SPRING 2021 VOLUME 39 NUMBER 1

EYE

UCLA STEIN EYE INSTITUTE
VISION-SCIENCE CAMPUS

UCLA Stein Eye Institute | DOHENY EYE INSTITUTE

EYE MAGAZINE
is a publication of the
UCLA Stein Eye Institute

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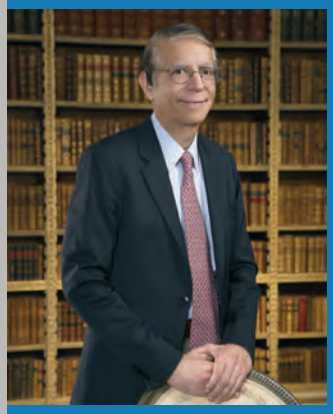
The Stein Eye Institute is a proud affiliate of the Doheny Eye Institute.

LETTER FROM THE CHAIR



The UCLA Stein Eye Institute is recognized the world over for providing the highest quality of eye care, but logistically, getting to the Institute's vision-science campus in Westwood can be a challenge in a bustling metropolis known for its miles of freeways and traffic jams.

Now patients in the San Fernando Valley and nearby communities can receive Stein Eye treatment—along with easy neighborhood convenience—at the new Stein Eye Center in Calabasas. There, trusted UCLA Department of Ophthalmology physicians offer a full range of clinical care, diagnostic testing, and surgical procedures. And with this most recent expansion, patients across Los Angeles and beyond now have access to our award-winning faculty at the Stein Eye Institute on the Westside; UCLA-affiliated hospitals in Sylmar, Torrance, Sepulveda, and West Los Angeles; Doheny Eye Centers UCLA in Arcadia, Pasadena, and Orange County; and the Stein Eye Centers in Calabasas and Santa Monica.

In addition to patient care, education is a vital pillar of the Stein Eye Institute. The American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) is a community of 32,000 members that holds the world's largest educational ophthalmology meeting, and it was with great pride that Stein Eye's own **Anne L. Coleman, MD, PhD**, served as the 2020 AAO president. A glaucoma specialist, esteemed academic, and expert in public health and preventative medicine, Dr. Coleman proved herself the perfect leader in a year that saw the rise of the COVID-19 pandemic and a reckoning on racial inequity.

On behalf of everyone at Stein Eye and the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology, we wish you and your loved ones well during this challenging time, and thank you for entrusting us with your patronage and support.

Sincerely,

Bartly J. Mondino, MD

Bradley R. Straatsma, MD, Endowed Chair in Ophthalmology
Director, Stein Eye Institute
Chair, UCLA Department of Ophthalmology
Affiliation Chair, Doheny Eye Institute

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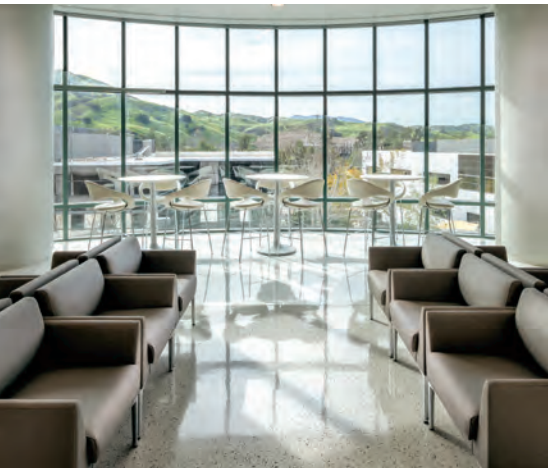
VISION-SCIENCE CAMPUS

FEATURES



Expanding Care with New Stein Eye Center in Calabasas

Extending the reach of UCLA ophthalmology, the San Fernando Valley is now home to a full-service eye care treatment and surgical facility.

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Stein Eye Institute Shines at the AAO 2020 Annual Meeting

Dr. Anne Coleman leads as president of the world's largest ophthalmology meeting.

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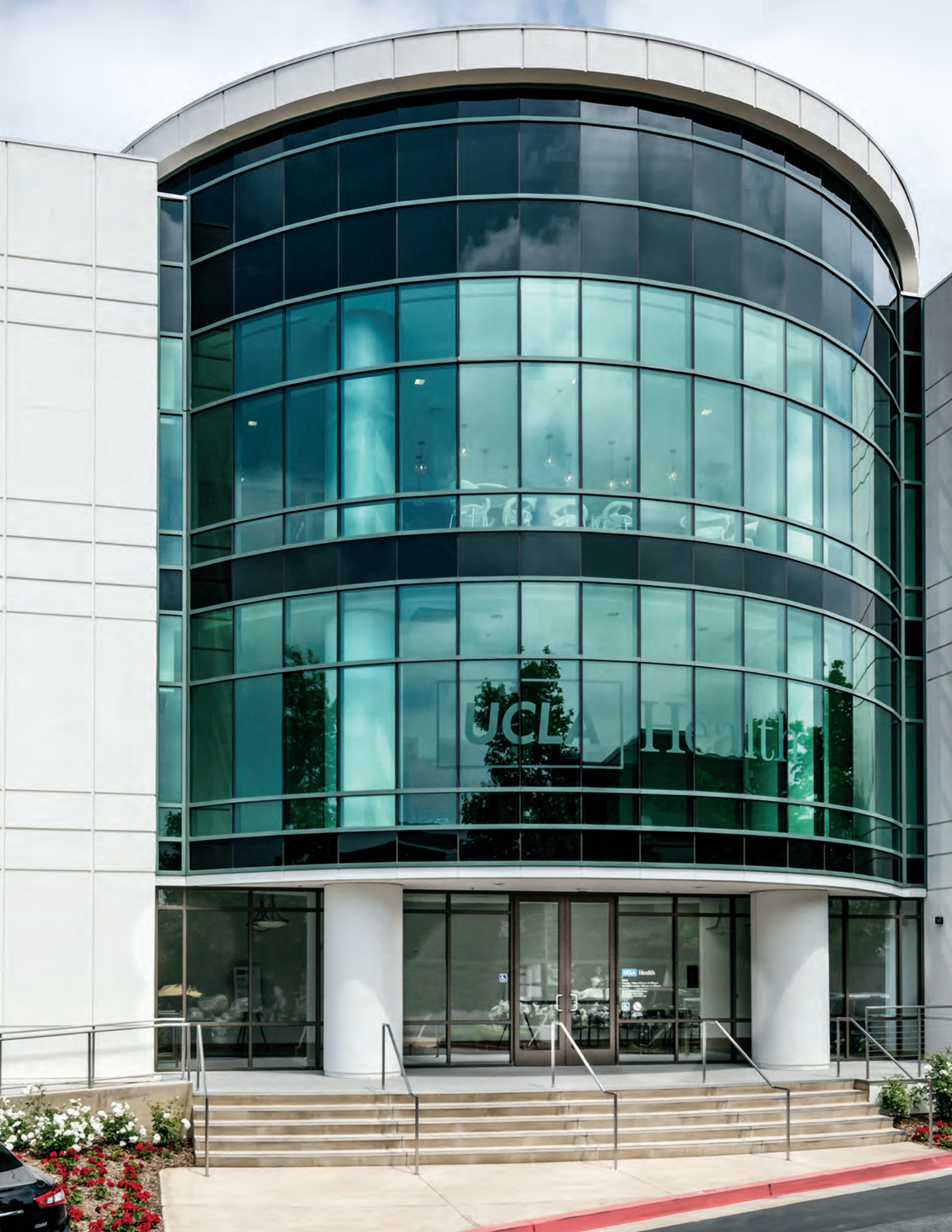
FOCUS

On the cover: A view of the Wasserman and Jules Stein buildings. Photo: Robin Weisz


UCLA
UCLA Health

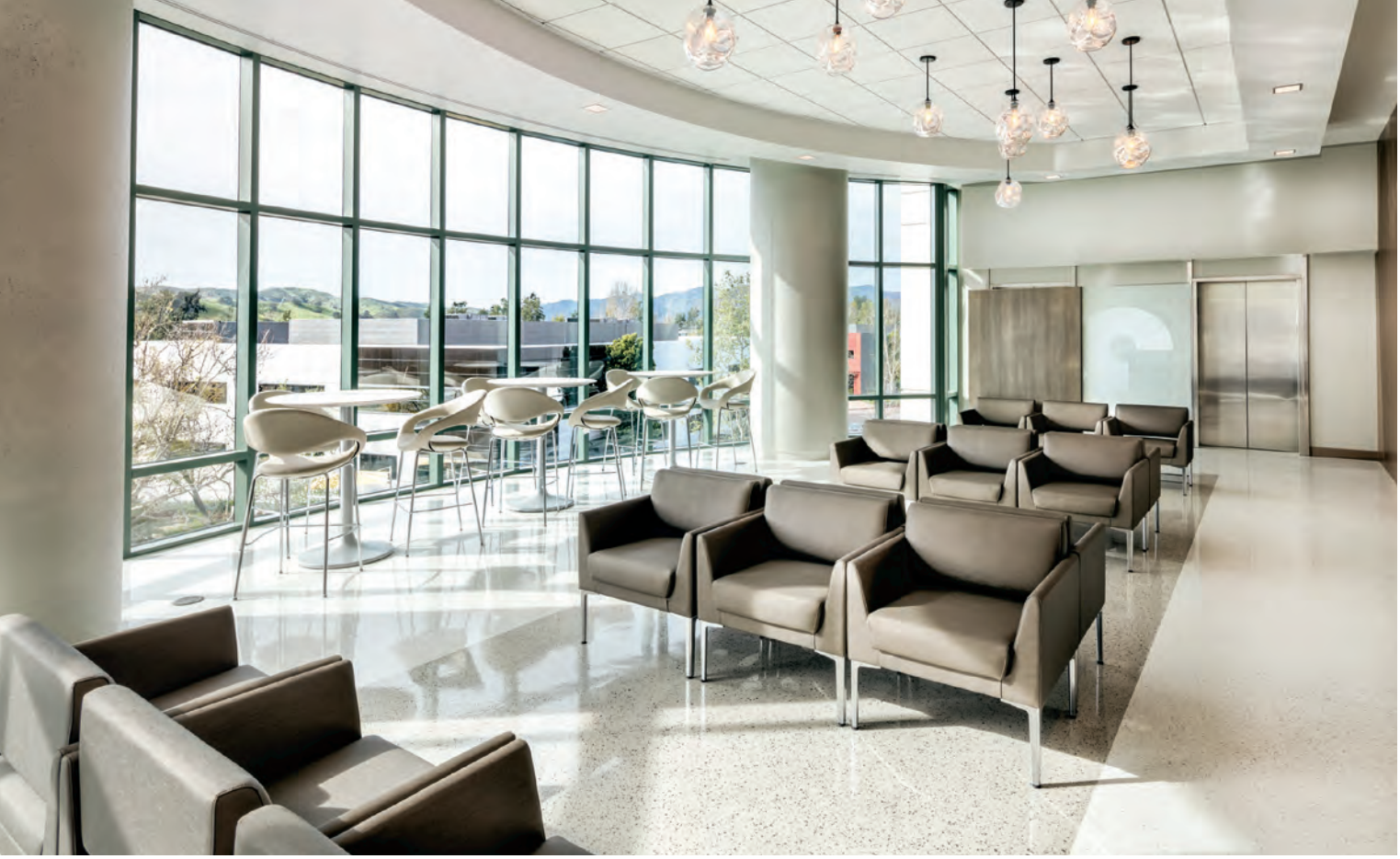
EXPANDING CARE WITH New Stein Eye Center in Calabasas

The UCLA Stein Eye Institute is expanding its patient reach once again with the opening of the Institute's first location in the San Fernando Valley: a full-service eye care treatment and surgical center in Calabasas.

The Stein Eye Center–Calabasas offers a full range of clinical care, diagnostic testing, and surgical procedures at a locale convenient for residents of the valley and outlying communities, such as Westlake Village and Thousand Oaks.

"The Stein Eye Center–Calabasas creates new options in eye health for people living north of Los Angeles," says **Bartly J. Mondino, MD**, director of the Stein Eye Institute and chair of the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology. "Patients at the north end of the San Fernando Valley and beyond are more than an hour away from the Stein Eye Institute's vision-science campus in Westwood. Now they have the convenience of being treated by UCLA ophthalmologists in Calabasas."

The Calabasas location enlarges the eye care network of the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology. "Our patients can now receive the highest quality of medical treatment across Los Angeles and south to Orange County," says Dr. Mondino. "They can be treated by our award-winning faculty at the Stein Eye Institute on the Westside; UCLA-affiliated hospitals in Sylmar, Torrance, Sepulveda, and West Los Angeles; Stein Eye Centers in Calabasas and Santa Monica; and Doheny Eye Centers UCLA in Arcadia, Pasadena, and Orange County."



"The opening of our new facility in Calabasas continues our mission of providing increased access to eye care for Los Angeles and in the regions beyond."

BARTLY J. MONDINO, MD

Stein Eye doctors with Calabasas convenience

A primary strength of the Stein Eye network of care centers is that they are staffed by the Institute's own doctors. UCLA faculty ophthalmologists who see patients at the Stein Eye Institute in Westwood also care for patients at the new Calabasas venue.

"The Stein Eye Center–Calabasas is a fully equipped satellite location that brings Stein Eye experience and expertise to the San Fernando Valley," says **Shawn R. Lin, MD**, the Center's medical director. "UCLA Department of Ophthalmology physicians can treat almost all of our patients' principal eye health needs in our Calabasas location—even our surgical procedures are performed here."

Among the physicians serving at the Stein Eye Center–Calabasas are Dr. Lin, a cataract and refractive surgery specialist; **Gad Heilweil, MD**, an expert in diseases of the retina, macula, and vitreous; **Kouros Nouri-Mahdavi, MD**, a glaucoma specialist; and **Shoaib Ugradar, MD**, and **Justin Karlin, MD**, who are cosmetic and functional oculoplastic surgery experts.

Premier service, easy accessibility, and free parking

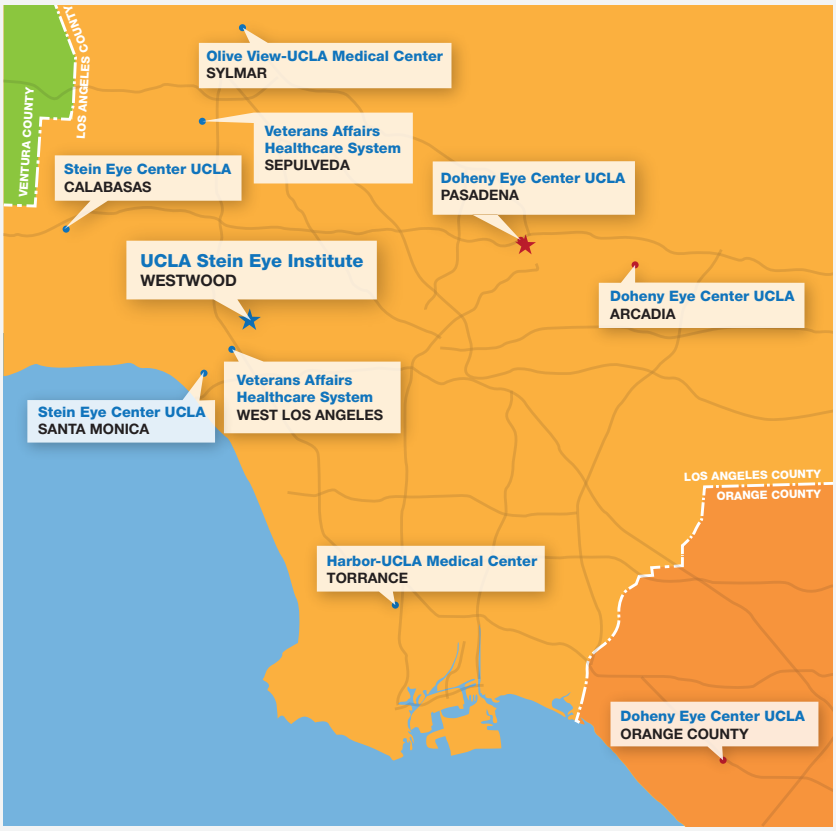
The Stein Eye Center–Calabasas is located in the UCLA Health Building on Agoura Road immediately adjacent to the 101 Freeway (between the Las Virgenes Road and Lost Hills Road exits).

The Stein Eye Center–Calabasas offers eye care in all the principal ophthalmic subspecialties, including cataract and refractive surgery, cornea and uveitis, glaucoma, neuro-ophthalmology, orbital and ophthalmic plastic surgery, and retinal care, including diabetic retinopathy and macular degeneration.

A full array of diagnostic testing is conducted on site, such as visual field testing, corneal mapping, intraocular lens measurement, fluorescein angiography, spectral domain optical coherence tomography, and diagnostic retinal imaging.

The Stein Eye Center–Calabasas is located at 26585 W. Agoura Rd., Suite 330, Calabasas, CA 91302. Parking is free.

To contact the Center, call (310) 825-5000 or fax: (310) 825-9246.



- Stein Eye Institute UCLA: Westwood
- Stein Eye Center: Calabasas
- Stein Eye Center: Santa Monica
- Doheny Eye Center UCLA: Arcadia
- Doheny Eye Center UCLA: Orange County
- Doheny Eye Center UCLA: Pasadena
- Harbor-UCLA Medical Center: Torrance
- Olive View-UCLA Medical Center: Sylmar
- Veterans' Affairs Healthcare System: Sepulveda and West Los Angeles

Stein and Doheny

Comprehensive eye care flourishes across Southern California

The combined talents and resources of Stein Eye and the Doheny Eye Centers UCLA are building a network for eye care that has grown to include facilities across Southern California.

"The opening of our new venue in Calabasas continues our mission of providing increased access to eye care for Los Angeles and in the regions beyond," says Dr. Mondino. "Now most residents of greater Los Angeles live less than a half-hour from our network of eye care centers that are ranked among the top 10 in the nation."

"Now most residents of greater Los Angeles live less than a half-hour from our network of eye care centers that are ranked among the top 10 in the nation."

BARTLY J. MONDINO, MD

Stein Eye Institute Shines at AAO 2020 Annual Meeting

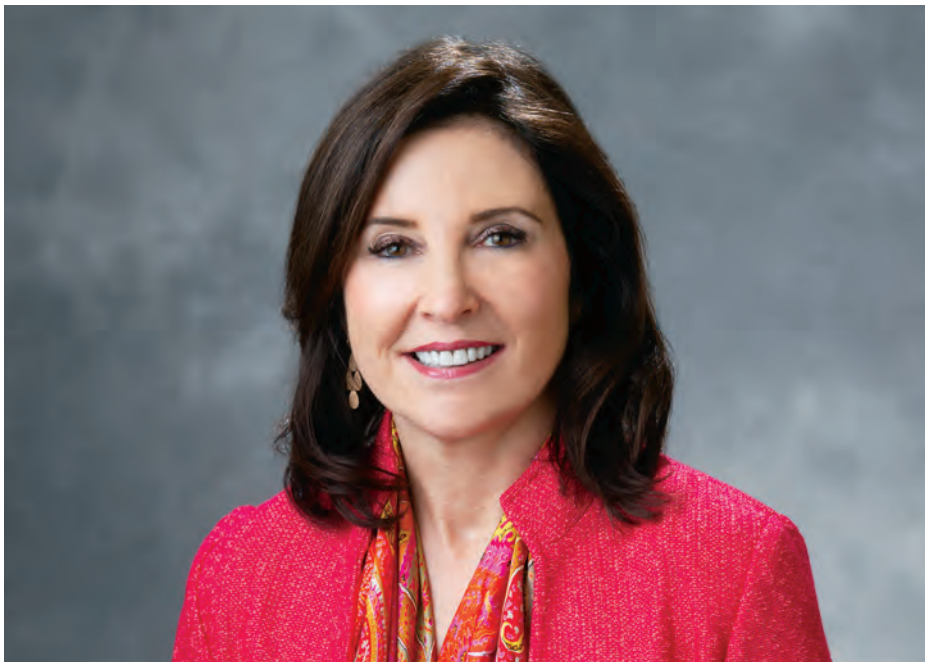
The Stein Eye Institute and the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology took center stage at the November 13–15, 2020, American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) annual meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada. Dubbed "AAO 2020 Virtual," the world's largest ophthalmology meeting was held as a fully virtual event for the first time, reflecting the challenging landscape imposed by the coronavirus.

Leading this year's meeting as the 2020 president of the American Academy of Ophthalmology was the Stein Eye Institute's own **Anne L. Coleman, MD, PhD**, who presided over the Academy during an unprecedented year that included recognition of systemic racial bias in health care and the COVID-19 pandemic.

In March 2020, Dr. Coleman and the AAO Board issued a statement recommending ophthalmologists provide only urgent patient care to help decrease the spread of the virus and to preserve personal protective equipment. Since then, the Academy has kept ophthalmologists and patients up-to-date on the latest research and clinical recommendations regarding the pandemic.

In June 2020, Dr. Coleman and the Academy released two statements. One of them condemned the senseless death of George Floyd and others under similar circumstances, along with the violence that followed. Dr. Coleman and the Board reconfirmed the Academy's commitment to inclusion, to the richness of a diverse society, and to the principles of human dignity and societal equality. The second statement called on domestic law enforcement officials to immediately end the use of rubber bullets and similar projectiles to control or disperse crowds of nonviolent protesters. Approximately 180 individuals in the United States have lost their vision or had their eyes injured by these projectiles this recent year.

In September 2020, Dr. Coleman and the Academy created two task forces, the first on Organizational Diversity and Inclusion, and the second on Reducing Disparities in Eye Care. In addition, they approved a white paper on myopia—a global problem because of its increasing prevalence and associated complications.



Dr. Anne Coleman, 2020 president of the American Academy of Ophthalmology

In November 2020, the Academy held the AAO annual meeting as a fully virtual program. This was the first meeting in the Academy's long history where attendees did not meet in person. Members have access to Subspecialty Day meetings, instruction courses, and skills transfer labs online for one year, which allows members to attend events they previously could not have, due to time constraints or multiple events occurring at once.

The meeting was extremely successful and received glowing reviews from attendees including **Bradley R. Straatsma, MD, JD**, former director of the Stein Eye Institute and former chair of UCLA Department of Ophthalmology, who said, "Dr. Coleman's leadership throughout AAO 2020 Virtual was superb. As you would expect, she added greatly to the experience of participants."

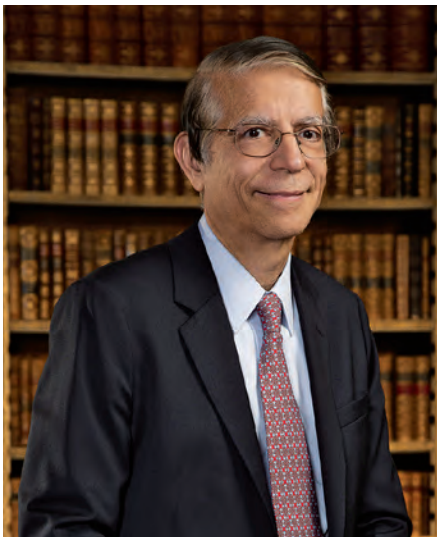
In addition to Dr. Coleman's work with the AAO and other professional organizations, she is The Fran and Ray Stark Foundation Chair in Ophthalmology; professor of ophthalmology at UCLA; professor of epidemiology at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health; director of the Stein Eye Institute Centers for Community Outreach and Policy, Eye Epidemiology, and the UCLA Mobile Eye Clinic; and vice chair of academic affairs for the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology.

Guests of Honor Pay Homage to Stein Eye and UCLA Ophthalmology

As Academy President, ***Dr. Anne L. Coleman*** *had the privilege of selecting the guests of honor at the AAO annual meeting. Her distinguished attendees,* ***Drs. Bartly J. Mondino, Bradley R. Straatsma,*** *and* ***M. Roy Wilson,*** *were formally recognized during the opening ceremony of AAO 2020 Virtual on November 13, 2020.*

Bartly J. Mondino, MD

Director, Stein Eye Institute
Chair, UCLA Department of Ophthalmology



"Dr. Mondino is a true leader with unparalleled wisdom and knowledge," said Dr. Coleman at the opening ceremony. "I am honored to have him as my mentor and colleague, and to recognize him as an AAO 2020 Guest of Honor."

Dr. Mondino was named director of the Stein Eye Institute and chair of the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology in 1994, the culmination of a career in research and care on cornea and infectious eye diseases.

He received his BA and MD at Stanford University, where an elective course in ophthalmology led to his interest in the study of the eye. Following a medical internship at Stanford University Hospital and an ophthalmology residency at Cornell University-New York Hospital, Dr. Mondino completed a fellowship in cornea-external diseases at the University of Pittsburgh Eye and Ear Hospital, then remained on the faculty for six years as assistant and then associate professor of ophthalmology before being recruited to UCLA in 1982.

At UCLA, Dr. Mondino was promoted to professor of ophthalmology in 1983 and received The Wasserman Professor of Ophthalmology Endowed Chair in 1988. During the next three years, he became the vice chair for academic affairs and then chief of the Cornea-External Ocular Disease Division. He obtained his current appointment, the Bradley R. Straatsma, MD, Endowed Chair in Ophthalmology, in 2000.

Dr. Mondino's research work has been detailed in more than 315 publications and supported for approximately twenty years by two continuous R01 grants from the National Eye Institute. He has given 21 named lectureships and more than 319 lectures. He has received multiple honors from the Academy, including the Lifetime Achievement Honor Award, the Senior Achievement Award, and the Secretariat Award. He has also received numerous awards from other organizations, including a Research to Prevent Blindness (RPB) Manpower Award, an RPB Senior Scientific Investigator Award, a Foundation Fighting Blindness Visionary Award, and a John Milton McLean Medal.

Dr. Mondino's leadership and advisory positions on medical boards, committees, and editorial boards include serving as executive vice president, president, and member of the Board of Trustees for the Association of University Professors of Ophthalmology. He is on the Board of the Braille Institute and the National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research and has served on the Board of the Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science. He is an observer on the Doheny Eye Institute Board of Directors and is the affiliation chair.

Dr. Mondino has expanded the Stein Eye Institute's pillar programs; raised over $317 million, including funding for 10 fellowships, and involvement in the establishment of 33 endowed chairs; forged a historic affiliation with the Doheny Eye Institute; and broadened access to eye care with the opening of Stein Eye Centers and Doheny Eye Center UCLA locations across the Southland.

Through development and completion of the Edie & Lew Wasserman Building in 2014, redesign of Stein Plaza in 2015, and renovation of the Jules Stein Building in 2017, Dr. Mondino transformed the Stein Eye Institute into a vision-science campus at UCLA, creating a focal point for patient care, vision research, education, and community outreach at home and abroad.

Bradley R. Straatsma, MD, JD

Former Director, Stein Eye Institute
Former Chair, UCLA Department of Ophthalmology

"Dr. Straatsma's legacy has influenced ophthalmology at the local, national, and international levels," said Dr. Coleman at the AAO opening ceremony. "He is a true leader who generously shares his wisdom and knowledge with others. I am honored

AAO Annual Meeting continued from page 7

"Dr. Coleman's leadership throughout AAO 2020 Virtual was superb. As you would expect, she added greatly to the experience of participants."

BRADLEY R. STRAATSMA, MD, JD

to have him as my mentor and colleague, and to recognize him as an AAO 2020 Guest of Honor."

Dr. Straatsma is a professor emeritus in the Department of Ophthalmology at the UCLA Stein Eye Institute, formerly known as the Jules Stein Eye Institute. Within two years of becoming the first chair of the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology, Dr. Straatsma collaborated with Dr. Jules Stein and gained financial support for the construction of the Jules Stein Eye Institute, a massive achievement that foreshadowed his impressive and impactful career.

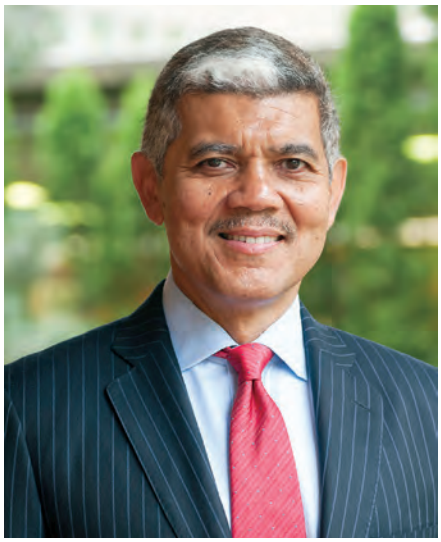
As a leader in the field of ophthalmology, Dr. Straatsma served as Academy president in 1977, president of the American Ophthalmological Society from 1992 to 1993, president of the Association of University Professors of Ophthalmology (AUPO) from 1974 to 1975, chair of the American Board of Ophthalmology in 1980, president of the Pan-American Association of Ophthalmology from 1987 to 1989, and president of Academia Ophthalmologica Internationalis from 1998 to 2002.

Dr. Straatsma provided exceptional leadership for the Academy, particularly during the critical merger with the American Association of Ophthalmology in 1981. Additionally, he edited "Eye Care for the American People," which provided the Academy with an outline to guide ophthalmologic care for the American public. In honor of Dr. Straatsma's exemplary leadership and contributions, the Academy and the AUPO established the Straatsma Award for Excellence in Resident Education. This award recognizes and celebrates an outstanding program director in ophthalmology.

Dr. Straatsma served as editor-in-chief of the highly respected *American Journal of Ophthalmology* (AJO) from 1983 to 2002. He implemented substantial editorial innovations, strengthened the peer review process, enhanced the print journal, and introduced the AJO website (www.ajo.com). Additionally, Dr. Straatsma has authored more than 575 scientific publications, focused primarily on retinal disease, ophthalmic oncology, and global eye care. He has received 75 awards, including the Academy's Laureate Award, the Pan-American Association of Ophthalmology's Benjamin F. Boyd Humanitarian Award, the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology's Gold Jose Rizal Medal, and the International Council of Ophthalmology's International Duke Elder Medal. He has given more than 50 distinguished lectures, including the prestigious Edward Jackson Lecture at the Academy's annual meeting in 1973.

M. Roy Wilson, MD

President, Wayne State University
Former Faculty, Stein Eye Institute



"Dr. Wilson's leadership has shaped the fields of ophthalmology, academic medicine, public health, and education by inspiring individuals, transforming campuses, and guiding the profession at national and international levels," said Dr. Coleman at the AAO opening ceremony. "It has been a privilege to work alongside Dr. Wilson as a friend and colleague. I am pleased to recognize Dr. Wilson as an AAO 2020 Guest of Honor."

Dr. Wilson has led an exemplary academic career, beginning with an accelerated promotion to full professor in eight years while chair of the Charles Drew Department of Ophthalmology and member of the Glaucoma Division at UCLA's Stein Eye Institute. He chaired the board of directors of the Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science and was vice president for health sciences at Creighton University before moving to Texas Tech University to serve as president of the health sciences center. There, he established the Paul Foster School of Medicine in El Paso, now a national leader on health issues affecting the United States-Mexico border region. As chancellor of the University of Colorado Denver, Dr. Wilson navigated the complex task of integrating the health campus and main campus into one campus. He chaired the University of Colorado Hospital's board of directors, and he created the Colorado School of Public Health, the first and only accredited school of public health in the Rocky Mountain region.

Dr. Wilson is the current president of Wayne State University (WSU). Under his leadership, WSU has earned national recognition from the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities, including a Project Degree Completion Award that celebrated the institution's dramatic improvement in graduation rates. The WSU School of Medicine achieved a 10-fold increase in the matriculation of under-represented minority students from 2014 to 2020.

Before moving to WSU, Dr. Wilson served as deputy director for strategic scientific planning and program coordination at the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). He has served on the NIH Advisory Committee to the Director, the agency's highest council, since 2016.

Dr. Wilson is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine (formerly known as the Institute of Medicine) and is on the planning committee for the National

Academy of Medicine 50th Anniversary Scientific Symposium. From 2017 to 2018, he was the Chair of the Board of Trustees of the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC), which represents all medical schools in the United States and Canada. In both the National Academy of Medicine and AAMC, he has been a key advocate for engaging black men in medicine.

Dr. Wilson is an accomplished researcher, receiving the NIH Director's Award for his accomplished research on glaucoma and blindness in West Africa, the Caribbean and underserved communities in the United States. He chaired the NIH Data Monitoring and Oversight Committee of the Los Angeles Latino Eye Study III from 2010 to 2014 and the National Eye Institute's African American Eye Disease Study from 2013 to 2018.

An active member of the Academy, Dr. Wilson has served on the national scientific advisory board for glaucoma and on the national advisory board for the EyeCare America Glaucoma project, a program that connects more than 2 million people to sight-saving care and resources from volunteer ophthalmologists across the United States. He is a past chair and current member of the advisory board for the H. Dunbar Hoskins Jr., M.D. Center for Quality Eye Care. Since 1987, Dr. Wilson has been an active lecturer and moderator at numerous Academy annual meetings. He has received the Academy's Life Achievement Honor Award and Senior Achievement Award. In addition, he is a member of the American Ophthalmological Society and the Glaucoma Research Society.

AAO Award Recipients

Faculty and alumni from the Stein Eye Institute (SEI) and the Doheny Eye Institute (DEI)—the two prestigious entities that form the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology—were honored for their contributions to the profession at the November 13–15, 2020, American Academy of Ophthalmology annual meeting in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Senior Achievement Award

Darrell WuDunn, MD, PhD, DEI alumnus

Achievement Award

Michael B. Gorin, MD, PhD, UCLA faculty

David A. Hollander, MD, SEI alumnus

Ehsan Rahimy, MD, SEI alumnus

Tina Rutar, MD, SEI alumna

Secretariat Award

Amani Fawzi, MD, SEI alumna

Rahul Khurana, MD, DEI alumnus

Randall J. Olson, MD, SEI alumnus

Stacy L. Pineles, MD, UCLA faculty

Alfredo A. Sadun, MD, PhD, UCLA faculty

Michael T. Trese, MD, SEI alumnus

James C. Tsai, MD, MBA, DEI alumnus

Visual Cortical Prosthesis System Shows Promise in Providing Functional Vision to Certain Blind Patients

"The eye, optic nerve, and visual cortex have to work together for vision, and it's not easy to fix when that system isn't functioning well—whether due to damage to the eye itself or to the optic nerve or visual pathway. This idea of going directly to the brain, which is the area that ultimately analyzes the images, is very exciting, given how challenging it would be to re-create the entire pathway."

LAURA BONELLI, MD

A collaboration involving a UCLA Stein Eye Institute neuro-ophthalmologist and a UCLA neurosurgeon has led to a feasibility study of a visual cortical prosthesis system that is showing promising results in providing functional vision to patients with no light perception who were sighted at one point in their lives. The Phase I interim trial of Orion, produced by Second Sight Medical Products, stimulates the visual cortex directly by bypassing the eyes in blind patients. It is the first study of a fully implanted device that uses wireless stimulation in an effort to provide artificial vision, according to **Nader Pouratian, MD, PhD**, professor and vice chair of academic affairs in the Department of Neurosurgery at the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Dr. Pouratian has teamed with **Laura Bonelli, MD**, health sciences assistant clinical professor in ophthalmology and a member of Stein Eye's Neuro-Ophthalmology Division. Dr. Bonelli is bringing her vision science expertise as well as identifying and examining the patient participants in the five-year study, which is currently in its third year.

The device includes multiple components. A video camera mounted onto glasses sends signals to a video processing unit, which acts as a translator, converting what the camera sees into a stimulation pattern that is transmitted to the device that is implanted in the visual cortex of the brain. The stimulation pattern is delivered to the cortical surface through wireless radiofrequency communication and power. "When we stimulate the brain directly, patients see flashes of light in different areas that relate to what part of the brain we're stimulating," Dr. Pouratian explains. "The device has 60 electrodes—so 60 spots that it can stimulate on the brain—and the idea is to stimulate those in sequence, in an order that represents the outside world that they are seeing through the video camera on their glasses."

For many years, vision scientists have recognized that even when there is a loss of visual signaling in the eye—typically through degeneration of the photoreceptor or retinal ganglion cells—the "wiring" between the eye and the brain remains largely intact. Thus, it has been hypothesized that either stimulating the eye to generate activity in the brain, or stimulating the brain directly, has the potential to provide functional vision for unsighted individuals. "The visual system is fascinating, in that the eye serves like a camera, taking in light and sending electrical signals through the optic nerve on the visual pathway that are processed in the primary visual cortex, which is a highly sophisticated pathway for analyzing and seeing images," Dr. Bonelli explains. "The eye, optic nerve, and visual cortex have to work together for vision, and it's not easy to fix when that system isn't functioning well—whether due to damage to the eye itself or to the optic nerve or visual pathway. This idea of going directly to the brain, which is the area that ultimately analyzes the images, is very exciting, given how challenging it would be to re-create the entire pathway."

There were two important requirements for the patients recruited for the visual cortical prosthesis system feasibility study. The first is that they at one time had sight before going blind; this is because the experience of vision is necessary to form the circuits in the brain's visual cortex for processing vision, Dr. Bonelli explains. And secondly, patients must have either no light perception or bare light perception, meaning they either see darkness or they see light but

"One of the remarkable features of vision science is that a wide repertoire of scientific disciplines can come to bear on the problem of how we see."

ALAPAKKAM SAMPATH, PHD

can't localize where it's coming from. "People who are considered 'legally blind' can see shapes, movement, light, and contrast, they just can't see it well," Dr. Pouratian notes. "The type of artificial vision we're providing with this device involves flashes and patterns of lights that we want patients to be able to learn to interpret. It's below the level of what is considered legally blind, but for people with absolutely no vision, it can be functionally very meaningful."

For the first-in-humans trial, Drs. Pouratian and Bonelli are evaluating the safety and the nature of the artificial vision provided by the cortical prosthesis system in six patients over the course of five years. Two years after their implant, all six patients have expressed some improvement in their functional vision. The main safety concern is the risk of inducing a seizure through the direct cortical stimulation. "We're trying to understand the safety limits as we optimize the stimulation," Dr. Pouratian explains. "This is not a 'plug-and-play' type of device. We consider these patients to be our partners, helping us understand how we can deliver the stimulation to make it the most effective and functional for them within the safety parameters."

Dr. Bonelli says that when study participants have been seen for follow-up exams, patients who could see nothing when the device was turned off could distinguish large shapes and bands of light coming through window shades when the device was turned on. "This kind of functional vision could allow patients to do things like walk more safely, tell if someone is coming toward them, or know when there is a hallway or a doorway," she says. "And this is just a first step—we expect the technology to improve."

Dr. Pouratian's clinical practice has focused on using brain stimulation to alleviate neurologic and psychiatric disease, and his laboratory has focused on investigating brain stimulation in Parkinson's disease, chronic pain, depression, and consciousness. When he became interested in pursuing brain stimulation to provide functional vision for blind patients, he reached out to Dr. Bonelli because of her expertise in neuro-ophthalmology.

"One of the remarkable features of vision science is that a wide repertoire of scientific disciplines can come to bear on the problem of how we see," says **Alapakkam Sampath, PhD**, professor of ophthalmology and neurobiology, and associate director of the Stein Eye Institute. "The collaboration between Drs. Bonelli and Pouratian is an example of the powerful strides that can be made when our faculty join forces with faculty in other disciplines."

IN MEMORIAM

Leland Michael Garrison, MD 1937–2020

Dr. Leland "Mike" Garrison died July 29, 2020—at home by his koi pond and surrounded by his loving family—just as he always envisioned. Born on April 27, 1937, Mike resided in Long Beach, California, leaving only to attend Stanford University on a water polo scholarship and the University of Maryland School of Medicine. He then returned to Los Angeles where he conducted his ophthalmology residency ('67) at the UCLA Stein Eye Institute.

He dedicated his life to caring for his community, spending his younger years as a member of the Long Beach Lifeguards, and he was later inducted into the Lifeguard Hall of Fame—serving on various boards of hospitals and charitable organizations, and championing small businesses in Long Beach for 45 years.

A pioneer of modern cataract surgery and glaucoma treatment, Mike was a founding member of S.E.E. International and made numerous missions to Mexico, China, and Korea in the early 1980s to donate his talent, expertise, and equipment—operating on the blind, developing cost-effective intraocular lenses that would be accessible to the masses, and training local medical professionals to enable them to perform and spread knowledge of innovative procedures—restoring vision and hope to countless people in low-resource countries.

He was an enthusiastic educator, whether lecturing throughout the world; teaching his kids to surf, fish, and sail; or serving as clinical professor of ophthalmology and other positions at the UCLA Stein Eye Institute for 36 years. He was a voracious reader and scholar of history, war, theology, and Asian Art—a strong supporter of the church and the Pacific Asia Art Museum.

Mike spent his later years traveling the world with his beloved wife, Kweesook Garrison. A connoisseur of fine cuisine and wine, Mike truly loved nothing more than a good meal with family and friends, time in his garden, and a good book. He is survived by his wife, four children, grandchildren, and bare-eyed cockatoo, Calypso.

Gifts in memoriam can be made to the Stein Eye Institute via check made out to the UCLA Foundation. In the memo line, please write "Glaucoma Research Fund 41571, in memory of Dr. Leland Mike Garrison" and send the check to:

The UCLA Foundation c/o Lauren Bayans
PO Box 7145
Pasadena, CA 91109-9903

A Legacy Propelling Discovery in Vision Science

Leland "Mike" Garrison, MD, lived a life committed to ending avoidable blindness. He was a loyal teacher—a volunteer faculty member who trained generations of young ophthalmologists to diagnose and treat debilitating eye diseases. As a founding member of S.E.E. International, Dr. Garrison served with a network of volunteers who have screened more than 4 million people worldwide and who have given over half a million individuals sight-restoring surgeries, transforming their lives forever.

A member of the UCLA Stein Eye Institute residency class of '67, Dr. Garrison's quality clinical care helped build a relationship that has brought forth consequential gifts to the Institute and to vision science. Dr. Garrison's patients, **Douglas and Marald Nosworthy**, Trustees of the Bruce Ford and Anne Smith Bundy Foundation, acknowledged the dedication of Stein Eye Institute scientists by selecting Stein Eye as recipient of the Bruce Ford and Anne Smith Bundy Foundation grant. For nearly three decades, the grant has funded approximately $100,000 a year, providing the Institute's Vision Science Division with laboratory instrumentation that has propelled a spectrum of discovery in eye health.

As one example, early grant funding equipped the Division with an Applied Biosystems Prism 3100 Genetic Analyzer, enabling accelerated analyses of DNA samples. With understanding that diseases of the eye and other organs were associated with specific errors in the genetic code, the ability to facilitate gene modifications using this laboratory equipment has provided Stein Eye researchers with a powerful tool to find a means of correcting these genetic errors.

"Vision-science research is progressing at an extraordinary pace," says **Bartly J. Mondino, MD**, director of the Stein Eye Institute and chair of the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology. "Doug and Marald Nosworthy became part of the Stein Eye family through their connection with Dr. Garrison, and the Department has thoroughly enjoyed the annual lunch with the Nosworthys. Their charitable gifts have had a significant impact on our ability to create emerging therapies and add to the collective knowledge of scientists and ophthalmologists worldwide."

Dr. Garrison's family has ensured their patriarch's commitment to vision will continue to live on by requesting that gifts in Dr. Garrison's memory be made in support of the Glaucoma Research Fund helmed by **Joseph Caprioli, MD**, chief of the Glaucoma Division.

"Mike Garrison was a good friend of the Institute who made an indelible impression on those he met," says Dr. Mondino. "His contributions to ophthalmology will have an impact for generations to come."

"Vision-science research is progressing at an extraordinary pace. Charitable gifts have had a significant impact on our ability to create emerging therapies and add to the collective knowledge of scientists and ophthalmologists worldwide."

BARTLY J. MONDINO, MD

Gregg T. Kokame, MD, Stein Eye resident '87 and 2013 Thomas H. Pettit Lecturer, received the Gass Medal at the Macula Society Virtual Meeting on February 6, 2021. The award recognizes outstanding contributions in the study of macular diseases and was presented by Harry W. Flynn, Jr., MD, The J. Donald M. Gass Distinguished Chair in Ophthalmology at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute.

Dr. Kokame became chief of the Division of Ophthalmology for the Department of Surgery at the University of Hawaii School of Medicine in 2020. He attended medical school at the UCLA School of Medicine, conducted his internship at Cedars Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, received his residency training at the UCLA Stein Eye Institute, and conducted his retina fellowship at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute.

"The experiences at one of the most well-known eye institutes in the world at UCLA were most influenced by the [then] chairman of the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology, **Dr. Bradley Straatsma**," said Dr. Kokame reflecting on his role as the new division chief. "The varied clinical experiences there from a tertiary care facility at UCLA to county medical care at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center to the VA experience at Wadsworth Veterans Hospital were amazing. However, besides the clinical training, I learned from Dr. Straatsma the value of strong leadership and vision for an organization."

Jonathan Hoenig, MD, Stein Eye clinical fellow alumnus '95 and volunteer clinical faculty member, and **Shoaib Ugradar, MD**, health sciences clinical instructor, received the 2020 American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery (ASOPRS) research award for their study "Measurement of the Force Required by Blunt-Tipped Microcannulas to Perforate the Facial Artery."

COVID-19 and Its Impact on Community Outreach

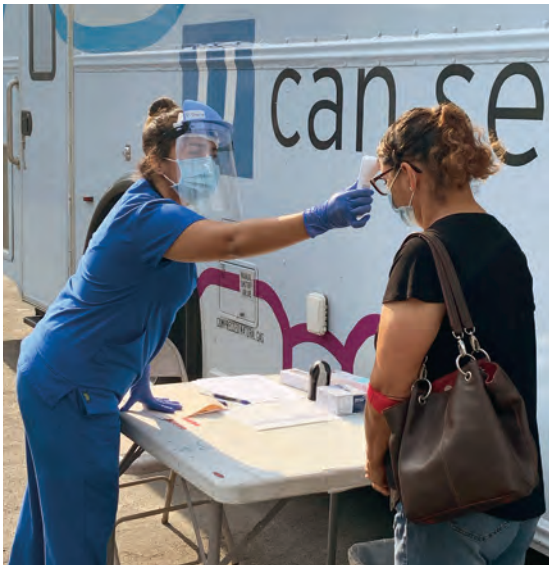
The rapid onset and spread of the global coronavirus pandemic in early 2020 brought unprecedented changes to health care and eye care. Initially in the early days of the pandemic, non-urgent medical care was put on hold in an attempt to reduce viral transmission. The effects of this standstill were widely apparent in ophthalmology, an outpatient-based field where patients are seen regularly for follow-up of chronic conditions and where surgery is mainly elective.

As the pandemic continued with no end in sight, the devastating effects of delaying routine ophthalmic care began to manifest for patients and providers alike. Patients with glaucoma, which often has no symptoms in early stages, would present to clinic with permanent, irreversible vision loss from having undetected elevated eye pressure for months. Patients with diabetes who missed monthly follow-up examinations came in with retinal detachments and end-stage glaucoma due to untreated diabetic retinopathy. On the provider end, ophthalmic practices had to furlough staff and some clinics permanently shut their doors. Ophthalmology residents, who were on a clearly defined path before the pandemic, had difficulty meeting surgical minimums to graduate.

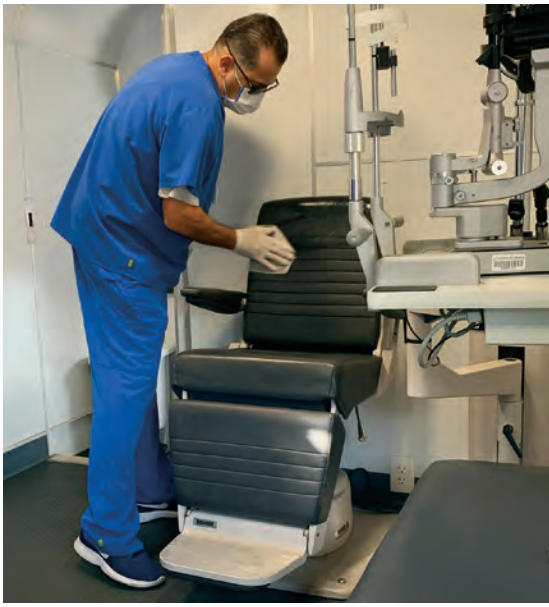
Situations like these demonstrated that prolonged cessation of eye care was not a feasible option for the global community. Recognizing the need for a new strategy, the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) sent a communication to its members on April 17, 2020, stating it was time to consider ending the deferral of non-urgent care, and to instead develop processes to provide patient care in a new normal. In conjunction with this communication, the AAO began providing resources and guidelines for protocols to see patients and resume elective surgery in a manner where the risk of viral transmission could be minimized but where quality eye care could still be delivered.

The UCLA Mobile Eye Clinic (UMEC), which operates under the Stein Eye Institute's Center for Community Outreach and Policy, has gone through the waves of the coronavirus pandemic like every other eye care organization. After a brief shutdown in the beginning of the pandemic, the UMEC had to create a strategy to resume eye care services for the underserved community in Los Angeles. Under the leadership of the Center for Community Outreach and Policy Director **Anne L. Coleman, MD, PhD**, the Fran and Ray Stark Foundation Chair in Ophthalmology, UMEC staff devised a new protocol to safely provide services for the community. The UCLA Universal Masking policy is strictly implemented for UMEC patients and staff, and patients are provided with a mask if they do not have one. Everyone entering the UMEC bus is screened for COVID-19 symptoms or exposure and has their temperature checked, and those with symptoms or fever are not allowed to enter and are given information for COVID-19 testing. Within the bus, all exam room surfaces and equipment are thoroughly sanitized after every patient. Patients who need to wait do so outside in a socially distanced manner. UMEC staff with symptoms are not permitted to work until determined safe to do so by UCLA. With this protocol in place, the UMEC has been able to safely resume services throughout Los Angeles.

In addition to providing resources to those in need of long-term eye care, UMEC staff have also begun to encounter patients who were victims to COVID-19 who have since recovered. By working with these patients and hearing their stories, the UMEC will be able to understand new challenges that have developed for the underserved community due to the pandemic. The UMEC looks forward to continuing its services and adapting day by day to provide care for those most in need during these extraordinary times.



UMEC staffer Pamela Duarte screens a patient for COVID-19 symptoms. Patients with symptoms or fever are not allowed to enter the UMEC and are given information for COVID-19 testing.



UMEC ophthalmic technician Rene Galvan sanitizes the exam room between patient visits.

FACULTY HONORS

Anne L. Coleman, MD, PhD, The Fran and Ray Stark Foundation Chair in Ophthalmology and vice chair of ophthalmology at the UCLA Stein Eye Institute, was recognized by UCLA for her influence and achievements in a "Salute to 100 Trailblazing Women of UCLA Health." Dr. Coleman is internationally known for her research and clinical expertise in the fields of glaucoma and cataract surgery. She was elected to the National Academy of Medicine in 2016, and her recent leadership activities include serving as president of the American Academy of Ophthalmology in 2020.

JoAnn A. Giaconi, MD, was chair of the inaugural American Glaucoma Society Symposium "AGS Glaucoma Update" at AAO 2020 Virtual on November 14, 2020, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

Alex Huang, MD, PhD, assistant professor of ophthalmology, is the recipient of the 2021 Pfizer Ophthalmics Carl Camras Translational Research Award. A glaucoma clinician-scientist, Dr. Huang is supported by the National Institutes of Health and National Eye Institute on an R01 award and by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). He has been awarded the American Glaucoma Society (AGS) Mentoring for Advancement of Physician-Scientists Award (2013 and 2014) and the AGS Young-Clinician Scientist Award (2015). Fight For Sight recognized Dr. Huang as an Undergraduate Research Award Mentor (2015), and he was honored with the Research to Prevent Blindness Career Development Award (2016) and the Heidelberg Engineering Xtreme Research Award (2016). Dr. Huang was named the #1 Rising Star by *The Ophthalmologist* magazine in 2017 and to The Ophthalmologist Power 100 List in 2020.

In addition, Dr. Huang presented the keynote lecture "Imaging where the Aqueous is Flowing" (virtual) at the Duke University 32nd Annual Glaucoma Symposium on September 26, 2020, in Durham, North Carolina.

Peter A. Quiros, MD, health sciences associate clinical professor of ophthalmology, was selected as a UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine (DGSOM) Educator for Excellence. In this capacity, Dr. Quiros is taking on a key role in medical education leadership. He will serve as the inaugural co-director of the Foundations of Practice course, a key component of DGSOM's curricular redesign and a significant new education initiative. Dr. Quiros, and his co-director Dr. Art Gomez, will assume overall leadership, oversight, and delivery of the Foundations of Practice course, which quite literally lays the foundation for UCLA medical students to transform into the physicians of the future. Dr. Quiros has received numerous teaching and research awards and has been a key member of the DGSOM Diversity Oversight Committee. He has trained fellows in neuro-ophthalmology from around the globe and is renowned for his teaching and mentoring skills.

SriniVas R. Sadda, MD, Stephen J. Ryan-Arnold and Mabel Beckman Foundation Endowed Presidential Chair, was selected to the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) Board of Trustees, Retina Section, May 2020–May 2025.

Dr. Sadda, who is president and chief scientific officer of the Doheny Eye Institute, also presented the keynote Asia-Pacific Ocular Imaging Society inaugural 1st webinar "Future of Ophthalmic Imaging in the Post COVID-19" (virtual) on July 18, 2020, in Hong Kong.

Alfredo A. Sadun, MD, PhD, Flora L. Thornton Endowed Chair in Vision Research and vice chair, Doheny Eye Centers UCLA, presented the keynote lecture "Optic Neuropathy in Alzheimer's Disease" (virtual) at the University of Bologna, Department of Neurology, on October 2, 2020, in Bologna, Italy.

Dr. Sadun also organized and chaired the symposium "Artificial Intelligence, the Promise and the Peril: Ophthalmology, Medicine and Beyond" at AAO 2020 Virtual on November 14, 2020, in Las Vegas, Nevada.

David Sarraf, MD, health sciences clinical professor of ophthalmology, presented the Canadian Journal of Ophthalmology keynote lecture (virtual) at the Canadian Ophthalmological Society meeting June 25–28, 2020, in Vancouver, British Columbia. In addition, Dr. Sarraf gave two keynote lectures (virtual) at the October 2020 Cleveland Ophthalmological Society meeting: "OCT Angiography of the Macula in COVID-19 Patients: Is the Retina a Coronavirus Target?" and "Pentosan Maculopathy: Screening Guidelines and Spectrum of Disease Based on Prospective Multimodal Imaging Analysis."

Edmund Tsui, MD, assistant professor of ophthalmology, received the Early Career Award from the Thrasher Research Fund for his study "Discovery of Quantitative Imaging Biomarkers in Juvenile Idiopathic Arthritis-associated Uveitis." The fund encourages development of medical research in child health by awarding grants to new researchers, helping them gain a foothold in this important area. The award period is from July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2022.

Shoaib Ugradar, MD, health sciences clinical instructor, and **Jonathan Hoenig, MD**, Stein Eye clinical fellow alumnus (1995) and volunteer clinical faculty member, received the 2020 American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery (ASOPRS) research award for their study "Measurement of the Force Required by Blunt-Tipped Microcannulas to Perforate the Facial Artery."

New Faculty Appointments

We are pleased to welcome three new faculty members to the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology. These exemplary ophthalmologists join an award-winning team of clinicians and researchers dedicated to advancing patient care and vision science in our mission to preserve and restore vision.

Justin Karlin, MD, MS

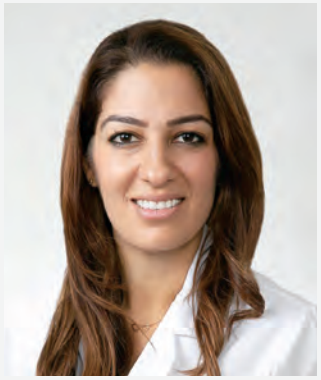
Health Sciences Assistant Clinical Professor

A specialist in orbital, lacrimal, and ophthalmic plastic surgery, Dr. Karlin trained in ophthalmology at the University of Virginia. He completed the David and Randi Fett Orbital and Ophthalmic Plastic Surgery Fellowship at the UCLA Stein Eye and Doheny Eye Institutes.

Dr. Karlin's research is focused on using artificial intelligence to improve diagnostic accuracy. He is also interested in medical device design and was invited to participate in the UCLA Faculty Innovation Fellowship program in 2021.

Dr. Karlin is deeply committed to teaching. As a resident, he was awarded the University of Virginia School of Medicine Resident Teaching Award, and as a fellow, he received the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology Fellow Teaching Award.

He sees patients at the Stein Eye Center–Calabasas and the Doheny Eye Center UCLA–Orange County.



Mitra Nejad, MD

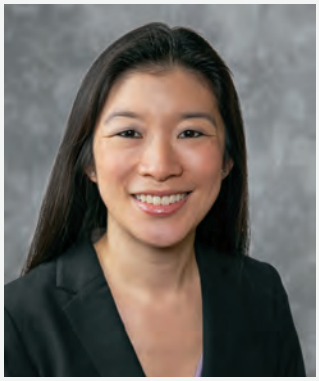
Health Sciences Assistant Clinical Professor

Dr. Nejad practices comprehensive ophthalmology with a focus on cataract and refractive surgery. She graduated summa cum laude from UCLA and earned her MD from the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA. Dr. Nejad conducted her internship at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center and her ophthalmology residency at the Stein Eye Institute, where she remained on staff.

Dr. Nejad utilizes the latest technology for treatment of cataracts. She is a certified proctor in laser refractive surgery and supervises Stein Eye residents' refractive surgery cases. Dr. Nejad has contributed to the residency cataract surgery curriculum and microsurgery wet lab curriculum, and attends resident cataract surgery at both Stein Eye and Harbor-UCLA.

A dedicated educator, Dr. Nejad teaches medical student courses at the David Geffen School of Medicine, serves as medical student preceptor, and lectures at educational conferences. She also serves on the residency program evaluation and selection committees.

Dr. Nejad sees patients at the Stein Eye Institute vision-science campus in Westwood.



Victoria L. Tseng, MD, PhD

Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology

Dr. Tseng specializes in the clinical evaluation and treatment of glaucoma and cataracts, and she has research expertise in the epidemiology of eye diseases.

Dr. Tseng received her medical degree at the Warren Alpert Medical School of Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island, and she received a PhD in epidemiology at the UCLA Fielding School of Public Health. Dr. Tseng conducted her ophthalmology residency at the UCLA Stein Eye Institute as a member of the prestigious EyeSTAR program, followed by a glaucoma fellowship at Stein Eye.

Dr. Tseng has received numerous awards and honors, including induction into the Alpha Omega Alpha and Delta Omega honor societies, and selection as a Heed Fellow. She has published manuscripts in leading journals and also serves as a reviewer for several journals.

Dr. Tseng sees patients at Doheny Eye Center UCLA locations in Pasadena and Arcadia, and she teaches ophthalmology residents at Olive-View UCLA Medical Center.

Dr. Lynn Gordon: An Impactful Career

An award-winning leader in her field, **Lynn K. Gordon, MD, PhD**, Vernon O. Underwood Family Chair of Ophthalmology, has also been a catalyst for change throughout her professional life—empowering women and ensuring the core values of diversity and inclusion are inseparable from UCLA's institutional goals of excellence in all tenets of healthcare, research, education, and community engagement.

Dr. Gordon, who retired December 31, 2020, has been widely extolled for her accomplishments as a neuro-ophthalmologist, researcher, teacher, inventor, and advocate for diversity. Her roles include professor of ophthalmology at the Stein Eye Institute, chair of the College of Applied Anatomy at the UCLA David Geffen School of Medicine (DGSOM), and senior associate dean for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion at DGSOM.

Attesting to Dr. Gordon's notable influence, **Bradley R. Straatsma, MD, JD**, founding director of the Stein Eye Institute and founding chair of the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology, notes, "Throughout her career, Dr. Gordon has been outstanding as an ophthalmology resident, skilled faculty member, and national leader of the American Academy of Ophthalmology Council."

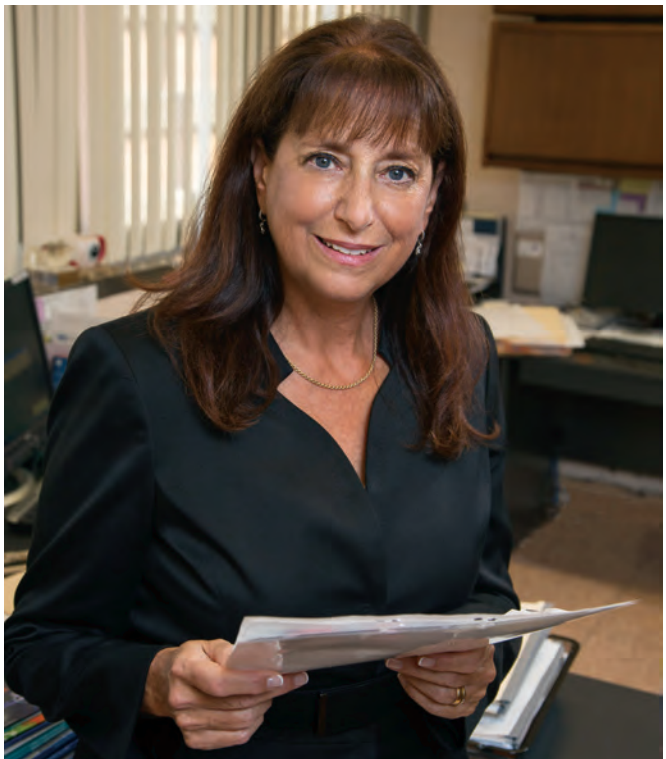
After graduating with honors from Stanford University, Dr. Gordon received her MD and PhD at Harvard University. She conducted her residency and fellowship training at Stein Eye when there was only a single building on what has since become a vision-science campus at UCLA. As a faculty member, Dr. Gordon led the ophthalmology section of the Greater Los Angeles VA Healthcare System for a decade before joining the deans' office.

Dr. Gordon's research is focused on inflammatory eye disease, and her work has resulted in federal and foundation funding, multiple patents, and more than 100 publications, book chapters, and reviews. She has served on numerous editorial boards, lectured throughout the world, and has held significant leadership positions, including past president of Women in Ophthalmology, Stein Eye Institute Department of Ophthalmology Association, Los Angeles Eye Society, and the California Academy of Eye Physicians and Surgeons. Dr. Gordon's many honors include the Stein Eye Faculty Teaching Award, the Suzanne Véronneau-Troutman Award from Women in Ophthalmology, the DGSOM Award for Excellence in Education, the Senior Achievement Award from the American Academy of Ophthalmology, the Women in Ophthalmology Champion of Change Award, and the Distinguished Service Award from the California Academy of Eye Physicians and Surgeons.

Dr. Gordon is a national expert on implicit bias, cultural humility, sexual harassment in academic medicine, work-life balance, micro-aggressions, and achieving equity. She was the first associate dean for Diversity Affairs from 2009–2014 and has been senior associate dean since 2014. She has led DGSOM efforts in equity, diversity and inclusion (EDI) and social justice, and her activities include leadership of the EDI committee; consultative liaison to department chairs on EDI issues and development of departmental diversity statistics; mentorship and guidance for faculty members; representation of DGSOM in campus and national EDI activities; local stewardship of the Faculty Forward Engagement Survey; major EDI innovations in undergraduate and graduate medical education; development and leadership of the junior faculty lecture series; oversight of faculty search committee training; service as DGSOM EDI representative to the campus and university; and development of DGSOM travel childcare awards.

"It is my belief these activities help the institution to grow, to become more aware of the critical importance of equity and inclusion," says Dr. Gordon. "The DGSOM Cultural North Star has three high level goals: Do What's Right, Make Things Better, and Be Kind. My hope is that through the efforts in the DGSOM EDI Office, we have lived up to those goals."

Bartly J. Mondino, MD, director of the Stein Eye Institute and chair of the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology, notes, "Dr. Gordon's contributions to ophthalmology and UCLA are impossible to quantify. Through her dedication, she has inspired young clinicians and researchers, cared for our most vulnerable, and has been a champion for equality and inclusion. On behalf of her UCLA family, we thank Dr. Gordon for her service."



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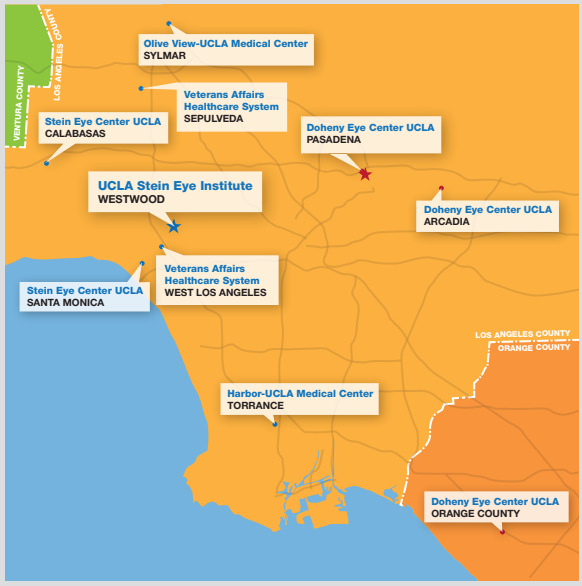

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UCLA Health is consistently ranked among the best hospitals in the country by U.S. News & World Report, *and UCLA Stein Eye and Doheny Eye Institutes are ranked among the top five in the nation in ophthalmology.*