AOCLE 2021

The AOCLE Summer Workshop for 2021 will be held as a 2-Day Virtual event, hosted by The Ohio State University (OSU) College of Optometry in Columbus, Ohio with the theme of Myopia Management.

The AOCLE business meeting will be held virtually on Friday evening June 4th from 9pm to 11pm EST, after an 8pm Sponsor Meeting with AOCLE’s Executive Board. The rest of the virtual meeting will be held Saturday June 5th beginning at 10:30am EST, with closing remarks at 4:30pm. It will consist of three hours of COPE-approved continuing education lectures, sponsor presentations, a virtual tour of the new OSU Optometry Clinic building, and a little taste of Columbus, Ohio!

Look forward to CE from Don Mutti and Jeffrey Walline; a panel discussion about myopia management in academia moderated by Heidi Wagner; and virtually interacting with our sponsors!

Schools with AOCLE representatives:

2021 AOCLE Virtual Workshop:
The Ohio State University
College of Optometry
Columbus, Ohio
June 4-5, 2021

2022 AOCLE In-Person Workshop:
Nova Southeastern University
College of Optometry
Fort Lauderdale, FL
June 2-5, 2022

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**Campus News – Spring 2021**

**Illinois College of Optometry:**
ICO has added Dr. Chelsea Bradley to the department as a Clinical Instructor. Dr. Bradley graduated from and did her CL residency at UCBSO.

Drs. Stephanie Fromstein and Lindsay Sicks are being promoted to the rank of Associate Professor as of July 1st.

Drs. Jennifer Harthan and Michelle Man presented a GPLI student webinar “Management of Common Contact Lens Complications” in February.

**Midwestern University Chicago College of Optometry:**
CCO is now fully accredited by ACOE. They graduate their first class this Spring.

Midwestern University opened up COVID-19 vaccination clinics on both campuses. AZCOPT faculty, staff, and students have been volunteering their time assisting with it.

Azcopt has also purchased three VR slit lamps which arrived at the beginning of Winter quarter, so the first year students have been using them to hone their skills.

**New England College of Optometry:**
NECO received a grant from The Coca-Cola Foundation, the philanthropic arm of The Coca-Cola Company, that will fund a new diversity and inclusion scholarship. This is the third such scholarship established at NECO in the past few months, including others from Warby Parker and NECO alum Dr. Alan Glazier, that aim to increase underrepresented minority enrollment in the field of optometry.

**Nova Southeastern University College of Optometry**

Chandra Mickles, OD, MS was appointed an NEI HealthyVisionMonth ambassador with a goal of spotlighting the importance of increasing diversity in the eye health field. Dr. Mickles, the only ambassador selected from academia, said she hopes that more representation in the field will inspire other
Black Americans to pursue careers as eye care professionals.

**Pacific University College of Optometry:**

Eef van der Worp, Matt Lampa, Beth Kinoshita, Mari Fujimoto, and Pat Caroline, in collaboration with Benjamin Coldrick of Optimec Systems (UK), recently published “Variation in sag values in daily disposable, reusable and toric soft contact lenses” in *Contact Lens and Anterior Eye.*

**Southern College of Optometry:**

Dr. Daniel Fuller was named the inaugural recipient of the GPLI Educator of the Year Award. He graduated from The Ohio State University in 1984, served 8 years in the United States Navy, and then joined the faculty at SCO in 1987. In 1991, he assumed ownership of the first of two practices that eventually took him away from academia until his return in 2007. He is a professor; Chief of the Cornea Contact Lens Service in The Eye Center; founding Supervisor of the Cornea, Contact Lens, and Refractive Surgery Residency at SCO; a Diplomate in the Cornea, Contact Lenses, and Refractive Technologies Section of the AAO; current VP of the Scleral Lens Education Society, and serves on the GPLI Advisory Board. Dr. Fuller commented, “It is a humbling award, and particularly meaningful to be recognized by both your peers and the GPLI, as the educational arm of the CLMA.”

Dr. Laurel Kelley was featured in the ASCO Blog *Eyes on Optometry,* discussing her path to academia.

**Southern California College of Optometry at MBKU:**

Congratulations to Dr. Annie Chang for earning her Fellowship in the Scleral Lens Education Society!

The contact lens faculty and residents at SCO teamed up with the National Keratoconus Foundation (NKCF) to celebrate National Keratoconus Day on November 11 to produce a series of lectures for optometry students interested in learning more about keratoconus and specialty contact lens fitting. The four-part series includes lectures on keratoconus overview, fitting corneal GP lenses, fitting scleral lenses, and corneal cross-linking. Thanks to Drs. Dawn Lam, Annie Chang, Elaine Chen, Katherine Zhang, Jessica Sun, Elizabeth Cho, Valerie Lam, and Erin Rueff for contributing to this lecture series. Visit https://nkcf.org/webinars to access lectures.

**University of Pikeville Kentucky College of Optometry:**

On campus activities have been limited, but the Cornea & Contact Lens (C & CL) Society is still busy at KYCO! The group coordinated a virtual STAPLE workshop and also arranged for several sponsor presentations that were viewed at home or Zoomed into a KYCO classroom. The students also published a newsletter and had a successful t-shirt fundraiser.

Dr. Chang

KYCO C&CL Society students enjoy an event.
Industry events included: CooperVision discussing the MiSight Brilliant Futures Program; Alcon and Dr. Erick Henderson discussing the Alcon portfolio as well as iLux and Pataday; Johnson & Johnson and Dr. Jeffrey Fardink discussing “The Science of Lens Selection” relative to patient needs; and Bausch + Lomb and Dr. Melanie Denton Dombrowski discussing INFUSE 1-Day soft contact lenses and dry eye.

Pennsylvania College of Optometry at Salus University:

Salus has been able to launch its asynchronous continuing education (CE) library. The Salus website now includes a designated section titled “Asynchronous Enduring Learning Continuing Education Lectures,” which links to recorded lectures including one from AOCLE member Dr. Nicholas Gidosh covering the topic of myopia management.

SUNY College of Optometry:

Under the faculty mentorship of Drs. Duchnowski, Keh, and Libassi, SUNY residents and students, along with Drs. Frantzis, Morrow, and Zuckerman presented nine posters at the 2021 GSLS.

Third and fourth year interns entered their poster abstracts to compete in the ABB Optical Optometry Student Challenge. Shuyi Chen (Class of 2021) won first place for the second year in a row! Julie Song (Class of 2022) and Xiao Jing Xu (Class of 2021) were among the honorable mentions. Xiao Jing Xu also won third place in the GSLS Clinical Case Poster Competition among entries submitted by non-Cornea and Contact Lens Residents. The SUNY faculty is very proud of their accomplishments!

His journey in life and to UABSO is amazing in so many ways. Dr. Laurent spent 30 years on active duty with the US Army and Navy. He spent 28 of those years as an OD, 3+ years as a graduate student, and 8 years as a researcher. He was a classroom instructor and treated patients in UAB Eye Care’s Cornea and Contact Lens clinic. The school is fortunate to have had Dr. Laurent’s knowledge and experience available to their faculty, staff, students, and patients. They look forward to his continued contributions to the school.

University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Optometry:

On March 1st, John Laurent, OD, MS, PhD, FAAO, retired after 10 years as a faculty member at the UAB School of Optometry. He actually joined the UABSO family years prior to being a faculty member. He was an active-duty Navy optometrist and came to UABSO to earn a PhD thanks to the Navy’s outservice graduate program. He left after earning his doctorate but returned years later as the Cornea/Contact Lens resident in 2007-2008 after leaving the Navy in 1995. In 2011, he became a faculty member.

To receive this award from this association, representing both the students I had the pleasure to teach and my professional colleagues is truly an honor for me.”
Dr. Clore is a longtime UAB educator. After receiving her Doctor of Optometry degree from UAB in 1982, she joined the optometry faculty as a primary care clinical instructor.

Currently, she is an Associate Professor and serves as chair of the Faculty Advisory Committee, Director of the Continuing Education Department and co-Chair of the Professional Program Academic and Honor Council. Clore is also service director of UABSO’s faculty private practice, University Optometric Group.

The American Public Health Association (APHA) has recognized Jason Nichols, OD, MPH, PhD, FAAO, UAB associate vice president for research and professor at UABSO, with its 2020 Vision Care Section (VSC) Outstanding Scientific Paper Award.

Dr. Nichols is one of five of the world’s most prominent ocular scientists to receive the award. Two papers published by the group as the COVID-19 pandemic took root provided timely, evidence-based guidance to address and correct misinformation regarding safe contact lens wear.

Their papers, *The COVID-19 Pandemic: Important Considerations for Contact Lens Practitioners* and *The Ocular Surface, Coronaviruses and COVID-19*, and authors were honored with the award during APHA’s virtual 2020 Annual Meeting for contributing “significantly to the advancement of eye/vision care in the public health field.”

*The COVID-19 Pandemic: Important Considerations for Contact Lens Practitioners* is among the top 0.2 percent of all research scored by the analytics service across all disciplines.

**University of California Berkeley School of Optometry**

UCBSO was excited to onboard EyePrint Prosthetics impression technology to the specialty contact lens clinic this past winter. Drs. Pam Satjawatcharaphong and Celia Gong completed the certification process, and residents and 4th year optometric interns volunteered to participate on the training day to gain experience with the procedure. The ability to offer these highly customized lenses to patients has been a great addition to the clinic tool kit, and will enhance the clinical training of residents and advanced contact lens students.

**University of Houston College of Optometry:**

Dr. Jan Bergmanson was presented with the Texas Public Health Association’s 2021 VCS Visionary Award. This recognition is for an individual, institution, or organization with exceptional contributions and groundbreaking efforts and/or innovation in eye health and vision care. The award recognizes those who have displayed commitment and dedication to vision. The TPHA is a non-profit, state-wide association of public health professionals dedicated to public health in Texas and a nationally recognized affiliate of the American Public Health Association. The mission of the Vision Care Section is to promote public health education about eye health and eye safety, the importance of healthy living with a focus on preservation of sight, and to advance vision related public health policies to improve access to vision care through advocacy and awareness.
University of Waterloo School of Optometry and Vision Science:

The University of Waterloo’s School of Optometry & Vision Science is honored to name its contact lens residency in memory of Dr. Luigina (Gina) Sorbara - a respected professor, supportive mentor and provider of optimism and enthusiasm. For more than 40 years, Dr. Sorbara’s passion for optometry led to her extraordinary contributions to contact lens research and education. An internationally recognized contact lens educator, Dr. Sorbara led the School’s Contact Lens Clinic from 1984 until her retirement due to illness in 2020.

Dr. Stanley Woo, Director, School of Optometry & Vision Science said, “The Dr. Gina Sorbara Contact Lens Residency appropriately represents her passion for teaching, research and advancing specialty patient care. Gina had an incredible impact on the School and the profession she loved so dearly; we are grateful to have this opportunity to celebrate her legacy.” Waterloo will welcome the first Dr. Gina Sorbara Contact Lens Residency position in July 2021.

Dr. Lacey Haines will carry the torch and is now the Contact Lens Clinic Service Head and the Cornea and Contact Lens Residency Supervisor at Waterloo Optometry and Vision Science (WOVS).

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IACLE

In summer 2020, Dr. Gina Sorbara received the IACLE Lifetime Achievement Award and was given a video tribute from her many friends and colleagues of IACLE. As the AOCLE was also an important part of Gina’s life, Bonnie Boshart of IACLE asked the AOCLE to contribute to the video. It is still available to view on youtube at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PxniglOJziM&feature=youtu.be. Gina will be sorely missed among the membership of both IACLE and AOCLE.

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The GP Lens Institute (GPLI)

Monthly webinars (usually the 3rd Tuesday of the month) are presented by industry leaders, featuring the latest advancements in customized contact lenses. Additionally, over 95 archived webinars are available for viewing at https://www.gpli.info/webinars/

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Global Specialty Lens Symposium

www.GSLSymposium.com

The 2022 GSL is going to be back in Las Vegas after pivoting to virtual for 2021! The leading national contact lens conference in North America, brought by Contact Lens Spectrum, will be held from January 19-22, 2022 at Bally’s Las Vegas.

At the virtual 2021 event, the Award of Excellence was presented posthumously to Otto Wichterle, the “father of modern contact lenses” and the inventor who discovered hydrogel poly-hydroxyethyl methacrylate (HEMA) in the 1950s. The award was especially poignant as 2021 marks the 50th anniversary of Wichterle’s invention of the soft contact lens.

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Dr. Otto Wichterle

The 2022 in-person event once again promises to be the premier contact lens educational event of the season. Hot topics in specialty contact lenses, such as scleral lenses and myopia control, will be featured in the upcoming program.
Registration and agenda details will be forthcoming on the GSLS website.

The Pentavision team also successfully launched a 1-day virtual meeting last year – the Global Myopia Symposium (GMS). It will be back this year - September 17-19, 2021.

**STAPLE Program**
[www.stapleprogram.com](http://www.stapleprogram.com)

Ursula Lotzkat
ursula@winkproductions.com

Jill Lopa
jill@winkproductions.com

The STAPLE (Soft Toric and Presbyopic Lens Experience) program, a collaborative initiative on the part of Alcon, Bausch + Lomb, CooperVision, and Johnson & Johnson Vision, has presented over 300 workshops bringing educators, students and industry together.

Even though 2020 put many workshops on hold, STAPLE has been able to work with schools to virtually provide 2nd and/or 3rd year optometry students with experience fitting soft toric and soft multifocal lenses. STAPLE programs continue to be offered virtually, or when convenient will resume to their usual in-person events. To schedule an event, one should contact the program administrators, Ursula Lotzkat and/or Jill Lopa.

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**Industry News – Spring 2021**

**ABB Contact Lens**

**Specialty Vision Products**
[www.abboptical.com](http://www.abboptical.com)

Andy Jackson, Director
Specialty Contact Lenses
ajackson@abboptical.com

Dede Reyes, FCLSA - Consultant,
Specialty Vision Products
dreyes@abboptical.com

ABB Optical Group is proud to announce the winners of the 2020 Optometry Student Challenge. This annual contest allows 3rd and 4th year students to submit poster abstracts of contact lens related case histories or clinical studies in a competition open to all North American schools. A record-setting number of submissions resulted in six finalists presenting their posters in a virtual forum to ~200 attendees who, along with three OD judges, voted online to determine the winners and runners-up.

The winners (below) are: Cade Millikin (IU), Jonathan King (IU), and Suzy Chen (SUNY).

Their posters were displayed at the virtual 2021 GSLS.

In other news, ABB’s lead CL consultant Arch Holcomb, MSc, long-time supporter of AOCLE, has retired. “Thanks, Arch, for your wonderful contributions - enjoy retirement!”

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**AccuLens**

**THE CLEAREST CHOICE IN SIGHT**

[http://www.acculens.com](http://www.acculens.com)

Elissa Masler, Vice President
Sales and Marketing
elissa@acculens.com

Patient focused education videos have been added to the AccuLens YouTube Channel with time saving tips and tricks. Share the videos with patients during a dispense visit or use to help troubleshoot issues with care and handling. Some topics include How to Easily Put on a Scleral Lens and How to Remove a Scleral Lens Without Tools.
New video topics are released monthly and will include practitioner focused content on fitting Maxim and Easyfit lens designs. Maxim Mapping Assistant and DIRECTCONNECT is now live with the Eaglet Eye Surface Profiler. This union of technology creates the ability to contour all lens designs to the shape of the sclera. Lenses are made for individual patients with freedom in diameters, optics, and profiles.

As a part of their commitment to help people See Brilliantly, Alcon launched three innovations for Eye Care practices and their patients in Q1 2021, including PRECISION1® for Astigmatism, their first daily disposable, SiHy toric contact lens offered at a mainstream price. This lens is born from the Water Gradient Technology of DAILIES TOTAL1®. Pataday® Extra Strength, formerly prescribed as Pazeo®, launched in the U.S. as well, offering patients a full 24 hours of relief from itchy allergy eyes without a prescription.1 Alcon is also introducing Systane® HYDRATION in the U.S., a preservative free eye drop in an easy to use multi-dose bottle, proven to offer long-lasting protection and relief for those suffering from moderate or chronic Dry Eye.2

In their ongoing attempt to maximize fitting efficiency for practitioners, Art Optical continues to enhance their offering of specialty lens resources and learning tools. Noteworthy projects this year include a 4-part educational webinar series focused on timely specialty contact lens topics featuring Dr. Stephanie Woo, OD, FAAO, FSLS.

Additionally, they have recently added ease-of-use refinements to the MOONLENS® Initial Rx online calculator and are finishing a series of 5 feature-specific quick tutorial videos for MOONLENS. Also just released is an automated Ampleye® Scleral Virtual Consultant to assist ECPs with common lens adjustments. To stay on top of specialty lens info and product releases, sign-up for the Art Optical newsletter at artoptical.com/news-events or call 800-253-9364.

Dr. Bruce Morgan (L) is Art Optical’s new Executive Director of Research and Clinical Support. Bethany Peebles (R) has been promoted to Executive Director of Consultation Services.
In February, Bausch + Lomb announced the U.S. launch of Alaway® Preservative Free (ketotifen fumarate ophthalmic solution 0.035%) antihistamine eye drops, the first and only over-the-counter (OTC) preservative-free antihistamine eye itch relief drop approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration.

Bausch + Lomb also collaborated with Prevent Blindness for the sixth consecutive year during AMD Awareness Month to raise awareness of Age-Related Macular Degeneration.

Finally, the company’s ONE by ONE Recycling program has recycled nearly 30 million used contact lens materials since launching in November 2016, and has more than 5,500 optometry practices registered as ONE by ONE Recycling centers. To register your practice, visit the eye care professionals section at www.bauschrecycles.com.

Student Spotlight: Publish specialty contact lens case reports and present at a SEC webinar.

Student Excellence Award: Program participants can earn a complimentary diagnostic fitting set.

NEW!
- Paragon CRT® Calculator
- Onefit MED/MED+ scleral lenses available with Quadrant Specific Limbal & Edge Zones

Contamac is excited to announce the planning of CLASS (Contact Lenses of the Americas Specialists Symposium) as a virtual educational event beginning in November.
CLASS seeks to promote cross-border knowledge sharing, making specialty contact lens education easily accessible and open to a global audience, virtually. This year, a new education track will feature content provided by educational organizations. Contamac would like to invite every College of Optometry to take part in the “Academic Talks” section of the program. Participation is free of charge and includes a 30- to 60-minute educational talk presented by a member of an institution, and a 15-minute promotional video featuring the corresponding school’s program. Contact Jess (jessica@contamacus.com) or Carlos (carlosm@contamac.co.uk) for more details.

“From the Lane” section to read our 3-part series on toric contact lenses to examine current fitting practices for low astigmats, both globally and here in the U.S. market, and discuss the opportunities in toric lens fitting and care.

www.euclidsys.com
Jane Beeman, COA, FCLSA, NCLEM
Global Director of Clinical & Scientific Affairs
jane.beeman@euclidsys.com

David Bland
Vice President of Sales
david.bland@euclidsys.com

Euclid is very pleased to announce the addition of Dr. Jackson Lau to the team as Manager of Clinical & Scientific Affairs. After completing optometry school at UCBSO and a Residency in Cornea & Contact Lenses at ICO, Jackson joined a large practice in California where he saw specialty contact lens patients, directed the clinical externship program, and served as a sub-investigator on multiple contact lens and ophthalmic related research studies. He earned the distinction of Fellowship in the American Academy of Optometry and the Scleral Lens Education Society, lecturing on such topics as corneal disease, myopia management and specialty contact lenses. Jackson will be working directly with the AOCLE and Residents programs as a Euclid representative. Please join in welcoming Jackson to the Euclid family!

Johnson & Johnson Vision Announces New Products and Services in Myopia-Control Space

www.jnjvisionpro.com

Carol L. Alexander, OD, FAAO - Head, North America Professional Relations, Vision Care
calexan4@its.jnj.com

Johnson & Johnson Vision Announces New Products and Services in Myopia-Control Space

ACUVUE® Abiliti™ is a new brand for future products and services to help patients and
eye care providers address the growing prevalence and progression of myopia. With half of the world’s population projected to be myopic by 2050, Abiliti™ will provide comprehensive resources to combat the progression of the disease. Each annual purchase of an Abiliti™ product will provide a comprehensive eye health exam to a child in need through Sight for Kids – a joint program from Johnson & Johnson Vision and the not-for-profit Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF). For more information, read the entire announcement at www.jjvision.com.

For such a fun group, they needed a social bridge to embrace everyone…a ZOOM launch bash! An energetic party host kept attendees engaged with games while a band had them on their feet dancing! Dynamic videos showcased the technology of the next generation hybrid, and a roundtable of experts shared their fitting experience.

Imagine a contact lens that is individually designed for a patient’s unique ocular anatomy using a totally empirical fitting process. Give Ks, Rx and HVID, and a lens is crafted with great precision and no compromise, as the parameters are available in expanded increments. Available in single vision or MF EDOF.

Benefits:
- Excellent quality topography maps compared to placido disc topography
- Superior corneal coverage compared to placido disc topography
- Tear film independence
- Repeatability
- User-independence
- One quality scan is enough. No need to capture multiple topography scans and search for a good one!

SynergEyes iD virtual launch party at GSLS
Don Dixon - General Manager
dondixon@tfoptics.com

George Mera, NCLE-AC
Fitting Consultant & School Liaison
george_mera@tfoptics.com

TruForm is looking forward to interacting with all the educators attending the AOCLE ’21 Virtual Workshop hosted by OSU. As a specialty GP (Corneal and Scleral) lens lab, many options are available to bring specialty lenses to the educational process. TruForm has been privileged to participate in online Scleral and Multifocal workshops with many Schools of Optometry this past year and looks forward to returning to in-person workshops soon. They also hope to see everyone at the ICSC conference in Fort Lauderdale this July, and at the American Academy of Optometry meeting in Boston this November.

Valley Contax welcomes Dr. Adeline Bauer to head their new Custom Lens Immersion Program (CLIP). Dr. Bauer uses her residency training and years of experience in a fast-paced ophthalmology practice for this new in-office experience. CLIP offers students continued support after graduation to get personalized instruction for lens fitting, staff training, scheduling, navigating coding and more. To learn more, contact Dr. Bauer at DrBauer@valleycontax.com.

They also are pleased to announce that their team of regional education consultants is growing. Dr. Ariel Cerenzie and Dr. Colton Heinrich have recently joined the team. Visit valleycontax.com to meet all their regional educators and to visit their new student portal page with a collection of resources to support optometry students.
X-Cel has been committed to the orthokeratology category for nearly two decades, and they are proud to be launching REMLens, their new system for myopia management, in the spring of this year. Those currently fitting CRT, Emerald, or any other ortho-k design on the market, will find the REMLens system to be a simplified, easy-to-fit ortho-k design, offering competitive pricing, fast delivery, excellent clinical results, and a stellar consultation and customer service team. To speak with an X-Cel representative about REMLens and hear about a special offer, please contact Tony Caporali at 770.709.3363 or tcaporali@xcelspecialtycontacts.com. To request a call on their website, go to xcelspecialtycontacts.com and hover over the “Specialty GP Lenses” tab.

In Memoriam

Ask colleagues, students and friends to describe Dr. Gina Sorbara, and you’ll hear one word repeated over and over again: passion. For more than 40 years, passion fueled Dr. Sorbara’s many contributions to contact lens research and education, and to optometry as a whole.

Sorbara led the University of Waterloo School of Optometry’s Contact Lens Clinic from 1984 until her retirement in 2020. She conducted research on topics ranging from specialty lens designs for keratoconus to corneal topography and was involved in research at the Centre for Contact Lens Research (now the Centre for Ocular Research & Education). She conducted research ranging from specialty lens designs for keratoconus, to corneal topography and orthokeratology. She also lectured in the Advanced Contact Lens Fitting course and authored the text “Correction of Keratoconus with GP Lenses.”

For over four decades, Dr. Sorbara was an active member of the International Association of Contact Lens Educators (IACLE). She was also a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry and the British Contact Lens Association and a Diplomate in the Academy’s Section on Cornea, Contact Lenses and Refractive Technologies. Dr. Sorbara was omnipresent at contact lens meetings, either presenting or contributing to the advancement of contact lens education through AOCLE, IACLE, GSLA, and BCLA.

Dr. Lacey Haines, an Assistant Clinical Professor at Waterloo, experienced Sorbara’s encouragement first-hand while completing her Cornea and Contact Lens Residency at the School of Optometry. The two worked closely ever since.

“Gina taught me not just about the profession, but about the importance of attending conferences and networking,”
Haines says. Sometimes Sorbara’s mentorship extended far beyond academic matters, like the time when she invited Haines to her first BCLA conference and then discovered that Haines hadn’t packed a dress for the gala. Sorbara immediately announced ‘We’re going shopping,’ and then spent the next few hours making sure Haines had a dress and shoes for the gala.

Information above excerpted from “Celebrating Dr. Gina Sorbara” and “Announcing the Establishment of the Dr. Gina Sorbara Contact Lens Residency” (via the University of Waterloo website).

Donations

Rhonda Robinson, O.D. made an impact in every aspect of the eye care industry and left a lasting impression on everyone that had the opportunity to know her, work with her or learn from her.

Contact lens vision correction was Rhonda’s passion. It was her belief that this “more natural” method of seeing enhanced the lives of her patients and shared that belief with optometry students and professional colleagues across the globe so they would feel the same.

Given the enormity of Rhonda’s work and her mission of promoting the contact lens specialty segment of eyecare, we want to honor her life’s work by providing an annual scholarship and/or American Academy of Optometry meeting travel grant to a contact lens resident from a North American School or College of Optometry. With the help of the American Academy of Optometry Foundation and your donations, her legacy will continue.

A donation to the Rhonda Robinson Contact Lens Residency Award fund will make it possible for her mission to live on. Please consider joining the Rhonda Robinson Contact Lens Residency Award Board members, Drs. Ben Chudner, David Geffen, Monica Johnsonbaugh, Mike Pier and Marjorie Rah, in carrying on Rhonda’s legacy by visiting www.aaopt.org/home/aaof/donate and making a donation today.

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School of Optometry
kclore@uab.edu

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dekinderj@umsl.edu

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skovach@indiana.edu

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Lindsay A. Sicks, OD
lsicks@ico.edu

Chandra Mickles, OD, MS
cmickles@nova.edu