

EYE

Stein Eye Institute UCLA

UCLA Vision Rehabilitation Center Empowering Patients with Low Vision

Until he was given this tiny telescope by the UCLA Vision Rehabilitation Center, we didn't realize all the things Bobby couldn't see—all the things we take for granted every day. Everyone needs to see the world.

At the Stein Eye Institute, patients receive exemplary care from eye care specialists dedicated to the preservation and restoration of sight. But what does a patient do if their vision is severely limited and no further options are available to them. What then?

The UCLA Vision Rehabilitation Center (VRC) provides that answer. "For patients who have exhausted all medical and surgical options, vision rehabilitation can greatly improve quality of life by helping patients better utilize the vision they do have," says **Melissa W. Chun, OD**, director of the UCLA Vision Rehabilitation Center.

"Low vision" is partial sight not fully correctable with glasses, contact lenses, pharmaceuticals, or surgery. Low vision is generally associated with aging—the most common cause being macular degeneration—but it can also result from congenital conditions, inherited diseases, injuries, diabetes, glaucoma, cataract, and other eye conditions. Typically, low vision ranges from moderate impairment (best-corrected vision 20/70 to 20/160 in the better eye) to legal blindness (20/200 or worse). But anyone experiencing difficulty with daily activities—regardless of visual acuity—may be a candidate for low-vision rehabilitative services.

At the VRC, patients are empowered to take control of their lives and function independently despite their visual impairment. Patients are provided with a specialized rehabilitation plan tailored to their individual needs, which may include use of low-vision devices, such as magnifiers, telescopes, and digital and computer technology. Through careful evaluation with a low-vision optometrist and training with the vision rehabilitation team, the services provided by the VRC can be a potential game changer for children and adults.

"Look How Far the Ocean Goes!"

Born 16 weeks early and weighing just 1 pound, 6 ounces, Robert Gibson faced seemingly insurmountable medical challenges, including blindness.

When Bobby was 4 months old and topped the scale at 5 pounds, he was transferred to the neonatal intensive care unit (NICU) at UCLA. There, **Steven D. Schwartz, MD**, holder of The Ahmanson Chair in Ophthalmology and chief of the Stein Eye Institute's Retina Division, performed delicate surgery to reattach Bobby's retinas, which gave the baby some ability to see. When Bobby reached 5 months of age and 10 pounds, he was released from the NICU and into the loving arms of the Gibsons, the foster family who would later adopt him.

Bobby became a patient of the VRC when he was 5. Intervening ocular complications had caused him to lose all vision in his right eye, leaving him with 20/100 vision in his left eye. At the VRC, Bobby was reintroduced to a long-lost friend, **Jennie Kageyama, OD, FFAO**, associate director of the VRC. "I had assisted in Bobby's care when he was in the NICU," she explains, "and I recognized his face immediately!" Dr. Kageyama introduced Bobby to books on tape and assorted other low-vision devices, but it was a small telescope that became Bobby's constant companion.

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Robert Gibson (shown with Dr. Jennie Kageyama) uses low-vision devices and demonstrates skills gained in the UCLA Vision Rehabilitation Center.



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Letter from the Chair

In this issue of *EYE* newsletter, I am pleased to introduce you to the newest UCLA Department of Ophthalmology faculty members: Doheny Eye Institute researchers and clinicians who are now also Doheny Eye Centers UCLA faculty.

The recent affiliation of the Stein and Doheny Eye Institutes provides a tremendous opportunity for collaboration, research, and discovery with our trusted and distinguished Doheny colleagues. And with three Doheny Eye Center UCLA locations having already opened this year in Arcadia, Orange County, and Pasadena, together we are better serving the greater Los Angeles community.

As eye care professionals, we are dedicated to the prevention of blindness and the restoration of vision, but there is still much to be discovered and learned. This begs the question: Where do patients turn when they have exhausted all options? The UCLA Vision Rehabilitation Center (VRC) is the answer. The VRC is a tremendous resource for individuals with partial sight—providing tools and a specialized rehabilitation plan for patients with low vision, helping them to maintain their independence and quality of life. In this *EYE*, we share the story of two patients whose lives were transformed as a direct result of the services they received in the VRC.

Our ultimate goal is that no one should experience the loss of sight, and it is this purpose that drives us each day. Thank you to our donors and friends who share our commitment to broadening access to eye care, serving patients, and furthering understanding of eye disease and eye health.

Sincerely,

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

Doheny Eye Centers UCLA New UCLA Department of Ophthalmology Faculty Members

This year, community access to the highest-quality patient care was expanded with the opening of three Doheny Eye Center UCLA locations: Arcadia, Orange County, and Pasadena.

Under terms of the 2013 affiliation agreement between the UCLA Stein Eye Institute and the Doheny Eye Institute, many Doheny Eye Institute researchers and clinicians joined the faculty roster of the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA, forming a single, integrated UCLA Department of Ophthalmology.

For patients and referring physicians, this means that known and trusted, board-certified Doheny ophthalmologists remain conveniently accessible in the same neighborhoods—but now with the added backing of the UCLA Health System, one of the premier providers of modern medicine.

Please join us in welcoming our newest UCLA Department of Ophthalmology faculty members.



Vikas Chopra, MD
Medical Director, Doheny Eye Center UCLA–Pasadena

Dr. Chopra specializes in medical and surgical management of glaucoma. He sees patients at the Doheny Eye Centers UCLA in Arcadia and Pasadena.



Brian A. Francis, MD, MS
Medical Director, Doheny Eye Center UCLA–Orange County

Dr. Francis' clinical specialties are glaucoma and cataract. He provides clinical care at the Doheny Eye Centers UCLA in Arcadia, Orange County, and Pasadena.



Gad Heilweil, MD

Dr. Heilweil's clinical focus is on retinal and macular diseases. Patients can see Dr. Heilweil at the Doheny Eye Centers UCLA in Arcadia, Orange County, and Pasadena, and at the Stein Eye Institute in Westwood.



Hugo Y. Hsu, MD

Dr. Hsu specializes in corneal infection and inflammation, corneal transplantation, anterior segment reconstruction, and cataract surgery. Patients can make appointments to see Dr. Hsu at the Doheny Eye Centers UCLA in Arcadia, Orange County, and Pasadena.



Alex A. Huang, MD, PhD

Dr. Huang's clinical specialties include glaucoma, minimally invasive glaucoma surgery, trabeculectomy, glaucoma drainage devices, cyclodestruction, and complex cataracts. His clinical practice is at the Doheny Eye Center UCLA–Pasadena.



John A. Irvine, MD
Medical Director, Doheny Eye Centers UCLA

Dr. Irvine's clinical specialties are cornea and external diseases (eg, tumors, infections), anterior segment surgical consultation, and prosthetic replacement of the ocular surface ecosystem (PROSE). Patients can see Dr. Irvine at the Doheny Eye Centers UCLA in Arcadia, Orange County, and Pasadena.



Anne R. Kao, MD

Dr. Kao's specializes in orbit and ophthalmic plastic surgery, and neuro-ophthalmology. Her clinical specialties include ptosis, eyelid tumors, orbital tumors, thyroid eye disease, blepharospasm, optic nerve disorders, optic nerve sheath fenestration, strabismus, and strabismus surgery. Dr. Kao's practice locations are the Doheny Eye Centers UCLA in Orange County and Pasadena.



Olivia L. Lee, MD

Dr. Lee practices two subspecialties of ophthalmology: cornea/external diseases and uveitis. She has particular interest in inflammatory ocular surface disease, corneal melts, pterygia, and anterior segment complications of uveitis. Dr. Lee performs all types of corneal transplants (eg, penetrating, lamellar, endothelial and femtosecond laser-assisted keratoplasty), as well as complex cataract surgery in uveitic eyes. She sees patients at the Doheny Eye Centers UCLA in Arcadia, Orange County, and Pasadena.



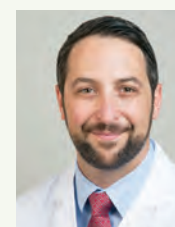
Kenneth L. Lu, MD
Medical Director, Doheny Eye Center UCLA–Arcadia

Dr. Lu specializes in cataract and refractive surgery. He sees patients at the Doheny Eye Center UCLA–Arcadia.



Peter A. Quiros, MD

Dr. Quiros specializes in neuro-ophthalmology, with a clinical focus on optic nerve disease, including optic neuritis and multiple sclerosis; double vision and adult strabismus; eye pain, headache, and idiopathic intracranial hypertension; Graves disease; orbital inflammatory syndromes; and stroke. Dr. Quiros sees patients at the Doheny Eye Centers UCLA in Orange County and Pasadena.



Daniel B. Rootman, MD, MS

Dr. Rootman is an orbit and ophthalmic plastic surgery specialist. His clinical expertise includes Graves disease, orbital surgery, orbital tumors, ptosis, lacrimal disorders, blepharoplasty, blepharospasm, Botox®, cosmetic dermal fillers, endoscopic eyebrow lift, eyelid surgery, eyelid tumors, and trauma. His practice locations are the Doheny Eye Center UCLA–Pasadena and the Stein Eye Institute in Westwood.

“Until he had this tiny telescope, we didn’t realize all the things he couldn’t see—all the things we take for granted every day,” explains Bobby’s mother, Gayla Gibson. “He’d look out his telescope and get all excited and say, ‘Mom, look at the mountains!’ Look at the clouds! Look how far the ocean goes!”

Now 13, the telescope has done more than help Bobby see: the telescope has helped Bobby belong. “Bobby’s smart as a whip, a straight-A student,” says Mrs. Gibson, “but before he had use of the telescope, he would have to sit apart from everyone else in the classroom in order to see. Now Bobby sits with his schoolmates; he’s like everyone else—he’s not out of place anymore.”

The Center is committed that no child leaves the VRC empty handed: “We don’t want children to start out at an academic or social disadvantage. A low-vision device can help a child to see or read better, leveling the playing field for them in school and life,” explains Dr. Chun.

Reflecting on the telescope’s impact on Bobby’s life, Mrs. Gibson says, “The VRC gave Bobby such a gift, and I hope more people can access these sorts of tools. Everyone needs to see the world!”

Helping Low-Vision Patients Better Utilize the Vision They Do Have

People with low vision may not be able to drive, read, watch television, or see a computer screen—causing them to feel shut off from the world. They may lose employment or not be able to shop for food—making them dependent on others. Because vision loss affects every aspect of a person’s life along with the ability to remain independent, it can be extremely debilitating.

Sheree Thompson knew this all too well. Having struggled with chronic uveitis and related eye conditions for years, Sheree had come to accept that she was an “anomaly” with eye issues that could not be controlled with medication and where the risk of surgery was just too great.

“It was like looking through glasses smeared with petroleum jelly,” says Sheree describing her vision at the time, “but I just pushed on.” Sheree maintained her job in a bank, got married, and gave birth to a beloved daughter, Presley. But when Presley was 5 months old, Sheree’s sight deteriorated suddenly to near-total vision loss. “I was barely able to make out a hand motion in front of my face,” she recounts.

With blindness now a reality and surgery the only available option, Dr. Schwartz began a series of staged procedures to remove Sheree’s cataracts and combat her uveitis. During the healing process between surgeries, Sheree was referred to the VRC. “Dr. Kageyama fitted me with a pair of glasses, and in an instant, I could see magnificently. I saw Presley’s face, and I could even see she was getting teeth!”

By using low-vision devices and applying strategies learned in the VRC, Sheree was able to resume her work as a bank teller and participate more fully in her daughter’s life. “During Presley’s first year, I wanted to capture all of those ‘couldn’t see’ moments, and I was taking a ton



Easily transportable video magnifiers enlarge text and enhance the contrast of reading materials.

of pictures.” Reflecting back on that time, Sheree’s voice wavers, “Looking at those photos now—seeing where my life was and where my life was going, I just couldn’t be happier or more grateful to Dr. Schwartz and the VRC.”

The Stein Eye Institute encourages doctors to refer patients to the Vision Rehabilitation Center—and for patients to seek rehabilitation services. “Bobby Gibson and Sheree Thompson exemplify how vision rehabilitation can enhance remaining sight,” notes Dr. Kageyama. “Developing skills and ease in using low-vision devices can truly change a person’s life.”

The Next Step

Funding the Vision Rehabilitation Center’s innovative programs is challenging, because vision rehabilitation is labor and equipment intensive, and insurance does not pay for low-vision aids. “It is only through the generosity of grants and private philanthropy that the VRC is able to provide children with the tools they need, and our hope is that one day we can provide low-vision devices for all of our patients—regardless of age,” says Dr. Chun.

To further empower patients, the VRC’s next goal is to provide safe and independent living for seniors with low vision, by expanding their program to include in-home assessments for seniors.



Drs. Melissa Chun, director of the UCLA Vision Rehabilitation Center, and Jennie Kageyama, the Center’s co-director, strive to ensure that their patients are empowered to take control of their lives and function independently.



Srinivas R. Sadda, MD

Dr. Sadda specializes in age-related macular degeneration, hereditary retinal degenerations, diabetic retinopathy, venous occlusive disease, telemedicine screening and consultation programs, as well as retinal disease diagnosis and classification. His practice locations are the Doheny Eye Centers UCLA in Arcadia and Pasadena.



Alfredo A. Sadun, MD, PhD Pending Vice Chairman Doheny Eye Centers UCLA

Clinical specialties of Dr. Sadun include neuro-ophthalmology, optic nerve, optic neuropathies (eg, posterior ischemic optic neuropathy, anterior ischemic optic neuropathy, and traumatic optic neuropathy), Leber hereditary optic neuropathy, toxic and nutritional optic neuropathies, vision in AIDS, and other central nervous system disorders. Dr. Sadun sees patients at the Doheny Eye Center UCLA–Pasadena.



Deming Sun, MD

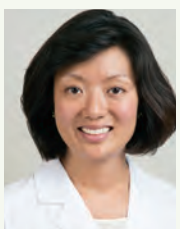
Dr. Sun is a researcher whose primary areas of investigation include uveitis, autoimmune diseases, optic neuritis, animal disease models, and T cell biology.



James C. H. Tan, MD, PhD

Dr. Tan specializes in the medical and surgical treatment of glaucoma, as well as cataract surgery. His clinical practice is at the Doheny Eye Center UCLA–Arcadia and the Doheny Eye Center UCLA–Pasadena

These members of the Stein Eye Institute also provide patient care at the Doheny Eye Centers UCLA:



Irena Tsui, MD

Dr. Tsui’s clinical focus is adult and pediatric retina. She sees patients at the Doheny Eye Center UCLA–Arcadia and the Stein Eye Institute in Westwood.



Federico G. Velez, MD

Dr. Velez specializes in pediatric ophthalmology and adult strabismus. He provides clinical care at the Doheny Eye Center UCLA–Orange County and the Stein Eye Institute in Westwood.

The affiliation of the Stein and Doheny Eye Institutes brings trusted and distinguished colleagues together, providing a tremendous opportunity for collaboration, research, and discovery.

In Remembrance

Andrea L. Rich, PhD



Andrea L. Rich, PhD, a member of the Stein Eye Institute's Board of Trustees since 2007, died from acute myeloid leukemia at the Ronald Reagan UCLA Medical Center on July 28, 2014. She was 71.

"It was with great sadness that I learned the news of Andrea's passing," reflects Chairman of the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology and Director of the Stein Eye Institute, **Bartly J. Mondino, MD**. "Andrea was a wonderful colleague. Her wisdom, advice, and support were greatly valued and appreciated."

The Stein Eye Institute Board of Trustees is responsible for the leadership and preservation of the Institute, and Dr. Rich provided her counsel to ensure the Institute's orderly growth and development. Her invaluable contributions included participating in the fiscal planning for the Institute, adoption of measures to facilitate recruitment of the world's finest vision scientists, allocation of funds for the purchase of vision research equipment, and recommendations for facilities expansion programs.

Dr. Rich was a scholar of intercultural and interracial communications. In her nearly 30 years of service to UCLA, she rose from an assistant professorship to become UCLA's first female executive vice chancellor. Known for being a charismatic leader, Dr. Rich went on to become president and chief executive officer of the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA), where she worked for 10 years.

During her career at UCLA, Dr. Rich received a number of awards, including an Honorary Fellow Award from the UCLA College of Letters and Science, and the UCLA Medal, the University's highest honor. During her 10 years leading LACMA, Dr. Rich was credited with doubling the museum's endowment to more than \$100 million. Under her direction, the museum expanded virtually every area of its operations—from collections and special exhibits to community programs and new exhibit space. She was also lauded for increasing membership and developing programs as well as acquiring art that appealed to Los Angeles' diverse communities.

Reflecting on her service and the impact Dr. Rich has had on the greater Los Angeles region, Dr. Mondino notes, "Andrea was particularly proud of her recent membership on the Los Angeles County Blue Ribbon Commission on Child Protection. She will be greatly missed at UCLA and the Stein Eye Institute."

Stein and Doheny Eye Institutes Best in the West for Eye Care



The recently affiliated Stein and Doheny Eye Institutes have the honor of being among the top five eye care centers in the United States and the best in the Western United States, according to a ranking in *U.S. News & World Report's* "Best Hospitals 2014-2015."

UCLA's hospitals in Westwood and Santa Monica have again earned a place on the magazine's Honor Roll. UCLA Health is ranked No. 5 in the country and No. 1 in both California and the Los Angeles metropolitan area, and is among only 17 hospitals out of nearly 5,000 nationwide named to the Honor Roll.

The Best Hospitals Honor Roll highlights medical centers that placed in the top tier in at least six of the 16 specialties in which *U.S. News* ranks hospitals. UCLA's continuing presence among this esteemed company is a testament to the exceptional work of faculty and staff on behalf of patients and their families.

Nationally, UCLA ranked highly in 15 specialty areas, with Top 10 rankings given to cancer at UCLA's Jonsson Comprehensive Cancer Center, diabetes and endocrinology, gastroenterology and gastrointestinal surgery, geriatrics, nephrology, neurology and neurosurgery, ophthalmology at Stein and Doheny Eye Institutes, psychiatry at Resnick Neuropsychiatric Hospital, rheumatology, and urology. The rankings can be viewed online at: health.usnews.com/best-hospitals.

HONORS AND AWARDS

Anthony C. Arnold, MD, Jerome and Joan Snyder Chair in Ophthalmology, was the recipient of the North American Neuro-Ophthalmology Society's (NANOS) Distinguished Service Award, which was presented to Dr. Arnold on March 5, 2014, at the NANOS Annual Meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico.

Dr. Arnold was also inducted into the American Ophthalmological Society on May 15, 2014, in New York, New York.

Dean Bok, PhD, Dolly Green Chair of Ophthalmology, presented the George K. Smelser Memorial Lecture at Columbia University, in New York, New York, on April 24, 2014.

Joseph L. Demer, MD, PhD, Leonard Apt Endowed Chair in Pediatric Ophthalmology, presented the 14th Annual Richard G. Weaver Lecture on June 6, 2014, at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Sophie X. Deng, MD, PhD, associate professor of ophthalmology, was awarded \$699,983 by the California Institute of Regenerative Medicine, the state's stem cell agency. The award, which was announced April 28, 2014, will support Dr. Deng's research to regenerate functional human corneal epithelial progenitor cells to treat a blinding corneal disorder called limbal stem cell deficiency.

Gordon L. Fain, PhD, Distinguished Professor of the Departments of Integrative Biology/Physiology and of Ophthalmology, was elected as a 2014 fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Dr. Fain was also elected as an Overseas Fellow of Churchill College Cambridge, April 2014–August 2014.

Lynn K. Gordon, MD, PhD, Vernon O. Underwood Family Chair in Ophthalmology, received the David Geffen School of Medicine Excellence in Education Award for her leadership and commitment to medical school education. The award was presented to Dr. Gordon at a reception held at UCLA on May 20, 2014.

Gary N. Holland, MD, Jack H. Skirball Chair in Ocular Inflammatory Diseases, was named a Gold Fellow by the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology in May 2014.

Sherwin J. Isenberg, MD, Laraine and David Gerber Chair in Ophthalmology, delivered the Presidential Lecture, Combatting Pediatric Blindness in the 21st Century, at the All India Ophthalmological Conference on February 6, 2014, in Agra, India.



Faculty Profile

David S. Williams, PhD

Jules and Doris Stein Research to Prevent Blindness

Professor of Ophthalmology

Professor of Neurobiology

Member of the Stein Eye Institute

Dr. Williams is the director of the Photoreceptor/Retinal Pigmented Epithelium Laboratory. His group focuses on the cell biology of photoreceptor and retinal pigment epithelium cells, with special interest in proteins that function in transport and compartmentalization within these cells. These proteins include those that underlie Usher syndrome, a currently incurable genetic disorder that results in a combination of hearing loss and visual impairment. A translational area of Dr. Williams' research involves gene therapy experiments aimed at preventing the blindness that ensues from Usher syndrome type 1B.

Dr. Williams earned his PhD in neurobiology at the Australian National University in Canberra, Australia, and he conducted his postdoctoral fellowship in retinal cell biology at the University of California at Santa Barbara (UCSB).

Where were you born?

I was born in Kaikoura, a small fishing and farming village on the east coast of the South Island of New Zealand.

When did you first discover you had an interest in science?

My family members are sheep ranchers, and I'm the only one who has gone to college. I lost interest in sheep, and I have no natural talent in the arts, so I studied science by default.

I became interested in research when I was an undergraduate at the University of Canterbury in New Zealand. I was studying ethology [animal behavior] with Professor David Blest. We studied spider behavior, which led to a study of their eyes.

What made you decide to pursue a career in research?

I did my PhD studies with David Blest, after he had moved to the Australian National University (ANU). David was a student of Nikolaas "Niko" Tinbergen, one of the three original ethologists who received the Nobel Prize in 1973. David was also very eccentric—as were many others in this department at ANU. I had a great time. I studied the retinal structure and function of large insects and spiders with huge eyes. I was particularly fascinated by how their eyes were so beautifully adapted to their natural habits, and I also thought that electron microscopy was cool.

How and why did you come to the Stein Eye Institute?

I came to the United States as a postdoctoral fellow, first with Dr. Steven Fisher at UCSB, who introduced me to animals with backbones, and then I came to the Stein Eye Institute to learn biochemistry from Dr. Debora Farber, which I did. I later returned to the Institute as a faculty member; I was attracted especially by the presence of outstanding faculty who are experts in studies of my favorite retinal cells.



Dr. David S. Williams and his son, Nicky.

What is your research about?

My lab studies the photoreceptor cells and the cells of the adjacent support layer, known as the retinal pigment epithelium. We are especially interested in how organelles and proteins are moved around in the cells to keep them functioning and healthy. These basic studies have led us to also study mechanisms of retinal disease and potential treatments, such as gene therapy and cell transplantation for retinal degenerations as in Usher syndrome.

Do you teach at the Institute? If so, what are your thoughts about teaching the next generation of researchers?

I teach neuroscience students, and in my lab, I advise undergraduates, graduate students, and postdoctoral fellows in their research.

Science is changing, and the next generation of researchers will have some advantages and some disadvantages. Foremost are the great advances in technology that are providing powerful approaches for exploration. On the downside, there is probably too much of an emphasis on "big science" and the escalation in bureaucratic rules and regulations threatens to stifle innovation.

What do you enjoy most about your profession?

Learning something new—preferably from my own lab's research.

What is your greatest professional challenge?

Making time for science.

What do you consider your most important professional accomplishment?

I hope that is still to come.

What do you do when you're not working?

I'm keeping up with my kids. My daughter just completed high school and joined the Miami City Ballet. My son is a junior in high school, and he is counting the days to when he can drop me on a road bike climb.

Alumni News

UCLA Department of Ophthalmology Association

EYELines

Grant Moore, MD Wins 2014 Research Award



Dr. Grant Moore

The 2014 Robert E. Christensen, MD, Research Award was presented to second-year resident **Grant Moore, MD**. The grant will help underwrite Dr. Moore's research of orbital ANCA-negative granulomatosis with polyangiitis (GPA), formerly known as Wegener granulomatosis.

Dr. Moore notes, "By better elucidating the characteristics that define ANCA-negative GPA, we hope to establish criteria that will reduce confusion in the diagnosis of this distinct clinical entity and thus eliminate delays in diagnosis and treatment, improving outcomes for patients with this often severe and disabling orbital disease."

Current Stein Eye Institute residents and fellows are eligible to apply for the competitive grant, which supports academic work. The award, presented for the seventeenth year in a row, recognizes outstanding research conducted by a resident or fellow and is named in honor of Dr. Christensen, the late founding chief of the Glaucoma Division. The award is made possible by funding from the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology Association annual dues, which are generously paid by Stein Eye alumni and faculty.

In Memoriam

Carl Richard Elander, MD

Carl Richard Elander, MD, a clinical professor of ophthalmology at the Stein Eye Institute and in private practice for over 50 years, passed away on May 21, 2014, at the age of 83 after a long struggle with advanced Parkinson's disease.

Dr. Elander led the first contact lens clinic at UCLA and was a pioneer in refractive surgery, supervising the first such clinic at the Institute for over 10 years. He was an examiner for the American Board of Ophthalmology, served as president of the Los Angeles Society of Ophthalmology, and volunteered his services overseas—treating patients and teaching local doctors in Afghanistan and Nigeria. He was editor of the textbook *Principles and Practice of Refractive Surgery*, on the editorial board of the International Society of Refractive Keratoplasty, and the lead editor for the journal *Operative Techniques in Cataract and Refractive Surgery*. In addition to his many achievements, Dr. Elander received an honor award from the American Academy of Ophthalmology and the S. Rodman Irvine Prize from the Stein Eye Institute, which recognizes excellence among UCLA Department of Ophthalmology faculty.



Dr. Carl Richard Elander

Annual Clinical and Research Seminar

Ophthalmologists gathered at the Stein Eye Institute on June 13, 2014, for the Institute's most prestigious annual academic event, the Clinical and Research Seminar. Sponsored by the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology Association, the Seminar provides an opportunity for discussion of emerging vision research and celebrates teaching and faculty volunteerism.

At this year's Seminar, **Steven E. Feldon, MD, MBA**, director of the Flaum Eye Institute and chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology at the University of Rochester in Rochester, New York, presented the 45th Jules Stein Lecture; **Lois E. H. Smith, MD, PhD**, professor of ophthalmology at Harvard Medical School and clinician/scientist at Children's Hospital in Boston, Massachusetts, gave the 12th Bradley R. Straatsma Lecture; and **Amani A. Fawzi, MD**, associate professor of ophthalmology at Northwestern University in Chicago, Illinois, delivered the 12th Thomas H. Pettit Lecture.

In recognition of their service, selected volunteer and clinical faculty received awards of distinction. The Faculty Teaching Award, honoring contributions to residency education, was presented to Clinical Instructor in Ophthalmology **Laura Bonelli, MD**. Senior Honor Awards were presented to **Peter J. Cornell, MD**, **Yadavinder P. Dang, MD**, and **Kathryn M. Gardner, MD**, distinguished volunteer faculty who have been members of the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology for at least 25 years.



Dr. Amani A. Fawzi, (left) presented the Pettit Lecture, Dr. Steven E. Feldon gave the Jules Stein Lecture, and Dr. Lois E. H. Smith (right) presented the Straatsma Lecture.



Senior Honor Award recipients (L to R) Drs. Peter J. Cornell, Kathryn M. Gardner, and Yadavinder P. Dang.



Dr. Xian-Jie Yang, Stein Eye Institute faculty member, discusses her research in the molecular and cellular mechanisms underlying retinal development and disease.

Graduation and Award's Ceremony for Stein Eye Institute Residents and Fellows

The Stein Eye Institute's residency graduation was Friday, June 8, 2014, at the UCLA Faculty Center. Overseeing the ceremony and providing commentary, were Residency Program Director **Anthony C. Arnold, MD**, and Assistant Director **Stacy L. Pineles, MD**. The evening included a roast of the graduating residents by junior residents, and awards were presented for excellence in research.

The Resident Research Award was given to **Aaron Nagiel, MD, PhD**, for his paper, *Type 3 neovascularization: evolution, association with pigment epithelial detachment, and response to therapy as revealed by spectral-domain optical coherence tomography*.

The Clinical Fellow Research Award was presented to **Daniel Rootman, MD, MSc**, for his paper, *The role of tissue resection length in the determination of postoperative eyelid position for Muller's muscle-conjunctival resection surgery*.

The International Fellow Research Award was given to **Mark De Leon, MD**, for his paper, *Differential effects on the fast and slow components of visual field decay after trabeculectomy*.

The Predoctoral Fellow Research Award was presented to **Victoria L. Tseng, MD**, for her paper, *Dietary salt intake and glaucoma in the national health and nutrition examination survey*.

The QI Project Recognition award was presented by Dr. Anthony Arnold to **Melinda Y. Chang, MD**, for her project, *Harbor-UCLA Cataract Surgery Complication Rates over Time: A Quality Improvement Project*.

Bartly J. Mondino, MD, Stein Eye Institute director, presented the ARVO Young Investigator Travel Award to **Aaron Nagiel, MD, PhD**, for his abstract, *Origin and behavior of type 3 neovascularization revealed by spectral-domain optical coherence tomography*.



Resident Research Award recipient Dr. Aaron Nagiel.



Predoctoral Excellence in Research Award recipient and EyeSTAR Resident Dr. Victoria L. Tseng with Dr. Bartly J. Mondino.

Aesthetic Eyelid and Facial Rejuvenation Course



(L to R) Drs. Henry I. Baylis, Robert Alan Goldberg, John A. Long, Catherine J. Hwang, and Norman Shorr.

The Orbital and Ophthalmic Plastic Surgery Division conducted its annual Aesthetic Periorbital and Facial Rejuvenation course August 1–2, 2014, at the Stein Eye Institute. The course, now in its 25th year, features fast-paced, high-level, and interactive continuing medical education activities that combine cadaver dissection with didactic lectures. The two-day event provides valuable skills and concepts for performing safe and effective surgery. It was sold out three months in advance and included participants from the U.S., Brazil, Canada, Lebanon, Mexico, and elsewhere.

Catherine J. Hwang, MD, assistant clinical professor of ophthalmology, was the program director, and the founding course directors, **Henry I. Baylis, MD**, and **Norman Shorr, MD**, along with **Robert Alan Goldberg, MD**, and **Jonathan A. Hoenig, MD**, headed up a team of instructors that drew heavily from UCLA volunteer faculty.

The Robert Axelrod, MD, Memorial Lecture was delivered by **John A. Long, MD**, who has practiced oculoplastic surgery in Birmingham, Alabama, since 1988. Dr. Long conducted his both residency and fellowship in orbital facial plastic and reconstructive surgery at the Stein Eye Institute.

Grateful Patient Extends Appreciation Through Special Giving Opportunity

Traveling abroad offers unique experiences, resulting in adventure and fond memories for delighted tourists. For **Ilene and Richard “Dick” Berg** of Tarzana, California, their spring vacation to Europe in 2013 was no ordinary holiday but a frightening and courageous journey that led them to the steps of the Stein Eye Institute.

Mr. and Mrs. Berg were touring the tulip gardens in Amsterdam when Ilene first realized something was “off” in her right eye. She thought she may have scratched it during the windy afternoon, but the severity of the injury was unclear. Dick emailed a photo of Ilene’s eye to close friend and practicing ophthalmologist, **Peter**



Ilene and Richard Berg

D. Zeegen, MD, a consulting member of the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology. Dr. Zeegen suspected an ulcerated cornea, and he advised the Bergs that immediate attention was required. Ilene was taken by their tour guide to a respected hospital in Germany—and now unable to see out of her right eye—the final diagnosis indeed confirmed an ulcerated cornea, with the physician regrettably sharing that it was “the worst he had ever seen.” Immediate treatment required that three eyedrops be administered in Ilene’s eye every thirty minutes. After six days of enduring this 24-hour sleep-depriving regime, Ilene and Dick returned to the U.S. and came directly to the Stein Eye Institute with hopes for vision restoration.

Although they arrived on a Saturday afternoon, **Anthony J. Aldave, MD**, chief of the Cornea and Uveitis Division, was contacted right away, and Ilene’s care started immediately. For the next few weeks, through the support of friends, family, medical staff, and caregivers, Ilene continued her tedious eyedrop regime. “The outpouring of assistance, of love, was just amazing,” said Ilene. “I thank Dr. Aldave. I had no connection to him before. He would come in on Sundays to take care of me when needed...when I sent him an email [regarding my care] while he was away, he wrote back immediately from Vietnam.”

Stein Eye physicians conducted a biopsy and learned that despite their efforts the cornea had died. Ilene’s next option was a corneal transplant, and eight months after the initial events in Europe, Ilene had surgery. Her new cornea was donated as a result of a 24-year-old Indianan man who tragically succumbed to cardiac failure. His posthumous generosity provided Ilene with the chance to have her vision restored. “There are a lot of good people in this world,” she notes. “I am sorry I had to go through this, but it was a wonderful experience to learn how good people are.” Ilene was also grateful to her surgeon, saying, “Dr. Aldave goes all over the world to teach so he could give [his skill and expertise] to other people. If you require daily care, he will give it to you. To me, no one could have been better.”

Ilene wanted to give back to Dr. Aldave and those who helped her at Stein Eye. She called the Stein Eye Development Office and brainstormed ways to make an impact. Ilene chose to use her upcoming birthday as an opportunity to celebrate both another year and her road to recovery; in lieu of gifts she decided she would invite her friends to make a donation to the Cornea and Uveitis Division at Stein Eye. The outpouring of support was incredible—over 50 donations were made to honor Ilene and support the work of Dr. Aldave. By encouraging donations instead of traditional gifts, Ilene gave the Institute her badge of approval and gave her friends a specific cause they could support and relate to. “I am grateful for the generosity Mrs. Berg encouraged,” says Dr. Aldave. “As an advocate of Stein Eye, Mrs. Berg allowed an influx of new people to be exposed to the truly sight-saving work of the Institute. Through her appreciation of her restored sight, others will now benefit from the innovative research, integrative education, community outreach, and quality patient care that make the Stein Eye Institute a premiere vision-science campus.”

Stein Eye offers a variety of options to those who may also wish to support our tradition of excellence and contribute during this season of giving. For more information on ways to donate, we invite you to contact our Development Office at (310) 206-6035 or giving@sei.ucla.edu.



2014 Fellowship Graduates

Graduating Residents’ Destinations

Meena S. George, MD

Vitreoretinal Surgery Fellowship
University of Southern California
Los Angeles, California

Anthony Joseph, MD

Vitreoretinal Surgery Fellowship
New England Eye Center and Ophthalmic
Consultants of Boston
Boston, Massachusetts

Tina K. Ku, MD

Private Practice
San Diego, California

Robert R. Kule, MD

Glaucoma Fellowship
Byers Eye Institute
Stanford University
Palo Alto, California

Christine F. Lin, MD

Vitreoretinal Surgery Fellowship
University of California, Irvine
Irvine, California

C. Nathaniel Roybal, MD, PhD (EyeSTAR)

Retina Fellowship
University of Iowa
Iowa City, Iowa

Anitra D. Thomas, MD

Glaucoma Fellowship
Washington University in St. Louis
St. Louis, Missouri

Dawn D. Yang, MD

Vitreoretinal Surgery Fellowship
Massachusetts Eye & Ear Infirmary
Boston, Massachusetts

Graduating Fellows’ Destinations

Comprehensive Ophthalmology Fellow

Carlos Manuel Nicoli, MD

Private Practice
Buenos Aires, Argentina

Cornea and Refractive Surgery Fellows

Ryan St. Clair, MD

Private Practice
Sacramento, California

Rosalind Vo, MD

Associate Physician Diplomate
Stein Eye Institute
Los Angeles, California

Uveitis Fellow

Christian Boeni, MD

Department of Ophthalmology
University of Zurich

Glaucoma Fellows

Renu Jivrajka, MD

Private Practice
Downey, California

Alena Reznik, MD

University of Southern California
Los Angeles, California

John Mark S. De Leon, MD

Cardinal Santos Medical Center
Manila, Philippines

Sara Nowroozizadeh, MD

Private Practice
Shiraz, Iran

Francisco Jose Otarola, MD

Fundación Oftalmológica Los Andes
Universidad de los Andes
Santiago, Chile

Navid Amini, PhD

Glaucoma Research
Stein Eye Institute
Los Angeles, California

Orbito-Facial Plastic Surgery Fellows

Daniel Rootman, MD, MSc

Stein Eye Institute
Los Angeles, California

Aline Pimentel de Miranda, MD

Private Practice
Sao Paulo, Brazil

Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus Fellows

Erica Oltra, MD

Academic Practice
Cornell University
New York, New York

Anika Tandon, MD

Private Practice
Tulsa, Oklahoma

Bhambi Uellyn Gestite-De Leon, MD

Veterans Memorial Medical Center
Manila, Philippines

Soh Youn Suh, MD

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Seoul, Korea

Andrew Shin, PhD

Postdoctoral Research
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Build a Legacy that Moves Vision Science Forward

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

Through your support you too can have an impact on the preservation of sight and the prevention of blindness.

A simple, flexible way to build your legacy and express what matters to you is to include the Stein Eye Institute in your estate plans. Such bequests can be of any size and made with a variety of assets.

If you have included the Stein Eye Institute in your estate plans (or intend to), please let us know.

The Stein Eye Institute would like to make sure your wishes are understood and that your bequest will be used as you intend.

- ▶ We can provide you with sample bequest language, if desired.
- ▶ We would like to acknowledge your gift and have an opportunity to thank you.
- ▶ We handle all gift and bequest communications with the utmost confidentiality.

If you would like to learn more about building a legacy at the Stein Eye Institute, please visit UCLA's Planned Giving website at: www.legacy.ucla.edu, or contact us at:

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