



Department of Ophthalmology  
and Visual Sciences  
Pomerantz Family Pavilion  
University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics  
<http://webeye.ophth.uiowa.edu>

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## Faculty Promotions

Dr. Steve Russell was promoted to full Professor effective July 1. Dr. Emily Greenlee, was promoted to the rank of Assistant Professor, Clinical. John H. Fingert, M.D., Ph.D. has been promoted from Research Fellow to Clinical Associate.

Stephen R. Russell, M.D. is the Director of the Vitreoretinal Diseases and Surgery Service. He earned a bachelor of science in Electrical Engineering and Biology from Stanford University and an M.D. from UCLA



*Russell*

School of Medicine. He served his internship at UCLA School of Medicine and his Ophthalmology Residency at Bascom Palmer Eye Institute. He did a 2-year Vitreoretinal Fellowship here at UIHC after which he was on the full-time faculty at St. Louis University. His research interests include age-related macular degeneration, enzymatic disinsertion of the vitreous, and gene therapy for retinal diseases.

Emily C. Greenlee, M.D. spent the first 6 months of 2005 in Sydney, Australia, where her husband was doing a Neurosurgical Endoscopy Fellowship. She returned in July at the rank of Assistant Professor, Clinical. She practices both in the Glaucoma clinic and in Comprehensive Ophthalmology. She has a B.B.A. (Finance)



*Greenlee*

from the University of Notre Dame and studied in the Post-Baccalaureate Pre-Health Professions Program at Loyola University, Chicago. She earned an M.D. from Indiana University. Dr. Greenlee is creating a Glaucoma Service at the VA Medical Center in Iowa City where she cares for patients and works with the residents in the clinic and operating room.

She did her internship, Ophthalmology Residency, and Glaucoma Fellowship all at UIHC.

Her research interests and current projects include surgical outcomes of Veterans Administration glaucoma patients and racial differences in the response to various ocular medications.

John H. Fingert, M.D., Ph.D. has been promoted from Research Fellow to Clinical Associate in Glaucoma. He received a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor degree in Engineering from Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire and earned both his M.D. and his Ph.D. in Genetics from the University of Iowa where he also did



*Fingert*

his Ophthalmology Residency. He has been working with the Molecular Ophthalmology Laboratory and Glaucoma Service to identify Glaucoma phenotypes associated with myocilin mutations.

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# House Staff News

The 2005 Graduates of the University of Iowa Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science Program were honored at the Iowa Eye Association Banquet on June 10<sup>th</sup> at the Iowa Memorial Union.

## Resident Graduates

Michael Boland, M.D., Ph.D. is an Assistant Professor at the Wilmer Ophthalmological Institute at Johns Hopkins. He has been given a position on their NIH K-12 grant which is intended to fund career development for junior clinician scientists. While there, he will be primarily engaged in the medical informatics training program (<http://dhsi.med.jhmi.edu>) and basic research. He will be doing comprehensive ophthalmology one day per week.

Andrew Doan, M.D., Ph.D. is following an ocular pathology fellowship at Jules Stein Eye Institute, UCLA, where he is a Heed Fellow and NEI Research Fellow. He has also been awarded a Navy scholarship that provides funding to complete a fellowship at a civilian training program. He is also working hard to get MedRounds.org, a new publishing and medical information venture, off the ground.

Lynn Fraterrigo, M.D. will be joining her father and brother in a general ophthalmology practice in Schenectady, New York. She will start work in the fall following her maternity leave.

Sudeep Pramanik, M.D. is remaining at The University of Iowa for a Cornea Fellowship.

James Howard, M.D. will also remain at The University of Iowa for the next two years to do a Vitreoretinal Fellowship.

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## Fellowship Graduates

Cornea Fellow, Stacy Sjoberg, M.D., Ph.D. is now at the Crosby Eye Clinic, Crosby, Minnesota, where she practices cornea, external disease, refractive, and general ophthalmology.

Glaucoma Fellow, Michael Maley, M.D. is now working at the Rhode Island Eye Institute in Providence, Rhode Island, as a glaucoma specialist.

Neuro-Ophthalmology Fellow, Shannon Lynch, M.D. is working part time at the University of Nebraska and part time in private practice with Dr. Richard Legge, the only other neuro-ophthalmologist in Omaha.

Pathology Fellow, A.J. Bogdan, M.D. is currently undertaking an Internal Medicine Internship at AtlantiCare Regional Medical Center, Atlantic City, New Jersey.

Retina Fellow, Jason Sanders, M.D. is an associate at Charlotte Eye Ear Nose and Throat in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Retina Fellow, David Zumbro, M.D. is now stationed with the Ophthalmology Service, Brooke Army Medical Center, Fort Sam Houston, Texas. He and his family live in nearby San Antonio.

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## Residents and Fellows Receive Recognition

Sudeep Pramanik, M.D. presented a paper at the Paton Society Meeting. Dr. Pramanik's presentation was "Ultra long-term outcomes of penetrating keratoplasty for keratoconus." Dr. Pramanik was one of only thirteen residents/fellows selected to present papers at the national meeting. The R. Townley Paton Society was created

to advocate eye banking and corneal transplant surgery.

Michael Boland, M.D., Ph.D. was among eleven residents from around the country selected to write up and present case reports for the Resident Writer's Award Program. The program was established by AMO (Advanced Medical Optics) to promote

scholarship by residents in academic institutions. Each participating resident submits a written case report and associated presentation involving cataract or refractive surgery for judging. Details about the program and winners are available in the October 25, 2004 issue of *Ophthalmology Times*. <http://tinyurl.com/br86a>.

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## New Residents Begin Training July 1, 2005



*Jason C. Friedrichs, M.D.*

Dr. Jason Friedrichs has a B.S. in Biochemistry from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign and an M.S. in Biology/Physiology from the University of Illinois Graduate College. He also earned his M.D. from the University of Illinois. Dr. Friedrichs spent his transitional year at West Suburban Hospital, Oak Park, Illinois.



*Edward H. Hu, M.D., Ph.D.*

Dr. Edward Hu earned a B.S. in Biology from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and an M.S. and Ph.D. in Neuroscience / Physiology from New York University School of Medicine where he also earned his M.D. Dr. Hu spent his transitional year at Flushing Hospital Medical Center, Flushing, New York.



*Yian Jin Jones, M.D.*

Dr. Yian Jin Jones has a B.S. in Pharmacy from the University of Utah School of Pharmacy and an M.D. from the University of Utah School of Medicine. She spent her transitional year at Creighton University Medical Center in Omaha, Nebraska.



*Andrew C. G. Steffensmeier, M.D.*

Dr. Andrew Steffensmeier has a B.A. in Biology from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa. He earned his M.D. from the Carver College of Medicine, University of Iowa. Dr. Steffensmeier spent the year before his residency at UIHC.

Dr. Paula Wynn earned a B.A. in Biochemistry and Art from Rice University. Her M.D. is from Columbia University. Dr. Wynn spent her transitional year at Flushing Hospital Medical Center, Flushing, New York.



*Paula Wynn, M.D.*

## New Fellows



*Sudeep Pramanik, M.D.*

Sudeep Pramanik, M.D. is the new Cornea/External Disease and Refractive Surgery Fellow. He has a B.S. degree in Ecology, and a B.A. degree in Sociology from Tulane University. He also earned an M.B.A. degree at Rice University. His M.D. is from Baylor College of Medicine. He did his Ophthalmology Residency here at the University of Iowa.



*Sandeep Randhawa, M.D.*

Sandeep Randhawa, M.D. is one of the two new Neuro-Ophthalmology Fellows. He has an M.D. from Christian Medical College, Panjab University, India. He did an Ophthalmology Residency at Christian Medical College in Ludhiana, India. He was a Medical Retina Fellow at Grover Eye Institute, Chandigarh, India, and a Research Fellow at Kresge Eye Institute, Wayne State University in Detroit.



*Vinay A. Shah, M.D.*

Neuro-Ophthalmology Fellow, Vinay A. Shah, M.D. has a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery, Diploma in Ophthalmology and Master of Surgery (Ophthalmology) from Gujarat University, India. He is a Diplomate of National Board, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare in India. He did a General Surgery Internship and obtained a Retina Vitreous Degree Fellowship from the University of Florida College of Medicine.



*Lesya M. Shuba, M.D., Ph.D.*

The new Glaucoma Fellow, Lesya M. Shuba, M.D., Ph.D. attended the Medical Institute, Kiev, Ukraine and obtained an M.D. and a Ph.D. in Physiology and Biophysics from Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia. She did her Ophthalmology Residency at Dalhousie as well.



*Jeffrey J. Fuller, M.D.*

Jeffrey J. Fuller, M.D. is one of the two new Vitreoretinal Fellows. He has a B.S. degree in Zoology from Brigham Young University and an M.D. from the University of Alabama School of Medicine, Birmingham. He did his Ophthalmology Residency at the Medical College of Georgia, Augusta.



*James G. Howard, M.D.*

James G. Howard, M.D. is the other new Vitreoretinal Fellow. He earned a B.A. in Latin American Studies from Brigham Young University, and an M.D. from the University of Utah School of Medicine. He did his Ophthalmology Residency here at the University of Iowa.

## Benefactors Recognized

At the Ophthalmology Clinical Conference held on March 4, Dr. Thomas A. Weingeist expressed his and the Department's gratitude to all those who have made contributions to the UI Foundation on behalf of the Department of Ophthalmology.

"Over the past 22 years, I have worked with faculty and the University of Iowa Foundation staff to develop endowments to support our mission," says Weingeist. "The generosity of our faculty, alumni, colleagues and patients has been phenomenal. Support from philanthropic organizations such as the Iowa Lions and Research to Prevent Blindness in addition to unrestricted educational grants from industry has contributed greatly to our success."

Weingeist listed the many professorships, chairs, and other endowments that help support the educational and research missions of the Department.

### Lectures, Awards, Endowments

Cecil Starling O'Brien, MD Professorship  
Alson Emmons Braley, MD Professorship  
Frederick Christopher Blodi, MD Chair  
Charles Dexter Phelps, MD Endowment  
Thomas A. Weingeist, MD Endowment  
William Edwin Scott, MD

Chair for Education in Pediatric Ophthalmology

Viola Martha Suverkrabbe Endowment for  
Neuro-ophthalmology

Robert Coit Watzke, MD Professorship

Beulah and Florence Usher Endowment

Donald H. and Judith Gardner Beisner Professorship

The Wolfe Foundation Lectureship

The Alson E. Braley Lectureship

The Mansour F. Armaly Lectureship

Hansjoerg E. Kolder Award for Excellence

P.J. Leinfelder Award



*Hallway of Endowments*

### Endowments

On Wednesday, February 2, 2005, the UI Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences recognized the contribution provided by Miss Beulah Usher and Miss Florence Usher of Cedar Rapids. Sisters and lifelong partners, Beulah and Florence were two of the Department's

most generous benefactors. The gift from their estate will be used to provide support and promote research in the area of cornea and external disease.

A short biography of these generous women is mounted on the wall next to the Cornea and External Disease Clinic.

A description of the endowments and the persons for whom they were named is available on the web at [webeye.opth.uiowa.edu/dept/Endowment/EndowmentBrochure.pdf](http://webeye.opth.uiowa.edu/dept/Endowment/EndowmentBrochure.pdf).

# Research News

## \$1.5 Million Alcon Contract to Study Macular Degeneration

In December 2004, The Center for Bioinformatics and Computational Biology (CBCB), a joint enterprise of the University of Iowa College of Engineering and the Roy J. and Lucille A. Carver College of Medicine, signed a five-year, \$1.5 million contract with Alcon Research, Ltd. The funding agreement for research into the causes of age-related macular degeneration (AMD) is in addition to a 2003 five-year, \$1.5 million contract with Alcon to help scientists better understand glaucoma. The same interdisciplinary research techniques currently used to help identify the causes of glaucoma will now be applied to macular degeneration, with the goal of better diagnosis and treatment of both diseases.

Terry Braun, Ph.D. Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences and Biomedical Engineering and Director of the Coordinated Laboratory for Computational Genomics, and

Robert Mullins, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences and Director of the Chorioretinal Degenerations Laboratory in the UI Center for Macular Degeneration, are the primary investigators on the project.

Dr. Braun is developing novel bioinformatics software tools to identify potential therapeutic targets and to accelerate mutation screening of candidate genes for glaucoma and macular degeneration, respectively. The software system will annotate and manage all gene-associated data, help identify and prioritize glaucoma and macular degeneration candidate genes and identify potential therapeutic targets.

Dr. Mullins will acquire tissue samples, perform gene expression profiling in ocular tissues from individuals with AMD and evaluate the expression of selected target genes in the retina. Professor Mullins is also developing AMD

models in model organisms for further study.

The project's interdisciplinary, collaborative team, located at the UI and at Alcon, will use its expertise in human molecular genetics, bioinformatics, ocular cell and molecular biology, and histology, as well as access to a large pool of patients to screen for glaucoma and macular degeneration mutations.

The relationship between the University of Iowa and Alcon Research, Ltd. dates back to the 1993 collaboration with the UI's Molecular Ophthalmology Laboratory (MOL), directed by Dr. Edwin Stone, which was extended in 1998 to include the Coordinated Laboratory for Computational Genomics (CLCG).

Visit the CBCB website at [genome.uiowa.edu/](http://genome.uiowa.edu/)



Braun



Mullins

## **Treatment of Visual Loss in Glaucoma & Ischemia with Neurotrophic Growth Factors**

Randy H. Kardon, M.D., Ph.D. and colleagues have received funding for a 3-year, \$745,000 grant from the Department of Veteran's Affairs. The project, "Treatment of Visual Loss in Glaucoma and Ischemia with Neurotrophic Growth Factors," hopes to show that the slow release of growth factors injected into the vitreous will reduce the progression of damage and in some cases, reverse visual loss in dogs with spontaneous glaucoma and acutely induced ischemia from raised intraocular pressure. Preliminary results in rats demonstrated a therapeutic effect of similar

growth factor treatment. This is a necessary step preceding human treatment trials and should help translate the potential of treatment to human glaucoma and other forms of ocular ischemia, including diabetes.

Dr. Kardon is Principle Investigator. The Co-Principle Investigator is Sinisa Grozdanic, D.V.M., Ph.D., Research Associate, College of Veterinary Medicine at Iowa State University (ISU). Others involved with the project include: Young Kwon, M.D., Ph.D. and Markus Kuehn, Ph.D. of the UI Department of Ophthalmology & Visual

Sciences, Bridget Zimmerman, Ph.D., Director of UI Biostatistical Consulting; Donald S. Sakaguchi, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Genetics, Development and Cell Biology, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences and College of Agriculture at ISU (Collaborator), Daniel M. Betts, D.V.M., M.S., Professor, ISU Department of Veterinary Clinical Sciences (Collaborator); and Erin Lavik, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Biomedical and Chemical Engineering, Yale University (Collaborator).



*Kardon*



*Kwon*

### **Glaucoma Service Receives Allergan Research Grant**

Allergan, Inc. has granted the Glaucoma Research Fund an unrestricted educational grant for \$30,000 to be used toward developing the Glaucoma Education Center. The funds will help develop the Ophthalmic Digital Theater in glaucoma and will support other educational programs in glaucoma including the research fellowship in glaucoma.

## Research News, continued

### Grant Funded to Study Glucocorticoids, Ocular Hypertension and Glaucoma

The grant, “Glucocorticoids, ocular hypertension and glaucoma,” has recently been funded for five years by the National Eye Institute. The year-one direct funding to the UI Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences will be in the neighborhood of \$80,000. Investigators at the University of Iowa include Wallace L.M. Alward, M.D., principal investigator at the UI, John Fingert, M.D., Ph.D., and Edwin Stone, M.D., Ph.D. This study is in concert with a study by Thomas Yorio, Ph.D. at the University of North

Texas and Abbot Clark at Alcon Laboratories.

The study will examine the effects of Glucocorticoid Receptor Beta (GRb) on steroid responsiveness. There is less GRb in the trabecular meshwork of glaucoma eyes than in normal eyes. This relative lack of GRb is felt to lead to

steroid-induced ocular hypertension. Drs. Yorio and Clark will be studying many aspects of GRb in cell culture.

The role of Drs. Alward, Fingert, and Stone will be to obtain DNA of individuals who are responders and non-responders to corticosteroids. This DNA will be screened for variants in the glucocorticoid recep-

tor gene and for potential variants in steroid-induced glaucoma genes. The UI group will also test primary open angle glaucoma patients for dermal hypersensitivity to corticosteroids.



Alward

Fingert

Stone

### Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD) and Complement Factor H

Gregory Hageman, Ph.D. co-lead an international research team that was one of four independent teams that discovered inherited variations in the Factor H gene dramatically increase the likelihood of an older person developing AMD.

These findings were presented to the scientific community by Dr. Hageman and other study participants in the NEI Symposium, Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD) and Complement Factor H, on Tuesday, June 14th.

The Factor H gene encodes a protein involved in controlling the body's first-line immune defense against bacterial and other infections. A better understanding of the gene could help scientists more quickly develop diagnostic and therapeutic tools. The research finding was cited by Elias Zerhouni,

M.D., Director of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), at a July 19<sup>th</sup> congressional hearing as a significant breakthrough. Hageman further discussed the finding at a Capitol Hill luncheon briefing on Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>.

The University of Iowa- and Columbia-led study was unique in several aspects, including its focus on the basic biological causes of AMD and making an important connection to a rare kidney disease.

The University of Iowa and Columbia University Medical Center co-lead finding appeared online May 3 and in print May 17 in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* (PNAS). Three other independent studies on Factor H, which included some of the same results,

were published in the March 10 online issue of *Science*.

The study received support from the National Eye Institute of the NIH, Research to Prevent Blindness and other fundraising organizations.

Additional information about the research may be found online at [www.uiowa.edu/~ournews/2005/may/050205amd\\_study.html](http://www.uiowa.edu/~ournews/2005/may/050205amd_study.html).

The original research study, published in PNAS, (Proc Natl Acad Sci USA. 2005;102(20):7227-32) is available online at [www.pnas.org/cgi/content/short/102/20/7227](http://www.pnas.org/cgi/content/short/102/20/7227).

This item includes information from the September 2, 2005, news release issued by the Alliance for Eye and Vision Research: [www.eyersearch.org/press\\_releases/09\\_02\\_05.html](http://www.eyersearch.org/press_releases/09_02_05.html)

## Research News, continued

### News from Dr. Greg Hageman's Laboratory

The UI recently signed two one-year research agreements with Pfizer Global Research and Development totaling \$749,296. The multidisciplinary, international research initiative, directed by Gregory Hageman, Ph.D. represents a unique combination of resources and technologies that will be employed to expedite the identification of new candidate drug targets associated with glaucoma and age-related macular degeneration (AMD). Studies will be conducted by the Interdisciplinary Program in Age-Related Macular Degeneration, a consortium of research laboratories in the US and Europe dedicated to translational studies in the field of retinal disease. The investigators

will exploit novel observations and employ genomic and proteomic technologies to identify and validate glaucoma- and AMD-associated genes, pathways and targets. A primary focus of the program will be to determine the role of inflammation and other immune-mediated processes in AMD, pathways that have been shown by Hageman and his colleagues to be active in AMD.

As part of this program, ParAllele BioScience, Inc. announced its joint collaboration agreement with the UI to accelerate the discovery of genes associated with AMD. The company's products and services utilize a multiplexed approach that leverages novel biochemical processes rather than complex instrumentation to discover and analyze

minute variations in the human genome. "The agreement is an exciting opportunity for us to combine ParAllele's strengths in pharmacogenomics and high throughput gene mutation discovery with the acknowledged leadership of Dr. Hageman and his Institute in the field of AMD-associated pathways," said Nick Naclerio, CEO of ParAllele BioScience, Inc.

Dr. Hageman's research team has also received a grant in the amount of \$360,700 from

the International Retina Research Foundation to identify the association between AMD and cardiovascular disease. The program represents a collaborative effort between established research scientists, vascular surgeons, epidemiologists and ophthalmologists, most of whom have collaborated successfully together, in various combinations, over the past decade. "We hope that these studies will lead to the identification of novel therapeutic targets and, ultimately, that the research findings will lead to the development of treatment modalities for both conditions," Hageman said.

Pfizer awarded an initial phase grant (\$294,000) of which Dr. Hageman is the principal investigator. The overall goals of the program are to employ multidisciplinary genomic and proteomic approaches to identify and validate targets associated with AMD and glaucoma, to enhance the laboratory's repository of human donor eyes and to create an international AMD consortium comprised of investigators within the United States, Australia, England, Ireland and France.

Further, an NIH/NEI award (\$145,736) will be used to identify AMD-associated genes using a recently developed, high throughput screening technique.

An award from the Eye Research Institute (\$37,500) will be used, in collaboration with colleagues in Philadelphia, to characterize associations between AMD and various systemic diseases.



Congressman Jim Leach and Dr. Greg Hageman

*"Together, we have a vision for the future."*

## Research News, continued

### Tele-diagnosis of Diabetic Retinopathy in Rural Iowa

“Tele-diagnosis of Diabetic Retinopathy in Rural Iowa,” was awarded a \$31,700 grant from The Wellmark Foundation.

According to principle investigator, Michael Abràmoff, M.D., Ph.D., “Fifty percent of patients with diabetes currently are not screened because it requires traveling to and reimbursing an ophthalmologist for a dilated eye exam. This problem is aggravated in rural Iowa, where few ophthalmologists are available.”

This project brings a retinal camera into the office of the rural primary care physician. Photographs of the retina are transmitted over the Internet to be diagnosed by the retinal specialists at the University of Iowa. The diagnoses are then transmitted back to the family care clinic. The initial site will be in Akron, Iowa.

“The ultimate goal,” said Abràmoff, “is to make the early diagnosis of diabetic retinopathy more accessible to rural inhabitants of Iowa in order to prevent needless visual loss and blindness

from diabetes.”

Dr. Abràmoff was also awarded a \$9,500 General Clinical Research Center Pilot Grant of the Carver College of Medicine for automated classification of the optic nerve head. From this seed grant, Abràmoff hopes to obtain pilot data to make a formal NIH grant proposal.

This fall, Dr. Abràmoff, received funding from the National Eye Institute for his project “Low-cost, portable, computer assisted imaging for early diagnosis of diabetic retinopathy.” This is an R01 grant for \$1,843,750. The goals are to develop and validate a new handheld, patient-friendly imaging technology to image the retina of patients with diabetes. This technology is low cost and image analysis will be used to optimize the technology for the detection of the retinal lesions that are typical for diabetic retinopathy. Dr. Abràmoff, commenting on the benefits of collegiality at The University of Iowa, said “Dr. Randy Kardon and Dr. Tom



*Abràmoff*

Weingeist have been instrumental in helping me obtain this grant.”

Dr. Abràmoff is an Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology & Visual Science; he also received a joint appointment at the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering of the College of Engineering.

#### H. Stanley Thompson Neuro-Ophthalmology Clinic

The University of Iowa Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences honored H. Stanley Thompson, M.D. on October 15, 2004, during a special dedication ceremony for its newly named Neuro-Ophthalmology Clinic. Officials installed the new signage for the H. Stanley Thompson Neuro-Ophthalmology Clinic during the monthly clinical conference meeting.

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## Awards and Honors

**Jeffrey A. Nerad, M.D.** and **Stephen R. Russell, M.D.** were recognized by Secretariat Awards at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Ophthalmology held in New Orleans, October 23 - 26, 2004. This award recognizes ophthalmologists for special contributions to the Academy and to the profession of ophthalmology. Recipients are selected by the Senior Secretaries and Secretaries in their respective areas and approved by the Board of Trustees. This annual award was developed so that ophthalmologists can be recognized for contributions that are outside the scope of the Achievement Award Program. Drs. Nerad and Russell were selected for the award by the Secretary for Quality Care, Secretary for Ophthalmic Information, Secretary for Ophthalmic Knowledge and the Senior Secretary for Clinical Education.

**Karen M. Gehrs, M.D.** was recognized with an Achievement Award at the 2004 meeting as well. The Achievement Award recognizes ophthalmologists for contributions made to the Academy, its scientific and educational programs, and to the profession of ophthalmology. **Young H. Kwon, M.D., Ph.D.** will receive this award at the AAO Annual Meeting in Chicago, October 15-18, 2005.

**John E. Sutphin, M.D.** has been named a recipient of the American Academy of Ophthalmology's Senior Achieve-

ment Award for 2005. This recognizes individuals for their contribution to the Academy based on a cumulative point system. Points are earned through participation in the Annual Meeting and other areas. Individuals who have accumulated 30 points, receive this award. His name and photo will be in the 2005 Annual Meeting Final Program (October 2005).

Dr. Sutphin has served this year as a non-tenured member of the University of Iowa Faculty Senate. The Faculty Senate is composed of seventy-nine representatives of all academic units of the University and serves as the principal channel of communication between rank and file faculty members and the central administration of the University. The Senate may discuss and take a position on any subject of University concern, and may recommend policies on these matters to the President. The Senate also consults with the Board of Regents regarding appointment of central academic officials, and with the President on the periodic performance reviews of such officials.

**Greg Hageman, Ph.D.** has been awarded an Honorary Professorship in the School of Medicine, Queen's University, Belfast for his "established reputation as a scholar in the profession." The award is one of three granted

this past year. Funds provided by the award will be used for collaborative interactions related to age-related macular degeneration between Dr. Hageman, Professor Rod Hay (Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences), Ms. Giuliana Silvestri (Head of Department of Ophthalmology) and other colleagues at Queen's University. The Professorship is extendible for up to three years.

**Pam Kutschke, C.O.** gave the 35th Richard G. Scobee lecture at the American Association of Certified Orthoptists meeting. The title of the presentation was "Preverbal Assessment for Amblyopia." Pam also co-chaired the AAO/AOC/AACO Symposium "Eye Movement Disorders in Neurologic Disease Made Ridiculously Simple."

**Michael Wall, M.D.** has been named a co-editor of *Acta Ophthalmologica*.

Contact Lens Service Director, **Christine Sindt, O.D.** was named a fellow in the American Academy of Optometry in December 2004. Dr. Sindt received her Optometry degree from Ohio State University College of Optometry. She was a resident at Cleveland Veterans Administration Medical Center and has been with the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, Department of Ophthalmology since July, 1995.

## Honors and Awards, continued

### Casavant Wins Graduate College Outstanding Mentor Award



Center for Macular Degeneration collaborator, **Thomas L. Casavant**, Ph.D. was one of two University of Iowa professors who won Outstanding Mentor Awards from the UI Graduate College. Dr. Casavant, along with Charles Whiteman, Pioneer Hi-Bred Professor of Financial Economics, won the awards, which are presented annually to two faculty members who have demonstrated exemplary mentoring efforts in graduate education. The awards carry a \$2,500 prize. Outstanding mentors encourage and assist students in areas such as professional networking and research practices. Casavant and Whiteman were selected from a group of graduate faculty mentors who were nominated for the award by graduate students and other faculty members.

### Phelps Award

During the Ophthalmology Clinical Conference on September 23, 2005, **Young H. Kwon**, M.D., Ph.D. received the Charles D. Phelps Memorial Award. The Phelps award was established in 1989 in honor of Dr. Phelps (1937-85), who was on the faculty of the department from 1971 to 1985 and served as head of the department during the last year of his life. The award was created through the generosity of many friends, colleagues, and patients, and is meant to encourage the kind of research and educational opportunities for which Dr. Phelps was recognized.

Future awards will be used to enhance international collaboration by supporting foreign fellows and researchers studying glaucoma at the UI Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences or in collaboration with the department. This reflects Dr. Phelps' commitment to international ophthalmology.

### Teachers of the Year

The Senior Residents chose **Thomas A. Oetting**, M.D. and **Andrew G. Lee**, M.D. as this year's Teachers of the Year. The names of the Teachers of the Year are added to the plaque in the A. E. Braley Auditorium.

### Kolder Award

University of Iowa Medical Student, **Geeta Belsare**, received the Hansjoerg E. Kolder Award for Excellence in Ophthalmology for 2005. Dr. Kolder is Professor Emeritus in the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences. He served in the Department from 1967 to 1995 and is a beloved teacher, clinician, surgeon, and pioneer in ocular electrophysiology.



*Belsare & Weingeist*

Geeta's efforts helped to establish the Mr. ReSpecT program for eyeglasses. She will pursue a residency in ophthalmology at Northwestern University beginning July 2006.

### Leinfelder Award

The winners of the 2005 P.J. Leinfelder Award were announced at the Iowa Eye Annual Banquet. The Resident Recipients were **Susannah Quisling**, M.D. and **Andrew Doan**, M.D., Ph.D. **Stacy Sjoberg**, M.D., Ph.D. was the Fellow Recipient of the Leinfelder Award; and the Research Fellow Recipient was **Chan Kim**, Ph.D. The Leinfelder Award is presented each year to the resident and fellow physicians who have made significant contributions in preparing and delivering seminars.

## 2005 Project Orbis Mission to Kolkata India

From February 6-15, 2005, Dr. Keith Carter and Dr. Sudeep Pramanik ventured to Kolkata, India to participate in the latest ORBIS program. Dr. Pramanik was then a resident, he is now a Cornea Fellow at the at the University of Iowa. Drs. Carter and Pramanik were joined by specialists in pediatric glaucoma and cataract, as well as Dr. Donny Suh, a strabismus special-

ist from the Wolfe Clinic, Des Moines. It was the first of a three-week program aimed at teaching subspecialty care in the area of pediatric ophthalmology.

There is a large underserved need for pediatric eye care in India as there are 50 pediatric ophthalmologists for a population of over 1.03 billion people.

The first day, patients were screened and selected for the

teaching cases at the Regional Institute of Ophthalmology, The following three days, Dr. Carter taught surgical techniques ranging from congenital ptosis repair to anterior orbitotomy to the local ophthalmologists. They left behind videos of various surgical techniques and Dr. Jeffrey Nerad's textbook, *Oculoplastic Surgery: The Requisites in Ophthalmology*.

The highlight of the trip was the opportunity to operate on ORBIS's DC-10, a flying eye hospital complete with OR, pre-op and postop care areas and an auditorium with live video feed that enables many local doctors to learn these surgeries.



## Wilkinson Travels to Saudi Arabia

Mark E. Wilkinson, O.D. attended the 2005 Saudi Ophthalmology Conference that took place in the King Fahd Cultural Center, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, March 6-9, 2005. Dr. Wilkinson was one of 14 invited international guest speakers (11 ophthalmologists and 3 optometrists); four were from the United States.

"2005 Saudi Ophthalmology" was a combined meeting of the 18th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Saudi Ophthalmological Society (SOS) and the 22nd

Annual Symposium of the King Khaled Eye Specialist Hospital (KKESH). Michael Wagoner, M.D., former faculty member in the Cornea and External Disease Service at the University of Iowa, and Medical Director of KKESH, was the co-chair of the meeting.

At the meeting, Dr. Wilkinson presented 8 lectures concerning various aspects of care for individuals with visual impairments. In addition to the lectures, he also conducted a

workshop where he demonstrated evaluation techniques and treatment strategies.

Evening activities included two lavish dinners with traditional music and dancing, including sword dancing. One dinner took place at the farm of the President of the SOS, Crown Prince HRH Abdulaziz bin Ahmed bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, where participants had the opportunity to ride camels and Arabian horses.

## Task Force on Resident Competencies

The Department's "Task Force on Resident Competencies" developed several tools for measuring the performance of residents including the resident portfolio. Upon graduating, a resident's portfolio will contain copies of a CV, performance evaluations for each year of training, copies of PowerPoint presentations made at morning rounds and at Resident/Fellow Research Day, videos of selected surgeries performed by the resident, comments from staff and patients, and other relevant documentation.

Members of the task force include Drs. Andrew G. Lee, Keith D. Carter, Hilary A. Beaver, H. Culver Boldt, Thomas A. Oetting, and Richard J. Olson. As a result of these efforts, the residency training program received 5-year recertifica-

tion and received a commendation from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME). The ACGME website lists the Iowa site as a "Good Practice" [[www.acgme.org/acWebsite/RRC\\_240/240\\_goodPractices.asp](http://www.acgme.org/acWebsite/RRC_240/240_goodPractices.asp)]. Read more about the competencies on the web at [webeye.ophth.uiowa.edu/eyeforum/compindex.htm](http://webeye.ophth.uiowa.edu/eyeforum/compindex.htm).

In spreading the word about the competencies, Drs. Lee, Beaver, and Oetting will present the Iowa Surgical Competency curriculum as a course at the AAO annual meeting and the Iowa Journal Club tool will be presented at the AAO annual meeting as a poster. Dr. Lee will present as the Iowa Ophthalmology Competency Implementation Matrix at the ACGME meeting in March

2006. He will also be a speaker at the International Council of Ophthalmology (ICO) Educating the Educators meeting in Lima, Peru, in March 2006 and will chair the ICO "Educating the Educators" with the Middle East African Council of Ophthalmology jointly sponsored meeting in Cairo, Egypt, in June 2006.

Dr. Lee will also be giving the Louis Girard Lecture at Baylor College of Medicine on the "New Competencies in Ophthalmology" in June 2006. He gave the David M. Worthen Memorial Lecture at Wilmer Eye Institute in April 2005 on "A New Perspective on Resident Education. The Flexner revolution continues..."

[[webeye.ophth.uiowa.edu/dept/ACGMEC/NewPerspective.htm](http://webeye.ophth.uiowa.edu/dept/ACGMEC/NewPerspective.htm)]



*Beaver*



*Boldt*



*Carter*



*Lee*



*Olson*



*Oetting*

## Refractive Surgery Service Acquires IntraLase Laser

The Refractive Surgery Service installed a new IntraLase femtosecond laser on August 11<sup>th</sup> and performed its first procedures using it on August 26<sup>th</sup> when Dr. Kenneth Goins had 6 patients (12 eyes) and Dr. John Sutphin had 6 patients (11 eyes).

There are two steps to the LASIK procedure: create a corneal flap, and reshape the cornea. The IntraLase is designed to make the first step safer and more precise by replacing the hand-held microkeratome blade with a computer-guided laser that delivers micron-level accuracy of depth, flap thickness, and centration on the cornea. This also increases the safety of the procedure and reduces the majority of LASIK complications.<sup>1</sup>

The IntraLase femtosecond laser is the first bladeless laser technology for creating the corneal flap. The laser focuses an infrared beam of light to precisely separate tissue through a process called photodisruption. In this process, the focused laser pulses divide mate-

rial at the molecular level without the transfer of heat or impact to the surrounding tissue.

Femtosecond laser technology provided the basis of femtochemistry research that won the 1999 Nobel Prize in Chemistry. The use of the femtosecond laser in ophthalmology was developed by a team of physicists, biomedical engineers and ophthalmologists at the University of Michigan.

The IntraLase has possible uses beyond LASIK such as in DLEK, lamellar keratoplasty. Eyebanks may eventually be able to use it for harvesting corneas.

#### Reference

(1) Kezirian GM, Stonecipher, KG, Comparison of the IntraLase femtosecond laser and mechanical keratomes for laser in situ keratomileusis. *Journal of Cataract and Refractive Surgery*; 2004; 30:804-811.

Contact the Refractive Surgery Service at their new toll-free number, 866/309-0840, or visit the website at [webeye.ophth.uiowa.edu/dept/laser](http://webeye.ophth.uiowa.edu/dept/laser).



Goins



Sutphin

## EyeRounds.org Progress

In April, 2005, residents Andrew Doan and Jordan Graff received an unrestricted grant from the UIHC Lions Club to help develop a patient education arm to EyeRounds. With funds from this grant, Drs. Doan and Graff have been working with University of Iowa faculty to develop and post pages of patient information on a variety of topics. A link to this section has been added to the EyeRounds home page ([www.EyeRounds.org](http://www.EyeRounds.org)) and content is being developed. The goal is to

include pages of information on a wide variety of topics written in terminology appropriate for patients. Currently, information is being prepared for the web on eye bank donation, vision screening for children, retinoblastoma and strabismus.

EyeRounds received an additional educational grant from Allergan in the amount of \$10,000 to help support the site. Residents and faculty have been contributing case reports from morning rounds to this

site. Contributors receive \$100 for each case and the best presentation for the year will be awarded \$500 for 1<sup>st</sup> place, \$300 for 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and \$200 for 3<sup>rd</sup> place. The grant has been used to purchase new digital cameras and memory cards for all incoming residents, and to hire professional web design and management expertise. It has also been used to purchase software and equipment necessary for maintaining the site.

## The 2005 Iowa Eye Association Annual Meeting

The Iowa Eye Association Annual Meeting was held June 10-11, 2005, in Iowa City. With the Iowa Lions Eye Bank celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> year, the meeting focused on eye banking and cornea topics.

David L. Epstein, M.D., the Joseph A.C. Wadsworth Clinical Professor and Chairman, Department of Ophthalmology, Duke University Medical Center, delivered the second Mansour F. Armaly Lecture, "If I had Glaucoma."

Jay H. Krachmer, M.D., Professor and Chairman, Department of Ophthalmology, University of Minnesota, delivered the 24<sup>th</sup> Alson E. Braley Lecture, "Keratoconus."

Terrence P. O'Brien, M.D., Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology, John Hopkins Hospital, Wilmer Eye Institute, delivered the 34<sup>th</sup> Wolfe Foundation Lecture, "Antimicrobial Prophylaxis in Ophthalmic Surgery: Ritual versus Reality?"

An address on "Eye Banks and Iowa" was delivered by Patricia Aiken-O'Neill, President and CEO, Eye Bank Association of America; Patricia Dahl, Chair of

the Board, Eye Bank Association of America and Executive Director, The Eye-Bank for Sight Restoration, Inc.; and John E. Sutphin, M.D., Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology, University of Iowa, Director, Cornea and External Disease Service, and Medical Director, Iowa Lions Eye Bank.

Other speakers included Christopher J. Rapuano, M.D., Associate Professor, Wills Eye Hospital, Philadelphia, "Excimer Laser PTK-Trials and Tribulations;" Michael D. Wagoner, M.D., Director, King Khaled Eye Specialist Hospital, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, "Outcome of PKP after Prolonged Donor Storage in Optisol-GS;" and Puwat Charukamnoetkanok, M.D., Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology, University of Pittsburgh, "Artificial Cornea and the Future of Eye Banking."

Edwin M. Stone, M.D., Ph.D. delivered the 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Iowa Eye Ethics Lecture, "Ethics and Molecular Genetics."

In a break with tradition, graduation events were held in conjunction with the Iowa Eye banquet which was held the evening of Friday, June 10<sup>th</sup> at the Iowa Memorial Union, with music by Funk 101.

The meeting concluded on Saturday with the annual golf tournament at Pleasant Valley Golf Course followed by the family dinner and the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual F. C. Blodi Poker Tournament, also held at Pleasant Valley. The first annual F.C. Blodi poker tournament was a huge success; 13 participants started this historic Texas Hold-em battle at 7 p.m. on Saturday, June 11, 2005, during the Iowa Eye alumni weekend at Pleasant Valley Country Club. Four hours later Missy Allen, Ph.D. was victorious. Dr. Christopher Rapuano (cornea fellow, 1991), one of the invited lecturers for the scientific session from Wills Eye Clinic, came in second place. Dr. Lee Alward placed third and Dr. Rich Allen placed fourth. The Event raised \$300 for the Coming to Your Senses (CTYS) program.

View the Iowa Eye Association Annual Meeting album in the web at [webeye.ophth.uiowa.edu/update/2005/IaEyeAlbum/index.htm](http://webeye.ophth.uiowa.edu/update/2005/IaEyeAlbum/index.htm)

### Best Doctors

Thirteen Faculty from the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences were among the 152 physicians from University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics that were selected for inclusion in 2005 Best Doctors in America® database, a leading resource for linking consumers with expert medical care.

The Best Doctors database results from peer review surveys undertaken by Best Doctors® Inc., a provider of information about the best medical care available. To compile the current database, more than 35,000 doctors throughout the U.S. were asked to rate the clinical abilities of other doctors in their areas of specialization. Only physicians who earned the consensus support of their peers were included.

Those named were: Wallace L. M. Alward, M.D., Chris Blodi, MD (adjunct), H. Culver Boldt, M.D., Keith D. Carter, M.D., Randy H. Kardon, M.D., Ph.D., Ronald V. Keech, M.D., Andrew G. Lee, M.D., Jeffrey A. Nerad, M.D., Stephen R. Russell, M.D., Edwin M. Stone, M.D., Ph.D., John E. Sutphin, Jr., M.D., Thomas A. Weingeist, Ph.D., M.D., and Michael Wall, M.D. (neurology)

# Alumni

**Bernard F. Godley, M.D., Ph.D., FACS** will return to University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston as Professor and Chair of the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, effective December 1, 2005. Dr. Godley is currently the Director and Senior Scientist at the Sybil B. Harrington Molecular Ophthalmology Laboratory at the Retina Foundation of the Southwest. He is also an active partner in the Vitreoretinal Practice of Retina Specialists, P.A., Dallas Texas.

Dr. Godley was an Ophthalmology Resident at UIHC from 1990-1993. He completed fellowship training in medical retina with Dr. Alan Bird at Moorfields Hospital and a Vitreoretinal Surgery Fellowship with Drs. Bert Glaser and John Thompson in Baltimore, M.D.

Former Iowa Pediatric Ophthalmology and Neuro-Ophthalmology Fellow, Dr. **Sean Donahue** has been named as the Chief of Ophthalmology at Monrow Carell, Jr. Children's Hospital at Vanderbilt University. Dr. Donahue will be creating the first "Division of Ophthalmology" for the pediatric population at Vanderbilt's Children's Hospital. Dr. Donahue has a very large vision screening program based on the use of the photoscreener used by Dr. William Scott and which is currently being used in the Coming to Your Senses Iowa vision screening program coordinated by Lori Short in the Department of Ophthalmology.

On Friday, March 4, the Houston chapter of Research to Prevent Blindness honored former Iowa ophthalmology resident (1962-1965), **Malcomb Mazow, M.D.** as their person of the year. There was a black-tie dinner with speeches honoring the event. Dr. Bill Scott says "Malcomb has done a lot for the community. He has taken a strong role in 'children first' in health care matters. He has done a lot of *pro bono* work for children without health care funding." Dr. Mazow has also played a leader-

ship role in the American Academy of Ophthalmology where he served as its chair and a member of the AAO Board of Trustees.

**Robin Ross, M.D.** (Resident Graduate, 1995) has decided to pull out of full time private practice to work on her ophthalmology interests. She says, "We just finished working with two ophthalmologists in northern Brazil, training them to become retinal specialists; they'll be at their first academy meeting this year. In the process, my husband, Chad [Cleveringa], and I founded a non-profit organization called Ruth's Harvest. Our non-profit's mission is to work mainly with widows and orphans (usually war ravaged places) to rebuild infrastructure (water towers, schools, orphanages, job training for artisan products) and then trade new/used technology training to the physicians who will deliver care there using that technology. Our next project is Sri Lanka." Read more about Ruth's Harvest at their website: <http://www.ruthsharvest.org/aboutus.html>. Dr. Ross also mentioned that she and Chad "are adopting some kids (plural)."

We had a flurry of updates from alumni right after the last *Iowa Eye* went to the printer.

**Anil Patel, M.D.** (Neuro-ophthalmology Fellow, 1996-1998) has joined the faculty of The Dean A. McGee Eye Institute at the University of Oklahoma. Dr. Patel was with the University of Saskatchewan before moving to Oklahoma.

In the fall of 2004, after two summers in Houston, **Rahul Pandit, M.D.** (Resident, 2000-2003, Cornea Fellow 2002-2003) reported that his practice is building nicely and he has now signed on as partner. He is officially a Clinical Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology at Baylor College of Medicine. He says "I haven't had any recent debates with

any Baylor faculty regarding The Iowa Way, but there are always plenty of opportunities. Lavannya has started her Pulmonary/Critical Care Fellowship at Baylor, and our son Suraj, born in 2003, continues to amaze us."

Former Retina Fellow (2004 graduate), **Esther Bowie, M.D.** was married in August 2004, in Kingston, Jamaica. We received her news last fall right after the last *Iowa Eye* went to press; at that time she was practicing in Kingston. She said, "I hope all is well in Iowa. This summer has been hectic. I got married in August during the only hurricane-free weekend. I started working on September 1, 2004, and a few days later, we had a category 4/5 hurricane with wind speeds up to 140-150 miles per hour. My family and I are OK; a few leaks here and there. Communication, light, and water were unavailable for a while, but life is slowly returning to normal." To update that news, Dr. Bowie has recently joined the Storm Eye Institute, Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston, where she is an Assistant Professor in the Vitreoretinal Service. She and her husband celebrated the birth of their first child, Rachel Elizabeth Lyn-Sue, on September 29, 2005. Rachel was 8 lbs. 1 oz.

**Gary Phelps, M.D.** formerly of Waterloo, Iowa and brother of Charles Phelps, M.D. is now living in Australia. He checked in recently and says, "Summer just coming on here on the Gold Coast of Australia. Temps up to 30+C and the surf wonderful. Still manage to play a little tennis, but running has given way to only occasional jogging. Clinics busy, theatre lists full, and weekly (or usually more often) trauma - mostly from bar fights, which are discouraging, but better than the domestic abuse I saw in the states. The expanse of ophthalmic knowledge

## Alumni News, continued

continues to explode - I no longer even pretend to keep superficially abreast. How the new registrars keep on top of it all is a great mystery to me - they are definitely a bright lot."

**Ayad Farjo**, M.D. (Faculty 2001-2003) announces that **Karin Slettin**, M.D. (Retina Fellow 2001-2003) gave birth to their son, Zayd Joergen (the name is half Arabic / half Scandinavian) on October 6, 2004 at 9:45 p.m. He was 7 lb. 4 oz. and the whole family is doing great.

**Dr. James T. Quinlan** (1982-1985) has relocated to Ada, Oklahoma. He and his wife, Lena, bought an old bank (he mentions that, unfortunately, the vault was quite bare). He is now practicing comprehensive ophthalmology. He says, "We live upstairs and take the elevator all the way to work. Which is really cool, since I can't walk. I accepted a "field-grade" commission in the Army, then (yep) got myself injured. So while the screws are settling into new bone, I am on crutches for a few months. This has given me time to make music, read, and plan some new skydives. My warm regards to all, Major Q."

**Susan Malinowski**, M.D. (Resident 1989-1993) married Gary Shapiro in Italy on September 8, 2004. Dr. Malinowski has been at Retina Consultants of Michigan since 2000.

Former resident, **B.J. Dupps**, M.D. Ph.D., and wife, Gretchen, announced the arrival of Adrienne, born December 7, 2004. She was 8 lbs. 7 oz.

**Andrea Lusk**, M.D. (Resident class of 2000) and husband, Paul Hahn, M.D., announced the arrival of identical twin boys, Matthew Adam and William Francis, born January 24, 2005. Matthew was 5 lbs. 4 oz. and William was 5 lbs. 6 oz.

**Lynn Fraterrigo**, M.D. (Resident graduate, 2005) announced the arrival of Erin Grace Boler on July 27th. She was 8 lbs. 8 oz. and 20.5 inches long. Dr. Fraterrigo says that she, Jim, Sophie, and Erin are all doing well.

### Arbisser Honored

In March 2005, **Lisa Arbisser**, M.D. was honored by the American Medical Women's Association as an Iowa "Local Legend" for her accomplishments in medicine and community service. The award salutes women physicians who have demonstrated commitment, originality, innovation, or creativity in their fields of medicine.

Dr. Arbisser was nominated for the honor by Rep. Jim Nussle, R-Iowa. "Dr. Arbisser is an active member of both her professional and local community and has touched many lives in my congressional district," he said. "In addition to her professional achievements, she has shown a strong dedication to unselfish pursuits including establishment of The See Life Clearly Foundation, a nonprofit corporation to continue efforts to restore sight, and her missionary work abroad. She is clearly a highly skilled and valuable member of our community."

### Iowa Eye Reception

Monday, Oct. 17, 2005  
6:30 to 9:30 p.m.  
Exchange Room  
Hotel InterContinental  
Chicago, Illinois

Please plan to join us during the American Academy of Ophthalmology Annual Meeting

In 2003, she celebrated her 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a cataract surgeon by treating patients and guests to a performance of the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Circus at The Mark of the Quad-Cities. She bought out the show for the benefit of patients whose sight she had restored by cataract surgery.

Active in civic affairs, she is chairman of the Davenport Schools Foundation, for which she has raised millions of dollars over the past 15 years to develop special programs for educators and students. She was selected as one of the inaugural March of Dimes Women of Excellence in 2002.

Lisa Arbisser completed her ophthalmology residency at the University of Iowa in 1983 after which she joined her husband, Amir Arbisser, who completed his Pediatric Ophthalmology Fellowship at the UI.

### Send Us Your News

Information about alumni and Iowa Eye Association Members will be published as space allows.

Send your news to:

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The University of Iowa Hospitals & Clinics  
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## Deaths



*Mansour F. Armaly, M.D.*

**Mansour F. Armaly, M.D.**, 78, died on Friday August 19, 2005, at the George Washington University Hospital, after a courageous battle with cancer. Dr. Armaly completed his Ophthalmology Residency in June of 1958 and was a distinguished member of the University of Iowa Department of Ophthalmology faculty from 1958 to 1970. In 1970, Dr. Armaly left the University to become Chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology at the George Washington University where he served for 27 years. 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. He was renowned internationally as an ophthalmologist both in research and clinical practice.

The Mansour F. Armaly lectureship was established in 2003 at the University of Iowa by his wife, Aida, and his children,

Dr. Raya Armaly Harrison, an ophthalmologist in Columbia, Maryland, and Fareed Armaly of Berlin. The first Mansour F. Armaly Lecture was given in 2004 at the Iowa Eye Association Annual Meeting.

Mansour Fareed Armaly was born in Shefa Amr, Palestine, in what is now Israel. He was married to the former Aida Makdisi in 1950. He received his undergraduate and medical degrees from the American University of Beirut.

Memorial contributions can be made to the: Dr. Mansour Armaly Memorial Fund, Office of Development-AUB, 3 Dag Hammarskjold Pl., 8<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, NY 10007, which will support an educational scholarship at the American University of Beirut.

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**Samuel N. Key, Jr.**, M.D. of Austin, Texas died on July 27, 2005. Dr. Key completed his Ophthalmology Residency in 1946.

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Long-time Neuro-Ophthalmology secretary, **Judi Pritchett** died on July 20, 2005 following a sudden illness.

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**George W. Bounds, Jr.**, M.D. of Nashville, Tennessee, died on August 3, 2005, after a brief struggle with pancreatic cancer at home. He was born in Meridian, Mississippi on February 19, 1923. He received his medical degree from Vanderbilt University (VU) Medical School in 1946 and served in the US Navy from 1947-1949. Dr. Bounds graduated from UI Ophthalmology Residency in 1952 and received an M.S. in Ophthalmology from UI in 1953. Upon completion of his residency, he did a six month fellowship at Presbyterian Hospital, Columbia University in New York City. He was an Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology at the University Iowa from 1953 until 1954 when he moved to Nashville. Dr. Bounds established a private practice in Ophthalmology and was also Clinical Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology at VU Medical School 1955 - 56, Clinical Associate Professor of Ophthalmology, VU Medical School 1962-69, Head of Division of Ophthalmology, VU Medical School 1959-66. He retired from private practice in 1993, but continued to work for the State of Tennessee reviewing disability claims until 5 days before his death.

He and his wife were famous for the Lynxpoint Colorpoint Short-hair cats they bred and exhibited at CFA shows around the country.

He is survived by his wife of 28 years, Sharon McKeehen-Bounds; son, G. William Bounds, III; daughters, Margaret Carr of Memphis, Lynda Gilmore, and Jane Robinson, both of Nashville, and; and 8 grandchildren.

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## Iowa Lions Donor Memorial and Healing Garden

The Iowa Lions Donor Memorial and Healing Garden was dedicated on October 10<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m. The memorial garden is one of several projects helping to celebrate the 50<sup>th</sup> year of eye banking in Iowa.

The garden was established as a memorial honoring eye, tissue and organ donors. It is located at the front entrance of the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. The theme of the memorial is Hope, Renewal, Transformation. Designed by Lisbon Artist Tim Ellsworth and Country Landscapes Designer Alex Schmidt, the donor memorial and healing garden commemorates donors who have transformed lives through their generosity as well as Iowa Lions and others who have supported the work of donation.

In addition to serving as a tribute to donors and Iowa Lions, the memorial will carry a message of hope and renewal through medicine and the promise of research at The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. The memorial is intended to serve as a place of reflection for visitors, patients, staff and students, inspiring all who visit. The tribute should also inform and encourage future donors who may choose to give the gift of sight and potential Lions whose selflessness will mean a brighter future for many Iowans.

A variety of areas and structures will be available for “naming”

in the garden. There are opportunities to commemorate and “name” the following:

**The Water Feature (A):** On the north side of the garden, at the main entrance, there is a bubbling stream running the length of the garden.

**The Bridge (B):** The hogback style bridge is at the main entrance to the memorial and healing garden, leading visitors over the flowing water into the main structure of the memorial.

**Flower Beds (C):** Three flower beds are available, one between the benches on the east side of the garden, and two on the south side of the memorial.

**The Healing Circle (D):** A quiet semi-circle of stones that is a place of rest and reflection.

**Benches (E):** Eight benches are available both inside the garden and on the north sidewalk leading to the garden.

**Limestone Pavers:** Limestone pavers measuring 1' x 2' will be available for families to further honor their loved ones and the work of donation. Pavers are available in the main memorial (\$1500) and on the path leading to the healing circle, as well as on the path leading away from the healing circle (\$1000). All pavers will have the honoree's name and city inscribed according to the wishes of the purchaser.



*Mosaic designed and produced by Tim Ellsworth*



*Staff, patients, and visitors enjoy the garden on an idyllic fall day after the dedication ceremony.*

For more information about how you can help support the Iowa Lions Donor Memorial at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics, contact: Cindy Reed R.N., Ph.D., Executive Director Iowa Lions Eye Bank, 2346 Mormon Trek Blvd., Suite 1500, Iowa City, IA 52246. Phone 319/356-2871 or email: [cynthia-reed@uiowa.edu](mailto:cynthia-reed@uiowa.edu) or Gary Fry, P.I.D. State Secretary Treasurer/ Field Rep Lions Clubs of Iowa 2300 South Duff Ames, IA 50010 515/232-2215 Email: [iowalions@aol.com](mailto:iowalions@aol.com). Visit the Iowa Lions Eye Bank website at: [www.ialeb.org](http://www.ialeb.org). Visit the Lions Clubs of Iowa website at: [www.iowalions.org](http://www.iowalions.org).

See more pictures at [webeye.ophth.uiowa.edu/eyebank/garden](http://webeye.ophth.uiowa.edu/eyebank/garden)



# Update and Highlights of 20 Years



This is my final Update

The process of “stepping down” has taken longer than anticipated, but it is nearing completion. The Dean has been given the names of four finalist candidates, two internal, two external; we expect an announcement soon.

On October 17<sup>th</sup>, I hope you will join me, alumni, and friends of the Iowa Eye Association during the annual meeting of the AAO at the Intercontinental Hotel for our annual reception. I plan to be there for the duration and would love to see the whole Iowa family at the reception.

Instead of the fuel thirsty Leer Jet, Cathy and I will drive to and from Chicago during the next year in our hybrid Prius. The opportunity to work with Mary Hendrix, PhD at Children’s Memorial Hospital on cell biology of ocular melanoma is something I have been looking forward to for a long time. Mary was formerly chair of the Department of Cell Biology and

Anatomy at Iowa and is now President and Director of Research and Education of CMH. I don’t plan to be away for a year. I will be back periodically to see patients and then return to Chicago to give the faculty and the Department Head time for a smooth transition without me.

I would like you all to know that I am very grateful to have had the chance to work with an outstanding faculty, staff, and house staff over the past 20 years, as well as the countless alumni and friends of the Department that I have encountered. Together we have accomplished a lot. Imagine, at the start every member of the faculty was one of my mentors; the last of those retired in 2003.

I believe that to be successful, each of us must be enfranchised to make decisions and take risks. Supervisors must provide the resources and support faculty and staff, and when things do not work as expected, continue to support faculty. Faculty and staff should get the credit; chairs should be accountable. I am afraid there is a lack of accountability among too many leaders in universities, government, and business. The implosion of Enron could not have involved a few bad apples or even a group of leaders at the top. The corporate culture was defective. It was known and expected that 15% of Enron employees would be let

go annually if they did not achieve benchmarks. This led to unethical behavior on the part of people throughout the organization and often those least able to cope got hurt the most. The chaos resulting from Katrina is also symptomatic of people not being accountable and being given assignments without having appropriate resources.

I was fortunate, when appointed, that Dean Jack Eckstein and John Colloton, the CEO of the UIHC were willing to take risks. They were known for hiring strong, independent department heads and let them act. They gave me the opportunity to succeed or fail. They did not always agree or support department heads (DEOs), but they enabled each of us to pursue what we thought was best for our faculty and departments and they expected that we would be accountable as they would for their units. When they said you would hear from them by a certain time, they responded and when they made promises, they kept them.

What did we accomplish?

The most important attribute of a great department is its people: the faculty, staff employees, and its trainees. I viewed my role as the conductor of a premiere orchestra. I tried to give each member of the orchestra an opportunity to perform. I reminded them periodically

## Update, continued

that solos cannot be played by everyone at once. Sometimes the piccolo needs to be heard above the tympani or violins. The conductor may be the most visible member of the orchestra, but the credit for the performance goes to the musicians.

Unfortunately, the naming of each faculty member in this *Update* would be too cumbersome to read, but each individual has been credited repeatedly, personally over the years for their efforts; their contributions can be found on our website. By omitting them here, in no way do I want to take credit for their accomplishments. Clearly, without musicians an orchestra conductor has no value. Or one could say the audience did not come to hear Toscanini or Zubin Mehta conduct the New York Philharmonic Orchestra. They came to hear great music.

Over the past 20 years, I have assigned faculty and staff to leadership roles to plan and oversee medical student, resident, and fellowship programs. These time-consuming efforts were rewarded with thanks and financially. Faculty ran the Faculty Practice Plan, Medical Management, Finance, Clinical Research, and other committees without my presence. I hope this gave them a greater sense of autonomy. I worked with the chairs of committees and met weekly with a good administrative

group that included the financial and administrative staff of the department, nurse manager, vice chair, and director of medical services. I seldom overruled their decisions and I had an open door policy.

Our excellent resident and fellowship training programs have gained recognition among more than 120 academic programs. Our residency was just awarded the maximum 5-year reaccreditation and a certificate for excellence due in large part to Drs. Keith Carter and Andrew Lee.

A 2-week rotation for third and fourth year medical students was established with the appointment of Hilary Beaver, MD, director of medical student education. It may come as a surprise to you that many medical schools do not require a rotation in ophthalmology. Is there any wonder that physicians often do not recognize the difference between ophthalmologists and optometrists?

Optometrists were hired and later became faculty members to perform comprehensive optometric evaluations, fit cosmetic and medically necessary contact lenses, and perform low vision rehabilitation services. These faculty members engage in clinical and basic research including unique studies using the National Driving Simulator. Ophthalmologists and optometrists can work effectively

together in caring for patients, teaching, and performing research. In academic ophthalmology programs, optometrists do not need to treat glaucoma any more than a retina, neuro-ophthalmology subspecialist need to workup and manage new glaucoma patients.

We have increased the number of faculty from 15 clinicians to 31 clinicians and scientists. This has enabled each clinical service to provide clinical care throughout the week and also engage to a greater degree in clinical, basic research and teaching. Full-time basic researchers with secondary appointments in other departments within the College of Medicine and other colleges have enhanced the scope of collaborative research resulting in increased extramural funding for the University and stronger ties with the College of Engineering and College of Liberal Arts.

On a daily basis we see 300 or more patients in the clinics and perform cases in the Ambulatory Surgery Center. Relatively few patients are hospitalized. Complicated vitreoretinal cases stay for “23 hours” and occasional cases are hospitalized longer because of corneal or orbital infection. The volume of patients is deceptively low because follow-ups have generally been reduced in length, and patients are returned to local physicians when stable.

## Update, continued

Four thousand square feet of research laboratories and offices were created at the Oakdale Research Facility under the leadership of Greg Hageman, PhD. In early 2006 the Ophthalmology Cell Morphology and Molecular Biology Laboratory will move to new facilities on the Oakdale campus. This new and exciting program, developed by Greg Hageman, has been propelled by the initiative of the new University of Iowa VP for Research, Meredith Hay, PhD [[research.uiowa.edu/vpr/?get=hay](http://research.uiowa.edu/vpr/?get=hay)].

Greg's team will be the nucleus of a bold venture that will include the University, the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, and corporate partners whose primary objective will be AMD research. We are positioning ourselves so we can continue to initiate state of the art laboratory research, work closely with industry to create new drugs to prevent or cure AMD, and participate in clinical trials while providing the best kind of patient care to the ever-increasing numbers of patients threatened with blindness from AMD. This and similar groups will serve as a catalyst for new grants and patents, educational opportunities for graduate students.

The Carver Molecular Ophthalmology Laboratory was created through a generous gift of \$2 million dollars by Martin and Ruth Carver and \$1 million from the

Department. These and funds from Research to Prevent Blindness and later from Foundation Fighting Blindness provided the nexus for the creation of the CMD.

I vividly recall attending the Board of Regents meeting in Cedar Falls, Iowa in August of 1997, during which the University of Iowa Center for Macular Degeneration was approved with the commitment that the Department of Ophthalmology and participating members would support the program with spaced provided by the College of Medicine. It has been a very worthwhile investment for all involved.

The AMD research program gained international recognition when Ed Stone, MD, PhD was appointed by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute as the first and only ophthalmologist so far to be named as an HHMI Scientist. He joined Val Sheffield, MD, PhD from the Department of Pediatrics, another member of the CMD named as an HHMI Scientist.

The opening of the Medical Education and Research Facility (MERF) makes up approximately 16,000 square feet of contemporary research facilities that are occupied by a multidisciplinary group led by Edwin M. Stone, MD, PhD the director of the UI Center for Macular Degeneration (CMD).

Last month, Professor Greg Hageman, PhD, from our Depart-

ment gave testimony in Washington DC to the Director of the NIH, Dr. Elias Zerhouni and members of Congress. It was a rare and wonderful opportunity to inform public leaders where we stand and what needs to be done to cure AMD. Earlier in the year Greg Hageman and collaborators from several other universities published a seminal paper demonstrating the role of Factor H (not for Hageman) and the complement cascade in AMD. [[www.pnas.org/cgi/content/full/102/20/7227](http://www.pnas.org/cgi/content/full/102/20/7227)]

The next Department Head will have the opportunity to identify from within the Department and recruit a number of faculty deserving of named chairs and professorships. Clearly, Greg Hageman



*Medical Education & Research Facility*

## Update, continued

deserves to be among that list. Mainly through the generosity of alumni and friends nearly \$20 million dollars are available. [webeye.ophth.uiowa.edu/dept/Endowment/]

The foresight that Greg Hageman had while at St. Louis University to create a repository of eyes, obtained within 4 hours of death, for AMD research has been very rewarding. We are the fortunate recipients of this initiative that moved to Iowa and has grown to over 2,500 eyes. The collection contains a variety of forms of AMD specimens, blood specimens for molecular biology, tissue samples for state of the art studies using the most sophisticated scanning laser microscope in the world, transmission and scanning electron microscopes, DNA sequencers and other technology supported in part by the National Institutes of Health, National Eye Institute, private individuals, philanthropic organizations such as Research to Prevent Blindness, Lions Clubs, and corporate sponsors.

As the Iowa Lions Eye Bank initiated by Dr. Alson E. Braley celebrates its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary we are pleased to announce the creation of the Iowa Lions Donor Memorial and Healing Garden.

As conductor I must pause to thank Cindy Reed, RN, PhD, Executive Director of the Eye Bank who, during her first year on

the job, initiated this project. Cindy was able, in a remarkably short time, to create a plan, a way to pay for the project, and receive approval from the CEO of the UIHC, Donna Katen-Bahensky, to locate the garden at the front entrance of the UIHC. Opening ceremonies took place on October 10, 2005. Details can be read elsewhere in this newsletter (page 20) and on our website.

[webeye.ophth.uiowa.edu/dept/News/2005/200510-06-ILEB.htm]

Collaboration between the Glaucoma Service directed by Lee Alward, MD and investigators in the MERF have led to outstanding clinical and basic research discoveries including identification of the



first gene for a juvenile form of primary open angle glaucoma. Collaborations with industry and academic centers continue to enhance our understanding of glaucoma.

Young Kwon, MD, PhD, and Markus Kuehn, PhD, as well as scientists in Ames at the Veterinary College of Medicine at Iowa State are working on neuro-protective mechanisms in glaucoma. Recently Emily Greenlee, MD, was hired to develop a glaucoma clinical and teaching program at the Veterans Medical Center in Iowa City; and plans are underway to hire a clinician-research scientist in glaucoma in 2006 and to offer foreign scientists and clinicians limited support to do research fellowships in glaucoma.

The Cornea/External Disease and Refractive Surgery program has a VISX excimer laser and Intralase instrument to perform refractive surgery. We have a unique training program whereby residents and fellows obtain special didactic and clinical training with our instrumentation leading to certification.

Dr. Ken Goins and Dr. John Sutphin have gained tremendous experience and have refined DLEK (deep lamellar endothelial keratoplasty). They have painstakingly maintained details of all aspects of the pre-op and post-operative procedure on more than

## Update, continued

75 cases. Transplanting the posterior portion of the cornea avoids the complications of astigmatism and suturing a corneal button with the advantage of more rapid visual recovering, albeit a more time consuming and more difficult technical procedure. Learn more and see an early procedure on streaming video. [[webeye.ophth.uiowa.edu/eyeforum/DLEK.htm](http://webeye.ophth.uiowa.edu/eyeforum/DLEK.htm)].

The recruitment of Michael Abramoff, MD, PhD, as Assistant Professor demonstrates how talented faculty, hard work, and cooperation with other units in the University can lead to great success. Although less than a year out of fellowship training, Dr. Abramoff received a K-12 grant from the Carver College of Medicine awarded through the NIH providing him with 80% time for research. During the past few months he has submitted numerous grants and written a number of papers for peer-reviewed journals. He recently received a \$1.8 million grant from the National Eye Institute to further develop and perfect a fundus camera which will cost less than \$2,500 and is capable of recording digital photographs of the posterior pole without dilation. The aim will be to transmit images via the Internet to a grading center to assess diabetic patients for retinopathy. This will tie in beautifully with a program that has already been started using conven-

tional non-mydratic cameras set up in distant Family Practice Programs in Iowa. Images sent via the Internet to the UIHC are graded and letters are returned to referring physicians indicating whether patients need prompt ophthalmic assessment, routine follow up or can be followed another year by the family physician. Dr. Abramoff developed a similar program in the Netherlands where more than 10,000 patients were screened last year.

Dr. Abramoff, a computer scientist and ophthalmologist, has also developed a computer system to assess images for diabetic retinopathy which is under review in a collaborative effort with the University of Wisconsin Photograph Reading Center (WPRC). The objective will be to have all photographs screened by computer and for those that are identified with diabetic retinopathy to be reviewed by professional graders. In this way thousands and ultimately millions of pictures can be evaluated without graders. More attention can then be paid to studying those with diabetic retinopathy. The WPRC will test the sensitivity and specificity of digital photography and compare the computer assessment with graders. We are hopeful that a US Department of Agriculture grant for additional cameras will enable us to open 8 more sites as part of our Telediagnosis of Retinal

Diseases in Rural Iowa program which stretches from the Quad Cities on the east to Akron on the west. We have already been contacted by physicians in other states wishing for us to help them identify patients with diabetic retinopathy. Interestingly, some of these physicians are retina specialists who are swamped screening patients unable to afford costly examinations. These physicians are willing to offer laser and surgical care for limited or no reimbursement, but cannot cope with screening the hundreds of patients who will not require treatment.

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## Update, continued

### Major Accomplishments

Incorporation of Iowa Eye Association, membership dues, directory	Constance Grignon, MD appointed Chief of Ophthalmology at Des Moines VAMC to provide supervision for 3 <sup>rd</sup> year residents	Tumors of the Optic Nerve and Inflammation initiative
Beginning of digital programs with fiber optic connections to faculty, secretary and laboratory offices in the UIHC and research labs.	Establishment of Glaucoma Service at Iowa City VAMC, Emily Greenlee, MD, director	University of Iowa Center for Macular Degeneration
Iowa archival and retrieval system for ophthalmic photographs	Relocation of Alson E. Braley Auditorium	Hansjoerg E. Kolder Electrodiagnostic Laboratory
Establishment and Renovation of Frederick C. Blodi Eye Pathology Laboratory	Second refractive laser instrument purchased and used on large scale	H. Stanley Thompson Neuro-Ophthalmology Clinic
Expansion of Molecular Ophthalmology Laboratory	Intralase purchased	Adaptive Optics Program
Oakdale Research Facility expansion	DLEK procedure	Iowa Ophthalmic Imaging Group – Michael Abramoff, director
Name change to Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences	Digital imaging system for fundus color and fluorescein angiography	Telediagnosis of Retinal Diseases in Rural Iowa
Collaboration with Iowa and then National Driving Simulator	Endowments for chairs, professorships, clinical, research, and teaching programs amounting to \$20 million and growing	143 Residents and 204 Fellows trained
Plans to build and move to Pomerantz Family Pavilion (PFP)	Endowed lectureships: Wolfe Foundation Lectureship Braley Lecture Armaly Lecture	Department website
Establishment of the University of Iowa Center for Macular Degeneration	Hired optometrists for contact lens and low vision rehabilitation	Educational programs on website
First refractive laser instrument purchased by UIHC	Faculty appointments for optometrists at UIHC and VA	Online Atlas of Ophthalmology
Move to PFP February 16, 1996	Full-time basic researchers in cell biology, molecular biology, computer science and engineering	EyeRounds.org established
Relocation and expansion of C. S. O'Brien Library, Research and Learning Center	Secondary appointments for faculty in neurology, neuro-surgery, pathology, otolaryngology, department of biological sciences, computer engineering, biomedical engineering, and genetics.	Streaming video surgery and CME programs on internet
Entrepreneurial Research Program established at the Oakdale Campus, Greg Hageman, PhD		Electronic newsletter
Establishment of Chief of Ophthalmology at VAMC with support staff and faculty from the UIHC – Thomas A. Oetting, MD		Printed Directory of Services distributed to referring physicians
		Departmental written and online survey for patient feedback
		Iowa Lions Donor Memorial and Healing Garden, Cindy Reed, Executive director, Iowa Lions Eye Bank
		Have screened over 50,000 children in the Coming to Your Senses vision screening program directed by Lori Short and William Scott, MD

# CALENDAR 2005-2006

## Clinical Conferences

DATE	TOPIC	GUEST SPEAKER
November 4, 2005	Cataract	M. Bowes Hamill, MD
December 2, 2005	Glaucoma	Douglas H. Johnson, MD
February 3, 2006	Neuro-Ophthalmology	Steven A. Newman, MD
March 3, 2006	Oculoplastics	David E. E. Holck, MD
April 7, 2006	Cornea	Mark A. Terry, MD
June 15-17, 2006	<b>Iowa Eye Association Annual Meeting</b>	

### Iowa Eye Reception

Monday, Oct. 17, 2005

6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Exchange Room

Hotel InterContinental

Chicago, Illinois

Please plan to join us during the  
American Academy of  
Ophthalmology Annual Meeting

## Iowa Eye Association, inc.

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Pomerantz Family Pavilion  
University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics  
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Iowa City, Iowa 52242-1091

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