



ASSOCIATION  
OF OPTOMETRIC  
CONTACT LENS  
EDUCATORS

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October 2007  
Newsletter #27

## Newsletter Highlights

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Berkeley Workshop

The host of the 2007 AOCLE Workshop was the University of California, Berkeley. The main topic was the publication of case reports. Several optometric journal editors were on hand to give advice and look over manuscripts.

2008 AOCLE Workshop

The date of the next AOCLE Workshop has been set at June 5-8, 2008. It will be hosted by NECO.

Campus News

Lots and lots of school news.

Reminder:

AOCLE Faculty Development Grant

Remember the due date for the AOCLE Faculty Development Grant is March 1, 2008 (to be awarded on July 1, 2008).

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### Message from the Chair

Tempis fugit. It is hard to believe that my first year as Chair has already past, and there are only 9 months to go. The faculty at UC Berkeley hosted an excellent annual workshop in August, and I tip my hat to the people there who made it happen. Their program was a wonderful reminder of how far contact lenses and AOCLE have come. We take for granted disposable lenses, multipurpose solutions, even specialty

GP lenses in our daily clinic lives. We should pause and appreciate these developments and pass along to our students the history of contact lenses.

We have many challenges ahead. What do we need to do to continue to advance contact lens education to keep up with changes in the field? Can we continue to keep contact lenses at the fore front of optometric practice in this age of the commoditization of contact lenses? How do we best train the next generation of optometric educators?

One thing we know is that time waits for no one. Let's continue the efforts that the Berkeley group started by writing and publishing case reports. Let's also continue to come up with innovative ways to move contact lens education forward. I look forward to another year of productive collaborations among the AOCLE members.

Ron Watanabe  
Chair, AOCLE

### 2007 AOCLE Workshop Summary



The 2007 AOCLE Workshop was hosted by the fine folks at the University of California Berkeley School of Optometry. The workshop topic for this year revolved around case reports. So you have an interesting patient...how do you go about publishing a case report to let your colleagues in on what happened and how you treated it? This year's meeting gave some very useful advice (and practice!) for sharing this valuable type of clinical reporting. We are grateful to Drs. John Corzine, Michael Harris, Meng Lin, Chuck Bailey and all the others at Berkeley for putting on such a well-organized meeting.

Traveling to Berkeley was quite a relief for those living in warmer parts of the country, as the weather was cool and beautiful. Quite an improvement over the record high temperatures back home for most attendees! The weather made for very enjoyable tours of the city and the campus. Our gracious hosts kept us well fed and entertained.

#### Meeting Highlights

The first workshop day began with a warm welcome from Dr. Dennis Levi, dean of the school of optometry. The first speaker was Dr. Robert Mandell, who gave a very interesting and informative presentation on contact lens history and his experiences at Berkeley.



Dr. Mandell is, of course, a contact lens pioneer and major figure in our field and it was wonderful to have him share his memories of the evolution of contact lenses. (One enlightening tidbit was how to pronounce striae...it's "stry-ee" if you didn't know.)

After Dr. Mandell's talk we took a tour of the school of optometry. We viewed the clinical and didactic facilities and also visited many of the research labs as well. Berkeley has a thriving program and the tour was very enlightening.

The afternoon session began the formal workshop with presentations from several journal editors, including Drs. Paul Freeman (*Optometry*), Tony Adams (*Optometry and Vision Science*), Shehzad Naroo (*Contact Lens & Anterior Eye*), and Carla Mack (*Contact Lens Spectrum*).



The talks all had to do with their perspectives on what constitutes a good case report and what improves the chances that a case report will be published. Each journal has its own emphasis, and understanding what each publication looks for was very informative.

A big thanks goes out to these editors for taking time out of their busy schedules to help us get published.



In the afternoon, we were taken on a tour of the Scharffen Berger chocolate factory. AOCLE members donned attractive hairnets (see below) for the tasting tour. It is amazing what people will do for free chocolate.



The evening concluded with a dinner and roast for Michael Harris. Dr. Neil Pence was the emcee, and AOCLE members joined in roasting and honoring Michael upon his retirement from his highly accomplished career as an educator and researcher.

In the next picture, Michael is shown with his lovely wife Dawn. Best wishes!



Our second workshop day we broke into small groups, each led by one of the journal editors. Each school brought with them a case report to be streamlined at the workshop in preparation for publication submission. The editors gave advice and hints on how to improve the reports and increase their chances for acceptance. This was a very helpful session with lots of great ideas shared between schools as well. In the afternoon, the groups all joined together again and shared case reports, again giving helpful critiques to improve the texts. All in all, a very successful workshop!



Our evening concluded with a dinner cruise tour of the San Francisco bay, with great views of the Golden Gate Bridge and Alcatraz. With this group, you can be sure that with dinner and dancing, much merriment was had by all.

Again, thanks to everyone at Berkeley for organizing a wonderful two days of work and fun for the participants. Yet another AOCLE workshop that will be tough to beat!



We also want to thank our corporate sponsors who attended the meeting and provided support for the event. They all gave informative presentations to catch us all up on their companies' activities. The following is a list of our corporate sponsors:

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### Business Meeting Highlights

#### Mertz Travel Award

The Mertz Travel Award is a grant provided to a young contact lens educator to attend the AOCLE meeting as an “extra” person from a school. This year’s Mertz award recipient was Dr. Matt Lampa from Pacific University. Congratulations Matt, and welcome to the AOCLE!

#### AOCLE Pocket Guide

The AOCLE pocket guide for contact lenses was distributed to all 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, and 4<sup>th</sup> year students at each school last year. Surveys conducted indicate the students found them to be very useful. Many suggestions were given to improve the guide and will be considered for the next publication.

#### Dr. Lester Janoff Award Established

An award in memory of Dr. Lester Janoff will be established to recognize an educator for excellence in publishing papers on contact lens topics. Thanks to Joel Silbert and Rick Spinell for their leadership in establishing this award.



### Five Cardinal Rules for Clinical Education

Lester E. Janoff, OD, MS Ed, FAAO (Diplomate in CL’s)

1. The purpose of the clinical course is to teach the student how to deliver high quality clinical care.
2. Good education cannot take place when poor care is delivered. Therefore, patients come first and students second.
3. Access to patients is not a right, but a privilege that students must earn through taking personal responsibility for delivering the best quality care possible.
4. Thinking, problem solving, questioning, doubting, self instruction and a sense of responsibility for learning through active participation are the fundamental keys to learning.
5. The attitudes, personal principles and values that are essential are learned through preceptor modeling.

### 2008 AOCLE Workshop

The next AOCLE meeting will be at New England College of Optometry in Boston, June 5-8. Mark your calendars for what will surely be another memorable event.

### Campus News

#### Montreal

Congratulations to Dr. Etty Bitton, who received the 2007 "Recognition Award" from the Quebec Association of Optometrists this year. This award was given for her contribution to the profession, especially in the area of Externships. (This award was previously named "OD of the Year" Award.)

#### InterAmerican University of Puerto Rico

On August 27 the School of Optometry relocated to a new building located at the premises of the Inter American University Bayamon Campus. The Building is over 60,000 sq/ft and is designed to accommodate up to 60 students/class. At this time we have around 40-50 students/class. Everyone in the institution is very excited with the facility and hopes that this will help us promote ourselves in Puerto Rico and abroad. The official inauguration of the school will be held on October. There will be another inauguration in November during the 2007 Annual Inter American Seminar.

Dr. Iris Cabello was appointed to the position of Associate Dean of Students Affairs by Dean Hector Santiago. Dr. Cabello has been part of the School for the past 15 yrs and had occupied several positions in contact lens area and primary care where she was Director of Patient Care.

#### ICO

Dr. Jennifer Harthan, a former cornea contact lens resident, has joined the ICO faculty and is now working in the CCL area on a full time basis. Also, we are remodeling a space to be used

strictly for clinical research so look for some interesting publications from ICO in the future.

## IU

Dr. Gerald Lowther is stepping down as dean of IUSO at the end of this academic year, so the school is beginning a search for a new dean. We thank Dr. Lowther for his service to the school and for his many contributions to the contact lens field.

The school has also begun searching for a tenure-track position. Responsibilities will include teaching in the professional optometry degree program, overseeing graduate students, and developing a funded research program in a clinically related field (preference given to an individual in the area of contact lenses, ophthalmic optics, and/or geometric optics). Candidates should have completed an optometric or medical degree and have advanced research experience. For consideration, please forward a statement of teaching and research experience and interest, CV or resume, and contact information for three references to:

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TT Faculty Search and Screen Committee  
OAA #20709-11  
Indiana University School of Optometry  
800 E. Atwater Ave., Rm. 307  
Bloomington, IN 47405-3680  
Fax: (812) 855-8664  
E-mail: opthr@indiana.edu

## NECO

Marjorie Rah, OD, PhD, has been named the new Chief, Cornea and Contact Lens Service, and Director for Clinical Research at the New England Eye Commonwealth clinic. She takes over service chief duties for Dr. Alan Kwok, who has served as Chief for the past year. Alan will be moving to the Los Angeles area where he

will be clinic director for the California branch of the Boston Foundation for Sight. Marjie will also head up a new clinical research center at the New England Eye Institute. We wish them both the best in their new endeavors.

## NOVA

1) Dr. Heidi Wagner, the instructor of record for the didactic CL class at Nova SE, is now sharing the podium with Dr. Zoe Schinas. Zoe is taking a more active role in classroom instruction. 2) At the AOA '07, the Nova SE Resident in PC with emphasis in CL, Dr. Elizabeth (Betsy) Sanders, won 1<sup>st</sup> place in an AOA award on "my most interesting case", competing against other 2006-2007 CL residents 3) Nova SE will be going paperless as of April, 2008 - using Next Gen EMR + EPM (electronic medical records /electronic patient management) and Optik inventory and ordering software for CL and Spectacles. 4) In May, Parres Monet Harris-Roberts was the first Nova SE graduate to receive The Lester E. Janoff Scholarship Award. The award reads as follows: "Presented to a 4<sup>th</sup> year optometry student for outstanding performance in a scholarly activity such as teaching, research or optometric journalism. In memory of Dr. Lester E. Janoff, a renowned educator, researcher and pioneer in the area of cornea and contact lenses; a gentleman and a scholar who exemplified life long learning." 5) Lastly, another award was established in Lester Janoff's name: "ASCO has created a new award - the Lester Janoff Award for Writing Excellence in Optometric Education - to honor his work with the journal and to encourage quality writing among optometric faculty."

## SCO

On October 6, SCO inaugurated Richard Phillips, OD, as the college's sixth president. Dr. Phillips is taking over the reins from William Cochran, OD, who has retired after serving the

college for 24 years as president. The faculty and staff of SCO are grateful to Dr. Cochran for his leadership and look forward to working with Dr. Phillips to continue the college's tradition of outstanding clinical education.

## UAB

The UAB School of Optometry has two new faculty members in the Cornea and Contact Lens Clinic. Dr. Ernie Bowling was a private practitioner in North Georgia before returning to UAB full-time. Ernie also serves as Director of the Primary Eye Care Clinic.

Dr. Keshia Elder was a US Navy officer and most recently was a faculty member at the University Of South Carolina Department Of Ophthalmology. She will be participating in the Contact Lens courses and labs, as well as the clinic.

## Waterloo

Dr. Lyndon Jones is shown here receiving the Allan Walker Award from Simon Rodwell, Secretary General of the Association of Contact Lens Manufacturers Ltd (ACLM), after giving the 4th Annual Allan Walker Memorial Lecture. This lecture given in the UK and is sponsored by Bausch and Lomb.

