



The Inaugural Myers Lecture Series

autumn 2009



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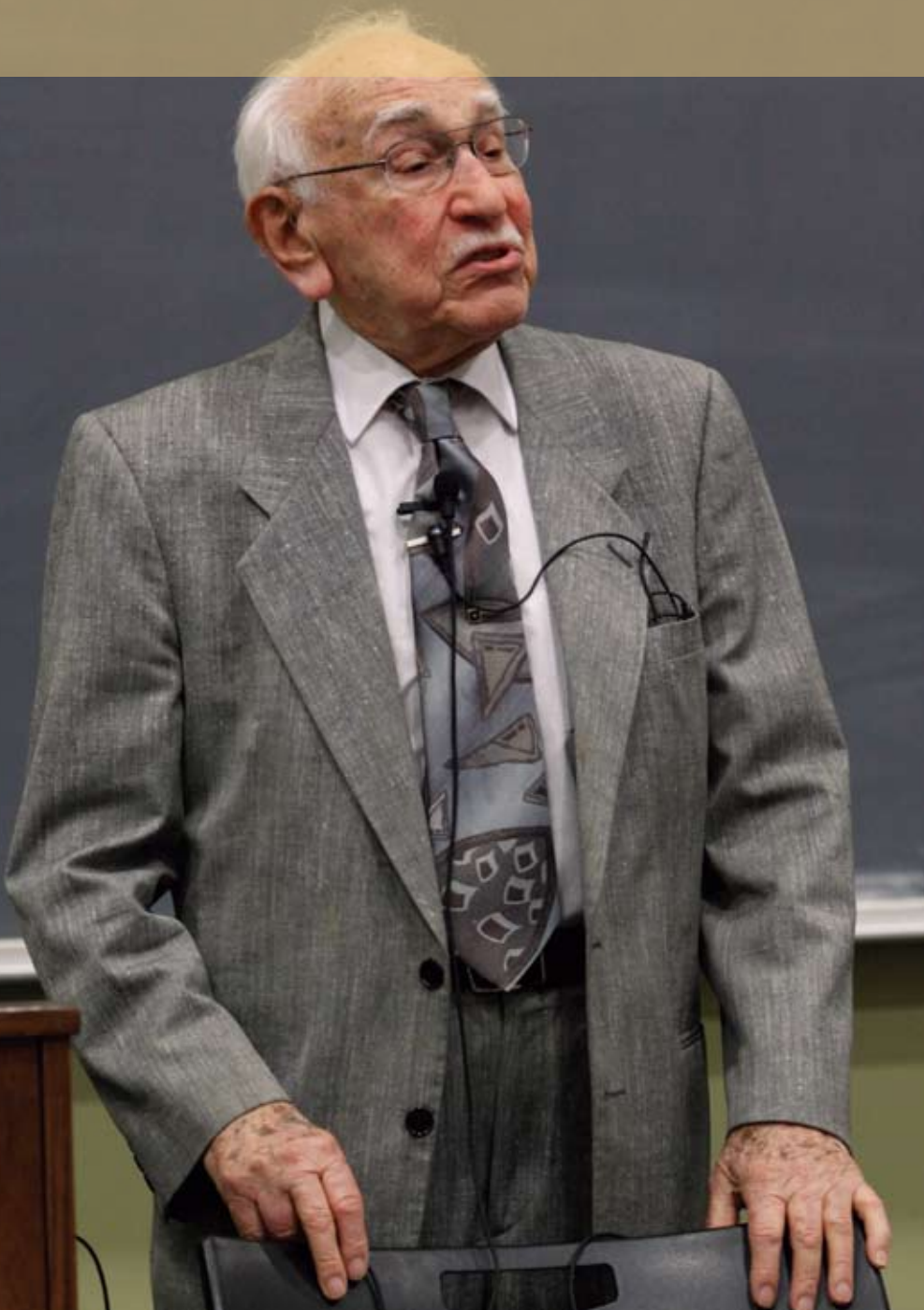
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From the Dean

Dear Optometry Alumni and Friends:

Welcome to the 2009 Autumn issue of the *BuckEYE Optometry Alumni Newsletter*.

In this issue, our paths cross with individuals who have dedicated their lives to the profession. One such individual is Irving Borish, OD, LLD. Dr. Borish certainly needs no introduction. As a teacher, author, lecturer, clinician, consultant, mentor (and the list goes on), he is known far and wide. Even more remarkable is that his career really hasn't ended but continues on as he prepares to celebrate his 97th birthday in January. I have often said of Dr. Borish, "I want to be just like him when I grow up." If you were unable to hear Dr. Borish deliver his lecture in October, or if you would simply like to enjoy it all over again, please visit <http://optometry.osu.edu/myoffice/MyersLectureseries/>.

Paul Gamertsfelder (BS'54) has spent his life serving others whether optometry colleagues, family and friends, or the Choco Indians of Panama. A remarkably selfless man, Dr. Gamertsfelder decided to follow his calling and, in turn, inspired others to follow theirs. The ripple effect he started seems to have no end.

The announcement of **Paulette Schmidt's (OD '73, MS '76)** retirement in June stirred mixed emotions for us in the College. We were happy to see our friend and colleague embark on a new chapter of life but saddened to see our daily interactions come to an end. Dr. Schmidt can be proud of quite an impressive career. From her groundbreaking research in preschool children's vision problems to spearheading the College's strategic plan, Dr. Schmidt has always given 110% in ensuring a complete and thorough job.

Another bittersweet retirement was that of Karen Stedfeld, instructional aids assistant in the College and photographer for the Buckeye Optometry Alumni Newsletter. An ever-present fixture in the College for 30 years, Karen is already sorely missed though she just retired in September! We wish her many happy years of snapping personal rather than professional photos.

To our many accomplished and duly awarded faculty, I extend a hearty congratulations and a heartfelt thank-you for the recognition you bring to our College.

Thank you also to **Eric Ritchey (OD'01, MS'03)** for letting us share a day in his life as a senior research associate and PhD candidate. We are also grateful to his wife, **Moriah Chandler (OD'03)**, for sharing him with us.

A good problem to have is that there are far too many newsworthy accomplishments and inspiring individuals featured in this issue of our newsletter to mention here. Please know that I am equally proud of them all and congratulate each one on his/her achievements.

With warmest regards for an enjoyable and renewing holiday season,

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



Huddle Up

This time of year is always interesting for me as I begin to write this message. Alumni and College activities are going full bore. So far I have survived Alumni Weekend, the Welcome Dinner for the incoming first year optometry class, the tenth anniversary gathering for the OSU Longaberger Alumni House, and the OSU Advocates meeting. On the agenda yet are our upcoming Optometry and Friends board meeting and Alumni Leadership Conference which are mandatory in order for our group to be eligible for next year's football tickets.

The main thing all of these activities have in common is they happen to occur during football season and it seems that my message is due just as something significant has happened. This year is no different as I have just returned from West Lafayette and witnessed a very pathetic offensive performance. Now my downtown coach's association membership allows me to put in my two cents worth of evaluation. The offense in my mind needs to get back to the old school method and "huddle up" to improve their communication to be sure everyone is on the same page. The aspect of five or six skill position players all interpreting hand signals to establish the play to be run does not seem to be very effective.

The next upcoming board meeting is the time that Optometry Alumni and Friends will huddle up to evaluate our performance for Alumni Weekend. I hope those of you who attended had a great time. Friday night's event honoring Dr. Jerry Lowther as our Distinguished Alumni Medal recipient for 2009 was expertly orchestrated by Jeff Myers and crew. Game day activities also went smoothly due to the diligence of Gayle Glanville and several OAF board members.

The OAF board is aware of several bumps in the road leading up to those events running smoothly. One would think that putting a weekend party together to satisfy all members' expectations would not be optometric (instead of rocket) science. I think our OAF board is very proficient in their optometric science skills, but we'll never come up with party science skills to diagnose the different problems that seem to come up each year. The board will also huddle up with the OSU Alumni Association to evaluate our ticket policies and alumni weekend directives which were more restrictive due to the high profile game assignment this year.

The Welcome Dinner that OAF sponsors after the first day of classes for the first year students was again significant for me. After attending this function, I always leave wishing that I was starting classes again. The faculty presentation during the evening has to make the students feel that they are entering an incredible environment in which to learn the skills to become successful optometrists. Our College is fortunate to have such a great group of really good people within the faculty.

Don't forget to visit our website, www.osuoaf.clubexpress.com. Membership renewals for 2010 can be made on the website for your convenience. Credit card payments can be only accepted on the website.

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

Roger L. Saneholtz (OD'74)

President, OSU Optometry Alumni & Friends



Did You Win the Lottery?

Warren Buffet, 'The Oracle of Omaha,' has often been described as the greatest investor of our time, in fact, of all time. His ownership and leadership of Berkshire Hathaway over the last 4-5 decades have taken original investors from \$1000 to multimillion dollars over that period of time.

If you asked him today, at the age of 79, what single event allowed him to be as successful as he has been, it would not be the intense focus he has on business. It would not be growing up the son of a US Congressman. It would probably not be the wisdom he learned from Benjamin Graham. No, it would likely be the fact that he won the lottery.

Not the lottery you or your neighbors might play each week hoping to gain thousands or millions of dollars on the basis of plain dumb luck. Those odds are not to Warren's liking. The lottery he would be talking about is the Ovarian Lottery.

In the exhaustive biographical tome, The Snowball, written by Alice Schroeder about Warren, he describes the Ovarian Lottery this way: Two identical twins, each with equal physical and mental abilities, were told that one would be born in the United States, and one in Bangladesh, and the one born in Bangladesh would pay no taxes. If you were one of the twins, what would you bid in order to be born in the United States? Even folks who think they could achieve everything on their own, would bid high to be born in the United States. His point is that the society in which we live has something to do with our opportunities for success, not just your inborn qualities.

An example of the implications of the Ovarian Lottery comes from a trip that Buffet took to China with Bill & Melinda Gates (Microsoft). On one day of the trip, they visited the Three Gorges Dam project. At one of the tributaries, Shennong Xi, they loaded into longboats that were poled and pulled up the river by river trackers. These river trackers were groups of ten men, who used ropes to drag each boat against the current up the river. Warren's quote, "There could have been another Bill Gates among those men pulling our boat. They were born here, and they were destined to spend their lives tugging those boats the way they did ours. They didn't have a chance. It was pure luck that we had a shot at the brass ring."

At this time of year, regardless of the tumultuous times in which we live, it is important to realize that we won the lottery by being able to be in this country, whether born or immigrated. We need to remind ourselves how blessed we are. There is really no other country on earth where the opportunities exist as they do here. People, including some of our own colleagues, have risked their lives to be in this country. The next time you feel the need to complain about third party payers, or the need to demonstrate your competency, or that your favorite college team lost a game, ask yourself this question: Would you rather be in Bangladesh?

Jeffrey A. Myers (OD'84)
BuckEYE Editor

Joyce Myers, Irvin Borish, and Jeff Myers (OD'84) at the Myers Lecture Series.





Dr. Irvin Borish Speaks at the Inaugural Jeffrey and Joyce Myers Lecture Series

by John McCauley

Joyce Myers, **Jeffrey Myers (OD'84)**, and **Dean Melvin Shipp, OD, MPH, DrPH** present Irvin Borish with a commemorative gift at the Inaugural Myers Lecture Series.

Jeffrey Myers (OD'84)

"We have been blessed to be able to make a contribution establishing the Lecture Series. I cannot think of a finer inaugural recipient than Dr. Borish. His legacy is extraordinary. We look forward to highlighting others in the years to come."

Cover Story

Jeffrey and Joyce Myers Lecture Series

Irvin M. Borish, OD, LLD, internationally known scholar in the world of optometry, presented the inaugural lecture at the Jeffrey and Joyce Myers Lecture Series on October 14, 2009. Dr. Borish, who is considered to be the architect of optometry, spoke about the development of optometry through the years. (<http://optometry.osu.edu/myoffice/MyersLectureseries/>)

One such story was about the origin of optometry. In the late 1800's, the practice of refractive correction started in jewelry stores because of the gold used in making the frames. Being more concerned about the quality of the gold frame than the quality of the lenses, patients would take their frames into the jeweler to get validated. The first optometry articles were actually published in jewelers' manuals. Eventually, one of the manuals changed its name to the Review of Optometry.



above: Dr. Borish autographing his book for Opt. III student **Elizabeth Radtke**

photos from left to right:

Dr. Borish lecturing

Melissa Bailey (OD/MS'01, PhD'04), Don Mutti, OD, PhD, and **LA Lossing ('10)** listening to the lecture.

Greg Good (OD'75, MS'79, PhD'81), Karla Zadnik, OD, PhD, and Dean Shipp present the H. Ward. Ewalt Medal to Dr. Borish.



Borish explained that, up until the late 30's and early 40's, the field of optometry was considered quackery, and those practicing it did not share the respect and admiration accorded to ophthalmologists and other medical practitioners. For many years, the notion of inserting a contact lens in the eye or wearing prescriptive glasses to improve eyesight were thought to actually weaken the eye. However, early in the 1900's when someone conducted a study on the money generated by eye care and discovered that refractive correction was earning far more than any other area of eye care, ophthalmologists decided that they had been too dismissive and set out to reclaim refraction.

According to Borish, many ophthalmologists were not well-trained in refractive correction, since the discipline had ignored it for a number of years, would make errors in their prescriptions and the patients would return complaining that their glasses were not helping. More often than not, the optician would be blamed for incorrectly following the prescription when making the lenses.

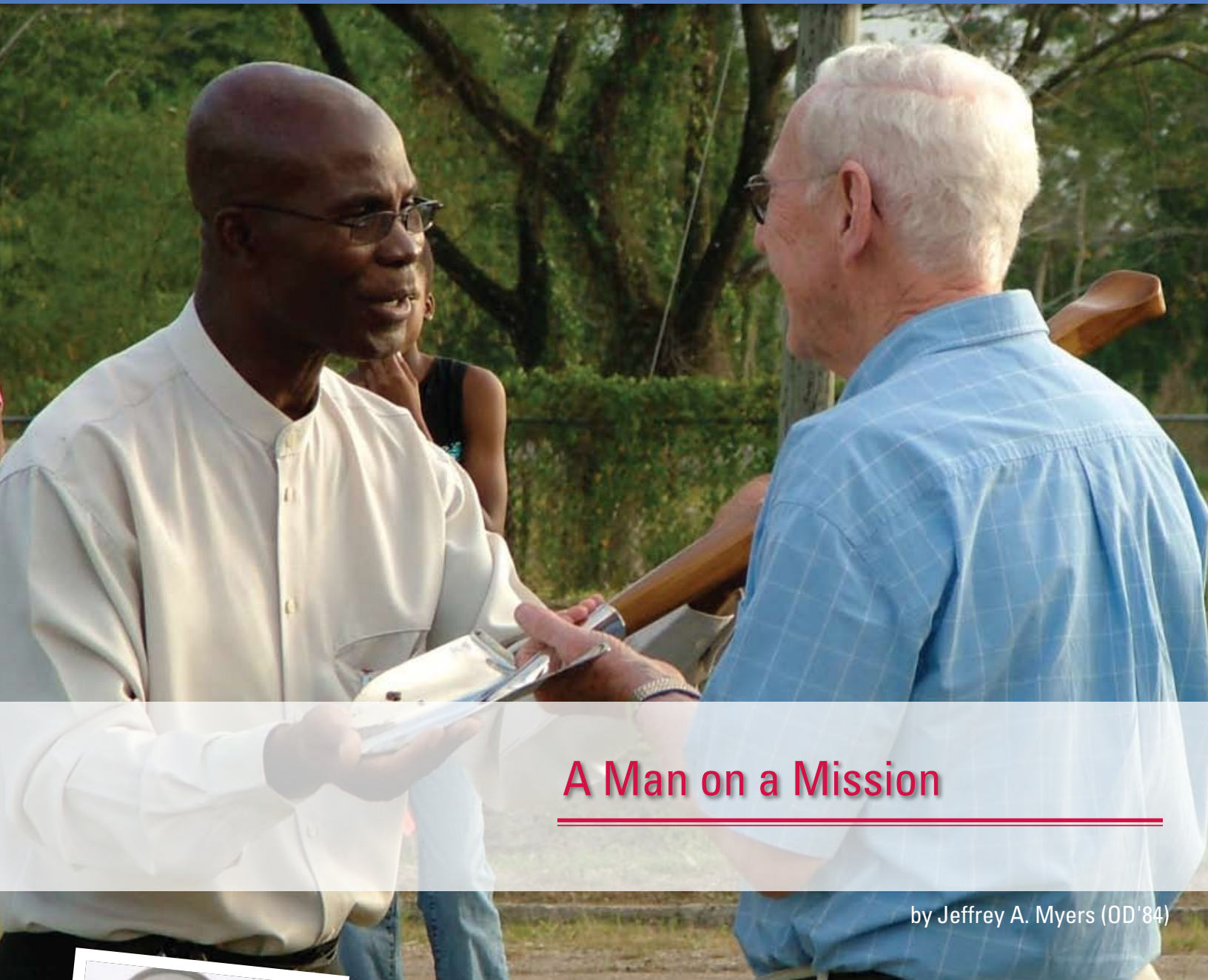
One young optician in New York City decided to oppose the unjust blame-shifting by conducting his own exams on patients who came in with what their ophthalmologists had prescribed and charging for his services. Once this young optician started charging patients after they had already been charged by their ophthalmologist, they started complaining about being charged twice. When ophthalmologists got wind of what was happening, they wanted to press charges for practicing medicine without a license. In order to protect themselves, opticians sought licenses to dispense glasses but not pharmaceuticals, thus was born the "no prescribing drugs" policy.

Many other stories followed, quite a few with optometry luminaries as the subject. A luminary figure himself, Dr. Borish has not only witnessed an amazing amount of history but created it. Dr. Borish's work has influenced almost every aspect of optometry for more than half a century. His accomplishments include that of educator, author, lecturer, clinician, and consultant. Dr. Borish began his career on the faculty of the Northern Illinois College of Optometry, from which he graduated in 1934. In 1944 he opened a practice in Kokomo, Indiana. He was a member of the initial committee that founded the School of Optometry at Indiana University. After its inauguration in 1953, he commuted from Kokomo to serve as a visiting faculty member. In 1972 he retired from his practice to teach at Indiana University as professor of optometry, serving as director of patient care and teaching courses in clinical procedures and contact lenses until his retirement in 1982, when he became a professor emeritus. In 1982 he was appointed to the first endowed chair in an optometric institution, the Benedict Chair, at the University of Houston. Dr. Borish remained at the University of Houston until 1987. Upon his departure, the university established the Irvin M. Borish Endowed Chair in Optometric Practice. At 96 years of age, he still travels around the country guest lecturing.

The Jeffrey and Joyce Myers Lecture Series was established through a generous gift from Dr. Jeffrey and Mrs. Joyce Myers. Their intention is to sponsor one lecture per academic year during the autumn quarter featuring a guest speaker from outside The Ohio State University with special expertise across the domains of optometry and vision science. Dr. Myers, a graduate of The Ohio State University College of Optometry Class of 1984, is a private-practice optometrist in central Ohio.



Focus on Alumni: Paul Gamertsfelder



A Man on a Mission

by Jeffrey A. Myers (OD '84)

Paul Gamertsfelder at graduation in 1954
and with his first wife Janet

Pastor Lionel Brown hands Dr. Paul the shovel for
groundbreaking for the Gamertsfelder Mission Centre



First Work and Witness trip in Panama handing
out Christian tracts.

Dr. Paul with his second wife Wanda.

Lt. Commander Gamertsfelder in the Navy
Reserve (on the right).

Focus on Alumni: Paul Gamertsfelder

The seeds of the Sequoia tree come from a cone that is about an inch wide and an inch and a half long. The seeds are smaller than a kernel of popcorn. Yet, the seed grows into a tree that can be 275 feet tall, be over 30 feet in diameter at the base and live to be 3000 years old. It is a testament to the power contained in a tiny seed and what it can produce.

The power contained in the seed of an idea and the impact it can have is often not known for a while. For **Paul W. Gamertsfelder (BS'54)**, affectionately known as Dr. Paul in the mission community, the idea was to combine his love of travel with mission work. In November 2009, he will lead a mission trip to Jamaica, bringing the number of mission trips he has led to well over 60.

Dr. Paul grew up in Coshocton, Ohio during the Depression, the third of five children born to Salvation Army housewife and a Methodist railroad worker, who bought and fixed up houses to support his family. The couple raised Paul in the Coshocton Church of the Nazarene.

Paul loved music from early in life, earning a first chair position playing French horn as a high school sophomore, and learning to play keyboard. After graduating from Coshocton High School, he attended Olivet Nazarene University, and ultimately earned a degree from Franklin University, before attending Ohio State. He had originally planned to enter dentistry, but the counsel of a girl named Janet, who would later become his wife,

convinced him to apply to Optometry and Dentistry at the same time. Optometry won out and Paul graduated from the program in 1954.

He opened his practice on the east side of Columbus and practiced at several locations. **James W. Mason, OD'72**, joined him in practice shortly after his graduation. Dr. Paul served in the US Naval Reserve for 28 years as an optometry officer, achieving the rank of Commander. He retired from optometry practice in the mid 1990's.

His mission story began in 1968 when he became the first man to break the gender barrier for the District Council and General Council (National) Nazarene World Missionary Society (NWMS) for the Church of the Nazarene. Prior to that time, mission work was the exclusive purview of women in the church. His goal and passion was to get men involved in mission work. He has been a member of Shepherd Church of the Nazarene since 1950, where he served as a Church Board member, Christian Life Director, Sunday School teacher, building committee member for the present church in Gahanna, Ohio in 1963, choir member, and organist for 35 years.

The first trip that he took was to Panama and was named Men in Missions in 1973. The name was

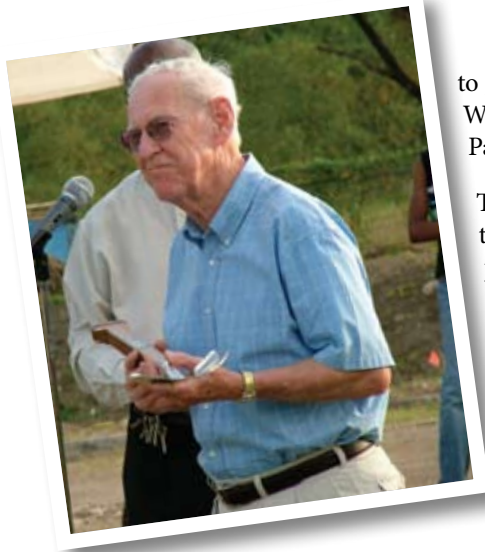
intended to emphasize the role of men in mission work. That first trip was an evangelistic trip. It was conducted in cooperation with two missionaries and had the intent of witnessing the Gospel to the Guayime and Choco Indians. It took a fair amount of persuasion

"When I think of trying to quantify the impact on the world from Dr. Paul's commitment to fulfilling God's call on his life, it's like trying to count the grains of sand on a beach; simply immeasurable. Fortunately, I'm on the list of multitudes that have been eternally changed by the ripple effect from Dr. Paul putting action to his faith and vision."

Doug McCloy, OD'95



Focus on Alumni: Paul Gamertsfelder



Dr. Paul Gamertsfelder

to get the approval of the Nazarene World Mission Director, but Dr. Paul made the sale.

The following year, a change in the World Mission Director's position, and the success in Panama gave Dr. Paul the green light to move ahead. The next trip was to Monterey, Mexico where Men in Missions helped 10 locals build a cement block church with a dirt floor. Very quickly, men from all over the Nazarene denomination were coordinating mission trips throughout the world.

In those early days of Men in Missions, Dr. Paul was the primary person doing the promotion and recruiting of teams for this grassroots effort. Communication was much more difficult with no email and little international telephone connection. Additionally, there was often no one to coordinate efforts onsite ahead of the team's arrival.

In 1984, Men in Missions officially changed its name to Work and Witness. This name change acknowledged the role of women in mission work and more aptly described the effort. The 'Work' took the form of building churches or other buildings, of providing refractive, medical, or surgical eye care, or whatever an area may need. The 'Witness' comes in the form of action in the community worthy of the Gospel message.

Including those first two trips, Dr. Paul has personally led over 60 mission trips, ranging from 12-18 days each. He

has led these trips to Trinidad, Haiti, Jamaica, Spain, Russia, Philippines, Thailand, Guatemala, Colombia, Brazil, Costa Rica (seeing patients in the prisons), Guyana, Nicaragua, Dominica, Barbados, Puerto Rico, Dominican Republic, Republic of South Africa, Kenya, Zambia, Alaska, Peru, & several states in Mexico.

The seed of an idea that Dr. Paul had to include men in mission work, the project that became Work & Witness, has amassed some staggering statistics over the 35 years since the first trip. This seed has germinated into over 12,000 mission teams, involving over 200,000 participants who have contributed virtually 7000 work-years of labor! Clearly, Dr. Paul had the right idea at the right time. Dr. Paul is known as the father of Work and Witness and also started the Mission of Sight program to provide eyewear to deprived areas of the world.

Two other alumni have been involved in Dr. Paul's vision; **Douglas Wine, OD'87, & Doug McCloy, OD'95.** Each has been involved in various mission teams. Over the years, Dr. Paul has taken 3rd and 4th year students from the College on many projects.

This type of work is not without its recognition, whether in the form of plaques, thanks, congratulations, or simply the intrinsic satisfaction of serving others in a needed way. But a very special project will carry Dr. Paul's name in perpetuity, thanks primarily to Dr. McCloy's efforts. In March 2008, ground was broken for the Dr. Paul Gamertsfelder Mission Centre (GMC) in Frome, Jamaica. This center is still being built. It will be a 10,000 square foot facility and will house medical, vision, and dental services, have two operating theaters, and will have a day care center.

In November 2009, Dr. Paul is leading yet another mission trip, this time to help build the GMC. It will be complete in

The first Central Ohio District Work & Witness trip in 1974 only took men on this first trip, but opened it up to women after this trip.

Dr. Mason and Dr. Paul with two OSU Optometry students (names??) in the 1970's.



Focus on Alumni: Paul Gamertsfelder



Groundbreaking ceremony for the Gamertsfelder Mission Centre in Jamaica

A recent Work & Witness Team participating in the groundbreaking ceremony for the Gamertsfelder Mission Centre in Jamaica

Dr Mason examining a patient

A local worker, Dr. Paul, and Rev. Bob Collins, missionary.



Focus on Alumni: Paul Gamertsfelder

about a year. While Dr. Paul is evasive and humbled by having a building named for him, Dr. McCloy has already committed Dr. Paul to do the first eye examination in the GMC.

Dr. Paul's motivation for all this is his passion for helping people. He loves working with people, and helping people. And he understands that the people being helped are not just the recipients of the mission experience, but the participants as well. He has seen pastors rejuvenated by their mission experience. He says that one trip makes people much more mission minded, more grateful for what they have, strengthens folks in their faith, and makes them more active in their local church and in the mission field.

Dr. Paul had been married to his first wife, Janet, for 35 years, when she was tragically killed in an automobile accident. Wanda was his second wife, and was lost to pancreatic cancer after 21 years of marriage. He has been married to Ruth for two years, and she happens to be the mother of his current pastor. All have participated in his mission trips. He has one daughter, Adria, who is married and has two daughters. She is the Minister of Music at the Bloomington (Illinois) United Methodist Church. He also has a son, Thomas, who is married and has four sons. He is a middle school principal in Grove City, Ohio.

Congratulations to Dr. Paul Gamertsfelder on a lifetime of serving others both in and of optometry.



Artist's rendering of the Dr. Paul Gamertsfelder Mission Centre - Frome, Jamaica

Over the past 37 years we have formed a bond that goes far deeper than optometry. While I learned optometry from his vast experience, it is the things of life he taught me that have impacted me most. I have watched Dr. Paul develop a mission outreach through the Nazarene Church that has changed thousands of lives. He told me early on that one person can make a difference and while he applied that to optometry he also applied it to his life. Many have been blessed because he lived out those words he shared with me. Optometry is better for the things that Dr. Paul has done in his life and our world is better because of his passion for the lives of others. It has been a blessing to have shared this time with him.

James W. Mason OD'72



Dr. Paul as organist of Shepherd Church of the Nazarene.

Dr. Paul with Ruth at their wedding in 2007.



Dr. John Dowling receives Fry Medal

The College of Optometry awarded the Glenn A. Fry Medal in Physiological Optics to John E. Dowling, PhD, of Harvard University and The Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole during a special ceremony at the Great Lakes Vision Research Conference on Saturday, November 21, 2009, Columbus, Ohio.

Dr. Dowling received his A.B. and Ph.D. from Harvard University. He taught at Harvard University, and Johns Hopkins University, before returning to Harvard as Professor of Biology. Presently he is the Gordon and Llura Gund Professor of Neurosciences. Additionally, he currently serves as President of the Corporation of The Marine Biological Laboratory in Woods Hole.

He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a member of the National Academy of Sciences. He received the Friedenwald Medal from the Association of Research in Ophthalmology and Vision in 1970, the Annual Award of the New England Ophthalmological Society in 1979, the Retinal Research Foundation Award for Retinal Research in 1981, an Alcon Vision Research Recognition Award in 1986, a National Eye Institute's MERIT award in 1987, the Von Sallman Prize in 1992, The Helen Keller Prize for Vision Research in 2000, and the Llura Liggett Gund Award for Lifetime Achievement and Recognition of Contribution to the Foundation Fighting Blindness in 2001. He was granted an honorary M.D. degree by the University of Lund (Sweden) in 1982.

While a graduate student in Nobel Laureate George Wald's laboratory, Dowling studied the photochemistry of the visual pigments and investigated the importance of Vitamin A for photopigment regeneration. During this time, he also uncovered the role of photopigments in determining visual sensitivity during light and dark adaptation. His research focus then shifted towards in-depth analyses of the structure and function of the retina. John Dowling and his graduate student Frank Werblin obtained the first intracellular recordings from retinal bipolar cells, and showed that the separation of the visual signal into ON and OFF pathways occurs at the level of these neurons. These landmark results, reported in 1969, are widely considered to be the most defining work in retinal neurocircuitry during the last half of the twentieth century.

In the 1970's and 1980's, Dowling was at the forefront of research into the identification of the neurotransmitters,



Dr. John Dowling with Dean Shipp at the ceremony.

both excitatory and inhibitory, that mediated retinal synaptic communication. Finally, beginning in the 1990's, John shifted his research interests again in order to integrate molecular biology with animal behavior. He used the zebrafish as a model organism to identify the genes that were important in regulating both visual sensitivity and retinal development.

About Dr. Dowling's research, his nominators wrote that "Over the last half-century, John Dowling has arguably been the preeminent scientist in the field of visual neuroscience, and the impact of his research has been monumental."

To date, the Fry Medal has been awarded to thirteen individuals who have truly distinguished themselves with long and exemplary records of vision research. Dr. Fry was the first recipient in 1987.

Previous Fry Medal Recipients

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| •1987 - Glenn A. Fry | •2000 - Donald G. Pitts |
| •1987 - Elwin Marg | •2001 - Merton C. Flom |
| •1989 - Torsten Wiesel | •2006 - Ronald Jones |
| •1990 - Bela Julesz | •2007 - Jay M. Enoch |
| •1991 - David Hubel | •2008 - M. Velma Dobson |
| •1992 - Robert K. Graham | •2009 - John Dowling |
| •1995 - Richard M. Hill | |

Welcome Dinner 2009

*The College welcomes
the class of 2013*



Dr. E. Gordon Gee,
President of The Ohio State University

The Class of 2013 Welcome Dinner was held Wednesday September 23rd at the OSU Faculty Club. College faculty, staff, and student leaders were there to help welcome the newest students to the College. OSU President Gordon Gee made time in his busy schedule to stop by and welcome the new class, and after dinner the students listened to words of wisdom and advice from then-OOA President-Elect Gil Pierce, OSU Alumni and Friends Society President Roger Sanholtz, and Student Council President Dustin Gardner. Faculty members extended a warm welcome during the table-to-table new student introductions.

As always, the College wishes to thank the Optometry Alumni and Friends Society for their generosity in sponsoring this important student welcome event.



Kimberly Lust, Bill Patton, Andrew Pucker ('11), William Burns, Matthew Kidd, Holly Moose, and Chad Bechtle enjoying new company at the 2009 Welcome Dinner.

Opt I's: Nisreen Abu-Kwiek, Katherine Bickle, and Victoria Piamonte

Opt I students: Paul Bingham, Kyle Wilson, Nicholas Taflan, Burke Manning, and Masoud Nafey.

Megan O'Sullivan and Kelsey Shiley.



College News



Distinguished Alumnus: Jerry Lowther



Jerry Lowther (BS'66, OD'67, MS'69, PhD'72), accepts his award with his wife Andrya, Dean Shipp, and **Roger Saneholtz (OD'74)** looking on.

This year's Distinguished Alumnus Award was presented to **Jerry Lowther (BS'66, OD'67, MS'69, & PhD'72)** on Friday, September 11, during Alumni Weekend. Dr. Lowther has a long history of service to the profession and to humanity. He has been an integral player for optometry on the international stage, working in five foreign countries on three continents to bring optometry and better quality vision care to those areas. His legacy at Indiana University, as recently retired dean, is impressive. "His dedication and commitment to optometry is unsurpassed and is an inspiration to all those who have had the pleasure of working with him," said Brien Holden. And Brad Wild said, "Jerry is truly one of a kind, distinguished."

The nominating committee is currently accepting nominations for 2010. Please contact Dr. Jim Beiber '65 at eyes@nweye.com. The Optometry Alumni & Friends Distinguished Alumnus award has three criteria: 1) the honoree must be a graduate of the Ohio State University College of Optometry, 2) the honoree must be a member OSU Optometry Alumni & Friends society, 3) the honoree must reflect credit on the OSU College of Optometry through distinguished service to the profession, community, and/or world. The honoree will receive a medal, signifying the stature of the award, to commemorate his or her recognition. Posthumous nominations will not be accepted.

Jerry Lowther (BS'66, OD'67, MS'69, PhD'72), with fellow alumnus **Roy Ebihara (BS'63, OD'77)**.

Jerry with wife Andrya at the banquet.



Keystone II: Intermediate Clinical Diagnostic Reasoning in Optometry

In 2006, a three-educator committee (Drs. Greg Good, Michael Earley, and Kelly Nichols) was charged with assessing the curriculum at The Ohio State University College of Optometry to recommend an optometric curriculum which will train optometrists who, upon graduation, will be ready to provide high-quality care to our citizens and will continue to improve their abilities by adapting effective lifelong learning strategies. The Building the Education System of Tomorrow (BEST) Committee Report determined several themes about how optometry programs are currently addressing curricular issues in the health professions, including better integration of basic science and patient care issues, enhanced clinical decision making by students, and the development of life-long learning skills in graduates. To address these issues, the BEST Committee made six recommendations for changes to the curriculum.

Recommendation 1 was to implement a KEYSTONE Course Series for the optometry curriculum. The BEST Committee proposed that Keystone 1 would be comprised of an intensive one-week discussion at the end of the first training year, and Keystone 2 be a similar intensive weeklong course following summer quarter at the beginning of the third year, after students have been seeing patients during spring and summer quarters.

Keystone 1 took place for the first time at the end of spring quarter, 2009, and Keystone 2 took place September 14 through 18, 2009. Keystone 2 uses a problem-based learning format and optometric cases to develop clinical diagnostic and management skills, requiring basic and clinical science integration.

All students met 2 weeks ahead of Keystone for an orientation to the course. They were provided with a sample case and instructed on how the case should be worked up. Throughout the Keystone week, students worked in small groups (eight students) on five additional cases. Faculty facilitators worked with the students during the morning, and students worked on their own in the afternoons. At the beginning of the next day, students presented their work on their cases to the rest of the group.

For each case, students were provided with a history, including chief complaint, vision history, patient's medical history, medications, allergies, family ocular and medical history, social history, and review of symptoms. They were also provided with the results of the vision examination, which might include all or some of the following: uncorrected visual acuity, present Rx with visual acuity, pinhole visual acuity, manifest refraction with visual acuity, pupillary reflexes, external/slit lamp biomicroscopic examination, intraocular pressure, dilated fundus examination results, and visual fields. Sometimes students had to evaluate fundus or anterior segment photographs, visual field printouts, OCT results, or

other results from the vision examination. They might also be provided with the results of systemic laboratory tests.

The first task of the small group was to create a complete problem list. The next step was processing the problem list by grouping problems and using medical terminology to describe the problems. From this list, students were able to determine the Patient Illness Script, which consists of the following: epidemiology, temporal pattern, syndrome statement, and other problems. For example, in the exemplar case, the epidemiology was "middle aged diabetic black female with sarcoidosis." The temporal pattern was "subacute progression." The syndrome statement was "diabetic eye disease with associated retinal findings and reversal of myopic shift s/p diabetic control and presbyopia in setting of no evidence of ocular inflammation." Other problems included "severe pulmonary sarcoid placing at risk for uveitis."

The students then developed a Prioritized Differential Diagnosis. The potential diagnoses were classified as Tier I (most likely) through Tier III (possible, but less likely). Tier IB included emergency diagnoses that had to be ruled out. For each diagnosis, students had to analyze how well it fit with the epidemiology, time course, and syndrome. Students then had to develop two 6-slide Power Point presentations, one on the clinical science and one on the basic science aspects of the case.

The purposes of this course are:

- To provide a cognitive transition to clinical care by fostering integration of basic science knowledge through knowledge reorganization,
- To explicitly model and develop clinical reasoning skills, and
- To promote life-long learning skills through problem-based learning.

Throughout this course, students will continue to:

- Actively learn through participation in groups, both large and small,
- Identify and correct knowledge deficits,
- Develop interpersonal and communication skills,
- Evaluate peers on group skills, and
- Participate in a structured approach to developing clinical reasoning and management skills.

Students were graded by the faculty facilitators and their peers for their participation. They were also graded on their group case presentations, an individual case work-up, and a final examination. All indications revealed that the students were engaged in the small group discussions and performed well on their individual cases and final exam. It is hoped that the Keystone series will help students better integrate their basic science knowledge into clinical diagnoses and management.

College News



Dr. Paulette Schmidt Retires After 30+ Years

After more than 30 years of service, **Paulette Schmidt (OD '73, MS '76)** retired from the faculty of The Ohio State University College of Optometry in June of 2009.

Professor Schmidt's tenure with the College was marked with numerous successes. In her specialty area of pediatrics, Dr. Schmidt garnered local, national and international recognition for her seminal research on the identification of common vision problems in preschool children. Her expertise brought recognition not only to herself, but also to the College and the University. In 2000, the National Eye Institute (NEI) of the National Institutes of Health awarded a grant of over \$15 million to perform Dr. Schmidt's proposed multicenter study over a five-year period. It remains the largest NEI grant ever presented to an optometric study (for a five-year period). Unlike other NEI funded clinical studies, the Vision in Preschoolers (VIP) study was entirely redesigned between phases to incorporate knowledge gained from the results of previous phases. This approach to the study design and the excruciatingly tight calendars for Phases I and II were possible due to the enormous dedication of hundreds of members of the VIP study team nationwide.

Dr. Schmidt was the Principal Investigator and Study Chairperson for VIP Study Phases I and II. While it was a multidisciplinary study, all of the clinical data was collected at colleges and schools of optometry, (including The Ohio State University College of Optometry) having an affiliation with the Head Start program. This strategy provided care to an underserved population and a population that is at higher risk for vision disorders.

More recently, Dr. Schmidt led the development of the College's Strategic Plan. She also provided leadership in the development of the Feasibility Study.

Dr. Schmidt was awarded Professor Emeritus status in October 2009. Although the College wanted to publicly acknowledge her retirement and contributions, Dr. Schmidt decided to forego an official retirement celebration and asked that the value of her retirement gift from the College be converted to a cash gift to the Pediatric Vision Research Fund.

The College and the optometric profession are deeply indebted to this outstanding scholar, teacher and administrator. We thank her for her many contributions and wish her a long, prosperous, and happy retirement.

A Day in the Life: Graduate Student Eric Ritchey

Hello, my name is Eric Ritchey. I am a Senior Research Associate and Vision Science PhD candidate at Ohio State. Welcome to my typical Monday.

At 5:40 a.m., the alarm clock starts blaring in my ear, telling me it's time to get up and go. I throw on my running shoes, grab the iPod and hit the gym by 6AM for my morning workout. Nothing like 40 minutes on a treadmill to get the mind cleared and ready for the day ahead. After the workout, I grab a bite to eat, get the cat to chase the laser pointer, and then get a shower. Once I'm dressed, I talk to my wife about our plans for the day then hit the road. After the required stop for a large coffee from Cup O' Joe (they start pouring the cup when I walk in the door!), I make my way onto campus.

First, I should explain that my work situation is a little unusual compared to most other optometry graduate students. I am an optometrist (Class of 2001) trying to make the transition to basic science myopia research. My PhD advisor, Dr. Andy Fischer, is a neuroscientist who researches retinal regeneration and myopia. His lab is in Graves Hall, directly across the street from Fry Hall, so the majority of the time I am in his lab. Also, I have finished my PhD coursework and my candidacy exam, so I no longer take classes. This means that most workdays center around designing experiments, collecting data and writing manuscripts for journal submission. By

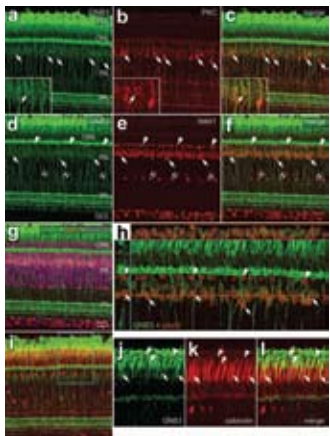


Eric Ritchey (OD'01, MS'03), Senior Research Associate, with his wife **Moriah Chandler (OD'03)**, an optometrist at Nationwide Children's Hospital

8:30 a.m. on my typical Monday, I meet with Andy to discuss what our research priorities are for the coming week and go over any manuscript revisions that Andy has suggested. After our meeting, I head down to the lab and start antibody labeling microscope slides collected from the previous week's experiments. The slides have to be washed multiple times during the labeling process, so while the slides wash I prepare the antibody solutions, catch up on my e-mail and work on putting my data into figures for publication.

Around noon, I stop for lunch and catch up on what my lab mates did on the weekend. After lunch, I typically work on data collection. Today, that means I have scheduled 2 hours for examining retinal sections and whole mounts using confocal laser scanning microscopy. The confocal microscope allows me to collect high-resolution optical sections of the retina that are microns thick. The current experiment is looking at the regulation of Early Growth Response gene 1 (EGR1) in response to lens-induced retinal blur. EGR1 has been shown to up- or down-regulate in a subset of amacrine cells in response to different visual manipulations in chickens. Using fluorescent antibodies, I can identify the appropriate amacrine cells and see if they are expressing the gene. These cells are photographed and cell counts are performed to look for changes in gene expression. Around 3:00 p.m., I meet with my undergraduate assistant to go over her projects in the lab and discuss her findings. I spend the rest of my afternoon assembling a high frequency A-scan ultrasound system that will allow me to examine choroidal changes that occur in chickens with myopia.

Tonight, it's my turn to cook dinner while my wife works on one of her craft projects. After dinner, we share stories about how our days went and decide to pop a movie into the DVD player. We have a little dessert and relax. After the movie, I catch up on some reading and e-mail before bedtime.



Retinal neurons as seen using immunofluorescent antibodies and confocal microscopy. By combining antibodies, different retinal neurons can be identified.



Dr. Ritchey performing a corneal exam in the lab using a Leica dissecting microscope



OSU Optometry Riders in Columbus' First Pelotonia (*Peloton: a principal group of cyclists in a race*)



August 29-30 was a beautiful weekend in Columbus. It was also an historic weekend in the fight against cancer in which 2,265 bike riders pedaled 25, 50, 100, and even 180 miles with cycling legend and cancer survivor, Lance Armstrong. The goal was to raise about \$4.5 million for Ohio State's Comprehensive Cancer Clinic, including the Arthur G. James Cancer Hospital and Richard J. Solove Research Institute. OSU's President E. Gordon Gee, and OSU's Head Football Coach Jim Tressel, were also among the celebrity riders who all rode for one common goal: to end cancer.

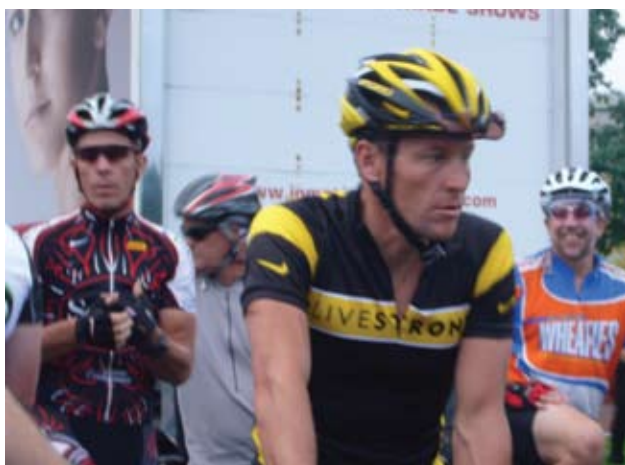
The OSU College of Optometry was well-represented by three faculty members (Drs. Karla Zadnik, Don Mutti, and Vondolee Delgado-Nixon) and three students (**Bill Catt OD '11**, **Dan Hickey OD '12**, and **Chris Paulett OD '10**).

Dan Hickey said: "Pelotonia was an amazing experience. It was really touching knowing that we were doing something to help fight cancer. All along the route, people came outside their houses to cheer us on, including cancer survivors who went for treatment at The James. Encouragement from these people, and knowing what they went through helped me finish the grueling 180 miles."

The Pelotonia's organizers hope to see the total grow to \$40 million over five years. The event is modeled after the very-successful Pan-Mass Challenge (PMC), which is an extraordinary cycling event that, over the last 29 years, has raised \$250 million for cancer research at the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute in Boston.

(left) Lance Armstrong at Pelotonia, surely wondering, "How will I keep up with Mutti and Zadnik!"

The Eye Rollers:
Bill Catt, Dan Hickey,
Voldolee Delgado-Nixon,
Don Mutti, Karla Zadnik,
and Chris Paulett





*The Ohio State University College of Optometry
and AEA Cruises present*

Alaska Inside Passage Optometric Cruise Seminar

July 17 – 24, 2010

Come join us for a continuing education cruise to Alaska
in the summer of 2010!

Up north there's a land without fences. Animals outnumber people, sunlight shines at mid-night and nature reigns. Life is different. This northern frontier still boasts pristine landscapes, majestic wildlife and a coastline that is one of the most enthralling waterways in the world. Beyond Alaska's fortress-like glacier walls lie scenic ports of call, treasured national parks, and abundant wildlife. And, with more than 1,400 miles north to south and 2,400 miles east to west, it's truly, a land of epic proportions.

- Cruise fares from \$949PP
- 10 hours of Cope-approved lectures
- Speaker: Barbara Fink, O.D., PhD
- Seminar fee: \$480/\$400 for past AEA cruise attendees

Topics:	
Corneal and Tear Physiology Update	2 hours
Oxygen Reservoirs of Contact Lens Systems	1 hour
Corneal Thickness and IOP	1 hour
Ocular Circulation and Vascular Disease	2 hours
Glaucomatous Optic Neuropathy	2 hours
Enigmas of the Crystallin Lens	1 hour
Oxidative Damage to the Eye	1 hour

Please visit our CE website at <http://optometry.osu.edu/CE/cruise> or email us at CE@optometry.osu.edu for more information.

Karen Stedfeld Retires

On September 30, Karen Stedfeld retired from her position as Instructional Aids Assistant after 30 years of service at The Ohio State University. She worked in the Instructional Media Department at the College of Optometry since she was hired as a photographic technician in June of 1981.

Karen is a native of Columbus, Ohio. She graduated from Brookhaven High School, and her parents, two brothers, and sister continue to live in Columbus. Her husband Mark is a civil engineer in the waste water division of the Ohio EPA.

After graduating from high school, Karen attended Ohio State for two years, changing her major several times, until a perceptive professor encouraged her to major in ceramics. She moved to Hawaii, where she finished her B.F.A. at the University of Hawaii and worked as a ward clerk in the neonatal intensive care unit of the Children's Hospital. She trained to perform EEGs at Straub Clinic and then returned to Columbus after spending five years in Hawaii.

Prior to finding her way to the College of Optometry, she worked at a craft shop at the former Northland Mall, helping people select supplies for various projects and teaching craft classes. She also worked in a T-shirt factory, photographing designs, separating them into colors, and preparing silk screens. Her Ohio State career began with a job in the sleep lab in Upham Hall, where she worked Mondays and Tuesdays during the day and Wednesdays and Thursdays at night. She worked with people who suffered from sleep apnea, night terrors, insomnia, and restless leg syndrome, placing electrodes on their heads and bodies and monitoring them as they slept.

When Karen started at the College of Optometry, her responsibilities included developing black and white Kodak 35 mm film and preparing 35 mm slides for classes. She was also responsible for the audio/visual needs of the classrooms, maintaining A/V equipment, and training and scheduling the A/V student helpers. One of the most unusual requests she received over the years came from a student helper. He asked her to sew a right angle tear in the seat of his jeans. She did so; however, one week later the student came in asking her to sew another right angle tear in another pair of jeans. She discovered that he had been tearing his jeans when jumping over a fence. Her advice to the student: stop jumping over the fence!

Karen also kept the students supplied with a hole puncher, staplers, paper clips, tissues, a pencil sharpener, candy, and even birthday candles. Working with the students was her favorite part of the job. They provided fun and enthusiasm. She managed the Student Study Center, first located in room 239 Fry and later moved to rooms 42 Fry (Dr. Hill's old lab) and A016



Karen and her husband Mark in 1988.

Karen and Mark on vacation in Sunshine Meadows, Canada in 2005.



Starling-Loving. She scheduled the student employees and made sure the Study Center was maintained and equipped.

In 2004, the Instructional Media Center moved from room 50 to room 19 of Fry Hall. Since then, Karen's work has included more computer work, use of digital cameras, and remotely-controlled digital recordings of lectures in room 33.

Upon Wendy Clark's retirement that same year, Karen became responsible for photographing College events, including the Annual College of Optometry Open House, Alumni Weekend, the graduation awards dinner, and the autumn convocation dinner.

When not monitoring AV equipment or photographing College events, Karen was likely gardening, even at the office. Karen became a certified Master Gardener in 1996 by Ohio State Extension. She took all-day class work on ten consecutive Tuesdays and volunteered 50 hours for Ohio State Extension, including working on the horticulture hot line, helping with monitoring and A/V for continuing education for nursery workers, participating in the plant sale at Chadwick Arboretum, and judging horticultural projects at the Ohio State Fair. The flower beds in front of Fry Hall are largely due to her effort.

Additional interests include her volunteer work in the skill-a-thon at the Ohio State Fair, in which children must demonstrate skills and answer questions. She has judged the areas of horse, beef, dairy, and dogs. She likes to go horseback riding with her niece Haley. She sews banners and does decorating and gardening for her church, New Wine Covenant Community.

We wish Karen all the best in her retirement!



Gil Pierce Named President of the Ohio Optometric Association

Gil Pierce (OD '89, PhD '94) became President of the Ohio Optometric Association (OOA) on October 3, 2009 at the EastWest Eye Conference in Cleveland. Dr. Pierce has served on the OOA Board of Trustees since 2003, first as a Trustee for four years, followed by serving one year each as Secretary-Treasurer and President-Elect. Dr. Pierce is the first full time faculty member to serve as OOA President since **Brad Wild (BSOptom'59)** in 1966-67.

Prior to serving on the OOA Board, Dr. Pierce was the co-chair of the OOA Legislative Committee (along with fellow OSU College of Optometry faculty member Dr. Greg Nixon) for several years. During his time serving in this capacity, he decided that he had a passion for organized optometry, and could best contribute to the profession by serving on the OOA Board. As a faculty member, Dr. Pierce has the great opportunity to serve as an example to students at the College of Optometry regarding the vital importance of being involved in the future of the optometric profession by getting involved in the OOA and AOSA while they are students.

Dr. Pierce's goals during his presidency include continuing to advocate on behalf of the vision and visual health of Ohio's children, maintaining and increasing membership in the OOA, and continuing to grow the EastWest Eye Confer-

ence into a world-class optometric continuing education meeting.

Staff Appreciation Week 2009

This year the College of Optometry celebrated Staff Appreciation Week August 17 – 21. This event was coordinated by the College Staff Advisory Committee, which includes Interim Chair Dave Moore and members Freda Dallas, Barbara Pyle, and Paul Todd, who all agree, "We had great fun planning and coordinating the activities for this year's Staff Appreciation Week!"

The week kicked off with a Monday visit from the CD 101 ice cream truck – staff had their pick of a variety of delicious flavors of free Graeter's ice cream. Tuesday was "Optometry Green" day with everyone wearing some sort of green clothing, right down to the socks! "Wellness Wednesday," which featured faculty delivering various healthy snacks to staff throughout the day, turned out to be a highlight of the week. Dave Moore reports, "Staff members were in great anticipation of which faculty member would show up next and what snack they might bring. It also gave both faculty and staff a fun opportunity to get more acquainted with each other." "Funky Socks Thursday" revealed that people definitely keep some interesting socks in their sock drawer, that go way beyond black and brown, and even scarlet and gray! The Friday tailgate lunch was awesome, with everyone decked out in OSU attire and a great selection of endless lunch goodies. Drawings were held for the OSU decorations that were displayed around the lunch location.

Kelly Kennedy, Doreen Landess, and Kathy Dupart wearing Optometry Green!

Peggy Buckman and Sandy Workmaster showing their school spirit.

Sally Haltom, Barb Pyle, Paul Todd, Dave Moore, and Justin Griest on Optometry Green day.

The week after the event ended, OSU cowbells could still be heard ringing around and about.

College staff member Justin Griest spoke for many when he said "The Staff Appreciation Week committee did a great job putting together a week of fun activities and events that truly made all staff feel appreciated. The fun and fellowship during the week highlighted every reason why this is such a special place to work!"



College News

Karla Zadnik Received Max Shapero Lecture Award

Karla Zadnik, OD, PhD, Glenn A. Fry Professor in Optometry and Physiological Optics and associate dean at The Ohio State University College of Optometry, received the Max Schapero Memorial Lecture Award at the American Academy of Optometry Meeting in Orlando, Florida on November 13, 2009.

The award is given to a clinician, researcher, or scholar who has made a significant contribution to the cornea and contact lens field by virtue of his/her publications, lectures, or research efforts. "Dr. Zadnik will long be remembered, not only for her grantmanship, accomplishment and publishing record, but I believe, more so for the many, many colleagues she has mentored in so many ways and for how those people will mentor others as well. In this sense, she emulates Glenn Fry exquisitely," said **Joe Barr, (OD'77, MS'79)** FAAO, VP Global Clinical & Medical Affairs and Professional Services Vision Care for Bausch & Lomb.

Dr. Zadnik's major contribution to the optometric community has been in the advancement of patient-based research, which, as its highest aspiration, affects how patients receive their eye care on an everyday basis. The CLEK Study received funding from the National Institutes of Health to 17 academic institutions from 1994-2007, the first-ever multicenter grant of its kind based in academic optometry. It was a major undertaking, and the key players were Joseph T. Barr, OD MS, Professor Emeritus, The Ohio State University College of Optometry; Timothy B. Edrington, OD MS, Professor, Southern California College of Optometry; Timothy T. McMahon, OD, Professor, University of Illinois at Chicago, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science; and Mae O. Gordon,



PhD, Professor, Washington University, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science. Dr. Zadnik's lecture presented data from the CLEK Study while simultaneously describing the people involved in the work and the magnitude of the work accomplished. Its funding resulted in the career advancement of many young optometrists, including those pursuing graduate degrees and faculty members.

The Max Schapero Memorial Lecture was established in 1972 to honor the memory of Max Schapero, who served for a number of years as the Chairman of the Cornea and Contact Lens Section's Papers and Program Committee. Professor Schapero was on the faculty of the Southern California College of Optometry and was the author of the Dictionary of Visual Science as well as a text titled Amblyopia. After his death in 1972, the Section established this memorial lecture in his honor. Recipients of the award are asked to present a lecture to be given during the Cornea and Contact Lens Section's meeting at the annual Academy Meeting. Dr. Zadnik's Schapero lecture was entitled, "The Collaborative Longitudinal Evaluation of Keratoconus: It Took a Village."



Kelly Nichols Receives Irv and Beatrice Borish Award

Kelly Nichols, OD, MS('98), MPH('00), PhD('01), received the Irvin M. and Beatrice Borish Award presented at the American Academy of Optometry meeting in Orlando, Florida.

Dr. Nichols is an associate professor at The Ohio State University College of Optometry. She is considered to be one of the world's leading vision scientists in the area of dry eye and has been very successful in obtaining grant support. In fact, she and her research group are in year two of a five-year \$1.7M NEI grant to study dry eye in post-menopausal women. The Borish Award recognizes an outstanding young researcher who has shown exceptional promise to conduct independent optometric research directly related to etiology, prevention, detection, diagnosis, or management of clinical eye disorders.

The award was established through a donation from Dr. Irvin and Mrs. Beatrice Borish in 1995. Dr. Borish continues to lead a vibrant and busy life traveling to conferences and giving guest lectures around the country.



Students participating in this year's I-DOC.

College Diversity Update, 2009

The College of Optometry has been involved in a variety of activities in the past year to enhance diversity at the College and provide a welcoming environment for all. Many of the efforts of the Diversity Enhancement Committee have been concerned with increasing the diversity of the student body through recruitment of minority students.

I-DOC

The College of Optometry was once again the recipient of an ASCO Optometric Education Diversity Mini-Grant for 2009 for the Improving Diversity of Optometric Careers (I-DOC) Program. The goal of the I-DOC Program is to increase the diversity of eye care practitioners in order to help provide comprehensive eye care to a diverse patient population. The program is a three-day curriculum designed to introduce high school and undergraduate minority college students to optometry by exposing them to optometrists practicing in a variety of settings, teaching the basics of eyes and vision, introducing participants to current optometry students, and helping participants understand the importance of diversity among healthcare professionals. This year we had six college students and two high school students who participated in the program from August 3 through 5. The program has been very successful in recruiting minority students into optometry. The current first-year class has two former I-DOC participants. The I-DOC Program for next summer will take place August 2 through 4, 2010.

Welcome Dinner

The annual event, Diversity Dialogues Welcome Dinner, took place on September 28 at the College. The incoming first-year minority students were welcomed by upperclassmen, faculty, staff, and central Ohio optometrists. Dinner was catered, and students had an opportunity to learn about optometry from the practitioners.

NCBI Training

On Wednesday, September 23, and Friday, September 25, the first-year optometry students participated in the National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI) training session for prejudice reduction and building community by welcoming diversity. The full-day workshop helped students to become aware of their own backgrounds and prejudices and how they influence their interactions with patients. They considered how to communicate effectively and confidently with individuals whose backgrounds and experiences differ from their own. Students participated in a variety of small and large group activities to identify similarities and differences among participants, groups to which they belonged, and internalized stereotypes and oppression toward various groups.

EastWest Eye Conference

A new recruitment effort was launched during the EastWest Eye Conference at the Cleveland Convention Center. The offsite recruitment event, Optometry Recruitment Fair, included information sessions (financial aid, admissions), panels of optometrists and students, and refreshments, similar to what is done at the Annual College of Optometry Open House each April. Twenty undergraduate students attended, representing Case Western Reserve University, Akron University, The Ohio State University, and Capital University. Justin Griest, Manager of Admissions Information, was very excited about the success of the recruitment fair and plans to use the same format for offsite recruitment efforts in other areas of the state and out-of-state. The Diversity Ambassadors Panel, headed up by Drs. Ernest Robinson, Del Edwards, and Mark Orso, will lead our minority recruitment efforts within Ohio.

The College of Optometry continues to strive to improve the diversity of the students, staff, and faculty and to provide a welcoming environment for all people.

Alumni News



1946 Theodore P. Grosvenor (BS-Optom '46, PhD '56) passed away on March 3 at his home in Tucson, Ariz. He served on the faculty of four optometric educational institutions (University of Houston, Illinois College of Optometry, University of Waterloo, and Pacific University), and was instrumental in starting the optometry program at the University of Auckland in New Zealand. Dr. Grosvenor was a prolific writer who had numerous books published and was well known for his book, Primary Care Optometry, which is considered one of the most comprehensive works on the clinical techniques of optometry.

1971 Tom Rees (OD '71) and his wife Barb, recently celebrated their 40th wedding anniversary by traveling from Rome (Georgia) to Rome (Italy). Tom is still a great Buckeye fan, even though he is surrounded by people who constantly yell "How 'bout them Dawgs!?" from September through November.

1971 Charles Allyn Uniacke's (OD, MS'71, PhD'73) wife, Dr. Sue K. Hammersmith, was installed October 2 as the sixth president of Metropolitan State University in Saint Paul, Minnesota.



1978 James Thimons (OD '78) gave an outstanding guest lecture to our Opt IV class on October 21 entitled "Controversies in Anterior Segment Therapy." His first visit back in over thirty years to lecture at OSU was generously sponsored by Bausch and Lomb. He is the

Medical Director of TLC Laser Eye Center of Connecticut as well as the Medical Director for Ophthalmic Consultants of Connecticut. He served as the Director of the Glaucoma Institute at the State University of New York in 1998. Dr. Thimons has received many awards, including the

President's Award from the Connecticut Optometric Association; Special Recognition Award for Outstanding Service from the New Jersey Optometric Association; Distinguished Service Award from the New York State Optometric Association; and a Special Service Award from the American Optometric Association.

1981 Congratulations to **Jackie Davis (OD'81, MPH)** on receiving the Morton W. Silverman 2009 Outstanding Student Project Award (Vision Care Section) at the American Public Health Association convention for her Master's of Public Health project.

1984 On October 14, **Roger Filips (OD '84)** presented a wonderful guest lecture to the Opt IV class on "Interpretation of Visual Fields." Dr. Filips practices in Hartington, NE.

1990 Julie Long Miavez (OD '90) is a Captain in the United States Navy currently stationed in Key West, FL.

1999 David Roncone (OD '99) earned Diplomate status from the Section on Cornea, Contact Lenses, and Refractive Technologies of the American Academy of Optometry in November of 2009.

2001 Eric Ritchey (OD'01, MS'03) was selected as the 2009-2010 VISTA-KON® Ezell Fellow.

2003 Maj. Tara Jayne (OD'03), 15th Aeromedical-Dental Squadron optometrist, uses a slit lamp to determine the overall health of Senior Airman Matthew Brown's eyes (photo at right). She has spent more than eight years as an optometrist in the Air Force providing eye care and teaching people that wearing sunglasses can prevent cataracts later in life. Major Jayne, the only Air Force optometrist on Hickam Air Force Base, has been on five humanitarian trips to the Dominican Republic, Philippines and Thailand during her career. Her next assignment will take her to Europe and Ramstein Air Base, Germany.



Charlie Yu-Pan Lai.

2003 Nicky Lai (OD'03, MS'03) and Cara Frasco (OD'03, MS'03) are the proud parents of Charlie Yu-Pan Lai born on April 13, 2009. His Chinese name literally translates to "what the world has hoped and longed for."

2005 Massala Refell (OD'05) and Ravaughn Williams (OD'06) are in Texas and doing well. Massala reports that Kelaiah is growing up fast and thriving. Contact them at refell.1@gmail.com.

2007 Bradley Dougherty (OD,MS'07) was selected as the 2009-10 Merton C. Flom Ezell Fellow.



Tara Jayne (OD'03) and Senior Airman Matthew Brown. (U.S. Air Force photo by Staff Sgt. Mike Meares)



John Stehulak (OD/MS'07) with patients from Bulgaria.

2007 John Stehulak (OD/MS'07)

just returned from a deployment to Bulgaria as part of a primary health care team that delivered care to local, poor, rural villages. He described it as one of the best experiences of his life.

2008 Bradley J. Johnson (OD'08)

joined Pinnacle Eye Group in Lambertville, Ohio.

2008 Alumni Board member, **Stephanie Gutierrez (OD'08)** wed Kevin Baxter in a destination wedding in San Diego on July 25, 2009.



Stephanie Gutierrez (OD'08) on her wedding day.

In Memoriam

Theodore P. Grosvenor, BS-Optom '46, PhD'56

William J. Hamilton, OD'69

congratulations!

The following alumni became Fellows of the American Academy of Optometry in November of 2009:

Dawn Burgei (OD '04)
Jamie J. Casper (OD '04)
Gregory W. DeNaeyer (OD '98)
Brian T. Gerlach (OD '99)
Julie F. Henry (OD '99)
Erica D. Johnson Carder (OD '07)
Paul A. Kusy (OD '86)
Bethany S. Martinez (OD '04)
Michael S. Mayers (OD '03)
Jason R. Miller (OD '99)
Alison B. Palmer (OD '07)
Jennifer A. Palombi (OD '97)
Danielle N. Poole (OD '07)
Ann Marie Rudick (OD '07)

Today's Clinical Trials, Tomorrow's Clinical Practice

Current Opportunities for Pediatric and Binocular Vision Patients

You can help us answer important questions in vision care by referring potentially eligible children to the studies below. Please contact Dr. Kulp at 614-688-3336 or kulp.6@osu.edu for further information.

Research Project	Question	Who's Eligible?	Benefits
Amblyopia Treatment Study (ATS13)	Wearing glasses can improve anisometropic amblyopia. However, it is not known how often glasses will help strabismic or combined mechanism amblyopia. This study is trying to find this out.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children 3 to < 7 years Reduced visual acuity in one eye due to amblyopia Strabismus or history of strabismus No previous glasses wear or amblyopia treatment 	Glasses & follow-up visits
Amblyopia Treatment Study (ATS15)	What is the effect of increasing prescribed patching treatment from 2 to 6 hours daily after visual acuity has stopped improving with 2 hrs/day patching and amblyopia is still present?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children 3 to < 8 years 20/50 to 20/400 amblyopic eye 20/32 or better in good eye Currently undergoing no amblyopia therapy or 2hrs/patching a day ≤ 6wks of any amblyopia treatment (other than glasses or 2hrs/day patching) No history or simultaneous patching & atropine Maximum of 2hrs/day patching OR atropine qd in last 6 mo. 	Treatment visits and patches (glasses also can be provided through another study if this is a first time Rx or significant change)
Vision Therapy for Traumatic Brain Injury	This is a study to determine the effectiveness of commercially available computer based vision therapy for binocular and/or accommodative problems secondary to head trauma.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Patients ages 18-85 who have a history of head trauma and secondary binocular or accommodative problems 	HTS and PTS computer software, follow-up visits

Alumni News



Kurt DeVito (OD'89) with wife Michelle and sons Christopher and Thomas.



Marie (OD'93) and Todd Schiff with their children.

Dan Lowther, **Jerry Lowther (OD'67, MS'69, PhD'72)**, and **Robert Newcomb (OD'71, MPH)** at the tailgate party.



Welcome Back!

*Alumni Reunion Weekend
September 11 - 13, 2009*

Becky Little (OD'08), Jake Olding (OD'08), and Andrew Emch (OD/MS'08)

Jeff Myers (OD'84) and wife Joyce at the tailgate party.

Mike Raies (OD'89) and Mark Bullimore, MCOptom, PhD, entertained the alumni.

Alumni News

Ohio State's Alumni Reunion Weekend was held September 11 and 12, 2009. The University hosted reunions of all college's, departments and units. Optometry's events included a banquet on Friday evening, honoring Gerald Lowther, '66, '67, '69, & '70. Dr. Lowther was presented with the Distinguished Alumnus Award at the banquet.

On Saturday, across 10th Avenue from the College, alumni feasted on the flavors of Schmidt's and grooved to the tunes of Bad Habits. All of the Buckeyes were in Ohio Stadium to cheer the team on against USC. We'll get 'em next time! **Mark your calendars for next year: Sept. 3-5, 2010 (Ohio State vs. Marshall).**



Tim Staarmann (OD'85, MS'87)
and **Michelle Staarmann (OD'86)** with their children.



Alumni enjoying the tailgate party.



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