Folk and Nerad Promoted

James C. Folk, MD

The promotions of Drs. Folk and Nerad to professor and associate professor, respectively, have been approved by the Board of Regents effective July 1, 1989.

Dr. James C. Folk has been associate professor since July 1985. He has also been Director of the Vitreoretinal Service since October 1986. He has been principal investigator for the national Macular Photocoagulation Study for the past four years. His research interests include the treatment of medical retinal disease with an emphasis on macular degeneration of aging and ocular histoplasmosis.

Jeffrey A. Nerad, MD

Dr. Jeffrey A. Nerad has been assistant professor since July 1985. He has been chief of the Oculoplastic, Orbital, and Oncology Service at the VA Hospital in Iowa City since 1985, and director of the Oculoplastic, Orbital and Oncology Service at The University of Iowa Department of Ophthalmology since 1986. He was chief of the Ophthalmology Service at the VA Hospital in Iowa City from 1985 to 1987.

Dr. Folk became an assistant professor in The University of Iowa Department of Ophthalmology in January 1982, after completing an eighteen-month retinal fellowship at the University in December 1981. Prior to that he was an ophthalmology resident at the Eye and Ear Hospital in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania from 1977-

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RESIDENTS AND FELLOWS

Residents and Fellows Complete Training

Three residents and seven fellows will be finishing their training at the end of June. They are headed in a wide range of directions both geographically and professionally.

Dr. Loren Barrus will complete his residency June 30. He will head west to Medford, Oregon, to join a private practice. He and his family will be driving out to settle in by the end of July.

Dr. Peter Glower, after completing his residency training, will remain here to begin a one-year fellowship in cornea/external disease with Dr. Jay Krachmer on July 1.

Dr. Randy Kardon will finish his residency training. He will join a two-person general ophthalmology practice, the Holland Eye Clinic, in Holland, Michigan, beginning July 17.

Dr. Alan Brackup will complete a fellowship in oculoplastics. He plans to practice oculoplastics with a private group in Hatboro, Pennsylvania. He and his wife, Eileen, along with their new son, will be in Hatboro after August 1.

Dr. Patricia Johnston, after completing her two-year fellowship in neuro-ophthalmology, will stay in Iowa City for at least another year or two. She will join the faculty of the Neurology Department and will run the Headache Clinic in Neurology four half-days each week.

Dr. Randy Kardon will also complete a fellowship in neuro-opthalmology. He is set to join the UI Department of Ophthalmology as an assistant professor.

Dr. Marian Macsai, who is completing fellowship training in cornea/external disease, will join the Department of Ophthalmology at West Virginia University in Morgantown, West Virginia, as an assistant professor and Director of the Cornea Service. She will also serve as medical director of the West Virginia Eye Bank.

Dr. Terry Schwartz will complete her fellowship in pediatric ophthalmology and head for the hills of West Virginia as well. She will become an assistant professor in Pediatric Ophthalmology at West Virginia University Health Sciences Center in Morgantown.

Dr. Scott Sneed, after finishing his fellowship training in vitreoretinal diseases and surgery, will become an assistant professor at the Kellogg Eye Institute of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. He will take up that position in mid-July.

Dr. Gary Varley will complete his fellowship in cornea/external disease. He plans to return to the Cleveland Clinic, Cleveland, Ohio. He will be a member of their ophthalmology staff beginning in July.

Molecular Ophthalmology Laboratory Expands Capabilities

The Molecular Ophthalmology Laboratory has recently added equipment for DNA sequencing and has completed construction of a tissue culture facility. Several medical and undergraduate students are working in the lab on a wide range of projects.

Jeff Copping, the 1989 Warner Pathology Fellow, is studying Leber’s optic atrophy by sequencing mitochondrial DNA from affected patients. Aaron Weingeist, who will begin medical school here this fall, is working with retinal pigment epithelial cells that were recently cultured from a donor eye affected with Best's disease.

Other students in the lab include undergraduates Natalie Neill, Laura Vockrodt, and Adel Younoszai, and medical students Brian Nichols, Mike Raphtis, Sam Ricker, Chris Scott, Mick Vanden Bosch, and Brian Weismann. Their projects include studies of color vision, as well as chromosome linkage analysis of several autosomal dominant eye diseases.

The laboratory is directed by Dr. Edwin Stone, a third-year resident in the department.
Faculty

Dr. Frederick C. Blodi, professor emeritus, has been appointed vice chairman for ophthalmic heritage of the Board of Trustees for the Foundation of the American Academy of Ophthalmology for 1989-90. Other appointees include Melvin L. Rubin, MD, Gainesville, Florida, chairman elect; Stephen J. Ryan, Jr., MD, Los Angeles, vice chairman for public service; and Bruce Spivey, MD, San Francisco, trustee.

The Foundation's goal since its formation in 1980, is to further the charitable, educational and scientific goals of the Academy. The Foundation sponsors the National Eye Care Project (NECP) and the Ophthalmic Heritage Program.

Thomas A. Weingeist, MD, PhD, Professor and Head of the Department of Ophthalmology, has been appointed associate secretary for the American Academy of Ophthalmology to direct a new program on self-assessment under the secretary of education, Dr. Ronald E. Smith, from the University of Southern California. Dr. Weingeist was also named to the editorial board of Acta Ophthalmologica, an international, multilingual journal published in The Netherlands.

Staff

Sarah Smith, RN, BS, Clinical Nursing Specialist I in the Vitreoretinal Service, and Jean Prybil, RN, Nurse-Clinician in the Oculoplastic Service, recently passed the Certification Examination for Ophthalmic Registered Nurses. The 250-question, multiple choice, 4-hour test covered ocular disorders, pharmacology, patient assessment, ophthalmic nursing intervention, and professional issues. The certification is given by the National Certification Board for Ophthalmic Registered Nurses and is valid for 5 years.

Paula Sufficool, technician in the Ocular Pathology Lab, was recently certified as a Histotechnologist (HTL) by the American Society of Clinical Pathologists. She is the only certified histotechnologist in the entire University Hospitals and Clinics.

Folk-Nerad Promotions
(continued from page 1)

1980. Dr. Folk received his MD cum laude from Thomas Jefferson Medical College in 1977, and graduated with a BS from Penn State University with highest distinction in 1973. At the recent annual meeting of the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology, Dr. Folk was elected to a three-year term as a member of the retina section committee.

Dr. Nerad received his BA in biology with departmental honors from the University of California in Los Angeles in 1971 and his MD from St. Louis University School of Medicine in 1979. He completed a one-year flexible internship at Maricopa County General Hospital in Phoenix, Arizona, in 1980, and his ophthalmology residency at St. Louis University Bethesda Eye Institute in St. Louis, Missouri, in 1983. He then served as visiting surgeon at Hospitale Santo Toribio de Murovejo in Lima, Peru for 2 months. He completed a fellowship in orbital, lacrimal and lid surgery at Moorfields Eye Hospital in London, England in January 1984, and a fellowship in oculoplastic and orbital surgery at The University of Iowa Department of Ophthalmology in 1985. His research interests include the development of anophthal-mic socket implants, optic nerve sheath fenestration in pseudotumor cerebri, the development of new surgical techniques and instrumentation in ophthalmic plastic surgery and orbital surgery, and osseointegration of facial prostheses. Dr. Nerad was recently appointed to serve on the Editorial Faculty for the Orbit, Eyelids and Lacrimal Systems Section of the American Academy of Ophthalmology Basic and Clinical Science Course.
ARVO Participants

Abstracts were presented by several faculty, residents, fellows, and students from The University of Iowa at the annual spring meeting of The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) in Sarasota, Florida, April 30 through May 5, 1989 (UI Dept. of Ophthalmology authors in bold):

Mark J. McCarthy, Michael Pfaller, Rick Hollis, James C. Folk: The use of a bacterial ribosomal DNA probe for the detection of bacteria with possible application to ocular fluids.

Maureen G. Maguire, James C. Folk, et al. (Macular Photocoagulation Study Group): Persistent and recurrent neovascularization after krypton laser photocoagulation for neovascular lesions of ocular histoplasmosis.

Steven R. Bennett, Christopher F. Blodi, James C. Folk: Factors prognostic of visual outcome in patients with subretinal hemorrhage involving the fovea.

James C. Folk et al. (Macular Photocoagulation Study Group): Predictors for recurrence of choroidal neovascularization after argon laser photocoagulation in macular degeneration of aging and ocular histoplasmosis syndrome.

Mitchell D. Wolf, James C. Folk, Carole A. Panknen, Nancy E. Goeken: HLA DR2 DQw1 and acute posterior multifocal placoid pigment epitheliopathy.

Sohan S. Hayreh: Early retinal arteriolar changes in hypertensive retinopathy.


Kurt A. Haller, Jose Pulido, Christopher F. Blodi, William E. Scott: Pediatric presumed ocular histoplasmosis.

TK Shires, J.S. Faeth, J.S. Pulido: Nonenzymatic glycosyl cross-linking (NGFX) of vitreal proteins in rats with diabetes mellitus.

Andrew S. Kimmel, Thomas A. Weingeist: Premacular gliosis under age 20: A review of 20 cases.

Peter Gloor, Thomas A. Farrell: The course of visual acuity decline in patients with senile cataracts.

Byron L. Lam, H. Stanley Thompson: Anisocoria-Induced relative afferent pupillary defect.

Donald L. McCormack, H. Stanley Thompson: The Tachyphylaxis of cyclopentolate mydriasis.

Mariannette Miller-Meeks, Steven R. Bennett, Ronald V. Keech: Development of anisometric myopia in infants with vitreous hemorrhage.


Brian P. Weismann, Edwin M. Stone, Aaron P. Weingeist, A. Tim Johnson, and Jeffrey C. Murray: A panel of fifty DNA probes selected to maximize the power and minimize the cost of random chromosome linkage analysis of autosomal dominant disorders.


Allergan has donated a Humphrey Field Analyzer for a period of eighteen months to assist Drs. Randy H. Kardon and H.S. Thompson in developing a method of objectively assessing the visual field by measuring the pupil response to focal light stimuli. The current method used to measure peripheral and central vision is very demanding and subjective because patients must make split-second judgments as to whether a small light is seen in different locations within the field of vision. Drs. Kardon and Thompson are working in conjunction with Dr. Glenn Myers from Biomedical Engineering who has developed a computer-based pupillometer which uses an infrared camera with a highly magnified video image to accurately measure the area of the pupil continuously at a rate of 60 times per second. The pupillometer and the field analyzer are being linked together to enable more objective assessment of the field of vision based on pupil reactions.
Lions Recognized

The University of Iowa Department of Ophthalmology has for the past 35 years been very fortunate in receiving generous support from the Iowa Lions. The Lions have given several million dollars to the department primarily for the cornea and glaucoma programs. In 1977, the Iowa Lions Cornea Center was opened. The Cornea Center is one of the nation's largest facilities dedicated to cornea and external eye disease, corneal transplantation, and eye banking. The Iowa Lions Eye Bank has been a leader in eye banking. Two former University of Iowa physicians have served as president of the Eye Bank Association of America, and several lay leaders from Iowa have received national recognition.

In addition to over 3,600 corneal transplants performed at the Iowa Lions Eye Bank, a large number of research projects have been completed and published. Twenty-six fellows have been trained in corneal disease who now hold academic positions and have large cornea practices across the United States and Canada. Residents from the department regularly rotate two at a time through the Cornea Center.

Aside from the $250,000 raised for the Cornea Center, the Lions consistently give a generous amount of money each year for maintaining our clinical, research, and teaching efforts. Their financial and moral support was recently recognized by a service award from Iowa Governor Terry Branstad. We in the Department of Ophthalmology at The University of Iowa congratulate the Lions on their richly deserved recognition.

National Eye Trauma Center

Christopher F. Blodi, MD, Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology, is heading The University of Iowa Department of Ophthalmology participation in the National Eye Trauma System (NETS). NETS is a large group of eye departments and clinics banded together to achieve a number of goals. Primarily, the group is interested in acquiring and distributing information on eye trauma patients through a computerized registry system at the University of Maryland. The system is sponsoring studies based on information gathered, e.g., studies of anterior and posterior segment injuries. It is hoped that the centralized information system and the sponsored studies will generate knowledge which will further stimulate and channel research in areas of critical need.

Another goal of NETS is to standardize the care given at eye trauma centers. The information gathered and the studies sponsored may be used to validate methods of treatment in use and demonstrate the value of new methods and procedures. This leads to the final goal of education. An annual course on eye trauma is being held each year in a different location which focuses on new knowledge and areas of study to be explored further.

The University of Iowa is helping to provide information to the registry. The UI Department of Ophthalmology now has an exam lane in the UI Emergency Treatment Center dedicated to the treatment of emergency eye trauma patients.

Eye trauma will be one of the areas focused upon at the 1989 annual Iowa Eye Association meeting to be held June 8-10 in Iowa City.
Dr. Richard McKay to Receive Alumni Award

Dr. Richard McKay of Waterloo, Iowa, has been selected as a 1989 Distinguished Alumni Award recipient by The University of Iowa Alumni Association. The award will be presented at the All-Alumni Luncheon on Saturday, June 3, 1989.

Dr. McKay, who received his BA (1952) and MD (1956) from The University of Iowa and completed his ophthalmology residency at the UI in 1963, has been an active, unselfish, and enthusiastic supporter of The University of Iowa. He was instrumental in raising gifts and pledges for the Frederick C. Bland Professorship. He has been a member of the UI Foundation Board of Directors for ten years, as well as the Executive Committee. For five years, he served on former President Willard Boyd’s Committee on University Outreach. He was an active member of the national committees for the Health Sciences Library Campaign and the Hawkeye Arena/Recreation Campaign, and a dedicated volunteer on every capital campaign effort undertaken by the Foundation. He is also a member the Presidents Club, an organization that honors the University’s most generous supporters, of which he was chairman during 1982-83. He and his wife, Donna McMahon McKay, are both active lifetime members of The University of Iowa Alumni Association. Dr. McKay is currently serving on the National Committee for the Iowa Endowment 2000 Campaign.

Dr. McKay is an active participant of the monthly clinical conferences held in the UI Department of Ophthalmology, and this past spring was overwhelmingly voted in as President-Elect of the Iowa Eye Association.

Richard McKay, MD

Dr. Alexander Smith Appointed

Dr. Alexander Smith, who completed his residency at The University of Iowa Department of Ophthalmology in 1976, has been selected for a three-year term on the Board of Directors of the UI Alumni Association.

Dr. Smith received his BS degree from the University of Florida, Gainesville, in 1965. He was awarded his MD degree from the University of Miami, Miami, Florida, in 1970. After completing his residency training at the UI, he practiced ophthalmology in Springfield, Missouri for a short while and then came to Cedar Rapids, Iowa to set up his own private practice eleven years ago. He served for a number of years on the Iowa Society for Prevention of Blindness.

Dr. Smith, his wife Sally, and 2 children reside in Cedar Rapids.
Iowa Eye Association

The Iowa Eye Association will hold its annual meeting June 8-10, 1989, at the Holiday Inn and The University of Iowa in Iowa City. Guest speakers include Douglas A. Jabs, MD, Baltimore, Maryland, who will present "Basic Immunology for the Ophthalmologist," "Ocular Manifestations of Sarcoidosis," and "Ocular Manifestations of AIDS;" and David J. Schanzlin, MD, St. Louis, Missouri, who will present "Intercapsular Phacoemulsification and Accommodative Approaches to Intraocular Lenses," "Intracorneal Ring," and "Wound Healing and refractive Surgery." The 9th Braley Lecture, "Clarifying the Blur," will be given by Melvin L. Rubin, MD, Gainesville, Florida. General areas of discussion will include amblyopia, ocular trauma, and AIDS.

For further information, contact Marlys Bartling, Department of Ophthalmology, 319/356-2780.

Iowa Eye Nursing Conference

The Iowa Eye Nursing Conference, "Diagnostic Examinations in Ophthalmology," will be held in conjunction with the Iowa Eye Association Meeting at the Highlander Inn, Highway 1 & I-80, in Iowa City on Friday, June 9, 1989. The meeting is being sponsored by The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics and the Departments of Nursing and Ophthalmology. The program is open to RNs/LPNs and other health care providers who participate in the care of the ophthalmic patient. Continuing education credits will be offered. Immediately following the program at 2:35 pm, the Iowa Eye Chapter of ASORN business meeting will be held.

For more information, contact Jean Hill, RN, Department of Ophthalmology, 319/356-2853.
Kisses in the Library

Libraries are struggling for survival. The situation is exacerbated by budgetary restraints, the proliferation of printed material and sky-rocketing costs. The problems are not unique. Libraries all over the country, including the National Library, have had to reduce hours, trim staff, and cut subscriptions. The cost of many periodicals has become prohibitively expensive. University libraries have been forced to cut back drastically on the purchase of books and omit infrequently used periodicals from the catalog.

In spite of this dismal picture, we decided to embark on an ambitious project to renovate the C.S. O'Brien Resource and Learning Center, initially constructed in 1971. The newly remodeled facility will be unveiled for alumni and friends at the annual Iowa Eye meeting. The library will have a set of computer terminals for word processing, bibliographic searches through a national database, on-line contact with The University of Iowa Library catalog through OASIS - a touch screen interactive video disk system; and a seminar/conference room.

In the past few months, many alumni and friends have responded to our request for support of the O'Brien Library. A recent alumnus sent a check for $1000 and a letter which said that he had fond memories of the library, not only because it was a quiet place to study, but because it was one of the first places he kissed his wife. I wrote him saying I wish I had $1000 for every kiss.

For other graduates, the C.S. O'Brien Library arouses memories of long hours preparing for seminars, residency interviews seated next to a large conference table surrounded by the faculty, a brief nap while on call, a break to watch the Hawkeyes on TV, or studying for boards. Whatever nostalgia you have, I am sure you will agree the library is a source of pride for all those associated with the department and an invaluable resource for our faculty and staff.

Alumni and friends of the Department of Ophthalmology have been among the most loyal supporters of the university. Your generosity has not gone unnoticed by the president, the dean, and The University of Iowa Foundation administration. Even other department chairmen have expressed their admiration. The C.S. O'Brien Resource and Learning Center renovation will be further testament to the strength of our program and its distinguished alumni.

If you would like to join us in this exciting campaign, we would be grateful for your assistance and will acknowledge your support in a future issue of this newsletter. Contributions of $1000 or more will be acknowledged on a plaque in the C.S. O'Brien Library. For a tax deductible contribution of $100 of more, an ex libris with the inscription of your choice will be placed in one of our library books. No questions asked!

Looking forward to seeing you at the annual Iowa Eye meeting.

Thomas A. Weingeist

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