

EYE

Stein Eye Institute UCLA

Discovery and Innovation: Stein Eye Institute Research Centers

“As a focus of activity, these Centers provide an opportunity for researchers and clinicians to work together towards a common goal. By sharing equipment, ideas, and ultimately discoveries, the Centers will enable the underlying causes and outcomes of illness to be revealed, and effective prevention, early detection, and personalized treatments to be realized.”

Bartly J. Mondino, MD
Director, Stein Eye Institute

The Stein Eye Institute is in the midst of one of the largest transformations in the Institute’s history, and the groundbreaking of the Edie & Lew Wasserman (ELW) Building in October 2010 signaled a beginning of exciting new changes to come.

Chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology and Director of the Stein Eye Institute, **Bartly J. Mondino, MD**, is leading efforts to develop a complex that reflects a broader global perspective for the 21st century. He explains, “Since its inception, the Stein Eye Institute has been at the forefront of efforts to preserve sight and restore vision, and we have proudly earned an international reputation in basic science, clinical research, and patient care. With the addition of the ELW Building, the Institute can expand existing programs and create new ones.”

Many of the Institute’s new programs will be housed within six Centers: the Center for Community Outreach, the Center for Regenerative Medicine in Ophthalmology, the Glaucoma Center for Excellence in Care and Research, the Ocular Inflammatory Disease Center, the Vision Genetics Center, and the Vision Proteomics Center.

Whereas the Center for Community Outreach targets public health, the core of the other five Centers embody the concept of “from bench to bedside,” which means scientific discoveries (“the bench”) are translated into practical applications (“the bedside”) with the ultimate goal of improved patient care and treatments. This translational research will play a key role in maintaining the Institute’s status as an esteemed leader in ophthalmology.

“As a focus of activity,” says Dr. Mondino, “these Centers provide an opportunity for researchers and clinicians to work together towards a common goal. By sharing equipment, ideas, and ultimately discoveries, the Centers will enable the underlying causes and outcomes of illness to be revealed, and effective prevention, early detection, and personalized treatments to be realized.”

Center for Community Outreach

Building on a long tradition of epidemiological research and community service, the Stein Eye Institute plans to establish a new Center for Community Outreach to reinforce its leadership at the interface of ophthalmology and public health. Under the direction of **Anne L. Coleman, MD, PhD**, Fran and Ray Stark Professor of Ophthalmology, the Center is dedicated to the principle that everyone deserves the best vision that can be attained. Two of the Center’s primary objectives will be to further its research mission as part of a multifaceted effort to advance vision health through the UCLA Center for Eye Epidemiology (CEE), and to provide eye care to vulnerable populations through the UCLA Mobile Eye Clinic (UMEC), both elements now incorporated under the Center for Community Outreach.

UCLA Center for Eye Epidemiology: Advancing Vision Health

The CEE was established in 1997 to promote interdisciplinary investigations into blinding diseases of public health importance. The Center maintains and improves vision health through public health research and intervention, and serves as a coordinating body for expanding and sharing information.

Center members have expertise in epidemiology, biostatistics, health policy, public health, and international health. Members draw on their diverse backgrounds and complementary skills to promote an understanding of issues related to vision health as it affects individuals, communities, and society. The Center encourages collaborative research among faculty and investigators from various UCLA departments and other institutions around the world to advance knowledge related to the causes and prevention of specific eye diseases.



The UCLA Mobile Eye Clinic, a vital element of the Center for Community Outreach, travels to underserved areas in Los Angeles providing high-quality eye care at no cost.

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UCLA Mobile Eye Clinic: Eye Care for Vulnerable Populations

For over 40 years, the UMEC has supported patient care and screening programs in neighborhoods where poverty and vision disabilities intersect. In order to expand these programs, the UMEC has plans to screen 90,000 preschoolers within five years through a contract with First 5 LA.

Center for Regenerative Medicine in Ophthalmology

Researchers at the Institute are investigating the use of stem cells for the treatment of retinal degenerative diseases and corneal diseases. Under the direction of **Gabriel H. Travis, PhD**, Charles Kenneth Feldman Professor of Ophthalmology, and Co-Director **Sophie X. Deng, MD, PhD**, assistant professor of ophthalmology, the Center for Regenerative Medicine in Ophthalmology (CRMO) fosters a culture of collaboration between the basic scientists and clinicians to translate the advances in basic-science research into new and improved clinical therapies.



Researchers in the Center for Regenerative Medicine in Ophthalmology are investigating the use of stem cells for the treatment of eye diseases.

Pioneering the Use of Stem Cells

In 2011, Stein Eye Institute clinician-scientists successfully transplanted the first human embryonic stem-cell-derived retinal pigment epithelial cells into the eyes of legally blind patients with Stargardt disease and dry macular degeneration. This represented a milestone in the therapeutic use of stem cells and may pave the way for a new treatment for macular degeneration.

Many of the blinding eye diseases, including glaucoma, macular degeneration, and corneal diseases, are due to the loss of functional tissue. The development of effective and safe individualized stem-cell-based therapies relies on robust basic-science, translational, and clinical research. The CRMO will continue to support current stem-cell studies and pursue new research programs to diagnose, treat, and ultimately cure and prevent blinding eye diseases.

Glaucoma Center for Excellence in Care and Research

Under the direction of **Joseph Caprioli, MD**, David May II Professor of Ophthalmology and chief of the Glaucoma Division, the Glaucoma Center for Excellence in Care and Research is committed to giving each patient a chance for a brighter future and a life filled with sight.

Glaucoma damages the optic nerve, which can cause permanent vision loss and even blindness. Although it is currently the second cause of irreversible legal blindness in the United States, vision loss from glaucoma can be slowed or even prevented if it is detected at an early stage. Stein Eye Institute researchers are working with neuroscientists and members of the UCLA School of Public Health to identify individuals at greatest risk for vision loss and to develop and assess therapeutic strategies for prevention and treatment.

Translational Research

At present, the Glaucoma Laboratories' scientists focus on the stress-protein responses that modulate glaucomatous optic nerve damage. The goal is to identify neuroprotective treatments to prevent the death of retinal ganglion cells that constitute the optic nerve. Publications by Division scientists have demonstrated that the induction of self-protective mechanisms in nerve cells helps prevent damage that causes visual loss in glaucoma. Ongoing basic-science research will investigate the roles of not only

The Centers foster a culture of collaboration between basic scientists and clinicians, translating advances in basic-science research into new and improved clinical therapies.

neuroprotection for treatment, but also neurorescue—saving sick vision cells from death—and neuroregeneration—restoring new vision cells to the optic nerve.

Ocular Inflammatory Disease Center

Established in 1985, the Ocular Inflammatory Disease Center (OIDC), under the direction of **Gary N. Holland, MD**, Jack H. Skirball Professor of Ocular Inflammatory Diseases, offers world-renowned expertise in the research and therapeutic care of uveitis (intraocular inflammation) and inflammatory disease of the cornea and ocular surface.

A Multidisciplinary Approach in a Premier Center

The evaluation and treatment of these disorders require the coordination of specialists from multiple disciplines, including ophthalmologists working in subspecialties (uveitis, retina, and glaucoma), rheumatologists, and infectious-disease experts. The OIDC has been successful in fostering an interdisciplinary approach to its activities and has clarified the understanding of various clinical disorders and developed new concepts about disease mechanisms.

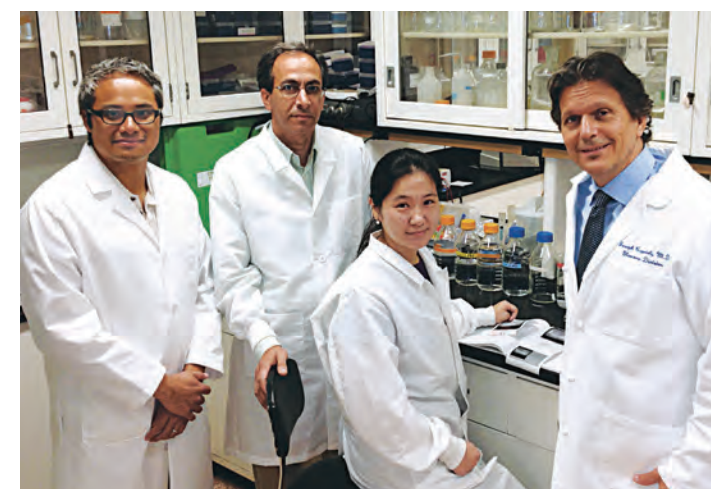
OIDC researchers were the first to describe cytomegalovirus retinitis as an ophthalmic manifestation of AIDS, and additional, ongoing investigations have created one of the premier centers of expertise in AIDS-related ophthalmic disease in the country.

Vision Genetics Center

In the past, clinicians as well as patients have viewed the genetics of eye conditions as a relatively obscure discipline dealing with rare disorders that have no treatment. This perception has undergone a revolutionary change with the discovery of genetic variations that contribute to common conditions, such as age-related macular degeneration, glaucoma, and myopia (nearsightedness), as well the impact of personal genetics on predicting one's response to different therapies and disease prognoses.

The need to coordinate current and future genetic eye-disease research and integrate it with gene therapy is critical at this time in biomedical research and clinical care. Recognizing this opportunity to make a difference for generations to come, the Vision Genetics Center was established in 1999. Under the direction of **Michael B. Gorin, MD, PhD**, Harold and Pauline Price Professor of Ophthalmology and chief of the Division of Retinal Disorders and Ophthalmic Genetics, the Center focuses on understanding the role that genetics plays in eye diseases.

Today, genetic-based therapies are being developed and tested for a growing number of diseases and disorders. Such therapies include the introduction of genetic material into cells to either restore defective proteins or suppress the effects of mutant proteins, as well as to produce molecules that can promote cell survival.



Laboratory team members from the Glaucoma Center for Excellence in Care and Research, from left to right: Drs. Jacky Kwong, Natik Piri, Lei Gu, and Joseph Caprioli.

Vision Proteomics Center

Genes encode the sequences of proteins, and knowledge of the structure and function of these proteins is required to unlock the secrets of the cell. That task is now set before current and future generations of scientists, and a new field of study, *Proteomics*, has been born.

It is only through an understanding of protein function at the molecular level that researchers can learn the fundamental origins of disease and develop rational therapeutic designs to correct defects in the molecular machinery. The aim of the Vision Proteomics (VIP) Center, under the direction of **Wayne L. Hubbell, PhD**, Jules Stein Professor of Ophthalmology, is to conduct a large-scale analysis of proteins to better understand gene function and its role in eye disease.

New Technologies and Innovation

Proteins are now recognized as dynamic molecules, with molecular movements inherent to their function. New technologies are urgently needed to image protein molecules in action, and such techniques are being advanced at the Center. For example, the Center has pioneered the development of site-directed spin labeling (SDSL), which will usher in a new era of exploration of structure/function relationships in proteins. This technology is a combination of molecular genetics, computer simulation, and a magnetic-resonance technique called electron paramagnetic resonance.

The VIP Center—the only one of its kind in the world—will have a wide-ranging impact on vision research at the most basic level, resulting in the potential for entirely new knowledge and understanding in this arena.

Looking to the Future

The Stein Eye Institute seeks to provide patients with holistic treatment and services as well as offer the entire medical community a world-class medical and research center. As a premier location for research, education, and patient care, the six Centers collectively enable the Institute to concentrate on its original and major role as the comprehensive site for vision science at UCLA—and beyond.

Letter from the Chair

In recent issues of *EYE* newsletter, I've been pleased to share with you the physical transformation our vision science campus has been experiencing. In addition to the redesign of Stein Plaza, which is both functional and visually striking, we have also unified our facility under the banner, **Stein Eye Institute**.

In this issue we share our great pride in learning that our new Edie & Lew Wasserman Building, now in its final stages of construction, has been awarded its third design honor: LEED Gold certification, which represents Leadership in Energy and Environment Design. This award reflects our commitment to green building design for better environmental and health performance.

Although these exterior changes are both functional and visually compelling, the real transformation is the work our world-renowned clinicians and researchers are performing inside these walls. In this issue of *EYE* newsletter, I am proud to describe some of our Institute's Centers—many of them brand new—and how they serve to broaden our understanding of eye disease and eye health, with the ultimate goal of preserving and restoring vision. As just one example, our Vision Proteomics Center is the only one of its kind in the world, and it will have a substantial impact on vision research at the most basic level.

As funding becomes increasingly challenging to obtain, philanthropic support is needed more than ever to assist us in achieving our Centers' goals and in pursuing new investigations. Your contributions will help to determine the Stein Eye Institute's direction and influence for decades to come, and the rewards in eye care will be enormous!

Sincerely,

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

Philanthropy

Director of the Stein Eye Institute and the Institute's second Division Chief in Cornea, **Bartly J. Mondino, MD**, who has known Dr. Li for decades, discusses the impact such a gift will have: "Dr. Li's tremendous donation will provide continuity of funding for the Stein Eye Institute and leave a legacy for future leaders in ophthalmology. This funding will not only benefit the teaching and research endeavors of the Cornea and Uveitis Division chief, but it will also underwrite graduate students and postdoctoral fellows, staff and services, and special projects. Furthermore, the endowment will provide financial resources that will allow for the exploration of promising new areas of research."

A Family Tradition of Excellence

Dr. Li Shu Fan—Dr. Walton Li's uncle and role model—was the first doctor in the Li family, and in 1911, he became the first health minister of China after the Chinese Revolution. In 1926, Dr. Li Shu Fan was invited to reorganize the first private hospital in Hong Kong. Now known as the Hong Kong Sanatorium and Hospital (HKSH), he was the hospital's chairman of the board of directors and medical superintendent during the ensuing forty years. Dr. Walton Li's father and another other uncle—both physicians—ran the HKSH upon the passing of Dr. Li Shu Fan in 1966.

Dr. Walton Li's long-standing connection to UCLA and accomplished career in ophthalmology began when he enrolled as a medical student at the university. Dr. Li earned his medical degree from UCLA in 1974, and he completed both his residency (1978) and fellowship (1979) in cornea and uveitis at the Institute. In 1980, he established and has since been head of the Department of Ophthalmology at the HKSH. In 2005, he was elected chairman of the board of directors and was appointed as medical superintendent, positions he still holds today. Dr. Li also serves as the chairman of the Li Shu Fan Medical Foundation, an organization that supports HKSH and has endowed several professorships at universities in Hong Kong.

A Solid Foundation

Dr. Li's act of philanthropy is directly related to the world-class training he received at the Institute, and two of his

mentors he found particularly inspiring: the first Division Chief in Cornea, **Thomas H. Pettit, MD**, and the Founding Director of the Institute, **Bradley R. Straatsma, MD, JD**. He affirms, "Dr. Straatsma took a personal interest in my professional and personal development and played a major role in my decision to become an ophthalmologist."

The Stein Eye Institute enjoys an outstanding international reputation primarily because of the significant accomplishments of its faculty and trainees that extends beyond borders, and Dr. Li credits his experiences at UCLA for his professional success: "Those years [at UCLA] provided me with a good foundation, strong general medical knowledge, and experience, all of which I use in my leadership role at the HKSH. The training at UCLA and the Institute enabled me to establish a good eye service in Hong Kong and to start a department of ophthalmology. We now have 10 eye doctors with various subspecialty expertise—one of the strongest and largest eye departments in Hong Kong."

Keeping in Touch and Giving Back

While Dr. Li's recent major gift was his first to the Institute, his establishment of the Walton Li Chair in Cornea and Uveitis was a natural culmination of his enduring connection to UCLA. As a world-renowned specialist in his field, Dr. Li understands the importance of supporting cutting-edge research and training the next generation of ophthalmologists. "Training and exposure make a difference in patient care," he affirms. "The future of health care depends on how well we train and prepare future generations of doctors. Supporting the university will ensure that we have the best professors and advancements in research and medical care."

Dr. Mondino concludes, "Through the establishment of the Walton Li Chair in Cornea and Uveitis, Dr. Li further honors our University and Institute by providing support for clinicians and vision science researchers to pursue improved treatments for disorders of the anterior segment of the eye. My colleagues and I are grateful for and humbled by his generosity."

Alumni Bring the Miracle of Sight to People in the Developing World

One of the miracles of life is seeing the beauty around us. Our sight also allows us the ability to work and manage our daily responsibilities. Thankfully, visually impaired people in the developed world have resources available to ensure their quality of life is as fulfilling as possible. In the developing world, however, blindness can mean the difference between life and death.

To change this devastating outcome, more than 30 UCLA medical and Stein Eye Institute alumni are using their ophthalmological skills to bring the miracle of sight to thousands of individuals worldwide. These selfless surgeons travel on behalf of Surgical Eye Expeditions (SEE) International, a nonprofit, humanitarian organization based in Santa Barbara, California.



Dr. Harry Brown on an expedition to South America in the early 1980s.

Harry S. Brown, MD, founded SEE in 1974. During his residency training at the Stein Eye Institute (1970), Dr. Brown became interested in international ophthalmology and working with doctors with limited resources. Upon completion of his academic studies, Dr. Brown embarked on an international expedition to experience firsthand the challenges faced by ophthalmologists in the developing world.

"I spent six months in South Africa assigned to the 100-bed St. John's Eye Hospital," says Dr. Brown. "In India, I worked with a local surgeon seeing more than 1,000 patients in 22 days and performed 76 surgeries."

Volunteering with Care Medico, Dr. Brown spent a month in Afghanistan and then traveled to nearly 10 countries, meeting with ophthalmologists, and touring medical centers and schools for the blind.

It was while training at the Stein Eye Institute that Dr. Brown met Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology George B. Primbs, MD, FACS, a UCLA graduate (1955) and Stein Eye alumnus (1961). They remained in contact, and when Dr. Brown returned to the United States, Dr. Primbs encouraged him to relocate to Santa Barbara.

In 1971, Dr. Brown began his private practice, and shortly thereafter, started SEE International. The organization now has more than 650 volunteer ophthalmic surgeons from 75 different countries. With supplies donated by the ophthalmic industry, SEE has performed over 400,000 procedures in more than 35 countries since its inception. In 2012, SEE supported 10,208 sight-restoring surgeries around the world.

"The Stein Eye Institute is dedicated to the preservation and restoration of vision," affirms Bartly J. Mondino, MD, chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology and director of the Stein Eye Institute. "The incredible work of Dr. Brown and our alumni volunteers exemplifies the Institute's mission of community outreach, which extends from our campus to across the globe."

In 1993, SEE recognized a need for local community outreach and created the Santa Barbara Vision Care Program (SBVCP). Led by Dr. Primbs as program director, SBVCP provides comprehensive eye exams, glaucoma screenings, eyeglasses, medications, and eye surgery at no cost to the patient. In 2012, SBVCP conducted 22 ophthalmic surgical procedures and provided eye care to 1,242 individuals in Santa Barbara County. The program has also been providing diabetic retinopathy screenings for its patients since 2005.

"I have dedicated my life to vision care, and restoring someone's sight is a life-changing event," states Dr. Primbs. "It is very gratifying to treat patients at SBVCP. Many of them have increased risk of suffering eye impairment, including blindness, and none of them have the resources to access private medical care. SBVCP is noble and necessary."

UCLA graduate (2002) and Stein Eye Institute resident (2006), Dorothy P. Khong, MD, participated on a 2010 SEE expedition to Vietnam after learning about the organization from a colleague. "The patients are so grateful to see again, and many have waited a long time for this," says Dr. Khong. "SEE is a great organization for physicians to volunteer their time. You provide a service to people who need it the most, and in return, you will have an unforgettable experience and meet wonderful people."

Richard H. Yook, MD, UCLA graduate (1972) and Stein Eye Institute resident (1977), has been on several



Dr. Dorothy Khong poses with patients whose sight she helped restore while on a SEE International Expedition to Vietnam in 2010.



Dr. Richard Yook visits with a patient on his SEE International expedition to India.

"The incredible work of Dr. Brown and our alumni volunteers exemplifies the Institute's mission of community outreach, which extends from our campus to across the globe."

Bartly J. Mondino, MD
Director, Stein Eye Institute

international expeditions with the organization during the past decade. "SEE has relationships with regional ophthalmologists who assist with access into the country and providing medical supplies," Dr. Yook explains.

Randal E. Avolio, president and chief executive officer of SEE International, speaks to the critical need for eye care: "Life expectancy for the blind in most developing countries is usually less than half that of someone with sight. These difficulties are compounded by the fact that a blind person is unable to contribute to his or her family income. Not only does blindness mean a father is unable to work, or a mother cannot care properly for her children, collect water, or go to market, but it requires that someone else must care for the afflicted. The probable consequence is that two incomes are lost, creating an overwhelming economic strain on the family and the community. In many cases, the added responsibility falls on the children, who will then lose the ability to go to school and experience a carefree childhood."

Reflecting on what SEE provides, Dr. Yook concludes, "Cataract surgery can be a life changing experience. Restored vision brings back the miracle of sight and makes a tremendous, positive impact on the quality of life for that individual, their family, and their community. I am grateful for the training I received from UCLA and the Stein Eye Institute, and I am grateful that I can use it to help others."

For more information on becoming a volunteer eye surgeon with SEE and/or the Santa Barbara Vision Care Program, visit www.seeintl.org or call (805) 963-3303.

Faculty Focus

Joseph Caprioli, MD

David May II Professor of Ophthalmology
Chief of the Glaucoma Division

Dr. Joseph Caprioli was born and raised in Deer Park, a working-class neighborhood on Long Island in New York. His father was an electrician and his mother was a homemaker. The youngest of four boys, Dr. Caprioli initially trained to be a classical pianist—even winning an audition to Juilliard—but made the decision at age 14 to instead follow medicine.

The valedictorian at his local high school, Dr. Caprioli accepted a Regents scholarship to study medicine at the State University of New York at Buffalo, and completed his training at Yale University. After concluding his fellowship training at Wills Eye Hospital, Dr. Caprioli began his academic career in 1984 as an assistant professor of ophthalmology at Yale University, and he was fully tenured by 1993. During the 14 years that he was the director of the Glaucoma Section at Yale, he also served as the interim chairman of the Department before joining the faculty of the Stein Eye Institute in 1997. He was recently recognized with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the American Academy of Ophthalmology.

In a recent interview, Dr. Caprioli answered questions about his work and personal life.

What attracted you to the field of ophthalmology?

I spent the first two years of my surgical residency at Yale in cardiothoracic surgery, but I was always interested in the eye. When a residency opened up, I grabbed the opportunity. I started doing ophthalmics, corneal transplants, and scleral buckles. Ophthalmology was becoming more subspecialized in the 1980s, so I decided to do a glaucoma fellowship at Wills Eye Hospital with Dr. George Spaeth, one of the fathers of American glaucoma. I returned to Yale in 1984 as an assistant professor of ophthalmology and became the director of the Glaucoma Section that same year.

Why did you leave Yale?

I was appointed the acting chairman, and the role involved a lot of administrative duties that took me away from my

clinical and research work. Despite being offered their first endowed chair, when Dr. Mondino made me an offer I couldn't refuse, I turned Yale down to come to the Stein Eye Institute. It was a good time in my life to make a change. Typically, academics move around often, but I had only made one change in 18 years, which is probably less than average—and it worked out well!

What do you enjoy most about your career?

The patients. Glaucoma is a long-term disease, so you develop a relationship based on trust and make close relationships with patients who are with you for life. In the early stages of treatment, glaucoma is a symptomless disease. Patients are given medications that may cause side effects, or need surgery that may cause side effects, and they're doing all this on your recommendation. They believe you when you say, "If we don't do this you're going to lose your vision." That trust is so important and so critical to care. I also like the scientific side of the disease. Glaucoma is complicated, so it presents big scientific challenges.

Do you enjoy teaching?

I love working with the clinical fellows. They help keep me on my toes, asking questions with the expectation that I'll know the answer. We feel as faculty that we can help form them in their careers and make them truly good physicians and surgeons.

I also enjoy working with the research fellows, many of whom have studied abroad. They're a fun and eager group, and they work hard. They're involved in important projects, including measuring rates of change more exactly. This is critical, as patients with slowly progressing glaucoma can live a long life without having any



significant effect on their vision—they may not require treatment. On the other hand, patients who are progressing rather quickly may require aggressive treatment early on in the disease. As our financial resources become increasingly limited, we have to focus our attention on those folks who are in biggest trouble, and we have to do it relatively early. A good part of our clinical research is geared toward that.

We also do a lot of research teaching, such as how to conduct a good clinical research project. A lot of these international fellows bring their research back to their native country, and many have gone on to lead meaningful, academic careers. I don't stop and think about it a lot, but it has had a significant impact around the world.

What do you do when you're not working?

Together my wife and I have seven children and three grandchildren, so life is busy at home and something is always going on. I like to play piano, but I also really like to work outside. When I was younger, I worked in construction on framing and roofing teams. When I was in Connecticut, I did woodworking, making furniture and kitchen cabinets. I like masonry, and recently I've been building retaining walls and redoing patios. I also enjoy tending the three small vineyards I've planted on our property. I really enjoy seeing the fruits of my labor!

Alumni News
UCLA Department of Ophthalmology Association

EYELines

Alumni Honors



Patricia Bath, MD

Patricia Bath, MD, received the Association of Black Women Physicians' 2013 Lifetime Achievement Award at the organization's 32nd Annual Charity and Scholarship Benefit, "Visionaries of Medicine: Innovators for Wellness," at the Los Angeles Music Center's Dorothy Chandler Pavillion on November 2, 2013. Dr. Bath was a member of the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology faculty for 14 years and served as chief of ophthalmology at Martin Luther King, Jr. Medical Center during her appointment.

In recognition of his leadership role in ophthalmology and health care, Governor Edmund G. Brown Jr., appointed Howard R. Krauss, MD, to the California Medical Board. In addition to his private practice, Dr. Krauss is clinical professor of ophthalmology and neurosurgery at UCLA, co-director of the UCLA Skull Base Surgery and Orbitocranial Tumor Programs, associate member of the Stein Eye Institute Division of Neuro-Ophthalmology, member of the UCLA Pituitary Tumor Program and the Stein Eye Optic Neuropathy and Orbital Disease Centers.



Howard R. Krauss, MD

Ehsan Rahimy, MD, received the Nesburn Award for research while a resident and presented the Nesburn Lecture, June 1, 2013, at the Los Angeles Society of Ophthalmology meeting in Beverly Hills, California. Dr. Rahimy graduated from the Stein Eye Institute in 2013.



Ehsan Rahimy, MD

In Memoriam

Russell W. Neuhaus, MD

Russell W. Neuhaus, MD, a distinguished alumnus of the Department of Ophthalmology and the Stein Eye Institute, passed away on May 24, 2013, due to complications from chronic lymphocytic leukemia. He was 62.

A teacher and skilled oculoplastic surgeon, Dr. Neuhaus was in private practice in Austin, Texas, and served since 1982 as clinical professor of ophthalmology at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio. A dedicated physician, Dr. Neuhaus was committed to professional development and valued the time he spent serving the larger medical community and mentoring members of the next generation of ophthalmologists. A beloved husband and father, he is survived by his wife of 33 years, Cecilia; his daughter, Laura; and his son, Eric.



SteinEye

405 Hilgard Avenue
Box 957000, 100 Stein Plaza
Los Angeles, California, 90095-7000
U.S.A.

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Director

Bartly J. Mondino, MD

Editors

Anthony C. Arnold, MD
Debora B. Farber, PhD, DPhhc

Managing Editor

Tina-Marie Gauthier

Contributing Editors

Teresa Closson
Debbie Sato
M. Gail Summers

Contributing Photographer

Reed Hutchinson

Design

Robin Weisz Design

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Important Stein Eye Contact Information

Learn more about the Institute at:

www.jsei.org



Patient Care

Referral Service (310) 794-9770
Emergency Service (310) 825-3090
After-Hours Emergency Service (310) 825-2111
Stein Eye Center, Santa Monica (310) 829-0160

Alumni Relations

Email: alumni@jsei.ucla.edu
Facebook: www.facebook.com/JSEIAlumni

Philanthropy

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

Volunteer Opportunities

Stein Eye Affiliates
Telephone: (310) 825-4148
Website: www.jseiaffiliates.com
Email: affiliates@jsei.ucla.edu

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Send comments or questions about *EYE* newsletter to:

Tina-Marie Gauthier
Managing Editor
Email: gauthier@jsei.ucla.edu

Stein Eye Institute

Best Ophthalmology Center in the West

