



Tackling a leading cause of blindness

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Pleased to be ranked #6 in the latest *U.S. News & World Report* survey and among the top ten ophthalmology programs in the nation since the survey began in 1990.



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A leading cause of blindness and visual disability, glaucoma has a major impact on the quality of life and productivity of millions of Americans. An estimated 50 million Americans are at risk for vision loss from glaucoma.* Treatments for the disease exist when it's discovered early but for now there is no cure. Scientists and physicians at The University of Iowa are seeking to change that outcome and ultimately bring an end to this terrible disease.

Glaucoma treatment and research have been a part of the the UI Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences since the 1950s when Mansour F. Armaly, MD joined the faculty as the first glaucoma service director. Dr. Armaly was instrumental in defining the natural history of glaucoma, in developing techniques of early detection and monitoring function loss in the eye, and in demonstrating the genetic character of glaucoma. His interest in the genetics of glaucoma was a precursor to much of the research of the disease that takes place at The University of Iowa.

In 1997, the UI led a group of researchers who identified the first gene known to cause human primary open angle

glaucoma. The gene, myocilin, causes 3 to 5 percent of primary open angle glaucoma, making it one of the most important eye-related genes ever discovered.

Iowa's glaucoma genetics laboratory continues to investigate the molecular pathogenesis of the disease. Efforts in this lab led to a recent grant of nearly \$3.6 million by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to study the genetics and disease processes involved in glaucoma. The study aims to identify new genetic risk factors for glaucoma and provide new clues about how glaucoma is caused at the most basic molecular level, according to the study's principle investigator and assistant professor of ophthalmology and visual sciences, **John Fingert, MD, PhD**. These discoveries may lead to new ideas about how to treat or even prevent vision loss from glaucoma. Research is also leading to the development of a genetic test for glaucoma which could provide valuable information to patients and their physicians and allows for more targeted treatment efforts.

At a basic science level, scientists are investigating the degeneration of retinal ganglion cells and how the death of these cells leads to vision loss. What initiates and specifically causes their death is not known. **Markus Kuehn, PhD**, assistant professor of ophthalmology, is collaborating with colleague, **Young Kwon, MD, PhD**, and leading a team that seeks to answer this question through

(* Source: National Eye Institute)



Glaucoma

continued from page 1

a four-year \$1.5 million grant awarded by the National Eye Institute at the NIH. The grant involves the study of cellular pathways that affect retinal ganglion cells. By understanding and eventually acting on those pathways, intraocular pressure may be decreased and vision loss possibly could be prevented.

Iowa's glaucoma research efforts involve significant collaboration with clinicians,

as well. A primary example includes UI's Visual Field Reading Center which provides expert evaluation of visual field data that clinicians use to diagnose glaucoma and other visual disorders. Established last year, the Center continues to expand their research and clinical trial activity involving vision specialists across campus and around the world.

Chris Johnson, PhD, director of the center and professor of ophthalmology, is leading multi-center clinical trials evaluating the effectiveness of glaucoma treatments, including a current Allergan sponsored phase II study to determine whether a novel method of providing medical treatment will delay or improve visual function that has been damaged by glaucoma. Careful analysis of the results of these types of trials will lead to better detection methods and treatment options.

"It is a very exciting time in Iowa's glaucoma service as we continue to focus our research and clinical efforts on treating and potentially curing this debilitating disease," said Wallace L.M. Alward, MD, professor of ophthalmology and director of the glaucoma service. Dr. Alward also holds the Frederick C. Blodi Chair in Ophthalmology.

Iowa transitions to electronic medical record

University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics recently implemented Epic, a new electronic medical record and order entry system. The Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences underwent the transition to the new system this past May. Conversion to Epic and a paperless medical record system is expected to bring significant advancements in patient safety and confidentiality, provider access, order entry, and other aspects of patient care.

Treatment trial for common form of AMD to begin at UI

Stephen Russell, MD, professor of Ophthalmology and visual sciences, is directing a Geographic Atrophy Treatment Evaluation (GATE) study. The objective is to evaluate the safety and efficacy of AL-8309B Ophthalmic Solution versus placebo administered as a topical ocular drop for the treatment of geographic atrophy secondary to age-related macular degeneration. Another objective is to characterize the steady-state pharmacokinetics of AL-8309 and its primary metabolites. The trial is funded through a research grant from Alcon Research, Ltd.

For more information or to refer a patient, contact Barb Taylor at 319-356-0453 or barbara-taylor@uiowa.edu

Nursing professional among '100 Great Iowa Nurses'

Sarah C. Smith, RN, CRNO, COA, nurse manager of the ophthalmology clinic, was among 18 nurses from University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics who were recognized as the 2009 "100 Great Iowa Nurses".

The list was created by The Iowa Nurses Association, Iowa Nurses Foundation, Iowa Hospital Association, and University of Iowa College of Nursing.



Contact us

Department of Ophthalmology
and Visual Sciences
200 Hawkins Dr., 11136 PFP
Iowa City, IA 52242-1091

Department General Information:
319-356-2864
319-356-0363(fax)

UI Consult for referring physicians:
800-332-8442

UI Health Access for the general public:
800-777-8442

Appointment Scheduling:
319-356-2852

CME Programs: 319-356-4475

Email: iowaeyecare@uiowa.edu

Visit our web site at:
webeye.ophth.uiowa.edu

Iowa Vision is published for friends and alumni of the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences.

Director of External Relations, Joe Schmidt
joe-schmidt@uiowa.edu

Associate Editor and Designer, Trish Duffel
trish-duffel@uiowa.edu

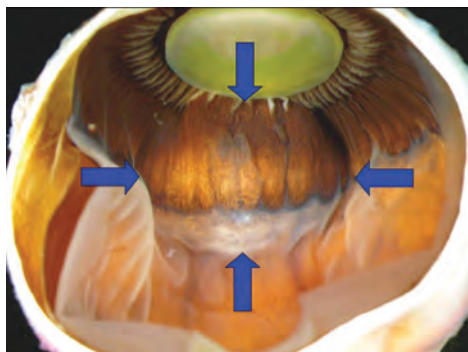
Photography: Shannon Thomas, Tracy Aly, Brice Critser, Ed Heffron, Stefani Karakas, Randy Verdick, Tess Young, and Gary and Cammy Seamans

Contributors: Forrest Meyer, Becky Soglin, and Tom Moore

CSI: Ophthalmology

The popular “CSI” television series features forensic investigators who use their unique talents and skills to examine evidence and ultimately track down a crime’s perpetrator. While ophthalmic pathologists at the F.C. Blodi Eye Pathology Laboratory do not investigate actual crime scenes - nor are they television actors - they do play a vital role in the examination and pathological analysis of human tissue in order to help track down real-life answers.

Ophthalmic pathologists help determine a difficult or unfamiliar diagnosis as well as help in preparation of tissue that may need special handling, such as eyes and corneas. Ophthalmic pathology laboratories conduct gross and microscopic examination of



Elevated mass of the ciliary body



surgical pathology specimens from the eye and ocular adnexa and autopsy eyes.

The F.C. Blodi Eye Pathology Laboratory has been a part of University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics since the 1950s. It is named for its first director, Frederick C. Blodi, MD, who was chair of the department from 1967 to 1984. Dr. Blodi was renowned in the field of ophthalmology and a recognized expert in ophthalmic pathology.

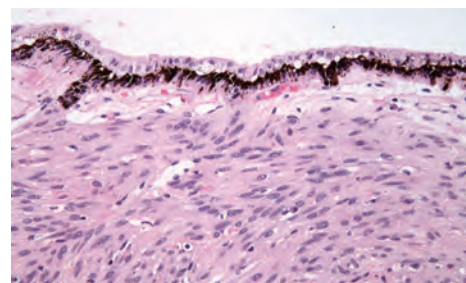
Accredited by the College of American Pathologists and certified by The Clinical Laboratory Improvement Amendments, the laboratory is affiliated with the system of diagnostic laboratories of the department of pathology at the University of Iowa. The F.C. Blodi Eye Pathology Laboratory is one of a small group of free-standing ophthalmic pathology laboratories in the U.S.

Fully equipped to process and section histological specimens and to do immunohistochemical and special histological stains, Iowa’s laboratory receives ocular

specimens for consultation from ophthalmologists throughout the country and even from foreign countries. The laboratory has an archive of tissues that dates back to the 1960s and is a valuable resource for research projects and clinicopathologic correlation.

In addition to serving an important clinical role, the laboratory plays a key role in education and research. The facility provides diagnostic services, supports a wide variety of vision-related research projects, and is an important resource for further study of eye diseases and education for physicians in training.

For more information, contact the F.C. Blodi Eye Pathology Laboratory at 319-335-7095 or nasreen-syed@uiowa.edu



Hematoxylin-eosin stain, 200x magnification

UI ophthalmology researchers to study serious eye disorder

A University of Iowa Health Care research team is participating in a study, funded by a five-year, \$16 million grant from the National Institutes of Health, to investigate the cause of idiopathic intracranial hypertension and test a potential new treatment.

Idiopathic intracranial hypertension is a disorder of elevated pressure inside the cranium, or skull, with an unknown cause. Untreated, it may cause blindness.

The investigation will involve 40 study sites. **Michael Wall, MD**, professor of

neurology and ophthalmology, will direct an investigational treatment trial for patients newly diagnosed with the condition. The clinical trial will assess the efficacy of a low-sodium weight-reduction diet plus a diuretic, acetazolamide, compared to the use of the diet plus a placebo, in reversing or preventing visual loss.

In addition to a treatment trial, **Markus Kuehn, PhD**, assistant professor of ophthalmology and visual sciences, and **Edwin Stone, MD, PhD**, professor of ophthalmology and visual sciences and a

Howard Hughes Medical Institute investigator, will lead a genetics study that will evaluate genetic risk factors for idiopathic intracranial hypertension.

The project aims to provide evidence-based guidelines for treatment of the condition, reveal mechanisms of this therapy, and lead to an understanding of the cause of the disorder. The research teams will collaborate through the Neuro-ophthalmology Research Disease Investigator Consortium.

Spotlight on education

The University of Iowa continues its strong commitment to resident education. Current residents have been busy representing the University of Iowa across the country:

- **Alex W. Cohen, MD** ('10R), at the AUPO Retreat in Indian Wells, California
- **A. Brock Roller, MD** ('10R), attended the ophthalmology chief resident retreat
- **Lucas J.A. Wendel, MD** ('06M, '10R), was selected by the Iowa Academy of Ophthalmology and University of Iowa to participate in the Advocacy Ambassador Program at the 2009 AAO Mid Year Forum in Washington, D.C.
- **Jason P. Brinton, MD** ('11R), at the Annual Heed Ophthalmic Foundation Residents Retreat in Chicago
- **Gina M. Rogers, MD** ('11R), at the Women in Ophthalmology Summer Symposium in San Diego



Lucas Wendel, MD ('06M, '10R) (left) and 2008 Advocacy Ambassador Matthew Rauen, MD ('09R) (right) join Iowa Academy of Ophthalmology Executive Director, Tess Young, at the 2009 AAO Mid Year Forum

A recent American Board of Ophthalmology five-year survey showed a 100 percent first-time pass rate on the written and oral board exams for University of Iowa Residents.

Ophthalmology residents at Iowa will now gain more international exposure. The residency education program will begin offering an international rotation elective to third-year residents. Interested residents will prepare an educational objectives statement describing goals for the trip with comments on how the experience will shape their practice and careers in the future. Selected residents may be paired with department alumni who are traveling on an international mission or with another institution so that the education experience can be tailored accordingly.



Image from NASA's GRIN database

For more information or to express interest in resident help on a mission, contact Residency Program Director, Tom Oetting, MD, thomas-oetting@uiowa.edu.

New content on EyeRounds.org

- Birdshot Choroiditis: 55 year old woman with persistent vitreous floaters
- Competition Leads to Healthcare Savings: A systems based case from the VA
- Kayser-Fleischer Ring: A Systems Based Review of the Ophthalmologist's Role in the Diagnosis of Wilson's Disease
- Corneal Stromal Dystrophies: A Clinicopathologic Review
- Ciliary Body Leiomyoma: Clinicopathologic Correlation

P.J. Leinfelder Awards recognize vision research

The 2009 Ophthalmology Resident and Fellow Research Day event was held on May 15, 2009.

The P. J. Leinfelder Award was inaugurated in 1982 by alumni who wished to pay tribute to Dr. Leinfelder — a scholar,

teacher, and physician who served on the department faculty from 1936 to 1978. Each year a faculty committee presents awards to the resident and fellow physicians who have made significant contributions in preparing and delivering seminars.



Juan Fernandez de Castro, MD ('09F, '10F), Ocular Pathology Fellow and current Molecular Ophthalmology Fellow; Michael D. Wagoner, MD, PhD, Research Day Director; Brock Roller, MD, PhD ('10R), Resident; Alina Dumitrescu, MD, PhD ('10F), Postdoctoral research scholar and current Pediatric Ophthalmology Fellow; and (inset) Kori A. Elkins, MD ('10F), Vitreoretinal Disease Fellow.

Thank you to the Iowa Eye Association for their generous support of resident education at the University of Iowa and eyerounds.org, the website which serves as a valuable teaching resource to ophthalmology residents, fellows and physicians.



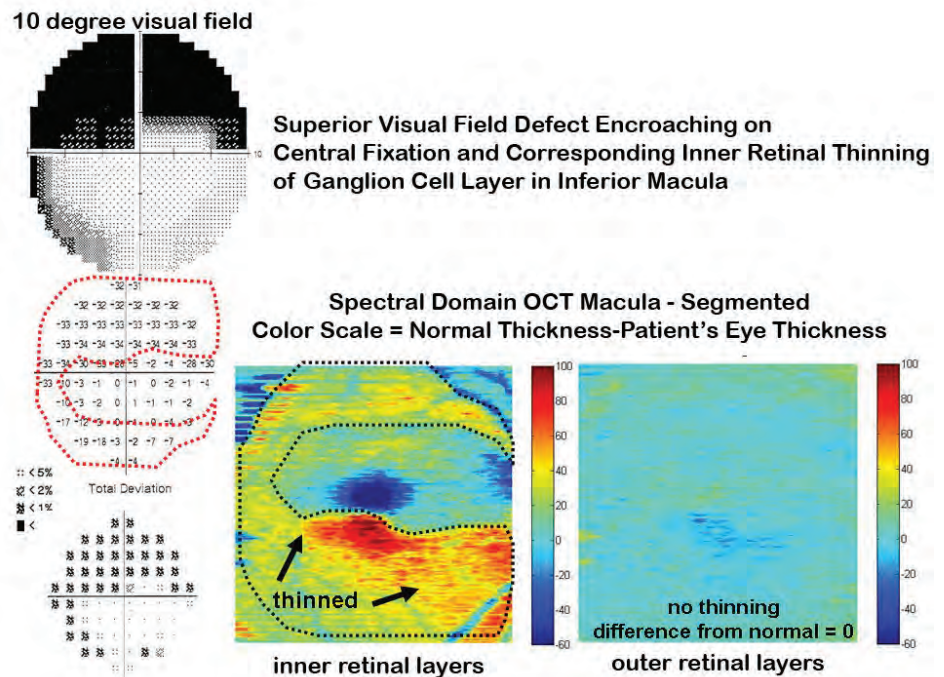
Research news

Using 3-D spectral-domain OCT to study visual sensitivity of the macula

The National Institutes of Health has awarded a three-year, \$1.1 million grant to **Milan Sonka, PhD**, **Michael Abràmoff, MD, PhD**, and **Randy Kardon, MD, PhD**, to conduct structure-function analysis using spectral domain OCT.

Funding will allow researchers to elucidate the structure-function relationships between visual field threshold sensitivity and the structural features of the retina layers. The study will address which structural properties of the layers of the macula – obtained from three-dimensional image analysis of spectral domain optical coherence tomography (3-D OCT) – are associated with visual sensitivity, a measure of function.

The project is driven by an important clinical problem – the poor reliability and reproducibility of the visual field as a measure of irreversible damage to the retinal ganglion cells and their axons in optic neuropathies including glaucoma. If



the expected associations are confirmed by 3-D image analysis of spectral domain OCT of the macular layers, the new approach has the potential to become an

objective and reproducible addition to the functional assessment of the status of damage.

Funding helps advance study of retinal disease genes

The Foundation Fighting Blindness awarded **Edwin Stone, MD, PhD**, professor of ophthalmology and director of the Carver Family Center for Macular Degeneration, with a multi-year grant of \$1.47 million to study autosomal recessive retinitis pigmentosa (RP) with the long-term goal of developing effective treatments for the disease.

The project seeks to discover the genes that cause the disease and lead to the development of low-cost genetic tests for several forms of photoreceptor degeneration including RP (recessive, dominant, and X-linked), Usher syndrome, Leber congenital amaurosis, cone-rod dystrophy, and Bardet Biedl syndrome. Other expected outcomes include an improved understanding of the clinical features and

time course of vision loss associated with specific genetic forms of these diseases and the identification of patients with each molecular form of recessive RP. These patients may then be able to participate in clinical trials of gene replacement and other mechanism-specific therapies. Research efforts involve close collaboration with clinician scientists at other FFB-supported institutions and are expected to lead to the discovery of new RP genes.

Other UI investigators involved include **Val Sheffield, MD, PhD**, professor of pediatrics and ophthalmology, **Todd Scheetz, PhD**, associate professor of ophthalmology, and **Tom Casavant, PhD**, professor and director of the UI Center for Bioinformatics and Computational Biology.

UI investigators recognized for vision research

Chris Johnson, PhD, and **Michael Wall, MD**, were selected as 2009 Silver Fellows by the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology.

Dr. Johnson, professor of ophthalmology and visual sciences and director of the Visual Field Reading Center, studies testing related to glaucoma and retinal diseases and develops automated diagnostic test procedures. Dr. Wall, a professor of neurology and ophthalmology and visual sciences, studies idiopathic intracranial hypertension, a disorder of elevated pressure inside the skull that left untreated, can cause blindness.

Recognized for their accomplishments, leadership and contributions to the association, the new fellows were inducted at the ARVO 2009 annual meeting.

Faculty news

UI experts to lead new VA Center for preventing and treating vision loss

A five-year, \$5 million grant to establish a Center for the Prevention and Treatment of Visual Loss was awarded to the Iowa City Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Center by the Veterans Affairs Division of Rehabilitation Research and Development.

Randy H. Kardon, MD, PhD, professor of ophthalmology and director of neuro-ophthalmology, will direct the center. Dr. Kardon, who also holds the Pomerantz Family Chair in Ophthalmology, is a VA staff physician. **Michael Abramoff, MD, PhD**, associate professor of ophthalmology and computer and electrical engineering and VA retinal specialist, will be associate director. Faculty and researchers from other medical college departments, the UI College of Engineering, the UI College of Public Health and Iowa State University, as well as collaborators from around the country, will be involved.

The center will pursue three research areas to advance treatments for visual disorders affecting veterans and the general population: traumatic brain injury; neurotrophic growth factors and neuroprotection; and telemedical detection of eye disease.

The American Board of Ophthalmology elected **H. Culver Boldt, MD**, professor of ophthalmology and director of the ocular echography service to its Board of Directors. Dr. Boldt joins colleague **Wallace L.M. Alward, MD**, on the ABO board.

AAO honors Syed and Alward

Nasreen A. Syed, MD, assistant professor of ophthalmology and pathology, and **Wallace L.M. Alward, MD**, professor of ophthalmology, were honored by the American Academy of Ophthalmology for their special contributions to the Academy and field of ophthalmology. Syed received the Achievement Award for her contributions made to the Academy, its scientific and education programs, and to ophthalmology. Alward received the Academy's Secretariat Award for being the lead author on the second edition of *Color Atlas of Gonioscopy* and for acting as the intermediary allowing the Academy's O.N.E. Portal to link to www.gonioscopy.org, the gonioscopy website that he and colleagues developed.

Robert F. Mullins, PhD, associate professor of ophthalmology, has been invited to serve as a member of the Biology and Diseases of the Posterior Eye Study Section of the National Institutes of Health Center for Scientific Review.

Hayreh receives honor from Royal College of Ophthalmologists

Professor emeritus of ophthalmology and visual sciences, **Sohan Singh Hayreh, MD, PhD**, received an honorary fellowship from the Royal College of Ophthalmologists in Britain for his notable contributions to ophthalmology. Hayreh received the recognition, which is the highest honor conferred by the organization, at a ceremony held June 12th in London.

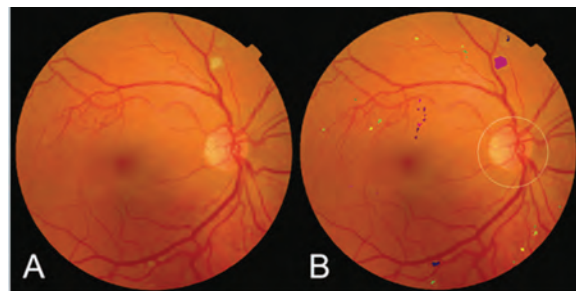
Hayreh is a fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of England and a fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh, Scotland. In 1987, he was the first ophthalmologist to be awarded, by the University of London, the degree of Doctor of Science in Medicine, the highest degree awarded by the institution.



Andrew J. Lotery, MD, FRCOphth ('00F), with Sohan Singh Hayreh, MD, PhD

Evaluating computer-aided detection methods for diabetic retinopathy

The U.S. Veterans Administration awarded **Michael Abramoff, MD, PhD**, associate professor of ophthalmology and engineering, with a four-year merit award of \$461,985 to evaluate the use of computer technology to diagnose diabetic retinopathy in veterans with diabetes. Studies will compare whether the use of retinal specialists, retinal specialists assisted by computer, or a computer alone are more effective in determining diabetic retinopathy in diabetic patients.



(A) Image of diabetic retinopathy lesions. (B) computer assisted detection of lesions due to diabetic retinopathy

Blind cyclist leads UI group on ride across Iowa

A team of cyclists – including a blind U.S. Paralympics track cycling national champion – pedaled across Iowa to raise awareness of and funds for Project 3000, a University of Iowa-based effort seeking a cure for a rare childhood blinding eye disease.

Clark Rachfal, a U.S. national medalist in track cycling who has been losing his sight since childhood and who has Leber congenital amaurosis (LCA), rode a tandem bicycle with a sighted partner. The pair rode with a group of researchers, staff and friends of the Carver Family Center for Macular Degeneration (CFCMD) in RAGBRAI, the Register’s Annual Great Bike Ride Across Iowa. The event draws thousands of cyclists annually with this year’s ride traveling 442 miles from Council Bluffs, IA to Burlington, IA.

Along the way, the team enjoyed the many sites, sounds, smells, and especially tastes of Iowa. Fundraising efforts led by Paul Rosenthal, chair of an advisory board to the CFCMD, and team members resulted in \$40,000 in gifts to support Project 3000 and blinding eye disease research.

The mission of Project 3000 is to find and offer genetic testing to the estimated 3,000 Americans with Leber congenital amaurosis, which causes severe vision loss or blindness and typically strikes during early childhood. Testing helps confirm the diagnosis, find the genes responsible for LCA, and lead to new treatments for inherited eye diseases such as LCA.



“Team Project 3000” at one of their overnight campsites



U.S Paralympic cycling champions Clark Rachfal (left) and Dave Swanson (center) with team member Andy Thompson



Paul Rosenthal, advisory board member of the UI Carver Family Center for Macular Degeneration, takes a break with Tyson Kinnick, post-doctoral researcher in ophthalmology

There *is* something you can do

The University of Iowa Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences is proud to be recognized as one of the best eye care and research programs in the country. Private support allows us to sustain and increase our margin of excellence in patient care, education and research in ophthalmology and the visual sciences. If you are interested in supporting our mission, please visit:

www.givetoiowa.org/eye

For information about how your contribution can have an impact, please contact:

Mitch Beckman
Executive Director of Development
UI Foundation
800-648-6973 or
mitch-beckman@uiowa.edu



University of Iowa Foundation’s Shannon Thomas with Clark Rachfal



A Wolfe Eye Clinic office provided a welcome air-conditioned overnight stop

The Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences is consistently rated as one of the highest scoring departments at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics in patient satisfaction.

96% percent of satisfaction survey respondents from the past year indicated they would recommend the department to their family or friends.

Personnel changes

Changes to the oculoplastic service

After nearly 25 years in UI's department of ophthalmology and visual sciences, **Jeffrey A. Nerad, MD**, professor of ophthalmology, left to pursue an opportunity in private practice. Nerad, who directed the oculoplastic, orbital and oncology service, accepted a position at the Cincinnati Eye Institute.

Nerad contributed greatly to the ophthalmic education program at Iowa and is very active in professional associations that advance the field of ophthalmology. "It has been my greatest honor to work with all of my colleagues at Iowa and it will be difficult to leave, having spent my entire career and a good share of my life in Iowa City," said Nerad.



Keith D. Carter, MD, department chair, trained under Dr. Nerad and added, "Having started my own career under Jeff, I have thoroughly

enjoyed working alongside him for so many years. The department appreciates all he has done and will miss his presence."

Replacing Dr. Nerad is a familiar face to the University of Iowa. **Richard C. Allen, MD, PhD**, formerly of Eye Associates of New Mexico, returned to Iowa City as an associate professor of ophthalmology and visual sciences in the oculoplastic, orbital and oncology service. Dr. Allen completed his residency at the University of Iowa in 1999 followed by fellowships in molecular ophthalmology and oculoplastic surgery at Iowa. He specializes in minimally



invasive functional and cosmetic oculoplastic surgery. Clinical and research interests include hereditary diseases of the eyelids, lacrimal system, and orbit.

Departures

Gregory S. Hageman, PhD, professor of ophthalmology, left this fall to join the faculty at the John A. Moran Eye Center at the University of Utah. Hageman joined the University of Iowa in 1997 and most recently held the Iowa Entrepreneurial Endowed Professorship. His research of the pathways involved in the etiology of age-related macular degeneration (AMD) helped lead to the co-founding of Ophtherion, a biotechnology company that is developing diagnostic and disease-modifying therapeutics for the management and treatment of AMD and other chronic diseases.

Emily C. Greenlee, MD, assistant professor of clinical ophthalmology, resigned from her role as a faculty member in the department in order to spend more time with family. She continues to stay active in ophthalmology and interacts with University of Iowa faculty colleagues by maintaining a clinical role at the Iowa City Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

Graduation

Graduating residents and completing fellows celebrated graduation with colleagues and family members in the University of Iowa Kinnick Stadium press box.



Mansoor S. Mughal, MD (left)



Alejandro Leon, MD (second from right) celebrates with family



Resident Class of 2009: (left to right) E. Bo Yang, MD, Matthew B. Rauhen, MD, Arpitha Muthialu Charlu, MD, Parisa Taravati, MD, and Parley D. Fillmore, MD



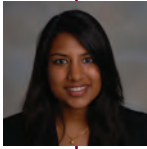
Narendra (Nick) M. Patel, MD (left) and Jordan M. Graff, MD



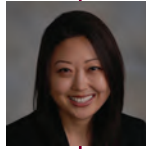
Kori A. Elkins, MD (left), Jill S. Melicher, MD, and Mansi B. Parikh, MD

The Department welcomes our new residents and fellows

Residents



Priya Gupta, MD
University of Southern
California Keck School of
Medicine



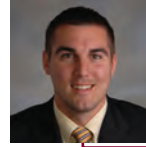
Esther S. Hong, MD
University of California,
San Francisco School of
Medicine



Shaival S. Shah, MD
University of Illinois Col-
lege of Medicine



Matthew S. Ward, MD
University of Utah School of
Medicine



Christopher E. Watts, MD
University of Washington
School of Medicine

Fellows



Matthew B. Rauen, MD
Cornea / External Disease
University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, MD
Ophthalmology Residency, University of Iowa



Elizabeth M. (Elsa) Palkovacs, MD
Oculoplastic and Orbital Surgery
University of Cincinnati College of Medicine, MD
Transitional Internship, Hospital of Saint Raphael, New
Haven, Connecticut
Ophthalmology Residency, University of Cincinnati

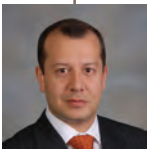
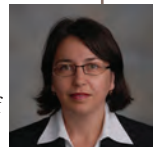
Kirk A. Sturridge, MBBS

Glaucoma
University of the West Indies, Jamaica, MBBS (Bachelor
of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery)
Medical Internship, University Hospital of the West
Indies, Jamaica
Internship, SUNY Downstate Medical Center, NY
Ophthalmology Residency, SUNY Downstate Medical Center



Alina V. Dumitrescu, MD

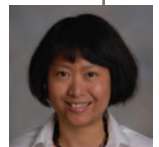
Pediatric Ophthalmology
Victor Babes University of Medicine and Pharmacy,
Timisoara, Romania, MD
Internship, County Hospital of Timisoara, Romania
Ophthalmology Residency, Victor Babes University of
Medicine and Pharmacy
Molecular Ophthalmology/Glaucoma Scholar,
University of Iowa



Juan Fernandez de Castro, MD
Molecular Ophthalmology
Universidad El Bosque, Columbia, Medical Surgeon
Diploma
Internship, Ophthalmology, Simon Bolivar Hospital
Fellowship, Ocular Pathology, University of Iowa

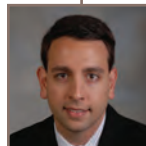
Yanjun (Judy) Chen, MD, PhD

Neuro-Ophthalmology
Beijing Medical University, Beijing, P.R. China, MD
Ophthalmology Residency, Peking Union Medical
College Hospital Beijing, P.R.China
Schnurmacher Institute for Vision Research SUNY,
State College of Optometry, PhD
Neurology Residency, St. Louis University School of Medicine



Ryan M. Tarantola, MD

Vitreoretinal Diseases and Surgery
Saint Louis University School of Medicine, MD
Transitional Medicine Internship, Forest Park Hospital,
St. Louis
Ophthalmology Residency, Vanderbilt University



Christine Nichols Kay, MD
Vitreoretinal Diseases and Surgery
University of Florida College of Medicine, Gainesville, MD
Ophthalmology Residency, University of South Florida,
Tampa
Internship, Carilion Roanoke Memorial Hospital,
Roanoke, Virginia



Travis C. Rumery, DO
Neuro-Ophthalmology
Des Moines University College of Osteopathic
Medicine, Des Moines, Iowa, DO
Residency, Internal Medicine, University of Iowa

Short-term addition to neuro-ophthalmology

Another familiar face rejoining the department is **James J. Corbett, MD**, who joined as the Helen C. Levitt Visiting Professor of Ophthalmology. Currently Chair Emeritus and McCarty Professor of Neurology and Professor of Ophthalmology at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, Dr. Corbett joined the Neuro-ophthalmology service for a six-month period. Dr. Corbett was a member of UI's faculty from 1977 until 1990. In addition to seeing patients in the Neuro-ophthalmology clinic, he plays an active role in teaching and clinical research. Specific areas of research involve the investigation of structural-functional relationships in patients with optic nerve damage and the mechanisms of preservation of visual function in individuals who have suffered optic nerve damage.



James Corbett, MD

Congratulations to our 2009 resident and fellow graduates!

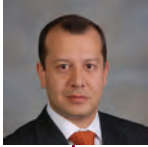
Arpitha Muthialu Charlu, MD
Resident
Private practice, Atlantis Eyecare, Huntington
Beach, California



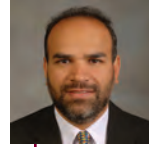
Mansi B. Parikh, MD
Glaucoma Fellow
Assistant Professor, Glaucoma Service,
Casey Eye Institute, Portland, OR



Juan Fernandez de Castro, MD
Ocular Pathology Fellow
Research Scholar, Molecular
Ophthalmology, University of Iowa



Nick M. Patel, MD
Vitreoretinal Surgery Fellow
Retina Division, Storm Eye Institute, Medical University
of South Carolina, Charleston. Bruce Pratt Endowed
Chair of International Ophthalmology; Director, Center
for International Ophthalmology



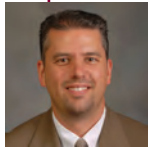
Parley D. Fillmore, MD, PhD
Resident
Private practice, Alamogordo Eye Clinic,
Alamogordo, NM



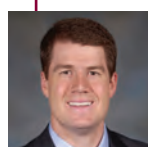
Fabiana C. Policeni, MD
Neuro-ophthalmology Fellow
Radiology Residency, University of Iowa



Jordan M. Graff, MD
Vitreoretinal Surgery Fellow
Private practice, Barnet Dulaney
Perkins Eye Center, Phoenix, AZ



Matthew B. Rauen, MD
Resident
Cornea, External Disease and Refractive Surgery
Fellowship, University of Iowa



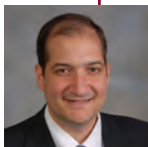
Alejandro Leon, MD
Pediatric Ophthalmology Fellow
Private practice in Pediatric Ophthalmology,
Children's Hospital of New Orleans, LA



Parisa Taravati, MD
Resident
Assistant Professor of Comprehensive
Ophthalmology, University of Washington,
Seattle



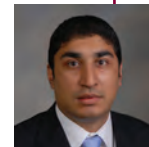
Maneesh K. Mehan, MD
Cornea, External Disease & Refractive
Surgery Fellow
Private practice, OH



E. Bo Yang, MD
Resident
Glaucoma Fellowship, Tufts Medical Center/
Ophthalmic Consultants of Boston



Mansoor S. Mughal, MD
Neuro-ophthalmology Fellow
Internship, Internal Medicine, followed by
Neurology residency, University of Iowa



Received any special distinction
or had a change in contact
information? Let us know what
you are up to. Email us at
iowaeyecare@uiowa.edu

Iowa Eye Association meeting recap

Ophthalmologists and department alumni attended the Iowa Eye Association Annual Meeting this past June. In addition to an outstanding collection of lectures, the meeting included a banquet celebrating the accomplishments of several colleagues and social activities such as golf at Finkbine. *Next year's meeting is June 18-19, 2010.*



Mansour F. Armaly Lecturer, Paul R. Lichter, MD, W.K. Kellogg Eye Center, University of Michigan (center) with Keith Carter, MD (left) and Wallace L. M. Alward, MD (right)



Distinguished Alumni Lecturer, William J. (BJ) Dupps, Jr., MD, PhD ('04R), Cleveland Clinic (left) with Thomas Oetting, MD



Wolfe Foundation Lecturer, James A. Davison, MD



One of the foursomes at Finkbine Golf Course



Alson E. Braley Lecturer, Valerie A. Purvin, MD, Midwest Eye Institute (left) with Randy Kardon, MD, PhD



2009 Iowa Eye Association honorees (left to right): William B. Hofmann, MD ('64R); H. David Fenske, MD ('64R); Joan B. Nickol, MD ('58M); Clyde K. Kitchen, MD ('58M, '62R); H. Stanley Thompson, MD ('66R), professor emeritus; Charlotte A. Burns, MD ('67R); Edward S. Perkins, MD, PhD; Meredith R. Saunders, MD ('56M)

Others acknowledged for their contributions to ophthalmology but not present: Samuel D. Bovenmyer, MD ('63M, '67R), Donald H. Beisner, MD ('64M, '70MS, '70R), Thomas A Brown, MD ('70M), Drew B. Dillman, MD ('82F), Robert B. Goffstein, MD ('83R), R. Josef Hofmann, MD, Robert M. Lang, MD ('72M, '76R), Karl C. Ossoinig, MD, Ruben N. Rullan, MD, Tim B. Sullivan, Jr, MD ('71R, '72MS), and Russell H. Watt, MD

Artistic performance to confront vision loss

February 2010

Imagine your world going dark. Contemplate the fading sight of a loved one. Grapple with the responsibility of delivering a diagnosis.

Renowned theater artist and UI graduate Rinde Eckert takes you behind the eyes and into the heads and hearts of those surrounded by the shadows of blindness. Crafted from interviews collected via an unusual collaboration between Eckert and the University of Iowa Carver Family Center for Macular Degeneration, *Eye Piece* will feature performers from the UI Theatre Arts and Dance departments and the School of Music as well as Eckert himself. With humor and compassion Eckert will lead us on a journey through darkness toward a different kind of illumination. February 5-7 and 12-14, 2010 at the Mabie Theatre in Iowa City. Information at www.hancher.uiowa.edu/events

KidSight program helps Lions Clubs reach one million milestone

Iowa KidSight, a joint project of Lions Clubs of Iowa and the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, helped Lions Clubs International Foundation celebrate reaching its goal of providing free eye screenings for 1 million preschool children since 1999.

Albert Brandel, chairperson of Lions Clubs International Foundation, joined members of the Lions Clubs of Iowa and KidSight

program representatives at a childcare facility in North Liberty, Iowa for a vision screening event and promotional filming with Lions Clubs International.



Iowa's program is one of 16 state-wide vision-screening programs initially sponsored by Lions Clubs International. In Iowa, over

147,650 children have been screened at nearly 9,800 screenings since May 2000.



University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics
 Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences
 200 Hawkins Dr., 11136 PFP
 Iowa City, IA 52242-1091

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Upcoming events

Join us in Iowa City for our Clinical Conference Series where we explore and discuss relevant and interesting clinical topics in Ophthalmology. Check our web site for the latest dates, topics, and registration information: <http://tinyurl.com/UIowaClinConf>

The 2009-2010 Clinical Conference Series includes:

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| December 4 | Pediatric Ophthalmology |
| February 5, 2010 | Glaucoma |
| March 5, 2010 | Neuro-ophthalmology |
| April 2, 2010 | Oculoplastic Surgery |

Other Events:

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| October 24-27 | 2009 AAO-PAAO Joint Meeting , San Francisco, Calif. |
| Feb. 5-7 & 12-14 | Rinde Eckert, Eye Piece , Hancher Auditorium event, Iowa City (see inside for details) |
| March 26, 2010 | Resident and Fellow Research Day 2010 , Iowa City |
| June 18-19, 2010 | Iowa Eye Association Annual Meeting , Iowa City |

Iowa Reception at AAO Meeting - San Francisco

Come renew friendships and catch up with colleagues from Iowa and around the world at the Iowa alumni reception. We look forward to seeing you there!

Westin St. Francis Hotel
Sunday, October 25th
6:30 – 9:30 p.m.

