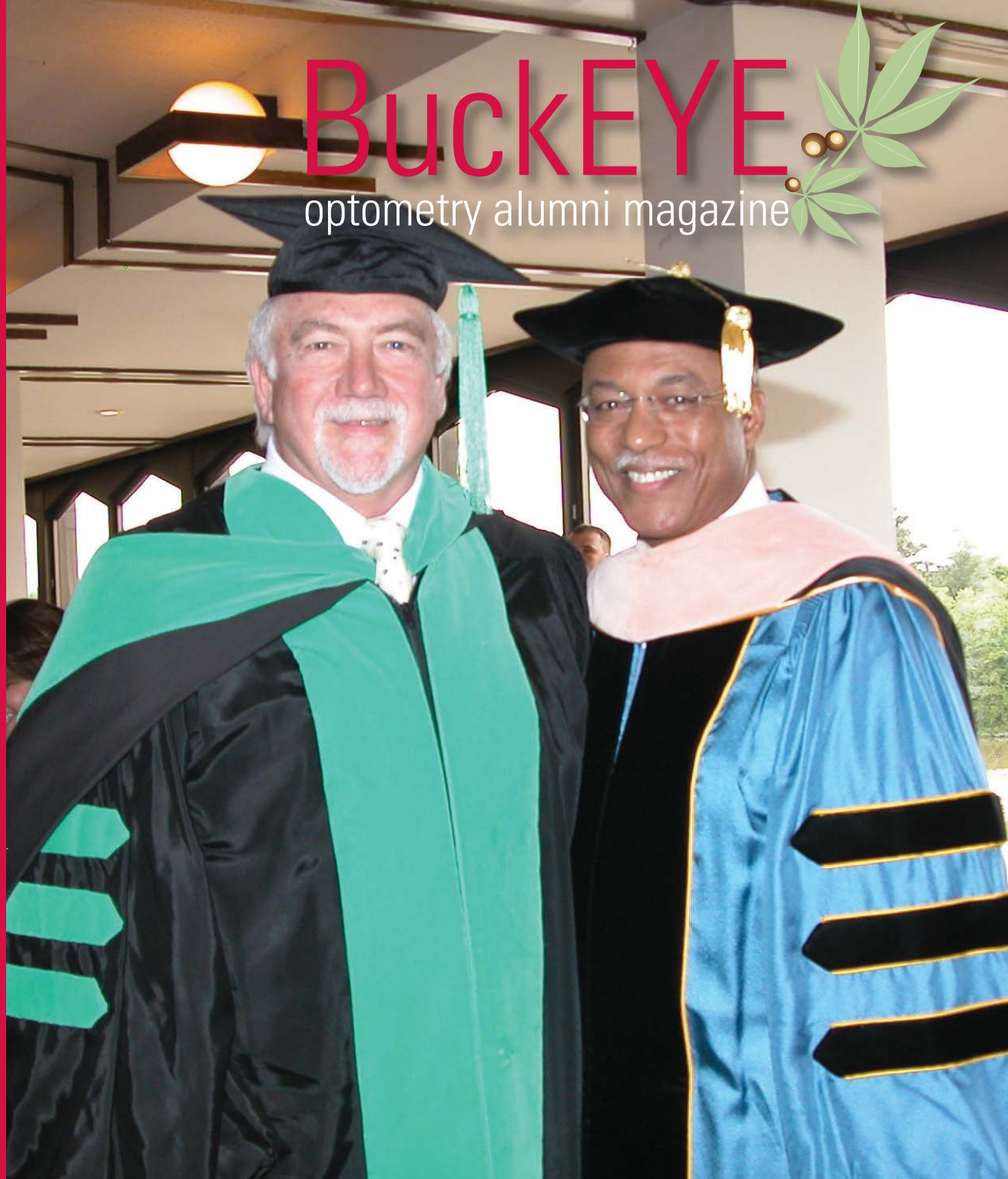


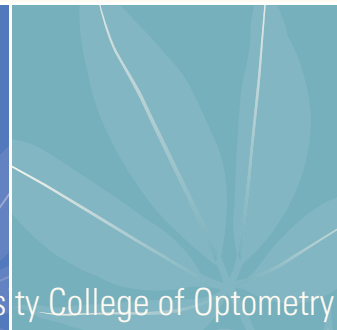
summer 2008

BuckEYE

optometry alumni magazine



Dr. Brien Holden Receives
Honorary Degree from OSU





President

Roger Saneholtz (OD'74)

Treasurer

Terry L. Huston (OD'73, MBA, PhD)

Secretary

Karla Rethman (OD'99)

Board Members

James Bieber (OD'68)

Christine Beiling-Sheerer (OD'87)

Ryan Subler (OD'06)

Optometry Representative, Alumni Advisory Council

David Dreffer (OD'68)

EYE Alumni Association Representative

David Bejot (OD'93)

Student Representatives

Dustin Gardner ('11)

Dean

Melvin Shipp (OD, MPH, DrPH)

Editor

Jeffrey A. Myers (OD'84)

Contributing Editor & Faculty Liaison

Robert D. Newcomb (OD'71, MPH)

Contributing Editors

Barbara Fink (OD, MS'85, PhD'87)

Sally Haltom, Director of Student Affairs

John McCauley, Executive Assistant to the Dean

Art Director

Kerri McTigue, OSU College of
Optometry Instructional Media Center

Photographer

Karen Stedfeld, OSU College of
Optometry Instructional Media Center

Director of Development & Alumni Relations

Gayle Glanville

OSU Alumni Association

Director of Alumni Societies

Craig Little

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

Phone: (614) 292-2100

Fax: (614) 292-7201

Mailing Address:

Optometry Alumni & Friends

338 West Tenth Avenue

Columbus, Ohio 43210-1280

<http://optometry.osu.edu/alumni>

gglanville@optometry.osu.edu

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



Table of Contents



7

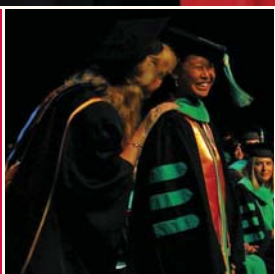
Cover Story

Letter from the Dean	4
Letter from the Alumni President ..	5
Letter from the Editor	6
Cover Story: Dr. Brien Holden	7
Focus on Alumni: Dr. Gerald Lowther ..	12
Convocation 2008	16
Graduation Banquet 2008	18
Dr. Amy Keller	20
College News	24
About Alumni	32



12

Dr. Gerald
Lowther



16

Convocation
2008



From the Dean



Dear Optometry Alumni and Friends:

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

We were both delighted and honored this spring to host a longtime optometry luminary, **Brien Holden, PhD, DSc, OAM**. Dr. Holden graciously agreed to travel all the way from Australia to present the keynote address for the Class of 2008 Convocation before he was informed that he would be awarded an honorary doctorate degree from The Ohio State University at its Spring Commencement ceremony. Dr. Holden, one of only two optometrists in Ohio State's history to receive an honorary degree, spoke eloquently of the opportunities that lie ahead for our graduates and the obligation they have to use their newly acquired knowledge and skills to promote the right to sight.

Our talented alumni never cease to make us proud! Congratulations to **Gerald Lowther (BS'66, OD'67, MS'69, PhD'72)** on his long, distinguished, intercontinental career as he retires from the deanship of the Indiana University School of Optometry. Dr. Lowther has taken his expertise into many parts of the world and has more than lived up to the optometric oath. Best wishes to Jerry and Andrya in their retirement!

Before graduation and the beginning of a long distinguished career, there are of course the rigors of going through optometry school in order to get there. Thank you to **Dave Sparks ('09)** for letting us share a day in his life as a third-year student. As we recall our own student experiences, we realize the trite but true observation that while some things change (such as going to Jimmy John's for lunch) other things remain the same (like going to bed at 10:30PM)!

Cheerleading isn't just restricted to Football Saturdays in the "Shoe". **Roy Ebihara (BS '63, OD '77)** has been a long-time advocate for our College and the optometric profession. He has enthusiastically supported many recruitment efforts through the years and has generously given his time and talent to young, promising students – future optometrists.

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

With warm, personal regards,

Melvin D. Shipp, OD, MPH, DrPH

Dean, OSU College of Optometry



From the President

June 2008

I usually panic a little when I find out it is time for me to sit down and write this message that is "From the President"; as the byline at the top of this page indicates. But the timing for this issue couldn't be better. I need to convey a very heartfelt thank you to a lot of people within the College for the experiences my family had during Convocation on June 7th. Most of you may remember this event as the "Hooding" rather than Convocation. Most of you may also remember who the "hood thrower" was for your graduation.

When I was asked to be our Society's president three years ago, I agreed to take the position if Dean Shipp would allow me to do one thing. At that time, Dean Shipp had only been to one other meeting and was just getting to know us. I could tell by the look on his face that he was a little unsure about making any sort of commitment to me just to get me to be president. But my request was a simple one. I wanted to hood my son Austin when he graduated. Dean Shipp had absolutely no problem granting my request. I can't even begin to describe my feelings as I walked across the stage to place the Optometry Doctoral Hood on my son's shoulders. So thank you, thank you, thank you to all involved.

It's been a wonderful experience this past four years having my son at the College. I am especially grateful to the entire faculty and staff. Since we own a home (affectionately called the Belmont) just two blocks from the College, I would sort of pop in quite a bit to see how things were going (and I still do as your president). I could always see the genuine enthusiasm and respect that our faculty and staff have for our students. In fact, my fourteen-month-old grandson is already being recruited by the fourth floor administrative staff.

The only problem now is the empty nest syndrome. I never really experienced that when my youngest son left high school to come to OSU. I'm actually feeling it now. I'm not going to have a mole at the College anymore that can keep me abreast of things from the student's perspective. I'm not going to have a backyard full of young people tailgating before and after football games. There won't be nearly as many beer pong, flip the cup, and cornhole activities in the backyard either. The Belmont will no longer be the first place to go after finals every quarter. But I am looking forward to the Class of 2008 coming back as the door will always be open for them.

I think I may have enough space for a quick update on society stuff. Your board has decided to create our own website. This will allow us to have an electronic directory of all alumni since we have been having difficulty getting a new directory developed in print format. We're also planning on having the capability of membership payments through the website that will allow electronic fund transfers and an ability to use credit card payments for your convenience. We'll keep you abreast of our progress in this direction.

As always,

Affirm thy Friendship, O-HI-O!!

Roger L. Saneholtz (OD'74)

President, OSU Optometry Alumni & Friends

From the Editor



What's the Benefit of That Feature?

Well, the time has come to look for a new truck; to upgrade from the 11 year Ford F150. And as you might expect, there is a story to tell in terms of customer service.

I had narrowed my choices to 3 well-known brands, and my wife and I went to test drive them (most of us wouldn't marry someone without meeting them and I don't buy vehicles without test driving them). We arrived at the first dealership in a light rain, and a salesman was with us in about 2 minutes. We explained we would like to test drive the truck. Before we test drove the truck, he took a few minutes to explain some of the features of this truck. Sometimes, I got lost in the mumbo-jumbo of the technical jargon, but he took the time to explain the benefit of each of these features to me. For example, larger discs in the brakes meant shorter braking distances when I needed it. I can understand the benefit, and decide for myself whether that is a good thing or not. We test drove the truck with the most bells and whistles on the lot. After all, after you drive the best, why would you want anything less?

It was raining harder at the second dealership. We looked up and down the rows for 10-15 minutes before a salesperson arrived. We explained we wanted a test drive. He was happy to get the keys. He told us that the company was making great deals on the trucks we were looking at. He even told us how to scam the financing company to save some money. We test drove a work truck model that felt like tin, and we were not very impressed. It took almost 10 minutes to get the salesperson's attention when we returned from the test drive, and he never mentioned a feature or a benefit of the truck, just that the prices were great.

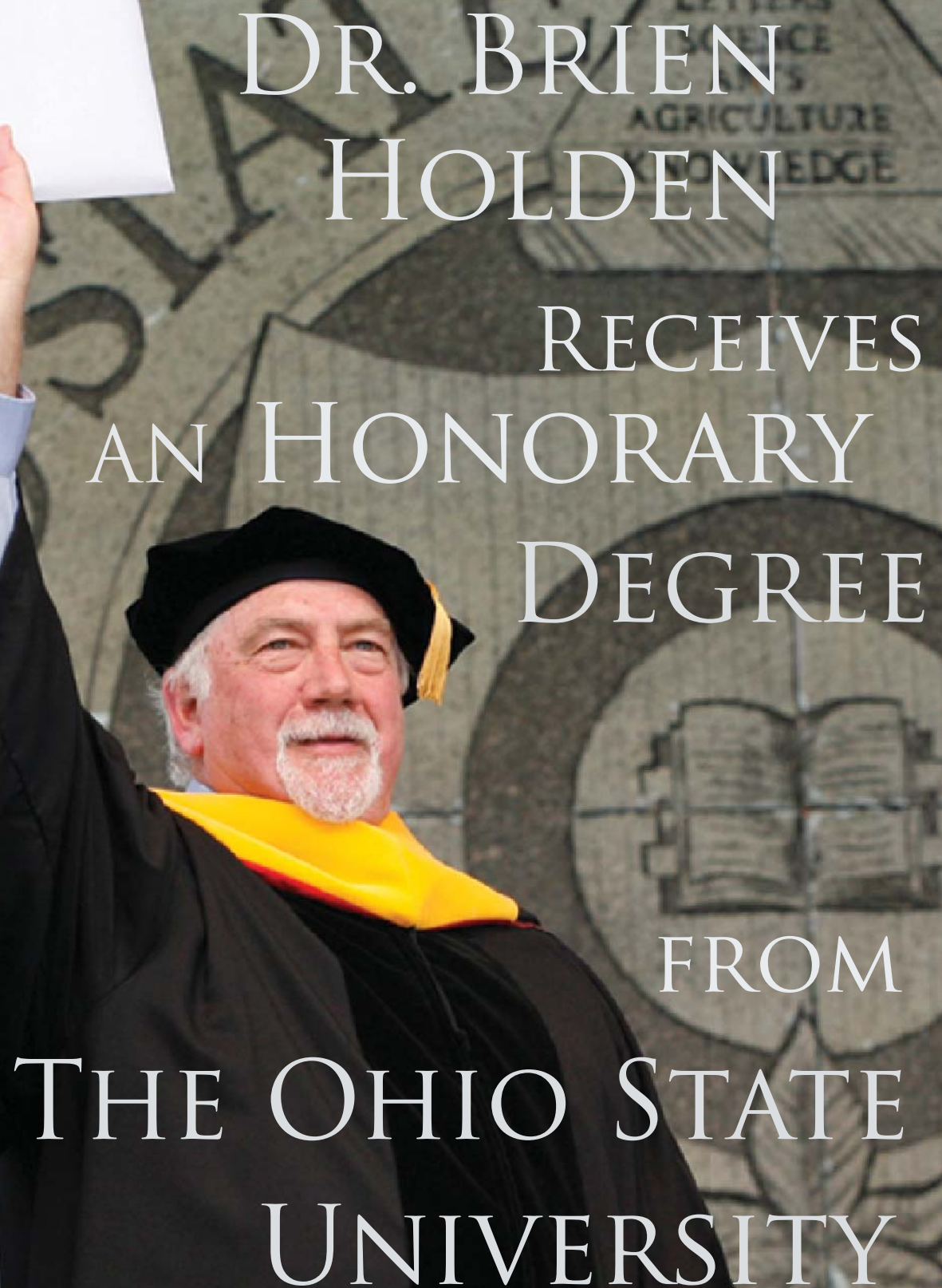
It was a sunny day at the third dealership. We again spent 15 minutes looking at all their trucks, and actually had to go to the building to find a salesperson. He seemed to know little about the trucks, blaming the changes in the new model year. We test drove the truck (with few bells and whistles) and it was OK, until I switched into 4 wheel drive and was unable to get the truck out of 4 wheel drive easily. Not a selling point. When we returned, the salesperson spent more time away from the desk, checking on who knows what. He never explained a feature or benefit, but was quick to tell me that 'they are making great deals, taking \$8000 off the sticker.' I am sure the sales manager would love to know that he negotiated \$8000 off the price before we even began negotiating.

What to learn from this? Most of us will purchase based upon the benefits to us, even if the price is higher. For example, it might be great to explain that an anti-reflection coating has 7 layers, is hydrophobic, and uses the latest technology available, but does that convince a patient they should have it? Probably not. But if you explain that this coating will decrease reflections and glare when you are on the computer and when driving at night, and that people will be able to see your eyes much more clearly, who would not want those benefits? And when you explain that today's coatings are more durable than the original coatings, are very scratch resistant, and are under warranty for 12 months, most people will understand the benefits and accept your recommendation.

Ladies would not necessarily buy a blouse and gentlemen would not necessarily buy a suit because of the type of material, until they understand that the material will be more breathable and they will be cooler in the summer. And that the vertical stripes will make them look thinner. Those are benefits we all understand.

When talking to patients about your recommendations, talk about benefits, not just features. Believe it or not, most contact lens patients don't know silicone hydrogel from Silly Putty. But they do understand the benefit of greater comfort at the end of the day, a lens that is easier to handle, and better long-term corneal health. Those are benefits we all understand.

Jeffrey A. Myers (OD'84)
BuckEYE Editor

A photograph of Dr. Brien Holden, an older man with a white beard, wearing a black graduation cap and gown with a yellow stole. He is holding a white diploma aloft in his right hand. The background is a large, circular stone seal of The Ohio State University, featuring the text "THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY" and "LETTERS SCIENCE AGRICULTURE KNOWLEDGE" around a central emblem of an open book.

DR. BRIEN HOLDEN

RECEIVES AN HONORARY DEGREE

FROM THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

by John McCauley
and Robert Newcomb, OD'71, MPH

Photos by Kevin Fitzsimons and Karen Stedfeld



"Our profession, and vision science, has benefited enormously from Brien Holden's contributions, and will continue to do so well into the future."

Dean Emeritus
Richard Hill

In addition to serving as the keynote speaker for the Class of 2008 Convocation, Dr. Brien Holden, PhD, DSc, OAM, was awarded an honorary Doctor of Science from The Ohio State University at commencement on Sunday, June 8, 2008. An internationally renowned leader in the eye and vision science arena, Dr. Holden founded the Cornea and Contact Lens Research Unit in 1976 at the University of New South Wales, doing cutting-edge research on corneal physiology and new contact lens materials and designs. That unit has grown into the Institute for Eye Research, the major partner in the Vision Cooperative Research Center, a Government sponsored center that is dedicated to new and better ways of seeing based on its research into myopia development, refractive surgery, anti-infection strategies, vision care delivery and many other areas of basic and applied vision science.

Dr. Holden is a Professor in the School of Optometry and Vision Science at the University of New South Wales in Australia, CEO of the Institute for Eye Research, a director and deputy CEO of the Government's Vision Cooperative Research Center, and a world traveler, giving presentations, lectures, keynote addresses, and consultations around the globe – indeed a jet setter.





Dr. Holden waves to friends in the Ohio Stadium.

A graduate of the University of Melbourne, Professor Holden holds a doctorate from The City University in London. He gained fame in the 1970s for discovering the cellular changes occurring at the level of the corneal endothelium that are induced by stimuli affecting the corneal epithelium of the eye, which had a huge impact on long-wear contact lenses. His research at the University of New South Wales has measured the fundamental oxygen needs of the cornea, developing corneal implants, accommodating gel intraocular lenses, and worked to develop unique contact lens materials in partnership with the contact lens industry. He has published more than 300 peer-reviewed articles on his research.

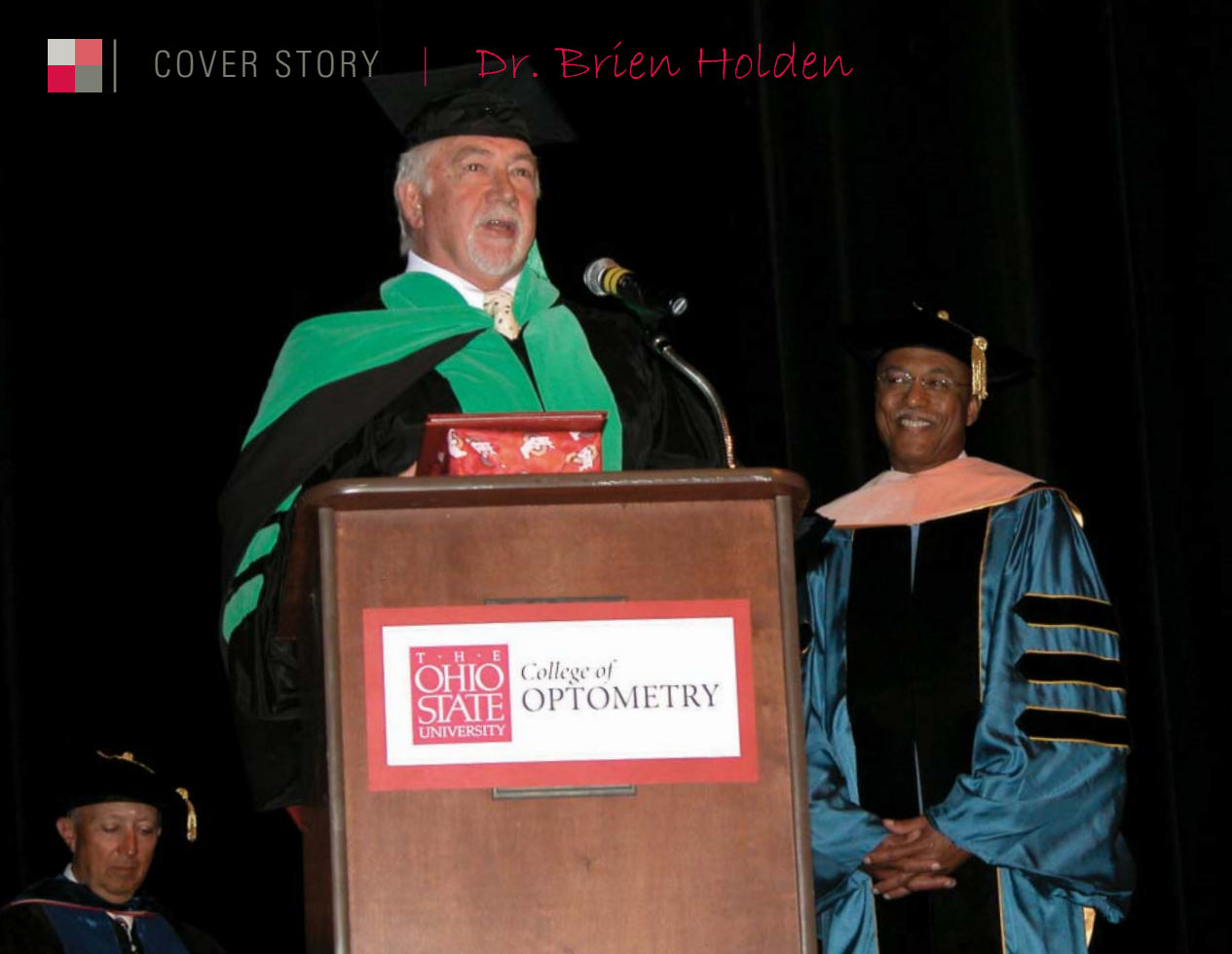
Professor Holden has had many visiting appointments at universities across the globe, including a 1978 appointment at The Ohio State University's College of Optometry, about which he said, "My sabbatical with [Dean Emeritus] Dick Hill in the blizzard of 1977-78 was one of the highlights of my and my family's lives."

His international work includes serving as chair and CEO of the International Centre for Eyecare Education; global chair of Optometry Giving Sight, and chair of the Refractive Error Working Group of the World

"Dr. Holden is only the second optometrist to ever receive an honorary degree from The Ohio State University in its 138-year history."

Dean Melvin Shipp

Dr. Holden receiving his honorary PhD degree from OSU President E. Gordon Gee.



Dr. Holden delivering the convocation address to the class of 2008, as Dean Emeritus Schoessler and Dean Shipp look on

"I remember meeting Brien in 1985, when I admired him up on a very high research pedestal from my point of view. Now, his humanitarian initiatives toward eliminating avoidable blindness worldwide have him actually hovering above that pedestal in my mind. He is simply extraordinary."

Associate Dean
Karla Zadnik

Health Organisation, and Board member of the International Agency for Prevention of Blindness and their Vision 2020: Right to Sight Global Initiative. In addition, he serves as deputy co-chair of Vision 2020 Australia and chair of the board of management of VisionCare NSW.

Through these organizations, Professor Holden helps millions of people in underserved areas throughout the world who are blind or visually impaired simply because they have uncorrected refractive errors and no access to eye examinations or proper vision corrections.

His many honors include the 1986 Ruben Gold Medal from the International Society for Contact Lens Research, the 1988 HB Collin Research Medal from the Australian Optometrical Association, the 1988 Glenn A. Fry Award from the American Academy of Optometry, and the Medal of the Order of Australia for services to research and humanity.

Dean Melvin Shipp said, "Dr. Holden is only the second optometrist to ever receive an honorary degree from The Ohio State University in its 138-year history. Given the outstanding achievements of our own College of Optometry alumni as well as the optometric



Dean Shipp and Dr. Holden at The Ohio State University College of Optometry Convocation

profession writ large, Dr. Holden's recognition at spring commencement – in front of 50,000 people in our beloved Ohio Stadium – is indeed an exemplary accomplishment.”

Associate Dean Karla Zadnik said, “All faculty are evaluated in three areas: teaching, research, and service. Brien has obviously achieved an A+ in all three categories for many, many years, and we don't anticipate that ending anytime soon.”

Lowther Reflects on a Distinguished Career

by Jeffrey A. Myers (OD'84)



There were few clues while he was growing up. No extensive travel, no frequent trips out of state were part of his early childhood. But over the last couple of decades, **Gerald E. Lowther (BS'66, OD'67, MS'69, PhD'72)** 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. Maybe the clue was the four college degrees in six years. He is one of just over 350 individuals to earn four or more degrees from The Ohio State University, which has granted over 500,000 college degrees. Later this year, Dr. Lowther will retire as Dean of the Indiana University School of Optometry.

He grew up in Lancaster, Ohio, where his dad was a machinist and his mom was a homemaker. He was one of the first in his

family to attend college, but was encouraged by his father's comments to seek higher education and be his own boss. Growing up, he worked construction jobs and on his grandparents' farm. The Ohio State University was a natural choice for him due to the cost and convenience. As a high school senior, he contemplated both veterinary medicine and optometry.

While he was earning his BS in optometry, Dr. Lowther worked in the lab of Richard M. Hill, OD, PhD. Dr. Hill had great influence and was a mentor to him over the course of his entire career. As Dr. Lowther was completing his bachelor's degree, the college was just beginning the process of granting the OD degree. He returned to complete the course work for the OD degree. He also entered private practice in Newark, Ohio with Dr. Phil Haynes and continued to teach at the college.

It wasn't long before encouragement from Dr. Hill and Dean Frederick Hebbard, OD, PhD, brought Dr. Lowther back to The Ohio State University for graduate school. After a few years and earning two graduate degrees, it appeared that his career would be in the area of academics. He spent the next five years working at the college as a Contact Lens Clinic Director. He developed a great friendship with Dean Emeritus **John P. Schoessler (OD'64, PhD'66)** as he felt that he and Dr. Schoessler worked well together and thought similarly.

The contact lenses of this era were traditional PMMA lenses, cosmetic shells, and the early days of soft contact lenses. He was involved in some of the first extended wear studies. He recalls that when he took responsibility for some of Dr. Vincent Ellerbrock's patients in the mid-1960s, it was discovered that a number of his patients were wearing PMMA lenses on an extended wear basis, with Dr. Ellerbrock's approval.

Probably one of the most lasting legacies of Dr. Lowther's time at Ohio State was the work that he and Dr. Hill did to begin what is now known as the Advanced Practice Fellowship in Contact Lenses.

He then moved to that state up north for 12 years to work at the Michigan College of Optometry at Ferris



1966 OSU optometry graduating class, Dr. Lowther was class president (front row, second from right).

State University. While he originally went for a 2-3 week contact lens teaching assignment, he was recruited to stay by Dr. Jack Bennett. During this time he continued his contact lens research, began his 20 year tenure as editor of the International Contact Lens Clinic Journal, and lectured on a national and international basis. He was also privileged to participate in a six-month sabbatical in Sydney, Australia in Dr. Brien Holden's Corneal and Contact Lens Research Unit.

Dr. Bradford Wild then recruited him to the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Optometry, where he spent five years developing more research and eventually becoming associate dean. This opportunity to gain administrative skills would serve him well in his next role. While at UAB, Halina Manczak, an ophthalmologist from Poland studied contact lenses under Dr. Lowther's direction. This led Dr. Lowther to work with Karol Marcinowski University of Medical Science to assist them as they started the first optometry program in Poland.

Dr. Jack Bennett again recruited him in 1994, this time to the Indiana University School of Optometry. The intent was to continue to do research on contact lens and cornea issues. He helped to develop and open the Borish Center for Ophthalmic Research where he served as Co-Director for 11 years. This research center has focused on clinical research for contact lenses, contact lens solutions, PAL lenses, children's vision studies, CLEK, and dry eye studies, among others. In 1998, he was named Dean of the School of Optometry, a position in which he still serves.

During his tenure as Dean, funding for research activity at the school has increased 11-fold and the number of

research grants has increased five times. The Eye Care Community Outreach program, a program in Indianapolis which coordinates work with inner-city clinics, serving indigent patients including homeless veterans has been developed as a joint program between the School of Optometry and the Ophthalmology Department at Indiana University. An initial grant of \$150,000 was obtained in 2004 to establish the program. Since then, over \$750,000 has been raised to support the program allowing thousands of individuals to obtain eye and healthcare in the Indianapolis inner-city. Efforts are coordinated with over 100 organizations as a public health service to these indigent patients.

In 2001, a clinic was established in Guanajuato, Mexico in cooperation with the Mexico Department of Infants and Family (DIF). This is an outgrowth of the Indiana University VOSH program, which has visited this area annually for a number of years. The clinic initially began with one faculty member and three to four students in a hospital based clinic. In 2006, DIF raised \$1.4 million to build a new eyecare clinic with a surgical suite. Now there is one full-time ophthalmologist, three Mexican optometrists, and one full-time Indiana University faculty member with 3-4 Indiana University externs who staff the clinic.

Additionally, two students from Australia and one from the Inter-American University of Puerto Rico School of Optometry rotate through the clinic. This clinic now sees 6-8000 patients a year. Phaco-emulsification units and



With his family during a professional trip to Australia. Dr. Lowther, daughter Karen, wife Andrya and son Dan.

intraocular lenses have been supplied through a grant from Advanced Medical Optics. Kevin Waltz, OD, M.D., who helped to fund a clinic in Honduras has also donated equipment to this Mexican clinic.

Thailand has also been a beneficiary of Dr. Lowther's work, as the first optometry program in Thailand has been developed through his efforts at Ramkhamhaeng University. This university has 600,000 students on 23 campuses. The university has a philosophy of giving everyone a chance to get an education. Faculty from Indiana University go and teach in this new optometry program. The first graduating class matriculated in 2007. Dr. Lowther's efforts are helping to create the profession of optometry in Thailand, just as he did in Poland.

In Hong Kong, he has been a Department Advisor for the Department of Optometry



Lowthers with the Schoesslers.



Dr. Lowther and wife Andrya on an elephant in Thailand

at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University for the last few years. This university follows the British model of optometry, but is looking to move to the American optometry model in its education. Dr. Lowther has participated in annual visits and reviews of the facilities and program. Much groundwork has been laid so that the OD degree might be presented by Indiana University to graduates of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University program. Approval has been secured through the Accreditation Council on Optometric Education and the Indiana Higher Education Commission. Administrative roadblocks have stalled the progress of this program currently.

While doing these things, Dr. Lowther became a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry and a Diplomate of the Cornea and Contact Lens Section. He served on the Executive Council of the American Academy of Optometry for 14 years, serving as President in 1997-1998. He has lectured at over 250 local society, state, regional, and national meetings, as well as in 20 foreign countries, and has over 100 publications to his credit including the landmark book Contact Lens Correction. He has been an officer for the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry and currently serves as President-elect. Additionally, he serves as a Board Member and has been President of the National Board of Examiners in Optometry. He has also served as a Senior Advisor to the National Center of Optometry in the Wenzhou Medical College in the People's Republic of China for the past 15 years.

He has received the Distinguished Faculty Award from the Michigan Association of Governing Boards, the John Neil Medal from the Pennsylvania College of Optometry, and the University of Houston College of Optometry Award for Distinguished Research on Cornea and Contact Lens. He has delivered the Max Schapiro Memorial Lecture at the American Academy of Optometry and has been elected as a Distinguished Scholar to the National Academy of Practice in Optometry. He received the Distinguished Service Award and the Life Time Achievement Award from the Indiana Optometric Association, and has received an Honorary Doctor of Philosophy Degree in Human Resource Development from the Ramkhamhaeng University in Bangkok, Thailand.



Receiving the honorary PhD in Human Resource Development from Ramkhamhaeng University from the Princess of Thailand.

He is married to Andrya, who he met at Ohio State “over a frog in zoology class” and who is looking forward to travel in the future that is not tied to an optometry meeting. They have two children: Karen, who earned a degree in criminal justice at UAB and is now a deputy sheriff in Colorado Springs, and Dan, who graduated from the University of Colorado, joined the military after ROTC training, and is now employed by the Mars Candy Company in New Jersey.

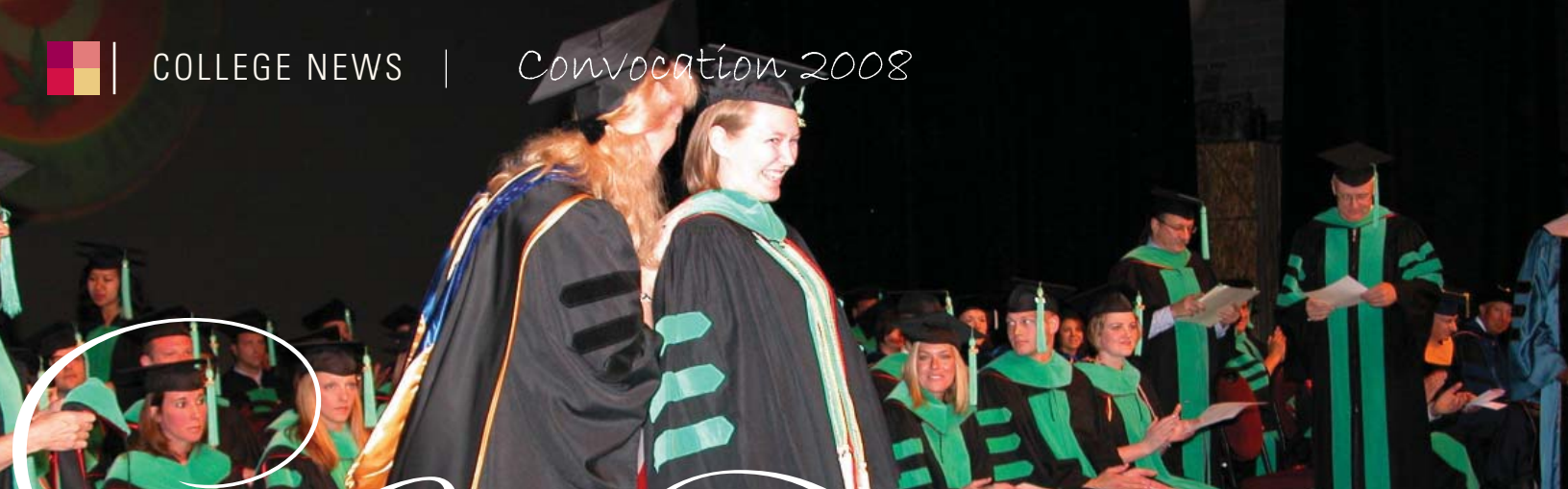
Congratulations to Dr. Lowther on an outstanding career expanding optometry in this country and throughout the world.



With the Governor of Guanajuato, Mexico (3rd from left), his wife (Director of the Department of Infants and Family, 3rd from right) and members of the faculty at the dedication of the Mexico clinic.



Dr. Lowther is hoping to do more of this in retirement.



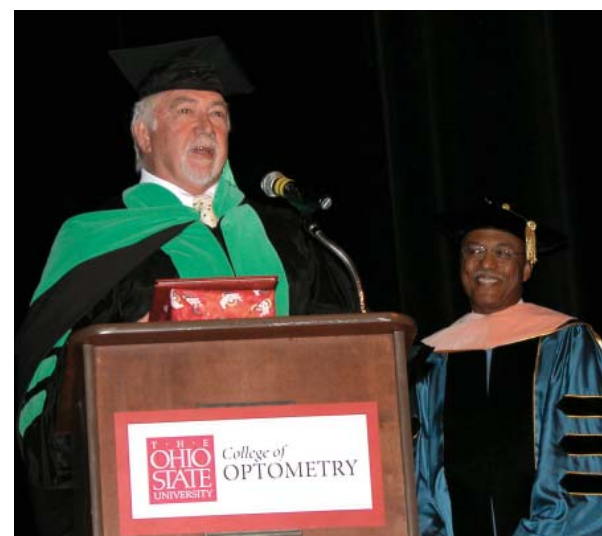
Convocation 2008

June 7, 2008 Drake Performance and Event Center

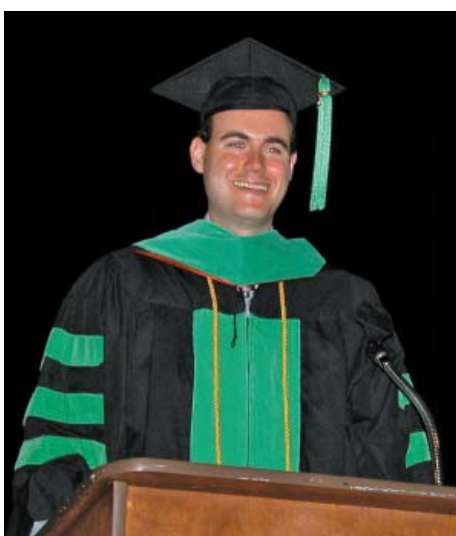
The members of the graduating class, their family and friends were welcomed by Dean Melvin Shipp to the 41st College of Optometry Convocation held Saturday, June 7th. Dr. Brien Holden, Professor at the University of New South Wales and CEO of the Institute for Eye Research, provided the keynote address.

The Class of 2008 is yet another outstanding class. Over 20 members received special awards, and a record 10 students graduated with both an OD and an MS. "When nominations were sought for the College's

Graduate of the Year Award, 21 different students' names were submitted, and the final voting was very competitive," according to Professor Mark Bullimore, Chair of the Awards Committee. This class is also marked by a true altruistic spirit. "The true caliber of the class is their desire to make a long-term commitment to the College through their class gift. In pledging \$25,000 for a scholarship in honor of Dr. Michael Earley, they show vision and leadership that all of us should aspire to emulate" said Professor Bullimore.



Brien Holden, PhD, DSc, OAM and Dean Mel Shipp, OD, MPH, DrPH



Bradley Johnson (OD'08) class president



Cayti McDaniel (OD/MS'08) receiving the BSK Silver Medal from Dean Emeritus Richard Hill



Congratulations Graduates!

Funmilayo Aranmolate..... Spartanburg SC
 Meagan H. Avila Tipp City OH
 † Melanie Joan Ballard..... Conneaut OH
 Kristen Marie Banek Sylvania OH
 Brandon Lee Becken Prosser WA
 * Kristy Mary Gehling Bhend..... Grand Meadow MN
 Alison Rae Bolinger Doylestown OH
 Jennifer Lynn Bowers..... Minford OH
 Lauren Renee Bumgardner Shadyside OH
 Ame Nicole Cline Timberlake OH
 † Melissa Marie DeGasperi Martins Ferry OH
 † Jessica Ann Edwards Minot ND
 Nicole Susan Elson..... Fort Loramie OH
 *† Andrew John Emch..... Archbold OH
 Caitlin Sara Filips Broadview Hts OH
 † Abby Lynn Fisher Avon Lake OH
 † Shane Alan Foster..... Athens OH
 Stephanie Marie Gutierrez..... Struthers OH
 Alicia Jenna' Heller..... Defiance OH
 Shawna Lynnae Hill Bellefontaine OH
 Dorna Javadi Pittsburgh PA
 Bradley Joseph Johnson..... Columbus OH
 † Michael George Kennedy..... Long Grove IL
 Yanna Kisala..... Algonquin IL
 Jeremy Dean Lamb..... Orem UT
 Khyla Eval Lance..... Charleston SC
 † Allyson Nicole Lane..... Edmond OK
 Rebecca Ann Little Newcomerstown OH
 † Heidi Jo Long..... Fargo ND
 *† Catherine Elizabeth McDaniel Dayton OH
 Elizabeth McVey..... Worthington OH
 Ann Rea Miller Kalida OH
 Jennifer Lynn Miller..... Wooster OH
 Rachael Yvonne Miller..... Barnesville OH
 Amber Christina Mixon-Louprasong Fairborn OH
 Chantelle La'Dusta Mundy Logan OH
 Christine Burns Myers..... Newark OH

Jennie Nguyen..... Parma OH
 * Nasim Nikoumanesh Ann Arbor MI
 Nathan Lindsey Noakes..... Boise ID
 Jacob Alan Olding Minster OH
 * Jim Omodio Youngstown OH
 † Joseph Egill Osmond Sandy UT
 * Emily Jean Parker Whitewater WI
 Callin Passey Bear Lake ID
 † Jason Christopher Piant Dallas TX
 † Cynthia JoAnne Premeaux Columbus OH
 Luke Alexander Randall Rigby ID
 † Jennifer Lynn Reynolds Owasso OK
 Brie Suzanne Rhodes Olathe KS
 Austin Lee Saneholtz Montpelier OH
 Adam Ernest Schmidt..... Dover OH
 Amy Renee Schultz Schofield WI
 Candace Linn Seagraves..... Columbus OH
 Marielle Badal Serenda..... Chicago IL
 * Elisa Jo Skadahel North Mankato MN
 *† Ivy Tat San Francisco CA
 Ryann Rochelle Thacker..... Gallipolis OH
 * Anita Ticak..... Mentor OH
 Janna Lyn Vargo..... Louisville OH
 * Annie Vollmar Villa Hills KY
 Gary Watts..... Pickerington OH

* Indicates students completing both Doctor of Optometry and Master of Science in Vision Science programs.

† Indicates four-year members of Beta Sigma Kappa.

Candidates For Graduate Degrees

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN VISION SCIENCE

Michelle J. Buckland, OD

Aaron Bernath Zimmerman, OD

PHD IN VISION SCIENCE

Andrew J. Toole, OD, MS



Caitlin Filips (OD'08) and her family

Cayti McDaniel (OD/MS'08) and Abby Fisher (OD'08)

Shirley Gassmann, Susan ??, Greg Good (OD'75, PhD'81), and Gayle Glanville

Graduation Banquet 2008



Roanne Flom, OD, PhD and Emily Parker (OD/MS'08)



Ivy Tat (OD/MS'08), Candace Seagraves (OD'08), Fumi Armolate (OD'08), Barbara Fink (OD, PhD'87), Khyla Lance (OD'08), Jennie Nguyen (OD'08), and Stephanie Gutierrez (OD'08).

Outstanding Ocular Disease Extern Award

Sponsored by Odyssey Medical and Volk

Melissa Marie DeGasperis, OD

Outstanding Ocular Disease Extern Award

Sponsored by Odyssey Medical and Volk

Andrew John Emch, OD, MS

Select Optical Community Outreach Award for Clinical Excellence

Sponsored by Select Optical
Janna Lyn Vargo, OD

Patient Care Excellence Award

Sponsored by Hoya
Cynthia JoAnne Premeaux, OD



Jeff Rohlf, Eyewear Gallery Chief, and Meagan Avila (OD'08)



Carla Mack (OD'95, MBA) and Elisa Skadah (OD/MS'08)



Ivy Tat (OD/MS'08), Anita Ticak (OD/MS'08), and Ame Cline (OD'08)

Chantelle Mundy (OD'08) celebrates with her family

Joe Barr (OD'77, MS'79) and Associate Dean Karla Zadnik, OD, PhD

June 6, 2008 Confluence Park Restaurant

Binocular Vision and Pediatrics Clinical Excellence Award

Sponsored by COVD and Essilor of America

Catherine McDaniel, OD, MS

GP Lens Institute Clinical Excellence Award

Jennifer Miller, OD

Vistakon Award of Excellence in Contact Lens Patient Care

Elisa Skadahl, OD, MS

Marcolin Dispensing Award

Kristy Mary Gehling Bhend, OD/MS

Silhouette Dispensing Award

Meagan H. Avila, OD

Hoya Dispensing Award

Catherine Elizabeth McDaniel, OD, MS

Safilo Dispensing Award

Stephanie Marie Gutierrez, OD

Shamir Insight Dispensing Award

Amy Renee Schultz, OD

VSP Lab Nexus Award

Brie Suzanne Rhodes, OD

Optical One Nexus Award

Nathan Lindsey Noakes, OD

Interstate Optical Lab Nexus Award

Anita Ticak, OD, MS

Marchon Practice Management Award of Excellence

Gary Watts, OD

Eschenbach Award for Excellence in Low Vision

Sponsored by Eschenbach Optik of America

Christine Burns Myers, OD

Optelec and ShopLowVision.com Low Vision Clinical Excellence Award

Sponsored by LowVision.com

Candace Linn Seagraves, OD

William Feinbloom Low Vision Award

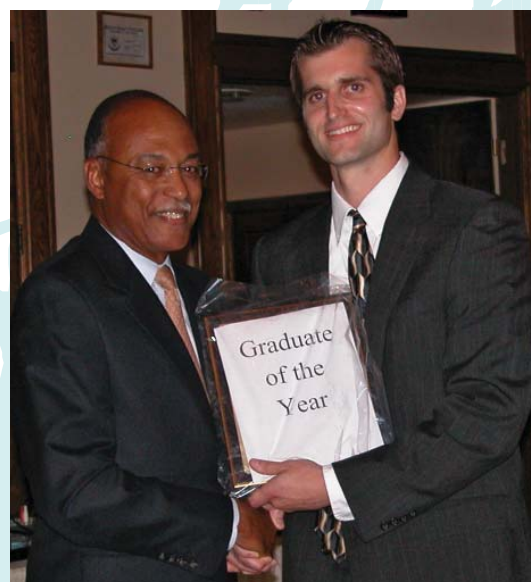
Sponsored by Designs for Vision

Emily Parker, OD, MS

2008 Graduate of the Year

Sponsored by Optometric Educators Inc.

Andrew John Emch, OD, MS



Dean Shipp and Andrew Emch (OD/MS'08) "2008 Graduate of the Year" award winner



Extraordinary Talent Comes from Normal Beginnings

by Jeffrey A. Myers (OD'84)

If you had been in Normal, Illinois in the late 1970's and early 1980's and attended practices for the Bloomington Chapter of Sweet Adelines, you would have seen a little dark-haired girl on the sidelines, singing the songs and doing the dance routines along with the group. Who would have guessed that the little girl would become a doctor and an integral part of an international champion barbershop chorus in the future?



Dr. Keller as the Christmas Mouse with her two younger sisters Beth and Dori



Dr. Keller as the Artful Dodger

Amy R. Keller (OD'00) was that little girl. Now an optometrist, she spends a fair amount of her non-work time singing lead with the Scioto Valley Chorus, a 60 member barbershop singing chorus, and her quartet, The Real Deal. Barbershop singing is characterized by four parts, each having its own role and sung a cappella. Generally, the lead sings the melody, the tenor harmonizes above the melody, the bass sings the lowest harmonizing notes, and the baritone completes the chord, usually below the lead.

Growing up in Normal, Illinois, Dr. Keller's home was a singing home. Her dad sang at church for special events, and mom was involved in barbershop singing. She began her performing career in the children's choir at Our Savior Lutheran Church, and was the Artful Dodger in the 5th grade production of *Oliver!* She followed that with the lead in *Annie* in 6th grade, as a curly-haired brunette. She joined the band in junior high school after she discovered that the band traveled and the choir did not, playing the French horn during concert season and the flugelhorn during marching season through high school. The decision for travel paid off with a trip to march in the Tournament of Roses Parade in 1991 (Washington 46, Iowa 34). Her theater performing continued through junior high & high school



Drea Holmes, Dr. Keller, Jan Wulf, & Martha Davis as The Real Deal

with a variety of outdoor summer stock performances through the local parks and recreation department, including *Music Man*, *Annie*, *Guys & Dolls*, and *Once upon a Mattress*.

“Barbershop
harmony gets in
your blood. The
chorus becomes a
second family.”

Dr. Amy Keller

During her undergraduate time at the University of Illinois (BS '96), Dr. Keller's only outlet for performance was with some serenading groups through her Alpha Phi sorority. Optometry school did not allow much time for performing, but she did join the Scioto Valley Chorus, a part of the Sweet Adelines International, shortly after graduation in 2001. The weekly practices for the chorus and her quartet, and performances with both groups allow plenty of outlet for her desire to perform.

During Dr. Keller's time with the chorus, they have qualified and competed in the Harmony Classic Midsize International Competition three times; placing 3rd in 2001 in Ft. Worth; placing 2nd in 2003 in Greenville, South Carolina; and winning the competition in 2005 in Greenville, South Carolina. They have qualified again for the competition in 2009 in Nashville, Tennessee. They were

also the Grand Champion Chorus in 2005 at the Buckeye Invitational in Columbus, Ohio.

Dr. Keller has been in a quartet for four years, and her current one for about a year. The Real Deal allows more opportunities for professional performance and entertaining. They sing at hospitals, weddings, and special events, and do singing telegrams on Valentine's Day. One of their most recent gigs was singing at the White Coat Ceremony in May 2008 for the Class of 2011 at the College.



The Real Deal



The Scioto Valley Chorus



The Scioto Valley Chorus

Dr. Keller sees barbershop singing as her hobby. She loves to sing and entertain, so this provides an excellent outlet. It also offers a constant challenge to improve, as the quartet is always learning new music and striving to develop their performance abilities. "Barbershop harmony gets in your blood," Dr. Keller reports, "The chorus becomes a second family." Many things about barbershop harmony are appealing. The chorus is a mix of women from 16 to almost 80, all sharing fun and a hobby where each brings individual strengths.

There is tremendous interdependence, and a mutual sense of competition which keeps everyone focused on the harmony. The lifelong friendships and getting to know many wonderful, caring people have been an unexpected bonus.

Dr. Keller is married to Nick Biratsis, has one daughter, Alaina, and is expecting a second child in December 2008. She practices with **Jeffrey A. Myers, (OD'84)** in Canal Winchester, Ohio and at Nationwide Children's Hospital in Columbus. She lives in Blacklick, Ohio.



Nick Biratsis, Alaina, and Amy Keller



A Day in the Life of an OSU Optometry Student: David Sparks



Hello, I'm Dave Sparks. I'm a fourth year student in the OSU College of Optometry.

Here's a look at a day in my life during spring quarter, 2008 at the end of my third year!

A typical day for me starts about 6:00am. After going for a run with my dog Willie, a four year old Collie mix, I grab some breakfast and arrive on campus by 7:30.

I attend two lab classes in the morning – Contact Lens Lab at 8:00 and Low Vision Lab at 10:00. Contact Lens Lab involves an hour of lecture followed by an hour of practicing the clinical techniques we learned that day in class. For example, today we learned how to assess the fit of corneal reshaping contact lenses.

Low Vision Lab follows a similar pattern with one lecture hour followed by clinical experience. Low Vision is one of my favorite courses. The professor often brings in patients from the clinic to discuss how low vision affects their lives and how they have been helped by optometrists at OSU. For instance, next week we will have a student from the Ohio State School for the Blind visit our Low Vision Lab class. I'm looking forward to hearing what he has to say, because next spring quarter I'll be spending one day a week at the Ohio State School for the Blind as part of my fourth year externship experience.

The labs are finished at noon, and I am scheduled to see patients in the clinic starting at 1:00. Since I like to arrive at the clinic 20-30 minutes early to review the charts for the day, I usually have just enough time to walk over to Jimmy John's on campus for lunch with some friends.

My first patient appointment is at 1:00, and the second appointment is at 2:30. Working in the clinic is great

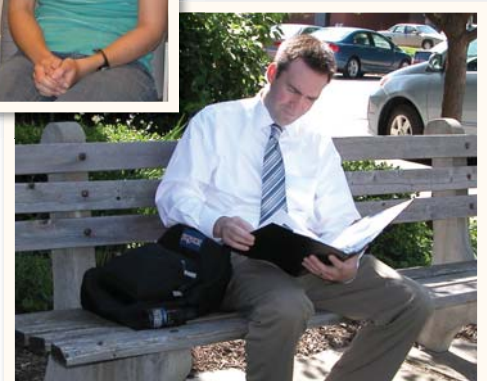
experience because we have a diverse population of patients with a variety of ocular health issues (ranging from herpes simplex keratitis to branch retinal vein occlusions and posterior uveitis, to name just a few conditions to which I have had exposure). In addition, when unexpected cancellations occur, clinic time is a great opportunity to practice techniques with other students.

After reviewing the day's patient encounters with the attending optometrist, I generally leave school around 4:30 or 5:00.

When I get home I walk the dog again and eat some dinner. Hamburgers on the grill is always a favorite if the weather allows.

After dinner I study for a few hours, so that I can prepare for four hours of lecture the next afternoon and lab the next morning. With the end of the quarter rapidly approaching, I'll soon be off at my first externship site. I try to allow a little time at the end of my "regular" studies to fit in some review of important concepts for the externship.

Playing catch with the dog is a fun way to relax after a long day. I like to get to bed by 10:30 so I'm well rested to do it all again the next day. Thanks for coming along for one day in my life as an OSU optometry student!



Open House 2008



The Annual College of Optometry Open House, hosted by the College's Special Events Committee, took place on Saturday, April 12. Current students, faculty, staff, and alumni shared information about the profession, College curriculum, and student experience. The annual open house is the College's largest recruitment event of the year. There were 261 people in attendance, including 106 prospective students, and many of the students were escorted by their hometown optometrist. Ninety-two of the students were Ohio residents, while 89 were college students and 17 were high school students. The primary way in which students heard about The Ohio State University College of Optometry was through their optometrist.

NOA Regional Mtg

For the first time this year, the Open House was held in conjunction with the Regional Meeting of the National Optometric Association (NOA), including Ohio, Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, Kentucky, and Indiana. Dr. Joyce Ramsue-Thompson corresponded with the 52 regional members. Numerous members attended the meeting, which began at 9:00 a.m. with a two-hour presentation by Drs. **Gil Pierce (OD'89, PhD'94)** and **Mile Brujic** on "Glaucoma Detection: Analyzing the Suspects," which was sponsored by Alcon.

The Open House provided two informational sessions, which included an admissions presentation by Ms. Sally Haltom, Director of Student Affairs, a financial aid presentation by Mr. Paul Todd, Assistant Director of Student Affairs, and a career information session with a panel of optometrists. **Lamar Zigler (OD/MS'81)** talked about his contact lens specialty practice; **Joan Nerderman (OD'86)** talked about her work at Faith Mission; **J.P. Maszczak (OD'05)** talked about his experiences in private practice; and **Melissa Walters (OD'99)** described her experiences in a variety of practice settings, including the Indian service, practice in Australia, and teaching at the College.

Additional activities at the Open House were student-led college tours, which included demonstrations by faculty researchers in their laboratories, and the student organization exhibits in room 22 Fry Hall. Prospective students also had the opportunity to ask current optometry students questions in the Ask-A-Student sessions. A University admissions and financial aid representative was also available to answer questions.

Next year the Open House will take place on Saturday, April 18, 2009.

NOA members, as well as prospective minority students, members of NOSA, and members of the Diversity Enhancement Committee attended the minority lunch in the Prior Health Sciences Library. Dr. Vondolee Delgado-Nixon moderated a panel of minority optometrists, which included **Stephanie Gutierrez (OD'08)** and **Sylvia Jones (OD'06)**, **Ravaughn Williams (OD'06)**, **Massala Reffell (OD'05)**, and **Melissa Walters (OD'99)**. Attendees also heard about the Improving Diversity of Optometric Learners (IDOL) program for college students interested in optometry

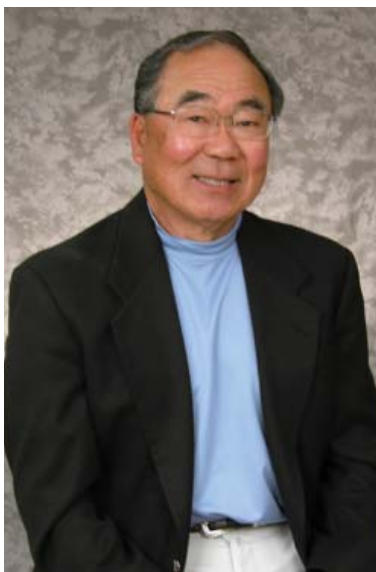
OSU Optometry Super Bowl

On Friday April 11th, the American Optometric Student Association held the annual OSU Optometry Super Bowl. This year third-year student contestants Karen Lee, Kenny Giusto, and William Tuten engaged in a fierce competition testing their optometric education in front of a crowd of more than 80 students, faculty and staff. Host **Mark Bullimore, MCOptom, PhD** grilled the contestants with questions in the areas of ocular and ophthalmic optics, biological sciences, and clinical optometric knowledge. **Donald Mutti, OD, PhD**, **Eric Ritchey (OD'01, MS'03)**, and Mr. Jeff Rohlf served as judges for the evening.

At the end of the night, William Tuten earned the chance to represent The OSU College of Optometry in the 17th annual Varilux Optometry Super Bowl held during Optometry's Meeting in Seattle, WA this June. While he hoped to bring the trophy back to OSU for the first time since 1998, the winner was the University of California, Berkeley.

We would like to thank Essilor of America for their all of their support in helping make the 2008 OSU Optometry Super Bowl a great success!

and the I-DOC (Improving Diversity in Optometry Camp) program for high school students who want to know more about optometry. IDOL and I-DOC are summer programs designed to interest under-represented students in an optometry career. The program will take place July 28 - 30 this year. Students learn about eyes and vision, observe doctors of optometry and students, learn about career options in optometry, find out about satisfaction and income-earning potential of an optometric career, and examine the needs of minority optometrists.



You can Make a Difference

As you decided – I WANT TO BE AN OPTOMETRIST – you had guidance and help along the way: your hometown optometrist, a teacher, a mentor to guide you down the path. Many who have made the leap to optometry call it “the hidden gem of all health professions.” Since it is such a well kept secret, shouldn’t we continue to work harder to ensure this hidden gem becomes a more widely known career option for interested students? Looking back to the early steps of that long and winding road that brought you into this profession, did you have a mentor?

Each year, our future students are mentored by hundreds of alumni throughout the United States, and it is our hope that number continues to rise each year! Why are you so important to the future of the profession? As we survey our incoming students each year, an overwhelming majority proclaim that they learned of optometry from a practicing optometrist – you are powerful role models! Many of our alumni bring students to the College to meet one-on-one with our Student Affairs staff or to special recruitment events on campus connecting them to faculty, staff, students, and other alumni. These alumni efforts help build relationships for future students and connections to a more realized optometric education.

Alumnus **Roy Ebihara (BS’ 63, OD ’77)** has championed recruitment efforts for nearly three decades. He is a regular attendee at our annual spring Open House and has written many letters of recommendation for his mentees along the years. Wes Immler observed Dr. Ebihara while he was his patient. He later became his mentor as Wes decided he too wanted to become an optometrist. Wes graduated from Ohio Northern University in the spring and will be entering OSU College of Optometry class of 2012 as a student this autumn. Wes recalls his time with Dr. Ebihara as a true inspiration. “Observing him, he was the kind of person who would do anything to help. He introduced me to a profession that will change my life. He is truly a caring and intelligent person and I hope to be like him when I’m an optometrist.” Remember, **you** have the power to help shape the future of this profession!

Dr. Ebihara is an outstanding example of the many alumni who are dedicated to the next generation of optometrists. He serves as a reminder of the impact you can make on your patients. Your daily interactions and time spent introducing each person to the possibilities available through a career in optometry will undoubtedly assure that our profession is in good hands for years to come!

thank you!

Student Recreation Room



The student lounge at the College has recently been graced with two much-needed recreational items, thanks to the generosity of the Optometry Alumni and Friends Society (OAF)! Back in autumn 2007 then-third-year student Troy Ogden spearheaded a request to the College to replace the foosball table and TV that have been in the lounge for the past few years. Both of these items get a lot of use, as you can imagine, and neither were in very good shape. Troy gathered information on how much it would cost to replace both the game table and the TV, and then developed a formal funding request to submit to the OAF board. The student representative on the Board, Michele Avila (’09), presented the request at the winter board meeting, and the board not only approved funding that would cover the cost of replacing the TV and foosball table, but also established a generous ongoing annual gift to the College of \$1500 to be used for upkeep of the student areas (lounge, lunch room, study areas).

Expressing his huge gratitude about this gift, Troy said, “Optometry Alumni and Friends came through for the students in a way we never imagined. The TV and Foosball table were the only centers for stress relief and relaxation inside the college and they were in disrepair. We were hoping for a couple hundred dollars to replace our dead TV and our dying foosball table and what we got was a long-term commitment to the students. The students’ educational concerns have always been a top priority, but now with the this gift, some of the students’ recreational and social needs have also been addressed. We students cannot thank the Alumni and Friends enough for this wonderful gift, nor can we fully realize their continued generosity to the college and its students.” In a recent e-mail message to his fellow students informing them about the new TV and foosball table and Alumni and Friends’ ongoing funding support, Troy said: “To commemorate their generosity we will be hanging signs in the students areas as a gesture of our gratitude to the Alumni and Friends. Keeping this in mind, after graduation you all can join the Alumni and Friends and give back to the College that means so much to us all.”



Dr. Heather Chandler Brings Diverse Talents

In October, 2007, Dr. Heather Chandler began working at the College of Optometry as an Assistant Professor on the tenure track. She has a Ph.D. in Veterinary Biosciences.

Heather was born and raised in Calgary, Alberta, Canada. Her father was the official photographer for the 1988 Winter Olympics in Calgary. She completed her undergraduate work (B.S. in zoology) at the University of Calgary. At that time, her ambition was to be a veterinarian. She had worked in veterinary hospitals, clinics, and vet schools since the age of 15 years. From her experiences, she realized that she did not want to spend her time in the practice of general veterinary medicine—in the spaying, neutering, and vaccination of animals. She preferred a specialization, including research.

During her last two years of work on her bachelor's degree in Calgary, she started helping with research, investigating the anaerobic bacteria that caused foot rot in cows, horses, and sheep. She helped to discover that the porphyrins in the bacteria absorb ultraviolet light and exacerbate infections by reducing the inflammatory response against the bacteria. She also worked on developing treatments for parasites in dogs and cats.

During the summer of 2001, after earning her bachelor's degree, Heather traveled to Ghana, Africa, to study the behavior of Colobus monkeys. These monkeys live primarily in the forest canopy and have four fingers and no thumb. (The name "colobus" means "mutilated one" and refers to the missing thumb.) Heather recorded their activities, what they ate, and collected samples of feces.

Heather started her Ph.D. at the University of Calgary in autumn, 2001; however, her plans changed with a move to Columbus, Ohio. She found employment at the College of Veterinary Medicine at The Ohio State University and helped Dr. Alicia Bertone in developing an equine microarray—a gene chip that lists the genes for normal horses.

In September, 2002, Heather enrolled in the Ph.D. program in Veterinary Biosciences at The Ohio State University. She started her work

with Dr. Donna Kussewitt, a veterinary pathologist who was researching skin and corneal wound healing.

Her Ph.D. dissertation was "Epithelial Mesenchymal Transition in the Anterior Segment of the Eye." It looked at protein regulation during cellular migration in corneal wound healing and in cataract formation. The same signaling pathways are used in both the cornea and the lens. Heather investigated how to speed up these pathways for more rapid corneal wound healing and how to slow down these pathways to prevent cataract formation. She determined that tetracycline speeds up corneal wound healing through growth factor upregulation, while Cox-2 inhibitors slow down lens cataractogenesis.

In the spring of 2006, Heather started working on a post-doctoral project with Dr. Carmen Colitz on estrogen regulation in cataract and secondary cataract formation. The way estrogen is synthesized in cataracts is different from how it is normally synthesized in the lens, and estrogen in the lens can be either protective or cataractogenic. Following her post-doc, Heather managed the Core Lab Facility at the Veterinary Hospital. She also worked on projects in prevention of secondary cataract formation with Drs. David Wilkie and Sarah Stone.

Heather's current projects at the college of optometry include: 1) reducing secondary cataract formation in dogs and in children; 2) genetic mutations in uveal melanoma; 3) the effects of tetracycline in vivo on corneal wound healing in dogs; 4) the effects of UV-blocking contact lenses to prevent damage to the anterior segment; and 5) steroid cataract formation.

Heather will be teaching VS 608, Ocular Anatomy, and VS 805, Biomedical Foundations of Vision Science.

She has two sisters who still live in Calgary—her older sister teaches dance and her younger sister is a phlebotomist at a hospital. She owns three cats and is married to an architect. She has a habit of collecting pets. She is compulsively neat and tidy, and she is "excessive in her baking and packing". Her hobbies include gardening, camping, soccer, lacrosse, field hockey—and anything outdoors.

Dr. Angela M. Brown: Research in Infant Color Categories

Dr. Angela M. Brown is an experimental psychologist who studies the sensory development of the human visual system. A grant from the National Eye Institute for a study on “Infant Color Categories” is enabling her to continue her research in both of her lines of work: visual development in infants and color vision.

Dr. Brown initiated her measurements of infant vision, or development of visual sensory processing, in 1983 with measurements of the absolute threshold of rods. Her research continued, step-by-step, from the physiological responses of rods to the processing through the cortex. She measured increment thresholds for the rods, contrast sensitivity, contrast discrimination, vernier acuity, and stereopsis—all for human infants.

The techniques that she used to study infant vision included preferential looking and opto-kinetic nystagmus. An observer would watch the babies’ eyes as a target was displayed, and the observer would make a dichotomous decision as to which direction the baby looked or which direction the nystagmus took place as a target moved from left to right or from right to left.

Her measurements of infant contrast sensitivity enabled her to predict infant visual performance in other areas, including color vision, vernier acuity, and stereopsis. The measurement of stereopsis in children is useful because patients in this age group often tire before both eyes can be tested individually, and measurements of stereopsis provide information on both eyes.

In 1996, she and her husband and colleague, Dr. Delwin T. Lindsey on the psychology faculty at OSU Mansfield, became intrigued by an article they read in *Nature* on the people of the Bitara and Kagiru villages in Papua New Guinea who speak the language Berinmo. The Berinmo language has only 5 names for colors: black, white, red, yellow, and blue-green. Psychologists, philosophers, and anthropologists have been interested



Dr. Brown is pictured with a replica of the Rosetta Stone, the first and most famous translating dictionary.

in color naming by different populations for over a hundred years. Language, including color naming, expresses and influences how people see the world. Researchers wonder whether color naming is subject to local linguistic convention and whether cross-language color naming differences are reflected in comparable differences in color cognition, memory, and discrimination by their speakers.

According to the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis, a systematic relationship exists between the grammatical categories of the language a person speaks and how that person understands the world and behaves in it. Language influences the thought of its speakers; therefore, colors are discerned only if there are words in the speaker’s language for them. Language determines the color categories that are seen.

The infants that Dr. Brown had been studying did not yet have a language and words for colors. According to the Sapir-Whorf hypothesis, they should not be able to discriminate color categories. Dr. Brown is investigating this because color naming is important to the fields of psychology, anthropology, and philosophy, in addition to vision science. She is using the method of vision search, in which the infants must look at the color that is different in a field of several of the same color and one different color. Eye movement latency is being used to measure the time to find the odd item, using an oddity paradigm.

Paying forward

When I came to the Alumni Association four years ago, one of the motivating factors for me in taking this job was the fact that it would give me a chance to pay forward for future generations of Buckeyes.

As many of you may know, the concept of paying forward has been one of the bedrock principles that I've used in my life. My college football coach Woody Hayes was a firm believer in this idea and it was something I heard him preach and watched him practice. Coach Hayes got the idea of paying forward from Ralph Waldo Emerson's essay on Compensation. Emerson wrote, "You can pay back only seldom. . . . You can always pay forward and you must pay line for line, deed for deed, and cent for cent."

These words have always been impactful for me, particularly because I can look back at my life and recognize that any accomplishment I achieved came in part because of the efforts of others. I consider myself an example of how paying forward can help advance a life.

This is why so many of our efforts at the Alumni Association are devoted to paying forward. It is why we decided to support the Recovery School District in New Orleans, an effort that to date has raised nearly \$70,000 for kids in need. It is why we decided to make our Alumni Cup golf outing benefit our scholarship endowment, an idea that has led to more than \$50,000 in scholarship funds being raised. And it is why I take tremendous pride in the fact that our clubs and societies raise more than \$400,000 in scholarship funds each year.

Everywhere you look, you can find ways that the Association, our members, and our constituent groups are paying forward. You probably don't have to think very hard to come up with ways that your group is helping to do the same. That makes me extraordinarily proud.



Archie Griffin,
President of The Ohio State University Alumni Association

The idea of paying forward is also one that is clearly on the mind of Ohio State President E. Gordon Gee. I had to smile when I saw his list of six strategic goals and got to goal No. 5, which is "Commit to our Communities." President Gee recognizes that Ohio State and its alumni do not exist in a vacuum. We are all part of a broader community and being active in these communities is so very important.

This is the type of work that you and your group are doing on a regular basis. You've taken a leadership role, which is something that we take note of here at Longaberger Alumni House. So keep the faith, keep up the good work, and let's keep paying forward to ensure that others will enjoy a bright future.

Dr. Monty Vickers tells Graduates about the Real World of Optometry

Dr. Montgomery (Monty) Vickers provided a highly informative and entertaining guest lecture/performance in the last class of Dr. Robert Newcomb's Optometry 741 course for Opt IV students on May 28, which included singing and playing his guitar.

For the past 18 years, Dr. Vickers, who is a graduate of the Pennsylvania College of Optometry, has written the very humorous "Chairside" column for Review of Optometry magazine. Based upon some of these articles and their personal experiences in the real world, he and his wife Renee shared stories from their private practice in St. Albans, West Virginia, for over ninety minutes with the Class of 2008. Some of his pearls of wisdom were to always instill proparacaine

BEFORE gonioscopy, and to learn from older optometrists by sitting next to them at optometric CE meetings. The definition of older optometrists, he said, was "someone who has had 3 colonoscopies!" And Renee, his wife and office manager, said "...you will become your patient's friend and confidant. You will become a part of their extended family. The trust they place in your knowledge and skills will enrich your lives as long as you practice, and even beyond."

Dr. Vickers is a member of "The Lost Cause Band" (www.thelostcauseband.com). He and Renee have a daughter, Amber, who will be a third-year dental student at Ohio State next year.



Class of 2011 Receive White Coats

Sixty-three first-year students in Dr. Robert Newcomb's Optometry 402 course, Rights and Responsibilities of Optometrists, received their white clinic coats in a formal ceremony held at the OSU Fawcett Center on May 30. Over 200 proud family members and friends attended the 8th annual event, some of whom traveled several hundred miles to be present. Cordial and inspirational remarks were given by Dean Melvin Shipp, **Roger Saneholtz (OD '74)**, President of the Optometry Alumni and Friends organization, and Dr. Tom Bobst, President-Elect of the Ohio Optometric Association. The coats were then presented by **Drs. Newcomb (OD '71, MPH)** and **Gil Pierce (OD '89, MS '92, PhD '94)**, since Dr. Pierce will teach the Theory and Practice of Optometry series of courses in their second year.

The Real Deal, an a cappella quartet of women who sing in the barbershop harmony style, sang "The National Anthem", "America the Beautiful", the "Buckeye Battle Cry", and the OSU Alma Mater, "Carmen Ohio". **Amy Keller (OD '00)** sang lead in this talented group of musicians.

The white coats were provided by a generous grant from Vision Service Plan; and a dessert reception co-sponsored by the Ohio Optometric Association and the Optometry Alumni and Friends organization followed the one-hour ceremony.



Brutus Buckeye
and Joseph Conrad



Sarah Scalley, Valerie Bornhorst, Melanie Anspaugh,
Annie Marshall, and Kylee Kleppinger

APHA ED Addresses 2008 Graduating Class

On May 14, Dr. Georges C. Benjamin, Executive Director of the American Public Health Association (APHA), provided a rare glimpse into the nation's public health care policy both now and in the future. His guest lecture was part of Dr. Robert Newcomb's Optometry 741 course entitled "Clinical and Business Aspects of Contemporary Optometric Practice" for Opt IV students.

In his address, which was titled "Health Equity: Ensuring Quality Accessible Care For All," Dr. Benjamin cited CMS data from 1988 projected through 2014 which showed US health expenditures as a share of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) increasing from 11% to 19%. He said despite spending almost \$2 trillion on health (\$6,102 per capital in 2004), the US actually ranks below Australia, Canada, Germany, New Zealand, and the United Kingdom in quality care, access, efficiency, equity, and long, healthy, productive lives. He told the students: "The US must move from a sickness system to a wellness system of health care;" and challenged our graduating class to "strive to

be the healthiest nation (in the world) in one generation." He reviewed the health policy reforms proposed by Senators Hillary Clinton, John McCain, and Barack Obama; and concluded with a famous quotation from the 1960's African-American comedienne, "Moms" Mabley: "If you always do what you always did, then you'll always get what you always got."

Dr. Benjamin's special guest lecture was sponsored in part by a grant from Optometric Educators Inc. The Ohio Optometric Association sponsored a breakfast meeting with him at the Blackwell Inn on campus the following morning.



Dean Shipp, Dr. Benjamin, and Dr. Newcomb

Residents Make Scholarly Presentations

All 14 residents in the College's seven affiliated optometric residency programs came to campus on June 18 to share new information and present challenging case reports based upon some of their unique experiences during the 2007-2008 academic year. All of these highly-specialized and fully-accredited post-graduate residency programs focus on the care of patients with ocular disease, systemic disease, and/or ophthalmic surgery. Those making presentations were:

Drs. **Kelly A. Richmond (OD '07)** and **Kristy Liu** from the Dayton VA Medical Center;

Drs. **Shauna Luskho, Corrie Weitzel (OD, MS '07)**, **Vinita Solomon**, and **Sara Betterly** from the Cleveland VA Medical Center;

Dr. **Anthony Dirr (OD '07)** from the Cincinnati Eye Institute;

Drs. **Kristy E. Chmielewski, Jennifer Schmelzer (OD '07)**, **Anders Hansson**, and **William Hileman** from the Chillicothe/Columbus VAs;

Dr. **Alison Palmer (OD '07)** from The Eye Center of Toledo;

Dr. **Brooke Smith** from the Hampton VA Medical Center; and

Dr. **Glendy Lau** from the Ohio Eye Alliance.

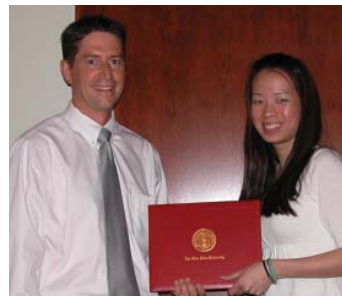
Their topics were both interesting and varied; and included patient cases of Retinal Emboli, Optic Neuritis, two cases of Papilledema, Neuroretinitis, Retinitis Pigmentosa, Giant Cell Arteritis, Panuveitis from Tuberculosis, Herpes Simplex Keratitis, Hydroxychloroquine Maculopathy, Cranial Nerve Palsies, Multifocal IOL Complications, Off-label use of Cyclosporin (Restasis), and even a fascinating case of Trichotillomania.

Their 15-minute presentations in room 33 were scheduled from 3:00-5:00 and again from 6:00-8:00. Residency certificates were presented from 5:00-6:00 following congratulatory remarks from Dean Melvin Shipp and during a delicious dinner provided by Mr. Aaron Adams, Alcon Laboratories Associate Medical Sales Representative (Optometric Specialty Group).

According to the OSU College of Optometry Residency Director, **Robert D. Newcomb (OD '71, MPH)**, over 100 optometry III and IV students, regular and auxiliary faculty, and practicing alumni attended the program. Dr. Newcomb said "This was the largest audience we have ever had for a program such as this. We had to set up additional chairs in our newly-renovated classroom to accommodate all of the attendees. And the residents' presentations were all A+."



Chillicothe VA: **Brian Montgomery (OD/MS'95)**, **Jennifer Schmelzer (OD'07)**, **Anders Hansson, OD**, **Kristy Chmielewski, OD**, **William Hileman, OD**, and **Andrew Weibel (OD'95)**



Ohio Eye Alliance: **Scott Young (OD'95)** and **Glendy Lau, OD**



TECOT: **Robert Newcomb (OD'71, MPH)** and **Alison Palmer (OD'07)**



Dayton VA: **Kelly Richmond (OD'07)**, **Greg Kiracofe (OD'81)**, and **Kristy Liu, OD**



Hampton VA: **Gay Tokumaru, OD** and **Brooke Smith, OD**



Cleveland VA: **Scott Anthony, OD**, **Corrie Weitzel (OD/MS'07)**, **Shauna Lushko, OD**, **Sara Betterly, OD**, **Vinita Solomon, OD**, and **Stacy Yaniglos (OD'77)**

1948 Jack Lafferty (BS '48) moved into a new retirement home.

1950 Lester Zeff (BS '50) reports, "Taking a licking, but still kicking."

1950 Philip Levy (BS '50) retired four years ago after 53 years of full time practice. He is enjoying sailing, gardening, painting, and time with grandchildren.

1952 Erwin Jay (BS '52) is a published author. See www.buybooksontheweb.com for a preview of *How to Take Back Control of The 7 Most Important Areas of Your Life*.

1952 Leslie J. West, BS '52 has retired to 40 acres of beautiful country living. He has had his own Walden Pond for 43 years. "Optometry is the greatest profession in the US."

1954 Wanda Gamertsfelder, the wife of **Paul Gamertsfelder (BS '54)**, passed away in August 2007. Paul remarried Ruth Gamertsfelder February, 2008.

1955 Ronald M. Gilbert (BS '55) is in practice with two of his sons. His son **Heath Gilbert (OD'92)** is on the OOA Board.

1955 Robert Harris (BS '55) has been retired since January 1993. His wife, Elaine, died on St. Patrick's Day 2002. His grandson, Josh Harris, started attending OSU Fall 2007. He is the third Harris to do so in 56 years.

1955 Irving J. Tanzman (BS '55) is semi-retired. He prac-

tices 2 ½ days a week, 40 weeks/yr. He reports he is still living in Vermont with wife Gail and has four grand children and one great grandchild. He enjoys VOSH.

1961 David L. Jordan (OD'61) is doing medical eye exams two days per week in Canandaigua NY VA Medical Center. He sold his private optometry practice and is semi-retired. He has 24 grandchildren.

1966 Jim Hater (BS '66, OD'76) and his wife, Carolyn, are enjoying their travel trailer, "sometimes just us, sometimes with a couple of grandkids. We are expecting our 10th grandkid in June. Looking at retiring in two to three years."

1971 Congratulations to Arol Augsburg (OD/MS '71) for receiving the American Optometric Association's Distinguished Service Award for 2008 at the AOA's annual meeting in Seattle. This award honors optometrists who have made unusually significant contributions to the profession. Dr. Augsburg served on the OSU College of Optometry faculty between 1971 and 1993; and is now the President of the Illinois College of Optometry.

1971 J. Michael Porter (OD'71) reports, "It can be tough being a Buckeye fan in S.E.C. country, but thanks to satellite TV, we carry on. Ohio State's golf team comes each spring to the Schenkel Invitational at our club. We take our Brutus out of the closet to cheer them on."

1974 Terry R. Schultz (OD'74) is happy to note that



Greg Good (OD'75, PhD') and his wife **Susie** (center) joined **Chris and Stephanie Spielman** and 2500 other Buckeye Fans on the Buckeye Cruise for Cancer this past February.

his son, **Jim**, finished his first year at The Ohio State University College of Optometry. His other son, **Tom**, is a senior in The Ohio State University Fisher School of Business.

1976 Steven C. Milleson (OD'76) writes his son **Patrick** is in his first year of optometry school at OSU. This will make the fourth generation in practice.

1977 Paul Dowd (OD'77) continues to ride his bike and participate in tri-sports completing several triathlons and a Cancer ride from Cleveland to Cincinnati on his bike for Hope Lodge. **Sandy** was a support person for this 270 mile ride. He is going to Peru in June, 2008 with VOSH and classmate **Mark Motley**. His son **Darren** is at Cleveland Marshall Law School and son **Trevor** is a District Manager for American Honda in Kansas City, MO. "Sandy has been enjoying riding our new tandem and is working at the office. We have been married now 31 years!"

1977 Joseph T. Barr (OD'77, MS'79) has accepted a new

position with Bausch & Lomb as vice president, Global Clinical & Medical Affairs and Professional Services, Vision Care.

1978 Christian Benner (OD'78) reports, "My wife and I are two Buckeyes surviving in SEC Country! My son **Adam** graduated from OSU in 2006 and works for Walgreens in Chicago. My daughter **Kristen** graduated from Miami U and works for Merrill Lynch in Cleveland. We moved to Columbia, SC two years ago to be in the sun!"

1978 William Roscoe (OD'78, MS'77) reports his son, **John Roscoe**, graduated from OSU in 2006. His younger son, **Daniel**, is a Junior in the Business School at OSU.

1980 Fred Fisch (OD'80) reports his oldest son **Daniel** graduated from The University of Arizona honors program (Magna Cum Laude) in 2007. **Daniel** is a production intern on a Hollywood movie "Love Ranch" starring Helen Mirren and Joe Pesci which will be released in 2009. His youngest son **Michael** is at Arizona State University majoring in film.

1980 Since 2006, **Marc Rob-boy (OD'80)** has been employed at FDA/Center for Devices and Radiological Health/Division of Ophthalmic and ENT Devices.

1980 At the recent 47th annual congress of the Heart of America Contact Lens Society, the Board of Directors presented the 2008 Vision Service Award to **Richard Weisbarth (OD'80)**.

1982 **James Robinson (OD'82)** reports his son, Dan, is currently attending OSU Optometry College and will graduate June, 2010.

1985 **David Stebelton (OD'85)** has three children: Lauren 12, Dave Jr. 9, and Jill 7. His wife Stephanie is an RN with Forum Health. He writes, "Everyone is well and we've all been on skis at least once."

1985 In April 2008, **Richard Haney (OD'85)** celebrated his 23rd anniversary with his wife Julie. His daughter Jennifer (20)

is a student at the University of Nebraska at Omaha studying pre-physical therapy. His other daughter, Tiffany (15), is a freshman at Scotus Catholic High School in Columbus, Nebraska.

1987 **Burt Carlson (OD'87)** is the proud father of Spencer (14) and Aaron (13) who led their Junior League All-Star team to state tournament. Spencer was voted MVP for the district tourney. He won 3 of 4 games for the team.

1987 **Margaret Hamilton (OD'87)** and Michael Coogan



Anna Michelle Coogan



Dr. Miavez pictured in a local village called Damerjog. She writes, "People from all over the US send items for donation to Djibouti (our base is called Camp Lemonier) We donated shoes (flip flops), soccer balls and goats to the people of this village."

are the proud parents of a baby girl, Anna Michelle Coogan, born 1-25-07.

1990 **Julie Long Miavez (OD'90)** is a Captain in the Medical Service Corps of the United States Navy presently serving as the Officer-in-Charge of Expeditionary Medical Force-12 at Camp Lemonier, Djibouti. Djibouti lies in northeast Africa on the Gulf of Aden at the southern entrance to the Red Sea.

The primary mission of EMF-12 is to provide medical services to more than 1,800 personnel assigned to Combined Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa at the Seth Michaud Emergency Medical and Dental Facility. The Special Operations Command Flight Surgeon and diving medical officer stated in a recent Camp Lemonier newsletter: *We are most fortunate and appreciative to have a medical and nursing staff commanded by Navy Capt. (Dr.) Julie L. Miavez to care for our operators, other joint forces and contractors stationed here. And to Dr. Miavez, we say The Ohio State University is proud of your service to our nation, ... and Go Bucks!*

1992 **Heath Gilbert (OD'92)** and Rachel Gilbert of Centerville joyfully announce the birth of their son, Avi Ross. Avi was born at Kettering Hospital on the morning of Sun., Feb. 17. He weighed eight pounds two ounces and measured 21 inches in length. His middle name is for Heath's grandmother, Rose Schuman. Proud grandparents are Shirlee and Ron Gilbert of Clayton, Gary Haug of Kettering, and Susan and Ron Nelson of Centerville.



Avi Ross Gilbert

1993 **Dan Denbow (OD'93)** recently completed a medical building project that houses his new office.



Steve Brezinski (OD'86), a.k.a. the luckiest man on the planet, with fiancée' and "Buckeye Idol" Julie Ivary on the dock, Nassau, Bahamas. His view of the Buckeye Cruise for Breast Cancer Research (February 2008), "An unforgettable trip! Any buckeye would love it. We already have our balcony cabin (where the football players stay) booked for '09."



Optometry Alumni Reunion



September 5-7, 2008

Questions: contact Gayle Glanville

Phone: 614-292-2100

Fax: 614-292-7201

Email: glanville.6@osu.edu

Web: <http://optometry.osu.edu>

*Featuring a Friday Evening Banquet honoring
Ruth Morris, BS'43 inaugural recipient of the
Optometry Alumni & Friends
Distinguished Alumnus Award*



1994 Roger Saneholtz (OD'74) took CE from **Christine Sindt** (OD'94) on a cruise.

1996 Jodie Larson (OD'96) now lives in South Dakota and has three children – Madison (7), McKenna (5), and Serena (2). She writes, "I am blessed to be able to work two days a week so I can spend more time with the kids! We love small (very small) town life! Email me at eyefanatic@aol.com!"

1996 Brian Meier (OD'96) retired from the United States Air Force (USAF) on April 1, 2008! Will remain in Colorado Springs and work as a civilian on the USAF Academy. "Come hike a "14-er" with me! Go Falcons, Buckeyes, and Spurs!"

1997 Congratulations to **Elizabeth "Beth" Draper Muckley** (OD'97) for receiving the American Optometric Association's "National Young Optometrist of the Year" award for 2008 at the AOA's annual meeting in Seattle. This award recognizes individuals who have been in active practice less than 10 years and demonstrate remarkable leadership skills when serving the profession, patients, and their communities. Dr. Muckley practices in Uniontown, Ohio.

1998 Theodore Billy (OD'98) and his wife welcomed a daughter, Emma June, 7lbs

7oz, 19 ½" in July 2007. She joins big brother Ryan (3).

1999 Brian Gerlach (OD'99) was married 5/19/2007 to Melissa. They are expecting a little girl in June 2008. He has traveled to Nicaragua twice, Bolivia and Guatemala for medical mission trips in the last five years.

2001 Dawn Webb (OD'01) celebrated the birth of her son, Levi Matthew Popken-Webb, on January 27, 2008!

2001 Nick Weber (OD'01) and his wife welcomed their 3rd child, Mia Cecilia in June 2007. Their other two children are Max Jacob (5) and Ava Elizabeth (3).

2002 Josie M. Kosunick (OD'02) and **Greg Kosunick** (OD'02) welcomed their second child, Adriana Rose, in December 2007.



Adriana Rose Kosunick

2002 Kyle and Melanie Lang (OD'02) celebrate the birth of



The Lang Family

Gabrielle Rosemary Lang. She joins siblings: Isabella 4 yrs, Hayes 3 yrs, and Mason 2 yrs.

2004 David Bejot (OD'93) of Toledo, OH and **Jamie Casper** (OSU'04) of Wilmington, NC traveled to the remote town of Dessalines, Haiti to provide optometric examinations in January 2008. The trip was organized through The Go Factor at Crossroads Free Methodist Church in Toledo, Ohio. With the assistance of a small team of volunteers, David and Jamie examined nearly 500 patients over four days. Donated spectacles, sunglasses, and medications were given to Haitians during the trip.

2005 Devon Jarvis (OD'05) announces the birth of his baby boy, Barrett Gray (Go Bucks!!) Jarvis, on December 6, 2007.

2005 Bill Kegerize (OD'05) says he is now practicing in Oregon, Ohio at James Optical. "I enjoy seeing patients in the community I grew up in. I also enjoy my time with Dr. Angela Jackson in Rossford and Dr. Dennis Laub in Genoa. My daughter Lily will be two in July, and #2 will be here in August 2008. GO BUCKS!"

In Memoriam

Ray R. Reemsnyder, BS'48

William S. Morrow, BS'50

Jack Fugate, OD'66, MS'53



Drs. David Bejot and Jaime Casper

AOF Alumni Award Recipients

The American Optometric Foundation (AOF) congratulates the winners of the 2007 - 2008 Dr. Terrance Ingraham Pediatric Optometry Residency Award and the Dr. George W. Mertz Contact Lens Residency Award. Each \$4,000 award is generously funded by VISTAKON®, Division of Johnson & Johnson Vision Care, Inc.

Dr. George W. Mertz Contact Lens Residency Award

Neeta Chhabra, OD'06
NOVA Southeastern University
College of Optometry

Dr. George W. Mertz Contact Lens Residency Award

Catherine Pannebaker, OD'06
The Ohio State University
College of Optometry

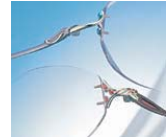
Dr. George W. Mertz Contact Lens Residency Award

John Laurent, OD'76, PhD, FAAO
University of Alabama at
Birmingham School of Optometry

Congratulations!

Thank You!

The Ohio State University College of Optometry gratefully acknowledges the generous support of Hoya Vision Care, North America, and Mr. Barney Dougher, President and Chief Operating Officer, for this issue of the BuckEYE newsletter.



HOYA

The Ohio State University
Optometry Alumni & Friends
338 West Tenth Avenue
Columbus, OH 43210-1280

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
PAID
Columbus, OH
Permit No. 711

