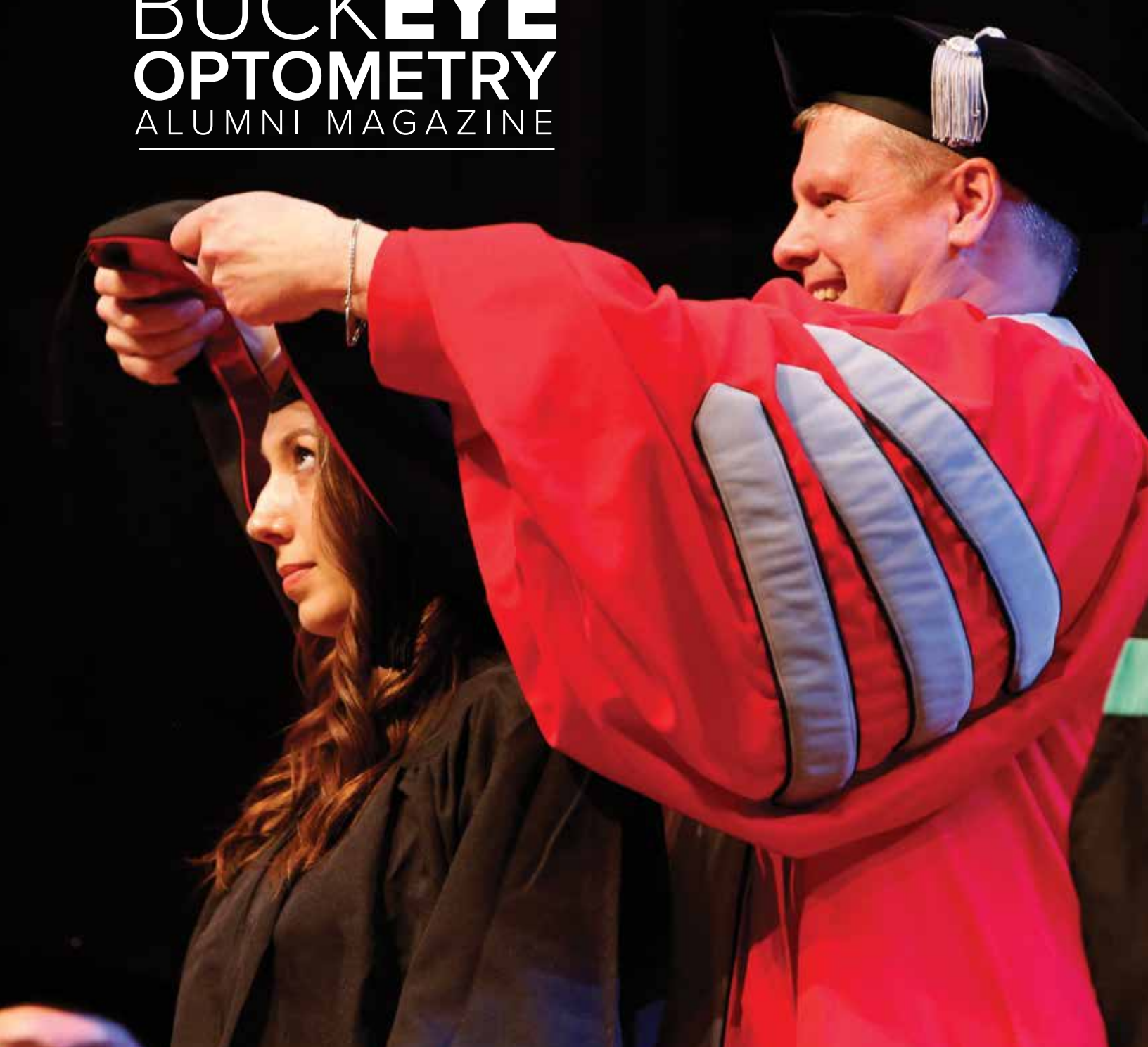


BUCKEYE  
OPTOMETRY  
ALUMNI MAGAZINE



**CONGRATULATIONS GRADS!**  
Class of 2016

**summer 2016**



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*The Ohio State University College of Optometry Alumni Society is a chartered alumni society  
of The Ohio State University Alumni Association, Inc.*

on the cover:

**Molly Smith (OD'14, MS'16)** being hooded by her advisor **Jeff Walline (OD, MS'98, PhD'02)**

### OSU Alumni Association Director of Alumni Societies

Craig Little

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# DEAN'S LETTER

*"I think your whole life shows in your face, and you should be proud of that."*

—Lauren Bacall



I spent the month of May with both my pride and my whole life showing in my face. I think I cried at least once every day. The Class of 2016 graduated on May 8, turning out in record proportion for commencement in the 'Shoe, sporting optometry's traditional giant spectacles. There were many wonderful moments that weekend, including recognition of some outstanding members of the class at the awards banquet. I felt the most pride that evening as I met graduates' families and thought of all the hard work and support the families contributed to the new ODs' success.

Family members presented flowers, took pictures, and made memories. One mom had faculty sign a stuffed animal for her graduate son. Optometrist relatives hooded four graduates.

Professor **Nick Fogt (OD/MS'92 PhD'96)** read sentences the students wrote about themselves as they were hooded. Recurrent themes included family, hard work, ambitious future goals, and Harry Potter.

Twelve members of the class are headed to residency training. Three are staying for graduate work in the form of an advanced practice fellowship. The Class of 2016 has already experienced two weddings and a new baby since graduation, which typifies these young people's eagerness to get on with their lives. They are the best trained, most dedicated, and most motivated class ever. I dubbed them resilient, ebullient, and downright brilliant. I expect great things from them.

Late in the month my elder daughter got married in Temecula, California. The tears just continued. My pride and love runneth over as she and her father walked in to Beyoncé, she and her husband were married in a ceremony he wrote (performed by an optometrist officiant), processed to the Beatles, and danced to *Unforgettable*. Family and friends flew and drove in from all over, including four members of my UC Berkeley School of Optometry Class of 1982. My sister baked 300 "Nana" cookies (tollhouse/chocolate chip per my mother's recipe) as reception favors. Although group dances were generally banned from the DJ's playlist (so no chicken dance?), *Hang On Sloopy* was a highlight. Even guests who had never heard it were soon spelling with their arms, led by the bona fide Ohio State grads on the dance floor. The DJ commented to my daughter, "Well, that went over well!"

Buckeye pride runs deep. It's always there. The Ohio State gear in airports, not only at the gates of flights headed to Columbus, abounds. Let it show in your face, and be exceedingly proud of your Ohio State alumni connections.

**Karla Zadnik, OD, PhD**

Dean

Glenn A. Fry Professor in Optometry and Physiological Optics

## Summer 2016



The Optometry Alumni Society gets to wind down a little now that the spring functions are completed. These functions are certainly the most exciting opportunities for me as I get to represent you at Convocation, the White Coat Ceremony, and Alumni Advisory Council.

Hopefully you remember Convocation and maybe White Coat Ceremony but may not be aware of the Alumni Advisory Council. This Council meets twice a year for two days and reports to the President of the university. Its membership consists of appointees from each college, various offices within the university, and all of the branch campuses. The agenda is prepared through the Ohio State Alumni Association and the President's office. The council is presented different topics from all areas of the university. Members are provided a phenomenal opportunity to get to see how different units function and all the great things being done within this great university.

Last April, one of the topics the Council revisited was the commercialization of the intellectual property developed through research. Ohio State's history on the amount of monetary benefits it receives from the result of research has been on the low side. The Council conversations on this topic have been enlightening, and Ohio State is improving in this area.

Optometry is certainly involved as a research institution, and Ohio State expects results. This is an area that we as alumni may not think about very often. Many great things are happening as a result of our faculty's work in these areas, and we commend them for these successes. The necessary point not to overlook, however, and a large part of the Advisory Council's concern is: can these outstanding researchers teach? There is no doubt in my mind that our current faculty are doing their jobs extremely well, and I'm very humbled to get to confirm our faculty's successes to the Council. The caliber of our graduates certainly represents the abilities of our faculty to teach and continually preserves the value of all of our degrees from the College of Optometry at The Ohio State University.

I can officially apologize for any abuse you may have endured this past 10 years if you spent much time reading these President Messages. **Vince Driggs (OD'85)** will be our next President of the Optometry Alumni Society upon election at Alumni Weekend in October. Many, many thanks go to all of the board members present and past. I also want to thank Deans Hill, Schoessler, Shipp, and Zadnik for their acceptance of our Society. I've been around long enough to know that not all Societies get the support from the administrations that our Society does.

As Always, Affirm Thy Friendship, O-HI-O!!

**Roger L. Saneholtz (OD'74)**

President, Ohio State Optometry Alumni Society

## How About a “Yes,” Man?



Have you ever considered how many ways you can say “yes?” Probably not, but consider these possibilities: yeah, OK, yep, yeppers, sure, of course, okey dokey, certainly, aye, uh-huh, absolutely, roger, 10-4, and totally. And don’t forget that you learned the word “yes” long after you learned the word “no.” We all did. “No” was our parents’ way of saving us from the dangers of the world and keeping us alive. Their fears of our endangering ourselves through our actions necessitated our learning “no” first. But did you leave the fears that programmed “no” into our lives as children in childhood, or have you carried them along as part of the baggage of your life?

When someone asks you, “Can we ...?”, is your first inclination to say “no?” Maybe it is because it might be inconvenient, maybe it wasn’t part of your plan or thought process, maybe the cost is too high, or maybe you will be taken outside your comfort zone. Or is your first inclination to embrace the possibility and follow the wisdom of Tina Fey, “Say yes and you’ll figure it out afterwards?”

Maybe the offer is just an opportunity to share coffee with a friend. Or share ice cream with a grandchild. Or listen to stories of a great-grandparent’s childhood. Maybe it is to take a trip to France to see the Eiffel Tower. Or a cruise to the Caribbean. Or to bring a better life to someone in an impoverished part of the world. Maybe it is new technology or new methods for practicing. Or an expansion of services or facilities. Or agreeing to see that urgent visit right at the end of the day.

While I was in Boston attending Optometry’s Meeting recently, I had a couple nights with no specific dinner plans. Through kind invitations on the spur-of-the-moment, I had dinner with a couple of dear alumni friends one night and had my first lobster roll and a great evening of laughter and fun. Another night, a new friend and spouse introduced me to another alumnus, and I got a chance to build a couple new relationships. One night was planned ahead with a classmate, his spouse, and his work associate. Each night, I could have had dinner and been back to my room earlier if I had not said “yes” to these invitations. Instead, on each night, I had an enriching experience that was memorable and great fun.

Colleagues, however you say it, “yes” begins to open us to incredible possibilities. It could be the beginning of a new romantic relationship, a business relationship that is fulfilling, a journey toward a goal that you didn’t even realize you had, or an adventure whose impact cannot be seen. Know that everything in life does not warrant a “yes.” Sometimes the answer is a carefully considered “no.” But saying “yes” is like a key to unlocking enrichment in your life.

How many times would you need to say “yes” to experience greater success and enrichment in your life?

Below is a photo of grandchild #3, Dorian James Myers, born June 13, 2016. He is my daughter Jennifer’s first child and is dressed like a true Buckeye to go home from the hospital. Both are doing fine.

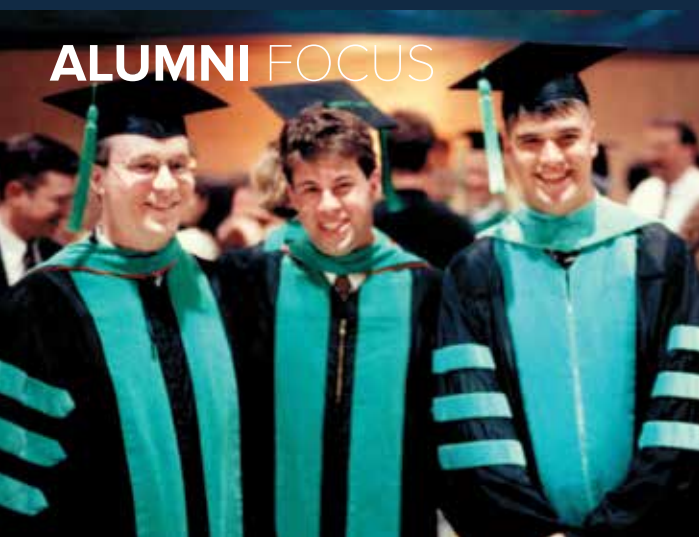
**Jeffrey A. Myers (OD’84)**  
BuckEYE Editor





# LOOKING FOR THE OPPORTUNITIES

By Jeffrey A. Myers (OD'84)



Ohio State Optometry's 1997 Convocation, with classmates **Derin Van Loon (OD'97)** and **Patrick Dawson (OD'97)**.



At the Chillicothe VAMC in 1997 with **Rick Frick ('97)**, and extern instructor, **William Schuller (BS'65, OD, MPH)**. Note the interesting chair that they placed in "Wild Bill's" office; they kept Bill on his toes.



Suited up for a spin in the Dynamic Environment Simulator (DES) centrifuge at Wright Patterson Air Force Base in 2002.

In 1993, if you had told **Tyson Brunstetter (OD/MS'97, PhD'00, MBA)** that his decision to attend optometry school would allow him to do paradigm-shifting research for naval aviators, that he would spend much of his career in the U.S. Navy becoming a high-ranking officer, and that he would have coordinated the development of a first aid kit that is now becoming the standard across all U.S. military services, he would probably have said, "Let me just get through physiology for now." But a life of taking advantage of opportunities presented to him has added up to exactly that.

Dr. Brunstetter attended optometry school supported by the U.S. Navy Health Services Collegiate Program, which provided a salary for tuition, books, supplies, and housing expenses in exchange for service as an optometrist in the U.S. Navy. He was invited to and took advantage of the combined OD/MS program while in school. He then completed a PhD following his OD degree. He received his commission as a Navy Lieutenant (O-3) in 1999.

His first Navy assignment was at the Naval Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory in Pensacola, Florida. His plan was to complete the service that had allowed him to be educated and then return to civilian life. While there, he learned of the Aerospace Optometrist training. This program, parallel to medicine's Flight Surgeon training, trains optometrists to better understand the demands and environment of aviators and navigators, allowing optometrists to better care for their aviator patients.

The six-month training course consists of didactic training around all facets of flight, including mishap investigation and time in the clinic. Candidates then attend preflight ground school, alongside aviators and crew members, studying weather, navigation, FAA rules, engines, and aerodynamics. Lastly, they train with Navy aviators and navigators in primary flight training,

learning how to fly, doing everything in the cockpit except solo flight. Brunstetter was the eighth Naval Aerospace Optometrist to earn his wings. As part of this qualification, he is required to have four hours of flight time per month in an F/A-18, C-130, H-60 Seahawk or Blackhawk helicopter—actually, any Department of Defense (DoD) aircraft with more than one seat. He reports that his time in the cockpit has helped immensely to understand the needs of his aviator patients. By the end of his first tour, he was hooked on Navy life.

Early in his career during his first and second assignments, he was doing research on aviator vision. One of his favorite projects was working to answer this question, "What happens to an aviator's ability to handle G-forces when they are given a one-or two-week vacation from flying?" Aviators build a tolerance to G-forces through experience. At a certain level of g-force, which is different for each individual, people have enough blood pulled from their brain to lose consciousness. If this lasts long enough, crashes can occur.

The research was conducted in collaboration with the U.S. Air Force at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio in a human centrifuge that induces G-forces. As a side benefit of being a researcher, Dr. Brunstetter was able to experience the centrifuge and was able to withstand 7.5G without passing out (although he recommends not eating blueberry pancakes before taking a spin!). The study showed that aviators did not lose their G-tolerance, but their G-endurance was significantly affected by the vacation from flight.

Other early research took him to the Persian Gulf to help F/A-18 Super Hornet pilots to solve an issue with compatibility of helmet visors and laser protection eyewear. His work helped to develop a spectacle frame that would fit under the visor. On another project, his



experience and understanding of color vision helped engineers to understand that laser protection eyewear, which is essentially a filter, can filter out the wavelengths of light of the laser, but can also have the effect of filtering out certain colors of light on color displays in the cockpit, affecting control of the aircraft. He also performed cockpit research on helmet-mounted displays and laser eye protection in an effort to determine effects of changing luminance levels so that the safety, visibility, and efficiency of aviators was not compromised.

In 2006, Dr. Brunstetter was assigned as the Research Director, Navy Refractive Surgery Program at the Naval Medical Center in San Diego, California. This was the mecca for military refractive surgery research, and he was thrilled to work with an esteemed group of naval officers and doctors including Captain Steven Schallhorn, MD, Captain David Tanzer, MD, Captain Elizabeth Hoffmeister, MD, Captain Andy Engle, OD, MBA, **Captain Rick Zeber (OD'98, MBA)** and **Commander Mitch Brown (OD'86)**. This research group performed several FDA and Naval studies on PRK and LASIK.

LASIK in the civilian world is considered a cosmetic procedure, but LASIK in the military environment is considered a procedure to increase mission effectiveness and safety. One-third of naval aviators who had LASIK achieved 20/10 vision using a research standard ETDRS chart. This ability essentially doubled the distance at which aviators, navigators, and SEALs could detect a threat, providing a substantial advantage. As a result of this research, Dr. Brunstetter and his team found LASIK to be safe and effective for military aviators. The procedure is now an option for aviators in all military branches. Even NASA astronauts now can have refractive surgery based on this research. The research truly changed the face of the selection process for all American military aviators.

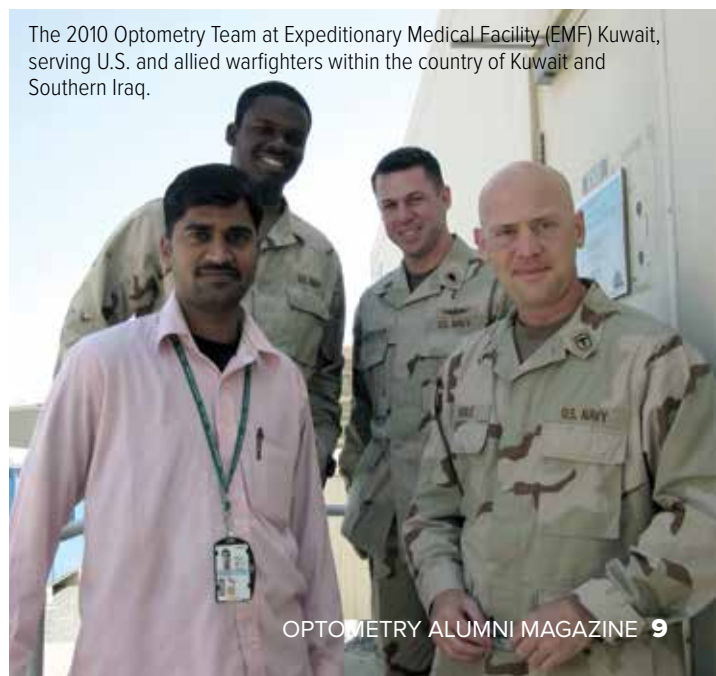
His next assignment was as the Director, Joint Medical Test and Evaluation at Fort Detrick, Maryland. This assignment was as an administrator, not specifically as an optometrist. He was tasked with coordinating all military services to test and evaluate medical devices used in a deployed environment for enroute care. Medical equipment like portable ventilators and IV infusion pumps were tested in the various environments where military personnel might be deployed, whether desert sand and heat or icy seawater environments.

As a part of this assignment, he was instrumental in developing the first Joint-Service First Aid Kit (JFAK). Previously, each branch of the military had its own first aid kit. This meant that if a Marine and Airman were in a joint operation and one was injured, the other would not be familiar with where the injured personnel's first aid kit was or what was in it, potentially hindering treatment of the injured individual. Now, a DoD policy ensures that all personnel will eventually receive the same JFAK. Additionally, through the influence of Dr. Brunstetter and collaborators at the DoD/VA Vision Center of Excellence (especially COL (retired) Robb Mazzoli, MD), rigid eye shields are included as an essential and basic component of the JFAK to reduce further damage from perforating injuries of eyes on the battlefield.

Dr. Brunstetter currently serves as Director of Medical Logistics Policy for Navy Medicine, a \$2 billion enterprise. Obviously this position is out of the traditional optometry career path, and every day is "outside of his comfort zone," but it's been a tremendous and valuable experience, and has opened his eyes to the world of healthcare administration and logistics ... that is, getting the right medical product to the right person at the right price, anywhere in the world.



Returning from an Iraq mission with the 2515th Navy Air Ambulance Detachment in 2010.



The 2010 Optometry Team at Expeditionary Medical Facility (EMF) Kuwait, serving U.S. and allied warfighters within the country of Kuwait and Southern Iraq.

His career has been outstanding thus far, and he has been recognized with the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (four times), and the Army Achievement Medal. He was named Armed Forces Junior Optometrist of the Year in 2004, the U.S. Navy Junior Optometrist of the Year in 2009, received the Paul Bert Award for outstanding aerospace research in 2011 from the Aerospace Physiology Society, and was selected as a U.S. Navy candidate for the NASA Astronaut Corps. Along the way, he has 31 publications in the military and civilian sectors, has authored 89 scientific presentations and 16 posters, presented at meetings all over the country, earned an MBA, and completed U.S. Navy Medical Logistician and Comptroller training.

His career is far from over. In September 2016, he will be promoted to the rank of Captain (O-6) and will join the Visual Impairment and Intracranial Pressure (VIIP) project at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas. The VIIP project is tasked with researching the changes to the eye and vision as a result of microgravity related to long duration space flight. Over 60% of long-duration flight crewmembers report a change in distance or near visual acuity. Other sequelae of long duration space flights include optic disc edema, choroidal folds, cotton-wool spots, hyperopic shifts, retinal hemorrhage, visual field scotomas, and post-flight increased intracranial pressure.

Most of the ocular findings noted above were seen in space flights of six months duration. One would expect similar or more severe events with space flights of longer duration. NASA's plan is a manned Mars mission in the next 15-20 years. That trip will take 30-36 months. The risk of blindness in astronauts as a result of long duration space flight is an undesirable outcome for all involved. So, Dr. Brunstetter and the VIIP project crew are tasked with diagnosing the cause of these events and developing a way to mitigate the effects. Without a solution, manned flight to Mars may not happen.

Dr. Brunstetter is married to Laura, who is a successful and experienced FBI Special Agent and hostage negotiator, and is father to Bayden-8, Elle-3 and Arden-1. For a student who was just hoping to make it through physiology, he has done well. He attributes his success to simply taking advantage of opportunities as completely as possible, acknowledging that he had none of this career planned. He is quick to admit that his Ohio State education and experience set the foundation for the amazing opportunities that he's enjoyed, and it instilled in him adaptability, perseverance, and a passion for lifelong learning. He loves what he is doing; a combination of clinical care, research, and administration. Congratulations and best wishes for a continued successful career.



Brunstetter presenting a poster at Academy '99 with his PhD advisor (and fellow "Rush" aficionado), **Nick Fogt (OD/MS'92, PhD'96)**.



Brunstetter being promoted to Lieutenant Commander in 2006 at the U.S. Navy Test Pilot School in Patuxent River, Maryland, by his father, Fred.



An opportunity for "stick time" in an H-60 Seahawk helicopter in Northern Kuwait in 2010 ... in 140-degree temperatures!







# A PORTRAIT OF SUPPORT

## Students Tap into Creativity to Support Classmate

By Sarah Cupples, MA, *Director of Marketing and Communications*

*Back:* Paula Kelbley ('18), Vondolee Delgado-Nixon, PhD, Jeff Walline (OD, PhD'02), Jenna Bailey ('17), Melissa Eckes ('17), Marca Hobbs ('18), Mark Ortiz ('17)  
*Middle:* Kirsti Roehm ('17), Jessica Bodamer ('18), Amber Mathias ('18), Jordyn Matuschka ('18), Erin Meffan ('17)  
*Bottom:* Sam Hoelzer ('17), Marielle Blumenthaler ('19), and Greg Nixon (OD'96) displaying their artwork!

Finding balance is one of life's most challenging tasks, more so for optometry students juggling class, clinic and family obligations, even more when an illness strikes.

**Mark Ortiz ('17)** was diagnosed with testicular cancer in December 2015. When he found out that his cancer had metastasized and he would need surgery and 12 weeks of chemotherapy, he was apprehensive about how he would be able to keep up with classes and clinic.

"As students, we spend the majority of our time focusing on the rigorous demands presented by optometry school," he explains. "In our spare time, we balance various other things such as our work, hobbies, and social lives. Also, this past spring, not only were we studying for classes but also for Part 1 of our national boards."

Of course, missing class and clinic time puts a student at a disadvantage. Ortiz was forced to miss two weeks in January for surgery as well as multiple additional days for chemotherapy treatments.

Thanks to the support of Ortiz's professors and classmates, he was able to power through this adverse time in his life. "My professors were great about working around my treatment schedule and answering any questions I had. I especially was grateful for recorded lectures, so I was still learning the class material, even though I could not physically attend class."





**Ann Morrison (OD'14, MS'16)** painting



**Bill Patton (OD'13)** enjoying paint day with his table



**Sara Hitchman ('17), Mark Ortiz ('17), and Sam Hoelzer ('17)**

Ortiz credits his generous spring semester clinical instructors, **Dawn Goedde (OD'04)** and **Tamara Oechsli (OD/MS'11, PhD'16)**, for organizing make-up dates for missed clinic hours, so he wouldn't miss out on a full clinical experience.

His classmates wanted to do as much as they could to help, as well. They showed their support by preparing dinners on days Ortiz received treatment, recording lectures, and shared well wishes.

**Sara Hitchman ('17)**, who was Ortiz's clinic partner in Opt 2 Clinic, approached him with her idea to hold a "Paint Day" fundraiser. **Kirsti Roehm ('17)** and **Samantha "Sam" Hoelzer ('17)** helped organize the event, with artistic guidance and assistance from Senior Graphic Designer Kerri McTigue.

They wanted the fundraiser to be a lighthearted, positive event, allowing people to make their own Ohio State Optometry-themed décor, while raising money to help pay for Ortiz's medical expenses.

They settled on April 3 at the EYE House, and got the word out to faculty, staff, and students about the event, garnering a great deal of interest. Hoelzer purchased 1'x1' wood squares from Lowe's, which were the canvases. She sanded them during the Easter weekend, and she and Roehm attached hooks and wires for hanging. Hitchman stained the wood in her garage, and once the stain was dry, they traced the designs on each piece.

Paint Day fell on the end of a particularly tough week of chemotherapy for Ortiz. He had received treatment Monday through Friday and was exhausted.

"When I got to the event, I was overwhelmed by all of the people who came to support me," he says.

Seventy-four students, faculty, staff and friends signed up to attend. Participants could choose to paint "Cool

"The Paint Day fundraiser really lifted my spirits and helped to remind me of all of the support by which I was surrounded."

**Mark Ortiz ('17)**

Brutus" or a Buckeye Leaf pattern on a rustic, stained wood square. Many who were unable to attend donated money, bringing the grand total raised to \$4,140.

"The faculty members who participated were hilarious," says Hitchman. "People showed their personalities while painting. Some optometrists are quite particular (**Doug Widmer, OD'11, MS'16**), while others are more artistic (**Jeff Walline, OD, MS'98, PhD'02**)."

"**Dr. Greg Nixon (OD'96)** said he planned to hang his painting on the back wall of his office behind his desk, so no one could get close enough to see his painting skills," adds Roehm.

"While I may not be the best artist, the stencils made the paintings easy to do," says Ortiz. "It was interesting to see how everyone differed in techniques as they painted. Overall, I thought that everyone did a remarkable job organizing the event, and I had a great time."

Now, Ortiz's painting hangs over his desk in his apartment, where he sees it every day. "It serves as a reminder of all of the love and support I have received from everyone at the school since I was diagnosed," he says.

"As corny as it sounds, we are a family," Hoelzer says. "When you are in such a small program and are



**Sam Hoelzer ('17), Mark Ortiz ('17), Kirsti Roehm ('17), and Sara Hitchman ('17)** after they presented Ortiz with the proceeds from Paint Day

constantly spending time in close quarters with the same people, it just happens. Our class rallied around Mark after he shared his diagnosis. We all wanted to contribute and help alleviate some of the financial stress."

Ortiz has entered his fourth year as an Ohio State Optometry student, and he looks forward to soon moving on from this chapter in his life. He recently had a second surgery to remove the remaining masses left over from chemotherapy, and he still might need further treatments.

But he remains optimistic. "From this experience, I've definitely gained perspective that I hopefully will be able to use in practice in the future," he says. "Going through this made me more empathetic toward the hardships facing patients. I genuinely feel that if going through this experience helps me at the end to become a better doctor, then it was truly worth it."

"From the bottom of my heart, I cannot thank everyone enough who helped with this event or donated," he says. "The Paint Day fundraiser really lifted my spirits and helped to remind me of all of the support surrounding me."



Painters hard at work for a good cause!





Banquet attendees sing Happy Birthday to Dean Karla Zadnik, OD, PhD

## 2016 GRADUATION BANQUET

By Jennifer Bennett, MS Ed, *Director of Student Affairs*

Graduation weekend for the Class of 2016 began with the annual awards banquet at the Columbus Athenaeum on May 6. Graduates selected faculty members Heather Chandler, PhD and **Michael Earley (OD/MS'88, PhD'92)** to emcee the evening. Drs. Chandler and Earley facilitated an evening of awards, reflection, and joyous celebration.







**Michelle Buckland (OD'06, MS'08) and Adam Peiffer (OD'16)**



**Nicky Lai (OD/MS'08) and Kate McClure (OD'16)**



**Jackie Davis (OD'81, MPH) and Allison Treleaven (OD/MS'16)**

## 2016 Award Recipients

### Beta Sigma Kappa Silver Medal

*Sponsored by VSPOne*

**Whitney Marie Territo (OD'16)**

### Eyewear Dispensing Award of Excellence

*Sponsored by Hoya*

**Michael W. Smith (OD'16)**

### Binocular Vision and Pediatrics Clinical Excellence Award

*Sponsored by the Good-Lite Company and Safilo*

**Kelsea Diane Naylor (OD'16)**

### Excellence in Vision Therapy Award

*Sponsored by the College of Optometrists in Vision Development and Shamir*

**Adam J. Peiffer (OD'16)**

### Low Vision Rehabilitation Clinical Excellence Award

*Sponsored by Mattingly Low Vision and grateful patients*

**Whitney Marie Territo (OD'16)**

### Award of Excellence in Contact Lens Patient Care

*Sponsored by the Gas Permeable Lens Institute, Toledo Optical, Johnson & Johnson Vision Care, and the American Optometric Foundation*

**Kate Alexandra McClure (OD'16)**

### Community Outreach Clinical Excellence Award

*Sponsored by Select Optical*

**Allison Jean Treleaven (OD/MS'16)**

### Primary Vision Care Clinical Excellence Award

*Sponsored by Marchon and Beaver-Visitec*

**Kelsy Steele (OD'16)**

### Advanced Ocular Care Clinical Excellence Award

*Sponsored by Volk Optical, Safilo and Beaver-Visitec*

**Shane P. Mulvihill (OD/MS'16)**

### The Dr. Lyle Aloysius John Gassmann Memorial Award

**Erica Lucia Keller (OD'16)**

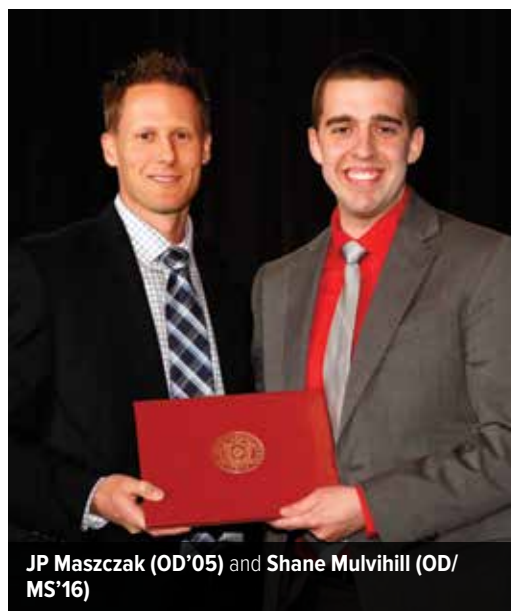
### Graduate of the Year

*Sponsored by Optometric Educators, Inc.*

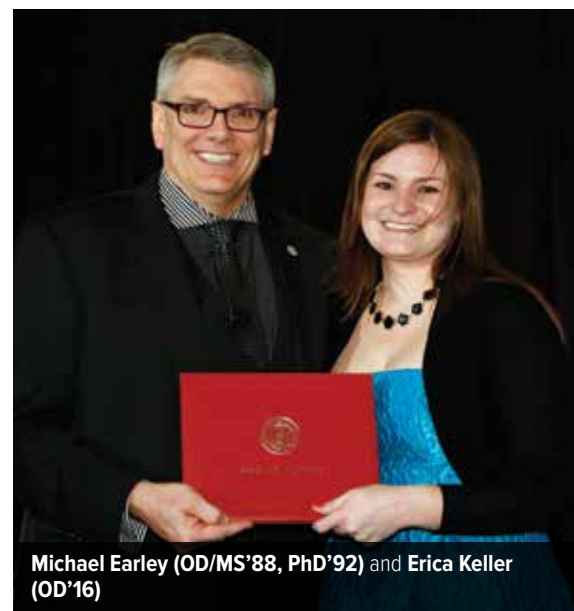
**Whitney Marie Territo (OD'16)**



**Heidi Wagner (OD'86, MPH) and Kelsy Steele (OD'16)**



**JP Maszczak (OD'05) and Shane Mulvihill (OD/MS'16)**



**Michael Earley (OD/MS'88, PhD'92) and Erica Keller (OD'16)**

# 2016 DOCTORAL CONVOCATION

By Jennifer Bennett, MEd, *Director of Student Affairs*

On May 7, Dean Karla Zadnik OD, PhD presided at the 49th College of Optometry Doctoral Convocation. The graduating class of 2016 along with family and friends were welcomed to the momentous occasion by both Dean Zadnik and The Ohio State University

President Michael Drake, MD.

President Drake shared reflections on being the child of a health care provider and finding his calling in the health professions. **Jeffrey Myers (OD'84)** followed President Drake with the commencement address, "A Life Worth Living." Dr. Myers inspired the graduates to learn throughout life, have an attitude of gratitude, be fearless, give, imagine, have fun, and love.



**Jeffrey Myers (OD'84)** delivers the convocation address





The Ohio State University President Michael Drake, MD welcomes graduates, family and friends



Class President **Shane Mulvihill (OD/MS'16)** addresses his classmates



**Robert Wright (BS'60)** accepts the Distinguished Alumnus Award

For the second year, the 50th anniversary class was invited to return to campus for a day of activities and recognition at the convocation ceremony. Eleven members of the class of 1966, dressed in full academic regalia and seated on stage, were honored for their accomplishments by Dean Zadnik and all in attendance. **Robert Wright (BS'60)** was presented with the Distinguished Alumnus Award. His acceptance remarks reinforced his tenacity and extraordinary career as an optometrist, community leader, and entrepreneur. Dr. Wright encouraged each graduate to be someone who “makes things happen.”

Then, at the end of their four-year journey, the Doctor of Optometry graduates were presented with hoods by Dean Zadnik, assisted by **Michael Earley (OD/MS'88, PhD'92)**, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, and **Gregory Nixon (OD'96)**, Associate Dean for Clinical Services. The class selected **Nicklaus Fogt (OD/MS'92, PhD'96)** to read a personal message written by each graduate as they were presented their academic hoods and crossed the stage. The sentences were reflective of the dynamic personalities that comprise the class of 2016. **Jeffrey Walline (OD, MS'98, PhD'02)**, Associate Dean for Research, along with faculty advisors, presented Master of Science in Vision Science graduates with hoods.

After all hoods were placed, 2016 class President **Shane Mulvihill (OD'16)** expressed his sincere gratitude to all in attendance and emboldened his classmates to think about what defines them. Finally, Dean Zadnik captured so well the personal transformations that occur during optometry school with a poem:

Come to the edge.  
We might fall.  
Come to the edge.  
It's too high!  
COME TO THE EDGE.

So they came  
and he pushed  
and they flew.

Logue, Christopher. *New Numbers*, Jonathan Cape Ltd., 1969

Congratulations Class of 2016!



**Ethan Leyda (OD'16)** is hooded by then-fiancée (now wife) **Megan Heffelfinger (OD'15)**



**Maranda Amornyard (OD'16)**, **Lien Nguyen (OD'16)**, and **Karina Desai (OD'16)** celebrate convocation



**Brendan Tobler (OD'16)** and his daughter





Doctor of Optometry Class of 2016 with Dean Karla Zadnik OD, PhD

## Doctor of Optometry, Class of 2016

*\*Completed both the Doctor of Optometry and the Master of Science in Vision Science programs*

Maranda Amornyard  
Cheryl Jean Andler  
David Ankney  
Rawzi A. Baik  
Bethany Merri Bloemhard  
Jonathan Walter Burt  
Joanna Grace Cammenga  
Chelsie Lynn Crawford  
David Dally  
Cassie M. Dearth  
Jeremy David DePugh  
Karina Desai  
\* Amanda L. Eilerman  
Joel W. Elder

Drew Fisher  
Nathan Michael Goedde  
\* Edwin A. Grant  
Dana Kathleen Griesmer  
Gil Guedes  
\* Daniel Richard Hagee  
Janet M. Harawa  
Megan L. Hoffman  
Sukayna Ismail  
Erica Lucia Keller  
Sara Nicole Kenny  
Meredith Renea Kiess  
Tiffany Marie Kubis  
John William Langel

Jaclyn Gail Leonhardt  
Ethan Wallace Leyda  
Kate Alexandra McClure  
\* Bridget Katherine McMurray  
Michelle Frances Miller  
Ryan Christopher Millyard  
\* Tatevik Movsisyan  
\* Shane P. Mulvihill  
Kelsea Diane Naylor  
Lien Nguyen  
Adam J. Peiffer  
Andrew Reed  
Michael W. Smith  
Jared William Staats

Kelsy Steele  
Claire Steensma  
Julie A. Stickel  
Jordan Kain Stidham  
Whitney Marie Territo  
Brendan Moffat Tobler  
\* Allison Jean Treleaven  
Jennifer Wei  
Whitney Weston  
\* Alyssa Mary Willig  
Lindsey Renae Wilson  
Tsung-Hao Wu  
\* Alicia Powers Zhou

## Recipients of Graduate Degrees

### Master of Science in Vision Science

Ann Marie Morrison, OD  
Molly J. Smith, OD  
Douglas E. Widmer, OD

### PhD in Vision Science

Tamara Sue Oechslin, OD, MS  
Andrew D. Pucker, OD, MS, FAAO

## Class of 1966, 50th Anniversary *\*In attendance at the convocation ceremony*

|                          |                            |                       |
|--------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| Dr. Howard Austin        | * Dr. Robert Gregg         | * Dr. Bruce Pratte    |
| * Dr. Ronald Beal        | Dr. James Hater            | * Dr. Patrick Reardon |
| Dr. Charles Bishop       | Dr. Edmund Herb            | * Dr. Daniel Runyan   |
| Dr. Dennis Brunotte      | Dr. John Hill              | Dr. James Shover      |
| Dr. David Canfield       | Dr. David Howe             | Dr. Norman Skillicorn |
| Dr. Richard Cook         | Dr. Charles Keil           | * Dr. William Thomas  |
| Dr. Michael Coon         | Dr. Thomas Kiggins         | Dr. Steven Tuckerman  |
| Dr. Douglas Dachenbach   | * Dr. Charles Koon         | * Dr. Edwin Winbigler |
| Dr. Robert England       | * Dr. Gerald Lowther       | * Dr. Koran Zehnder   |
| Dr. E. T. (Thomas) Flinn | * Dr. Nicholas Parthenakis |                       |
| Dr. Richard Glanville    | Dr. Marvin Pflaumer        |                       |





# Time, Change & Continuous Improvement

## Student Services at the College of Optometry

Justin Griest, MEd, Rebecca Roby, MLHR, Shawn Levstek, PsyD, Jennifer Bennett, MEd, **Michael Earley (OD/MS'88, PhD'92)**, and Shawn Gilbert

By Jennifer Bennett, MEd, *Director of Student Affairs*

The Office of Student Affairs at the College of Optometry is now known as the Office of Student Services. The new name reflects the team's role in the student lifecycle and the college community. Student Services touches every aspect of the student experience from new student recruitment, admissions and financial aid, to orientation of new students, academic services and support, personal support and counseling, and special events such as the doctoral convocation.

In addition to a name change, three new staff members have joined the team within the past 18 months. Shawn Gilbert, Admission Counselor, arrived in February of 2015, Shawn Levstek, PsyD, Counseling and Consultation Service Embedded Counselor, arrived in the fall of 2015, and Jennifer Bennett, MS Ed, Director of Student Affairs, arrived in the spring of 2016. They join veteran staff members Justin Griest, MEd, Director of

Admissions, Recruitment, and Financial Aid, and Becca Roby, MLHR, College Registrar.

**Michael Earley (OD/MS'88, PhD'92)** Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, leads the Student Services team and expects the student-centered, collaborative foundation that the team was built upon to continue. Dr. Earley believes the team has an increased ability to be more proactive in response to student issues. Additionally, the team is energized at the prospect of enhancing what already works with new ideas and an increased focus on enhancing student leadership skills and professional development opportunities.

The College of Optometry continues to search for the best and brightest new optometry students! Alumni and friends are welcome to contact the Student Services team for more information or to refer a prospective student.



# THE ROLLING EYES:

## Students Ride to Raise Money for Cancer Research

By Shawn Gilbert, *Admissions Counselor*

On August 6, nine Ohio State Optometry students set out to ride their bicycles, from downtown Columbus to Gambier, before making their way back to New Albany to finish. Over the two-day ride, our students, along with thousands of other Pelotonia participants, covered more than 180 miles, but more importantly, these riders, coming from all over the state and all walks of life, raised an incredible amount of money toward the James Cancer Hospital and Solove Research Institute.

Since its founding in 2008, Pelotonia has raised more than \$109 million toward cancer research. For the nine riders and two virtual riders in this year's optometry peloton, named "The Rolling Eyes," this ride was especially important.

"Last year, one of our very own classmates (see Ortiz article, pg. 11) was diagnosed with cancer. The Rolling Eyes created a team wristband to wear all season long to show our support for our classmate. It is important to us to stand behind him and show him how much we believe in his success," explained **Rebecca Windham ('18)**, the leader of the optometry peloton.

When asked why, with the difficult schedule and curriculum that these students face, Ohio State optometry students would take time out of their schedules to ride 180 miles for cancer research, Windham answered, "Although the schedule of an optometry student is incredibly grueling, the members of The Rolling Eyes feel that giving back, showing our support, and spending the summer challenging ourselves is very fulfilling and worthy of our scarce personal time. I know that seeing each other cross the finish line will make every second dedicated to training well worth it!"

If you would like to make a donation to help support our optometry peloton, it's not too late! Visit [pelotonia.org/therollingeyes](http://pelotonia.org/therollingeyes) to make your contribution.



Former captain of The Rolling Eyes, **Derek Metz ('17)** and current captain **Rebecca Windham ('18)** celebrating another successful year of fundraising!



**Sara Hitchman ('17)** standing proud with her father, a soft tissue sarcoma survivor.



**Amanda Eilerman (OD/MS'16)** and her mother, who is celebrating 10 years cancer free!



# WILDERMUTH OPTOMETRIC RESEARCH CLINIC

## RESEARCH ROUNDUP

By Karla Gengler-Nowak, PhD, CRA, *Grants and Contracts Administrator*

### Summer Vacation is for Research – The T35 Program

Were you a trainee under the college's National Institutes of Health summer term training grant? The 17th class of trainees is completing their summer research experience and will join 135 former trainees who have contributed to optometric research. Training grant program graduates have published dozens of scientific abstracts and manuscripts, and about half of the summer trainees go on to earn an MS degree or a PhD. This year's trainees have quite a legacy to live up to! Congratulations to the current trainees!

**Carolyn Chakuroff ('19)**, mentor **Bradley Dougherty (OD/MS'97, PhD'13)**, The Relationships Between Complement Factor H Polymorphisms, Inflammation, and Stress in AMD Anti-VEGF Treatment Outcomes.

**Christina Locke ('19)**, mentors Nathan Doble, PhD and Stacey Choi, PhD, Characterizing Cone Photoreceptor Densities at Foveal and Peripheral Eccentricities in Myopic Children.

**Lida Zeinalpour ('19)**, mentors **Andy Toole (OD'97, MS'00, PhD'08)**, **Cayti McDaniel (OD/MS'08, PhD)**, and **Nick Fogt (OD/MS'92, PhD'96)**, Significance of Proximal Stimulus in Binocularity.

**Elizabeth Galko ('19)**, mentor Andy Hartwick, OD, PhD, Measuring the Cholinergic Response of Human Intrinsically Photosensitive Retinal Ganglion Cells.

**Aimee Violette ('19)**, mentor Del Lindsey, PhD, Color Communication in a Somali Population.

**Dayla Qaisi ('19)**, mentor TJ Plageman, PhD; The Role of CdC42 on Lacrimal Gland Development.

**Kelsey Ferlin ('19)**, mentor **Bradley Dougherty (OD/MS'97, PhD'13)**, The Effect of Bioptic Telescopic Spectacles in Drivers with Central Vision Impairment Using an In-Car Monitoring System.

### Tom Raasch Receives NEI Grant

Tom Raasch, OD, PhD, Professor of Optometry, recently received a grant from the National Eye Institute to

develop methods to design, fabricate, evaluate, and produce customizable ophthalmic lenses. Development of such lenses could dramatically lower lens cost, which could bring vision correction to people living in developing regions of the world.

Dr. Raasch is collaborating in this two-year \$275,000 exploratory research grant with Dr. Allen Yi of the Department of Integrated Systems Engineering. This interdisciplinary research project, the second federally funded grant for the two, showcases one of the many advantages of being part of The Ohio State University family – disparate disciplines working together to solve interesting and complex problems.

### Referrals Needed for Convergence Insufficiency Treatment Trial - Attention and Reading Trial (CITT-ART)

The Ohio State University College of Optometry houses one of eight clinical centers and the Data Coordinating Center for the Convergence Insufficiency Treatment Trial - Attention and Reading Trial (CITT-ART). Symptomatic convergence insufficiency (CI) is a common vision disorder in children that is frequently associated with symptoms while reading (e.g. loss of place, loss of concentration, frequent re-reading, reading slowly, and trouble remembering what was read). In an open trial, the CITT – Reading Study group showed that attention problems improved significantly following treatment for CI and, therefore, demonstrated the need for a randomized clinical trial. The CITT-ART is multi-center, five-year, NEI-funded study designed to evaluate the effects of therapy for symptomatic CI on measures of reading performance and attention in children ages 9-14 (grades 3-8). Children will receive 16 weeks of weekly, office-based real or control therapy. Children who are unsuccessful at the end of 16 weeks will be provided convergence insufficiency therapy at no cost. You can help answer this important question in vision care by referring potentially eligible children. For further information, contact **Marjean Kulp (OD'91, MS'93)** at 614-688-3336.

See also: [www.citt-art.com](http://www.citt-art.com)



# I-DOC 2016

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

I-DOC students travel via bus to the Columbus VSP lab for an in-depth tour.

I-DOC 2016 caught the eye of 182 applicants in the tenth year of this program. The goal of Improving Diversity in Optometric Careers (I-DOC) is to increase the number of underrepresented optometrists. We had the difficult task of selecting 20 college students from across the nation for this three-day (June 6-8) residential program for underrepresented minority undergraduate college students. I-DOC strives to inspire these students to pursue a career in optometry by providing hands-on activities, presentations, tours, field trips, examinations, panel discussions, and social activities with faculty, staff, and students from the College of Optometry.

We selected only rising juniors and seniors because they will soon be making decisions about their careers and where they will go to optometry school. Six students were Black/African American, six students were Hispanic, six students were Asian, two students were from the Middle East. Only three of the I-DOC participants were male this year. Students represented 15 different states and 18 different universities, and only two students were from Ohio. The average GPA for the group was 3.63.

I-DOC activities began with vigor with an emphasis on optics. **Barbara Fink (OD, MS'85, PhD'87)** discussed vision disorders and refractive error correction. Roanne Flom, OD and Tom Raasch, OD, PhD provided hands-on activities in low vision and ophthalmic optics. Charles Ballour of VSP discussed the history and services provided by VSP and the importance of diversity in optometry. Students took a bus trip to the VSP Ophthalmic Laboratory in Lockbourne, Ohio, where they learned the steps involved in the production of spectacles and toured the VSP mobile clinic.

The schedule on Tuesday provided information and hands-on activities about vision examination. Students

were guided through cow eye dissections and discussed several patient cases. They learned about the components of the eye examination and major blinding eye diseases. Afterward they rotated through several stations on vision technology (fundus photography, corneal topography, and other assessment and imaging devices) and were provided eye examinations. Lynn Mitchell, MAS, presented the results of a survey the students had completed and a discussion of epidemiology and biostatistics for optometry.

The Wednesday schedule was designed to encourage students to think about next steps toward careers in optometry, including the application process, preparing for the Optometry Admission Test (OAT), study skills, and a campus tour. **Michael Earley (OD/MS'88, PhD'92)**, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, discussed the interview and demonstrated a mock interview. **Ravaughn Williams (OD/MS'06)**, **Mark Orso (OD'86)**, and **Jackie Davis (OD'81, MPH)** answered questions from the students about working as optometrists in industry, commercial practice, and academia, respectively.

The rising seniors will be invited back to campus in October as part of the Graduate and Professional Day and for their admissions interviews. We hope to see these talented students in our profession soon.



Learning is fun!





American Optometric Association President Steven Loomis, OD, presents Dr. Davis her award

## Dr. Jackie Davis receives AOA Educator Award

By Bob Newcomb (OD'71, MPH)

*"When your caller ID shows the President of the American Optometric Association is calling, pick up the phone. It is not always to ask if you will serve on another committee; he may be calling to say you are an award winner!"*

That is the advice given by Professor of Clinical Optometry **Jacqueline Davis (OD '81, MPH)** after learning she was selected to receive the 2016 AOA Optometric Educator of the Year Award at its annual meeting in Boston.

Dr. Davis was a part-time clinical instructor at the college from 1981 to 1987. She then devoted all her time and energy to build a successful private practice in Columbus. In 2005, she was appointed to the faculty by Dean Mel Shipp as the college's first Clinic Chief of a new inner-city clinic. This facility was initially located on South High Street with Ohio State Internal Medicine and College of Dentistry outreach clinics. Today, the physical location of this important outreach clinical experience for Opt IV students is at the Lower Lights Christian Center on West Broad Street; Dr. Davis still serves as its Chief.

Dr. Davis is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry and a Past President of the Ohio State Board of Optometry. She is also a co-advisor of the college's National Optometric Student Association (NOSA) and a visionary leader in our award-winning I-DOC (Improving Diversity in Optometric Careers) program.

Congratulations Dr. Davis! We are all so proud of you!!



Dr. Barr delivers the distinguished Korb lecture

## Barr Receives AOA's Prestigious Korb Award

By Sarah Cupples, MA  
*Director of Marketing and Communications*

**Joseph Barr (OD'77, MS'79)** recently received the Dr. Donald R. Korb Award for Excellence from the Contact Lens and Cornea Section of the American Optometric Association (AOA).

The Korb Award recognizes innovation and leadership in the field of contact lenses and anterior segment disease. As the recipient of this esteemed award, Dr. Barr delivered the AOA's annual Korb Lecture, which he titled, "Uncovering Contact Lens Discoveries."

"Donald Korb, OD, is, in my opinion, the foremost discoverer, describer, and innovator in optometry, ever," says Dr. Barr. "His legacy of teaching us the science behind so many things we do to care for contact lens and ocular surface disease patients is most profound. His inspiration is responsible for so very much of the work I have had the opportunity to do in this field in collaboration with great colleagues and students. I consider this one of the highest honors in optometry and thank Dr. Korb for his inspiration, his time and his counsel. I thank the Section most sincerely for selecting me."

Dr. Barr, who currently serves as professor emeritus at the college, has developed a reputation as a "contact lens guru" throughout his career in academia at Ohio State, and in industry with Dow Corning Ophthalmics and Bausch + Lomb.

Congratulations, Dr. Barr!

## Dr. Barbara Klein is 2016 DISTINGUISHED HILL LECTURER

By Bob Newcomb (OD'71, MPH)

A world-renowned scholar in ophthalmology came to The Ohio State University College of Optometry on June 9 to provide an outstanding lecture on current research in the field of diabetic retinopathy and to receive the 2016 Hill Lecture Award from Emeritus Dean Richard M. Hill, OD, PhD. Barbara Klein, MD, MPH spoke on the topic of "Biomarkers for Microvascular Complications of Diabetes." Her lecture is available at <http://optometry.osu.edu/aboutTheCollege/HillLectureSeries/2016.cfm>

Dr. Klein is a Professor in the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science at the University of Wisconsin and also a Co-Director of the Ocular Epidemiology Research Group (OERG) at that institution. This world-famous group has conducted major ongoing studies – such as the Wisconsin Epidemiologic Study of Diabetic Retinopathy (WESDR) and the Beaver Dam Eye Study (BDES) - since 1979; and has collectively published over 600 papers! In addition to diabetic retinopathy and other diabetic complications, the OERG has studied the incidence, prevalence, and risk factors for age-related macular



Dr. Hill, Lee Hill, Dr. Klein, and Dean Zadnik

degeneration, cataract, systemic diseases with retinal vasculature manifestations, and genetic disorders.

Congratulations Dr. Barbara Klein! And thank you Dr. Hill for making this innovative annual educational experience possible for our students, staff, faculty, and alumni.

## Dean Karla Zadnik Elected President of ASCO

By Sarah Cupples, MA



Dean Karla Zadnik, OD, PhD, has been elected President of the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO). Founded in 1941, ASCO is a non-profit association representing the interests of optometric education.

An internationally recognized leader in

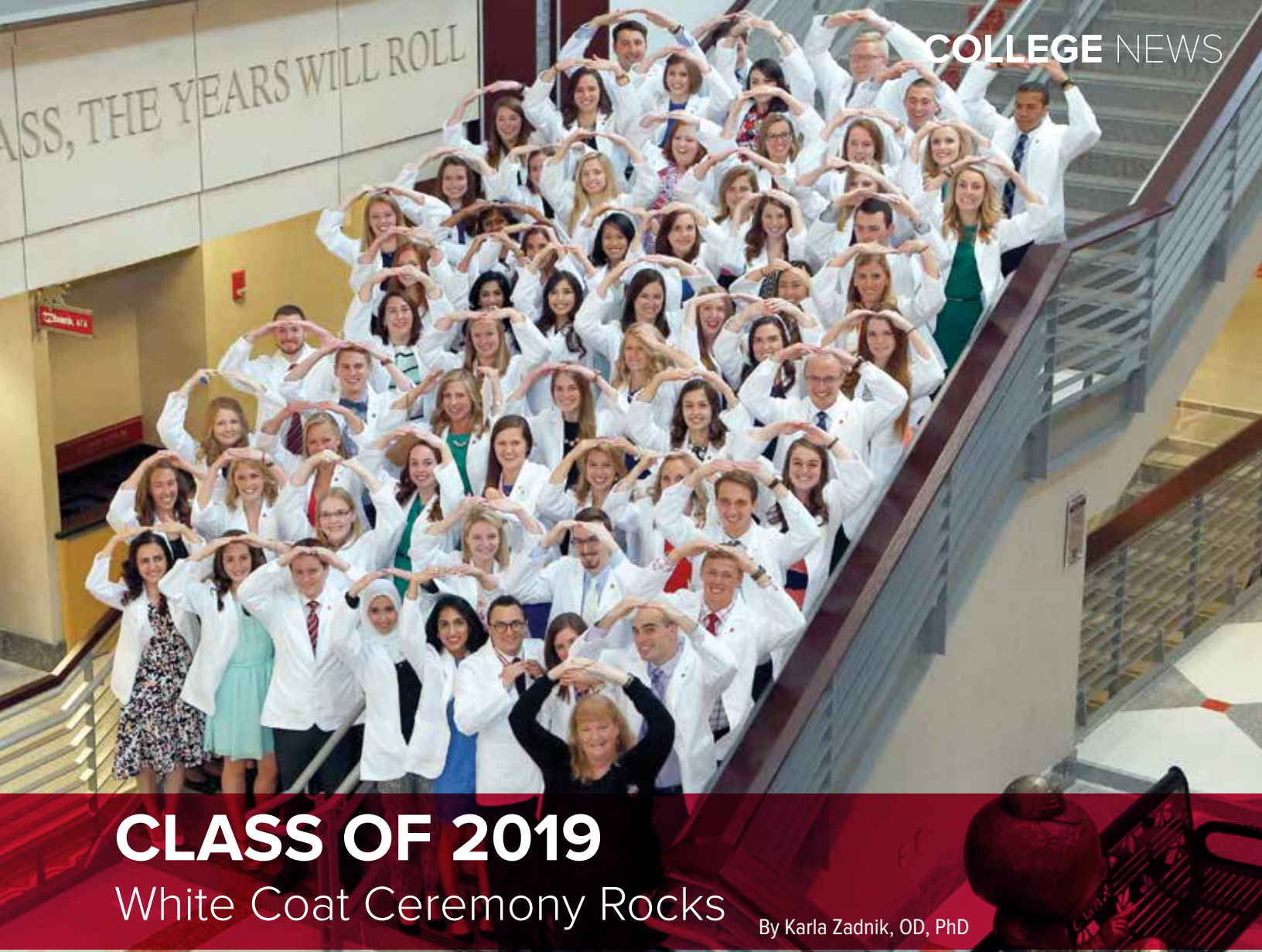
optometric research and education, Dr. Zadnik became Ohio State Optometry's dean in June 2014. She received her OD and PhD degrees from the University of California, Berkeley School of Optometry and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry. Professional highlights include: American Academy of Optometry President (2011-12); American Optometric

Foundation Glenn A. Fry Award Recipient (1995); National Advisory Eye Council of the National Eye Institute (NEI)/National Institutes of Health (2000-04); Study Chair for the NEI-funded Collaborative Longitudinal Evaluation of Ethnicity and Refractive Error (CLEERE) Study (1991-2013); and Chair of the first-ever NEI-funded multicenter study based in optometry, the Collaborative Longitudinal Evaluation of Keratoconus (CLEK) Study (1994-2007). At Ohio State, she has chaired the Biomedical Sciences Institutional Review Board (IRB) for 11 years, and received a University Distinguished Scholar Award in 2010.

"ASCO's ongoing strategic planning initiative, which I chair, will light optometric education's path to the future," says Dr. Zadnik. "I am excited to serve academic optometry."

Dr. Zadnik began her term as president on July 1, 2016.





# CLASS OF 2019

## White Coat Ceremony Rocks

By Karla Zadnik, OD, PhD

On May 14 at the Ohio Union, The Ohio State University College of Optometry Class of 2019 officially completed their first year of the curriculum and were presented with their white coats. They logged some clinic hours already, sans the traditional garb, as they worked as technicians for the third year students. They will return in the autumn ready, willing, and able to convert some classroom didactic hours to lab hours where they will learn how to perform an eye exam. That will take them to their first full-fledged clinic experiences in early 2017.

The ceremony was founded by “**Buckeye**” **Bob Newcomb (OD’71, MPH)** 15 years ago because he felt the first year students he taught needed a culminating experience to confirm that they were well on their way to becoming doctors of optometry. The ceremony itself has changed very little since then, but the turnout of families and the general unfettered joy in the room reached an all-time high this year.

Musical entertainment is a tradition at the White Coat Ceremony. In the spirit of keeping it all in the family, **Michael Raies (OD’89), Patrick Dollenmayer (OD’91),**

and **Tony Fenton (OD’89)**, better known as “Bad Habits, the Eye Docs of Rock”, provided renditions of *Don’t Stop Believin’* and a rousing *Hang on Sloopy*, the latter while wearing their own white coats.

Inspirational remarks were provided by Ohio Optometric Association President **Jason Miller (OD’99, MBA)**, Optometry Alumni Society President **Roger Saneholtz (OD’74)**, and Class President, **Justin Klimchak (’19)**. The students themselves provided the highlight of the afternoon with the sentences read by Dean Karla Zadnik, OD, PhD, while they received their coats from the faculty they selected for that honor, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs, **Michael Earley (OD/MS’88, PhD’92)** and EF Wildermuth Professor Don Mutti, OD, PhD. Amidst thanks to family and friends and inside jokes about courses and the faculty, Dean Zadnik concluded that she could most enrich the students’ lives by opening a coffee shop and a doggie daycare. After the ceremony, cameras flashed as proud parents documented the day with pictures and video, and the students headed off to their summer pursuits.

# The website has left the building ...

By Dave Moore, *Web and Instructional Development Specialist*

Work always continues on the College of Optometry's website. Additions and updates continually take place on all of the web content including events and news stories, but the college's online home has not had a major overhaul since 2009.

The writing was on the eyechart. The website technology for both software and hardware were old and needed to be replaced. No one else at the university was using anything similar to what we had. In addition, there was a great desire for us to move the website out of the college. By relocating our publicly accessible website out of the building, we were giving our IT group one less thing to worry about as they continue to meet and exceed the requirements for HIPAA.

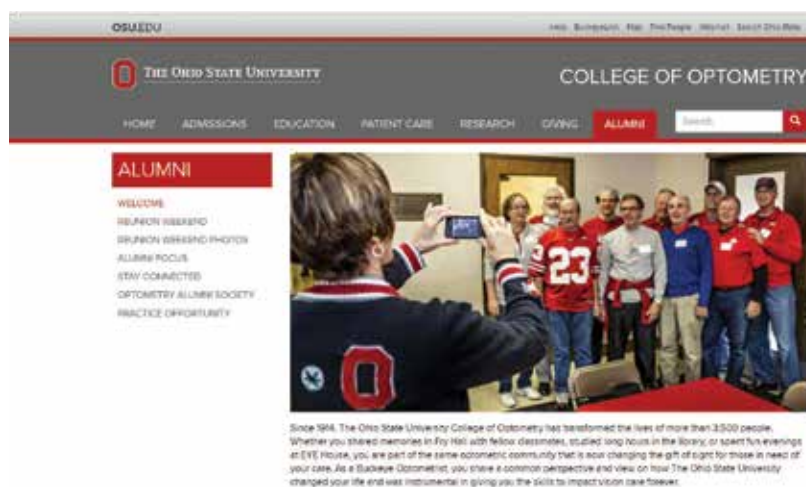
New location, new host, new hardware, new software, new design! Everything changed except the content, but that's not really true because the content is always changing, too.

For the location of our new web home, we selected the Office of the Chief Information Officer (OCIO) hosting service here at the university. As for software, we decided upon Drupal, an open-source content management system that powers an incredible number of websites that people use every day. To further enhance the website, we've expanded our web portfolio to include WordPress for blogging, Qualtrics for online surveys and Flickr for photos.

Once the where and what was decided, everyone on the creative team rallied around this endeavor. On Monday, June 27, 2016 the OCIO flipped the switch, and the new and improved College of Optometry website was rolled out. It's similar, yet different! If you haven't seen it yet, come and take a look. We think you'll like it.



Website welcome page.



Alumni section of the website.

To see the new site, go to:  
[optometry.osu.edu](http://optometry.osu.edu)





## STEWARDSHIP WEEKEND

Celebrating our most generous donors through our Scholars Dinner and the newest Neal Bailey Medalists

By Rachel Childress, *Director of Development*

In April, the college celebrated its first Stewardship Weekend to thank our most generous donors who have given to a number of different projects benefiting the college and our students. The weekend consisted of two special events. Friday evening was our Scholars Dinner where scholarship donors had the opportunity to meet their scholarship recipients, and Saturday evening was our Neal Bailey Medalist dinner recognizing truly exceptional giving.

## Scholars Dinner

Although our students have always written thank you notes to their scholarship donors, nothing quite compares to actually getting to meet them and say thank you in person. The Scholars Dinner was held on campus at the Barrister Club on campus on April 15. Dean Zadnik welcomed the group and spoke about the importance of scholarships, as \$150,000 is now the typical debt load that our students accrue during their optometric education. First-year student **Daniel Crawford ('19)**, received assistance from the college's general scholarship fund and addressed the group about his path from being a teacher for a few years before making the decision to attend optometry school. Receiving a scholarship made his decision an easy one.

During the *But for Ohio State Campaign* our scholarship fundraising efforts have made big strides. In the 2015-2016 academic year, we awarded nearly \$200,000 to 65 students, which is an increase of \$40,000 from the previous year. We also saw a spike in new scholarship donors and an addition of 15 new scholarship funds. Along with saying thank you to our donors, we hope that this event provides an opportunity to educate these student award winners about the importance of giving back.



Andy and **Mary Jo Stiegemeier (OD'83)**

## Neal Bailey Medalist Dinner

On Saturday night, April 16, we hosted nearly 80 alumni and friends in the Reading Room of the Thompson Library for our Neal Bailey Medalist dinner. Dean Zadnik and **Michael Earley (OD/MS'88, PhD'92)** introduced each new member and presented the medals, recognizing individuals who have given a cumulative amount of \$50,000 and corporate or foundation supporters who have given \$250,000 to the College of Optometry. We had 19 new inductees this year doubling the number of medalists. Here are the new inductees for this year.

### **Robert Dittoe (OD'80)**

Dr. Dittoe practices in New Lexington, Ohio. Most recently he named an exam room in the pre-clinic, but Dr. Dittoe also has generously given to our very valuable discretionary fund and supported Raise the Roof. He made the decision to make this gift after seeing an article about the pre-clinic renovation and naming opportunities in the BuckEYE magazine. We are glad to have Dr. Dittoe and his wife Cynthia engaged in the life of the college.

### **Donald Leach (OD'76)**

Dr. Leach lives and practices in Los Lunas, New Mexico. He has been a generous donor over the years, giving to various funds at the college, including a large percentage to the college's discretionary funds. He also is very involved in his local chapter of the Ohio State Alumni Association, supporting a scholarship for students coming to Ohio State from New Mexico.

### **J. Douglas Levy (OD'70)**

Dr. Levy lives and practices in Dayton, Ohio. A number of years ago he purchased a life insurance policy with Ohio State as the beneficiary. That policy was surrendered in recent years with much of the funding supporting the college's discretionary fund.



Ann Billman, **Daniel Runyun (BS'66, OD'69)**, and **Rick Billman (OD'79)**





**Jeff Myers (OD'84), Charles Paros, and Laura Kresty**



**Timothy Fries (OD'04) and Cheryl Fries**



**The Bailey Medal**

### **Don Mutti, OD, PhD**

Dr. Mutti has been a faculty member since 1998 and has always been a generous supporter of the college. In 2015 he established the David R. Mutti Endowed Scholarship in his brother's honor, which supports students who demonstrate the potential to inspire others.

### **Helen Paros**

Mrs. Paros lives in Canfield, Ohio and was married to **Charles Paros (BS'51)**, until his passing in 1996. He practiced in Girard and Youngstown, Ohio for many years. Mrs. Paros began making gifts to the college in 1997 along with other family members in Dr. Paros' memory. She then continued to give each year, supporting both our discretionary funds as well as various community outreach programs. Mr. Charles Paros, Jr. accepted the award on Mrs. Paros' behalf.

### **Thomas (OD'79, MS'81) and Susan (OD'82) Quinn**

The Quinns live and practice in Athens, Ohio. They have always considered the college in their philanthropic decisions - giving to the Raise the Roof fund, the Rick Cornett scholarship fund, and the Emeritus Dean Mel Shipp scholarship fund. In December they made a commitment to endow their own scholarship supporting third and fourth year students who have financial need and demonstrate a history of volunteerism.

### **Daniel Runyan (BS'66, OD'69)**

Dr. Runyan lives and practices in South Vienna, Ohio. He attended a dinner a few years ago at which the campaign was discussed and heard about the five top priorities. Afterward, Dr. Runyan made a commitment that supports a fund in each of these priorities – scholarships, faculty, research, facilities and discretionary funding. He is the only donor to have made the decision to support all of the top priorities. Before that commitment was made, Dr. Runyan had been a lifelong supporter of the college, giving his first gift the year he graduated and then just about every year since.

### **William Schuller, Jr. (BS'65, OD, MPH)**

Dr. Schuller lives in Chillicothe, Ohio and practiced at the VA, supervising many optometry students over the years. He has supported the college for a number of years and in 2011 established the John F. Schuller Scholarship in his brother's name. This scholarship is awarded to a student who demonstrates academic merit; works with the developmentally disabled, especially visually impaired individuals; has a commitment to community service and a social conscience with preference given to students who also demonstrate leadership and excellent clinical skills.

### **Terrence Schultz**

Mr. Schultz lives in Powell, Ohio and is the CEO of IDX Corporation. He has been supporting the college for nearly 10 years and recently made a significant gift benefiting our discretionary fund.

### **Gerald Westheimer (PhD'53)**

Dr. Westheimer is a graduate of Berkeley but received his PhD at the college under Dr. Glenn Fry. Dr. Westheimer came to campus in 2014 to receive the Fry Medal and gave a lecture. He then decided to endow The Gerald Westheimer Lecture Fund to give a stipend to any lecturer who receives the Fry Medal.

### **Karla Zadnik, OD, PhD**

Although Dr. Zadnik is a Berkeley grad, she grew up in Kent, Ohio and returned to work for the college in 1996. Since returning to the Buckeye State, she has been an integral part of the College of Optometry, now serving in the role of Dean. In 2015 Dr. Zadnik endowed a new scholarship in her mother's name, The Ellen M. Henry Scholarship, awarded to a student who demonstrates extraordinary achievements and potential.

### **E.F. Wildermuth Foundation**

The Wildermuth Foundation has been very generous to the college for many years. The foundation has contributed to scholarships, created a professorship, and was the lead supporter of our Raise the Roof Campaign.



**Robert Dittoe (OD'80)**, Cynthia Dittoe, **Susan Quinn (OD'82)** and **Tom Quinn (OD'79, MS'81)**

**Bob Newcomb (OD'71, MPH)**, Pam Newcomb, **Greg Good (OD'75, MS'79, PhD'81)** and Don Mutti, OD, PhD

## HOYA Vision Care

HOYA Vision Care has been a faithful supporter of the college for many years. HOYA supports an annual scholarship that is awarded to the top student in the incoming class, provides funding for our alumni magazine, and made a significant gift to name our Eyewear Gallery in 2015.

## Johnson & Johnson Vision Care, Inc.

JJJVCI has given to various funds and projects over the years supporting students, faculty and facility through gifts in kind. Local corporate representative Tom Sarson joined us to accept the award.

## Latham and Phillips Ophthalmic

Latham and Phillips supported the college for a number of years with gifts-in-kind of equipment used in our facility. They also supported our Raise the Roof Campaign and discretionary funding.

## Marco Ophthalmic

Marco gave to the college through gifts of equipment to supply our exam rooms for a number of years. They also were early supporters of our discretionary fund.

## Reichert Technologies

Reichert Technologies is another company that supported us for nearly 10 years with gifts-in-kind of examination equipment.

## Optometric Educators, Inc.

OEI was established in 1978 with Emeritus Dean Fred Hebbard as the first President and was formed so that continuing education could be administered by an organization that was separate from Ohio State. A few years later, they began donating their proceeds back to the university for a number of different projects such as Raise the Roof, The Greg Good Scholarship, The Mel Shipp Scholarship, and discretionary funding. Recently OEI committed to a new project naming the Binocular Vision and Pediatrics Consult Room in the newly renovated BVPeds and Low Vision Clinic on the first floor of Fry Hall. Dr. Earley and **Greg Good (OD'75, MS'79, PhD'81)** accepted the award for OEI.

## VSP Global

VSP has partnered with the college for a number of years as the sole sponsor of our Improving Diversity through Optometric Careers (I-DOC) program. This program has seen recent success with a record number of undergraduate students applying. I-DOC graduates go on to apply, be accepted, excel in the classroom, and graduate from optometry schools and colleges across the nation. In 2015 we again partnered with VSP to establish an endowment supporting new and creative project ideas involving the college's faculty and students. Ms. Barbara Knapp accepted on VSP's behalf.

## College Reception at AOA 2016

By Rachel Childress, *Director of Development*

On Friday, July 1, the college hosted a reception at the Westin Boston Waterfront during the AOA conference. Dean Karla Zadnik, OD, PhD shared a few words about college priorities, and the rest of the evening was spent mingling with alumni, students and friends. It was wonderful to see so many familiar faces and have an opportunity to reconnect with classmates.

If you'll be headed to Anaheim for the Academy meeting this fall, we will be hosting a reception on Friday, November 11 from 7:30 to 9 p.m. at the Hilton Anaheim. We hope to see you there.





The Ohio State University College of Optometry

# 2016 Reunion Weekend

Sept. 30 - Oct. 1, 2016

By Michael Haddock, Alumni Coordinator

Do not forget to register online for the 2016 Alumni Reunion Weekend at [go.osu.edu/eyeregister!](http://go.osu.edu/eyeregister!)

On **Friday, September 30**, there will be an alumni reception at the Huntington Ballpark in the "Arena District" of downtown Columbus. All alumni, friends, and family members are welcome to attend, especially those who are celebrating their "milestone" reunion years. We encourage Class Presidents of all classes celebrating their reunion years to coordinate class-specific gatherings after our reception. Prior to the reception at the ballpark, Associate Professor of Clinical Optometry **Cayti McDaniel (OD/MS'08)** will deliver a continuing education lecture, Sports Concussion: Optometry's Role. The event costs \$25, which includes light appetizers and two drink tickets.

On **Saturday, October 1 at 9:00 a.m.**, there will be a Buckeye tailgate in Fry Hall prior to the Ohio State Homecoming football game against Rutgers. All alumni and their families are welcome to celebrate and reminisce with friends, current students, and faculty. Tours of Starling Loving and Fry Halls will be provided, including the new BIO simulator and renovations to the BVP and Low Vision Clinics. There will be an Admissions overview at 8:00 a.m. for children of alumni interested in applying to the College of Optometry in the future. Football tickets will be available for purchase, if you are a sustaining member of the Ohio State College of Optometry Alumni Society. Tailgate brunch items will be available, catered by Schmidt's, for \$38 per person, children (3-12 years) is \$15.

Please refer to the Alumni Reunion Weekend's official page [u.osu.edu/eyegather](http://u.osu.edu/eyegather) for more information or contact the College of Optometry Alumni Coordinator directly at 614-688-1363 or [haddock.15@osu.edu](mailto:haddock.15@osu.edu) if you have any questions.



## Alumni Society Donations Update, Make Your Impact!

As you may recall, the Development and Alumni Affairs team sent you a mailing at the beginning of the year asking for a \$75 donation to the Dean's Discretionary Fund and outlined what benefits you would receive as a result. As of May, the college has received more than \$19,000 from checks mailed in and even more from online donations! Thank you again for your support and consideration to make Ohio State Optometry a philanthropic priority. A portion of your donations went to ensuring that the student programming and organizations were funded throughout the year, such as the 2016 Graduation Banquet and other student outreach programs.

If you have not made a gift and would like to, please know that you will have the opportunity to receive a tax deduction if you send it in before December 31, 2016. Additionally, with a gift of \$75 or more to any optometric fund, you become eligible to purchase football tickets from the college for the Homecoming Game versus Rutgers on October 1. To see a list of optometric funds at the college, or to make your donation for membership, please visit [optometry.osu.edu/eyedonate](http://optometry.osu.edu/eyedonate).



## Distinguished Alumnus Award

On May 7, **Robert L. Wright (BS'60)** of Columbus, GA, was presented with the Distinguished Alumnus Award during the Class of 2016 Convocation. During his acceptance speech, Dr. Wright shared how Ohio State was one of the only schools of optometry that accepted his application, given that he could not attend many of the institutions in the segregated South at the time. He credited Ohio State for the opportunity to learn and grow and achieve many of his life's accomplishments. After the convocation ceremony, the Optometry Alumni Society gathered to personally recognize and thank Dr. Wright for his philanthropy and commitment to optometric excellence.

## 50th Reunion Group

By Michael Haddock, *Alumni Coordinator*

1966 was a different time: a gallon of gas was 25 cents; the first "Batman" television series with Adam West debuted; and NASA's Lunar Orbiter 1 was the first spacecraft to orbit the moon. Amidst all of this change across the universe, The Ohio State University College of Optometry Class of 1966 was set to graduate and enter the profession of optometry.

Continuing the tradition that was started last year, the Class of 1966 was invited to campus to celebrate their 50th reunion and to be recognized on stage during the 2016 Convocation Ceremony. The day was full of festivities for classmates **Ronald Beal (BS'66, OD'68)**, **Stephen Coon (BS'66)**, **Robert Gregg (BS'66, OD'67)**, **Gerald Lowther (BS'66, OD'67, MS'69, PhD'72)**, **Nicholas Parthenakis (BS'66, OD'67)**, **Bruce Pratte (BS'66, OD'67)**, **Patrick Reardon (BS'66, OD'67)**, **Daniel Runyan (BS'66, OD'69)**, **William Thomas (BS'66)**, and **Edwin Winbigler (BS'66, OD'67)** and their loved ones, starting off with a welcome luncheon at the Ohio Union with Dean Zadnik.

Following a class picture in front of the "Bronze Brutus" in the Ohio Union atrium, the group headed to Starling Loving and Fry Halls for a guided tour of the college led by Dr. Don Mutti. After reliving the many memories of learning from Dr. Fry in Room 33, the group headed to Weigel Hall to dress in full academic regalia and prepare to participate in the Convocation, but not before taking a fun picture with Dean Zadnik!





**1966 Robert England (BS'66, OD'67)** was recognized by the Zanesville Times Recorder for his 50 years of optometric service. His father, Dennis England, started practicing in Zanesville in 1943, which is what attracted Robert in the first place. Upon graduation, he served with his father until his death in 1976. Dr. England has worked both in his practice as well as the DMV Corporation, which was a business his father started in 1968 that creates contact lens removers and accessories. Dr. England sold his business in 2005, when he semi-retired and has chosen to work as an associate.

**1974 James Sheedy (OD/MS'74, PhD'77)** retired as the head of the Vision Ergonomics Research Laboratory and professor of optometry at Pacific University at the end of June 2016. Dr. Sheedy is credited with starting the first VDT Eye Clinic in 1985, while he was a clinical professor at the University of California, Berkeley School of Optometry. He also established the Center for Ophthalmic Optics Research at Ohio State and is recognized as an expert in the design and prescription of progressive addition lenses. Dr. Sheedy was the college's 2013 Distinguished Alumnus Award recipient. He received the Garland Clay Award for best clinical research published in the American Academy of Optometry twice and has also received the William Feinbloom award from the Academy for his work with vision ergonomics. He has published more than 140 articles and co-wrote a book about "the comprehensive perspective on life and the human condition," called *Pondering Life*. Dr. Sheedy will live in Corvallis, Oregon, where he plans to pursue his interest in painting and continue writing with the hopes of publishing another book. Congrats on your retirement, Dr. Sheedy!

**1975 George Schmidt (OD'75)** is still practicing solo in Palm Beach Gardens, FL. He recently competed in the YMCA Master's National Swimming Championships in Sarasota, FL and set a new YMCA Master's record in the 100 yard Individual Medley with a time of 1:03.86, his best time in six years of the event. He also won the 200 Individual Medley, and the 50, 100 and 200 Backstrokes, while finishing a close second in the 50 Butterfly and 100 Freestyle races. Schmidt was the first swimmer over 60 to break the one minute barrier in the 100 yard Individual Medley in 2010 with a time of 59.18, and only one other swimmer has gone faster since. After being set back by shoulder surgery in 2011, he has gradually improved over the past six years in most of his events.



**1977 Randy Vance (OD/MS'77)** retired in May 2015 after 36 years of service to the Michigan College of Optometry at Ferris State University. While a student at The Ohio State University College of Optometry, Dr. Vance received a U.S. Armed Forces Health Professions Scholarship and, following graduation, spent two years practicing optometry in the U.S. Army. While serving, Dr. Vance participated in the optometry externship program of the Indiana University School of Optometry, where he worked with approximately 45 fourth year students who rotated at clinics at the U.S. Army Hospital and Ft. Campbell, in Kentucky. This experience sparked an interest in pursuing a career in optometric education. Upon being discharged from the Army, Dr. Vance began pursuing MCO because it was "the newest at the time, allowing better

opportunities for both the faculty and the program itself to grow and develop, while also maintaining a small enough atmosphere to know the students and his fellow colleagues." Dr. Vance was presented with a new white coat at the college's White Coat Ceremony as a token of appreciation prior to his official retirement (see photo). Randy and his wife Linda enjoy being "on, in, or near the water" at their lake cottage and plan to spend as much time as the season allows there during his retirement.

**1977 W. Howard McAlister (OD'77)** retired this year from serving as faculty at the University of Missouri - St. Louis College of Optometry for the past 28.5 years.

**1984 William Boshinski (OD'84)** was awarded the 2016 Optometrist of the Year at the Pennsylvania Optometric Association Annual Congress. Additionally, he was awarded the Central Pennsylvania Society's OD of the Year earlier in 2016. Dr. Boshinski currently practices in Mechanicsburg, PA with his wife **Debra Boshinski (OD'83)**, and serves as the Chairman of the Pennsylvania Optometric Association's Diabetes Eye Health Alliance. He is also active at the state, federal, and local levels of optometric advocacy. Their son, Petr, is a member of the Class of 2017.

**1985 David Sterna (OD'85)** was recently appointed as Ambassador of the American Board of Optometry in Ohio.

**1988 Michael Earley (OD/MS'88, PhD'92)** was quoted in the *Columbus Dispatch* about the Columbus Board of Education's approval to open a new health care center that would provide vision, dental, and primary health care to children of the school system and the city. The project will be staffed by PrimaryOne Health, Luxottica, and The Ohio State University College of Optometry. This clinic will also provide referrals for mental health care patients and will operate out of a renovated facility on the Army Reserve building on the Ft. Hayes campus, located near downtown Columbus.



**1990 Captain Julie Miavez (OD'90)** retired from the U.S. Navy in May. The Ohio State University College of Optometry sent Dr. Miavez a congratulatory gift of "Cool Brutus" cookies to thank her for her commitment to serving our country.

(Alumni News continued on next page)

(Alumni News continued from previous page)

**2004** **Jamie Casper (PhD, OD'04)** is a member of the Wilmington Lions Club, which is teaming up with SVOSH, (Student Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity). The organization and Dr. Casper, were recognized by StarNews Online, the electronic version of the local newspaper in Wilmington, NC, for sending glasses to students at Ohio State to dispense to treat needy people in a third world country next summer.

**2010** **James Hardie (OD'10)** was recently recognized for his commitment to professional development at a meeting of the Cleinman Performance Network. He was honored for demonstrating a dedication to creating a healthy and beneficial work environment, as well as maintaining a high level of patient care satisfaction. Dr. Hardie owns Pinnacle Eye Group, located in Lambertville, MI.

**2013** **Brittany Lemke (OD'13)** and her husband, Mike, recently welcomed their first child, Miles Mert Lemke, into the world.



## In Memoriam

**Don Curtis (BS'51)** age 89, recently passed away in Columbus. Dr. Curtis was born in 1926 in Marietta. After graduating from Marietta High School in 1944, he served as a U.S. Navy crewman during World War II. Upon his return, he married Mary Louise June and attended Marietta College and The Ohio State University School of Optometry. After obtaining his degree in optometry, Dr. Curtis returned to Marietta and began his own optometric practice. While maintaining a practice for over 40 years, he was also very civic-minded. He got involved first as a Township Clerk and was then elected Mayor of Marietta from 1958-1965. As a well-known optometrist in the community, Dr. Curtis was a member of the American Optometric Association and The Ohio State University College of Optometry Alumni Association, Vice President of the Better Vision Institute, and Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees for the Vision Service Plan of Ohio.

Dr. Curtis was preceded in death by his wife, Mary of 53 years. He is survived by his wife, Ann Katherine deVries, four children including son **Steve Curtis (OD'87)**, 11 grandchildren, 10 great-grandchildren, and many other family members.



**Frank Dapore, (OD'72)** age 69, passed away on May 31.

Dr. Dapore was born on December 4, 1946 in Dayton and graduated from Fairborn High School and Miami University, before attending The Ohio State University College of Optometry. Upon graduation from Ohio State, Dr. Dapore returned to Fairborn to serve as the practicing optometrist and owner of Dapore Vision Care.

In addition to a career of 40+ years of optometric service, Dr. Dapore was a member of St. Paul Catholic Church in Yellow Springs and the Knights of Columbus; he was also an avid Buckeye, Cincinnati Bengals, Dayton Flyers, Dayton Raiders, Dayton Dragons, and Cincinnati Reds fan.

He is survived by his wife of 42 years, Suzanne, three children, seven grandchildren, and other extended family.



**Martin Glassman (BS'64)**, age 89, passed away on January 30, 2016.



**Thomas Redick (OD'74)**, age 66, passed away on April 30.

Dr. Redick was born on January 21, 1950 in Lima, Ohio and attended nearby Spencerville High School, where he graduated in 1968. He attended The Ohio State University College of Optometry, graduating in 1974. Following graduation, Dr. Redick served his country in the U.S. Army with time spent in both Seoul, Korea and Augusta, GA. In 1977, Tom moved to Troy, Ohio and opened up his practice where, after changing the location once in 1991, he practiced until 2013. After 22 years of optometric practice, Dr. Redick sold his practice to another Buckeye optometrist, **Ryan Subler (OD'06)**.

In addition to his commitment to optometric service, Tom served the City of Troy as a council member for the Third Ward and as a councilman-at-large from 1988 to 1997. Dr. Redick was an active member of the Noon Optimist Club, Past President of the Ohio State Alumni Association, and a big Buckeye through and through. He had a passion for bicycling and spending time with his family on the lake.

He is survived by his wife Barbara, sons and daughters-in-law, granddaughters, and extended family.







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