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www.opt.indiana.edu
The School of Optometry continues to move forward

The School has greatly increased research activity that affect both the profession and patients. Dr. Rowan Candy’s research on the normal and abnormal vision development of infants and Dr. Don Lyon’s research with older children with amblyopia are contributing to how we examine and treat children. Dr. Sarita Soni performs studies on the development of myopia in children as well as orthokeratology to correct myopia. Drs. Ed Marshall and Rich Meetz work with the Indiana State Department of Health analyzing school screening results for the schools in the state.

We have one of the strongest teams in the world in the area of optical aberration correction and imaging of the eye. Drs. Thibos, Bradley and colleagues are using adaptive optics to improve vision by correcting the aberrations of the eye. Drs. Miller, Burns and Elsner are able to obtain incredible images of individual retinal cells, which is important in diagnosing and treating macular degeneration and diabetic retinopathy. Dr. Elsner is also designing inexpensive, high resolution retinal imaging equipment that can be used in the field.

The School has a very strong group of faculty working in the area of glaucoma and related retinal problems. Dr. Suresh Viswanathan uses advanced electroretinogram techniques to study retinal function in glaucoma. He uses the same techniques to understand the basic physiology and ageing of the retina that applies to patients with macular degeneration and diabetic retinopathy. Dr. S.P. Srinivas studies the contractibility of trabecular meshwork cells that are involved in controlling the intraocular pressure. Dr. Bill Swanson uses psychophysical methods, such as advance visual field testing procedures, to diagnose and follow treatment regimes for retinal diseases, particularly glaucoma. Dr. Vic Malinovsky, Chief of our ocular disease clinic, works with many glaucoma patients who are involved in the studies.

Drs. Bonanno and Srinivas conduct basic studies on the physiology of the cornea as well as clinically related topics of the effects of contact lenses and surgery on the cornea. Dr. Carolyn Begley studies the widespread problem of dry eye and tear film dynamics. Dr. Pete Kollbaum conducts studies related to contact lens wear and optical properties of contact lens designs.

One benchmark of the growth of the research program is the growth in external research funding. The following graph shows the change in annual external research expenditures by the optometry faculty over the last 10 years. During this time period the number of staff hired on grants went from 4.5 FTE to over 20 FTE, a real addition to the economy of the state.

Indiana University will be going through accreditation this coming academic year. For university accreditations examiners pick a theme, and the theme this year is internationalization.

To be an outstanding university one must be involved on an international level. Our Guanajuato, Mexico clinic moved into a new location this year as the Department of Infant and Family (DIF) of
the state government raised approximately one million dollars to build a new vision care center which was dedicated on July 4th. In addition to the Mexico clinic, the School of Optometry has been active in other international locations. We continue to work with Ramkhamhaeng University to develop the first optometry program in Thailand; our faculty travel to Bangkok to teach. We also have students from Ramkhamhaeng University training at IU to return to teach in their program. We also have students from the optometry program at the Hogeschool Van Utrecht program in the Netherlands come to the IU School of Optometry for clinical experience. We currently have three IU optometry students doing a clinical rotation at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University and the eye hospital in Guangzhou, China. We are considering initiating an educational program in Hong Kong for graduates of the Hong Kong and similar programs. We also have graduate students from multiple countries.

Student members of the IU Fellowship of Christian Optometrists and VOSH annually take mission trips to Honduras and Mexico to provide vision care.

The School of Optometry continues to provide services to those in need in Indiana. The Eye Care Community Outreach (ECCO) program in central Indiana provides vision and health care to thousands of those without insurance or means to obtain care. We also provide similar care to those in need in Bloomington and in rural southern Indiana through our rural clinic program.

We are excited about the development of a new Bloomington campus teaching clinic. Due to the increased research funding and personnel we are in dire need of more space. We will be totally renovating and enlarging a building across the parking lot from the optometry building on Third Street which will be more visible and accessible. It will provide more clinical space, improved care to more patients and also allow enhanced instruction to our students. When the new clinic is completed, the present clinic will be used for patient/subject based research.

I invite all of our alumni and friends of the School of Optometry to visit anytime you can to see our progress. I thank all of you who have helped us move forward. I encourage you to periodically look at our web site which contains a large amount of information on our faculty, students and programs (www.opt.indiana.edu).
The Indiana University School of Optometry’s Centro de Rehabilitación Visual, located between Silao and Guanajuato in Mexico, dedicated its new, $1 million facility designated for its use by Mexican state officials during a ceremony held on July 4, 2006.

The clinic, known in Indiana as the Guanajuato Eye Care Center, operates in conjunction with the state of Guanajuato’s Department of Infants and Family (DIF). Since 2000, it has served the indigent population by providing vision care and services at little or no cost to patients.

The new facility includes expanded exam areas, an eyewear center, an edging laboratory, an ophthalmology office and a surgical suite.

"We were seeing a lot of patients, and the president of DIF was so pleased with us that they raised the money to build this new facility," said Dean Gerald Lowther. "Our previous clinic was just four exam rooms and a reception area, so the new facility will give us a much better opportunity to care for the patients."

The staff at the center includes director and optometry professor Jennifer Page and four optometry students who serve 12-week rotations. The IU team will work with a local ophthalmologist and staff whose positions are funded through DIF. "We are hoping to actually double the daily patient load from 50 to 100 or more," Page said. "The new facility will have a significant impact on the greater Guanajuato state because the new location and combination of optometry and ophthalmology will lead DIF to transport more economically challenged patients to our clinic for eye care."

Future plans for the center include offering more cataract surgery as well as other specialized eye operations. Page said she hopes to expand collaborations with other optometry and ophthalmology schools around the world.

The Centro de Rehabilitación Visual is also the site of an annual week-long student trip as part of Volunteer Optometrists for Service to Humanity (VOSH), during which more than 3,000 patients receive vision examinations.

"This clinic provides the students with a unique clinical experience, and as importantly, a great cultural experience," Lowther said. "Following the rotation the students have a better understanding of the culture and are able to perform vision examinations in Spanish."

Before Centro de Rehabilitación Visual, space in Guanajuato’s General Hospital had been remodeled to provide four complete examination lanes, special testing area, reception area, dispensing space, and an office for the IU School of Optometry Eye Care Center during the fall and winter of 1999. Used, donated, and some new equipment was shipped to Guanajuato in December 1999.

Clinica Optometrica, a year-round teaching clinic, was opened in 2000. The first 4th-year optometry student clinical rotation to the Mexico clinic began in February 2000.

An edging lab was established in 2003. The IU School of Optometry transported approximately $30,000 worth (replacement value) of equipment to Guanajuato to set up the lab. Around 30,000 pairs of lenses have been donated by Essilor, Ocean Optical, and Spectera. VOSH Indiana has donated a significant number (approximately 6,000) of frames.
Mexico
IOA Optometrist of the Year
Dr. Edwin Mars
Dr. Edwin C. Marshall, Professor and Associate Dean in the IU School of Optometry and Adjunct Professor of Public Health in the IU School of Medicine, was honored at the Indiana Optometric Association banquet on April 29th as the IOA Optometrist of the Year. This is a great honor recognizing his many achievements not only within the IOA and Indiana but also his national and international reputation for his work in public health. Dr. Marshall is a past president of both the Indiana Public Health Association and the Indiana Optometric Association.

He is also the past Chair of the Executive Board of the American Public Health Association (APHA). The APHA is the oldest and largest organization of public health professionals in the world, representing more than 50,000 members from over 50 occupations of public health.

Dr. Marshall is on numerous boards and advisory councils such as the State Diabetes Health System Advisory Group, Minority Health Advisory Committee and the Chronic Disease Advisory Council of the Indiana State Department of Health; Indiana Area Health Education Centers; Professional Advisory Council of Prevent Blindness Indiana; and the Bloomington Hospital & Healthcare System Executive Committee.

In April of 2005 he was the recipient of the “Distinguished Hoosier” Award from the Office of the Governor. He was recently appointed as Advisor to the Interagency State Council on Black and Minority Health by Governor Mitch Daniels and State Health Commissioner Judith Monroe.
New Faculty Members

Dr. Stephen Burns received his PhD in Biophysics from The Ohio State University in 1977. He held academic positions in Ophthalmology at the University of Pittsburgh and Harvard University Medical School. He was an Associate Scientist at the Eye Research Institute from 1987-1992 and a Senior Scientist from 1992-2004. He also served as Associate Director of Schepens Eye Research Institute. Dr. Burns has served on the Visual Science C Study Section, and is currently the Editor of The Journal of the Optical Society of America, A.

Dr. Burns’ main research interests are in color vision, with an emphasis on human cone function in health and disease. In recent years he has concentrated on optical measurements of cone waveguide properties and how they interact with the optical quality of the eye. He is currently using adaptive optics imaging to investigate the retina. He has received patents for work in both wavefront sensing and in imaging.

Dr. Ann Elsner returns to Bloomington after a ‘few’ years absence. She received her BA from Indiana University, MA and PhD from the University of Oregon and did two post doc fellowships – one at the University of Chicago and one at the University of Pittsburgh. Most recently she has been a senior scientist the Schepen’s Eye Institute, associated with Harvard University and Associate Professor at the Harvard University School of Medicine. She has had continuous NIH funding for over 16 years. Her areas of study bridge the gap between laboratory research and clinical research, as she studies non-invasive assessment of the visual function, vision in aging, age related macular degeneration, ocular disease and new imaging techniques that help to diagnose those problems.
**Dr. Tiffenie Harris** is the school’s newest Assistant Clinical Professor, serving the school in training future optometrists in the clinical setting. Dr. Harris received her BA degree from Indiana University in 1989 and her OD degree from Indiana University in 1995. After graduation, Dr. Harris worked in a variety of urban practice settings including a multi-discipline medical center. In 2004, she joined the IU School of Optometry as an Assistant Clinical Professor and became Chief of Primary Care. Her responsibilities include the clinical training and teaching of third year optometry interns emphasizing treatment and management of ocular pathology, contact lenses, as well as refractive anomalies. Dr. Harris also works as a staff Optometrist at the IU Health Center.

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**Dr. Nicholas Port** completed his undergraduate training at NYU’s Center for Neural Science (1990) and completed his pre-graduate training at the Centre for Cognitive Neuroscience at Oxford University (1991). He received his Ph.D. in Neuroscience from the University of Minnesota in 1997 and did his postdoctoral training at the Laboratory for Sensorimotor Research at the National Eye Institute.

Dr. Port’s research interests are centered on using the visual-saccadic system as a model for how the nervous system processes sensory information and produces action. His laboratory is currently following two lines of research. The first line studies the underlying neurophysiology of how we maintain a stable visual world while the nervous system scans the visual world with saccadic eye movements every third of a second. The second line of research tests whether mathematical models of information processing and decision-making accurately describe the underlying neurophysiological computations.

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**Dr. Bill Swanson** received his Ph.D. in Biophysics and Theoretical Biology in 1984 from the University of Chicago, where he also completed a postdoctoral fellowship in Ophthalmology and Visual Science from 1984-1987. From 1987 to 1999 he performed clinically-oriented research on a range of eye diseases at the Retina Foundation of the Southwest in Dallas, TX, where he became a Senior Research Scientist and Assistant Research Director. In 1999 Dr. Swanson moved to SUNY State College of Optometry in New York, where his research focused exclusively on glaucoma, and he achieved the rank of full Professor in 2002. In 2006 Dr. Swanson joined the faculty at Indiana University School of Optometry, while maintaining collaborations with clinical researchers at SUNY.

Dr. Swanson received the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Research in 2001 and the SUNY Chancellor’s Award for Excellence in Scholarship and Creative Activities in 2005.
After spending twenty-eight years impacting and interacting with students and seeing a lot of changes, Jackie Olson retired from the Office of Student of Administration on October 31, 2006. Jackie served the School as Associate Director of Student Services, aiding the Optician/Technician and Vision Science students.

We wish Jackie well in her new adventure and hope that she gets to spend a lot of time traveling to see her grandchildren, visiting her native Maine and tending to her prized roses.

Thank you, Jackie!

Theresa Seeley is the new Manager of clinical business Operations, working with the clinics staff and clinic directors to collaboratively improve operational systems that improve efficiency and patient care. She has spent a lot of her time implementing new patient care software for clinic billing, scheduling and hopefully records. She also oversees administrative and personnel functions and completes all credentialing functions. Before coming to IU, Theresa spent 13 years as Health Care Administrator of continuing care retirement communities, nursing care facilities and assisted living centers in Indiana and Florida. She and her husband Steve, live near Columbus, Indiana, on a small farm where they raise, ride and train gaited trail horses, Tennessee Walking and Kentucky Mountain Horses. She also enjoy camping and riding in the summer.

Bill Kersey recently joined the School of Optometry as the Clinical Services Administrator for CECC. He comes to us after completing nearly 20 years of service in state government, where he worked with underprivileged youth, the delivery of medical services to the incarcerated, human resource management and oversight of information management systems. Bill is an IU graduate and holds a license to teach social studies in Indiana. Bill met Rea, his wife of 20 years, at IU as undergraduates and they have been residents of Bloomington ever since. They have two small boys who are very dedicated fisherman. During spring fishing season, nothing with gills is safe from their exuberant and tenacious effort!
Andrea Waldbieser joined the Office of Student Administration in October 2006, following Jackie Olson’s retirement. Andrea was anxious about following a person whose tenure as the Associate Director of Student Services was long and well respected. She found the faculty and staff of the School of Optometry to be very welcoming and easy to work with, making the transition less difficult than she anticipated. As the Associate Director of Student Services, Andrea wears many hats including admissions counselor and academic advisor for the School’s degree programs (A.S., O.D., and the M.S./Ph.D. in Vision Science).

Andrea was the Coordinator of Admissions and Financial Aid for graduate programs at the IU School of Public and Environmental Affairs for 13 years. In December, Andrea completed a Masters degree in School Counseling from IU. She and husband Brian live on a farm near Mitchell, IN, with their 2 1/2 year old daughter, Briley. Andrea also volunteers with the 4-H youth programs and serves as President of the Lawrence County Extension Board.

Joe Boes joined the School of Optometry on February 7th as Associate Director for Recruitment & Marketing. He has been employed by IU for 15 years, most of which was spent at the Kelley School of Business as Assistant Director of Undergraduate Programs and lastly as Assistant Director of Development for Corporate & Foundation Relations. He is pleased to be associated with our school as he has missed working in student administration. His position takes him all over the nation and Canada recruiting top students to our OD program. He has implemented an Ambassador Program of OD students to facilitate recruitment efforts of the School by giving tours of our facility, hosting at various events and interacting with prospective candidates and their families. He has also assisted in the development of new marketing materials to attract underrepresented minorities to our optometry program. He looks forward to the challenges in attracting students to our highly regarded program.

Paula Jarrard, OTR, is the school’s new educational consultant the Vision Information Processing in the Binocular Vision/Pediatrics clinic. Paula is an occupational therapist with experience in both medical and educational arenas, having worked for the Monroe County School Corporation for several years. She is now in charge of our visual information processing assessments and therapy and hopes to integrate occupational therapy programming in order to provide more comprehensive services to both pediatric and acquired brain injury adult patients. Paula is interested in public education and promoting the importance of vision care and the relationship between vision and learning. A grandmother of two, Paula shares her country life with her husband, horse, dogs, and cats. She teaches line dancing and likes hiking, horse riding, traveling out west, gardening, and arts and crafts.
The American Optometric Association (AOA) has a 28 year old tradition of providing sports vision evaluations at various sporting events around the nation and world. These evaluations have taken place at the Olympics, National Sports Festivals, Olympic Festivals as well as various professional and semi-professional sporting events. In 1994, Dr. Steve Hitzeman in conjunction with the AOA Sports Vision Section, developed a program of sports vision evaluations at the AAU Junior Olympic Games. He has been the chair of this program for the AOA since that time.

From July 25-29, 2006, Dr. Hitzeman, Director of Clinics and past chair of the AOA Sports Section, took optometry students to the AAU Junior Olympic Game in Hampton Roads, Virginia to examine athletes and identify visual problems that could potentially limit athletic performance. The students who accompanied him on the trip were Jodie Bierstedt, Kim Covington, Jen Hacker, Drew Hoffman, Tyler Hudson, Natalie Lambert, Kristen Offerman and Mark Sturm.

The Indiana University students are joined with other sports vision specialists from around the country, several of whom have worked with college and professional athletes. These optometrists spent three days of sports vision education, discussion, and evaluations that was a powerful educational experience for all participants. They tested vision skills such as visual acuity, eye-hand coordination, binocular vision, tracking and fixation, visual reaction time, and balance. The goal of this program is to identify potential performance limiting visual skills and educate athletes on how to correct or enhance these visual skills. These visual skills are critical to successful sports performance and fortunately can be enhanced through visual enhancement training. Many of the athletes screened have never had a complete eye examination and many more were three years overdue for their exams. A major part of the program is to educate athletes, coaches, trainers, and parents on the importance of vision to athletic performance and the need for regular eye exams to maintain good visual health as well as to counsel them on proper protective eye wear!
The White Coat Ceremony has its tradition in allopathic medical schools, and was initiated in 1993 at Columbia University. Since that time, it has gained popularity on many health profession campuses, including osteopathic medicine, dentistry, pharmacy, and optometry.

The ceremony is designed to establish a psychological contract for health professions students that stresses the importance of "caring" as a significant aspect of healing and serving patients. It also serves to reinforce the importance of portraying a professional posture so that patients and their loved ones feel comfortable placing their trust in the intern’s hands.

Through the generous support of Vistakon, on February 18, 2006, the IU School of Optometry recognized the Class of 2008 in the annual White Coat Ceremony in the Hoosier Room, under the IU Stadium. Surrounded by family and friends, students were cloaked by Drs. Harris and Meetz as their names were called by Dr. Tonekaboni and then congratulated by Dean Lowther. This ceremonial gesture signifies the students entrance into the clinical phase of their education and recognition that they will begin seeing patients in the clinic.

Dr. Edwin Marshall, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Student Administration, shared the history of the White Coat Ceremony and the symbolism of the white coat. Keynote speaker for the evening was Dr. Michael Jones, Executive Director for the American Optometric Association.

Special guests for the evening were: Dr. Christina Schnider, Director of Academic Affairs for Vistakon and Dr. Walter Egenmaier, Secretary-Treasurer of the Indiana Optometric Association.

To close the evening students were led in the Optometric Oath by Dean Gerald Lowther. It was a wonderful evening of celebration and acknowledgment of the Class of 2008's accomplishments. A special thanks, again, to Vistakon for their financial generosity that made the event possible, and to the family and friends of the Class of 2008 who have consistently provided encouragement and support.
Student Awards
Class of 2006

Alcon Scholarship Award for scholastic aptitude in the clinic, outstanding patient care and contact lens knowledge - Stacy Hufnagel (Evansville, IN)

AOA Advantage Award for demonstrated leadership and service to the School and community - Julie Ferguson (Madison, IN)

Jack W Bennett Humanitarian Award for leadership and service to the students - Misty Stevens (Harold, KY)

Beta Sigma Kappa Silver Medal Award for outstanding academic achievement - Dana McGuire (Hartland, WI)

COVD Award for Excellence in Vision Therapy for demonstrating a strong interest and aptitude in the area of vision therapy - Nicholas Garn (Columbus, IN)

John Davey Memorial Award for a paper of excellence on a clinical topic - Gina Borgnini (Westfield, IN), Jonna O’Connor (Atkinson, NE), and Emily Smith (Logansport, IN)

Roy G. Denny Award for a paper of excellence on a clinical topic - Brian VanDerPloeg (Danville, KY)

Eschenbach Low Vision Award for interest and proficiency in low vision patient care - Misty Stevens (Harold, KY)

Essilor Optical Corneal Reflection Pupilometer Award for excellence in dispensing - Kelly Robertson (Lincoln, NE)

William Feinbloom Low Vision Award for outstanding performance in the field of low vision - Scott Caughell (Logansport, IN)

Dr. Henry W Hofstetter Scholarship given to a 4th year for leadership and service to their class - Kelly Furniss (Martinsville, IN)

IUOSA Past President's Award in recognition of service to the students - Julie Ferguson (Madison, IN)

David J. Kerko Low Vision Award for a graduating low vision student demonstrating interest and exceptional clinical proficiency in the area of low vision - Christina Vu (South Bend, IN)

David H. Kolak O.D. Award to the top ranked student in the graduating class - Dana McGuire (Hartland, WI)

Marchon Eyewear Practice Management Award for outstanding dispensing skills - Tony Wagler (Loogootee, IN)

LWW Vision Care New OD Scholarship for good patient communication and patient care skills - Jonna O’Connor (Atkinson, NE)

Vistakon Award of Excellence given by Vistakon and the American Optometric Foundation for excellence in clinical contact lens patient care and a commitment to serve the individual needs of patients - Robert Sparrenberger (Evansville, IN)

Wal-Mart Scholarship based on professional goals and need - Darcy Duzan (Oakland, IL)

E. F. Wildermuth Foundation Scholarship awarded to an incoming student, renewable annually if in good academic standing - Larrious Collins (Monticello, MS)
**Student Awards**

**Class of 2007**

**ACUVUE Eye Health Advisor Student Citizenship Award** awarded for excellence in patient care and service - Morgan Finney (Evansville, IN)

**AOA Student Leadership Award** awarded to a student who has demonstrated leadership abilities through student government participation. Must also be a member of the AOA and be in good academic standing - Amber Manzell (Old Hickory, TN)

**AOA Dr. Patrick Cummings Award** for demonstrated leadership and service to the School and community - Jennifer Bowman (N. Tazewell, VA)

**AOF Rosemore Family Foundation Award** awarded to a second-year optometry student who demonstrates commitment to the field of optometry, academic achievement, and need - Lupe Meija (Ann Arbor, MI)

**Alice Bennett Indiana AFVA Scholarship** awarded to a third year optometry student who exhibits service to others - Jason Gray (Princeton, KY)

**Jack W. Bennett Endowed Scholarship** awarded to a student in good academic standing and demonstrates need - Lupe Meija (Ann Arbor, MI)

**Dr. Seymour Galina Grant** by the American Optometric Association for a winning paper on the following topic: "The qualities I have developed through my financial planning/work experience during and/or before optometry school which I believe will be most useful to me establishing an ethical/professional optometric practice." - Jen Weier (Platteville, WI)

**John Hitchcock Memorial Scholarship** awarded to a student who demonstrates excellence in teaching diagnostic skills - Eric Dale (Bloomington, IN)

**Kentucky Optometric Foundation Scholarship** awarded to KY resident student who holds a Kentucky contract seat and exhibits academic excellence and need - Matt Mooney (Nicholasville, KY)

**Rogers W. Reading Endowed Award** given to a student whose primary interest and/or area of study is binocular vision - Jennifer Bowman (N. Tazewell, VA)

**Dr. and Mrs. Lewis Scott Scholarship** awarded to a student demonstrating potential leadership skills within the profession - Jen Weier (Platteville, WI)

**Joseph Elmer Sidwell and Trula Sidwell Hardy Scholarship** for an outstanding paper on professional ethics - Jenny Wong - (Sioux Falls, SD)

**SOLAqust Ophthalmic Optics Scholar Award** to the student who best demonstrates knowledge and skill in ophthalmic optics - Heidi Lichtenberg - (Norfolk, NE)

**Brett A. Swanda, O.D. Scholarship** for an entering 4th year who demonstrates the professional and ethical ideals of the school and who best represents the attitude and work ethic of Brett Swanda - Michelle Frye (Mooresville, IN)

**Vision Service Plan Scholarship** awarded to third year student demonstrating excellence in primary eye care services - Morgan Finney (Evansville, IN) and Greg Hubbard (Ellettsville, IN)

**Varilux Student Grant Award** recognizes an outstanding case report that incorporates Varilux lenses - Jenny Wong (Sioux Falls, SD)

**Walman Optical Scholarship** awarded for academics, leadership, participation in school and community activities, and personal statement - Lupe Meija (Ann Arbor, MI)

**Wal-Mart Scholarship** based on professional goals and need - Lupe Meija (Ann Arbor, MI)

**E. F. Wildermuth Foundation Scholarship** awarded to an incoming student, renewable annually if in good academic standing - Shayla Sellars (Chicago, IL)
Second Year Optometry Awards (2008)

**Rosemore Family Foundation Endowed Award**
to an optometry student demonstrates commitment
to the field of optometry, academic achievement,
and financial need - **Melissa Schroeder**
(Urbandale, IA)

**Wal-Mart Scholarship** based on professional goals and
need - **Lisa Clary Sandell** (Wichita, KS)

**Walman Optical Scholarship** awarded for academ-
cics, leadership, participation in school and com-
munity activities, and personal statement - **Laryn
Adams** (Santa Claus, IN)

**E. F. Wildermuth Foundation Scholarship** awarded to
an incoming student, renewable annually if in good aca-
demic standing - **Idowii Awosika** (Gary, IN)

First Year Optometry Awards (2009)

**Jane Hofstetter Indiana AFVA Scholarship**
awarded to an outstanding first year optometry
student who exhibits service to others - **Monica
Bedroya** (Portage, IN)

**Student Indiana Optometric Association Awards:**
Diversified Ophthalmics Indiana - **Marie Schaaf**  
(Stuart, NE)

**Student Indiana Optometric Association Awards:**  
Bell-Duffens Optical - **Stacy Stiegelbauer**  
(Terre Haute, IN)

**Student Indiana Optometric Association Awards:**  
Walman Optical - **Jennifer Nance**  
(Evansville, IN)

Optometric Technology Awards

**Technician of the Year** awarded to the person who
demonstrates overall excellence in all areas as an opto-
meteric technician - **Magan Morton** (W. Lafayette, IN)

**Contact Lens Award** awarded to the person who displays
proficiency in clinical contact lens techniques and proced-
dures - **David Thompson** (Bloomington, IN)

**Optician of the Year** awarded to the person who demon-
strates overall excellence in all areas as an optician - 
**Kara Stokey** (Paxton, NE)

**Robert G. Corns Scholarship** awarded to full-time sec-
ond year student who is in good academic standing -  
**Karen Gormezano** (W. Bloomfield, MI) and **Kara Stokey**  
(Paxton, NE).

Profile of the Doctor of Optometry  
Class of 2010

A total of 75 students were selected from a pool of 371
for the class entering in August 2006. There are 36
Indiana residents, and 39 nonresidents from 17 other
states and 1 other country. There are 29 men and 46
women. The average age is 23 years old and the age
range is 22-32 years old.

Academic Statistics: The cumulative undergraduate
mean GPA* is 3.46 and the median GPA is 3.47. Ninety-
three percent of the class earned a bachelor’s degree
prior to entering the School of Optometry.

Optometry Admission Test Means: Biology: 318, 
Physics: 320, General Chemistry: 327, Organic
Chemistry: 327, Total Science: 325, Reading: 350,
Quantitative: 316, Academic Average: 324.

*Medians and means are used in this profile. The median is the middle measure; 
one-half of the scores are above and one-half are below this number. The mean
is the average measure.
Jenny Wong Receives National Recognition

Winning entries from every Optometry school in the nation submitted case studies in hopes of winning the national Varilux® Student Grant Award from Essilor of America. This year, the national winner was IU class of 2007 optometry student Jenny Wong. She wrote the winning case study, "New Progressive Addition Lens Design: Utilizing the Varilux Ipseo lens for Non-Adapt PAL Wearers." Judges reviewed all case studies based on criteria such as dispensing skills, application of Varilux lenses to the patient's needs, analysis of the care and analysis of the lens design and lens performance. Jenny’s faculty advisor on the case report was Dr. Kovacich.

"It is rewarding to know that students are learning about the applications and advancements that Varilux lenses offer patients," said Rodney Tahran, Vice President of professional relations and clinical affairs for Essilor. "Essilor has always been dedicated to empowering students studying Optometry. We know that supporting the educational process helps to prepare students to become the industry leaders of tomorrow."

Jenny received an all-expenses paid trip to the 109th Annual American Optometric Association (AOA) Congress and 35th Annual American Optometric Student Association (AOSA) held in Los Vegas, Nevada, in June 2006. She also received recognition at the annual AOA luncheon and the Varilux Optometry Super Bowl XIV.

Jennifer Weier Wins National AOA Seymour Galina Grant

The AOA Endowment Fund Advisory Committee announced Jennifer Weier as the Dr. Seymour Galina Grant recipient for 2006. The grant was established through a bequest from the late Seymour Galina, O.D., a long-time optometrist known for philanthropy; he and his wife dedicated much of their time to optometry and eyecare missions worldwide.

All grant applicants must be a member of the American Optometric Student Association. Each was asked to submit a paper to their respective schools on the following topic: “Qualities I have developed through my financial planning/ work experience during and/or before optometry school, that I believe will be most useful to me in a professional optometric practice.” Each school chooses one essay for consideration by the national committee.

Jennifer is from Platteville, WI, studied in Gisborne, New Zealand, for six months of high school through the American Field Study program, and attended Luther College in Decorah, IA, before coming to the IU School of Optometry. After graduation from optometry school, Jen plans to practice primary care optometry with an emphasis in contact lenses in the Midwest.

Jennifer says that she has enjoyed her years at IU and is grateful for all the great memories and experiences I’ve had at the School of Optometry. Winning the scholarships was truly an honor and humbling experience.

Lupe Mejia wins National Molinari Memorial Scholarship

The American Optometric Foundation (AOF) annually awards an exceptional Optometry student the Antoinette Molinari Memorial Scholarship. This Scholarship was set up by Joseph Molinari, OD, M.Ed., FAAO, to assist an exceptional student with financial need along with academic and leadership potential. Lupe Mejia, Class of 2007, was selected by representatives from the AOF and the Molinari family from applications from each of the Optometry schools to be the 2006 awardee. She submitted an application, three letters of recommendation, statement of financial need, and a one-page statement describing her career and educational goals that was chosen by a committee at IU to send as our entry into the national competition.

While at IU, Lupe has served as President of IU-NOSA (National Optometric Student Organization) and as an active member of VOSH (Volunteer Optometrists Serving Humanity), participated in and organized efforts to assist underserved minorities in both the local community and in Mexico by means of education, fundraisers, and eye examinations.
**Faces & Places**

All pictures:
Class of 1995 reunion held at the Irish Lion in Bloomington.

Top to bottom:
Class of 1970 reunion held at the Woodburn House in Bloomington, IN
Class of 1985 reunion held at Nick’s on the edge of the Bloomington campus
IU President Adam Herbert with Jon and Harriet Slaughter and Dr. Lowther at an IU football game.
Visionary Circle ($250,000 and up)
Dr. Stanley Rafalko*
Dr. Dennis Sawyer

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Dr. Polly Hendricks
Dr. Denise Howard and Mr. James Bohrer
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Dr. and Mrs. Gerald Lowther
Ms. Lois Morgan*
Dr.* and Mrs. Andy Nemeth

Focus Circle ($50,000 to $99,999)
Dr. Jack W. Bennett*
Mrs. Alice Bennett
Dr. Henry W Hofstetter
Dr. and Mrs. Jerry Logan
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Dr. Kevin Waltz and Mrs. Rhonda Fox Waltz

Reflections Circle ($10,000 to $49,000)
American Foundation for Vision Awareness-
Indiana Chapter
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Class of 1969
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Dr. Richard Windsor

*denotes deceased

Photo courtesy of Indiana University
Corporate donors listed in this report are some of our most important friends, and we're extremely grateful for their support. We could not stay up-to-date with the need for state-of-the-art equipment that is essential to the success of our many programs without the kindness of corporate donations including gifts of cash, gifts-in-kind, reduced pricing, two-for-one purchases, and loaner programs.

The School currently operates more than 75 exam and special testing lanes in all of its clinical locations. To fully equip each of these lanes would cost the School more than $1,500,000! This would not be possible without the special assistance of corporate donations and loans.

A corporate loan provides top quality equipment to the School at no cost. The equipment is then replaced periodically, ensuring students have access to the most cutting edge technology at all times.

There is a continual decrease of state appropriated dollars, and a constant increase of funding required to provide the comprehensive programs necessary to best educate students. There are simply not enough monies available to equip all of our clinics; funds are only available through the generosity of those companies that actively partner with the School of Optometry.

On behalf of all who benefit from the Indiana University School of Optometry, it is our privilege to thank the many corporations who have contributed to the success of the School this year.

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Foley House Award

The annual IU Optometry alumni reception at the AOA Congress has been the most unusual function sponsored by any group during the convention. Drs. Mike Obremsky and Don Pitts started the "Foley House Basement Breakfast and Awards Banquet" in 1976, awarding a replica of the key to the basement door of the Foley House annually to a person deserving special recognition for their role in the School's development or to a person who has brought distinction to the school through their efforts to promote optometry and optometric education. The Foley House was located at 744 East Third Street and served as the first IU Optometry Clinic prior to the construction of the present building. The old house was in poor shape, was condemned, and finally demolished. The basement of the building was improvisationally adapted for use as a contact lens laboratory to serve the clinic upstairs and its rustic door stands in the School of Optometry Library to commemorate the recipients of the award. Its front step and etched glass from the door have been integrated into the Wall of Donors in the Optometry School lobby.

This year's winner of the Foley House Award is Dr. Linda Casser. Following graduation in 1978 from the Indiana University School of Optometry, Dr. Casser completed a two-year residency program in primary care optometry at the Joseph C. Wilson Health Center in Rochester, NY. She was a faculty member at the Indiana University School of Optometry for thirteen years, serving as the Director of the Indianapolis Eye Care Center. Dr. Casser joined the Pacific University College of Optometry in 1997, and served as Associate Dean for Academic Programs and Professor through 2005. In January 2006, Dr. Casser joined the National Board of Examiners in Optometry in Charlotte, North Carolina, as Director of Clinical Examinations. Dr. Casser is a past president of the Indiana Optometric Association and received the 2004 Founder's Award from the Primary Care Section of the American Academy of Optometry. She was a member of the Board of Directors of the National Board of Examiners in Optometry for 7 years and served as its 2001-2002 President. Dr. Casser was named the 1995 "Optometrist of the Year" by the Indiana Optometric Association, the 1997 "Optometrist of the Year" by the American Optometric Association, and a 2000 Most Influential Optometrist by Review of Optometry.

Dr. Casser received the 2006 Foley House Award in recognition of her representation of the IU School of Optometry as a distinguished alumna, receiving national accolades and greatly contributing to the profession of optometry.

Previous Foley House Award Recipients:

2005 Dr. James Wessar
2004 Dr. Chuck Haine
2003 Dr. Steve Van Cleve
2002 Dr. Doug Morrow
2001 Dr. Jeff Marshall
2000 Dr. Ed Marshall
1999 Dr. Bob Moses
1998 Dr. George Rector
1997 Dr. Jerald Strickland
1996 Dr. Dawn Kaufman
1995 Dr. Steve Hitzeman
1994 Lois Selk
1993 Dr. Dan Gerstman
1992 Dr. Donald Robins
1991 Dr. Felix Barker
1990 Dr. Dennis Escol

Previous Spirit of Philanthropy Award Recipients:

2005 Dr. William Baldwin
2004 Dr. Polly Hendricks
2003 Alice Bennett
2002 Dr. Kevin Waltz and Rhonda Fox Waltz
2001 Dr. Jerry W. and Theresa Logan
1999 Essilor Laboratories of America
1998 Vistakon
1997 Dr. Jerald and Cecile Strickland
1996 Alcon Vision Care, Inc.
1995 Dr. James and Carolyn Leeds
1994 Bell Optical Laboratory, Inc
1993 Dr. H. Barton Hahn
1992 Dr. John Ashman
1991 no awardee
1990 Dr. Irvin M. Borish
1989 Dr. R. Lewis Scott
The Spirit of Philanthropy

The Spirit of Philanthropy award is given each year to recognize outstanding individuals or companies for their special contributions to the School of Optometry at a luncheon sponsored by the schools reporting to the IUPUI campus.

Angela Braly, Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Chief Public Affairs Officer of WellPoint, Inc. accepted this year’s Spirit of Philanthropy award on behalf of the Anthem Foundation, an affiliated foundation of WellPoint, Inc. The Anthem Foundation was chosen for their generous support of the Eye Care Community Outreach (ECCO) program. Through their support of the ECCO program, WellPoint demonstrated its commitment to the community to raise the quality of care, expand access to health care coverage and services to those citizens without health insurance and less than 200% of the federal poverty level.

The Anthem Foundation is a private corporate foundation dedicated to promoting the health and well-being of communities. Since 2000, the foundation has provided philanthropic support to diverse community programs in order to impact the lives of individuals. Through partnerships and Anthem’s support, ECCO’s programs are designed to meet the needs of the Indianapolis community that seeks to provide not only eye care, but to assist individuals in finding resources for their general health and social needs.

In partnership with our communities, Anthem delivers more than charitable giving; they also stress a deep commitment to volunteerism among their employees and other organizations. During any given event you might find staff and executives volunteering their time to commit to providing an extra hand for capacity building and enhancing service delivery to community-related programs.

Anthem’s generous charitable funding has supported the ECCO program in the following ways:

- Providing salary support for two program coordinators and a bilingual assistant.
- Providing access to vision screenings, eye exams, ophthalmology services, durable medical equipment, and referral for care of systemic health conditions.
- Providing health care support to individuals who are underserved, and who otherwise have not had access to vision care services.
- Conducting community education sessions and establishing referral systems between ECCO and other agencies.
- Increasing the number of health screenings in areas with lower access to quality healthcare, especially for children and seniors.
- Allowing us to continue expanding our program services such as case management and outreach.
- Allowing individuals to gain or continue their independence and improve their quality of life by accessing vision and other health care services.

Anthem’s support has changed lives and transformed organizations in such a way that our communities now have a greater commitment to sustaining improved, health, education, and relationships in the future.

Capstone

Capstone is a graduation week event that began over a decade ago as an opportunity for students to familiarize themselves with ophthalmic companies as well as learn practice management strategies from practitioners with wide-ranging backgrounds and career paths. The event also serves as a chance for various optometric associations and organizations to welcome the graduates in the profession.

The IU Capstone event has become so iconic that many other optometry schools have not only replicated the event for their graduating class but some have even named their graduating event “Capstone” as well.

Thank you to all our sponsors, without whom this event would not be possible.

2006 Capstone Sponsors

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Vision Service Plan
Vistakon
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VISION STATEMENT

"The Indiana University School of Optometry will be at the leading edge of vision care for the people of the world."

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the School of Optometry is to protect, advance and promote the vision, eye care and health of people world wide by

- preparing individuals for careers in optometry, the ophthalmic industry and vision science and
- advancing knowledge through teaching, research and service.

This will be accomplished through the Doctor of Optometry, Optician/Technician, residency and graduate programs.
Our appreciation is extended to Essilor of America for financial support of this Annual Report.