The Stein Eye Institute Outpatient Surgical Center
A New Standard for Patient Care and Medical Progress

The next era has begun for patient care at UCLA Stein Eye Institute with the opening of the new outpatient surgical center—facilities that bring greater patient comfort and new tools for surgical procedures while also serving as an incubator for advanced applications to come.

Located in the Edie & Lew Wasserman Building, the outpatient surgical center opened in February 2015 and includes six new operating rooms, examination areas, and support facilities devoted to the full range of ophthalmic treatment.

“With the opening of the new outpatient surgical center, we now have the best facilities to complement the talents of our medical team,” says Bartly J. Mondino, MD, chairman of the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology and director of the Stein Eye Institute. “Everything about the center was planned with enlightened ideas about patient well-being and medical efficiency.”

Expanded Recovery Area, Greater Connection for Family and Friends
A key element in that planning was exploring the logistics of the entire surgical process, from check-in to preoperative preparation to surgery to recovery.

“The outpatient surgical center was created so every procedure, from the simplest to the most complex, is as easy as possible for our patients,” explains Susan Jones, RN, BSN, director of perioperative services for the Institute. To that end, patient space for preparation and recovery has more than doubled. “We used to have six beds—now we have 20 beds in private bays,” she adds.

“My patients tell me the new facilities are wonderful for them,” reports D. Rex Hamilton, MD, FACS, health sciences associate clinical professor of ophthalmology. “The comfort and relaxation offered makes a tremendous difference to how they feel about the surgical experience.”

Consideration has also been given to the patient’s family members and friends who no longer are tied to a waiting room: within the reception area, a status board visually follows the patient from preparation through surgery to recovery in eight color-coded steps, and handheld pagers signal when visitors should return to the outpatient surgical center.

Explains Peter A. Quiros, MD, health sciences associate clinical professor, “the new operating rooms merge the emotional needs of our patients and their families with the efficient work of doctors and nurses. The facilities have a bright, open feeling that are welcomed by our patients and are easy for the medical teams to maneuver as they use new surgical tools.”

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Letter from the Chair

In the Winter 2015 issue of EYE newsletter, we celebrated the opening of the Edie & Lew Wasserman Building and highlighted the opportunity it provided in allowing us to expand our facilities and further improve the way we treat patients with eye diseases.

Now, one year later, that bold outlook is being realized with our state-of-the-art, outpatient surgical center, which opened in February 2015. The center includes advanced mechanisms for precision surgery like the femtosecond laser and intraoperative guidance systems that dramatically improve accuracy and visual results. The facilities were designed specifically to capture today's surgical needs and accommodate new technology and practices as they develop.

Recognizing that having an eye procedure can be a stressful process, the new outpatient surgical center was created to ensure ease from beginning to end. For patients, we've increased our preoperative and recovery space from six beds to 20 beds in private bays. And for family members and friends, pagers and a color-coded status board mean no longer having to stay trapped in a waiting room. In addition, our ability to teach the next generation of ophthalmologists has been enhanced through the incorporation of numerous training tools.

In this issue of EYE, we also celebrate the numerous honors given to our faculty. As one example, Anne L. Coleman, MD, PhD, presented the 2015 Jackson Memorial Lecture, which is one of the highest accolades in ophthalmology, and she also received the Innovation Award for Community Service. The men and women of the Stein Eye Institute are true leaders in ophthalmology, and their selfless efforts impact vision care worldwide.

As we look forward to upcoming innovation and development, we give pause to the valued members of the Stein Eye community we lost this past year: staff members who helped shape us; generous donors who gave so that others could see; and volunteer faculty who taught and mentored our students. Their contributions live on in all we do.

Sincerely,

Bartly J. Mondino, MD
Director, Stein Eye Institute
Chairman, UCLA Department of Ophthalmology

Outpatient Surgical Center

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Femtosecond Laser: an Advanced Tool for Precision Surgery

One of those new tools is the Alcon LenSx, a femtosecond laser that represents the world standard in precision cataract surgical procedures—the most commonly conducted surgery in the United States. The Alcon LenSx emits optical pulses in the realm of a femtosecond—an almost unimaginably short duration (one-millionth of one-billionth of a second).

“A femtosecond laser can be thought of as a ‘microscalpel,’ cutting and breaking up the cataract on a microscopic scale with an incredible level of precision,” says Kevin M. Miller, MD, Kolokotrones Chair in Ophthalmology, who was instrumental in bringing the laser to Stein Eye.

“The femtosecond laser can be used for corneal incisions, lens softening during cataract surgery, and incisions to correct astigmatism,” reports Dr. Miller. “With a femtosecond laser, I can operate more efficiently and more precisely. For our patients, it reduces the time the eye is open and eases the stress on the eye. And with such accuracy at our disposal, we believe that the laser will open whole new avenues of treatment that have never been possible before.”

Working in tandem with the femtosecond laser are the Intraoperative Refractive Guidance Systems, which at Stein Eye include the Zeiss Callisto Markerless System, the Alcon Verion Image Guided System, and the Optwave Refractive Analysis System, all of which increase the level of precision in procedures. The Zeiss and Alcon systems track the position and orientation of the eye during surgery, creating a digital overlay that is linked directly to surgical tools in the operating room. The Optwave measures the eye’s power, which assists the surgeon in choosing the most effective lens implant.

“These systems can provide dramatic improvement in accuracy,” says Dr. Hamilton. “As one example, we can reduce astigmatism down to insignificant levels in 95 percent of patients.”

Large screens in the reception area detail a patient’s progression and individual pagers signal when visitors should return to the outpatient surgical center—informational tools that liberate family members and friends from the waiting room.

Chanese Green-Cole shows how the outpatient surgical center’s color-coded system tracks a patient’s surgical progress from preparation to recovery.
Advancing Teaching and Training

The outpatient surgical center also accommodates advances in teaching and training: one room includes an adjacent seating gallery for visiting doctors and others to observe surgical procedures without scrubbing, while gallery monitors display the same view of the eye the surgeon is concurrently seeing through the microscope. The video system also includes mass storage for surgical videos, which can be distributed as educational tools or reviewed by colleagues at other institutions. In addition, the video system provides the opportunity for live streaming of surgical procedures at conferences, further enhancing the educational value.

Today’s Needs, Tomorrow’s Developments

The new surgical facilities were designed not only for today’s surgical needs but also with foresight to anticipate new technology and procedures as they develop.

“Providing premier care requires facilities that evolve as technology changes,” says Dr. Hamilton. “The new operating rooms were planned with the space and the layout for current technology, as well as to accommodate new developments that are already in the pipeline, such as advances in lasers and precision imaging equipment.”

The outpatient surgical center—especially the seating gallery—has become a venue for connection to the global technology companies who benefit from witnessing the practical application of their products.

“Engineers and quality assurance experts who design medical technology often work in a vacuum; they know their technology, but they don’t get many opportunities to see it in practice,” explains Dr. Miller. “Because of our new facilities, I was able to host a group of engineers who could experience for themselves how doctors and nurses use their technology in the actual setting where it was intended to be used.”

Future Plans

Procedures in the outpatient surgical center are now on a pace to surpass 6,000 surgical procedures annually. “The facilities have become so valued,” says Ms. Jones, “that ophthalmologists from the UCLA Doheny Eye Centers and our local medical community are bringing their patients here for their surgeries.”

Plans to accommodate the growing patient load are already underway; a sixth operating room is scheduled to open in 2016. The arrival of another femtosecond laser this year is also anticipated.

“In sum,” says Dr. Quiros, “the Stein Eye Institute outpatient surgical center is everything that patients, caregivers, medical staff, and physicians could hope for: the best facilities available.”
Institute Honors

2015 AAO Honorees

Stein Eye Institute faculty members held leadership positions at the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) Annual Meeting November 14–17, 2015, in Las Vegas, Nevada. Stein Eye faculty contributed to scientific and educational programs, served on committees, moderated symposia, and taught instructional courses. In addition, specific faculty members were honored for their contributions to the Academy.

2015 Life Achievement Honor Award
- Anthony C. Arnold, MD, Jerome and Joan Snyder Chair in Ophthalmology
- Robert Alan Goldberg, MD, Karen and Frank Dabby Endowed Chair in Ophthalmology

2015 Secretariat Award
- Kevin Miller, MD, Kolokotrones Chair in Ophthalmology

2015 Jackson Memorial Lecture

Anne L. Coleman, MD, PhD. The Fran and Ray Stark Foundation Chair in Ophthalmology, presented the Jackson Memorial Lecture at the opening session of the AAO. Dr. Coleman is the third woman to deliver the lecture, which was established in 1944 and is considered one of the most prestigious honors in ophthalmology. Dr. Coleman’s lecture, How Big Data Inform Us About Cataract Surgery, explored the use of big data to uncover new findings about cataract surgery and the dramatic improvements in visual outcomes following surgery. She also presented an advance look at her upcoming paper in the American Journal of Ophthalmology about the nation's first electronic registry of eye diseases and conditions, which can be referenced for benchmarks to validate quality of care.

Clinical Focus

Custom-Molded Lens Brings Hope to Patients with Irregular Eye Surfaces

Patients who cannot benefit from standard visual correction due to eye surface irregularities can now achieve better vision thanks to a technology that allows for custom lens fabrication, according to Vivian Shibayama, OD, the specialty contact lens expert at UCLA Stein Eye Institute.

Scleral contact lenses have long been the go-to solution for patients with hard-to-fit eyes in need of correction. Designed to vault over the corneal surface and land on the sclera, scleral lenses are similar to regular contact lenses but are commonly used in patients with irregular corneas, as well as to treat high refractive errors and presbyopia. Scleral lenses are also prescribed to provide relief for patients with severe dry eyes by holding fluid against the cornea.

Basic scleral lenses use a standard fitting set, which includes about 20 prefabricated lenses of different shapes, and doctors adjust the standardized curves on the lenses to estimate the fit that each patient needs. But the curvature design of scleral lenses makes fitting challenging for patients with an irregular eye surface, according to Dr. Shibayama, because the lens needs to land on a smooth surface to fit properly.

The EyePrintPRO® lens may provide the needed solution. Unlike prefabricated lenses, each EyePrint lens is individually created from an impression of the patient’s ocular surface, allowing it to match the contour of any eye. The resulting lens is made from a high-oxygen permeable material and improves vision by creating a smooth refractive surface for the affected eye.

“The customized lens is a perfect fit for every patient, since it is created from a scan of that individual's eye,” explains Dr. Shibayama. EyePrint works well for most patients who cannot wear prefabricated lenses due to irregular eye surfaces resulting from multiple surgeries, scarring, chemical burns, or ocular trauma. “The lens provides therapeutic relief in eye pain and discomfort associated with ocular surface disease, and masks a corneal irregularity to give the patient better vision,” says Dr. Shibayama.

“Like a dentist takes a mold of your teeth, I take an impression of the eye,” explains Dr. Shibayama. “The impression material may feel a little cold and bulky, but it's painless.” The lenses, worn daily, last about a year with proper care.

The Stein Eye Institute's Contact Lens Center is one of only 26 centers in the United States working with the EyePrintPRO® lens, and it is the only center that offers this technology within a 100-mile radius of Los Angeles.
Jean-Pierre Hubschman, MD
Associate Professor of Ophthalmology

Jean-Pierre “JP” Hubschman was born in Lille, France, a city north of Paris. He received his medical degree, and completed his internship, residency, and fellowship in vitreoretinal surgery in France. Dr. Hubschman completed an international fellowship in retina at the UCLA Stein Eye Institute and became a member of the Stein Eye faculty in 2010. Dr. Hubschman is also an affiliate faculty member of the UCLA Department of Bioengineering. Dr. Hubschman sees patients with a variety of conditions, including diabetic retinopathy, macular degeneration, and retinal detachment. He is an expert in vitreoretinal surgery, including vitrectomy for maculopaties, diabetic retinopathies, and retinal detachment among others. His clinical research focuses on the development and evaluation of new vitreoretinal surgical techniques and robotics for ophthalmic surgery.

What made you leave France and come to the United States?
After completing medical school in Lille, France, and my postdoctoral training in Marseille, France, I became chief of the Retina Division of a renowned eye institute in Europe with locations in the southwest of France and northwest of Spain, where I worked for seven years. I knew the excellent reputation of the Stein Eye Institute—it’s the most famous eye institute in the world, and I always dreamed to be part of it. When I was offered the opportunity, I was thrilled.

When did you first discover you had an interest in science?
My whole family is in the scientific field, and I have been exposed to medicine for quite a long time. My dad is an endocrinologist, my mom is a pharmacist, my uncle is a cardiologist, my aunt is a dentist, my sister is a psychiatrist, and my cousins practice medicine. As a teenager, I enjoyed going with my dad to the hospital and listening to him explain his various medical cases.

What attracted you to ophthalmology?
Vision is so important for everyone. For some people it is as important as life itself. The three primary reasons that brought me to ophthalmology are:

- You can really have a tremendous impact on someone’s life. Imagine the feeling when a blind patient recovers vision after a surgery that you have performed.
- Ophthalmology is a very demanding field at every level, for example, it is extremely competitive obtaining an ophthalmology residency and fellowship, and the surgeries are highly challenging.
- It is innovative and the field is perpetually moving. The number of new treatments and new technologies at our disposal every year make this area of medicine incredibly exciting.

Why did you decide to specialize in retina?
Retina is a fascinating area of the eye, and in my opinion, it is one of the most challenging types of surgery.

Can you describe your primary research focus?
My main research topic is about robotic surgery. Robotics have been used in surgery for about 15 years now, and this type of technology has pushed the limits of surgery thanks to its ability to improve the accuracy and the safety of surgical maneuvers. I have been developing a surgical robotic platform dedicated for eye surgery with several people in the engineering and bioengineering departments at UCLA. Our project has generated a lot of interest and is moving forward very quickly. I envision robotic surgery as a real surgical option within the next ten years.

What are your thoughts about teaching the next generation of ophthalmologists?
It is wonderful to teach and to be surrounded by young people. At UCLA, we have the best medical students and the best ophthalmologists in training. They are eager to learn and to take great care of our patients.

What do you enjoy most about your profession?
The different facets involved in medicine and science have always fascinated me. I love caring for my patients in the clinic and operating room, as much as I enjoy performing research, and teaching the residents and fellows who will be tomorrow’s ophthalmologists.

What do you consider your most important professional accomplishment?
I think that every patient is important, every person you train is important, and every step in research is important. My greatest professional challenge is to be the best I can be at all times.
The annual Stein Eye Institute Vision Science Conference celebrated its twenty-first year October 9–11, 2015, at the UCLA Lake Arrowhead Conference Center. Sponsored by a National Institutes of Health training grant, the retreat highlights research by graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and faculty. Attending were 83 basic scientists, clinical researchers, postdoctoral fellows, graduate students, and invited guests who participated in scientific discussions, learning activities, and social events.

The keynote address “Development, Function, and Disassembly of the Visual System's First Synapse” was given by Felice Dunn, PhD, assistant professor, Department of Ophthalmology, University of California, San Francisco.

Awards were presented at the retreat for best oral presentation and best poster:

**Best Oral Presentation**
1st place: Kaushali Thakore-Shah, PhD (Deng lab)
2nd place: Anna Matynia, PhD (Gorin lab)

**Best Poster**
1st place: Sachin Parikh (Gorin lab)
2nd place: Iris Kong (Deng lab)

### Southland Medical Residents Gain Training in Cataract Surgery

Students from UCLA, USC, UCI, UCSD, Loma Linda University, and the Naval Medical Center attended the Alcon Basic Cataract Surgery Course in Costa Mesa, California, on October 24, 2015. The basic training course—a module of the Stein Eye Institute’s Comprehensive Cataract Surgery Program—is offered each fall, followed by an advanced training course in the spring.

“Residency programs in Southern California recognize the value of these courses,” says Director of the Comprehensive Cataract Surgery Training Program, Kevin M. Miller, MD, Kolokotrones Chair in Ophthalmology and chief of the Stein Eye Institute’s Cataract and Refractive Surgery Division. “Attendance at each course is extremely high and speaks to the program’s success and popularity.”

For information about the April 23, 2016, Advanced Cataract Surgery Training Course, which will be sponsored by Abbott Medical Optics and held at their headquarters in Santa Ana, California, contact Dr. Miller’s office at (310) 206-9951 or email kmiller@ucla.edu.

### SAVE THE DATE

**June 10, 2016**

The Stein Eye Institute will be holding its annual Clinical and Research Seminar on June 10, 2016. SriniVas R. Sadda, MD, will present the Jules Stein Lecture; Alfredo A. Sadun, MD, PhD, will give the Bradley R. Straatsma Lecture; and the Thomas H. Petit Lecture will be given by John A. Irvine, MD. Drs. Sadda, Sadun, and Irvine are members of the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology at the UCLA Doheny Eye Centers. For information about the seminar, contact the Office of Continuing Medical Education at (310) 794-2620.
IN REMEMBRANCE

Lee T. Nordan, MD

Lee T. Nordan, MD, member of the UCLA Stein Eye Institute voluntary faculty, and acclaimed pioneer in corneal transplantation and refractive surgery, died on December 21, 2015, at the age of 69.

Dr. Nordan was a cornea fellow at Stein Eye during the 1977–78 academic year. Well liked by colleagues, he had the reputation of being a hard-working and knowledgeable clinician, as well as outstanding surgeon, even at that early stage. He was also committed to teaching, and Gary N. Holland, MD, Jack H. Skirball Chair in Ocular Inflammatory Diseases, was a third-year medical student doing an elective in ophthalmology during Dr. Nordan’s fellowship year. “He was always available to us,” recalls Dr. Holland, “willing to explain concepts about eye disease, even if they were not in his area of subspecialty, and he would frequently seek us out to demonstrate interesting findings.”

Dr. Nordan’s loyal support of the Institute continued in the decades following his fellowship. According to Bartly J. Mondino, MD, chairman of the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology and director of the Stein Eye Institute, Dr. Nordan was a regular participant in teaching conferences conducted by the Cornea Service, and in particular, he made himself available to cornea fellows to discuss issues related to refractive surgery. “Dr. Nordan was also instrumental in establishing the Thomas H. Pettit Fund at UCLA to support activities of the Cornea-External Ocular Disease Division,” says Dr. Mondino. “The fund honors Dr. Pettit who, as then chief of the Division, was Dr. Nordan’s mentor. We are grateful for Dr. Nordan’s generosity.”

Stein and Doheny Host Joint Alumni Reception at AAO Annual Meeting

Over 300 UCLA Stein Eye and Doheny Eye Institute faculty members and resident and fellow alumni from around the world gathered at the Wynn Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada, on Sunday, November 15, 2015, for the UCLA Stein Eye Institute Alumni Association and Doheny Eye Institute Professional Alumni Association’s annual reception. The co-hosted reception, which was held during the American Academy of Ophthalmology’s Annual Meeting, provided an opportunity for alumni from various graduating classes to reconnect with colleagues and classmates.

At the event, Bartly J. Mondino, MD, chairman of the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology and director of the Stein Eye Institute, congratulated Anne L. Coleman, MD, PhD, on presenting the highly respected Jackson Memorial Lecture, and welcomed Srinivas R. Sadda, MD, as president and chief scientific officer of the Doheny Eye Institute.

Among the evening’s guests were Dr. Matthew Sloan and his wife Sharon.

Among the evening’s guests were Dr. Matthew Sloan and his wife Sharon.
The Gift of Vision Inspires a Visionary Gift

At the turn of the 20th century, Arlene Pinkerton’s family began their farming tradition in Santa Paula, California, and Arlene was raised surrounded by the beauty of her family’s lemon grove. At the age of eight, however, Arlene began to suffer from a gradual loss of vision that prevented her from enjoying the sights of the farm she knew and loved.

After years of deteriorating vision, Arlene sought treatment at the UCLA Stein Eye Institute, and she knew she found the right place for care from the moment she arrived. “In the Institute’s lobby there was a statue of a young man who was blindfolded,” explains Arlene, “and when I saw that, I knew immediately, ‘these people understand.’”

Doctors at Stein Eye diagnosed Arlene with keratoconus, a degenerative disorder that causes the cornea to thin and form a conical shape. In 2007, Arlene volunteered for an experimental procedure wherein doctors implanted corrective lenses. Within minutes of the procedure, Arlene’s vision was restored allowing her to see once again.

To thank the doctors that saved her sight, Arlene named Stein Eye as a beneficiary of her charitable remainder unitrust. Through this trust, Arlene enjoys income for life and has the tremendous satisfaction of knowing that future funds from her trust will enable Stein Eye to provide the gift of vision to others.

If you would like to learn more about how to include the UCLA Stein Eye Institute in your estate plans, please call the Development Office at (310) 206-6035.

Cherished Friend of the Institute Passes Away

Joseph Yzurdiaga, a UCLA graduate, successful investment advisor, and major contributor to UCLA’s Stein Eye Institute, died on September 14, 2015, at his home in Montecito, California. Mr. Yzurdiaga was born in Chino, California, on June 25, 1933. He served in the United States Navy and then began a successful investment career working with prestigious financial firms. Mr. Yzurdiaga and his wife Patricia recently gave Stein Eye $5 million to establish the Patricia and Joseph Yzurdiaga Endowed Vision Science Research Fund; previously, they created the Pat and Joe Yzurdiaga Endowed Cataract Fund; and upon Mr. Yzurdiaga’s passing, Stein Eye received more than $7 million. Mr. Yzurdiaga is survived by his wife; daughter Leslie Figari (Bryan); sons Ken (Dana) and Mark (Lisa) Yzurdiaga; and grandchildren Linda Yzurdiaga, Michael Figari, Patrick Figari, Kate Yzurdiaga, Kevin Figari, and Maddy Yzurdiaga.

A Gift in Remembrance of Dr. Jules Stein

Bernice L. and Harold B. Belfer, colleagues of Dr. Jules Stein, have honored that relationship through a generous bequest. An estate gift of nearly $800,000 from the Belfers has been directed to UCLA Stein Eye Institute. The contribution will establish the Harold B. Belfer Fund and provide Bartly J. Mondino, MD, director of Stein Eye, with unrestricted support for the Institute’s greatest needs.

Mrs. Belfer served as Dr. Jules Stein’s executive secretary and personal assistant in the 1960s and 1970s, and Mr. Belfer was a choreographer at Universal Studios who taught many of the studio’s stars the art of dance. The couple’s professional association and close friendship with Dr. Stein inspired them to make this significant commitment to the Stein Eye Institute.
Community Outreach

UCLA Department of Ophthalmology Serving the Most Vulnerable Members of Our Community

Care Harbor/LA Free Clinic

By the numbers, the Care Harbor/LA Free Clinic brings together more than 3,000 volunteers annually to provide 15,000 free medical, dental, and vision evaluations to the uninsured, underinsured, and underserved at-risk members of our community.

At Care Harbor’s October 15–18, 2015, event at the Los Angeles Convention Center, the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology’s team of committed volunteers conducted vision care services with the UCLA Mobile Eye Clinic (UMEC) as their base—making the difference in someone’s ability to drive, work, or see the board at school.

“We are fortunate to have such a strong and committed team who strive to help individuals see better and fully realize their potential,” says Anne L. Coleman, MD, PhD, The Fran and Ray Stark Foundation Chair in Ophthalmology and director of the UCLA Mobile Eye Clinic.

Attendees at Care Harbor received vision exams and needed prescription glasses. Comprehensive dilated exams were given to patients at risk for eye disease, which would include a history of diabetes or hypertension, a family history of glaucoma, or decreased vision not corrected with eyeglasses. Patients requiring further treatment were referred to community eye specialists who provide additional care at no charge.

Dedicated to the principle that all individuals deserve the best vision attainable, the Stein Eye Institute has a long tradition of community service and leadership at the interface of ophthalmology and public health.

West Hollywood Homeless Project

Through the West Hollywood Homeless Project, UCLA medical students provide free weekly medical services and examinations to homeless individuals. The clinic, which has been steadily growing through word of mouth, has been providing beneficial health services for over 10 years.

In 2015, the UCLA Mobile Eye Clinic (UMEC) joined forces with the West Hollywood Homeless Project team, enabling patients to obtain detailed on-site vision screening and referral, if necessary, to community eye specialists.

Illustrating the importance of outreach events, ophthalmic technician Rene Galvan recalls one patient who was seen at the clinic and required immediate urgent care. “The UCLA medical students were so compassionate; they personally transported the patient to a nearby hospital for emergency medical attention.”

Ophthalmologists and medical students interested in becoming involved with Care Harbor and the West Hollywood Homeless Project should contact UMEC coordinator Kara Mondino at kmondino@jsei.ucla.edu or by calling 310-825-2195.

Pediatric ophthalmologist Dr. Karen Hendler prepares to refract a patient in the UCLA Mobile Eye Clinic.

Angela Perez, a UMEC ophthalmic technician, assesses the visual acuity of a pediatric patient.
Marcia Lloyd, chair of the JSEI Affiliates, hosted the organization’s annual holiday luncheon on Tuesday, December 8, 2015, honoring JSEI Affiliates Advisory Board members, program volunteers, and special guests.

The event also celebrated the Affiliates 25th anniversary of providing outreach to the greater Los Angeles community through vision science education and services. “Since our 1990 inception, we have accomplished impressive results of community outreach—results that would not have been possible without the commitment of our advisory board and dedication of our volunteers,” remarked Lloyd.

Educating children about one of their most precious assets—their eyes—the Affiliates offer Vision In-School and Preschool Vision Screenings free to elementary schools and preschools in the community. The Affiliates also support several patient programs, including Make Surgery Bearable, which has delivered thousands of Dr. Teddy bears to pediatric patients, and Shared Vision, which has collected over 20,000 donated eyeglasses to be refurbished and distributed to adults and children who could not otherwise afford them.

At the luncheon, Bradley R. Straatsma, MD, JD, founding chairman UCLA Department of Ophthalmology, and founding director and professor emeritus Stein Eye Institute, treated guests to a historical perspective of both the Stein Family and Institute.

JSEI Affiliates hosted its annual Make Surgery Bearable Holiday Sponsorship Drive December 2, 2015, on the Stein Eye terrace. This year’s event had a festive touch—holiday lattes, hot chocolate, and coffee, compliments of the Affiliates and Jules and Doris Stein UCLA Support Group.

At the event, more than 200 Dr. Teddy bears were sponsored for future Stein Eye Institute pediatric surgery patients. The Affiliates raise funds for the Make Surgery Bearable program twice a year, once in December with the holiday campaign and again in May through its Mother’s Day spring social. Dr. Teddy sponsorships, however, can be submitted year round in honor or memory of a loved one, to celebrate anniversaries or birthdays, or just as a way to say, “I care.” Contact the JSEI Affiliates at (310) 825-4148 or www.jseiaffiliates.com for further information.
**Build a Legacy and Ensure Advances in Vision Science**

The Stein Eye Institute is dedicated to advancing innovative and groundbreaking research, delivering cutting-edge patient care, key community engagement, and providing the education necessary to diagnose and treat eye disease.

Charitable gifts made through your estate are a wonderful way to provide lasting support for Stein Eye.

If you are interested in learning more about ways to include the Stein Eye Institute in your will or living trust, or if you have already included Stein Eye in your estate plans, please let us know so we can ensure your wishes are clearly understood.

We would love to hear from you!

And best of all, you know that you are helping to ensure that the Stein Eye Institute can uphold its mission to preserve sight and restore vision for generations to come.

For more information on estate gifts, bequests, charitable gift annuities, and other philanthropic strategies, please visit UCLA’s Planned Giving website at: www.legacy.ucla.edu, or contact Stein Eye’s Development team at:

Stein Eye Institute, UCLA
100 Stein Plaza, Room 1-124
Los Angeles, CA 90095-7000
Telephone: (310) 206-6035
Email: giving@sei.ucla.edu

All inquiries are confidential and without obligation.

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**Walking to Prevent Blindness**

Team Stein Eye was a lead sponsor of the ninth annual Foundation Fighting Blindness VisionWalk in Woodley Park in Van Nuys, Saturday, November 7, 2015. The event, supported by both Stein Eye Institute employees and volunteers from the JSEI Affiliates, raises funds for retinal eye disease research.

“This year’s team represented a wonderful cross section of the Stein Eye Institute,” noted JSEI Affiliates Board member and community relations manager, Teresa Closson. Stein Eye Institute staff, Affiliates volunteers, board members, and their children (and dogs) joined together to raise funds for vision research. The Foundation Fighting Blindness is a non-profit organization committed to funding research to prevent, treat, and cure retinal degenerative eye diseases. As a lead sponsor of VisionWalk, the Stein Eye Institute has participated in research on a number of inherited retinal diseases and received grants for continued study of vision loss treatment and prevention.