academia and research in vision science and on the profession of optometry.

I am a 1989 graduate of the OSU College of Optometry, received a PhD in physiological optics in 1994, and have been a full-time faculty member at the College since 1996. I was inspired by mentors that I have had over the years as an optometry student, graduate student, and faculty member – luminaries such as Arol Augsburger, Joe Barr, Mike Polasky, and Karla Zadnik.

At the College, I am currently a Professor of Clinical Optometry and serve as a member of the Admissions Committee. I am also the faculty advisor to Epsilon Psi Epsilon and the Optometry Student Council. I am passionate about recruiting and admitting the 64 best possible students to each year’s entering class. I love educating the outstanding students here at Ohio State and have been privileged to receive both the Herbert G. Motte Award from the American Optometric Student Association Faculty Member of the Year Award.

In addition to my passion for the College, I also have a strong commitment to service to the optometric profession. I served on the Board of Trustees of the Ohio Optometric Association (AOA) from 2003 – 2011 and as OOA President in 2010. I have served the American Optometric Association (AOA)
Michael Polasky  
Class of 1969

Dr. Mike Polasky received his OD degree in 1969 and served on the faculty of The Ohio State University College of Optometry for the next 35 years. He taught more than 2,125 students the science and art of clinical refraction, binocular vision, and patient management and served on the clinical faculty in Primary Care, Binocular Vision, Aniseikonia, and Contact Lenses. At one time or another, he was responsible for the Instructional Media department at the College of Optometry for over 25 years. He is now retired and living in Hilliard with his wife, Wendy Clark, who is responsible for the Instructional Media department at the College of Optometry for over 25 years.

Susan G. Quinn  
Class of 1982

Dr. Susan Quinn is a 1982 graduate of The Ohio State University College of Optometry. She is in group private practice in Athens, Ohio with her husband, Dr. Thomas Quinn (OD’79, MS’81), Dr. Shane Foster (OD’08) and Dr. Robyn Stout Sargent (OD’99). Susan provides expertise in vision rehabilitation as well as full scope eye care for all members of the family.

Susan served as a clinical instructor at The Ohio State University College of Optometry Vision Rehabilitation Clinic from 1991-1999. She has also served the college as a member of the Dean’s Advisory Council for the past several years.

Susan is a charter member of the American Optometric Association’s Low Vision Section and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry. She has served both as a member and president of the Ohio State Board of Optometry. Dr. Quinn was awarded the Ohio Optometric Association’s Special Merit Award and the Ohio Optometric Association Optometrist of the Year Award. She has served in many leadership roles in her community, most recently as president of the Board of Trustees for the Sheltering Arms Hospital Foundation, the governing body of O’Blenes Memorial Hospital. Other community activities include donating her time for vision screenings and dilated retinal examinations at a Diabetic Free Clinic held at the Ohio University Osteopathic Medical School and serving on the Leadership Council for Planned Parenthood of Southeast Ohio. Susan is also a Clinical Assistant Professor at the Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Susan is an avid gardener, bread baker, and wine aficionado. She enjoys seeing the world from the seat of a bicycle, having cycled the western coast of Ireland with husband Tom in 2013. This year, the Quinn family cycled through Willamette Valley in Oregon, home to some of the world’s finest pinot noirs. Cheers!

Thomas G. Quinn  
Class of 1979

Dr. Thomas Quinn received his OD degree in 1979 and his MS degree in 1981 from The Ohio State University College of Optometry. Tom’s MS degree was earned while completing Ohio State’s Cornea and Contact Lens residency under the guidance of Dr. John Schoessler. Tom and Dr. Jerry Paugh were privileged to be only the third “class” of residents to graduate from this one-of-a-kind program. He became a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry in 1982 and then became a Diplomate in the Academy’s Section on Cornea, Contact Lens and Refractive Technologies in 1991. He was a full-time faculty member at Ohio State from 1981-83 then a part-time clinical instructor at the college from 1986 to 1993. He currently has a faculty appointment as a Clinical Assistant Professor at The Ohio University College of Osteopathic Medicine.

Tom practices in Athens with his wife, Dr. Susan Quinn (OD’82), Dr. Shane Foster (OD’08), and Dr. Robyn Stout Sargent (OD’99). He enjoys serving as principal investigator for numerous studies exploring the performance of contact lenses and contact lens related products.

Tom is a member of the American Optometric Association (AOA), and is currently Chair of the AOA’s Contact Lens and Cornea Council. He has served the Ohio Optometric Association as chair of various committees, including currently serving as chair of the EastWest Eye Conference. Dr. Quinn also serves on the Advisory Board of the Rigid Gas Permeable Lens Institute and was honored with its national 2001 RGP Lens “Practitioner of the Year” Award. He is a contributing editor for Contact Lens Spectrum, the nation’s leading contact lens magazine and for over 30 years has enjoyed speaking in the areas of contact lenses and corneal physiology.

Tom enjoys traveling with his wife and partner, Susan, and takes special delight in spending time with son Brian (Chicago) and daughter Katie (New York City).

Tom also enjoys the stage and has performed in a number of well-known musicals, including The Wizard of Oz (Timman), The Sound of Music (Captain von Trapp), and Harold Hill in both the 1996 and 2007 Ohio Valley Summer Theater productions of The Music Man. He most recently performed the role of Mr. Fezzwig in the Brick Monkey Theater Ensemble’s production of Appalachian Christmas Carol, which is performed each December at Nelsonville, Ohio’s historic Stuart’s Opera House.

Finally, Tom is a member of the classic rock (1954-1964) band “Remember Then”. In addition to performing across the state of Ohio, “Remember Then” was again the opening act at the EastWest Eye Conference Rock and Roll Hall of Fame Party on October 10, 2014.
Marjorie Rah  
**Class of 1995**
Dr. Marjorie Rah received her Doctor of Optometry degree from The Ohio State University College of Optometry in 1995. She remained at Ohio State as a Cornea and Contact Lens Advanced Practice Fellow and received her MS and PhD degrees in Physiological Optics in 1997 and 2000, respectively. Following completion of her PhD, Dr. Rah joined the faculty at the New England College of Optometry, in Boston, Massachusetts in the fall of 2000. Dr. Rah also was a staff optometrist at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary from 2002 to 2010. She became a Diplomate in the Section on Cornea, Contact Lenses and Refractive Technologies of the American Academy of Optometry in 2004. Dr. Rah has conducted research in specialty contact lenses and has written and lectured extensively.

Currently, Dr. Rah is employed by Bausch+Lomb Incorporated, a division of Valeant Pharmaceuticals, where she Senior Manager, Medical Communications. In addition, she is near completion of a Master of Science degree in regulatory affairs at Northeastern University in Boston.

Michael Raies  
**Class of 1989**
Dr. Raies practices optometry with his wife, Dr. Kelly (nee Carson) Raies, in Portsmouth, Ohio. The practice was founded by Kelly’s father, Dr. Raymond Carson. Dr. Raies is a member of the Ohio Optometric Association (OOA) and the American Optometric Association. He is past zone governor for the OOA. He is also a member of Vision Source, a national association of private practice optometrists.

Dr. Raies has a variety of hobbies. He has performed in the Southern Ohio Light Opera and the Portsmouth Little Theater and has performed in and co-directed the Red Stockings Revue, a local variety show in Portsmouth. He is an avid runner, has completed the New York City Marathon two times, and still competes in 5K runs regularly. His favorite hobby is managing and performing in the band BAD HABITS, “The EyeDocs of Rock”. This five-member classic rock band, four of whom are fellow optometrists, has been performing since 1987. They have performed annually for the EastWest Eye Conference at the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland, Ohio since 1999, as well as many optometric conventions around the United States since 2001.

Dr. Raies is an elder and chancel choir member at Second Presbyterian Church, and is active in various charitable organizations and events locally. He and his wife, Kelly, have three daughters, Sarah, Allison, and Anne Marie.

He writes, “Music has always been a big part of my life. When I decided to attend The Ohio State University College of Optometry, I never dreamed that choosing a career as an optometrist would also give me the opportunity to pursue my interest as a musician as well. I feel truly blessed to be in a career that I love, which has also helped enhance a hobby that I love.”

Karen Riccio  
**Class of 1982**
Dr. Karen Riccio graduated from The Ohio State University College of Optometry in 1982. She practiced at the Cincinnati Eye Institute for 10 years. While at the Cincinnati Eye Institute, she was involved in emergency eye care, pediatric eye care, medical glaucoma care, and peri-operative cataract surgery care. Upon moving back to Columbus, Dr. Riccio was the optometric director of a laser vision correction center.

In 1997 she joined the Eye Designs team.

Dr. Riccio is actively involved in the American Optometric Association, the Ohio Optometric Association, and the Central Ohio Optometric Association. She is a past president of the Ohio Optometric Association. Dr. Riccio was appointed to the State Board of Optometry, for a five-year term, ending in 2013.

Dr. Riccio said, “As you can see, I have had many different jobs as an optometrist. This is one of the great things about optometry, all the possibilities! I am currently in a private practice Eye Designs founded by Doug Bloss (OD’87). My current business partner is MaryEllen Luebbers (OD’05). We have two offices and I have never been happier than I am now, having my own practice.”

Kathryn Richdale  
**Class of 2002**
Dr. Kathryn Richdale received her OD and PhD, and completed a Cornea and Contact Lens Advanced Practice Fellowship from The Ohio State University College of Optometry. She is currently an Assistant Professor and Director of the Clinical Vision Research Center at the SUNY College of Optometry. Dr. Richdale teaches Advanced Contact Lenses to third year students and is a clinical attending in the Contact Lens Service at the University Eye Center. She is Co-Chair of the Contact Lens Assessment in Youth (CLAY) study group and has been an investigator for industry-private and federally funded research in presbyopia, cornea, and contact lenses. She is an active member in the American Academy of Optometry and was recently appointed to serve on the Academy’s Research Committee. Dr. Richdale has been awarded an American Optometric Foundation Ezell Fellowship and holds the inaugural Alden N. Haffner Innovation Chair at the SUNY College of Optometry.

David Roncone  
**Class of 1999**
Dr. David Roncone has practiced in various modalities in his career (group optometry, ophthalmology referral center, and Department of Veterans Affairs). He is currently practicing at the Louis Stokes Cleveland VA Medical Centers, where he completed his Primary Care Hospital-Based Optometry Residency in June 2000. Dr. Roncone became a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry in December 2000 and the second Clinical Refractive Diplomate in the country in the Academy’s Section on Cornea, Contact Lenses, and Refractive Technologies in November 2009. He was awarded the Mahoning Valley Professionals 20/30 Club 40 under 40 Award in November 2009 for excelling in his profession and in community service. He received National Board Certification in Medical Optometry from the American Board of Certification in Medical Optometry in August 2010. Dr. Roncone’s research has been published five times in peer-reviewed professional journals, and he has lectured at numerous conferences. A member of the American Optometric Association, the Ohio Optometric Association, the National Association of VA Optometrists, the Optometric Council of Refractive Technologies, the Ohio Vision Foundation, the Mahoning Valley Professionals 20/30 Club, and the Pacentranco Club of Youngstown, Ohio, Dr. Roncone enjoys playing bocce, watching movies, attending athletic events, and spending time with his wife Angela, son Vito, and family members and friends.
East Liverpool, where he practiced until his retirement in 1985. He was active in the community as a member of the East Liverpool Jaycees and Rotary Club, served several terms as a member of the city’s Board of Health, and spent many years as a Boy Scout leader. Following retirement, he kept up his office as a home for his model trains, which now fill the space once occupied by his optometric equipment and fitting room. Dr. Rubin continues to be a fixture in the community, where he frequently encounters former patients who happily tell him, “You made my first pair of glasses!”

Dr. Rubin and the late Elsa Rubin had two children. Elsa Rubin Efrian (Ohio State Class of 1963) lives in Philadelphia with her husband, Dr. Jay S. Efrian (Ohio State PhD 1963). Leon M. Rubin (Ohio State Classes of 1977, 1987) and his wife, Suzi Rubin, live in Dahlonega, GA. Dr. Rubin has four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Roger Saneholtz

Class of 1974

My initial practice experience was with the United States Air Force for three years at Wurtsmith Air Force Base in Oscoda, Michigan. I have spent the last 37 years in private practice in Montpelier, Ohio, which is a small town in the very northwestern corner of the state, 187 miles from Columbus. As a professional in a small town, I have had the opportunity to get involved in many aspects of my community including, the school board, hospital board, library board, Chamber of Commerce, United Fund, various church boards, senior citizen advisory board, Montpelier Area Foundation, and coaching youth sports.

My entire life structure is attributable to the current Ohio State adage, “But for Ohio State.” It starts with meeting my wife of almost 40 years there. Both of our sons are Ohio State graduates, and their wives are Ohio State alumnas. My first grandson was born at The Ohio State University Wexner Medical Center. All our financial success is due to our Ohio State degrees. I think I understand Woody Hayes’s idea of “Paying It Forward,” but I continue to feel that I still owe much more to Ohio State for what it has provided for me all of these years.

My alumni association involvement began almost 20 years ago at the suggestion of Arol Augsburger that I be invited to join the Optometry Alumni and Friends board. I have been privileged to work with three great Deans (Drs. Hill, Schoessler, and Shipp) and look forward to Dean Zadnik’s service to our College. I have been recognized by The Ohio State University Alumni Association as an Outstanding Society Leader in 2008 and as a Ralph Davenport Mershon awardee in 2010. This alumni service has led me to understand that our College of Optometry is a special place with very special people within the framework of an eminent University. Our College is certainly deserving of support from all of our alumni. Remember, your own degree is only as good as the last one presented by our College.

My photo is from last year’s Michigan game. Sons Austin and Brent joined me. This picture was the first time since the boys were very small that the three of us have attended a game together—a great day for the old man!
work for the Columbus Childhood League arises from my days as a young clinical instructor taking our students to screen the vision of these young handicapped preschoolers. Service remains a privilege.

John Schoessler
Class of 1965
I was greatly and pleasantly surprised to find that I was selected to be a “notable alumnuus.” I was surprised because, after all, why would I be honored for simply enjoying my career, especially since the honor belongs to countless others who made my gratifying career in optometry possible? I have always been fond of saying, “If you like what you do, you never have to go to work.” So, in this short blurb, I would like to turn the recognition around and honor those who paved the way for me to experience or touch on almost every aspect in the optometric profession and in the universe of people known as The Ohio State University. Beginning with my optometrist grandfather, whose kindness inspired me to be “just like him,” to all those along the way who provided guidance, teaching, mentoring, advise, counsel, influence, support, and prayer and ending with my family and my beloved Jane who provides all the love and encouragement I will ever need, I give my heartfelt appreciation and gratefulness.

In the past 50 years I have witnessed the most amazing changes and growth in our profession and in Ohio State. What a privilege! I personally have been a learner, a teacher, a researcher, a provider of patient care, a participant in professional and academic organizations, a recruiter, an accredditor, and an administrator. What a privilege! The people I have known via the College of Optometry (students, staff, colleagues, practitioners, lab reps, donors, and patients) are the best ever. What a privilege! I have been retired from the College of Optometry and from the profession for over ten years now, and I must tell you that I do have a “second career” which began long before my career in optometry ended. Jane and I are active in church ministry and leadership. Because of the redeeming grace in both of our lives, we have a special passion for marriages and devote time and energy to marriage ministry in particular.

Thanks to the College of Optometry for this 100th Anniversary honor. However my honor and reward will truly come if I have ever been a part of raising up another to love well and serve well. Actually, I do have another career in the offing. Since we were created for “forever” and since I have passed my allotted “threescore and ten,” I am looking toward the time when I will finish my life journey here and take my place in The Eternal Kingdom. Thanks for the memories.

James Scholles
Class of 1959
The professional life of Dr. James R. Scholles has been both exciting and fulfilling. One of the first to have both optometry and law degrees, Dr. Scholles has been “where the action is” working with many of the distinguished leaders in optometry, including Drs. Irvin Borish, Irving Bennett, Timothy Kime, David Sullins, Melvin Shipp, Fred Hebbard, Ruth and Warren Morris, and many others. He has served as President of the Ohio and American Optometric Associations. He has lectured and written extensively about clinicolegal subjects. He has testified before the US Congress on behalf of the optometry relative to Medicare co-management and in the hearings of the Federal Trade Commission on “Eyeglasses 2.” He served for six years and chaired the Legal and Ethical Issues Committee of the National Board of Examiners in Optometry. He was a founding member and first President of Diversified Ophthalmics, Inc., a buying group that enhanced the buying power of independent optometrists and President of Preferred Eyecare Providers, a preferred provider organization that has achieved access to local insurance panels in South Western Ohio for Optometrists to provide diagnostic and treatment services. Dr. Scholles has helped to design strategies for the profession as a member and chairman of two long-range planning committees of the American Optometric Association as the profession expanded its scope of practice. He is still active in both his optometry and legal practices and says he is at his best helping his patients care for their eyes and counseling his optometric constituents about practice issues. Dr. Scholles remains humbled by his good fortune to have had the tireless support of his wife, Barbara, his family, his practice associates, Dr. David Wert (OD’71) and Dr. Philip Jutte (OD’07), his office staff, The Ohio State University College of Optometry and the community of Ohio optometrists.

William O. Schuller
Class of 1965
Dr. Bill Schuller was born in St. Louis, Missouri but was raised in Youngstown and Cleveland, Ohio. He chose a career in optometry - and later in public health - because of his brother, who had congenital glaucoma that resulted in total visual impairment. He says, “I observed my parents’ frustrations and anguish in their attempts to obtain both treatment and educational opportunities for him. I wanted to make a difference.” He chose Ohio State because it was highly rated in the sciences and health care professions and because it was a national and international university with many extracurricular activities, especially intramural sports. He earned his BS-Optometry from Ohio State in 1965 and his OD from the University of California, Berkeley in 1969. His mentors at Ohio State were Drs. Herb Mote, Boyd Eskridge, Brad Wild, and Dick Hill. His mentor at UC-Berkeley was Dr. Hank Peters. In 1974, he earned his MPH from Johns Hopkins University.

He has practiced optometry in a variety of federal and educational settings. Immediately after receiving his BS, he was the Optometry officer and Chief of the Eye Clinic at the Beale US Air Force Base in California. In 1970, he began his distinguished career in optometric education at Ohio State, then the New England College of Optometry, then the University of Alabama at Birmingham, then Pacific University, then the Pennsylvania College of Optometry, and finally back at Ohio State, which he retired from in 2007. Over those 37 years, he taught pediatric optometry, vision screening, disease diagnosis and treatment, public health, ocular and medical emergencies, and contact lenses.

He also served as Chief of Optometry at the Seattle Indian Health Board, where he saw Native American patients and supervised externs from Pacific University. In 1981, he entered the Veterans Administration (now the Department of Veterans Affairs) as Chief of Optometry at the Lebanon, PA medical center, where he was responsible for the residency program. In 1986, he moved to the Chillicothe VA to become Chief of Optometry and, as a Clinical Associate Professor at Ohio State, directed the Hospital-Based Residency Program and supervised externs there. He also chaired the Visual Impairment Services Team for legally blind patients at both VA facilities. “Serving veterans was very rewarding because they were very appreciative, and I really enjoyed teaching and guiding students and residents. The greatest reward was watching them evolve as outstanding clinicians then following their careers once they finished,” he said. Two of his former residents, Drs. Rick Frick (OD’97) on his right and Brett Irvin (OD/MS’02) on his left are shown in the accompanying photograph.

During his “free” time, he also instructed First Aid courses for the American Red Cross, served as an instructor for the American Heart Association in Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation and in Advanced Cardiac Life Support, and served as an advisor for two Medical Explorer posts.

In retirement, he now enjoys hiking, touring historical sites, and visiting with family and old friends. He has been on the Board of The Ohio State University Ross County Alumni Association, including two years as its president, since 1989. He started and has served as chair of that chapter’s Freshman Merit Scholarship program since 1990 and also serves as an academic recruiter for potential Ohio State students in Ross County.

In 2011, Dr. Schuller established an endowed scholarship at the college in memory of his brother, John F. Schuller, which supports optometry students working with visually impaired/developmentally disabled children.
James Sheedy  
Class of 1974  
Dr. Sheedy received his optometry degree and his doctorate in physiological optics from The Ohio State University. He was a Clinical Professor at the University of California, Berkeley School of Optometry where he founded the first Video Display Terminal Eye Clinic in 1985. He also established the Center for Ophthalmic Optics Research at Ohio State University and is recognized as an expert in the design and prescribing of progressive addition lenses. He has twice received the Garland Clay Award for the best clinical research published in Optometry and Vision Science and received the William Feinbloom Award from the American Academy of Optometry award for his work in vision ergonomics. He also received the Distinguished Service Award from Prevent Blindness America for his work with ultraviolet light. He has 140 published articles and has participated in the development of numerous ANSI and ISO standards and regulations. Dr. Sheedy has earned a reputation as an expert in vision problems at computers. This has led to research into hardware and software configurations of computer displays. Dr. Sheedy has several graduate students who have received degrees under his guidance. Currently, Dr. Sheedy is the head of the Vision Performance Institute and Professor of Optometry at the Pacific University College of Optometry. Dr. Sheedy was honored by receiving the 2013 Optometry Alumni and Friends Distinguished Alumni Award.

Christine Sindt  
Class of 1994  
Dr. Christine W. Sindt is a 1994 graduate of The Ohio State University College of Optometry. She completed a disease-based residency at the Cleveland Veterans Administration Medical Center. Dr. Sindt joined the faculty of the University of Iowa Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences in 1995, where she is currently an Associate Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology and Director of the Contact Lens Service. She also serves as a consultant optometrist for the Iowa City Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

Dr. Sindt is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry, the 2010-2011 Chair of the American Optometric Association’s (AOA) Contact Lens and Cornea Section, Past President and founding member of Women of Vision, and Past President and co-founder of the Scleral Lens Education Society. In 2005, she received the Dr. Rodger Kame Award for service and dedication to the profession from the AOA’s Contact Lens and Cornea Section. In 2011, the Contact Lens Manufacturers Association named her the Practitioner of the Year. In 2013 she received a Legends Award for contributions to the culture of contact lenses through leadership and dedication, from the AOA’s Contact Lens and Cornea Section.

Dr. Sindt is Chief Clinical Editor for Review of Optometry and an Associate Editor for Review of Cornea and Contact Lens, where she contributes a monthly column on contact lens solutions. She also serves on the Optometry Times Editorial Advisory Board and is a Contributing Editor for Contact Lens Spectrum.

She has published 100 publications including peer-reviewed journal articles, book chapters, contact lens columns, CD-ROMs, videos, and web publications. Her work has been cited in the popular media by the LA Times and Good Housekeeping. She has been an invited speaker at conferences in 25 states and five countries.

Dr. Sindt’s clinical interests include pediatric, keratoconus, and post-surgical contact lens fitting. Her research projects include contact lens solution research; the design of scleral contact lenses for the correction of keratoconus/pellucid marginal degeneration; computer-guided fitting for keratoconus; dry eye aberrations; the effect of contact lens wear on immune cell density and morphology of the ocular surface; and corneal imaging with confocal microscopy. Dr. Sindt holds both a national and international patent on automated corneal confocal analysis and has a patent pending status for a prosthetic lens design. Dr. Sindt has started two companies related to the field of ocular health and optics.

Jason Singh  
Class of 1998  
Dr. Jason Singh’s passion for social impact through vision care began after he graduated from The Ohio State University in 1998. After graduation, his journey took him to Cincinnati where he worked for the Cincinnati Eye Institute and opened his private practice that focused on pediatrics, urgent care, and ocular disease management. During this time, Dr. Singh began participating in global missions work, and this passion to use his skills to change lives around the world ultimately led him to a life-changing decision.

Upon returning from Mamelodi, Jason became the Executive Director of OneSight, a nonprofit organization dedicated to solving the global vision care crisis by providing access to quality vision care and eyewear to those in need around the world. He is responsible for leading all OneSight global and regional programs, including operations, fundraising, and communications. During his current tenure, OneSight has served 750,000 people in underprivileged communities around the world, while piloting new sustainable vision care infrastructure for millions more in need.

Dr. Singh sold everything and moved to Mamelodi, South Africa to serve as Executive Medical Director for Engage Mamelodi, a program designed to bring sustainable medical care to the underserved people in this post-apartheid township. In this role, his team created programs for vision care, dental care, and community health care. This is where the world vision care crisis became blatantly apparent to him, a problem that could not be overlooked.

Upon returning from Mamelodi, Jason became the Executive Director of OneSight, a nonprofit organization dedicated to solving the global vision care crisis by providing access to quality vision care and eyewear to those in need around the world. He is responsible for leading all OneSight global and regional programs, including operations, fundraising, and communications. During his current tenure, OneSight has served 750,000 people in underprivileged communities around the world, while piloting new sustainable vision care infrastructure for millions more in need.

Jason currently lives in a suburb of Cincinnati with his wife Amanda and new son, Joshua.

Arthur Slobod  
Class of 1937  
Arthur A. Slobod was the son of parents who immigrated from Czarist Russia around 1905. His father and uncle were 1910 graduates of The Ohio State University with degrees in engineering.

He graduated from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in 1931 with an engineering degree, sponsored there by a New York State Regents Scholarship. Finding engineering jobs to be difficult in the depression, he, too, came to The Ohio State University, earning an MS in Physics in 1932. As jobs were still difficult to find, he returned to Ohio State, earning a BS in Optometry in 1937. While there, he tutored many of his classmates in math and optics, including Robert Graham (BS’37). Graham founded Armorlite in 1947 that pioneered CR-39 (plastic) spectacle lenses. It was the sole provider of CR-39 resin in the world for 6 years. Slobod invested about $1,000 in that venture in 1948.

As World War II began, the need for technical people was greater than the public’s desire for vision care, so Slobod returned to engineering, working for General Electric on the Manhattan Project in Berkeley, California, developing a highly refined uranium product for the eventual atomic bomb. He traveled with the Freedom Train in the late 1940s as it toured the country. Later employment with North American Aviation allowed him to work on the Minuteman Missile guidance systems and the Apollo missions.

The sale of Armorlite to 3M in 1978 gained him 18,000 shares of 3M stock, valued in excess of $1 million, allowing him to completely retire. He passed away on April 16, 2011, at the age of 100 years, 9 months. He is survived by his daughter, Beverly Slobod King, and his son, Clifford Slobod, two grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.
Depending on the source, the atomic bomb and manned flight to the moon are two of the top American innovations/inventions. This notable alumni spent a portion of his life working on each of them.

Mary Jo Stiegemeier  
Class of 1983  
Dr. Mary Jo Stiegemeier is a 1983 graduate of The Ohio State University College of Optometry where she earned the Bausch and Lomb Contact Lens Award. Dr. Stiegemeier was also presented with a Distinguished Teaching Award from Mt. Sinai Hospital, Cleveland, Ohio. Dr. Stiegemeier founded Western Reserve Vision Care, a private optometric practice in Beachwood and Hudson, Ohio, where she specializes in therapeutic contact lens fitting. She also is Staff Optometrist at the Cole Eye Institute, Cleveland Clinic Foundation, Specialty Contact Lens Clinic, Department of Ophthalmology.

Dr. Stiegemeier is the 2009 recipient of the American Optometric Association Contact Lens and Cornea Section’s Luminary Award for Distinguished Practice. She has also been recognized by the National Academies of Practice as a distinguished practitioner in Optometry.

Dr. Stiegemeier has faculty appointments as an Adjunct Assistant Clinical Professor at the Pacific University College of Optometry and as an Adjunct Assistant Professor at the University of Missouri - St. Louis College of Optometry. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry, a Diplomate in the Academy’s Section on Cornea, Contact Lenses and Refractive Technologies, and a Diplomate of the American Board of Optometry. Dr. Stiegemeier is one of the founding board members of Women of Vision, an organization dedicated to helping female optometrists.

In addition to her work in optometry she enjoys family life with husband Andrew, four children (Alex married to Danielle, Tyler married to Lori, Trevor married to Brittany, and Lauren Stiegemeier), and grandchildren, Brooke Rae and Dane Michael, born to Trevor and Brittany.

She writes, “What a great beginning Ohio State University has afforded me! I appreciate every second of my education there!”

Joseph Studebaker  
Class of 1987  
Dr. Joseph B. Studebaker is a 1981 graduate of Northmont High School. He completed undergraduate studies at The Ohio State University in 1983. In 1987 he received his Doctor of Optometry (OD) from Ohio State as a Beta Sigma Kappa honor student. He has over two decades of experience in clinical eye health and vision care. Dr. Studebaker served as President of the Ohio Optometric Association (OOA) in 2003. He is a Clinical Associate Professor and Extern Preceptor for The Ohio State University College of Optometry as well as a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry. Dr. Studebaker is a Diplomate of the National Board of Examiners in Optometry and currently serves as a Clinical Examiner for the Board. He served as a member of the Communications Group for the American Optometric Association (AOA) and as a State of Ohio motorist vision examiner for the Ohio State Highway Patrol, Bureau of Motor Vehicles for the past two decades. Dr. Studebaker is a member of the AOA, the OOA, and the Miami Valley Society of Optometrists. He is a member of the American Public Health Association and the Contact Lens and Cornea Section of the AOA.

Dr. Studebaker is widely published in the eye care literature and has edited, authored, or co-authored over 30 articles on a broad range of topics including ocular disease, ocular pharmacology, optometry, practice management, managed care and contact lens management. He lectures nationally on contact lens management and related topics. He also lectures at The Ohio State University College of Optometry on ocular pharmacology, eye disease management, glaucoma, and ocular imaging technologies including spectral domain optical coherence tomography. Dr. Studebaker has conducted numerous clinical investigational studies for several ophthalmic and contact lens manufacturers, including investigational studies for the United States Food and Drug Administration. He received the Annual Writer’s Award from Optometric Management in 1996. Also in that year, Dr. Studebaker received the Outstanding Service Award from the OOA. He received this award from the Association for a second time in 2005 and, in 2008, was presented the OOA’s Warren G. and Ruth P. Morris Ohio Optometrist of the Year award in recognition of his outstanding contributions to optometry and public service. Dr. Studebaker is an active amateur astronomer and astrophotographer. He also enjoys bicycling, hiking, computers/electronics, acoustic guitar, and digital photography.

Loretta Szczotka-Flynn  
Class of 1992  
Dr. Loretta Szczotka-Flynn is a Professor at Case Western Reserve University (CWRU) in the Departments of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences and Epidemiology & Biostatistics. She is Director of the Contact Lens Service at the University Hospitals Case Medical Center in Cleveland where she has been in practice for 21 years. She received her Doctor of Optometry and Master’s of Science in Physiological Optics degrees from The Ohio State University College of Optometry in 1992 and her PhD in Epidemiology from Case Western Reserve University in 2009. She is a Diplomat in the Section on Cornea, Contact Lenses and Refractive Technologies of the American Academy of Optometry and is currently serving as Vice-Chair of the Section.

Dr. Szczotka-Flynn serves on the editorial boards of Optometry and Vision Science and Eye & Contact Lens. She is also a Contributing Editor for Contact Lens Spectrum and CL Today. Her research interests include contact lens complications, extended contact lens wear, silicone hydrogel contact lenses, keratoconus, post-surgical contact lens fitting, and corneal imaging. She has authored or co-authored 55 peer-reviewed articles and 10 book chapters. She is a skilled and popular presenter of optometric continuing education world-wide.

Her major research grants include the Collaborative Longitudinal Evaluation of Keratoconus (CLEK) Study from 1996 to 2004 for which she served as the Principal Investigator (PI) at the CWRU Participating Clinic, the Longitudinal Analysis of Silicone Hydrogel (LASH) Contact Lens Study for which she was the PI, and the Cornea Preservation Time Study for which she serves as Director of the Coordinating Center, all funded by the National Eye Institute. She has also received grants from Prevent Blindness America, the American Optometric Foundation, and industry to support her contact lens research.

Her awards include the Ohio Optometric Association’s Young Optometrist of the Year in 1997; the Nissel Award from the British Contact Lens Association; a two-year Ezell Fellowships from the American Optometric Foundation; a Female Scholar Award from Prevent Blindness Ohio, the Contact Lens Association of Ophthalmologists Educational Research Foundation Award; and the Nathanial Springer Award from the University of Alabama College of Optometry.

Joseph James Thimons  
Class of 1978  
Dr. Thimons is a 1978 graduate of The Ohio State University College of Optometry. He completed his hospital residency at the Chillicothe, VA Medical Center in 1979, after which he served as Chief of the Optometry Service there until 1985. He then accepted the position of Center Director at Omni Eye Services, Fairfax, Virginia and served in that role until 1989 when he became Chairman, Department of Clinical Sciences at SUNY. While at SUNY he developed The Glaucoma Institute at the State University of New York.
York, a glaucoma clinical research center, and served as its first Director. In 1998, Dr. Thimons accepted the position of Executive Director of TLC and served in that role until 2002 when he co-founded Ophthalmic Consultants of Connecticut, a multidisciplinary referral practice providing secondary and tertiary level care. Dr. Thimons has received numerous awards for his service to the profession and has over 200 hundred publications in the area of ocular disease management. He is a nationally and internationally acclaimed speaker and educator and an acknowledged leader in ophthalmic clinical education. He has professional appointments at several universities in the US and has been a clinical investigator in over 20 NIH, NEI, and Post Release Clinical Trials. In 1999, he was awarded Optometry’s Top Educator and was selected as one of the Top Ten ODs of the decade. In 2002, he founded the National Glaucoma Society, a not-for-profit organization with Executive offices in Andover, Massachusetts, that provides educational and clinical development services to primary care clinicians worldwide in the area of glaucoma. In 2005 he was inducted into the Oklahoma Optometry Hall of Fame and has recently served as President of the Connecticut Association of Optometrists.

Michael D. Twa  
Class of 2002

Although he has lived many years outside of Ohio, Dr. Twa is a native Ohioan. He completed his optometry training at the University of California, Berkeley School of Optometry and then practiced in the Department of Ophthalmology at the University of California, San Diego for 11 years in general optometry and corneal refractive surgery before returning to pursue a PhD in Vision Science at The Ohio State University College of Optometry. While at the College, he was awarded a Patient-Oriented Research Career Development Award by the National Institutes of Health/National Eye Institute to pursue research related to biomedical imaging and machine learning methods. Upon completion of his doctoral training, Dr. Twa was appointed as a Research Assistant Professor. In 2007, he moved to the University of Houston College of Optometry, where he was recently promoted to Associate Professor. Dr. Twa became a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry in 1993 and served as the Chair of the Academy’s Scientific Program Committee since 2011.

At the University of Houston, Dr. Twa’s teaching assignments include human anatomy and histology. He leads an NIH/NEI summer research fellowship program for students interested in pursuing careers in academia or as clinician scientists. His current research focus is on the development of elastography imaging, a non-invasive way to determine the stiffness of ocular tissues using optical coherence tomography imaging. The goal of this research is early disease detection and monitoring the effects of clinical treatments. This work has direct applications for ocular diseases like keratoconus and treatments like corneal cross-linking.

Dr. Twa has been married to his wife, Jeanette, for 24 years, and they have three children Emily (20), Joli (18) and Gyu (16). Together, they have traveled the world. Dr. Twa writes, “My journey in this profession has been very rewarding. I could never have imagined the number of things I would experience, the places I would travel, the people whose lives I would have an opportunity to touch and who would touch mine. None of this journey would have been possible or nearly as fulfilling if it were not for the love, support and sacrifice of my wife and children.”

Jeffrey Walline  
Class of 1998

The Ohio State University College of Optometry first offered me a place to learn my “trade.” As time advanced, the people within the College provided me with a model for success. As a consequence of what I learned both in the classroom and in the professional environment, I am able to give back to the field of optometry. I help shape the future of our profession by teaching optometry students how to examine children and fit specialty contact lenses. Through research, I provide answers to clinical questions that are asked daily in practice, such as “Can children wear contact lenses?” and “How can I slow the progression of myopia?” I also play a small role in deciding the future of optometry by serving on the Boards of the Contact Lens and Cornea Section of the American Optometric Association, Prevent Blindness Ohio, and the American Academy of Optometry. I learned so much more than a trade at The Ohio State University College of Optometry. I learned to lead, and I hope to lead by example to make The Ohio State University College of Optometry graduates the gatekeepers for eye care and innovators in vision science.

Sandra Wang-Harris  
Class of 1997

Sandra E. Wang-Harris, OD, MPH, FAAO, is a 1997 graduate of The Ohio State University College of Optometry. After completing a residency at the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Optometry, Dr. Wang-Harris founded and established the first eye clinic to serve HIV patients through the AIDS Action Coalition in North Alabama in 1999. From 2002-2003, she served as a World Council of Optometry Fellow to the Kingdom of Nepal. In 2007, motivated by the dire need she saw in developing countries for human resource capacity in eye care, she resigned as a civil service optometrist with the US Army. Focusing on blindness prevention, optometric education, and public health advocacy in developing countries, Sandra has lived and worked in Panama, Trinidad and Tobago, and currently in Dili, Timor Leste. In Dili, she works with the Fred Hollows Foundation in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and teaches post-graduate diploma studies and clinical eye care at the newly opened National Eye Centre. She also lectures via distance learning at the University of the West Indies Faculty of Medical Sciences, developing and teaching the first distance-based learning courses in low vision and binocular vision.

When Sandra is not teaching about the eyes, she teaches and performs classical music on her harp and flute. Sandra is married to Kevin Harris and has an eight-year-old daughter, Eileen. In November 2013, the family traveled to China and adopted their second child, a little girl. Sandra writes “She is keeping me busy!!”

Richard E. Weisbarth  
Class of 1980

Rick Weisbarth is a proud member of The Ohio State University College of Optometry Class of 1980. His Ohio State undergraduate and optometric education provided a strong foundation for his professional career and involvement in the optometric profession. Following graduation, he completed the Contact Lens Practice Residency Program at the University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Optometry. Next, he was in private practice in Tampa, FL for a short while. Most of his optometric career...
Dr. Welton died on July 20, 1994, but his memory and generosity live on at The Ohio State University College of Optometry. His interest in minority pride and education led him to establish scholarships at both The Ohio State University College of Optometry and Tennessee State University to further the advancement of minority students who want to become optometrists.

He and his wife, Pam, reside in Mansfield, Texas. They have two grown children, Tyler and Kristen. In his spare time, he enjoys landscaping, carpentry, and spending time with his family.

H. Edward Welton  
Class of 1938

Dr. Welton was a self-made Renaissance man and visionary optometric leader. He was born on February 11, 1911, in Nicodemus, Kansas. He received his high school education in Zanesville, Ohio, where he graduated from Lash High School. After receiving his BS and MS degrees from Tennessee State University, he applied to The Ohio State University School of Optometry and, in 1938, was the first African American graduate in optometry. He was also the first African American optometrist to become a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry. After his graduation, he left Ohio to begin a private practice in Atlanta, Georgia. Eight years later, he returned to the Buckeye state to establish a practice in Cleveland. According to the BuckEYE alumni newsletter from August 1994, "He made house calls and put back together eyeglass frames that had been long targeted for the trash. He made good use of everything. Nothing was to go to waste, not a frame, not even a greeting card." In 1967, Dr. Welton became supervisor of the Eye Clinic in the Hough-Notwood Family Health Care Center in Cleveland and served in that capacity for 22 years.

Dr. Welton was a leader and a pioneer in all of his endeavors, and he strove to pave the way for all who were to follow in his footsteps. He always stressed the value of obtaining an education, and he and his beloved wife, Maxine, established scholarships at both The Ohio State University College of Optometry and Tennessee State University to further minority pride and education. The interest from his $100,000 endowment to Ohio State in 1989 goes to the assistance of minority students who want to become optometrists.

Dr. Jacqueline Davis (OD’81, MPH) was inspired by Dr. Welton during her years as a student, "I will say that he was a true inspiration to me when I was in school. I did not meet him until after my graduation, but there were many days during my optometric training that I stood under the stairs in the basement of Fry Hall, looking at his graduation picture, saying to myself ‘If he could do this in 1938, then I can do it too!’"

Dr. Keila George (OD/MS’01), one of the recipients of a Welton scholarship, said, "Not only did this scholarship enable me to come to Ohio State, but it made me more aware of the college’s efforts to recruit minority students to a career in optometry and the need for adequate eye care in underprivileged communities.”

Dr. Welton died on July 20, 1994, but his memory and generosity live on at The Ohio State University College of Optometry.

Karen Winters  
Class of 1988

Karen Winters is in her 22nd year as the owner and sole practitioner at Point of View Optical near Syracuse University in Syracuse, NY. She lives on the shores of Otisco Lake with her husband, optometrist Dr. Paul Schwartz. There they raised two daughters, who are now off to change the world—hopefully in a good way.

Although she greatly enjoys her work as an optometrist, she is especially proud of her role as an author and advocate for the advancement of our collective understanding of mental illness. A sought-after speaker at mental health association events and conferences across the country, she is the author of two engaging novels that directly address mental illness, "Where Are the Cocoa Puffs? A Family's Journey Through Bipolar Disorder" (Goodman Beck, 2010) and "Reis' Pieces: Love, Loss, and Schizophrenia" (Goodman Beck, 2012). These books and presentations are tools to opening up discussion about the need for empathy and the impact of the negative stigma associated with mental illness, along with its far-reaching, devastating effects. She is also an active board member of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) in Syracuse.
Robert Wright  
Class of 1960  
Dr. Robert Wright grew up in the segregated South in the 1940s and 1950s. Segregation was common in doctors’ waiting rooms and at water fountains, restrooms, and baseball stadiums. Ku Klux Klan crosses were burned in his neighbor’s yard. His parents earned less than others doing the same work. His choice to come to The Ohio State University was based, in part, on the fact that he had difficulty as an African American in being admitted to colleges in the South. The Ohio State University admitted him in 1955. After graduation, Dr. Wright returned to his home of Columbus, Georgia to begin practice, but challenges persisted. His application for a US Army commission as an optometrist was denied. His attempt to get a position as an optometrist at Ft. Benning, Georgia ended, as the job was no longer available when he arrived for an interview. He returned to Columbus, Ohio to practice, expecting to eventually retire from the independent practice of optometry. Within a year, his mother visited and shared the early experiences of the civil rights movement that was brewing in the South. He made the decision to return home to Columbus, Georgia to practice, with the hope of making a difference in the visual welfare and the lives of the people of his hometown.

He became active in the civil rights movement, marching with Martin Luther King, Jr. from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama in 1965. He was elected to City Council three times in Columbus, Georgia, beginning in 1970, the first Republican African American to serve in that capacity. After 20 years in private practice, Dr. Wright had an opportunity to serve as Associate Administrator for Minority Small Business Administration under President Ronald Reagan. In the ensuing years, he created several consulting firms, eventually growing the second one, Dimensions International, into a multimillion dollar company. Presently, he serves as Chairman and CEO of FE Holdings and is a member of the Aflac Board of Directors. He is also the Chairman of the Presidential Commission for the National Museum of African American History and Culture; Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees, Morehouse School of Medicine; member of the National Leadership Cabinet for the Martin Luther King, Jr. National Memorial Project Foundation; and member of the Board of Directors of the Black College Alumni Hall of Fame.

Dr. Wright’s accolades and recognitions include Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award in Technology Services; Thurgood Marshall College Fund Community Leadership Award; the National Federation of Black Women Business Owners’ Man of the Year; the Horatio Alger Award for Distinguished Americans; and being named one of the 50 Most Influential Minorities in Business. Dr. Wright’s wish for his legacy is to have made a difference. He certainly has.

Jack Yager  
Class of 1973  
1972-1973 Senior Class President of The Ohio State College of Optometry
1973 present in Clinical practice Specializing in Cornea and Contact Lenses (Drs. Bayshore, Swanson, Sowers, Lee and Yager, O.D., PA.)
1977 Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry
1978 Diplomate of the Section on Cornea and Contact Lenses of the American Academy of Optometry
1983-1999 President of the Florida Chapter of the American Academy of Optometry
1989-1990 Chair of the Section on Cornea and Contact Lenses of the American Academy of Optometry
1992-2008 Board Member of the American Academy of Optometry
2005-2006 President of the American Academy of Optometry
2003 Selected Gas Permeable Practitioner of the Year by Contact Lens Manufacturers Association
2012 Awarded the Eminent Service Award from the American Academy of Optometry

Stacia Yaniglos  
Class of 1977  
I have always been so fortunate in my career. A high school job as an optometric assistant led to my interest in optometry. Upon graduation from The Ohio State University College of Optometry, I expected to enter private practice like most of my colleagues. As it turned out, I happenedonto another course and became a staff optometrist at a multidisciplinary clinic. That experience opened the door to my selection as the first optometrist at the Cleveland VA. During my 35 years as the Chief of Optometry there, I have had wonderful opportunities. In addition to caring for those who have selflessly served our nation, I have had the opportunity to teach and develop programs for residents and externs from Ohio State and other optometry programs as well as for students and residents from the Case Western Reserve School of Medicine. I was also instrumental in growing the optometry services at the Cleveland VA to a group of 22 optometrists in 12 eye clinics. I’m most grateful to have been a member of our profession during very exciting and evolutionary times and am thankful for my very supportive family: Dave (OD’77), our son Tom, our late son Dan, and many friends and colleagues and extended family.

LaMar Zigler  
Class of 1981  
Dr. LaMar Zigler is a graduate of The Ohio State University, where he completed his OD and MS degrees simultaneously in 1981. He chaired the Contact Lens Committee of the Ohio Optometric Association from 1987 to 1990, which featured the annual Contact Lens Education Meeting in Columbus every January. He helped develop the EastWest Eye Conference in 1994 and chaired the meeting until 1996. He then chaired the Education Committee of EastWest from 2003 to 2005. He currently serves as chair of the contact lens track and round table discussions for the EastWest CE committee.

He was a member of the American Optometric Association’s (AOA) Continuing Education committee from 2008 to 2010. He chaired the AOA Contact Lens and Cornea Section in 2011-2012. He is a fellow of The American Academy of Optometry. He has been a faculty member of The Ohio State University College of Optometry since 1981, teaching in the clinics as well as serving as a preceptor for the primary care extern program since its inception.

He has two private practices in Columbus, Ohio with his youngest son, David (OD’14). He has been the Principal Investigator on 136 FDA clinical trials and has served on advisory boards and speakers bureaus for many manufacturers. He lectures nationally on contact lenses, sports vision, primary care, refractive surgery, and practice management.

He was honored with the distinguished service award from the Ohio Optometric Association in 1999 for his work on EastWest. He was inducted into the National Academies of Practice for distinguished practitioners in 2004. He has enjoyed mentoring over 200 optometry student employees, pre-optometry students, and externs in his 32 years of private practice. He is a proud life member of both the Ohio State University Alumni Association and Optometry Alumni and Friends.
Aaron Zimmerman  
Class of 2006

Dr. Zimmerman graduated with a BS in Biology in 2002 and an OD degree in 2006, both from The Ohio State University. He was an Ohio State College of Optometry Advanced Practice Fellow from 2006-2008 and earned his MS degree in 2008. Dr. Zimmerman is currently an Associate Professor of Clinical Optometry and teaches in the contact lens, binocular vision and pediatrics, primary vision care, environmental vision, and student health services. He has recently started teaching a course on injections and ophthalmic lasers. He has been involved with research on head and eye movements in baseball, impact resistance and optical properties of football helmet faceshields, and risk factors associated with contact lens related corneal infiltrative events. He and wife, Amanda, are the proud parents of Clayton (age 4) and Leo (age 1).

Congratulations to our Notable Alumni!  
Thank you for sharing your stories with us.
We sincerely appreciate the recognition we received locally, regionally, and nationally for our centennial.
Shane Mulvihill
Class of 2016

Why did you run for class president?
I ran for class president because I wanted to be an active leader within my group of peers. I knew that becoming class president would allow me the opportunity to work with friends and colleagues to improve our collective experience while in optometry school. I also wanted to have the ability to work closely with faculty and staff members during my time in school.

What are your duties as president?
My duties include organizing class meetings, activities and functions. I work with faculty to provide organized feedback on classes, clinic, and everything in between. A lot of my work happens behind the scenes organizing and e-mailing. It can be stressful at times, but overall being the class president is a very rewarding experience.

What has been your biggest challenge as president thus far?
The biggest challenge thus far has been dealing with many long e-mail threads. This is a pretty minor complaint as far as challenges go. As a class president I have to make sure I stay organized so that I can attend to all of my responsibilities quickly. I’m always trying to stay one step ahead in planning our events.

What advice would you give an up-and-coming class president?
My advice would be to really get to know your class. Everyone in the class has a different way of acting or doing things. It is important to know all the members of the class so you know how to meet them where they are. Knowing your class will help them build trust in you and work together for your common goals!

Kristi Stalker
Class of 1998

Why did you run for class president?
I ran for class president because I like organizing, but also because I wanted to get to know every member of my optometry class well, and I certainly did! We had a lot of fun times in between the exams and practicals and, despite the miles and years between us, have remained good friends.

What were your duties as president?
As class president, I arranged for industry
representatives and manufacturers of optometric equipment to meet with our class. I kept everyone informed as to upcoming deadlines and events and have since arranged a couple of class reunions.

What was your biggest challenge as president?
Giving the class address at the convocation ceremony.

What advice would you give an up-and-coming class president?
I would encourage any future class president to establish good contacts with professors and industry representatives, to communicate well to all of your classmates, to embrace the challenge of optometry school and put in lots of hard work, but to remember to have lots of time for friendships among your classmates!

Carol Brown Alexander
Class of 1987

Why did you run for class president?
I served as class president three of four years while in optometry school. I initially ran for the office my second year because I had experience as an optometric technician and felt insights I had about the profession and patient care would be of benefit to our class.

What were your duties as president?
The duties as class president are varied but all tend to center on organizational skill and leadership. Organizing equipment purchases was the first big responsibility. Organizing class social events was fun and set the stage for developing life-long friendships. Organizing/coordinate meetings between our class and industry representatives provided a glimpse into the future of the value of strong relationships with sales partners for successful practice. In addition to organizational duties, class presidents by default become leaders. One must be able to represent the voice of the class with faculty and administrators, and at the same time be able to provide clarity to the class on issues where there may be differing opinions.

What was your biggest challenge as president?
The biggest challenge to any president is in understanding constituency groups and mastering the art of persuasive communication.

What advice would you give an up-and-coming class president?
As you consider running for class president, know that should you be successful in your bid, you will have additional responsibility, loads of fun, and will begin the journey of becoming a respected leader. Enjoy the challenge, give it all you’ve got, and know you will look back on the position with fond memories while at the same time developing a strong foundation of leadership.

Jerry Paugh
Class of 1979

Why did you run for class president?
Mainly since no one wanted the position, and it seemed like it could be fun. This is the honest answer.

What were your duties as president?
I made class announcements, discussed norms for behavior in class and upcoming activities, and spoke at convocation.

What was your biggest challenge as president?
Not keeping in better touch with the class. I moved to California immediately upon finishing the MS in Physiological Optics with Dr. Hill (June 1981), and until e-mail arrived, did not keep in contact with the college or the class.

What advice would you give an up-and-coming class president?
Make sure you are comfortable in leading and speaking, and try to capture your class experiences as you progress in your training to allow the subsequent classes and the administration to improve the educational experience. Also, think through, with your class, how to help the college to recruit the best candidates to move the profession forward.

Tom Brannon
Class of 1958

Why did you run for class president?
The class of ’58 was probably the smallest since WWII. I did not run for president, I was just elected.

What were your duties as president?
I had no particular duties as president; I remember getting a gift for Dr. Gerald Westheimer as he was departing to California.

What was your biggest challenge as president? We existed before the “computer age,” so keeping track of fellow classmates has been a chore.

What advice would you give an up-and-coming class president? Up-and-coming class presidents should make a sincere effort to stay in touch with their classmates.
As we close out 2014, we reflect back on this memorable centennial year and highlight a couple of our most notable accomplishments. In February, we opened a renovated pre-clinic facility on the second floor of Fry Hall with a number of alumni taking advantage of naming opportunities. Also, we saw more than $500,000 given in endowed and current use scholarship dollars, which is the highest amount ever given toward scholarship funding in one year.

Since the beginning of the "But for Ohio State" campaign, we’ve been working on creating a culture of giving here at the college, and this past year demonstrates that we’re headed in the right direction. Now we move into our second century, and we want you to consider how you can be part of this new culture by making a gift. Use the form below to give to one of our top campaign priorities and send it back with the enclosed envelope or give online to show your support now at go.osu.edu/optgive.

Thank you for your support in the past and for looking toward the future with us.
Dr. Gerald Westheimer, Fry Medalist

by Barbara Fink (OD, MS’85, PhD’87)

Dr. Gerald Westheimer celebrated the 100th anniversary of the College of Optometry on September 16 by becoming the 14th Fry Medalist and by telling those gathered in Room 33 about Dr. Glenn Fry and the history of the college.

The Fry Medal is awarded to individuals who have truly distinguished themselves with long and exemplary records of vision research. Dr. Glenn A. Fry served on the faculty at The Ohio State University from 1935 until his retirement in 1980 and as Director from 1936-1966. Over those years, he started the Graduate Program in Vision Science and was the advisor to many outstanding PhD students. Optometric Educators, Inc. had a medal struck in his name in 1987 to honor Dr. Fry for his service and research in the vision science field.

Dr. Westheimer is a professor in the Division of Neurobiology, Department of Molecular and Cell Biology and Clinical Professor, School of Optometry, University of California, Berkeley. He has studied the optics of the eye, visual discrimination, the factors that limit normal vision, and how we see in three dimensions.

His research focus includes the perception of spatial and spatio-temporal relationships in the visual world. Of particular interest to him are interactions and changes that occur with attention, perception, and learning. Dr. Westheimer discovered that humans are able to discern small changes in the relative position of a stimulus that are smaller than the smallest foveal cones in the retina. He termed this ability “hyperacuity.”

In a Berkeley profile celebrating his 90th birthday, he emphasized the importance of the clinical basis of his studies: “That my professional life progressed from clinical training and activities towards that study of the sciences, rather than the reverse, surely has influenced much of what I did subsequently, and how I did it.” Dr. Westheimer has published more than 200 high-quality papers and chapters. His work has been cited more than 9,000 times.

Dr. Westheimer was born in Berlin, Germany in 1924. His family moved to Sydney, Australia in 1938 to avoid attacks against Jews in Nazi Germany. He credits his parents with stressing discipline, integrity, religious observance, and appreciation of learning and the arts. He graduated from the Sydney Technical College program in optometry in 1943, earning the College Medal. He then earned a BS in mathematics and physiology from Sydney University. In 1951, he came to the United States and studied for his PhD in physiological optics with Dr. Fry at Ohio State. He did post-doctoral work at the Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole and at the University of Cambridge. He joined the faculty at the UC Berkeley School of Optometry, where he became professor in 1963 and eventually established and headed the Division of Neurobiology.

His recognitions include the Tillyer Medal from the Optical Society of America in 1978, the Proctor Medal from the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology in 1979, fellowship in the Royal Society of London in 1984, the von Sallman International Prize in Vision and Ophthalmology from Columbia University in 1986, the Prentice Medal from the American Academy of Optometry in 1986, the Bicentennial Medal from the Australian Optometric Association in 1988, the Ferrier Lecture from the Royal Society of London in 1992, fellowship in the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1994, and the Barry Collin Research Medal from the Optometrists Association of Australia in 2010.

The Optometry Alumni and Friends (OAF) annual banquet honoring distinguished alumni was held Friday, October 17 at the Blackwell. Prior to the banquet, a reception was held for classes celebrating multiples of their five-year reunions. Of particular note was a large representation from the Class of 2004, celebrating their 10-year reunion, organized by Jamie Casper (PhD, OD’04).

The Distinguished Alumnus honored at this year’s banquet was Richard Ball (BS’55, MS’58, PhD). Classmates of Dr. Ball’s regaled the audience with tales of the college and Epsilon Psi Epsilon, including the dramatic story of the “toppled top,” the cap of the goalpost that was leveled after the Buckeyes’ dramatic victory over the team up north in 1954. As has been told previously on the pages of this magazine, the goalpost was carried to downtown Columbus by a band of Ohio State students, but Dr. Ball and friends persuaded the mob to take the goalpost to the ΕΨΕ House on 12th Avenue, where the top was removed with a hacksaw. It lived at the ΕΨΕ house for several years until it mysteriously disappeared. It was rediscovered a few years ago, and now lives at the college in a display case in our brand new pre-clinic on the second floor of Fry Hall. Dr. Ball and his family and friends thoroughly enjoyed seeing it during a tour at the Alumni Tailgate on Saturday, October 18.

The 2014 Early Professional Achievement Award was presented to Jason Miller (OD’99, MBA). Dr. Miller was honored remotely via video by Mile Brujic, OD, and on-site by his business partner, Tamara Kuhlmann (OD/MS’83). Dr. Brujic and Dr. Kuhlmann shared humorous stories and praised Dr. Miller for his many accomplishments, including being elected president-elect of the Ohio Optometric Association at this year’s EastWest Eye Conference.

The evening was capably hosted by Jeffrey Myers (OD’84), who used his traditional “three words” in introducing the evening’s honorees. OAF President Roger Saneholtz (OD’74) and Dean Karla Zadnik welcomed the guests with a rousing O - H! to kick off the evening and made opening and closing remarks.
The Buckeyes were victorious over Rutgers on Saturday, October 18, as part of Alumni Weekend. Prior to the game, more than 90 Ohio State Optometry alumni and friends celebrated at the annual tailgate in the lobby area of Fry Hall. The Optometry Alumni and Friends group enjoyed Schmidt’s Catering with brats, sauerkraut, and the always delicious cream puffs.

The crowds throughout the weekend were entertained with stories of their time at Ohio State, and more importantly, the memories that have been a part of their lives since leaving our beautiful campus especially for the class of 1964. When optometry graduates reminisce, it’s clear that there is so much to be thankful for when you are a Buckeye!
The Ohio State University College of Optometry was named “School of the Year” at the National Optometric Association (NOA) conference in Arlington, Virginia on July 26.

Faculty members Jacqueline Davis (OD’81, MPH), and Vondolee Delgado-Nixon, PhD, are co-advisers to the Ohio State student chapter of the National Optometric Student Association (OSUCO-NOSA). They represented Ohio State at the conference, along with alumni Bob Wright (BS’60), Clayton Hicks (OD’70), Arol Augsburger (OD/MS’71), Cynthia Heard (OD’92), Massala Reffell (OD’05) and Michael-Vu Do (OD‘14). The OSUCO-NOSA students present at the conference were Gil Guedes (‘16), Kimona Lawrence (‘15), Matthew Phan (‘15), and Derrick Forney (‘17).

In line with the NOA’s mission of advancing the visual health of minority populations, OSUCO-NOSA has provided free glaucoma screenings to more than 1,600 underserved central Ohioans over the past four years.

The “School of the Year” honor is particularly poignant for Dr. Davis, who became a member of the NOSA during her first year in optometry school and now is a proud life member of the NOA. “While I was in optometry school, the NOA was a valuable support system that connected me with students and doctors from across the country, and it continues that tradition today,” Dr. Davis says. “Winning the ‘School of the Year’ award is a gratifying acknowledgment of the hard work we have put into our diversity recruitment and community service activities.”

This is the fourth time the college has been named the NOA “School of the Year” — previously receiving the honor in 1993, 2000, and 2004.

OSUCO-NOSA is open to all optometry students. The organization promotes the recruitment and retention of minority students in optometry, and association members have the opportunity to attend guest lectures, volunteer at events, and mentor pre-optometry students.
A WARM WELCOME
The Class of 2018 kicks off its optometric journey
by Sally Haltom, MA

The Welcome Dinner for the Class of 2018 was held on August 27. This year, we returned to our traditional venue for the event, the University Faculty Club. The 69 members of the new class were warmly welcomed by the evening’s host, Dean Karla Zadnik, and members of the faculty and staff and student leaders.

Special guests included Optometry Alumni and Friends President Roger Saneholtz (OD’74), Ohio Optometric Association President Lee Favede (OD’93), and Optometry Student Council President Nicole Wenman (’17), who each shared words of wisdom and inspiration with the newest members of the Ohio State Optometry community.

As always, the College extends sincere thanks and appreciation to Optometry Alumni and Friends for their generous sponsorship of this important new student welcome event!
Jeffrey A. Myers (OD’84) received the coveted Ralph Davenport Mershon Award for exceptional leadership and service to Ohio State from The Ohio State University Alumni Association. The presentation was made at the Ohio Union on September 12 in front of President Michael Drake, two-time Heisman award winner and President-CEO of The Ohio State University Alumni Association Archie Griffin, and 250 other friends, family and colleagues. He was one of 12 Ohio State Alumni honored that evening.

Dr. Myers was honored for his significant contributions to Ohio State, including his service as a part-time clinical instructor on campus and at the Chillicothe VA Medical Center, a primary care externship preceptor for rotating fourth-year students, a member of the Board of Directors and Chair of the Awards Committee of Optometry Alumni and Friends, Editor of the college’s award-winning BuckEYE magazine, a member of the past Dean’s Advisory Committee, and Chair of the college’s current Capital Campaign Committee.

He and his wife, Joyce, established the annual Myers Lecture Series at the College, which has brought luminaries in optometry and vision science to campus for presentations and seminars with faculty, staff and students. The first such luminary was Dr. Irvin Borish in 2009; this year’s invited guest was Dr. Donald Korb.

Previous Mershon Award recipients from the college include Roger L. Saneholtz (OD ’74) in 2010 and Joseph T. Barr (OD ’77, MS ’79) in 2013.

Congratulations Jeff! And thank you for giving your time, treasure, and talent to enrich the optometry program at Ohio State.
The world looked quite different in 1914, as did the curriculum for The Ohio State University’s brand-new Applied Optics certificate program. The sequence of courses in the curriculum for Applied Optics at Ohio State was based on the two-year certificate program at Columbia University, where an analogous program had been established just four years earlier. Following their high school graduation, students at Ohio State took courses in mathematics, physics, anatomy, physiology, English, theoretical optics, practical optics, and theoretical and practical optometry in their first year. Their courses during the second year included more theoretical optics, physiological optics, ophthalmic optics and frame/lens design, more theoretical optometry, ocular pathology, and optometric practice, in which the students spent at least one-half day per week in the office of an optometrist.

Almost simultaneously with the start of the new two-year certificate course in Applied Optics, Professor Charles Sheard, in concert with the Ohio Optical Association (the forerunner of the Ohio Optometric Association), submitted a proposal to university officials for a four-year degree course in Applied Optics to replace it. Based upon his persuasive arguments, the curriculum quickly became a four-year degree-granting program in 1915, with the first two years in the College of Arts and Sciences and the second two years in the College of Engineering’s Physics department. Graduates then received a Bachelor of Science in Applied Optics degree from the Department of Physics in the College of Engineering.

In 1939, the optometry curriculum at Ohio State became a minimum of two years of pre-optometry college courses followed by three years of professional studies, for a total of five years after high school. World War II forced a temporary shortening of this schedule but it returned to the five-year curriculum in 1946.

In 1964, the length of the program was increased to a minimum of six years, at least two years of pre-professional work and four years in the optometry curriculum. When the Ohio State School of Optometry became the Ohio State College of Optometry in 1968, it marked the beginning of the Doctor of Optometry (OD) degree. Many previous Ohio State graduates holding a BS-Optometry degree returned to campus for an additional year of training in the late 1960s to earn their OD degrees, many of whom were veterans and future leaders of the profession in Ohio and beyond.

Ohio passed Diagnostic Pharmaceutical Agents legislation in 1984 and Therapeutic Pharmaceutical Agents legislation in 1992. The necessity to not only provide more general and ocular pharmacology courses in an already-crowded four-year curriculum, but also to incorporate more patient visits for the
students within Ohio State’s calendar of four academic quarters, created a major change in the curriculum in the 1991-1992 academic year. While a four-year degree from any institution of higher education typically required a minimum of 12 academic quarters (three per academic year, with summers off), the new optometry curriculum required 14 quarters (with only the summer between the first and second years off), Dean Emeritus Richard M. Hill, OD, PhD, who served with distinction as dean from 1988 through 1994, remembers that time very well:

“Our students eventually received instruction from three different colleges. The colleges participating were Optometry, Medicine and Pharmacy. Out of this collaboration grew a unique curriculum, a series of three courses. This was a sequence of courses given in a consortium way among three colleges, a model which the University was trying to promote. The University encouraged inter-disciplinary sequences like that, and we were a positive and effective example.

Additional practice experience was gained by our students going to private offices (sometimes in other states), to Veterans Administration centers, and to ophthalmology practices. And we had several farsighted and dedicated ophthalmologists who came and taught in our curriculum. Gradually the scope expanded; and as we went through the diagnostic level, and then the therapeutic level, I think a greater trust and confidence grew between Optometry and Ophthalmology, Pediatrics, Internal Medicine, and Family Medicine.”

Over the years, courses, laboratories, and clinics, both on campus and externally, were reconfigured to fit into the 14-academic-quarter program. This constant fine-tuning of the curriculum was necessary to keep the program current with new knowledge, skills, instrumentation, treatment modalities, and the rapidly changing optometric practice acts passed by states into the 14-academic-quarter program. This constant fine-tuning of the curriculum was necessary to keep the program current with new knowledge, skills, instrumentation, treatment modalities, and the rapidly changing optometric practice acts passed by states throughout the country.

During the last decade of the 20th century, and most of the first decade of the 21st century, faculty member Paulette Schmidt (OD’73, MS’76) meticulously chaired the college’s Curriculum Committee, which ultimately divided the various curricular elements into eight major tracks: Biology, Optics, Vision Science, General optometry, Disease, Applied Specialty, Professional orientation, and Special Clinical Practice.

In addition, mandatory external rotations off-campus during the fourth year increased in both quality and quantity. Under the leadership of faculty member Greg Nixon (OD’96), fourth year optometry students were exposed to more “real world” optometric practice in Veterans Affairs facilities, Indian Health Service hospitals, private optometric and ophthalmologic practices, inner city health clinics, and other locations both inside and outside Ohio that cared for special patient populations. This major curricular change allowed students to receive more individualized and yet heterogenic patient care experiences than what was taught to previous generations, where all students rotated through the same internal teaching clinics on campus. Fortunately it was widely accepted by the college’s administration, faculty, and students.

The BEST Curriculum

In 2006, Dean Melvin Shipp, OD, MPH, DrPH knew the college had a strong didactic and clinical curriculum taught by outstanding faculty members, but he wanted the BEST!

The profession of optometry was changing rapidly (i.e., new scope of practice laws), as was the U.S. health care system (i.e., health care reform). In addition, there was increasing competition from the other schools and colleges of optometry to attract the finest students, because many of the other optometric educational institutions had more modern facilities and scholarship funding. Dean Shipp appointed a new committee, the Comprehensive Curriculum Review Committee (CCRC), to review the current curriculum and to make recommendations for improvements as needed. This, he emphasized, was to make Ohio State the “go to” place for optometric education, research, and patient care. The specific charge to the committee was as follows: Make a comprehensive assessment of the college curriculum, and develop a plan to adjust the curriculum to optimally train optometrists in the 21st century and beyond.

The CCRC members were Chair Greg Good (OD’75, MS’79, PhD’81), Michael Earley (OD/MS’88, PhD’92), and Kelly Nichols (OD, MS’98, MPH, PhD’01). These three talented optometric educators took their responsibility seriously. They conducted a literature search and surveyed both recent college alumni and optometric educators. They interviewed faculty members at other schools and colleges of optometry. They reviewed the recommendations of the then-recent American Optometric Association’s “2020 Summit” results. They also studied the highly-acclaimed Ohio State College of Medicine’s Capstone program, which integrates basic and clinical sciences in preclinical courses by using a problem-based learning approach. Along the way, they changed the name of their committee to Building the Education System of Tomorrow
At The Ohio State University College of Optometry you will be among the best and
• Begin patient care in the first year and directly
• Be well prepared to pass your national board
• Learn to run a successful optometric practice
school screenings, case reviews, grand rounds,
services including: Primary Vision Care,
and Eyewear Gallery appointments
management courses, ranging from personal
with the most comprehensive series of practice
21st century: Systemic Structure and Disease, Ocular
The eight major curricular tracks of the 20th century
began in 2009 and were designed to better integrate the
first year and Keystone II at the end of the second year)
The new Keystone courses (Keystone I at the end of the
second, and fourth years to develop better patient
communication and recognition of critical facts in a
patient's case history and/or test results. These courses
would become known as the “practice of optometry.”

The BEST committee ultimately recommended
four specific actions as a result of their extensive
deliberations:
1. Develop a series of Keystone courses, which were
modeled after the College of Medicine’s Capstone
program;
2. Reorganize the core sequence of courses so they
would logically build upon one another;
3. Increase the use of technology in teaching; and
4. Include a series of three courses in the first,
second, and fourth years to develop better patient
communication and recognition of critical facts in a
patient’s case history and/or test results. These courses
would become known as the “practice of optometry.”

The eight major curricular tracks of the 20th century
were expanded to nine core course sequences for the
21st century: Systemic Structure and Disease, Ocular
Structure and Disease, Vision Science and Perception,
Optics and Refractive Conditions, Optometric Clinical
Examination, Professional Orientation and Public
Health, Practice Management, Clinical Experience, and
Microbiology, Biochemistry, and Genetics.

These curricular changes represented an ambitious
paradigm shift away from the way students were
educated in the past, and they are being monitored
and revised, as needed, on an ongoing basis. These
changes, combined with an increased emphasis on a
more diverse clinical education with increased numbers
of patient encounters in the fourth year, assure that
Ohio State Optometry graduates are well-prepared for
practice in the 21st century and beyond.
1914 - 2014

OHIO STATE OPTOMETRY
BLAST FROM THE PAST

EΨE Wins University Intramural Softball Championship
By Jeffrey A. Myers (OD’84)

The Epsilon Psi Epsilon (EΨE) Softball Team entered the 1952 campaign with high expectations. In 1951, they were the runner-up in the university intramural softball championships. They lost only a few players to graduation.
They moved through the regular season unscathed. In the playoffs, they chalked up wins over Alpha Epsilon Phi (9-0), Lambda Chi Alpha (20-3), Alpha Gamma Rho (4-0), and Alpha Epsilon Phi (10-1) to advance to a showdown in the finals against Kappa Sigma. Their only loss that season was to the Ohio State Penitentiary team (4-0). A hit by Paul Cavanaugh in the ninth inning spoiled a no-hitter for the opposing pitcher, but the rally was inadequate. Only 25 spectators were permitted to travel to the penitentiary with the team.

The final game of the playoffs was delayed for a week due to weather. This account appeared in the O-Eye-O in 1952:

“The game was a real pitcher’s battle all the way with Bill Speakman matching Dick Logan of football fame pitch for pitch. Going into the last of the sixth with the score knotted 0 to 0, Roger Boyd beat out a beautiful bunt toward first. After Paul Cavanaugh had popped out, Boyd piffed second. The stage was now set for second baseman Joe Sharick to be the batting hero, and he responded with a line single to right which sent Roger Boyd home with the tie-breaking run. The Kappa Sigs were shut out in the seventh, and a University Championship for Epsilon Psi Epsilon had finally become a reality.”

Several of the team members reunited at the College’s Centennial, as seen in the pictures above.

(Thanks to Cary Boyd Criss, daughter of Roger Boyd (BS’52), for her help in bringing this story to light.)
The 2014 College of Optometry Jeffrey and Joyce Myers Lecturer was Dr. Donald R. Korb. Dr. Korb is best known for his innovative contact lens and dry eye research. He still divides his time between clinical practice and research, with 100 peer-reviewed articles and 50 U.S. patents to his name. His presentation, “My 35-Year Meibomian Gland Odyssey and a New Paradigm,” provided insight into Meibomian gland dysfunction. The presentation took place on Monday, October 6, 2014.

As stated in Dr. Don Mutti’s letter of nomination, “Anyone who knows Dr. Korb will attest to his ability to deliver a lecture that would be both memorable and meaningful, drawing from his broad range of experiences as a clinician, scientist, and entrepreneur.” He invented the CSI contact lens, the first membrane soft lens. He is co-inventor of lipid dry eye products Systane Balance, marketed by Alcon, and Soothe XP, marketed by Bausch+Lomb. He invented the LipiView, to computerize evaluation of lipid layer thickness, and the LipiFlow, an FDA-approved dry eye treatment.

Dr. Korb has received many awards for his contributions to the field of contact lenses. He was the AOA Contact Lens Section Person of the Year in 1985, the American Academy of Optometry Max Schapero Memorial Lecturer in 1984, the first Morton D. Sarver Lecturer at the University of California, Berkeley, the AOA Contact Lens Section Founder’s Award winner in 1994, the International Society of Contact Lens Researchers Professor Montague Ruben Research Medal winner in 1995, and the Contact Lens Manufacturers Association Dallaro Award winner in 2001. He received the University of Houston College of Optometry Award for Distinguished Research on the Cornea and Contact Lenses in 2008.

He also has been recognized for his service to the profession of optometry. He received the Eminent Service Award in 2009 and the William Feinbloom Award in 1986, both from the American Academy of Optometry. He served the Academy chairing the Program Committee and the Awards Committee. He is a member of the National Academies of Practice and was inducted into the National Optometry Hall of Fame in 2007.

The Myers Lecture Series is designed to feature a guest speaker annually from outside The Ohio State University with special expertise across the domains of optometry and vision science.
By Emeritus Dean Melvin D. Shipp, OD, MPH, DrPH

With over 800 attendees, the College of Optometry’s 2014 Centennial Gala was an impressive event. In addition to an exciting program—punctuated with appearances by luminaries and notables—attendees were able to renew old friendships and make new acquaintances.

For me, an important by-product of the Gala was the opportunity to reflect on my experiences while serving as the fourth dean of the College, something I did not have time to do during my tenure, nor during my retirement transition. The following are some of those reflections.

Unlike my predecessors, prior to 2004, I had not been a member of the administration, faculty, or student body. As such, I had much to learn about the college’s history and culture. Thanks to the extraordinary support I received from the university, but more importantly from the former deans, faculty, staff, students, and alumni, I quickly adapted to my new Buckeye status. I was also impressed by the college’s extraordinary history and excited by the prospects of contributing to its legacy.

Shortly after my arrival, I asked the faculty to assist in the development of a strategic plan for the college, a plan designed to take the college from excellence to eminence. Although ambitious, the plan was doable. Although some of the original objectives are still in process, most have been achieved or exceeded.

A continuing challenge for academic institutions is maintaining adequate facilities. Hence, the construction of the EF Wildermuth Optometric Research Clinic was a significant expansion of state-of-the-art research space for the college. This expanded space allowed the recruitment of additional tenure-track faculty; consistent with our research mission, exceptional new faculty members were hired to complement the college’s existing outstanding faculty.

Collectively, the faculty has and will continue to raise the bar in productivity, performance, and excellence in learning and discovery. These efforts will not only contribute to the advancement of vision science and the optometry profession, but will also enhance the college’s graduate program. The university has recognized our highly competitive graduate program in vision science. Aspiring scientists and researchers eagerly seek graduate training at our college and an opportunity to be trained by our exceptional graduate faculty.

Classroom and clinical facilities have been or are scheduled for upgrades. Notably, the recently completed pre-clinic on the second floor of Fry Hall houses state-of-the-art high-quality examination rooms and specialty training facilities. The continuing support of alumni and friends of the college made renovations to our research and professional facilities possible.

Relative to other schools and colleges, Ohio State professional students continue to excel on National Board examinations. This is a reflection not only of the students’ mastery of the basic sciences and their clinical competency but also of the high quality of the didactic and clinical training provided by the Ohio State Optometry faculty.

In 2006, an expansion of the college’s disease externship program produced a 43% increase in extern-based patient encounters. Concurrently with this initiative, in an effort to further enhance our professional program, the Keystone courses were introduced to emphasize critical thinking. Recently, our professional curriculum was modified to provide clinical experiences during the first year of optometry school.

As the oldest university-based optometric academic institution, The Ohio State University College of Optometry is an icon for our profession, producing outstanding clinicians, scientists, and leaders. The
It is with great delight that I offer congratulations to the College of Optometry on its 100th birthday. What an amazing century of progress and excellence in optometric education—enhancing and protecting the vision of the people optometry serves. It is a good thing to celebrate the stellar achievements of the College, starting with the foundation in the optics of vision and adding to that base all of the other pieces (anatomy/physiology, eye health, vision enhancement and enhancement devices, pharmacology, ergonomics, perception, visual learning, etc.) that make up the totality of the sense of vision. It should also be noted that the remarkable furtherance of the college in its reputation and preeminence has been, in part, due to its location in an outstanding public institution that has grown and developed into the largest health sciences center and university in the nation. The history of our college is consistent with the progression of optometry as a profession. Ohio State played the defining role in establishing a sound optometric educational program at a major public university.

I, myself, am privileged to have been associated with the College of Optometry for 42 of its 100 years. There is something strange and eerie to have been transported from the rank of optometry student to the rank of professor and dean over the course of 42 years—all at Ohio State. As a student, I experienced the folksy style of Herb Mote, the genius of Glenn Fry, and the practical application of optometry through Brad Wild. The weird part of being hired on as an assistant professor after graduate school was having former teachers as colleagues. I was exposed to hard work in vision science by Jess Eskridge, to mentoring in teaching and research by Dick Hill, and to leadership by Fred Hebbard as we transitioned from a school to a college. I blame Dick Hill for risking his own reputation by tossing me headlong into administration. I was very comfortable with teaching and research; however, it was the deanship that taught me that I actually had emotions—wide-ranging emotions like excitement, depression, confusion, unity, growing pains, frustration, inadequacy, hopefulness, rejoicing, revelation, and contentment. How does one work through that kind of jungle? The answer is committed students, a dedicated staff, exemplary faculty, and close and supportive colleagues (Drs. Jones, Polasky, Good, Earley, Newcomb, and many others). A generous supply of grace from alumni helped as well. What a ride, what a college, what a university!

I have been retired now for 11 years. I still smile at the memories from the College of Optometry at Ohio State. It was fun while it lasted, but the profession has outgrown me. Its future is in good hands with Dean Karla Zadnik. She has the wisdom and vision (pun intended) to take it to the next level. I have to look at the future through a different lens now, but I am excited at what I see.

Thank you College of Optometry for giving me 42 great years—and congratulations for 100 years of excellence.
A Fortuitous Phone Call

One morning in 1908, a telephone in the Ohio State Department of Physics rang and was answered by Professor Alfred Cole, the department chair. The call was from the Ohio State Optical Association, a group of optometrists in Cleveland, asking if Ohio State could send someone to speak to them on the subject of applied optics. As the story goes, Professor Cole, as any very busy chairman might do, stepped out into the hallway to snag the next assistant professor passing by. To our great good fortune, the fellow turned out to be Dr. Charles Sheard. Although he was at first reluctant to take on this venture, assurance of an enthusiastic audience and a modest honorarium sealed the deal.

Dr. Sheard’s presentations were well received, and he brought with him to Columbus a zeal for this emerging profession. In 1914, his enthusiasm was sufficient to convince his department to institute a new program—with initial space and resources for a two year sub-specialty called Applied Optics. Almost immediately, however, it was expanded to a full four-year curriculum, one that included basic sciences and liberal arts as well as those original professional courses and led to a bachelor’s degree in Physics (Applied Optics). A fortuitous phone call indeed!

Dr. Glenn A. Fry

Dr. Sheard eventually went on to a distinguished research career at the Mayo Clinic. By 1935, however, another faculty member from that physics department, Professor Alpheus Smith, by then Dean of the Graduate School, believed the Ohio State Optometry program had a timely potential for expansion in its scope. To pursue that objective, he contacted an outstanding post-doctoral fellow then at Washington University in St. Louis, Glenn A. Fry. Dr. Fry earned his PhD in psychology at Duke University and had interests in optics and color vision. Dean Smith was ultimately successful in bringing Dr. Fry to Ohio State, and not long after, the optometry program became a school in the College of Arts and Sciences. Master’s and PhD programs in physiological optics soon followed, and those graduates were in high demand. Many became faculty and administrators in optometry programs and other health science departments across the country. Again, Dean Smith’s belief in our profession and Glenn Fry’s willingness to invest his remarkable talents and energy here at Ohio State constituted a pivotal point in our program’s future.

January 1, 1968

On that date, the School of Optometry left the College of Arts and Sciences, to become a separate college. Today it is one of seven health science colleges at Ohio State. Over its 46 years, under five successive deans, The
Ohio State University College of Optometry has been a continuous innovator of curriculum, research, and clinical care. Among those advances were an expansion of space into the Starling-Loving A-Wing, the addition of diagnostic pharmaceuticals to the curriculum, and the opening of an inner-city clinic by Dean Frederick Hebbard (1968-1988). Lengthening of the professional curriculum to 14 quarters to accommodate training and use of pharmaceutical agents for the treatment of eye disease then followed with Dean Richard Hill (1988-1995). Dean John Schoessler (1995-2004) expanded the college’s sponsored research programs, and added the EF Wildermuth Optometric Research Clinic to our facilities. Dean Melvin Shipp (2004-2014) increased the college’s off-campus externships, broadened its diversity outreach, and encouraged optometry’s roles in public health.

In June of this year, Dr. Karla Zadnik became the college’s fifth Dean. With two decades of faculty and administrative experience, as well as a multi-million dollar sponsored research history here at Ohio State, she is well prepared to bring the college to its next levels of teaching, research, and clinical care. We are already looking forward to those next pivotal moments our second century will surely bring.

By Emeritus Dean Frederick W. Hebbard, PhD

I drove to Ohio, leaving California shortly after Christmas 1956, arriving at the School of Optometry on New Year’s Eve. Dr. Glenn Fry greeted me and invited me to stay at his house until I found accommodation elsewhere. I had purchased a newspaper and found a house with a room, bath, and garage in Upper Arlington. Several days later, I moved there.

Dr. Fry had wanted me to begin autumn quarter but my father was near death and my mother could not drive, so I asked to delay until after he died. In December at the Academy meeting Dean Kenneth Stoddard at the University of California, Berkeley School of Optometry discussed the situation, and Dr. Fry insisted that I get to Ohio by January 1. My father died at the end of February, which meant that I returned to California then for a week.

Although Dr. Fry offered me a four-quarter-per-year job, in 1958 I cut back to three quarters, because I was the only one on four quarters. As it worked out, being free in the summer to accept speaking invitations in other states meant that I made more money during the summer than I did for the other three quarters.

Mainly, I spoke on glaucoma detection and intraocular pressure measurement using a new Mackay-Marg electric tonometer that I had built for me at Berkeley. In 1960, I went there to bring it to Ohio along with some new features that I suggested to make it easier to use. I received $5,000 from the Ohio Lions Eye Research Foundation to cover the costs of building it. After I brought it to Ohio in 1960, the Columbus Dispatch had a story on its front page with a photograph of me and the tonometer.

Strangely, Dr. William Havener, chairman of The Ohio State Department of Ophthalmology, thought that I had engineered a fraud, so he invited Hans Goldmann, a Swiss ophthalmologist, to lecture to the ophthalmological community. During his visit, Dr. Havener hoped that Dr. Goldmann would see my tonometer and find it to be a fraud. Drs. Havener and Goldmann came over to the optometry building, and I demonstrated the tonometer to them. It was not a fraud. Dr. Havener asked me if he could hold the tonometer probe over his radial artery, which he did; it showed his pulse. Drs. Havener and Goldmann thanked me. The next day, Dr. Havener had one of his faculty call me, asking that I give ophthalmology the tonometer, but I said no, telling them that they could send their patients over to optometry, and we could measure the patients’ intraocular pressure much more accurately than they could. Later, his faculty member called back, saying that Dr. Havener thought that sending his patients to the optometry building would be unethical.

I first demonstrated the tonometer at the Ohio Optometric Association meeting that fall in Toledo.
As an independent, you're up against market forces beyond your control. Fortunately, you can partner with companies that empower you to be more competitive, and don't compete against you. Companies that only succeed when you do. Companies like HOYA.

SEE WHY HOYA IS THE RIGHT CHOICE FOR YOUR PATIENTS AND YOUR PRACTICE AT ecpALLY.com
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@winchestervisioncare.com