By now, you should have received the program for the annual Iowa Eye Association Meeting scheduled for June 4-6, 1992, in Iowa City. We expect a large turnout. The program for the symposium honoring our mentor and friend, Dr. Robert C. Watzke, is outstanding.

Due to the extraordinary generosity of our alumni and friends, the Robert C. Watzke Vitreoretinal Research Fund has received over $600,000 in gifts and pledges and continues to grow.

Bob and Lonnie are excited about returning to Iowa City, so please make plans to see them and join in the festivities. We expect the renovation of the Retina Clinic will be nearly complete. There will be an unveiling of a plaque in honor of Bob and those who contributed to the research fund. Everyone who registers for the meeting will receive a hand-printed poster commemorating the occasion. This is an event you won't want to miss.

"Thomas A. Weingeist"
LOUISE A. MAWN, who received her MD degree from The Bowman Gray School of Medicine at Wake-Forest University, was born in Massachusetts. She received her BA degree in chemistry/english from Duke University in 1985. While studying at Duke, she participated in an exchange program with Oxford in the study of English. She also studied creative writing at Harvard and chemistry at Tufts. Dr. Mawn completed her transitional internship at Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem, North Carolina, this past July; she then moved to Iowa City and has been finishing a manuscript for publication. She previously published an article in *J Pediatr Ophthalmol Strabismus*.

ROBIN D. ROSS received her MD degree from Cornell University in 1990 and her BA in English/creative writing from Stanford in 1985. She has published a book, *Watchmen for the Morning in the Land of Alphabet Soup*, and continues to pursue creative writing. She completed a pediatric internship at the University of Michigan in July.

Dr. Ross’s adventuresome spirit led her to work for the US Public Health Service as a pediatrician on the Fort Belknap Indian Reservation in Montana before beginning her residency.

MARK E. MORIN completed his MD/PhD at Stanford in 1990. He was born and grew up in Maine and received his BA degree in chemistry and physics from Colby College in Waterville, Maine, in 1980. He earned an MS degree in physiology from Stanford in 1986. He has taught at Stanford in physiology and medicine, and his research has resulted in numerous publications. He completed a transitional internship in Marshfield, Wisconsin, in July, and has been writing and completing research projects since moving to West Branch, Iowa.

DOROTHY V. (DONNA) BAUTISTA, Pediatric Ophthalmology Fellow, graduated from medical school at Memorial University of Newfoundland in 1985. She also received a BSc in chemistry from Memorial University in 1981, and completed a rotating internship there in 1986. She then pursued residency training in anatomic pathology for one year at the University of Toronto and in internal medicine for one year back at Memorial University. She completed her ophthalmology training at McGill University in 1991. She has produced 5 publications thus far in her career.

Dr. Bautista was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, but grew up in St. John’s, Newfoundland.

ADITYA V. MISHRA, Neuro-ophthalmology Fellow, is a 1984 (continued on page 5)
GRADUATES

Three residents and one fellow completed training in the department at the end of December 1991. **Barbara E. Evans, MD**, has joined the general ophthalmology practice of Fingerman and Versakas in Des Moines, Iowa, beginning February 1, 1992.

**A. Tim Johnson, MD, PhD**, will remain at The University of Iowa working on the Glaucoma Service and pursuing research until July 1992. He will then go to The University of Michigan to take up a fellowship in glaucoma.

**Gregg T. Lueder, MD**, plans a fellowship in pediatric ophthalmology at the University of Toronto beginning July 1992. In the meantime, he is practicing ophthalmology in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, with Drs. Steven Jacobs and Alexander Smith.

**Arlene Drack, MD**, completed a fellowship in pediatric ophthalmology in December. She is remaining at the UI to pursue research in collaboration with Dr. Edwin Stone.

NEW FACULTY AND STAFF

**Catherine A. Mittelberg, OD**, recently joined the department in Contact Lens and Low Vision. Dr. Mittelberg graduated from the Illinois College of Optometry, Chicago, in May 1990. During her college years, she was the recipient of numerous honors including the CIBA Vision Contact Lens Achievement Award, the ASSCO Student Endowment Award, and the Meritorious Clinical Performance Award. She previously worked at Getman Optical in Iowa City.

Dr. Mittelberg is married to Kent Mittelberg, MD, who is a resident in Urology at The University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics.

**Michael Wall, MD**, has joined the staff in Neuro-Ophthalmology. He has been appointed Associate Professor of Neurology and has a joint appointment in Ophthalmology. Dr. Wall received his MD and BS degrees from Tulane University in New Orleans. He completed his internship and a residency at Tulane and a fellowship at Harvard Medical School, Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary and Massachusetts General Hospital. Prior to coming to Iowa, he was on the faculty at Tulane. His special interests include the application of visual physiology and neural networks to clinical visual testing.

Dr. Wall is married to Susan Wall, MD, a dermatologist, who is in private practice in Iowa City. They have 2 sons.

NURSES ELECTED TO NATIONAL OFFICES

**Sarah Smith, RN, BS**, was elected to the national Board of Directors for the American Society of Ophthalmic Registered Nurses (ASORN) at their annual meeting in October 1991, at Anaheim, California. She will serve as Annual Meeting Program Director, being responsible for designing programs for the annual meetings in Dallas and Chicago in 1992 and 1993, respectively. The annual meetings are 4-day events which offer 75 hours of continuing nursing education credit to participants.

Other University of Iowa Department of Ophthalmology nurses elected to office were as follows:

- **Marcia Hert, RN, BSN** - Program Committee and Chair of Standards and Guidelines Nursing Practice Committee.

**Jean Hill, RN** - Chair of Informational Exhibit Committee.

**Jill Fishbaugh, RN, BSN, and Deborah Strike, RN, BSN** - Continuing Nursing Education Approver Committee.

**Jill Fishbaugh, RN, BSN** - Editorial Board of Insight (ASORN journal).
Dr. Lee Alward was recently notified that The Glaucoma Foundation has approved $5000 in funding for his research proposal "Linkage Analysis of Autosomal Dominant Juvenile Glaucoma Using the Candidate Gene Approach."

Dr. Christopher Blodi left the department for private practice in Des Moines beginning March 1992.

Dr. Jay Krachner recently received the Eye Bank Association of America's R. Townley Paton, MD, Award in recognition of his dedication and service to the eye banking community. The award honors ophthalmologists exemplifying the precepts of R. Townley Paton, the father of modern eye banking and founder of the first American eye bank.

Dr. Randy Kardon has received a $15,000 VAMC instrument grant to design a new dual-channel pupillometer.

Dr. William Scott has been awarded a one-year $10,000 grant from the National Eye Institute for the study of treatment of congenital esotropia.

Laser Surgery in Ophthalmology: A Practical Approach, edited by Thomas A. Weingeist and Scott Sneed, was recently published by Appleton and Lange.

The Lattner Foundation has contributed $50,000 to the department in support of AIDS research. The award is in honor of Jonathan Chua, PhD, MD, who finished his residency in 1973 at UIHC, and is now in practice in Boynton Beach, Florida. Dr. Chua serves as a research consultant for the Lattner Foundation.

SELECTED FACULTY PUBLICATIONS - 1991

*Bold print indicates faculty member.


(continued on page 8)
KIMURA RECEIVES PHELPS AWARD

Dr. Alan Kimura, assistant professor (Vitreoretinal Service) and director of the Electrophysiology Laboratory, was awarded the 1991 Charles D. Phelps Research Award. Dr. Kimura was chosen by a senior faculty committee in recognition of his many active collaborative efforts in research: retinal blood flow and electrophysiology in newborn piglets; electrophysiology of retinal vascular occlusion; ophthalmic complications of bone marrow transplantation; retinal changes in facio-ocular syndrome; dystrophy; familial exudative vitreoretinopathy; optic nerve function in cystic fibrosis; ophthalmic complications of hyperbaric oxygen, optic neuritis treatment trial, autosomal dominant neovascular inflammatory vitreoretinopathy; krypton-argon regression of neovascularization study; and the macular photoagulation study. In addition to his many research interests, Dr. Kimura carries a full patient load in the clinic and in surgery, and is a vital part of the teaching program within the department.

Dr. Kimura was appointed to the UI faculty in 1989. He completed his residency in ophthalmology at The University of Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary in Chicago, a vitreoretinal fellowship at The University of Iowa, and a clinical electrophysiology fellowship at the University of Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary.

The Phelps Award was established in 1989 as a tribute to Dr. Charles D. Phelps for his outstanding contributions and his interest in education, patient care, and research. Previous recipients are Dr. Lee Alward and Dr. Jose Pulido.

NEW FELLOW
(continued from page 2)

medical school graduate of Dalhousie University, Halifax, Nova Scotia. Dr. Mishra also completed an internship, an ocular pathology residency and a clinical ophthalmology residency at Dalhousie. More recently, he has been in private practice in Halifax (1990) and in Moncton, New Brunswick (1991). A citizen of Canada, Dr. Mishra was born in Pilani, India. He is married and has one child.

ALUMNI NOTES

OBITUARIES

Philip Knapp, MD, 1951 graduate of The University of Iowa Ophthalmology Residency Training Program and internationally known expert in strabismus, died recently in New York. During his career, he made many original observations in strabismus management and devised ingenious new surgical procedures now known and used worldwide. During World War II, he was a Navy commander in the Pacific. He built his ophthalmology career as a professor of ophthalmology at Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center in New York, and as director of the Harkness Institute and Fight For Sight Children's Eye Clinic at Columbia University.

Surviving are two sons, John and Philip; a daughter, Susan; and a sister, Elizabeth Knapp.

(The above information was taken from an obituary written by Arthur Jam Polsky, MD, in The Journal of Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus, November/December 1991.)

Charles H. Coughlan, MD, who received his medical education (1931) and residency training in ophthalmology (1939) and oto-maxillofacial surgery (1936) from The University of Iowa, died January 15, 1992, in Fort Dodge, Iowa. Dr. Coughlan was retired from private practice in Fort Dodge. He is survived by his wife, Mrs. Grace E. Coughlan.

Pinar Aydin Kirkali, MD, fellow in Neuro-ophthalmology from December 1989 through December 1990, recently passed the Associate Professorship in Ophthalmology Examination at Hacettepe University Hospitals and Clinics in Ankara, Turkey. In addition, a Best Poster Presentation Award was given for "Mapping of Pupil Fields with Automated Pupil Perimetry" by Drs. Kirkali, Randy Kardon, and HS Thompson, at the XXV National Ophthalmology Conference in Istanbul, September 1991.
Ophthalmology is coming under fire. Although we constitute only 3% of physicians, we receive over 10% of Medicare reimbursements, and our incomes rank among the highest of specialists. This has not made us popular with other medical doctors who often view ophthalmologists as being less than other physicians and surgeons.

The RBRVS is designed to reduce medical costs and rectify inequities in reimbursement. Ophthalmologists are expected to face 40% reductions in reimbursement. It remains to be seen whether other physicians and the public will benefit from these changes.

The public’s image of ophthalmology is unclear and is being blurred more by legislation. State and federal legislators are expanding medical care by nonphysician providers, but ophthalmologists are not the only physicians affected.

The public now accepts healthcare from optometrists, podiatrists, chiropractors, nurse anesthetists, physician assistants, psychologists, nurse-midwives and others.

In my opinion, there is no doubt that it is in the best public interest for physicians to lead the healthcare team, and there are no more qualified physicians to lead the team of vision care providers than ophthalmologists. The Veterans Administration apparently thinks otherwise. The central VA is led by a chief of medicine, a chief of surgery — to which ophthalmologists report, and a chief of optometry. Charles Mullen, OD, Chief of Optometry, has been authorized to place more than 30 optometrists in Veterans Administration Medical Centers across the country. Under the proposed plan, optometry units will function independently as the “primary eye care providers” and will work alongside ambulatory care physicians. “Residents” in optometry will gain further training under the optometrist in charge of the unit. Changes in credentialing being considered will include privileges to admit patients, order radiologic and other imaging studies, prescribe medicines, administer injectables, and perform laser surgery. To entice medical schools with VA medical centers to participate in this far-reaching program, the central office of the VA is offering salaries for optometrists, renovation of facilities, and equipment including excimer lasers valued at nearly $1.5 million. Is it any wonder that at least one chairman has shown more than an interest in supporting an independent optometry unit which will be affiliated with a college of optometry?

*Thomas A. Weingeist*

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**THE RETINA CREW**

(Left to right, front row: Jose Pulido, James Folk, Alan Kimura; back row: Christopher Blodi, Edwin Stone, Thomas Weingeist)

The tearing down of the old retina clinic area is now done, and the re-design and rebuilding is fast nearing completion. The newly remodeled area should be completed and ready for use by July or August 1992.
1992
Friday Clinical Conferences & Professional Meetings

April 3  Cornea; Michael Cobo, MD - Duke University

May 2-9  ARVO

June 4, 5, & 6  IOWA EYE ASSOCIATION
              Robert C. Watzke Symposium
              (Iowa Memorial Union)

June 5  Nurse / Technician Conference - Ophthalmic Update "92"
        (Highlander Inn)

NEWS OR COMMENTS?
We welcome news of interest to your colleagues and old friends, as well as comments on our newsletter.

Name: ____________________________________________

Address: __________________________________________

                         Telephone: _______________________

News or Comment: ___________________________________

____________________________________________________________________

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