

OH-IO in Mamelodi, South Africa

fall 2010





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The Alumni Magazine is published by The Ohio State University Optometry Alumni & Friends.

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

on the cover

Jason Singh (OD'98), Phil Valentine (OD'65), LA Lossing ('11), and Anita Chitluri (OD'04) in South Africa.

Table of Contents



Letter from the Dean
Letter from the Alumni President 5
Letter from the Editor
Cover Story: Mamelodi, SA
Clinical Auxiliary Faculty12
College Diversity Update17
College News
Welcome Dinner20
Focus on DAC22
Focus on New Staff
2010 Myers' Lecturer
Dean Shipp APHA President-Elect .25
Distinguised Alumnus Award26
Mershon Award27
Alumni News

Mamelodi, South Africa pg. 7



Clinical Attendings pg. 12



Distinguished Alumnus Award pg. 26



Focus on Terry Daniel pg. 22

From the Dean

Dear Optometry Alumni and Friends:

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

As I reflect on the inspirational features of this issue, I am struck by the many opportunities for service that are available to all of us. There is, literally, a world of needs to fill and so many unique ways in which to fill them.

Jason Singh (OD'98), who started out practicing optometry in Mason, Ohio and has ended up practicing a world away in Mamelodi, South Africa, is an excellent example of heeding the call to serve regardless of where it takes you. His personal characteristics and professional skill set obviously combine in just the right way to fill a critical role on another continent uniquely designed for him.

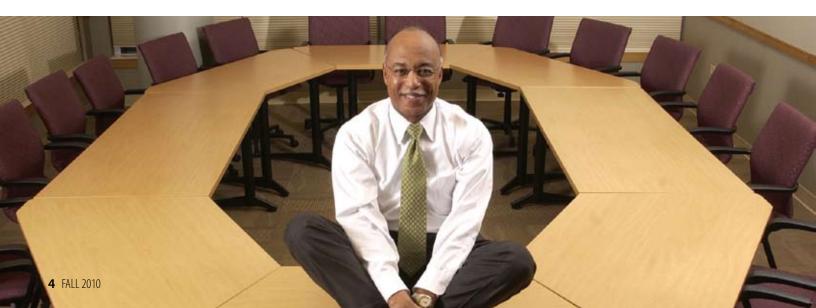
Our **clinical auxiliary faculty** play a critical role in both teaching our students and treating our patients that not everyone with an OD would be qualified or willing to undertake. They have found a niche in which to use their special combination of skills, and they do so with professionalism and enthusiasm. They represent an invaluable asset to our College and our profession.

Terry Daniel (OD'70), whose childhood experiences with an optometrist in Zanesville, Ohio influenced his decision to become an optometrist himself and practice approximately two-and one-half hours away (according to Mapquest) in Berea, Ohio, uniquely fulfills his call to serve. A committed, small-town optometrist, who is as much a friend to people as he is a doctor, decided to stay in Ohio and serve his fellow Buckeyes. He also continues to contribute to the College in unique and extraordinary ways.

A good problem to have is that there are far too many newsworthy accomplishments and inspiring individuals featured in this issue of our magazine to mention here. Please know that I am equally proud of them all as they serve their profession and community in ways only they can. I value their contributions and their friendship.

With warmest regards to you and the special people in your lives for an enjoyable and renewing holiday season,

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



From the President

Optometry Alumni and Friends (OAF) is very active in the fall, and here's a brief synopsis of what has been happening.

Our first event was the Welcome Dinner (pg. 20) after the first day of classes for the first year Optometry class. This event always energizes me to be around those "ODs- to- be." Also, I really enjoy the faculty as they semi-roast the students as they introduce them. Ohio State President E. Gordon Gee also makes an appearance for us (this year during the first-day orientation program) to help get things started and we are very appreciative of him to take the time to recognize our new students.

The highlight of the fall is Alumni Weekend (pgs. 26-29). Friday night was a very inspiring evening organized expertly again by Dr. Jeff Myers, Gayle Glanville, Dekunte Edwards and staff. Dr. Paul Gamertsfelder was honored this year for his call to serving others through mission work. Presentations of his achievements were given by Dr. Doug Wine, Dr. Jim Mason, and Dr. Doug McCloy. Thank you, gentlemen, for an unforgettable evening honoring your friend and mentor.

Bad Habits made themselves available to us again for the tailgate Saturday. I want to especially thank Michael Raies for doing the fundraising and work to get the band to our event. It is not an easy thing to do, but Mike's connection through Essilor made it happen. Thanks Mike. The surprise of the weekend was having Dean Emeritus Frederick Hebbard attend in honor of our 50th year class celebrating their reunion. It had been years since most of us had seen him. He looked very good and still knows where a lot of his previous students practice and the history behind a lot of those practices.

Another notable event is the Alumni Leadership Conference led by the Ohio State University Alumni Association. Dr. Stephanie Baxter and I attended on behalf of OAF. We learned a few new things and thoroughly enjoyed mingling and meeting other fanatical Buckeyes from other societies and clubs. Thanks Stephanie for giving up a day in your office and helping to represent Optometry. It's important for our presence to be known by OSUAA and you represent us very well.

Since I mentioned Dr. Baxter, let me also tell you that she and Dr. Terry Huston are working on making some changes to our website. Please check this out later at osuoaf.clubexpress.com. We are making progress in getting changes done, but Dr. Baxter has her work cut out for her in trying to get a couple of old, non-techie guys who are mired in their "daily routines" to get things done. I shouldn't say that of Dr. Huston as he does know this stuff very well, it's the other old guy, who would be me, who slows them down. But, in my defense, I did get a new droid phone which is a big step in my adventure with technology. Enjoy the rest of the fall season and upcoming holidays!!

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

Roger L. Saneholtz (OD'74) President, OSU Optometry Alumni & Friends



From the Editor

What Do You Bring to the Table?

People are as different as snowflakes. No two people are exactly the same. Each of us has different skills, talents, passions, and experiences that make us unique.

We see this in all facets of life. The person who is the package packer at the local UPS Store, or the barista at Starbucks, or the plumbing expert at Home Depot, or the chef at your favorite restaurant, or the firefighter, or the professional basketball player, is not the first choice for most people in getting counsel about vision care. Likewise, you probably don't have all the skills of these other folks. Sometimes, I think I am a plumbing expert, an opinion that is refuted by the number of trips to Home Depot needed to resolve a minor plumbing issue.

In this issue, we note a similar situation in the election of our Dean, Dr. Mel Shipp to the office of President-elect of the 50,000-member American Public Health Association (APHA), the first *optometrist* in the APHA's 138 year history to be so elected. Dr. Shipp's unique background, earning a MPH, and later a DrPH, in addition to an OD degree is rare within our profession. Having the experience of being a Pew Doctoral Fellow, as well as a Robert Wood Johnson Health Policy Fellow qualifies Dr. Shipp even more uniquely as an optometrist in the public health arena. He has been actively involved in the APHA on a national basis for the better part of 25 years. I would dare say, there is not an optometrist more uniquely qualified to serve as President of the APHA.

Even on the team of folks that create your BuckEYE magazine, we have people who are uniquely qualified to write creatively, as well as Kerri McTigue who does extraordinary graphic design work, and two folks with English degrees to catch the errors that I miss. Each member of our team brings his or her unique qualifications, his or her unique perspective, and his or her unique passion and talents to the table to form a cohesive team that makes this magazine unique on the campus of The Ohio State University and among optometry schools and colleges.

But what about you? What are your unique qualifications? Sure, you're an optometrist, but what other gifts do you bring to the table? Over the last decade or so, we have highlighted colleagues in this magazine who have extraordinary musical talent that they use to entertain, compete, or raise awareness. We have highlighted colleagues who are talented researchers within our profession, as well as industry leaders, and leaders in the profession, as academics and as servants in organizational optometry. Those that serve others philanthropically with vision care across the world have been highlighted. We have even shone the spotlight on a couple unique hobbies, including magic and model trains.

Your unique qualifications may fall along these lines or may be much more personal. Here's the question – how are you uniquely qualified to make this world a better place? Don't underestimate the impact of your abilities as an optometrist to improve the lives of people in need through better vision. But don't bury your other talents and abilities to make this world a better place for others. Sometimes, you are so uniquely qualified to do something, like care for another human being, that you are the only one who can do that something. Embrace that and live a life with purpose. Make the part of the world that you are in just a little better.

Jeffrey A. Myers (OD'84) BuckEYE Editor

Jeff's granddaughter Isla just reminding you what is important this holiday season.





From Mason to Mamelodi

by Jeffrey A. Myers (OD'84)

Dr. Jason Singh proudly wears his T-shirt, which was a gift from the college.



The informal settlements of Mamelodi, where Dr. Singh feels most called to work



The line for a recent eye clinic.

In 2004, Jason Singh, OD'98, was building a private practice in Mason, Ohio. He completed a residency in 1999 at the Cincinnati Eye Institute and worked there for five years after his residency. He had always wanted to do a short-term medical mission trip and did so that year. He traveled to Mamelodi, South Africa for 10 days providing vision care to 100 patients/day. The necessary eyewear was made in the US and sent to South Africa. As he left for the trip, he thought he was doing something he could scratch off his bucket list.

As time went on, he realized it was the beginning of a call to mission in Mamelodi.

In 2008, he did a medical SWAT trip, traveling with 20 people representing various specialties: dentistry, urology, pediatrics, nursing, as well as laypeople. The impact of that trip was seeing 1000 patients in a week. Following that trip, he considered how to effect a positive change there and felt the call to create a sustainable medical model in Mamelodi. A sustainable medical

photos from left to right: Dr. Singh's permanent clinic building L.A. Lossing ('11) in action in South Africa. Dr. Singh writes, "We helped this man receive cataract surgery so he could get his job as a taxi

driver back."



model means that professionals will be available on an ongoing basis, and that local people are trained to staff the facility. While there are still professionals who rotate through on short-term missions, a permanent professional staff is available.

His investigation of the area discovered 1.2 million people served by one lane of optometric equipment, which was only available in the Public Health Service. A community health survey of the inhabitants determined that the greatest desire for health care services was for vision care and dental services. Interestingly, two-thirds of the blindness in the area is a result of cataract.

While the world may view South Africa as a progressive nation on the African continent, Dr. Singh reports that it is really a third world country with pockets of first world riches. Only 14% of people in South Africa have private health care, but that 14% utilizes 70% of the health care dollars in the country. Over the last 20 years, the life expectancy has decreased from 70 to 47 years. In the same time, infant mortality has increased to 0.7% among the more affluent children and 6.7% among children in the township. Much of that mortality is the result of HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis.

In January 2009, Dr. Singh made some bold choices. He sold his practice (to **Ted Snyder (OD'95)**), his home, and his car. He reports that everything he owns in the US is in a 10x10 storage unit in Cincinnati. He married Amanda later that year. She had been to Mamelodi prior to meeting Jason. He took on the position as Executive Director for Engage Mamelodi, a medical partnership between Crossroads Church in Cincinnati and Charity & Faith Mission in Mamelodi, and moved with his wife to live and work fulltime in Mamelodi in June 2009.

Dr. Singh reports, "We also do medical and dental, except they eat the toothpaste sometime!"

His charge (or passion or call) is to create a sustainable health care delivery system in Mamelodi and to integrate it into the current health care system. One of the largest barriers to health care in the area is transportation. Through a clinic built in Mamelodi and satellite clinics in "squatter" communities, the vision is to take the clinics and health care services to the people who need it most. These squatter communities are all within a 3 mile radius of Mamelodi. But, in this area, where the most common form of transportation is feet, one mile might as well be 1000 miles when discussing the availability of health care. Sometimes, triaging patients for care means going into the squatter communities door-to-door to identify the neediest for care.

The Engage Mamelodi Base Clinic has two eye examination rooms, two dental examination rooms, and four medical examination rooms. The goal in 2011 is to bring a medical mission trip each month into Mamelodi, with medical and non-medical personnel to provide health care services. They welcome volunteers who want to come to the area to provide care.









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

Additionally, he is working on agreements to bring Family Medicine & Ophthalmology residents to the clinic from the Pretoria Medical School for rotations. OneSight, the benevolent arm of Luxottica, provided one of their global clinics in September 2010. OneSight also donated two labs of equipment to begin skill training, job creation & ultimately spectacle production. Dr. Singh is also looking to host US and South Africa-based optometry, dental, and medical students/residents in the future. His vision for an exclusive eye care center includes 4-6 examination rooms, a lens finishing lab, and two surgical suites. There is also a plan for an oral surgery center,

and they are creating a community health worker training program to help create the sustainability of the clinics.

LA Lossing ('11), a fourth-year student at The Ohio State University College of Optometry, traveled to Mamelodi for a 10-day visit with Dr. Singh this fall. She was there for the OneSight event and joined 13 other doctors and 50 international volunteers (20 from Crossroads Church) in examining patients. The goal was to examine 10,000 patients in eight clinic days over two weeks. In the four clinic days that she joined them, they were on target, seeing 5070 patients.





Patients needing follow-up care were referred to Dr. Singh at the clinic. Acute cases were directly referred to the hospital.

She also had the opportunity to do a few home visits, as part of their community health program, seeing HIV/AIDS patients. She was joined by two nurses in providing medications, food packages, reading glasses and sunglasses. She describes the experience as a wonderful way to see an extensive patient volume of excellent patient experiences. She hopes to return to Mamelodi for a more extended period of time soon after graduation. The College is planning on using the site as a 13-week extern rotation next year.

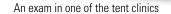
Dr. Singh has taken some real risk in attempting to address the vision care needs of a part of the world in great need. Unlike many who have done short-term visits to various parts of the world, he has moved to the area and made a substantial commitment to make a difference. He is looking to provide the area with a sustainable health care delivery system for the future. Dr. Singh maintains a blog on the website www. engagemamelodi.org and can be reached via email at jason@ engagemamelodi.org . He would welcome emails and visits from mission teams. Continued blessings, Dr. Singh.

(photos from left to right)

Another satisfied customer! First pair and look at the minus!

Dr. Singh with the US ambassador to SA in his clinic







Dr. Shilpa Register performing an eye exam with Opt III student Peter Fong ('12) looking on.

The full-time clinical auxiliary faculty of the College of Optometry participate in a variety of clinical responsibilities that contribute both to the education of our students and the health care of our community. They also participate in didactic courses, laboratories, and research. The members of our full-time clinical auxiliary faculty include: Drs. Dawn Burgei, Andrew Emch, Julia Geldis, Nicky Lai, Anu Laul, Joan Nerderman, Shilpa Register, Andrew Toole, and Aaron Zimmerman.

(photos left to right)

Dr. Zimmerman with Amber Colling (OD'10)

Dawn Burgei, OD Chief, Ocular Disease Service

Dawn Burgei (OD'04) is a Clinical Assistant Professor and Chief of the Ocular Disease Service. In 1998 she earned an Associate Degree at Owens Community College of Toledo in Applied Science of Optometric/Ophthalmic Technology. From 1998-2000, she completed pre-optometry course work at Bowling Green State University. She earned her O.D. from OSU in 2004. Following graduation, she completed residency training at the Chillicothe VAMC and Columbus VAOPC. In both 2008 and 2009 she was awarded the Epsilon Psi Epsilon Michael Polasky Award for Outstanding Clinical Instructor. Her clinical research includes projects



for Bausch & Lomb and studying the effects of prostaglandins on corneal biomechanics. Her teaching assignments include teaching in the diagnostic techniques and ocular disease courses, developing cases for the Keystone courses, and serving as a facilitator in the Keystone courses. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Optometry and serves as the advisor for the student Lions Club.

Andrew Emch, OD, MS Clinical Attending, Primary Vision Care

Andrew Emch (OD/MS'08) is a Clinical Attending in the Primary Vision Care, Contact Lens, and Ocular Disease Services. His teaching assignments include teaching in the contact lens laboratories and being a Research Optometrist in the OSU Contact Lens and Tear Film Laboratory. He earned his B.S. (Vision Science, 2006), M.S. (Vision Science, 2008), and O.D. (2008) degrees from OSU, and was selected Graduate of the Year for the Class of 2008 and Outstanding Ocular Disease Extern. Additionally, he was also an AOF Carl Zeiss Vision Fellowship recipient in 2007. Following graduation, he participated in a one-year Cornea and Contact



Lens Residency at the University of California Berkeley in 2008-2009. His master's thesis was entitled "Comparison of Protein Extraction from Silicone Hydrogel Lens Materials and Care Solutions," which he published in *Optometry and Vision Science*. His community service includes being a volunteer for Student Volunteers for Optometric Service to Humanity (SVOSH), and he has gone on trips to Guatemala and Nicaragua. He is a Fellow in the American Academy of Optometry. Dr. Emch's hobbies include exercise (biking, basketball, tennis), travel, juggling, and spending time at the lake with family. His father, John Emch, is a 1976 graduate from The Ohio State University College of Optometry.





Julia Geldis, OD, MS

Chief, Wilce Student Health Center

Julia Geldis (OD'05, MS'07) is a Clinical Assistant Professor and Chief of the Wilce Student Health Center Optometry Services. She earned her B.S. (Biological Sciences, 2001), O.D. (2005), and M.S. (Vision Science, 2007) degrees from OSU. Following graduation, she also completed a Cornea and Contact Lens Fellowship at OSU in 2007 and served as a Clinical Attending in the Contact Lens Service and Primary Vision Care Service. Her teaching assignments have included teaching in the contact lens laboratories, organizing Specialty Contact Lens Workshops, and providing presentations on contact lens fitting for astigmatism and management of dry eye and ocular surface

disease. She is a Fellow in the American Academy of Optometry. As an optometry student, she was president of Student Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity (SVOSH), secretary for the Fellowship of Christian Optometrists (FCO), secretary for Epsilon Psi Epsilon, a member of Student Council and AOSA, and a Lion's Club member. In the last few years she has served as Trustee and Treasurer for Zone 12 of the Ohio Optometric Association. Currently, she serves on the Optometry Expert Panel for NetWellness Internet Consumer Health Information. Her husband, Peter, and she have a 17-month-old daughter, Zoe. Dr. Geldis is working on improving her knowledge of the Greek language, and she enjoys trying new restaurants, relaxing in coffee shops, and spending time with family and friends.



Nicky Lai, OD, MS Chief, Contact Lens Service

Nicky Lai (OD/MS'03) is a Clinical Associate Professor and Chief of the Contact Lens Service. While he earned his B.S. (Biology, 1998) at the University of California Los Angeles, his M.S. in Vision Science, O.D., and Clinical Residency in Cornea and Contact Lens were all completed at OSU. His clinic assignments include serving as Chief of the Wilce Student Health Center Optometry Services (2004-2007) and Clinical Attending in the Primary Vision Care and Binocular Vision and Pediatric Services. His master's thesis project was entitled "Effects of Simulated Background and Attention on Two-Dimensional Target Tracking." Additionally, his research has also included work as

co-investigator for randomized clinical trials to compare soft contact lens designs and materials. He is a fellow of the American Academy of Optometry and has contributed to didactic and laboratory teaching, particularly in the contact lens courses. Dr. Lai and his wife, **Cara Frasco (OD/MS'03)**, have a son, Charlie.



Anu Laul, OD

Chief, Primary Vision Care Service

Associate Chief, Ocular Disease Service

Anu Laul is a Clinical Assistant Professor and Chief of the Primary Vision Care Service and Associate Chief of the Ocular Disease Service. After he earned his B.S. in 2003 from the University of Waterloo, he earned his O.D. in 2007 from the Michigan College of Optometry at Ferris State University. Following graduation, he participated in a one-year residency in Ocular Disease and Ocular Surgery Co-management at Ophthalmic Consultants of Boston, 2007-2008. His primary research is working on a project funded by Vistakon on the assessment of daily disposable silicone hydrogel lens wear in

neophytes. Additionally, he is also involved in studies of dry eye in menopause, the efficacy of azithromycin ophthalmic solution in blepharitis and contact lens-related dry eye, and contact lens safety in children. Dr. Laul was born and raised in Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

Joan Nerderman, RN, OD Chief, Faith Mission Eye Clinic Clinical Assistant Professor

Joan Nerderman's (OD'86) first career was as a registered nurse, having earned her degree from Mount Carmel School of Nursing in 1977. She served as a nursing inservice coordinator and shift hospital supervisor at OSU Medical Center, Doctor's Hospital North, and Warrensburg Community Hospital in Missouri. Upon receiving her O.D., she opened her own office in Marion, Ohio and also practiced in medical and family vision care practices. Currently, she coordinates the operation of the OSU Outreach Eye Clinic at Faith Mission, a homeless shelter in Columbus, Ohio.



She provides residents with comprehensive eye exams, treats eye disease, and supplies glasses through a partnership with Select Optical at no cost to the patients. In her tenth year at Faith Mission, she sees 3,000 patients a year, providing excellent patient care and education of OSU optometry students on the effects of uncontrolled systemic diseases, street drugs, and domestic violence. Home visits with Robert Newcomb (OD'71, MPH), are a priority for Dr. Nerderman, as she helps him work through a six month patient backlog.

In addition, she works part-time at Med West Eye Care with Dr. Mike Weber in Westerville, where she does comprehensive family vision care, contact lens fitting, and treatment of anterior segment diseases. She is Medical Director of the Preschool Vision Screening through Save Our Sight, a guest speaker for RealEyes, member of the Ohio Association of Free Clinic Board, and has provided classes on the effects street drugs and domestic violence on optometric patients. Her daughter joins her to volunteer at Pets without Parents, an animal shelter, and they currently own two dogs, two cats, and two turtles. A plaque on the wall at Faith Mission indicates her philosophy in life: "The purpose of life is a life of purpose." She feels her purpose professionally is to be at Faith Mission with the externs and provide vision care to those who cannot receive care otherwise.

Shilpa Register, OD, MS Associate Clinical Professor

Shilpa Register was recently promoted to Associate Clinical Professor. She teaches in the clinics and laboratories, while working on a Ph.D. in Higher Education and Student Affairs in the College of Education and Human Ecology at OSU. She earned her B.S. (Natural Science, 1997), M.S. (Vision Science, 2000), and O.D. degrees from the University of Alabama at Birmingham. Prior to coming to OSU, she was an Assistant Professor at Southern College of Optometry in Memphis, Tennessee, where she served as Chief of Low Vision and Rehabilitative Service and Residency Supervisor and taught coursework and laboratories. From 2004-2006, she was an



Assistant Professor at New England College of Optometry, where she served as Chief of Primary Care Services at the New England Eye Institute and taught coursework and laboratories. Her professional involvment includes being a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry and Diplomate Candidate for both the Optometric Education and Primary Care sections. She has published articles on interprofessional professionalism, optometric education, gender trends and diversity in optometry, and screening in underserved communities. She has two sons, William (age 8) and Ketan (age 6). While she enjoys drawing, painting, and playing chess, she admits that she has not had too much time for these activities since starting work on her Ph.D.



Andrew Toole, OD, PhD
Clinical Assistant Professor
Research Scientist

Andrew Toole (OD'97, PhD'08) is both a Clinical Assistant Professor and a Research Scientist. He did his undergraduate work in physics at The Ohio State University, and he also earned his O.D. (1997), M.S. (Vision Science, 2000), and Ph.D. (Vision Science, 2008) from OSU, where he also did a Residency in Pediatrics & Binocular Vision (1997-1999). His clinic assignments include being Associate Chief of Pediatrics, Binocular Vision, and Aniseikonia Services. His current research includes a project on the influence of higher order aberrations on visual performance for the Naval Refractive Surgery Center.

Additionally, he served as a Vision Therapist and Back-up Masked Examiner for the Convergence Insufficiency Treatment Trial (CITT), as a Nott/MEM Tester for the Correction of Myopia Evaluation Trial 2, as a Masked Visual Acuity Tester for the Amblyopia Treatment Study, and as a Gold Standard Examiner in the Vision In Preschoolers Study (VIP). He has provided presentations on aniseikonia, diplopia, phoria adaptation, and has demonstrated infant examination procedures that can be used in InfantSee examinations. He is a Moderator for the Eye and Vision section of Netwellness and and Expert Consultant for Netwellness Ask an Expert, and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry. As an optometry student, he was President of SVOSH. His wife, Holly, works as an audiologist, and they have two sons, Lucas (age 9) and Nicholas (age 6). They are busy working on their new home in Carroll, Ohio.



Aaron Zimmerman, OD, MS
Associate Chief, Contact Lens Service
Clinical Attending

Aaron Zimmerman (OD'06, MS'08), Clinical Assistant Professor, serves as Associate Chief of the Contact Lens Service and is a clinical attending for several other services: Binocular Vision and Pediatrics, Primary Vision Care, Ocular Disease, and Student Health Center. He earned his B.S. (Biology, 2002), O.D. (2006), and M.S. (Vision Science, 2008) degrees at The Ohio State University and participated in a two-year Advanced Practice Fellowship in Binocular Vision and Pediatrics. His research interests include having been

a Masked Examiner for the Convergence Insufficiency Treatment Trial (CITT) Study, and he has participated in sports vision and binocular vision research. He is currently advising on a study of gaze error with induced blur. He has been a guest lecturer in several of the courses of the optometry curriculum and has taught in several labs, including binocular vision, color vision, and optics. In 2010, his teaching was recognized with the Epsilon Psi Epsilon Michael Polasky Award for Clinical Instruction. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry and Trustee for the Central Ohio Optometric Association. His wife, Amanda, is a speech therapist for Columbus Speech and Hearing, and they have a 17-month-old son, Clayton. Aaron enjoys golfing, and riding his bike.





I-DOC this past August.

I-DOC

Increasing Diversity of Optometric Careers (I-DOC) took place on August 2-4 this year and attracted 10 college undergraduate and 10 high school students. The broad goal of I-DOC is to increase the diversity of eye care practitioners in order to help provide comprehensive eye care to a diverse patient population in the United States. The objective of the I-DOC Program is to introduce talented minority students to the profession of optometry and impress upon them the importance of diversity in health care professions. The threeday curriculum introduced participants to coursework and hands-on experience in eye care and vision.

Students dissecting a cow's eye at I-DOC.

This is the third year of the program, and in January, 2010 the College received funding from Vision Service Plan (VSP) for \$13,695/year to support the program for three more years.

Participants shadowed Columbus area optometrists, observed students and had eye exams in the College clinics, and were taken on tours of the College and campus. The local optometrists who opened their practices to the I-DOC program this year included Drs. James Albright (OD'76), James Bieber (OD'68), Adrienne Chatters, Todd Clark (OD'98), Heather Gebhart (OD'99), Bridget Hermann (OD'04), Clayton Hicks (OD'70), Sylvia Jones (OD/MS'06), Jennifer Mattson (OD'06), Greg Nixon (OD'96), Stephen Schnulo (OD'90), Ted Smiley, and Lamar Zigler (OD'81).

Saori Choulos of VSP provided a workshop on diversity in optometry. One student was surprised to learn that the percent of African-American optometrists had only increased from 1.6% in 1999 to 1.8% in 2009. She commented that this was unacceptable, and it inspired her to become an optometrist.

Karen Riccio (OD'82) discussed her career, including what a typical day in her practice is like and how it has changed through the years. She pointed out that optometrists have many career options, and she has taken advantage of many of those options throughout her career.

A mock admissions interview, financial aid discussion, information about the application process, and awareness of campus resources rounded out the experience. NOSA students provided a student panel to answer participants' questions and kept participants busy with social activities in the evenings.

Activities of NOSA

The Ohio State University chapter of the National Optometric Student Association (NOSA) was established in 1990. Its purposes are to recruit minority students into optometry, provide support to minority optometry students, and contribute to the efforts of NOA. Among the chapter activities are social activities, meeting with central Ohio minority optometrists in their offices, welcome events for incoming minority students, seminars on career options, participation in vision screenings at health fairs, educational and recruitment presentations to school clubs and classrooms by NOSA members, contributions by NOSA members to the ongoing recruitment efforts of the College of Optometry, and participation in I-DOC. NOSA students have also taken an interest in enhancing the diversity page of the web site and have contributed to the production of videos. NOSA advisors, Drs. Jackie Davis (OD'81, MPH) and Vondolee Delgado-Nixon, PhD, are members of the Diversity Enhancement Committee.



2010 attendees of the I-DOC program.

Web Video Clips

VSP has agreed to provide funding, personnel, and technical support to produce video clips for the diversity page of the College web site. This summer, Media Source filmed footage of the I-DOC activities and interviews with Dean Mel Shipp, Jackie Davis (OD'81, MPH), Vondolee Delgado-Nixon, PhD, Gil Pierce (OD'89, PhD'94), and several students, including Linda Nguyen, Jolyn Tran, and Yuki Oda.

NCBI

The first-year students participated in National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI) workshops on September 22 and 24. These prejudice-reduction workshops are designed to promote awareness and increase sensitivity to the many similarities and differences among individuals and groups in our society. The workshops help students in attitudes assessment so that they can identify the thoughts and stereotypes they have that can influence patients care. The NCBI workshops have become part of the professional program curriculum in cultural competence.

Diversity Dialogues Welcome Dinner

The incoming first-year students of diversity were welcomed at the new student union on September 27. Members of the College administration, the Diversity Enhancement Committee, NOSA, and area optometrists participated in a reception and dinner. This was an opportunity for the incoming students to meet upperclassmen, faculty, and staff and to demonstrate the concern of the College in providing a welcoming environment for all students.



Dr. Pierce with Rick Cornett (left), Sally Haltom (middle), and Karla Zadnik (right) at the reception.

✓ollege administrators, faculty, staff and students gathered together on Friday evening, October 1, at the OSU Faculty Club to celebrate Gil Pierce's (OD '89, MS '92, PhD '94) 2009-2010 term as President of the Ohio Optometric Association. Another OSU optometry alumnus, Heath Gilbert (OD '92) assumed the 2010-2011 OOA Presidency at the 2010 EastWest Eye Conference in Cleveland on October 9.

Congratulatory remarks were provided by Dean Mel Shipp, OOA Executive Director Richard Cornett, and many other faculty, staff, and students. During Dr. Pierce's term as OOA president, he maintained a steady hand on the rudder of the OOA's ship as he masterfully steered the organization

through the profession's controversial storms of board certification and health care reform, among many other issues. Through it all, he kept the membership together, informed, and energized.

Although all current OSU optometry faculty are members of the OOA - and many serve in other OOA leadership positions - only two previous full-time OSU faculty members have served as OOA president: Herbert Mote (MS'38) in 1948-1950 and **Bradford Wild (BS-Optom '59, PhD '59)** in 1966-1967.

Thank you, Dr. Pierce, for your outstanding leadership!



The Welcome Dinner for the Class of 2014 was held on Wednesday September 22nd at the OSU Faculty Club. Members of the new class were warmly welcomed by faculty, staff, and student leaders. Special guests included Alumni and Friends President Dr. Roger Saneholtz, OOA Secretary-Treasurer Dr. Don Faimon, and Student Council president Alex Nixon, who provided words of wisdom and inspiration to the newest members of the OSU Optometry community.

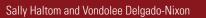
University President Gordon Gee made time in his busy schedule to stop by and provide enthusiastic greetings to the class during their orientation program on Monday September 20th. As one of the members of the new class said afterward, "I can see why he was ranked as the best college president in the U.S.!"

As always, the College extends sincere thanks to Alumni and Friends for their generous sponsorship of these important student welcome events



Lindsey Neilan, Justine Christiaanse, Barbara Rowlands, Dean Shipp, Ellen Clines, and Lauren Haverly

Mandy Krug ('12), Justin Mays ('12), and Mallory Kuchem ('12)



Stephanie Palmer and Rachel Sharrock







College News: Focus on DAC

Dean's Advisory Council Member Highlight: Terry Daniel, OD



n the Spring of 2008, Dean Melvin Shipp established a Dean's Advisory Council (DAC). The council members' primary purpose is to offer their collective professional insight and business acumen to assist Dean Shipp as he leads the College's response to the ever-changing needs of students, faculty, staff, and the community.

In recognition of their personal and professional experiences and achievements, and their capacity to influence constituencies and stakeholders, Dean Shipp appointed 14 members to serve on the inaugural DAC. One of the members is **Terry E. Daniel (OD'70)**.

Dr. Daniel has been in private practice in Berea, Ohio since 1972 with his wife **Shirley Rohl Daniel (OD'70)** who passed away in 2006. He now practices with his daughter **Jennifer Hastings Daniel (OD'05)** and son-in-law **Jonathan Engle (OD'05)**.

Dr. Daniel went into optometry because of the influence of his family's optometrist in Zanesville, Ohio, where he was raised. Forrest Baillie (BS'51, OD'76) was very well respected in the community and possessed a knack for making his patients feel like family. "He made you feel like you were the most important patient of the day. Shirley made people feel that same way," recalled Dr. Daniel. He credits wife Shirley and mentor Dr. Bailey with helping him learn how to impart that same sense of significance and caring when interacting with his patients today. "I enjoy getting to know our patients, and they really do become more than patients; they become friends. I feel a sense of satisfaction in taking care of their visual needs and, sometimes, just listening when they need someone to talk to. It is very gratifying when we find some condition which could be sight- threatening or life- threatening and get them the appropriate care."

In addition to maintaining his busy practice, Dr. Daniel is also involved in other aspects of the optometry profession. One of those areas is academia. He serves as an adjunct faculty member of The Ohio State University College of Optometry, the Illinois College of Optometry, and the Case Western Reserve School of Medicine, Department of Ophthalmology. He finds it very gratifying to see the growth of optometry students and/or optometry residents after they are taught in



Terry Daniel pictured with his family at Will's wedding: Terry, Shirley, Will, Jennifer, and Terry

the optometry program at the Louis B. Stokes VA Medical Center, where he has served as a staff optometrist since 1984.

Another area of involvement is that of industry. For the past 28 years, he has served in various board positions with Vision Service Plan of Ohio (VSP). Since the merger of VSP Ohio and VSP California, he has served as a State Professional Representative for Ohio to the national VSP organization. He was appointed by the Chairman of the Board of VSP to serve on several board committees in 2008 and 2009. He explains that this gives him "another opportunity to help my profession not only survive but thrive in this very competitive environment. I believed when I started with VSP and I believe today, that VSP is important for optometry."

Very much a family man, Dr. Daniel takes great pride in the fact that his children have all followed in his and his wife's footsteps as health care professionals. Oldest son **William R. Daniel (OD '02)** is a VA staff doctor at the New Philadelphia Community Based Outpatient Clinic. He and wife Gretchen have two children, Emmy and Chase. Second oldest son (born 5 minutes after Will) is Terry L. Daniel (BS, Business, '95). He is a periodontist who practices in Columbus. Next is daughter Jennifer who, along with son-in-law Jonathan, is expecting a baby girl in January.

Welcome to the College of Optometry, Kevin Guckes

Kevin Guckes, Research Assistant for Drs. Angela Brown, Del Lindsey, and Kathryn Richdale, as well as College Photographer, joined the College of Optometry in September 2009.

Kevin has a BA in psychology and studio art, with an emphasis in photography, from Kenyon College ('06). He holds an MA in psychology from Ohio State ('09). Originally from Cleveland, Ohio, he became interested in both psychology and photography in high school as he pondered the question, "What is it that makes art art?" While pursuing his graduate degree, he studied with Dr. James T. Todd in the Department of Psychology, focusing on psychology and visual perception. It was then that he began working with Dr. Lindsey (Dr. Angela Brown's collaborator and husband), which made Kevin an obvious choice when Dr. Lindsey and Dr. Brown were looking for research assistance. Another contributing factor to his fit with Drs. Lindsey and Brown's research with small children is his experience as a nanny. For ten years, from approximately 8th grade through his sophomore year in college, Kevin worked as a nanny.

In addition to his responsibilities in the College, Kevin also has his own photography business (www.wix.com/kmguckes/ kevinguckesartworks). He primarily photographs weddings but also does freelance photography work and graphic design. He, in fact, won an award for his graphic design of the front



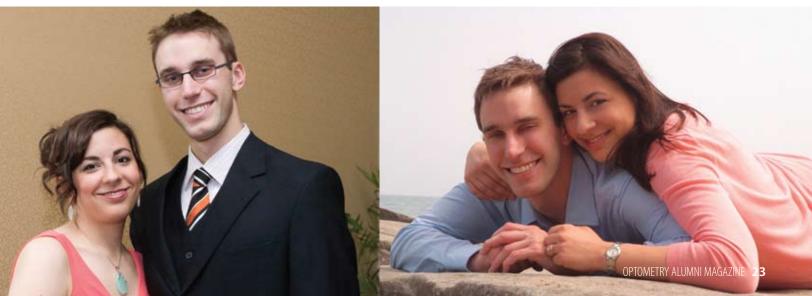
Kevin Guckes, BA, MA

cover for a book of abstracts for a vision sciences society conference. He also coaches the ultimate Frisbee team at Bexley High School.

Before coming to Optometry, Kevin worked as a barista at Caribou Coffee. One of his regular customers became his fiancé and, this past October, his wife, Lana Momani.

Congratulations, Kevin, and a belated welcome aboard!

(below) Kevin and wife Lana



2010 Myers Lecturer: Mitchell M. Scheiman, OD, FAAO, FCOVD

Mitchell M. Scheiman, O.D., FAAO, FCOVD serves as Chief of the Pediatric & Binocular Vision Service and Professor of Optometry at The Eye Institute of the Pennsylvania College of Optometry at Salus University.

Dr. Scheiman is a Diplomate in Binocular Vision, Vision Perception and Pediatrics in the American Academy of Optometry and a Fellow in the College of Optometrists in Vision Development. He has served on many national committees for the American Optometric Association and the American Academy of Optometry and serves on the editorial board of several journals. He has published over 100 journal articles and has written four textbooks.

Among Dr. Scheiman's most notable achievement is his position as Chair of the Convergence Insufficiency Treatment Trial (CITT) since 2004. The Convergence Insufficiency Treatment Trial (CITT) was the first large scale, randomized clinical trial to investigate the effectiveness of vision therapy and required collaboration of almost 100 investigators from multiple sites, including both optometrisys and ophthalmologists. His presentation, The Convergence Insufficiency Treatment Trial: "The Rest of the Story," is designed to discuss the challenges and lessons learned, both clinical and political, from the initial planning stages through the publication of the primary outcome manuscript.

The Jeffrey and Joyce Myers Lecture Series has been established through a generous gift from Dr. Jeffrey and Mrs. Joyce Myers. Their intent is to sponsor one lecture per academic



Jeffrey A Myers (OD'84), lecture honoree Dr. Mitch Scheiman, and Joyce Myers

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.

Dr. Scheiman talking with Dr. Don Mutti, **Bob Kress ('12),** and **Omar Sweidan ('12)**

Members of CITT: Kathy Reuter (0D'89), Tracy Kitts, Marjean Taylor Kulp (0D'91, MS'93), Dr. Scheiman, Lynn Mitchell, and Andy Toole (0D'97, PhD'08) at the reception.



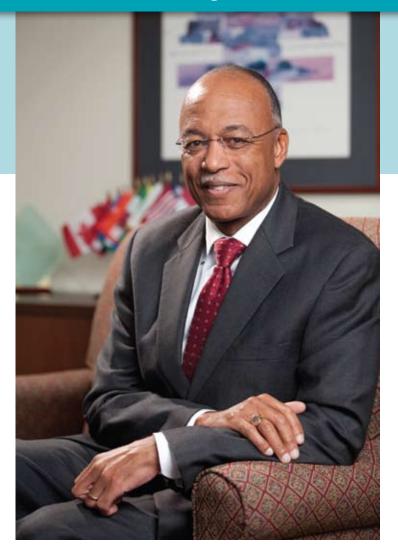


Dean Shipp is President-Elect of the American Public **Health Association**

Dean Melvin D. Shipp was named President-Elect of the American Public Health Association (APHA) on November 9 at the organization's annual meeting in Denver. The APHA is the oldest and largest organization of public health professionals in the world, representing more than 50,000 members from over 50 occupations of public health. Dean Shipp, who holds both a Master's of Public Health (MPH) degree from Harvard and a Doctor of Public Health (DrPH) degree from the University of Michigan, has been an APHA member for over 25 years.

Having served as our Dean since 2004, he has also made significant contributions to the American Optometric Association, the American Academy of Optometry, the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry, the US Food and Drug Administration, the US Health Resources and Services Administration, the National Eye Institute, and Prevent Blindness America in addition to the APHA. In 2006, he co-chaired a diverse working group of nationallyrecognized health policy experts in vision and eye health that was established by the US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). That group wrote the landmark policy paper "Improving the Nation's Vision Health: A Coordinated Public Health Approach" (available at http://www.cdc.gov/ visionhealth/pdf/improving_nations_vision_health.pdf).

The APHA has had a small (less than 200 members) Vision Care section since 1979, but Dean Shipp is the first optometrist to ever serve as President-Elect of the APHA's entire 50,000+ membership. His service to APHA will be for the next three years: one as President-Elect, one as President, and one as Immediate Past President. Congratulations Dean Shipp! The college, The Ohio State University, and the optometric profession are proud of your outstanding accomplishment!!



"This appointment underscores Dean Shipp's contributions to the broader field of public health and welfare. His knowledge, keen judgement and leadership are assets of immeasurable worth to OSU. Well done!"

Susan Quinn (OD'82)



Distinguished Alumnus: Paul Gamertsfelder



Paul Gamertsfelder (BS'54), with his wife Ruth, accepts his award from Alumni President **Roger Saneholtz (OD'74)**.

During the college's alumni weekend September 10-11, Dr. Paul W. Gamertsfelder, Class of 1954, was honored by Optometry Alumni and Friends with their 2010 Distinguished Alumni Award for extraordinary service to his patients, his profession, his country, and humanity.

After his graduation, he established a very successful practice on the east side of Columbus. In addition to serving his patients, he also served his profession as a part-time clinic instructor at the College for many years. And for 28 years, he served his country in the US Naval Reserve, ultimately achieving the officer rank of Commander.

In 1968, he began his work as a missionary in the Church of the Nazarene and over the next four decades led hundreds of others to missionary work in improverished countries such as Haiti, Guatemala, Thailand, Republic of South Africa, Kenya, Zambia, and Costa Rica (where he examined patients in prison), among many others.

Dr. Gamertsfelder, affectionately known in his church as "Dr. Paul," has impacted the lives of thousands worldwide for over 40 years of outstanding missionary work. His extraordinary efforts in the mission field will be commemorated by the Dr. Paul Gamertsfelder Mission Centre (GMC), a facility that will house vision, medical, and dental services in Frome, Jamaica, which opened in November of 2010.

Congratulations Dr. Paul W. Gamertsfelder on a lifetime of serving others! You are a wonderful living example of OSU's motto *Disciplina in civitatem*: Education for citizenship.

Dr. Paul with his family-Sam Barber, Kirsten Borne, Jill Barber, Ruth Gamertsfelder, **Dr. Paul Gamertsfelder**, Thomas Gamertsfelder, Adria Schumann, Kathy Gamertsfelder, Brad Schumann

> Doug McCloy (OD'95), Jim Mason (OD'72), Dr. Paul, Douglas Wine (OD'87), and Sam Barber at the reception.

> > **26** FALL 2010

Mershon Award: Roger Saneholtz, OD

The President of Optometry Alumni & Friends, Roger Saneholtz (OD'74), won the 2010 Ralph Davenport Mershon Award from The Ohio State Alumni Association. The Mershon award is presented to alumni who have demonstrated exceptional leadership and service to The Ohio State University, as symbolized by the exceptional volunteer work of its namesake, who was largely responsible for the Alumni Association's beginnings as an organized force for the university.

As a board member of The Ohio State University Optometry Alumni & Friends Society for nearly 20 years, Roger Saneholtz has dedicated himself to the long haul of volunteer work, literally and figuratively.

During his tenure, Saneholtz has made countless seven-hour round trips from Montpelier, Ohio, to Columbus to attend OAF board meetings, all at his own expense. It is just one testament to his continued dedication to promote, support, and organize the group.

Following his graduation from Ohio State, Saneholtz served for three years in the US Air Force, providing vision care to his compatriots. After his military service, he began practicing in the small town of Montpelier, where he became a trusted professional and a mentor to students interested in optometry and other programs at Ohio State.

Saneholtz joined the OAF in 1991 and served as treasurer from 1992 until his election as president in 2006. When he began his work as treasurer, OAF operated under the federal identification number of the Alumni Association. However, because the Association did not oversee OAF's assets, the society had to disband and regroup, donating approximately \$65,000 to Ohio State's Foundation.

During this challenging period, Saneholtz oversaw the society's finances, suggested the current name, applied for a new federal ID number to secure tax-exempt status, and initiated a requirement to file federal tax returns. He also was instrumental in building OAF's balance sheet from zero in 1995 to more than \$228,000 in 2009.

With OAF's increased funding, Saneholtz directed the group's contributions to various Ohio State functions, including the



Joy, Brent, Jane, Roger Saneholz (OD'74), Austin Saneholtz (OD'08), and Christy Hand.

"I have seen several alumni who distinguish themselves through leadership and service to their colleges and Ohio State as an integral part of their own careers. Dr. Saneholtz ranks among the best of them."

John Schoessler, OD'66, PhD'71 Dean Emeritus

convocation for graduating seniors, the welcome dinner for first-year students, and the white coat ceremony for first-year students transitioning to patient care. He also worked on alumni receptions, the spring open house, the pre-optometry club, and the dean's student support fund.

Most notably, under Saneholtz's direction, OAF was a significant contributor to the College of Optometry's Raise the Roof Campaign for major renovations. In September 2009, the group fulfilled its \$50,000 pledge to the campaign.

Saneholtz was honored with the Alumni Association's Outstanding Society Leader Award in 2008. Aside from his work with OAF, he is one of the leading donors to the college. For more than 15 years, he has served as an Ohio State Advocate, attending annual meetings and writing letters of support to state representatives.

John Schoessler, Dean and Professor Emeritus, originally recommended Saneholtz as an Advocate. He considers Roger a model of integrity and an ideal representative of Ohio State.

"I have seen several alumni who distinguish themselves through leadership and service to their colleges and Ohio State as an integral part of their own careers. Dr. Saneholtz ranks among the best of them," Schoessler said.



Alumni Reunion Weekend September 3-5, 2010

Dean Emeritus Fredrick Hebbard, OD, PhD

surprised the alumni with a visit.

Pictured with Bob Gradisek (OD'75) (above) and John Archer (OD'75) (directly above) at the tailgate party. **28** FALL 2010

Shery Dollenmayer ('94), Steve Shroder (OD'92), and Kim Shroder

The Bad Habits: Michael Rais (OD'89), Kenny Kuhn (OD'89), Pat Dollenmayer ('91).

Rich Marquardt (OD'97), Cathy Marquardt, John Archer (OD'75), and Cheryl Archer (OD'84).

Approximately 300 people attended Alumni Weekend 2010 on campus. The Friday evening banquet honored Dr. Paul Gamertsfelder. Dr. Paul has impacted the lives of thousands worldwide through fifty years of outstanding service to the profession and more than fifty years of mission work. His extraordinary efforts in the mission field were commemorated by the Dr. Paul Gamertsfelder Mission Centre (GMC), a facility that will house vision, medical, and dental services in Frome, Jamaica. We celebrated Dr. Paul's achievements and awarded him the Distinguished Alumnus Medal.

On Saturday before the big game against University of Miami, we held a tailgate sponsored by Essilor and Vision Source. We were entertained by Bad Habits, the Eye Docs of Rock. Special guests in attendance included members of the class of 1960 who were celebrating their 50th class reunion and Dr. Fred Hebbard, dean emeritus. A great time was had by all!

Save the dates for next year - September 9 and 10, 2011!



Paul Gamertsfelder (BS'54) with his wife Ruth





Carl Dodson (OD'73) and Tony Fenton (OD'89).

Terry Huston (OD'73), Mel Shipp, OD, MPH, DrPH, Roger Sanehotz (OD'74), and Mark Bullimore, MCOptom, PhD







Attention all EYE Alumni:

Please email your updated mailing address and preferred email address to: Dieffenbaugher.1@ gmail.com for purposes of updating our records and compiling an electronic contact list. Thank you!

Lindsay Dieffenbaugher EΨE Vice President Class of 2012 President



Drs. Jeff and Steve Franz with their wives on the Mackinac Bridge...

1975 Jeff Franz (OD,'75), left, and brother, Steve Franz (OD,'79), with their wives participating in the Labor Day five mile walk across the Mackinac Bridge.

BINOCULAR VISION and pediatrics forum

Friday, March 18, 2011

Room 33
The Ohio State University
College of Optometry

Topics:

The Pediatric Motility Examination (2 hours)
Clinical Pediatric Eye Grand Rounds (2 hours)

Neuro-Motility Disorders (1 hour)

A Systematic Approach to the Evaluation and Treatment of Adults with Diplopia (2 hours)



1983 Dan Haas (OD'83) and Terry relocated to Simpsonville, SC in 2002. Their daughter Stephanie teaches kindergarten in Columbia, SC, Angela attends the University of South Carolina, and Christopher attends Mauldin High School. Dan has served as parent photographer for the Mauldin High Marching band for 9 seasons and the University of South Carolina marching band for 6 seasons, and had a blast photographing the Ohio State Marching band at the OSU vs. Eastern Michigan game on September 25, 2010.

2001 Eric Ritchey (OD'01, MS'03) and Moriah Chandler (OD'03) welcomed Evan Mason Ritchey into the family on August 18, 2010. He weighed 7 lbs., 15.5 oz. and was 21 inches long.



Evan Mason Ritchey



Dan Haas with Brutus

2007 Michele Hager (OD'07, MS'09) welcomed Vina Selene Hager into the family on October 15, 2010. She weighed 7 lbs, 13 oz. and was 19 inches long.



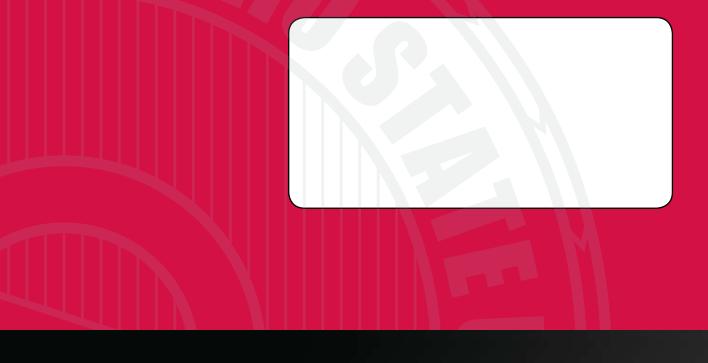
Vina Selene Hagar



Bob Liggett (BS'64, OD'68) is pictured here with his prize-winning pumpkin. Once again, he took home 1st prize for the largest pumpkin at the Circleville Pumpkin Show last month. Congratulations!

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HOYA	Nulux ep	HOYA	SUPER HiVision	HOYALUX	Summit cd	HOYALUX	Summit ecp