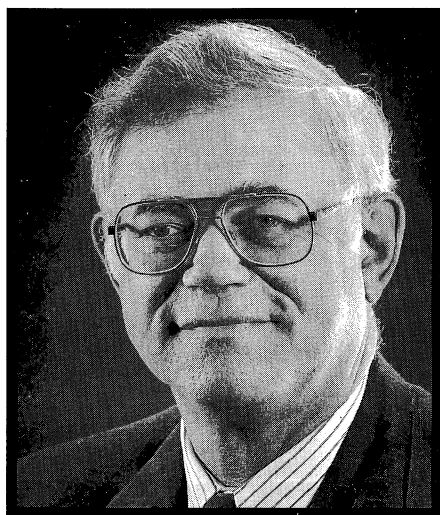


May 1995, Series 2, No. 27

Dr. William Scott Appointed Vice-Chair



Dr. William E. (Bill) Scott, professor and director of Pediatric Ophthalmology, has been appointed vice-chair of the department. He follows on the heels of Dr. Hansjoerg Kolder who is retiring.

When asked how he views his new job as vice-chair, Dr. Scott stated, "I am ready to do whatever is needed to lighten the workload of our department head, Tom Weingeist, to work as a facilitator on any project, to help our department administration - whatever I am asked to do, I will do."

Dr. Scott began his tenure in the department as a resident in 1967, having already received a BA, an MS in physiology, and an MD from The University of Iowa. Following a fellowship in pediatric ophthalmology at Smith-Kettlewell Institute for the Visual Sciences in San Francisco and at Children's Hospital National Medical Center in Washington, DC, he was appointed to the faculty and helped build the Pediatric Ophthalmology Service from the bottom up. In fact, the subspecialty itself came into being due to the combined efforts of Dr. Scott and 10-15 others in the mid-1970's. During his years at the university, he has trained approximately 30 fellows.

"I like medicine, like caring for people," says Dr. Scott, and his favorite part of the job is "taking care of kids." Family time has also been a priority for him, and he and his wife Winnie have raised two sons, both now married: Christopher, now in his 3rd year of a 5-year orthopedic residency at The University of Wisconsin, Madison; and Douglas, a sales representative for MidAmerica Packaging working out of West Des Moines.

With a strong interest in clinical research, Dr. Scott has numerous publications to his credit. His current ongoing projects include the use of electrooculography to study eye movements, the effect of surgical treatments on strabismus, the effect of prisms on preoperative and postoperative strabismus patients, the effectiveness of orthoptic treatments on intermittent exotropia, the evaluation of adjustable sutures in strabismus surgery, vision screening for amblyopia in preschool children, prism adaptation for esotropia, and the use of oculinum in the treatment of congenital esotropia.

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Héon Continues Genetic Study in Switzerland



Dr. Elise Héon, who has been working since January 1994 as a fellow in the Molecular Ophthalmology Laboratory under the direction of Dr. Edwin Stone, will leave for the Hôpital Ophthalmique Jules Gonin in Lausanne, Switzerland, in June 1995, to start a collaborative ocular genetics project on retinitis pigmentosa (RP) and familial macular degeneration. Other collaborative investigators are Drs. Edwin Stone (Ophthalmology) and Val Sheffield (Pediatrics) in Iowa, Albert Franceschetti in Geneva, and Francis Munier, an ophthalmologist in Lausanne. Dr. Franceschetti, who completed a fellowship in electrophysiology at Iowa in 1970, is the son of the late Professor Adolphe Franceschetti, a major founder of ocular genetics. Dr. Franceschetti (son) gave complete access to all his father's files to Dr. Héon.

The project has three major objectives. The first is to trace families and individuals initially studied by Professor Franceschetti and provide molecular diagnosis for various heritable eye diseases (mostly RP) afflicting them. Most inherited eye disorders are blinding and currently have no treatment. Identification of the causative gene

might lead to an understanding of the underlying defect and, possibly, a treatment. With the support of the Swiss RP foundation and the Hôpital Jules Gonin, the group plans to reach over two hundred patients affected with RP. Dr Héon will study the patients clinically in Switzerland and will send blood samples for molecular analysis to the Carver Laboratory for Molecular Diagnosis at The University of Iowa. Thus, this study forms an international collaborative triangle connecting Switzerland, the Molecular Ophthalmology Laboratory in Iowa, and the Department of Ophthalmology of the University of Toronto where Dr. Héon will be returning after her study in 1996.

The second objective is to map the genes responsible for different types of familial macular degeneration prevalent in Switzerland. Because Swiss families tend to stay in one place for several generations, it is possible to collect data from large multigeneration families thus greatly increasing the chance of finding a disease-causing gene. The molecular analysis will be shared by Iowa City and Lausanne.

The third and final objective is to produce a CD-ROM atlas of Professor Franceschetti's work and the material collected through this study. This is possible thanks to the high quality digitizing facilities in Dr. Stone's lab and to the generosity of Dr. Franceschetti who gave free access to the photographic archives of his father. The team is very excited because this collaboration, made possible in part by Dr. Thomas A. Weingeist's long friendship with Albert Franceschetti, should make a significant contribution to ocular genetics and to the Swiss people, and will also be a fine tribute to the work of Dr. Adolphe Franceschetti.

Six New Residents Match

The department matched with six resident applicants in January. Richard C. Allen (Baylor), Edward M. Barnett (University of Iowa), Christian L. Hess (University of Utah), Susan K. Mosier (University of Kansas), Brian E. Nichols (University of Iowa), and Andrea Zummo (Morehouse) will begin their ophthalmology training in 1996-97.

Nichols Receives Kolder Award

Brian E. Nichols will receive the Hansjoerg E. Kolder Award for Excellence in Ophthalmology during graduation ceremonies on May 12. He will also be recognized at the annual Iowa Eye Association meeting June 8, with a plaque and a modest check.

The Kolder Award was established in 1994 in recognition of the virtues which Dr. Kolder personifies, and which all physicians should strive to achieve: clinical and surgical skills at the highest level, pioneering research in electrophysiology of the eye, unsurpassed skills as a teacher, tireless supporter of the university, champion of patients and students, modest and self-effacing. Brian Nichols has already shown great promise toward attaining these skills and virtues as a physician, teacher, and researcher. After completing a one-year internship in Internal Medicine at the UI, he will join the Department of Ophthalmology for residency training.



Keech Promoted

Dr. Ron Keech has been promoted to full professor effective July 1, 1995. Dr. Keech works in the Pediatric Ophthalmology Service. He came to The University of Iowa as a fellow in 1979. He then went to the University of Oregon Health Science Center, Portland, Oregon, for five years before returning to Iowa as an assistant professor in 1985.

Dr. Keech is a native of California. He and his wife Andrea have a 19-year-old daughter, Elizabeth, who is a freshman at the UI, and a 9-year-old son, Robert.

Brown's Genetic Study Funded

Dr. Jerry Brown was recently notified of an award totaling \$19,875 for his study entitled "Molecular Genetics of Dominant Optic Atrophy." Dr. Brown is a 3rd year resident.

Kardon Receives VA Appointment

Dr. Randy Kardon has been appointed Research Program Specialist for Ophthalmology, Department of Veterans' Affairs, Medical Research Service, Washington, D.C. He will oversee all VA grant applications in the field of vision research. In addition, he will participate in policy decisions concerning the VA research program at the national level.

Stone Gains Support

Dr. Edwin Stone, associate professor and director of the Molecular Ophthalmology Laboratory, has been selected as one of the recipients of this year's Alcon Recognition Award For Outstanding Contributions In The Field Of Vision Research. He will receive a check for \$100,000 from Alcon Research Institute, sponsor of this award.

Dr. Val Sheffield, associate professor in the Department of Pediatrics, and Dr. Stone have received a three-year grant in the amount of \$374,800 from the Roy J. Carver Charitable Trust. The grant is in support of a core laboratory for the study of common genetic diseases.

Sutphin Begins Laser PRK Study

Dr. John Sutphin, associate professor on the Cornea Service, has been appointed principal clinical investigator in the midwestern United States for the FDA-approved clinical trials of the Novatec Lightblade solid-state refractive laser for the treatment of low to moderate nearsightedness (-1.00 to -6.00 diopters) by photorefractive keratoplasty (PRK).

Thompson Featured

Dr. Stan Thompson, professor of ophthalmology, was the featured speaker at the 1995 meeting of the Cogan Ophthalmic History Society. The meeting was held at the National Library of Medicine in Bethesda, Maryland. Dr. Thompson gave the annual Charles Snyder Lecture. His talk concerned the growth of American neuro-ophthalmology during the 20th century.

NEWS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

What Are Our Strengths?

by Robert Folberg

*I*owa? It's a great clinical department. Great faculty. Good clinical research. Not much going on in basic research. But a really terrific clinical department. Superb teachers. A really terrific place to train as a resident.

That's how our department was described a few years ago. Despite important advances in basic research such as those from Dr. Hayreh's lab, we were never known as a research department.

Here's the good news. We are still a great clinical department. We deliver state-of-the-art care to our patients, we are still a productive clinical research center. Our residency program is still at the top of many medical students' lists.

Here is the better news. We are now being recognized as having a first-rate basic research component in addition to our other strengths. Our researchers have attracted considerable funding from the NIH, the VA, and private foundations, and financial support for our research grows annually.

Unlike some university research units, The University of Iowa does not house a cadre of PhD vision scientists in laboratory facilities remote from the department. All of our basic researchers play roles in the clinical functions of the department and contribute heavily to the teaching program. Our basic researchers are integrated into the general department. This enables clinical observations to be translated quickly to the laboratory and turned back again to the clinic. For example, clinical observations about a family with congenital glaucoma led to the identification of a genetic marker for this condition. The identification of patients with unusual forms of

keratitis using new instrumentation such as the tandem scanning confocal microscope led to collaborations with the ocular pathology and molecular ophthalmology laboratories to identify the organism as *Acanthamoeba*. The development of new methods for visual field testing are facilitated by the availability of a diverse patient population. The tight integration of our clinical mission with our researchers gives us an advantage.

Some vision research centers are housed away from the main campus of the parent university. Our ophthalmic researchers have available to them all of the core research laboratories available at The University of Iowa. Our researchers have active collaborations within the College of Medicine. Having a center from the genome project on campus is an advantage for Dr. Stone's Molecular Ophthalmology Laboratory. The presence of world-class researchers in biostatistics and epidemiology benefit everyone in ophthalmology.

But our collaborations aren't restricted to the College of Medicine. Our researchers collaborate with almost every academic unit at the university (biomedical and electrical engineering, computer science, education, liberal arts, and even law). One can only imagine the collaborations that will be developing between our department and the National Driving Simulator currently under construction on our campus!

Our researchers have been successful, in part, because of our past investments in infrastructure. All our faculty have access to state-of-the-art photographic services.

Our research and development support team, headed by Paul Montague, took an active role in developing a departmental computer network. Not only do we collaborate with each other, we collaborate with the world. Data from our research units are sent to researchers throughout North America, Europe, and Asia. Under the direction of Trish Duffel, the C.S. O'Brien Library not only houses books and journals, but provides a complete resource for electronic data retrieval and management. Having a solid infrastructure permits our clinicians and researchers to concentrate on their ideas instead of working on how to get something done.

The result of having an ophthalmic research unit as part of the clinical department on the campus of a major public research university provides us with a stimulating and cost-effective environment. The result is a research atmosphere that is as congenial as it is productive.

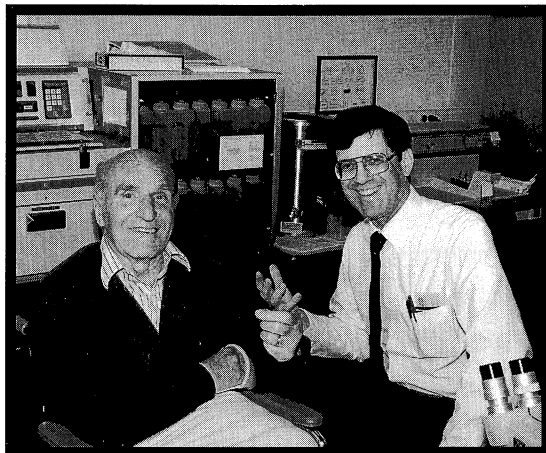
Would you like to experience some of this excitement? If you have access to the World Wide Web, check out the Department of Ophthalmology home page (<http://webeye.opth.uiowa.edu>). You will be able to tour the department, visit with the faculty, and learn about clinical initiatives and new research development. In the near future, you will be able to try managing virtual patients through a variety of case-of-the-month presentations. If virtual visits aren't appealing to you, then come by to visit with us at the Iowa Eye Meeting, write or call.

Iowa? A great clinical department, a superb place to train, and a first-rate research team!

Blodi Professorship Grows

The Frederick C. Blodi Professorship has grown to over \$1.5 million due to the extraordinary generosity of our alumni and friends. The University of Iowa fund has yielded an additional \$100,000 for the operation of the Frederick C. Blodi Ophthalmic Pathology Laboratory.

Until the endowment exceeds \$2 million, only a fraction of the interest on the principal will be used for operating expenses. Once this goal has been reached, no more than half of the annualized interest will be used to support the research activities of the Frederick C. Blodi Professor, Dr. Robert Folberg.



From time to time, Fred Blodi visits the lab to look at cases with Bob Folberg. It is always a special occasion enjoyed by all.

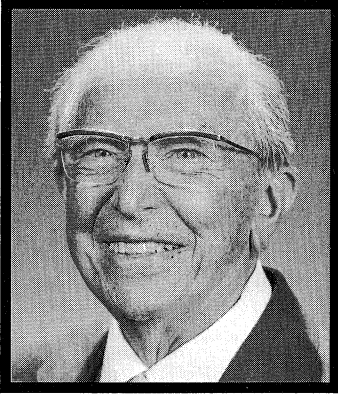
Cruising the Internet

If you are on the Internet and want to get a sense of some of the exciting things happening in the department, you can find us on the World Wide Web -- <http://webeye.ophth.uiowa.edu>. You will also find the "home page" for The University of Iowa and the Virtual Hospital, as well as a listing of other departments of ophthalmology.

Sign on! You will be able to see what the faculty are up to and what is going on in various services. You will also find e-mail addresses which enable you to communicate directly with us from any part of the world. Some of our alumni communicate with us on a regular basis using e-mail. We will be adding additional information to the "home page" so that resident and fellow applicants can find out more about our program. Patients and physicians who access the Department of Ophthalmology "home page" can arrange for appointments and ask questions of our faculty. Happy cruising on the Internet. Let us know what you think.

Thomas A. Weingeist
thomas-weingeist@uiowa.edu

ALUMNI



Paul Boeder, PhD, a renowned educator in the field of mathematical optics and professor emeritus of ophthalmology at The University of Iowa, has died at the age of 93.

Dr. Boeder was born in Hamburg, Germany, in 1902, and came to the U.S. in 1923. He earned a master's degree in mathematics at the University of Pennsylvania and returned to the University of Göttingen for his PhD in applied mathematics. He left Nazi Germany for the U.S. in 1932 and worked for the American Optical Company.

Dr. Boeder was invited to serve as a substitute lecturer at Susquehanna University which began his illustrious career as an educator. Besides teaching at Iowa, he was a visiting lecturer at Harvard, Stanford, and Pennsylvania, and taught courses at the Academy of Ophthalmology annual meetings. Dr. Hansjoerg

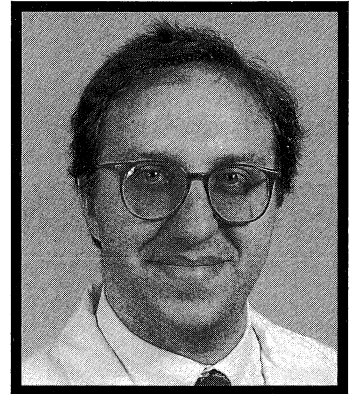
Kolder characterized his mentor as "erudite, cultured, sensitive, and modest." Dr. Fred Blodi recalled in the AAO oral history volume prepared in 1989, "He could teach anybody . . . It would be difficult to overestimate the influence that Dr. Paul Boeder had on the teaching of physiological optics to American ophthalmologists." He elevated national awareness of and expertise in optics as it relates to the practice of clinical refraction. Dr. Kolder said, "Paul will be remembered for his demanding precision when teaching optics, for the depth of his understanding of scientific problems, and for his kind human touch which permitted him to remember many 'students' and their families."

NEW FACES



Cecelia A. Dellone, MD, began a six-month medical retinal fellowship in March. Dr. Dellone is from Pittsburgh. She received her BS from Carlow College, Pittsburgh, and her MD from the University of Pittsburgh. She graduated from the ophthalmology residency training program at Penn State Medical Center, and also previously completed a retina fellowship at West Virginia University. In September, she plans to rejoin her husband, also a

physician, with her two small children in Pittsburgh, where she will continue in private practice with Retina Vitreous Consultants. Dr. Louis Lobes, a partner in that practice, completed a vitreoretinal fellowship at Iowa in 1977.



Agostino La Rana, MD, joined the department in March for a one-year fellowship in echography with Dr. Karl Ossoinig. Dr. La Rana completed his ophthalmology residency at the Department of Ophthalmology, University of Naples Medical School, Naples, Italy. He graduated from the University of Chieti Medical School, Chieti, Italy. He has also studied standardized ophthalmic echography at the University of Vienna Medical School.

Clinical Conferences & Professional Meetings

1995

June 8-10 **IOWA EYE MEETING -**
Iowa Memorial Union

Alson E. Braley Lecturer: Alan S. Crandall, MD, University of Utah Health Sciences Center

Guest Speaker: H. Kaz Soong, MD, Kellogg Eye Center, University of Michigan

Topics: Thursday all day, Friday a.m.
Cataract , refractive and other anterior segment surgeries
Saturday a.m.
Retina, plastics and pediatrics

Special Invitation:

Alumni from classes of 1990, 1985, 1975, 1965, 1955, and 1945 - Plan to attend with your classmates.

KOLDER PARTY

Plan on bringing your family to a special retirement party for Dr. Hansjoerg Kolder

Saturday afternoon, June 10

Food, Drink, & Merriment! Families welcome!

RSVP

- If you do plan to attend, please call Ophthalmology Administration at 319-356-2866 or be sure to sign up on Friday at the meeting. For more details, call Dr. Kristen Wells at 319-322-0923 or Dr. Lyse Strnad at 319-338-3623.

September 15 Clinical Conference - *Cornea*

October 13 Clinical Conference - *Glaucoma*

Oct. 29 - Nov. 2 American Academy of Ophthalmology

December 1 Clinical Conference - *Neuro-ophthalmology*

1996

February 2 Clinical Conference - *Oculoplastics*

March 1 Clinical Conference - *Cataract*

April 12 Clinical Conference - *Retina*

NEWS OR COMMENTS?

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

News or comment: _____

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