

THE

# IOWA EYE NEWS

DEPARTMENT OF OPHTHALMOLOGY THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

## FACULTY CHANGES

### Blodi steps down

It is no news to any of you that Dr. Blodi has retired from the chairmanship, but will remain as a professor in the department. In fact many of you were at the party we threw for him on April 20. It was a fancy reception and banquet, in formal attire, at Hancher Auditorium. President Freedman, of The University of Iowa, gave a little talk, and a represen-

With this issue we begin a second series of the *Iowa Eye News*. The first series was started by Dr. Blodi in December 1968 and appeared irregularly until May 1983—a total of 76 issues. The new series will be edited by Dr. Thompson.

**Charles D. Phelps**

Welcome to the second series! We are planning to put out at least four issues of the *Iowa Eye News* each year in an effort to keep the friends of the department informed about what is happening in Iowa City and what our plans and hopes are for the future. As in the past, the *Iowa Eye News* will be sent, free of charge, to our entire mailing list of alumni and friends.

You will notice some technical improvements: we are using a high quality, coated paper so that we can make better use of photographs, and the text is actually being typeset. I welcome your suggestions and hope that you will send in items that might be of interest to our readership.

**H. Stanley Thompson**

tative of the Austrian government was there to give Dr. Blodi one of the few Crosses of Merit ever given outside of Austria; and all of you who contributed \$5,000 or more to the Blodi Professorship had your names put on a bronze plaque. Also on display was an enormous framed print of *The Tractor Picture* of the 1983 Blodi faculty. Stan Thompson and Paul Montague presented Dr. Blodi a beautifully bound picture album of the Blodi years made up of the photos which you sent in.

It was quite a bash, but the biggest item was the \$754,000 in gifts and pledges which you contributed to the Blodi Professorship. The unsung hero of this fund-raising campaign was Tom Weingeist. The whole thing was his idea in the first place; and it was his organizing, his cajoling and wheedling, his tactful reminders, his well-designed brochures, and his determination to make it work that brought all the contributions in.

Altogether it was a very satisfying retirement party. Those of us who have worked with Dr. Blodi over the years and grown accustomed to his relaxed style and irrepressible enthusiasm will miss him in the driver's seat.

### Phelps is new chief

Dr. Blodi came home from the academy in 1983 determined to retire from the chairmanship. Before Christmas he had announced his intention to the dean and to his faculty. We braced ourselves for some inevitable rocking of the boat.

Dean Eckstein appointed a committee, led by Dr. Van Allen of neurology, to search for a new chief of ophthalmology. It was a big job, which took a year to complete. Letters were sent to key persons in academic ophthalmology across the country, looking for suitable candidates; the Iowa alumni were sounded out; the faculty were interviewed; and finally 51 names were submitted and duly considered. The list was eventually trimmed to four external candidates and four internal candidates, and the final choice was made by the dean, based on the recommendations of his search committee.

The choice was Chuck Phelps, who is well-known to most of you. Dr. Phelps is the oldest of the four sons of Dr. and Mrs. Gardner D. Phelps.

Dr. Phelps (senior) practiced ophthalmology for many years in Waterloo,

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Three generations (left to right): Chuck and Dorsey Phelps, Fred and Otty Blodi, Al and Hazel Braley.

## FACULTY CHANGES from page 1

Iowa, and retired in 1971. Many of you know Dex and Ginny; two of their sons are ophthalmologists, one is an orthopedic surgeon, and one a biology professor.

Chuck Phelps did his undergraduate work and his medical degree at The University of Iowa, went to Boston to do an internship at Boston City Hospital, stayed to do another year of internal medicine residency, and practiced internal medicine in the air force for two years before returning to Iowa City to begin an eye residency. He did a pre-residency fellowship with Mansour Armaly which got him interested in glaucoma. When he finished his ophthalmology residency in 1970, he took a glaucoma fellowship with Dr. Becker at Washington University in St. Louis.

At about this time, Armaly went to Washington, D.C., to become chairman at George Washington University, and Dr. Blodi invited Dr. Phelps to come back to Iowa to be our glaucoma expert. He has been a member of the faculty for 12 years. His wife, Dorsey, is president of the Iowa City School Board and is working on her doctorate in history. They have four children. The oldest is a sophomore at Reed College in Portland, Oregon.

I can report to you that collectively we feel good about Dr. Phelps assuming the chairmanship. Some additions are being made to the faculty, some expansion and renovation of the clinic and research labs will begin this winter, and some interesting features are being added to the teaching schedule. During the ceremonies this spring, Dr. Phelps made it clear that his goal is to keep the department strong in its traditional areas of strength, namely, teaching, patient care, and clinical research. The boat seems to be rocking less already.

### Watzke off to Oregon

I think Bob Watzke just wanted a fresh challenge in a fresh location. He has joined the eye department at the University of Oregon and is planning to build up an active retina service there. Last March 28 we had a warm send-off party for Bob and Lonnie at the Ox Yoke Inn in Main Amana. We in Iowa City were very sorry to see him go, and we suspect that in Portland they still haven't discovered what a gem they've got. I hear that Bob has been enthusiastically participating in a departmental, faculty vs residents, fly-rod fish-off and I'm sure

he's telling them about the pheasant hunts they had in Iowa where the prize went to the resident who brought in the longest tail feather.

### Anderson moves to Utah

We are losing Rick Anderson, our flamboyant plastic surgeon, to Salt Lake City, Utah, where the grass is said to be greener and the frustrations fewer. We will all miss him, not just because he was colorful and livened things up, but because he was damned good—a thinking surgeon and an enthusiastic teacher. David Tse, our remaining oculoplastics faculty person, will especially miss him—because Rick is taking the oculoplastics fellow along with him to Utah and leaving behind a heavy clinic load of orbital, lacrimal, and plastic surgery. But David, whose work is much admired, will probably have a fellow to help him before long because we still have a plastics fellowship that is busier and better than most.



Andy and Kathi Packer

### Packer moves to Louisiana

Andy Packer of our vitreoretinal service is moving on. He is going to join Herb Kaufman's department at LSU in New Orleans. Andy and Kathi now have two sons, both born in Iowa City. We wish them well.

### Folberg to join department

Dr. Robert Folberg has his boards in both ophthalmology and pathology. He is presently the ophthalmic pathologist and medical director of laboratory services at the Wills Eye Hospital. Dr. Folberg did his ophthalmology at Wills and his pathology at the AFIP. He has been part of the Wills faculty for two years and his careful publications have given him a reputation as one of the outstanding young eye pathologists in the country. Bob and his wife, Amy, expect to move to Iowa City in October.

### Blodi to spend year in Saudi Arabia

Dr. Blodi's temporary new title is director of medical education at the King Khaled Eye Specialist Hospital in

Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. He is accomplishing several things at once by dashing off to Arabia: (1) he is making the point that he is not stepping down because he is tired; (2) he is giving himself a chance to work with some experts on the history of Arabian ophthalmology during the tenth century; (3) he is staying out of Dr. Phelps's way; (4) he is having a grand adventure; (5) at the same time he is helping to retire his mortgage! Otty will join Fred in Riyadh for part of the year.

## YAG Laser

Our YAG laser arrived in July and is now set up and running. Dr. Kolder and Dr. Phelps will be using it for anterior segment work, and the retina service for vitreous work. The residents are waiting to get a firsthand look at what the instrument can do.

## Photo Album Mailed to Donors

The *Iowa Eye Book* is a collection of photographs of the Department of Ophthalmology and the people who have made it run. It was conceived as a going-away present for Dr. Blodi, but it has developed into an informal history of the department. Everyone who made a substantial contribution to the F. C. Blodi Professorship should have received a copy in the mail. If your pledge was for \$5,000 or more, your name should appear on the cover in gilt letters.

We have a few copies left, and they too will be given away to anyone who raises their pledge or tax-deductible contribution to the Blodi Professorship to the \$1,000 mark. In a few years if we get more photos from you, we hope to make a more complete and accurate second edition which will emphasize the history of the department. If you feel that the Blodi edition doesn't do justice to the years that you were in Iowa, see if you can find some more pictures. Please send clear photos of the department and of the people you knew. Do your best to date the picture, identify the people, and tell something about the occasion on which the picture was taken. If you send originals, please state clearly that you want them back, and we will copy and return them promptly. Don't hesitate to write to me to point out errors and omissions in the 1984 edition.

Stan Thompson

## NEW RESIDENTS

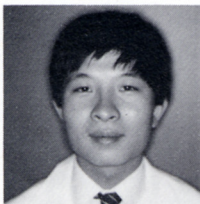
In 1982 we received 213 completed applications for our six residency positions. Fifty-four of the applicants were invited to Iowa City for an interview. We listed 25 of them in the order of our preference, and the computer matched us with six. Three of these new residents started on July 1, 1984.

**Ed Colloton** was born in 1957 in Chicago. He went to high school in Arlington Heights. After two years in the College of Engineering at The University of Iowa, he transferred to Liberal Arts and graduated in 1979. His M.D. (1983) is also from The University of Iowa. He did an internship in Milwaukee. Ed is married; his wife's name is Anne.



**Mark Freedman** was born in 1956 in Los Angeles. His B.S. was from the University of Wisconsin in Madison, where he was valedictorian of his class. His major was in zoology with a special concentration in immunobiology. This interest in immunology continued through his years at the Medical College of Wisconsin in Milwaukee where he was involved in research in bone marrow transplants and the immunotherapy of leukemia. Mark is married; his wife's name is Linda.

**Colin Ma** was born in 1958 in London, England. He received an honors B.A. from Cambridge in 1979 (Gonville and Caius College), and his medical degrees from Oxford (Brasenose College) in 1982. He has done two years of postgraduate medicine and surgery in England. Dr. Ma is the first graduate of a foreign medical school to be admitted to the residency program in 20 years.



## Technicians and Secretaries, 1984

**FRONT ROW**—Georgianne Parkes-Perret, Virginia Borchert, Sara Putney, Karen Hoffman, Liz Wagner, Becky Meyer, Fern Marner, Teresa Meidlinger, Nancy Klingler, Carole Stockton, Anna Boerner, Dolores Hardy; **SECOND ROW**—Nancy Ridenour, Jane Knoedel, Marlys Bartling, Pat Smith, Mary Duffey, Deanna Griffith, Carolyn Vogel, Kathi Miller, Laura Pitlick, Naomi Lee, Carole Panknen; **THIRD ROW**—Barb Murphy, Connie Fountain, Ginny Colston, Benita Carney, Betty Follmer, Jane Duwa, Jean Prybil, Cynthia Porkorny, Pat Zahs, Juanita Ellinwood, Patti Gaddis, June Oldfield; **FOURTH ROW**—Marcia Hert, Joann Black, Ellen Ballas, Carmen Musser, Mark Heacock

## NEW FELLOWS

**Mark R. Mandel—CORNEA**  
Born in 1953 in Los Angeles; went to Beverly Hills High School; California state finalist in the Rhodes Scholarship competition; after first year at Oxford he was awarded an Oxford University Scholarship and earned an honors B.A. in social anthropology and human biology; Oxford M.A. in 1975; M.D. from UCLA in 1979; ophthalmology residency at Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco; present academic interests: AIDS and the immunology of the cornea. Mark is married; his wife's name is Sandy.

**Michael B. Shapiro—CORNEA**  
Born in 1955 in New York City; M.D. from Washington University in St. Louis; intern in San Diego (Mercy); ophthalmology residency at the University of Wisconsin in Madison. Michael has a long-standing interest in cornea and external disease. He is married; his wife's name is Rhonda.

**Samuel Farmer—RETINA-VITREOUS**  
Born in 1952 in Richland, Washington; Columbia High School in Richland; B.A. in 1974 from Evergreen State College in Olympia, Washington; M.D. in 1979 from University of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle; internship and residency at the University of Washington. Sam is married; his wife's name is Becky. She is in anesthesiology.

### Meggy Jiang— NEURO-OPHTHALMOLOGY

Born in 1947 in Shanghai, China, but soon moved to Beijing (M.D. in 1970); sent to a distant outpost as general medical officer during the Cultural Revolution; completed ophthalmology training in Beijing in 1978; M.S. in ophthalmology at Beijing Medical College in 1982; 1982-83 research associate and assistant lecturer at the Third Teaching Hospital in Beijing. Meggy's husband is an engineer and her son is five years old. She hopes to pursue a career in academic neuro-ophthalmology in Beijing after two years as a research fellow in Iowa City.

### Glen Gole— PEDIATRIC OPHTHALMOLOGY

Dr. Gole is from Australia. He graduated from medical school in 1973 and became a fellow of the Royal Australian College of Ophthalmologists in 1978. Dr. Gole is interested in retrolental fibroplasia. In 1982 Dr. Scott was lecturing in Brisbane, Australia, met Dr. Gole and arranged for him to come to Iowa City for six months in strabismus.

### Gregory Panzo—GLAUCOMA

Born in 1953 in Charleroi, Pennsylvania, into a steelworker's family, Dr. Panzo went to college at Notre Dame and to medical school at Temple University. He has just completed an ophthalmology residency at the Cleveland Clinic. Dr. Panzo is married. His wife's name is Christine and they have two children, Jennifer and Greg.

# Dr. Blodi's Farewell Party



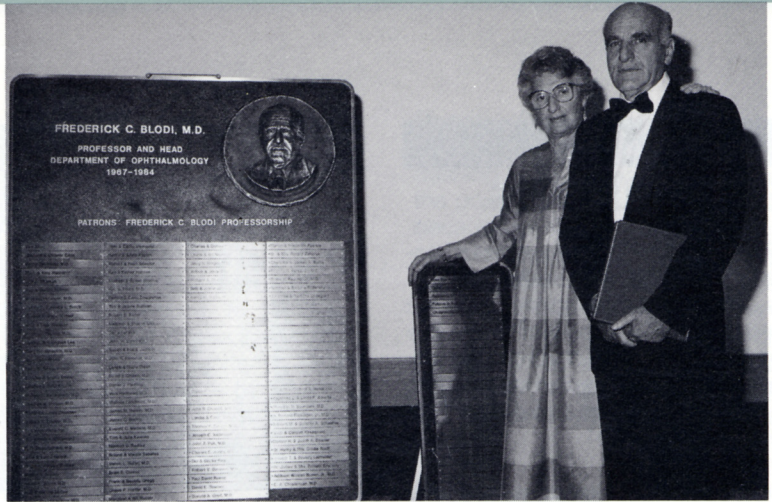
Stan Thompson presents the leather-bound, gilt copy of the department photo album to Fred Blodi.



Joe Yarborough and Chase Hunter.



Rick Anderson's special brand of iconoclasm is revealed by Jim Edwards.



Fred and Otty Blodi stand beside the plaque that carries the names of the major donors to the F.C.B. Professorship. The bronze bas-relief likeness of Fred was done by Lee Allen. The plaque will eventually hang in the clinic.



Rodger Kirkegaard and John Graether, who were residents together 22 years ago.



Dave Chizek as the Mad Hatter, with Mrs. Blodi.



The Blodis with Roland Sabates, Dave Apple, and Tom Carroll.

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