

AOCLE 2022

The team at Nova Southeastern University College of Optometry is excited to host you in a few short weeks at B Ocean Resort! Here's a quick overview:

Dates: June 2nd – 5th, 2022

Topic: Keratoconus: What's the Rub?

Thursday: The Executive Board meets with Sponsors starting at 6:00p and everyone will kick off from 6:30pm-9:30pm with a Welcome Reception.

Friday: Meeting at NSU including field trip to campus, CE & sponsor presentations, instructional labs, a clinic tour, dinner at Shooters Waterfront, and a cruise of the Fort Lauderdale Intercoastal Waterways.

Saturday: More CE and sponsor presentations, the Educators' Business Meeting, and Sponsor & Educator Networking Activities followed by dinner at the NSU Art Museum (exhibits by Keith Haring & Pierre Alchinsky) followed by a salsa rueda dance class!

Sunday: Departures

Schools with AOCLE representatives:



2022 AOCLE Workshop:
Live and in-person!
*Nova Southeastern University
College of Optometry
Fort Lauderdale, FL
June 2-5, 2022*

*Please fly into Fort Lauderdale
Hollywood International Airport and
take a rideshare/taxi to BOcean Resort.*

In this issue:

2022 Workshop Preview, p. 2

School News, p. 2

Other News, p. 4

Industry News, p. 6

In Memoriam, p. 13

Workshop Preview – June 2022

FINALLY! NOVA Southeastern University will be able to welcome attendees IN PERSON to the AOCLE Summer workshop in Fort Lauderdale from Thursday, June 2nd through Saturday, June 4th, with departures expected on Sunday, June 5th, 2022.

This year's theme is "Keratoconus: What's the Rub?" CE lectures will be given by renowned ophthalmologists from Miami's Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, and - wait for it - optometrists from AOCLE's very own members' list!

Participants will be asked to fly into Fort Lauderdale Hollywood International Airport (FLL), and then utilize a rideshare or taxi for the brief drive to the BOcean Resort. After check in, pick up a goody bag and attend the Welcome Reception starting at 6:30p where drinks and heavy hors d'oeuvres will be served. AOCLE award winners will also be announced!

On Friday morning, after a hotel breakfast, buses will depart for the NOVA Health Professions Division campus, where photos will be taken, CE lectures and industry presentations heard, and lunch served (no bacon for you!). We then have an afternoon of hands-on events, including a tour of the NSU facilities. We will gather for dinner at Shooters Waterfront restaurant with a buffet dinner and music. Then, enjoy a sunset boat ride with a guided tour along the intercoastal waterways of Fort Lauderdale. The boat ride

will end with a drop off at the BOcean Resort.

Saturday's itinerary contains more exciting CE and industry presentations, followed by the AOCLE Business Meeting and an afternoon break. Afternoon networking activities include spending a few hours at the hotel pool or private beach (with cabanas!), visiting the Aventura Mall in North Miami Beach, or a trip to the Hard Rock Casino in Hollywood. Saturday evening, a bus will take attendees to the NSU Art Museum, where AOCLE members will enjoy an art exhibit plus regional food, beverages, music, and dancing. There will be a demonstration of salsa and salsa rueda dancing by professionals, so bring those dancing shoes! After a night of fun and networking between educators and industry sponsors, the meeting will come to a close.

Sunday departures will once again require rideshares to get from the hotel to FLL airport.

To learn more about the hotel amenities, accommodations, and world-famous Mermaid Show, visit the resort website [here](#).

Please note that sea turtle nesting will be in progress, and "so as not to disorient the hatchlings who need to follow their mother to the ocean, beach front properties must dim external lights in the evenings." Additional information can be found [here](#).

Campus News – Spring 2022

Illinois College of Optometry:

Dr. Jennifer Harthan was given the Dr. Edward S. Bennett GPLI Educator of the Year Award during GSLS 2022. She currently serves as Chief of the Illinois Eye Institute's Cornea and Contact Lens Service of Clinical Excellence.

ICO is pleased to welcome current Cornea and Contact Lens and Ocular Disease Resident Dr. Will Skoog to the faculty. One of Dr. Skoog's last tasks as a resident will be to coordinate ICO's first Scleral Lens Education Society SCLERAL Workshop at the end of June. He will officially start his faculty appointment in August.

Midwestern University Arizona College of Optometry:

Kaila Osmotherly Dougherty, OD, FAAO has been promoted to Vice President of Clinical Operations at Midwestern University. In this role, she will oversee the clinical operations of all programs on both the Glendale, AZ and Downers Grove, IL campuses.

Caitlin Miller, OD, FAAO will be assuming the role of Associate Dean of Clinical Affairs of the Eye Institute. Most recently she served as Assistant Director of Clinical Rotations. She has been instrumental in many aspects of the Clinical Curriculum.

School of Optometry and Vision Science, University of Waterloo:

Dr. Lyndon Jones presented on “Innovative Use of Contact Lenses: Beyond Vision Correction” at The American Academy of Optometry's Innovation Council, a special two-hour COPE-approved CE event at the inaugural Virtual Innovation Summit on Wednesday, May 11, 2022.

Southern California College of Optometry at Marshall B. Ketchum University:

Dr. Julie A. Schornack has been named the second President of Marshall B. Ketchum University. The Board of Trustees unanimously and enthusiastically selected Julie this Spring after a national search. Most recently she served as Vice President of Clinical Affairs followed by Senior Vice President and Chief of Staff. You can read more about her career and new appointment [here](#).

Dr. Heidi Wagner joined the contact lens faculty at SCCO earlier this year. You can read more about Dr. Wagner's optometric career [here](#).

Southern College of Optometry:

Dr. Dan Fuller was installed as the new President of the Scleral Lens Education Society during the 2022 Global Specialty Lens Symposium meeting in Las Vegas.

University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Optometry:

Dean Kelly K. Nichols was awarded the Dr. Frank Fontana Career Achievement Award at the 2022 Southeastern Congress of Optometry (SECO).

Dr. Andrew Pucker, most recently Assistant Professor and Director of Clinical Research and Myopia Control at UAB, has left his full-time position to join Lexitas as Senior Director of Drug Development. Andrew will keep a part-time appointment at UAB, which will allow him to continue serving in the Myopia Control Clinic, mentoring graduate students, and conducting some independent research.

Dr. Jackson Lau (Euclid Systems Clinical and Scientific Affairs Manager) joined Drs. Zachary Reynard and Andrew Pucker at UABSO for their annual orthokeratology workshop for third year students. Over 30 students attended this live workshop and were able to fit patients in the latest Euclid MAX™ and Euclid MAX™ Toric lenses.

University of Missouri-St. Louis College of Optometry:

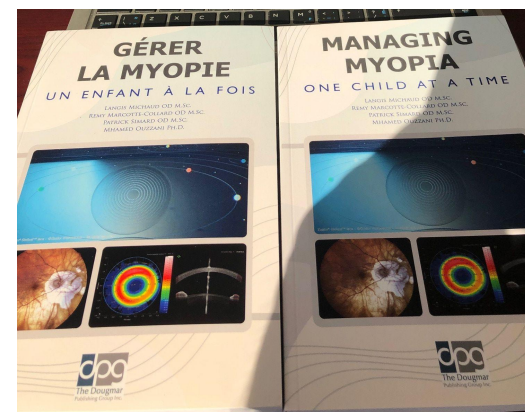
Dr. Ed Bennett was awarded the inaugural Thomas E. Anastor GPLI Distinguished Service Award during the 2022 GPLI meeting held during the Global Specialty Lens Symposium meeting in Las Vegas.

University of the Incarnate Word Rosenberg School of Optometry:

Dr. Sandra Fortenberry will assume her new position as Dean on June 1, 2022.

Universite de Montreal School of Optometry:

Dr. Langis Michaud is happy and proud to share the publication of the first book on myopia management with his co-authors Dr. Remy Marcote-Collard, Dr. Patrick Simard, and Mhamed Ouzzani. It is available in French or English, with a choice of electronic or hard copy. Please see <https://managing-myopia.com/> for pre-order information.



**Print copies of “Managing Myopia”
(photo provided by Dr. Langis Michaud)**

The book is about the author's clinical experience and treatment algorithms. It also contains all of the up-to-date evidence based guidelines (IMI white papers, CLEAR

Reports, etc.) translated into clinical implications. The volume constitutes a good reference for educators and students interested in myopia management.

IACLE

The International Association of Contact Lens Educators (IACLE) was pleased to host its fourth virtual conference titled “Make Students Practice Ready” on 14 May 2022. AOCLE member Dr. Etty Bitton (School of Optometry at the Université de Montréal) served as the Conference Chair. The 3-hour virtual meeting featured presentations on:

- *Problem-based learning*
- *Incorporating case reports in teaching*
- *How to conduct a practical session*
- *Challenges and solutions in assessing students’ skills*
- *Effective patient communication and counseling*
- *Internships and externships*



IACLE membership is comprised of contact lens educators from all eye care professions including optometrists, ophthalmologists, opticians and others, as well as industry

representatives involved in education. As of January 2021, IACLE has had over 2,700 educators hold membership. They currently have 869 active members (624 of these teach at academic institutes) in 79 countries worldwide (as of 30 November 2021).

To join IACLE, please visit:
<https://iacle.org/membership/>

Due to travel restrictions implemented in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2020 and 2021 IACLE Contact Lens Educator of the Year Award recipients from 2020 and 2021 have yet to receive their awards. The 2020 winners, Professor Renée Reeder (USA), Professor Bariah Mohd Ali (Malaysia) and Jo Underwood (UK), and the 2021 winners Dr Johanna Garzón (Colombia), Wei Xu (China), and Dr Byki Huntjens (UK), will receive their awards at meetings this year along with the soon-to-be-announced 2022 winners.

The IACLE Contact Lens Educator of the Year Awards recognize and award achievements in contact lens education and are sponsored by CooperVision. The winners will each receive a bursary of up to US\$3,000 towards the cost of attending an international meeting.

The GP Lens Institute (GPLI)



The first [GP Lens Institute Annual Report \(2021\)](#) is now available. This report is full of celebrations, program updates, and thanks to those who support the GPLI’s mission to provide education and resources for fitting specialty contact lenses.

Do you have an inspiring GP lens success story to share? Email it to [Beth Anderzhon](#), GPLI Development and Marketing Coordinator to have it featured in a future GPLI newsletter or social media post!

The GPLI also had an exciting 2022 Global Specialty Lens Symposium, where they sponsored a track of education and the registration of contact lens educators, attended a booth, and hosted their Rising Stars reception.

The GPLI also awarded several deserving individuals during the meeting including:

Dr. Stephanie Woo

Naomi “Jo” Svochak GPLI Practitioner of the Year Award

Dr. Jennifer Harthan

Dr. Edward S. Bennett GPLI Educator of the Year Award

Dr. Barry Eiden

*Thomas J. "Tommy" Pham GPLI-NKCF
Keratoconus Practitioner of the Year Award
(Inaugural Award)*

Dr. Edward Bennett

Thomas E. Anastor GPLI Distinguished Service Award (New Award as of 2022)

As a reminder, the GPLI has several resources in various development stages. They are helping to increase specialty contact lens clinical externship programs at the schools and colleges of optometry. The first two (of four planned) comprehensive online modules are being developed to help both eye care professionals and students feel more confident in GP lenses for 1) spherical and bitoric lens wearers, and 2) young myopes.

Thanks to the generosity of Carl and Judy Moore, the GPLI Clinical Excellence Award (given to a graduating student at each of the schools and colleges of optometry in North America) will be named in honor of contact lens icon Dr. Robert Mandell.

Monthly webinars (usually the 3rd Tuesday of the month) are presented by industry leaders, featuring the latest advancements in customized contact lenses. Additionally, over 100 archived webinars are available for viewing [here](#).

During the month of May, "Give to Lincoln Day" is a giving event for the non-profits of Lincoln, Nebraska. Donors can make a larger impact with a matching fund from the Lincoln Community Foundation and generous sponsors. GPLI will get a proportional share of the \$500,000 match fund depending on how much is donated through their ["Give to Lincoln"/GPLI nonprofit page](#).

Global Specialty Lens Symposium

www.GSLSymposium.com

The next GSLS meeting, presented by *Contact Lens Spectrum*, will be held January 18-21, 2023 at Horseshoe Casino Las Vegas (formerly Bally's)! The leading national contact lens conference in North America, GSLS will feature posters, papers, and camaraderie with colleagues from around the world.

An extension of the in-person GSLS, *Contact Lens Spectrum* also introduces GSLS: Virtual this year! This digital event, focused on the successful management of ocular conditions using today's specialty contact lenses, offers the opportunity to stay up-to-date on best practices and new techniques through interactive, educational sessions streamed conveniently from home. This free program acts as a complement to the live, winter meeting and features many of the same faculty with a new and different agenda.

The GSLS mobile app is coming soon to the App Store and Google Play to help you get the most out of the meeting.

Former Cornea and Contact Lens Resident, Dr. Ashley Wallace-Tucker, has joined the Program Committee which consists of existing members Jason Nichols, OD MPH PhD (GSLS Chair), Karen DeLoss, OD (Vice Chair), Pat Caroline, Lynette Johns, OD; and Eef van der Worp, BSc, PhD.

Finally, a reminder that the Global Myopia Symposium is happening again this year! The event is scheduled for September 8-10, 2022 with registration opening soon at <https://www.clspectrum.com/gms>

STAPLE Program

www.stapleprogram.com

Ursula Lotzkat

ursula@winkproductions.com

Jill Lopa

jill@winkproductions.com

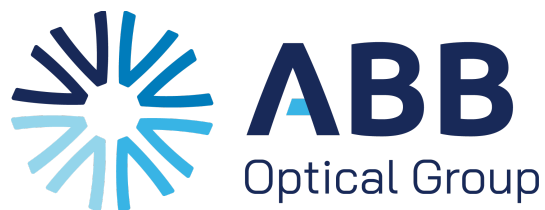
The STAPLE (Soft Toric and Presbyopic Lens Experience) program, a collaborative initiative on the part of Alcon, Bausch + Lomb, CooperVision, and Johnson & Johnson Vision, has presented over 300 workshops bringing educators, students and industry together.

Even though the pandemic put many workshops on hold in 2020 and 2021, STAPLE was able to virtually work with schools to provide 2nd and/or 3rd year

optometry students with experience fitting soft toric and soft multifocal lenses. While STAPLE has returned to some schools live, programs continue to be offered virtually should schools wish.

To schedule a virtual or in-person event, contact the program administrators, Ursula Lotzkat and/or Jill Lopa.

Industry News – Spring 2022



www.abboptical.com

Andy Jackson - Director, Specialty Contact Lenses

ajackson@abboptical.com

Dede Reyes, FCLSA - Manager, Consultation & Education - Specialty Vision Products

dreyes@abboptical.com



ABB Optical Group is excited to announce the winners of the 2021 Optometry Student Challenge!

Winners:

Calisandra Larson - Pacific

Veronia Abadeer - NOVA

Honorable Mentions:

Maryam Fatouraei - MCPHS

Jennifer Dang - SALUS

Congratulations! Thank you to all the students who participated! ABB Optical looks forward to seeing what this talented group accomplishes in the future.

ABB Optical Group is proud to announce exclusive distributorship of the ALTIUS™ lens for sports vision. ALTIUS™ single-use performance tinted contact lenses have been developed through years of clinical research and testing with elite athletes around the world. It incorporates 360 Degree Total Immersion Technology® to mitigate visual noise with the goal of allowing athletes to perform with maximal Comfort, Clarity, & Quickness.



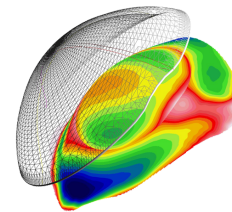
www.acculens.com

Elissa Masler - Vice President, Sales and Marketing

elissa@acculens.com



AccuLens added an additional DAC / ALM OTT lathe to their production line to keep up with the demand for Maxim 3D lenses. The complex design of free-form lenses requires a 15-minute cycle time for cutting. The additional machine will ensure quick turnaround service. Additionally, the upgrade will allow serial numbers to be added on all Maxim and Maxim 3D lenses. Maxim 3D is measured to the micron



over the cornea and out onto the sclera at any axis for a perfectly contoured fit. All Maxim 3D lenses also incorporate On-Point Alignment technology for off-set optics as well as front surface eccentricity (HD Optics) that reduces residual higher order aberrations for more accurate vision. This manufacturing algorithm provides improvement in both high and low contrast visual acuity.

Alcon

SEE BRILLIANTLY

www.alcon.com

Chad Zscherny - Director - Academic Development U.S. Vision Care
chad.zscherny@alcon.com

After 22 years of service, Tom Duchardt, FAAO made the decision to retire in order to spend more time with family and to give back to the eye care community which he so loves! A BIG "Thank You" goes to Tom for his tireless work strengthening Alcon's standing in the academic and optometric communities.

Tom's position has been filled with the appointment of Chad Zscherny, who will assume the role of Director, Academic Development, Alcon U.S. Vision Care. In this role, Chad will coordinate with the academic community to further Alcon's longstanding partnerships and provide information on Alcon Vision Care products to help prepare students for when they enter into practice. Alcon is pleased to welcome Chad to his new role and thanks Tom for a job well done!



Chad Zscherny



www.artoptical.com

Erik Anderson, MBA, NCLEC - Executive Director of Professional Relations
eanderson@artoptical.com

Bruce Morgan, OD, FAAO - Executive Director of Research & Clinical Support
bmorgan@artoptical.com

Bettany Peebles, FAAO, NCLE-AC, ABOC - Executive Director of Consultation Services
bpeebles@artoptical.com

Art Optical is excited to return to in-person workshop and training events! They visited Salus University-PCO in their first outing of the year and look forward to more hands-on learning opportunities in the months ahead.



While they are pleased to participate in all specialty lens programs, students have been especially receptive to learning about the MOONLENS® modern myopia management/overnight Ortho-K design. In partnership with the KATT Design group, they created a series of 5 quick tutorial videos for the MOONLENS and have hundreds of students across the country who have completed the [MOONLENS certification](#). This certification will be honored post-graduation so students can begin fitting MOONLENS as soon as they get into practice! To discuss teaming up on training events, reach out to [Erik](#)!



www.avtlens.com

Keith Parker, NCLEC - President
keith@avtlens.com

Janine Bugno, NCLEC - Vice President
janine@avtlens.com

AVT has multiple options for pediatric lenses including: PediaSITE, GP lenses, and NaturaSOFT Pediatric soft lenses. PediaSITE, with VIP (Variable Inverse Periphery) Technology, is available in fully customizable parameters with verified high plus powers to meet the needs of pediatric patients. The NaturaSOFT Pediatric is a customized soft SIHY Definitive 74% lens. AVT held an Options for Pediatrics and Contact Lenses Webinar on April 26th, moderated by Christine Sindt, OD. To view the webinar, visit www.avtlens.com or for more information, email info@avtlens.com.

AVT received re-certification from the International Standards Organization (ISO) for maintaining the highest standards in manufacturing and organizational practices. ISO Certification allows AVT to better serve practitioners worldwide.

BAUSCH + LOMB
See better. Live better.
www.bausch.com

Jill M. Saxon, OD, FAAO - Executive Director, Professional Strategy, US Vision Care
jill.saxon@bausch.com



In the fall 2021, Bausch + Lomb announced the launch of the BioTrue Eye Care Recycling program, the first and only eye care recycling program in the United States that allows consumers the ability to properly recycle all brands of their eye drop single dose units, lens cases and lens solution caps (lens bottles can be recycled through standard recycling), as well as Biotrue® Hydration Boost Lubricant Eye Drops multi-dose bottles. The Biotrue® Eye Care Recycling program builds upon Bausch + Lomb's ONE by ONE contact lens recycling program, which collects and recycles used contact lens materials. The ONE by ONE and the Biotrue Eye Care recycling programs allow consumers to recycle these materials to help make a difference for the environment.



www.coopervision.com

Steven F. Rosinski, OD - Senior Manager,
N. America Professional & Academic Affairs
- East
srosinski@coopervision.com

Arti Shah, OD, FAAO - Senior Manager,
N. America Professional & Academic Affairs
- West
ashah@coopervision.com



Coopervision Expands U.S. Plastic Neutral Initiative

CooperVision's full portfolio of silicone hydrogel 1-day contact lenses is now net plastic neutral in the United States, expanding the company's leadership in sustainability and increasing the environmental impact of this initiative. The MyDay daily disposable family now joins the clariti 1 day family, which was the first net plastic neutral contact lens. In just one year,

the initiative has prevented the equivalent of more than 28 million plastic bottles from reaching the world's oceans. For every box of clariti 1 day or MyDay distributed in the U.S., CooperVision partners with Plastic Bank to fund the collection, processing, and reuse of plastic waste that is equal to the weight of the plastic contained in the lenses and packaging.



CooperVision®
Specialty EyeCare

www.coopervisionspecialtylenses.com

*Leah Johnson, OD, FAAO, FSLs - Director,
Professional Affairs, the Americas*
ljohnson@coopervisionsec.com

*Kelly Voltz, OD, FAAO, FSLs - Senior
Manager, Professional and Clinical Affairs*
kvoltz@coopervisionsec.com

*Justine Siergey, OD, FSLs - Manager,
Professional Affairs - Irregular Cornea*
jsiergey@coopervisionsec.com

CooperVision Specialty EyeCare develops, manufactures, and improves access to an unmatched portfolio of life-changing

specialty contact lenses worldwide. In North America, they are comprised of these legacy companies: Blanchard, GP Specialists and Paragon.

Make a Difference: Students can fit a patient who lacks financial resources with Onefit™, Paragon CRT®/ Dual Axis® or iSee® lenses, free of charge. Students can fit one pair of lenses for one patient per school year.



Residency Summit: CooperVision's 5th Annual Contact Lens and Pediatric Residency Summit took place February 25-27th. The summit theme was *Act Now, Change Tomorrow*. Residents learned about the latest advances in the company's broad portfolio and their continued efforts to establish myopia management as a standard of care.



**Pediatric and Contact Lens residents at
CooperVision's Contact Lens and Pediatric
Residency Summit**



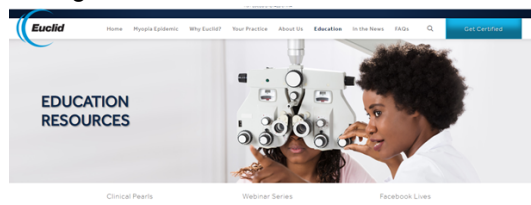
www.euclidsys.com

*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's new Academic Policy includes unlimited exchanges for 90-days on all orders (warranted lenses will be offered at no additional cost). In addition, Euclid provides complimentary educational and practice management tools, including Ortho-K troubleshooting videos, insertion/removal training videos, and educational materials for patients.

On Euclid's [Educational Resource Page](#), you will find Tips and Tricks from the Euclid consultation team, Clinical Pearls, and engaging Facebook Live events and Webinars showcasing the latest myopia management news.



Watch for the upcoming launch of MyEuclid, a cloud-based platform designed to help drive practice efficiency and optimize Euclid Ortho-K fits. Sign up with sales@euclidsys.com.



www.jnvisionpro.com

Kurt Moody, OD, FAAO Dipl - Director, North America Professional Education
kmoody1@its.jnj.com

Ryka Lovis - Manager, Professional Education
rlouis@its.jnj.com

Josh Meredith - Manager, Professional Education
jmeredi3@its.jnj.com



Dr. Christie Closson

Christi Closson, OD, FAAO has been appointed to the newly created position of Senior Manager Professional Education at Johnson & Johnson Vision. As the company focuses support on the next generation of eye doctors and prepares to activate ECPs

with an expanding new ACUVUE portfolio, she will work with the student education team to create and execute an effective education plan, tailored to current students of optometry and new and recent graduates. She will also lead the professional education strategy aimed at selected new product offerings in 2022 and beyond.

She is passionate about optometric education and working with students, educators, and practitioners to elevate individual practice and the profession as a whole. She most recently served as Chief of Low Vision at the Pacific University College of Optometry.



Steve J. Webb - President
sjwebb@metro-optics.com

Lora Castle - Vice President of Professional Services
lcastle@metro-optics.com

Metro Optics provides eye care professionals with quality custom contact lens designs and expert consultation services to enhance their practices' profitability and improve their patients' quality of life. By offering a comprehensive

line of scleral, corneal GP, and soft lens designs, Metro Optics aims to help ECPs easily manage any refractive error, presbyopia, or highly irregular cornea due to surgery or keratoconus. Fit matters when it comes to custom contact lenses, thus Metro Optics makes learning how to fit their custom lenses easy through online videos, workshops, and hands-on staff training options. To schedule a custom learning session, contact Metro Optics at 800-233-1858, or send an email request to info@metro-optics.com.



www.synergieyes.com

Louise Sclafani, OD, FAAO, FSLs - Vice President, Professional Affairs
lsclafani@synergieyes.com



SynergEyes was excited to announce at the Global Specialty Lens Symposium in Las Vegas an exclusive distribution agreement with EyePrint Prosthetics. SynergEyes plans to commercialize the SynergEyes

ScanFitPRO lens in Q3 of 2022 which combines Elevation Specific Technology and empirical fitting with use of scleral profilometry via Oculus Pentacam's Corneal Scleral Profile Report (CSP) or Eaglet Eye's Surface Profiler (ESP). This partnership strengthens the SynergEyes portfolio of products that supports the Continuum of Care for the irregular cornea with the UltraHealth hybrids family for mild to moderate disease, the SynergEyes VS™ scleral lens for more advanced cases and now the ScanFitPRO lens for more irregular scleral contours or for those who want to fit scleral lenses empirically.



www.tfoptics.com/

Don Dixon - General Manager
dondixon@tfoptics.com

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



At GSLS (L to R):
Don Dixon, Kat Miller, Jan Svachak, George Mera

TruForm Optics has been exhibiting at Optometric meetings again and had the pleasure of visiting with many Contact Lens Educators at GSLS2022! TruForm is a proud sponsor of the 2022 AOCLE in person meeting and looks forward to sharing their available educational resources with the Schools of Optometry in Florida in June.



Talia, Kat, Sung Ae, Barbara, Margie, Sue, Janis, Maria

In March, TruForm celebrated Women's History month by highlighting the female

employees and their important contributions to the company's success. As always, TruForm is available to participate in workshops at the Schools of Optometry and looks forward to working with the future Eye Care Professionals.



www.valleycontax.com/

Josh Adams, NCLEC - Vice President
josh@valleycontax.com

Adeline Bauer, OD, FAAO, FSLs -
Professional Relations Director
drbauer@valleycontax.com

Jennifer Conklin, - Schools Coordinator
jennifer@valleycontax.com

Valley Contax has launched [The Student Travel Grand Award Program](#) for third- and fourth-year optometry students. They will award students with a travel grant to GSLs, Optometry's Meeting, or Academy. Visit their website or follow them on social media for contest rules and deadlines.

The Student Travel Grand Award program is one of the latest efforts for Valley Contax to enrich the student experience of tomorrow's optometrists. They look forward to the students joining them at AOA this year in Chicago.



Valley Contax's new manufacturing facility

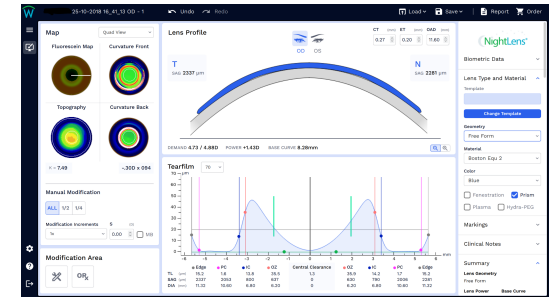
In January, Valley Contax moved to their new state-of-the-art manufacturing facility. They are excited to offer virtual tours of their new facility to faculty and students. To schedule a tour or educational event, email edu@valleycontax.com.



www.wavecontactlenses.com

Shirin Ayers, ME., MBA - President
sayers@wavecontactlenses.com

WAVE launched their latest software upgrade featuring a new and more intuitive user interface. The primary goals were to maintain the same functionality as the well-known legacy software and improve the user experience and ease of use, whilst adding new modification tools for Ortho-K Lens design. The new WAVE software guides the user through the design process of personalized Scleral, Ortho-K and GP lenses in 4 easy steps: enter biometric data, select lens type and design template, review of the required lens design, and order placement. Graphic representation of the Ortho-K design zones enhances the user's ability to modify the lens design according to their fitting philosophy and patient's needs. Some doctors say they can create a freeform specialty lens design in under one minute!



Screenshot of WAVE software



To review course outlines and register for the program, visit X-Cel's website at [Feed Your Mind](https://www.xcelspecialtycontacts.com).

www.xcelspecialtycontacts.com

Cathy Smith - National Sales Director
csmith@xcelspecialtycontacts.com

X-Cel Specialty Contacts recently launched, "Feed Your Mind," an educational program led by Tony Caporali, Director of Product Management and Lead Educator at X-Cel, features the recently launched REMLens® for overnight orthokeratology.



The 45-minute Feed Your Mind education programs featuring REMLens® allows eye care providers to book a virtual staff training session or an in-person training and fitting session on a date and time that is convenient for the practice. The program offers four courses and allows staff the flexibility to enjoy learning over breakfast, lunch, or dinner.

In Memoriam: William J. "Joe" Benjamin



The AOCLE membership was saddened by the passing of William J. "Joe" Benjamin on March 24, 2022. Joe was beloved by his colleagues in the AOCLE and by those who had the privilege of working with him throughout his very distinguished career.

Kind, helpful, and "a true gentleman" were qualities his colleagues often attributed to him... but he was so much more than that. His understated, modest, and "behind the scenes" qualities belied someone whose career as a cornea and contact lens clinical researcher, scholar, and author leaves behind a legacy equaled or surpassed by very few in the history of our profession.

Everyone remembers Joe Benjamin as a faculty member at UABSO, and perhaps also at UHCO (and a short stint at UMSL just prior), but he started his career at The Ohio State University College of Optometry. He earned his Bachelor of Vision Science ('77), Doctor of Optometry ('79), Master of Science ('79), and PhD in Vision Science all from TOSU.

At UABSO, Joe served as Associate Dean from 2013-14 and interim chair of the Department of Optometry from 2011-14. He was a senior scientist at the Vision Science Research Center from 1995-2014 and served as the director of the Clinical Eye Research Facility from 1996-2005.

Among his numerous honors include being inducted into the National Academies of Practice, receiving the AOA Contact Lens and Cornea Section Achievement Award, and receiving the CLMA's highest honor, the Josef Dallos award, for outstanding contribution to the development advancement of the contact lens industry and for service to humanity.

We will all miss him but the tremendous legacy he leaves behind will always be with us... and the optometric profession will always be very thankful that Dr. Joe Benjamin graced us with his chosen career path.

This "In Memoriam" was based on a more comprehensive remembrance written by Dr. Ed Bennett and distributed to the AOCLE Membership on March 27, 2022.



Executive Board

Chair: Julie Ott DeKinder, OD
University of Missouri - St. Louis
College of Optometry
dekinderj@umsl.edu

Vice Chair: Dawn Lam, OD
Southern California College of Optometry at
Marshall B. Ketchum University
dlam@ketchum.edu

Immediate Past Chair: Katie Clore, OD
University of Alabama at Birmingham
School of Optometry
kclore@uab.edu

Secretary: Pam Satjawatcharaphong, OD
University of California Berkeley Herbert
Wertheim School of Optometry and Vision
Science
psatjawat@berkeley.edu

Treasurer: Latricia Pack, OD
Northeastern State University
College of Optometry
packl@nsuok.edu

Communications Committee

Keshia Elder, OD – kselder@uab.edu
Andrea Janoff, OD – janoffa@nova.edu
Lindsay A. Sicks, OD – lsicks@ico.edu
Dorcas Tsang, OD – dtsang@westernu.edu
Florescia Yeh, OD – fyeh@midwestern.edu