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Dr. John Flanagan
Dean

Executive Assistant

Dr. Gunilla Haegerstrom-Portnoy
Assoc. Dean for Academic Affairs

Dr. Rick Van Slyters
Assoc. Dean for Student Affairs

Dr. Christina Wimer
Assoc. Dean for Clinical Affairs & Residency Dir.

Dr. Kristen Grumert
Vision Science, Chair

Eric Leal
Asst. Dean, Admin & Finance

Sharon Joyce
Asst. Dean of Student Affairs

Olga Legilina
Vision Science

Heather Panos
Recruitment Officer

Katie Guthrie
Student Services

Nielsen

Kristen Williams
Exec. Dir of Dev & Alumni Relations

Anna Lim
Budget Director

Eric Mahoney
Assoc. Dir of Development

Cliff Loberegt
Facilities Manager

Augustus Jacobs
Facilities Assistant

Christyn Lundquist
External Relations Coordinator

Maria Alegría
Academic HR

Connie Poon
Secretary

Maria Alegría
Academic HR

Connie Poon
Secretary

Dr. Harry Green
CE On-line Lead

Danni Peck
Cont Ed Coordinator

Dr. Meng Lin
Dir of Clinical Res Ctr

Dr. Patsy Harvey
Dir of Cont Education

Jeff Loo
Librarian
ACADEMIC PROGRAMS: FACULTY/STUDENTS

Administration at the School of Optometry, University of California, Berkeley

John Flanagan became Dean of the School of Optometry, for a five-year term beginning June 1, 2014. The prior Dean Dennis Levi returned to being a Professor of Optometry and Vision Science. Chris Wilmer became Associate Dean for Clinical Affairs in July 2014 replacing Ed Revelli who retired from the University. Rick Van Sluyters remains as Associate Dean for Student Affairs and Gunilla Haegerstrom-Portnoy remains as Associate Dean for Academic Affairs.

Eric Leal was appointed as Assistant Dean for Administration and Finance in October 2014 and Sharon Joyce remains as Assistant Dean for Admissions, Student Affairs and Career Services.

Kristen Williams is now the Executive Director for Development and Alumni Relations. Eric Craypo is the new Director of Communications. John Fiorillo, formerly the school’s webmaster, has retired.

Faculty and Alumni

No long time faculty members have retired this last year. We are in process of hiring more full time tenure track faculty but no final decisions have yet been made. The School now has 31 full time clinical faculty members with a total faculty FTE count of 67.

Faculty member Wendy Lam was President of ACCCOS in 2014 and faculty member Melanie Mason is the 2015 President for the local society.

Stanley Woo, current Dean of Southern California College of Optometry at Marshall Ketchum University was honored as the Alumnus of the Year for 2015 at the Alumni Reunion in October 2015.

Professor Austin Roorda and co-workers received the Garland Clay award from the American Academy of Optometry for the most cited paper over the last 5 years in OVS for 2015.

ACOE Accreditation Visit

The ACOE visited the School of Optometry in October 2015 for an accreditation visit following submission of our self-study in August 2015. The last accreditation for the OD professional program was in 2007. The exit interview included few concerns and we anticipate full accreditation. The ACOE is meeting in February 2016 to make the official determination about accreditation. The School’s in-house umbrella residency program was fully re-accredited in the spring of 2015.

Optometry Faculty Research

From July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015, optometry faculty members generated $10.96 million in annual funding for 50 different projects. Most projects are 3-5 years and funding was received from various federal agencies (NIH, NSF, DOD) as well as private foundations and industry. This is an outstanding performance given the difficulty of receiving research funding these days.

The NEI Training Grant has been continuously funded for 38 years, and the Core Grant has been funded for 36 years. The School of Optometry has two other research training grants; one for optometry students
(T35) which is now in year 22, and one for experienced clinicians who are interested in becoming clinician researchers (Institutional K12) now in year 10.

**Professional Student Performance**

Our students continue to do well on the National Board Exams required for licensure. For each of the 3 parts, UCB students perform considerably better than the national average (see Table).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NBEO Part</th>
<th>UC Berkeley Pass Rate</th>
<th>National Pass Rate</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I: Applied Basic Science</td>
<td>86.7%</td>
<td>69.1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 2015 (3rd year students)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Class of 2016</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>II: Patient Assessment and</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>89.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>December 2014 (4th year students)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Class of 2015</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>III: Clinical Skills</td>
<td>93.9%</td>
<td>82.2%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fall 2014-Spring 2015 (4th year students)</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Class of 2015</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Ultimate Pass Rate</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>94.4%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Passed all 3 parts before</td>
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<tr>
<td>graduation</td>
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<tr>
<td>(graduating class)</td>
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**Residents**

More than 40% of the graduating classes have been accepted into residency positions across the country in the past. For 2015, 83% of 29 applicants from the graduating class matched in the ORMS round and 3 found positions post-match for a total of 44.3% of the 2015 graduating class placed into residency positions.

**Vision Science Graduates**

Over the last 5 years, the Vision Science program has graduated 27 PhD’s and 2 MS students. In 2015, 4 students received PhDs and one student received a MS degree. In 2014, 8 PhD’s were awarded.
ADMISSIONS AND STUDENT AFFAIRS OFFICE

Staff

The academic year 2015-2016 has been positive and productive. The office is staffed by Assistant Dean Sharon Joyce, Heather Iwata, Director and Coordinator of Admissions and Student Affairs, Kaitlyn Guthrie.

For prospective and current students, listed below are updates on new and past initiatives

Recruitment

Admissions Statistics
We collected 265 applications for Fall 2016 entry. Our Interview Day is on Saturday, January 30, and we are slated to interview 115 candidates. With the introduction of the use of Multiple Mini-Interviews, MMIs, two years ago, we have the most holistic file review of all optometric programs. Our quality remains high, as reflected by the first year Class of 2019, average OAT AA = 351; Biology/Chemistry/Physics (BCP) GPA = 3.49, respectively.

Ask an Advisor
The ASAO has continued the “Ask an Advisor” program, which began in spring 2005. “Ask an Advisor” was created to meet the needs of prospective students who want to set up one-on-one appointments to discuss admissions and the application process. The staff has set aside specific days each week when either a phone or in-person advising session can be arranged. This program continues to be a successful avenue in providing prospective students with information and guidance as they prepare for the application process. We have also expanded our website to offer tips and advice to be a successful applicant.

Diversity Outreach
Our National Optometric Student Association (NOSA) chapter is thriving. NOSA members at Berkeley Optometry have hosted instructional workshops to teach optometric Spanish, have assisted with vision screenings in underserved communities, and plan for high school visits this Spring to start a pipeline to the profession from within underrepresented populations. The Dean of Berkeley Optometry has also put forward a plan for national leadership in increasing diversity initiatives across all schools and colleges of optometry and is awaiting approval from the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry. NOSA also organized and presented for the DiVinci Camp program, which aims to encourage underserved minority high school and middle school students to learn about STEM fields. They presented to 20 campers ranging from ages 11-16. NOSA members also tabled and presented at the UC Davis Pre-Medical and Pre-Health Professions National Conference, which attracts over 4,000 participants from underrepresented populations in the health sciences.

National Student Leadership Conference
For the sixth consecutive year, the School of Optometry hosted four groups of 150 high school students from the National Student Leadership Conference (NSLC) in July and August of 2015. The conference aims to broaden the horizons of top-notch high school students, from rising sophomores to seniors, who are interested in careers in health and medicine. Participants listened to an overview of the admissions process at Berkeley Optometry, participated in an interactive presentation on visual illusions and perception, led by Vision Science PhD students,
and joined in on activities with current Berkeley Optometry students, which included exploring the slit-lamp and testing for eye-dominance.

**OptomCAS**

Launched on July 15, 2009, all Optometry applicants now utilize the Optometry Centralized Application Service (OptomCAS). This service, which offers applicants an efficient and convenient way to apply to multiple optometry programs, using a single web-based application, has been hugely successful for collecting richer data regarding applicants to OD programs in the United States and Puerto Rico. Additionally, the OptomCAS portal eliminates the need for duplicate transcripts and letters of recommendations and provides “real-time” tools for applicants to check the status of their applications. All Schools and Colleges of Optometry are participant programs; Optometry is the only health-science program that boasts full participation for all member schools and colleges.

**WebAdmit**

Admissions applications are now being processed and reviewed through WebAdmit, an extension of the OptomCAS application service, that allows Schools and Colleges of Optometry to process applications through a secured on-line portal; the use of WebAdmit at Berkeley Optometry has simplified the review process for our Admissions Committee members and has significantly reduced our paper waste.

**Opto-Camp: Celebrating TEN Years in 2015!**

In 2006, the Admissions and Student Affairs Office launched "Opto-Camp." This past summer, we celebrated Opto-Camp’s TENTH year! The goal of Opto-Camp is to introduce first generation, underrepresented pre-health science majors to Optometry as a potential future career track and to prepare them to be successful applicants to optometry school. The objective of Opto-Camp is to present a three-day "in residence" experience that will provide participants with opportunities to learn about the profession of optometry and the process of becoming an optometrist. Historically, at least half of the attendees are low income first-generation college students with GPAs over 3.0.

After ten years, we have re-evaluated the program and in 2016 we will offer a single, one-week-long session, July 11-15, and will host 40-50 campers during the week.

Berkeley Optometry is clearly seeing a yield of Opto-Campers into the program. Two students in the Class of 2011 were in the inaugural 2006 Opto-Camp cohort. In the Opto-Camp 2007 cohort, six attended Berkeley and two of those students received Graduate Opportunity Fellowships ($10,000 scholarship for their first year of study). Eleven of the Class of 2013 attended Opto-Camp 2008, two of whom received Graduate Opportunity Fellowships (GOP); the Class of 2014 had nine Opto-Camp alumni, three were GOP recipients. The Class of 2015 has ten alumni, two are GOP recipients; the Class of 2016 has eight Opto-Camp alumni, one is a GOP recipient. Eleven Opto-Camp alumni are a part of the Class of 2017 and two are GOP recipients; the Class of 2018 has 12 students who were Opto-Campers and 3 are GOP recipients; the Class of 2019 has 16 students who participated in Opto-Camp and one who was selected as a GOP Fellow for the 2015-2016 academic year.
**Friday Visit Program**
The Friday Visit Program, hosted by the Admissions Office and the Berkeley Optometry Ambassadors (BOA), has been up and running since its inception in the fall of 2005. This visit program has been a successful way to introduce prospective students to the School and our program. The program is offered on Fridays, from 9:30am-12pm during the fall and spring semester and 12noon-1:30pm during the summer months, and it consists of three parts: a student-led tour of the clinical and non-clinical areas of the school, Q&A with the Admissions staff and observing pre-clinic with First Year optometry students. Our Friday Visit Program is made possible thanks to the first, second and third year Optometry students who volunteer each week to guide our visitors and share their experiences. We hosted approximately 100 individual visits last year, as well as groups from local colleges/universities and high schools.

**Webinars**
Our free online sessions are designed to prepare prospective students for applications and interviews and require no travel to the UC Berkeley campus. All sessions are one hour of presentation with Q&A time afterwards. The topics ranged from an Admissions Overview to Essay-Writing and Etiquette and also Interviewing Skills. We use video conferencing through a University supported subscription with BlueJeans Conferencing; this has been very successful and makes the webinars more interactive for all participants.

**Career Services**

**Optometry Professional Development Day (OPDD)**
Planning is underway for 2016. Last spring’s offering, with the theme of “Widen Your Lens,” was well attended and well-received. Student attendees heard from Keynote Speaker, Dr. Dr. Blake Kuwahara and an Alumni Panel:

Dr. Avanti Ghanekar, Genentech, Ophthalmology Medical Science Liaison  
Dr. Kelly Kao, See the Lord, CEO & Founder  
Dr. Taras Litvin, UC Berkeley, PhD Candidate  
Dr. Andrew Mangum, Veterans Affairs, Palo Alto, Optometrist  
Dr. Sonia Menchavez, Ravenswood Family Health Center, Optometry Director  
Dr. Melissa Valdellon, Indian Health Services and Author “Remembering to Breathe “

**Career Management Conference**
As part of the 4ProsOptos course in professional development that all first year students take, the ASAO offered a one-day Career Management Conference on Saturday, September 19. Students heard from subject matter experts from the Haas School of Business -- David Riemer, Haas Executive-in-Residence, gave a fantastic talk on “Personal Branding Through Storytelling,” followed by Katy Crawford, from the University’s Career Services Center, who walked the students through “Unlocking the Power of Linkedin.” The Class of 2019 also participated in talks about resume writing, networking, interviewing tips and “The First Lady's Guide to Good Graces -- Professional Etiquette & Dress for Success,” a lively lecture presented by Dr. Kathy Dumbleton.
Mock Interviews
All OD students in the Class of 2019 had a mock interview reviewed by Alumni from the Classes of 2009-2014 and they were most appreciative of the invaluable feedback provided by these recent alumni.

Financial Aid

Scholarships and Awards
In 2015-2016, the School of Optometry offered its students a wide range of both external scholarships and internal awards to help make the cost of an optometric education more affordable and accessible, and to recognize student accomplishments.

Additionally, this year the Admissions and Student Affairs Office hosted individual financial aid counseling sessions for incoming students in the Class of 2019; nearly 60 students took advantage of scheduling an in-person or phone appointment and found these sessions useful to navigate their financial aid awards from the University.

Professional Student Support Funds
Thanks to the generous support of faculty and alumni, 75 Professional Student Support Funds (PSSF's) were awarded to current students in the Spring of 2016.

Departmental Aid
In order to offset some of the recent fee increases, it is the goal of Berkeley Optometry to award its current students, in good academic standing with a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or above, departmental aid as available. Students are awarded a flat amount depending on their class year, ranging from $4,000 to $10,000. Awards are applied solely towards tuition and fees, and are posted directly on students’ accounts for the subsequent fall and spring semester.

Spring Events

Awards for Third-year and Fourth-year Students
Towards the end of the spring semester, awards were announced to recognize third and fourth year students who demonstrated excellence in academics and/or clinical proficiency at the annual “New Home Night.” Held at the Bancroft Hotel in Berkeley, this annual event is a combination of an awards ceremony and a send-off social before students move on to their external rotation sites. We were pleased to have our corporate friends at Allergan provide sponsorship of the event. This year’s New Home Night is scheduled for Monday, May 9, 2016, starting at 6:30pm.

Fourth-year awards were announced at the second annual Fourth Years Awards Ceremony. Recipients were also recognized in the Commencement Program. This year’s dinner and reception will be held on Thursday, May 19, 2016, starting at 5:30pm, at the David Brower Center in downtown Berkeley.
The White Coat Ceremony
To celebrate the achievements of the second-year class as they transition into the third year, Berkeley Optometry hosts the "White Coat Ceremony" at the end of Summer Clinic. The School would like to recognize Alcon for their on-going support of the White Coat Ceremony. This year’s White Coat Ceremony will be on August 22, 2016, to celebrate the Class of 2018.

Starting in the Fall of 2016, all entering Berkeley Optometry students will be given their White Coats as an acknowledgment of their formal entrance into the field of optometry and to set the tone of professionalism for the next four years and beyond. The decision to move the White Coat Ceremony into the first year was made after much reflection, based on feedback gathered from students, faculty and staff, and it is a decision that is philosophically and logistically sound for our optometry student participants. The move will also align our program with most other health science programs, and the original intent of the ceremony, as a celebration of the incoming class.

Graduation
Graduation for the Class of 2016 will be on Saturday, May 21, from 10am to 12noon at Zellerbach Hall, followed by a hosted reception on Minor Hall Plaza, from 12pm-3pm.

Social Networking
We have over 2,000 friends on our Berkeley Optometry Facebook page and added an Instagram account that is gaining momentum. Plans to update and improve the School’s website are underway and we look forward to a fresh new site later this year.

BERKELEY CLINICAL SCIENTIST DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (BCSDP)

Mission Statement
The Berkeley Clinical Scientist Development Program (BCSDP) seeks to help reverse a thirty-year trend in declining numbers of clinically trained professional students entering vision science training programs nationwide. The BCSDP offers a 3- to 5-year rigorous interdisciplinary training program preparing clinicians to (a) carry out high-level, independent, clinical (patient-based) vision research, and (b) successfully compete for extramural research support in one of the following areas (consistent with the Programs and Research Priorities of the NEI): Retinal Disease, Corneal Disease, Strabismus & Amblyopia, Visual Processing, Low Vision & Blindness Rehabilitation, Refraction & Accommodation Abnormalities, and Lens & Cataract.

Program Plan
To achieve its goals, the program provides:
1) Substantial resources of a diverse, world-renowned faculty recruited from the University of California at Berkeley, San Francisco, and Davis campuses, to provide focused, high-level, didactic, and mentored clinical research training tailored to individualized career plans. The participating departments/groups include Optometry, Vision Science, Public Health,
Neuroscience, Bioengineering, Health and Medical Science, Molecular & Cell Biology, Infectious Disease, Ophthalmology (UCSF), and Veterinary Medicine (UCD).

2) A rich offering of advanced graduate-level course work and weekly vision research seminars presented by outstanding campus and visiting clinical and basic-science scholars. Through the UC Berkeley Health Sciences Initiative, we are able to offer unique resources (e.g., campus-wide seminars, faculty consultations, facilities) to enhance our program, while providing frequent interactions with clinicians and researchers in the greater San Francisco Bay Area (UCSF, UCD, Smith-Kettlewell Institute of Vision Science).

3) Access to the unique UCB and SF Bay Area clinical training resources, including research laboratories of world-renowned clinical and basic science researchers in various disciplines, diverse clinical settings (e.g., UCB Eye Care clinics, the UCB Clinical Research Center, off-campus satellite clinics in SF-Bay Area, and Veteran’s Administration hospitals), and advanced Eye/Vision library resource facilities (Fong Optometry and Health Sciences Library and its collaborative arrangements with the greater UC library system and the California Digital Library).

Program Administration

Overall administration of the program is the responsibility of the program director, Professor Kenneth Polse, and co-director, Professor Christine Wildsoet. They continually review the program and evaluate trainee performance. They also work closely with the BCSDP Advisory Committee, which meets once yearly to review and evaluate all aspects of the program, including admissions, implementation of the program, trainee curricula and progress, and performance of mentors and program staff.

Trainees

The inaugural BCSDP (NIH) award was obtained in 2006. Since our last competitive grant renewal in 2009, we have had over 35 inquires to the BCSDP, most with letters of intent to apply. Among this group, there were 13 completed applications submitted to the K12 Advisory Committee for review, with 12 applications accepted and 11 trainees entering the program. The Program Directors in consultation with the K12 Advisory Committee reviewed these applications and were pleased to report that all available places were filled in a timely manner, with the two most recent vacancies filled as of April 10, 2014. Unfortunately, our most recent competitive grant renewal (submitted in Spring 2014) was not funded and therefore we have been unable to recruit new trainees. However, we have since submitted a revised grant proposal (Spring 2015), that carefully addresses the reviewers concerns and believe we now have a stronger application.

The table below provides a brief overview of our current 4 trainees, including faculty mentors and research areas. Two are enrolled in the UC Berkeley Vision Science graduate research (PhD) program (**), and two, in Masters of Public Health Programs at UC Berkeley.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trainee</th>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Primary Mentor</th>
<th>Secondary Mentors</th>
<th>Start-End Dates</th>
<th>Proposed Research</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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13
The strong track record of our trainees has continued into 2015. Early in 2015, 2 trainees submitted K23 grant proposals and one of them, Dr. Jennifer Rose-Nussbaumer, based at UC San Francisco, received funding in the Fall. She was mentored by Dr. Thomas Lietman and is not included in the list above. Two trainees have recently submitted K23 grant proposals (one new and one revised grant), that will be reviewed in the next round while a 3rd trainee plans to submit a K23 grant proposal in the coming year. Of past trainees, five now have full-time optometry faculty positions, two being located interstate (University of Houston, Texas, and Pike University, Kentucky), with another being recently appointed Assistant Clinical Professor at the Casey Eye Institute in Portland. Two other past trainees are working in research and development. Note that among our current and past trainees, women are well represented, making up 62% of the trainees, although minorities remain poorly represented.

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thao Yeh***</td>
<td>OD</td>
<td>Art Reingold (UCBPH)</td>
<td>Meng Lin</td>
<td>6/1/2013-5/31/2018</td>
<td>Ocular surface disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elise Harb</td>
<td>OD, MS</td>
<td>Christine Wildsoet (UCBSO)</td>
<td>Dennis Levi</td>
<td>8/01/2014-7/31/2019</td>
<td>Characterization of differences between myopia &amp; hyperopia &amp; options for improved management of these disorders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Angela Baldwin</td>
<td>MD</td>
<td>Jacque Duncan (UCSFO)</td>
<td>Austin Roorda</td>
<td>9/01/2014-7/31/2019</td>
<td>Characterization of cone-rescue efficacy of sustained release CNTF in human retinal disease</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

UCBSO: UC Berkeley School of Optometry; UCBPH: UC Berkeley School of Public Health; UCSFO: University California San Francisco Ophthalmology

**8th Annual Sheldon M. Golden Conference on Translational Research**

The Annual Conference is open to faculty, scientists, research fellows, students, and invited guests who are involved or interested in translational research. The conference focuses on research that has a “bench to bedside” aspect. The venue provides a platform for investigators from academia and industry to meet and communicate about their research. The Conference also promotes the BCSDP as an exciting option for young clinicians and scientists who are considering a career in translational research. The BCSDP has sponsored nine conferences, all of which have been well received. The theme of the 2015 meeting was "Visual Disorders, Learning and Plasticity: Adapting Vision to the World We Live In." Featured speakers came from UC Berkeley School of Optometry and UC San Francisco Depart of Ophthalmology, as well as interstate Harvard, and Indian Universities), and overseas (University of Geneva & McMaster University). For the second time and in recognition of the importance of this conference series, the Golden
family offered sponsorship of this conference series, which has been renamed in memory of Sheldon M. Golden, OD, who graduated from U.C. Berkeley School of Optometry in 1959. Also for the second time, the conference was timed to follow the Annual All-Alumni CE Program and Reunion Celebration, providing opportunity for our trainees to interact with clinicians in private practice as well as faculty involved in translational research. The venue also provided opportunities for attendees to talk with BCSDP mentors, graduate advisors, and faculty about careers in clinical research and specifically about the BCSDP.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

Administration

The Continuing Education Office, directed by Dr. Patsy Harvey, OD, MPH, and coordinated by Danni Peck, MBA, CMP, provides a variety of high-quality courses for optometrists to expand their knowledge as well as fulfill the requirements of licensure renewal by the California State Board of Optometry.

Accreditation for Participants

In 2015, the Berkeley Optometry CE Office oversaw and accredited over 29,000 hours of continuing education for which Danni Peck issued over 2,800 accreditation letters and certificates, making it the largest CE program at an optometry school in North America. Throughout the year, Danni maintains records of each participant’s attendance at the UC courses, including the required 50 CE hours for California State Licensure and the 10 hours required for the Glaucoma Certification Law. She also creates and mails a special Certificate of Completion with an embossed gold seal to each participant who had completed 50 hours at the Berkeley Optometry CE programs within the two-year re-licensure cycle. Many optometrists reported that they display their CE certificate in their exam room and receive positive comments from their patients.

CE Programs

The CE Programs are continually expanding to meet the ever-changing needs of today’s optometrists and the modified certification requirements. UC Berkeley Optometry’s two largest CE programs continue to be the Berkeley Practicum and the Morgan Symposium. In 2015, optometrists from all over the United States and several other countries attended the programs. Renowned speakers, including optometrists, ophthalmologists, and physicians from across the country, provided innovative presentations on a variety of topics.

26th Annual Berkeley Practicum

The Berkeley Practicum was held on January 17–19, 2015. The attendance of over 610 optometrists and 1,217 “Doctor Days” indicated that most optometrists attended an average
of two days. They came from 11 states and graduated from 18 optometry schools, with graduation dates spanning an impressive 65 years from 1950 to 2014.

The 13th Annual Karen Walker-Brandreth keynote lecturer was Dr. John Flanagan, OD, PhD, Dean and Professor of Optometry and Vision Science, Berkeley Optometry. His lecture, “Glaucoma: What We Know, How We Should Practice, and What the Future May Hold”, provided valuable information and insight on glaucoma diagnosis and management as well as possible directions for the future. Among the outstanding comments he received were:

- “Inspiring!”
- “Thorough and insightful lecture.”
- “Well organized primary resource!”

30th Annual Morgan Symposium
The Morgan Symposium was held on April 24–26, 2015, drawing 691 optometrists and 1,333 “Doctor Days.” Optometrists came from 22 states and graduated from 18 optometry schools, spanning 57 years from 1958 to 2014.

The Meredith Morgan Memorial lecturers were Ron Melton, OD and Randall Thomas, OD, MPH. The world-renowned speaking duo is also well known as the authors of Review of Optometry’s Annual Clinical Guide to Ophthalmic Drugs, now in its 22nd edition. Their lecture series covered clinically relevant aspects of drug selection, treatment plans, drug dosages/frequency, and follow-up care. As always, Drs. Melton and Thomas received extremely positive reviews from the Morgan Symposium attendees as shown in their evaluation comments:

- “There are no better lecturers in optometry today.”
- “Excellent format and relevant cases.”
- “This was quite possibly the best lecture series I’ve ever heard.”

Third Annual Berkeley Glaucoma Day
The 2015 Morgan Symposium also brought the return of Berkeley Glaucoma Day, which was again presented by Drs. Carl Jacobsen, OD and Todd Severin, MD with a special lecture from Dr. David Hicks, OD. The five-hour course covered updates on all aspects of glaucoma from diagnosis to pharmaceutical and surgical treatments as well as Grand Round cases. It provided 5 of the 10 Glaucoma-CE hours required for glaucoma-certified ODs in California.

Berkeley Glaucoma Day Reception also returned in 2015 and continued to serve as a great opportunity for optometrists, faculty, and students to relax and socialize. With the backdrop of the Berkeley Marina, classmates and colleagues spanning several decades of graduating classes caught up with one another and made connections with new ODs. The CE and Development and Alumni Relations Offices look forward to continuing this Berkeley Optometry community-building tradition.
**Glaucoma Grand Rounds**
The Berkeley Optometry Continuing Education office provides qualifying courses to California optometrists seeking glaucoma certification. Through the Online CE Office and the Glaucoma Grand Rounds, California optometrists may take glaucoma-certification courses and examinations that are in compliance with glaucoma law SB 1406 and the California State Board of Optometry’s requirements.

**Berkeley Optometry 16-hour Grand Rounds Course** is the onsite “live program” at the Meredith Morgan University Eye Center. The Grand Rounds Course is equivalent to treating 15 patients for the 25-patient Case Management requirement. In 2015, two sessions of the Glaucoma Grand Rounds course were provided, serving 74 optometrists. They examine glaucoma patients, determine treatment protocols, create management plans, and collaborate with the faculty and mentors.

**Additional CE Courses and Events**
In addition to their primary “live programs,” the CE office also participated in accrediting, administering, marketing, and facilitating other UC Berkeley Optometry CE courses, including:

- Resident Forum Dr. Christina Wilmer
- Resident Lecture Series Dr. Mika Moy
- Sheldon M. Golden Conference on Translational Research Dr. Marty Banks
- Glaucoma Grand Rounds Drs. Christina Wilmer, Carl Jacobsen and Vikki Yu
- Grand Rounds – Glaucoma Dr. John Flanagan
- bTalks Seminar Series Drs. Christina Wilmer and Linh Le
- Oxyopia Lecture Series Dr. Nancy McNamara

**California State Board of Optometry and Optometric Laws**
In addition, Dr. Harvey continued to work directly with the California State Board of Optometry regarding recommendations and changes in CE requirements. For example, in 2015 she worked with the State Board to help clarify the new CME Category 1 option as well as to correct errors and confusion on the current requirements listed on their website. She also attended the COA Key Person Day in Sacramento and met several times with a member of the State Board of Optometry to better understand the purposed SB 492 bill which would expand optometrists’ responsibilities to treat additional conditions such as diabetes and hypercholesterolemia, and to perform vaccinations such as flu shots.

Dr. Harvey also described *Continuing Education for Optometrists* to recent graduates and students to address issues regarding CE requirements, responsibilities, and glaucoma laws, and to encourage new graduates to seek high-quality CE programs, including those provided by Berkeley Optometry.
Dr. Harvey and Danni Peck continued to provide information about the *Glaucoma Certification* requirements for optometrists in California as well as optometrists across the country considering the glaucoma certification in California.

For the *Glaucoma Certification* and *Optometry Preceptorship* processes, Danni assisted optometrists, addressed questions and problems, monitored the documentation of their multiple-hour requirements, and worked in conjunction with the California State Board to verify documents for TPA and Glaucoma licensure.

All of these CE programs enable the CE Office to meet its goal to offer a broad range of CE programs for the wide variety of needs of optometrists who have graduated during the past 60 years.
ONLINE CONTINUING EDUCATION

Administration

This program is directed by Harry M. Green, OD, PhD and coordinated by Emily R. Martin. Adjunctive administrative support during the building of the business plan mentioned below involved Dean John Flanagan, OD, PhD, Assistant Dean for Administration and Finance Eric Leal, and Eyal Gurion, MBA. This program seeks to provide continuing education of the highest quality through online delivery.

Online Glaucoma Certification Courses

Formerly known as The Berkeley Online Lectures and Demonstrations (BOLD), the glaucoma certification program lectures and exams were first created in 2011 by Dr. Patsy Harvey, who updated and expanded them in 2013. In 2015, UC Berkeley continued to provide the innovative video-based online courses to optometrists seeking glaucoma certification and TPA-CE. Through this program, California optometrists may take glaucoma-certification courses and examinations that are in compliance with glaucoma law SB 1406 and the California State Board of Optometry’s requirements.

As of 2015, over 1,100 optometrists throughout California have enrolled in UC Berkeley’s online glaucoma certification courses, enabling them to better detect and co-manage glaucoma patients in their clinical practices. The online glaucoma certification courses were the first CE program to provide video-based online lectures that allow optometrists to feel as if they are attending live lectures with the presenters speaking to them. The lectures are presented in 15-minute segments with intermittent “Check Point Questions” so they may learn and review the material and test themselves at their own pace.

Completing and passing the following two UCB courses (plus a third live CE program) and exams enable optometrists to become certified to treat glaucoma patients in California.
• **BOLD 24-hour Didactic Glaucoma Course:** Fulfills the didactic requirement by providing video-based online lectures on the detection, diagnosis, treatment, and management of glaucoma.

• **BOLD 16-hour Glaucoma Case Management Course:** Fulfills part of the 25-patient Case Management Requirement via its video-based online presentations. The course provides over 50 cases, which range from moderate to advanced levels of glaucoma and vision loss. By completing the course and passing the exam, optometrists earn the equivalent of treating 15 of the required 25 patients.

**Online Glaucoma CE Courses**

2-hour Online Glaucoma Lectures continued to provide online CE in 2015 for glaucoma-certified and non-glaucoma-certified optometrists. This 10-part series, with a total of 20 hours of CE and 10 exams, was created and developed Dr. Patsy Harvey and the CE Office and launched in November 2013. Each 2-hour course begins with a didactic lecture describing a specific aspect of glaucoma and is followed by 5 to 7 cases and exam questions to demonstrate the glaucoma topic. The courses may be used to earn TPA-CE credit or to partially fulfill the 10-hour recertification requirement for glaucoma-certified optometrists. For multiple reasons, this offering was removed at the end of 2015, but will be replaced with the expansion described below.

**Expansion of the Online CE Program**

As our ever-changing world shifts to information delivery via the internet, it is crucial that UC Berkeley’s School of Optometry develops, and leads the field of online continuing education for the profession of optometry.

Our mission is to provide superior education by leveraging multimedia formats that not only engage the learner, but also provide methods by which education is more effective. Our approach is to use many different forms of media in a manner that produces natural flow to the content, all the while changing presentations at short intervals to maintain the learner’s attention. Keeping the quality of the education commensurate with UC Berkeley School of Optometry’s standards, however, remains paramount.

Early in our planning it became clear that this endeavor would require significant resources and varied expertise to execute successfully. Much of our efforts in 2015 was to secure funding and the appropriate internal and external partners to ensure success. We developed a business plan to address the different facets which include: content development, administrative oversight and coordination, and technological expertise. Toward the end of the year we had almost all these pieces in place, and began the developing a curriculum that we could use to launch our new program in continuing education. We hope to launch early in 2016, with an extensive offering of variable, case-based content. From there we plan to develop multi-unit, online CE courses that will cover broad topics by experts in the various fields within optometry. This will include all facets of our profession, from disease and TPA-qualified content, to ophthalmic materials and more specialized areas of optometry (Contact lenses, binocular vision, low vision, pediatrics, etc.)
CLINICAL RESEARCH CENTER

Mission Statement

The mission of the Berkeley Clinical Research Center (CRC) is two fold: (1) to explore new models and strategies for diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of ocular anomalies by conducting patient-based clinical studies/trials as well as translational research and, (2) to provide training for young professionals who are interested in, or want to pursue careers in, clinical research.

To achieve its mission, the CRC:

1. provides an infrastructure, professional staff and examination space as well as cutting-edge equipment for advanced clinical research;
2. promotes translational research and improves patient care by accelerating lab discoveries into the clinical setting;
3. bridges the gap between academia and private industry; and
4. provides research opportunities to undergraduate and optometry students, optometry residents, and clinicians (OD, MD) through programs such as internships offered to undergraduate students, OD honor thesis, post-doctoral clinical research fellowship and vision science PhD program.

Currently, the CRC provides training at all levels that includes research rotations available for OD residents 1 day/week for 1 semester; a 1-year Clinical Research Fellowship for post-OD, MD and PhD; and opportunities for conducting honor OD-thesis research projects. Through these programs, trainees and clinicians gain first-hand experience in understanding challenges that come with clinical, patient-based research and obtain skills necessary for achieving different stages of clinical trial/study as well as acquiring experiences in various levels of study designs and data management and analysis. Having worked in a multi-disciplinary research team like the one in the CRC has proven an invaluable experience for our trainees.

Administration

Director: Meng C. Lin, OD, PhD, FAAO

Administrative Staff: Uyen Do (manager); Carly Childs, PhD (study coordinator); Mariel Lerma (study coordinator), Kristina Lin (study coordinator)

Research Staff: Nina Tran, OD (research manager); Tiffany Yuen, OD; Tiana Leung, OD; Tatyana Svitova, PhD (Research Specialist); Bo Tan, PhD (Research Specialist); Yixiu Zhou, PhD (Data Analyst); Andrew Graham, MS (Bio-statistician)

Post-doctoral scholar: Thomas Dursch, PhD
Graduate students: Thao Yeh, OD (PhD, UC Berkeley Vision Science); Wing (Eric) Li, OD (PhD candidate, UC Berkeley Vision Science); Jose Vega OD, MS (PhD student, University of Valencia, Spain)

OD Thesis students: Britney Kitamata-Wang (Class of 2016); Annie Lee (Class of 2017); Kathie Huang (Class of 2018)

Undergraduate students: Kathy Le, Lilian Thoi, Irene Hwang, Dilpreet Sahota, Sownderraj Anoon

Research and Teaching

In 2015, the major industry sponsors are Cooper Vision Inc, JOHNSON & JOHNSON VISION CARE, INC and Essilor. In addition to industry sponsored clinical trials, CRC continues collaborations with various academic institutions including several optometry schools in the U.S. and Canada as well as the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, New York and University of Pennsylvania Center for Preventive Ophthalmology and Biostatistics. We continue to conduct a longitudinal clinical trial examining the effects of omega-3 fish oil on dry eye symptoms in a multi-site clinical trial Dry Eye Assessment and Management (DREAM supported by NIH NEI). In 2015, the CRC has successfully secured research funding of nearly one million dollars.

Publications and Presentations

In 2015, the CRC had 7 manuscripts published and 2 manuscripts will be published in early 2016, as well as a featured article published in the December issue of Contact Lens Spectrum. The CRC has also presented 6 paper/posters at ARVO and AAO annual meetings.

Publications


Conference Presentations


**Ocular Surface Imaging Clinic**

Since the inception of the Ocular Surface Imaging Clinic (OSIC) in 2012, this specialty clinic continues to get outside referrals from our optometry and ophthalmology colleagues. Aided by cutting-edge technology, this clinic has been highly successful at managing and treating evaporative dry eyes and has been widely recognized as an important referral clinic in the Bay Area and creates synergy with the Dry Eye Clinic in the Meredith Morgan University Eye Center.

**DEVELOPMENT & EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**Donors and Gifts**

Fiscal year 2015 was another record year for giving to Berkeley Optometry with 1.1 million dollars in private support. Once again, the generosity of our alumni, friends, faculty, and staff has had a powerful impact on our school and beyond. Gifts during the academic year opened doors of opportunity – for our students, our vision scientists, and our community. The experiences of every Berkeley Optometry student have been enhanced through financial support to improve our facilities, increase research opportunities, experiential clinic rotation and residency opportunities, and so much more.

The number of our donors continues to increase. This year Berkeley Optometry received gifts from 792 unique donors, a record number of donors for a single year. We had 249 new donors.

Fiscal year 2015 brought about our largest unrestricted fundraising year in more than a decade. Because of the generosity of our alumni and friends, as well as our corporate and foundation
partners, we were able to raise $474,144 for the Annual Fund. This fund sustains important resources for Berkeley Optometry’s continued operation.

**Engagement**

Engagement is a key goal of this year’s fundraising, reflecting DAR’s efforts to build a stronger community by encouraging greater involvement of alumni and friends. Again, fiscal year 2015 proved to have an excellent trajectory, as the number of alumni and friends making connections with Berkeley Optometry and each other continued to grow.

For the second consecutive year, alumni donations continue to rise at an unprecedented pace. Our alumni donated 58% of the total gifts in FY 2015! Alumni and friends took to Twitter Facebook, and Instagram to participate in the Big Give, a one-day fundraising blitz at CAL. The enthusiastic response from the community raised almost $500,000!

**Camaraderie**

In 2015, Berkeley Optometry’s Development and Alumni Team hosted 12 events in 3 different cities and 3 states. This year, 2,500 people attended these events, which made for a very successful year.

**Volunteers**

The Board of the Berkeley Alumni Association (BOAA) met this past May and October to discuss issues pertinent to the School, its alumni programs, and the profession. The Board is made up of the following members: Drs. Deanna Alexander, David Geffen, Vicki Hughes, Tim Jankowski, Rosemary Melrose, Alexander Baker, Bernard Dolan, Ed Elliott, Kristine Eng, Michael Harris, Michelle Hoff, Eleanor Kung, John McNally, Karen Walker-Brandreth, Barry Weissman plus Kristen Williams (Executive Director, Alumni Relations) and optometry students Amber Egbert and Kyle McCarthy.

**Communication**

**Optometry Logos**

Using the Berkeley branding guidelines, new logos were created for both the Berkeley Optometry and the Vision Science programs. New versions of the school’s secondary logo -- the more playful Optobear -- were created using the secondary colors established by the Berkeley branding guidelines. These new assets have been shared in a location accessible to all faculty, staff and students.

**Optometry Branding Guidelines**

In order to foster more consistency -- and brand recognition -- in our presentation materials, a set of branding guidelines have been created. These guidelines -- which are based the Berkeley branding guidelines -- include instructions on how and when to use the following asset types: logos, typography and colors.
Email & Newsletters
The School has developed a new email delivery system for external messaging. The new system features easy-to-use templates for key program areas, the ability to segment audience types, a mobile-friendly interface for viewing on smartphones, and reports on open and click through rates. So far, open rates have averaged 30%, which is double the industry average for higher education (14.9%).

Magazine
The 2015 edition of the Berkeley Optometry magazine has been totally redesigned. The 28 page publication features an article on a new partnership between Berkeley Optometry and Cal Athletics that aims to streamline concussion evaluation and help students get back to their studies. Other articles include an update on Dr. Suzanne Fleiszig's work to unlock the secrets of the eye's natural defense against infection; an interview with alumnus and world renowned frame builder, Blake Kuwahara; a report on Dr. Jorge Cuadros' efforts to break the vicious cycle of blindness in Djibouti by training local caregivers to detect Diabetic Retinopathy; updates on our recent grads; and a quick look at the incoming class of 2019, plus much more.

Website
A major overhaul of the Berkeley Optometry site is underway and expected to be complete before the start of the Fall 2016 semester. Changes include: new design, simplified navigation structure, and a back-end content management system that will be accessible by all key program areas.

FONG OPTOMETRY & HEALTH SCIENCES LIBRARY

Facility
The Fong Optometry & Health Sciences Library is located on the fourth floor of Minor Hall (School of Optometry). It comprises 4,784 sq. ft. with a seating capacity of 58. There is also a computer lab with 18 Apple computers for student use and teaching. There are conference and group study rooms available by reservation and for drop-in use.

Services
The library is one of 8 science specialty libraries on the Berkeley campus that report administratively to the Associate University Librarian for Educational Initiatives & User Services, Director, Doe/Moffitt & Subject Specialty Libraries. The Fong library supports the faculty, students, staff, research laboratories, and clinics of the UCB School of Optometry and the interdisciplinary Vision Science Group. The health sciences collection is part of the Optometry Library collection. Interlibrary services are expedited for optometry, vision science, and medical program faculty and students via Association of Vision Science Librarians exchange. The Fong Library is a popular place for meetings for all members of the School of Optometry community; study and conference rooms are full much of the day. Use of the library was especially high during the fall 2013 semester.
Primary Users

The Fong Library is used by clinical faculty, interns, and residents who are involved in patient care. It is also used by optometrists and vision scientists of the Bay Area and by patients of the clinics. The Fong Library’s staff (1 full-time librarian and 1 half-time paraprofessional) and services also provide support for the interdisciplinary information needs of the students, faculty and staff of the UCB-UCSF Joint Medical Program. The primary users are categorized below:

- Academic faculty: 17
- Emeriti faculty: 5
- Affiliated academic faculty: 10
- Professors of clinical optometry: 6
- Clinical faculty: 82
- Professional researchers: 10
- Graduate students (OD): 268
- Graduate students (PhD): 35
- Residents (OD): 16
- Visiting faculty & post-docs: 25

Access

During the Academic Semester, hours of operation are:
- Monday - Thursday: 9am – 7pm,
- Friday: 9am – 5pm,
- Saturday & Sunday: 12pm – 4pm

Collections

The Library collection includes print and digital books and journals in the fields of optometry, ophthalmology, and vision science. Within these areas are included anatomy, physiology, neurology, biochemistry, pathology and microbiology of the visual organs of humans and other animals; visual and color perception; ocular pharmacology; occupational and environmental vision; ophthalmic photography; low vision and blindness; history of optometry; and the social, legal, economic, and professional aspects of eye care. The health sciences collection includes textbooks in health and medicine, general resources in health and medical education, evidence-based health care, doing research in health and medicine, and selected resources in medical informatics. The study of stereoscopic diabetic retinopathy slides is an important component of the third-year optometry curriculum. Major biomedical abstracts & indexes are available online, via licensed web-based services. Most indexes support the UCeLinks button that links to the full-text of thousands of scholarly journals licensed by UC's California Digital Library (CDL) and UCB. The digital collections are growing rapidly.

As of June 2014, the collection included:

- 17,543 volumes
• 35 print journals
• 104 electronic journals (vision-specific)
• 13,179 slides (35mm)
• 605 videos
• Approximately 3,500 volumes (20%) of the total collection are in storage; electronic transmission is used whenever possible to retrieve article copies (<24 hr. turnaround vs. 2-3 day delivery of a printed volume).
AWARDS AND HONORS FOR 2015

President, Alameda Contra Costa County Optometric Society (ACCCOS)
Melanie Mason (Alumnus, Berkeley Optometry)

Optometry Alumni Association of the University of California, Alumni of the Year Award
Stanley Woo (Alumnus, Berkeley Optometry)

American Academy of Optometry Charles F. Prentice Medal
Ralph Freeman (Faculty, Berkeley Optometry)

American Academy of Optometry Garland W. Clay Award
Austin Roorda (Faculty, Berkeley Optometry)

College of Optometrists, Life Fellow Award
John Flanagan (Dean, Berkeley Optometry)

Michael G. Harris Family Award for Excellence in Optometric Education presented by the American Optometric Foundation (AOF)
Steven Schwartz (Alumnus, Berkeley Optometry)

Roy Brandreth Award
Maria Liu (Faculty, Berkeley Optometry)

Karen Walker-Brandreth Lectureship
John Flanagan (Dean, Berkeley Optometry)

Thomas H. Peters Memorial Lectureship
Barry Weissman (Alumnus, Berkeley Optometry)

Michael Harris Teaching Award (Optometry Alumni Association of UC)
Glen Ozawa (Faculty, Berkeley Optometry)

Mert Flom Teaching Award
Michael Harris (Emeritus and Alumnus, Berkeley Optometry)

Garland Clay Award, American Academy of Optometry
Austin Roorda et al (Faculty, Berkeley Optometry)
OPTOMETRY CLINICS

Leadership

In July 2015, Dr. Marlena Chu was appointed Chief of Low Vision. Dr. Chu graduated from the UC Berkeley Optometry program and completed her low vision residency training under the guidance of Drs. Robert Greer and Ian Bailey. After residency, Dr. Chu remained at Berkeley as a full-time faculty member, working in all the low vision clinics (Minor Hall, California School for the Blind, SF LightHouse), the 200A/B course, primary care clinic, TeamCare clinic, and at the former Cal State University East Bay Clinic.

In August 2015, Drs. Mark Wu and Debora Lee were appointed Co-Chiefs of Binocular Vision, succeeding Dr. Pia Hoenig, who guided the department for many years and developed an incredibly strong and loyal patient base through her expertise and clinical care.

New Full-time Clinic Faculty

The clinical faculty continues to expand. Drs. Jennifer Lim, Ashley Craven, Jing Zeng, Sarah Kochik and Jasmine Junge have joined the clinical faculty on a part-time basis this year and are providing much needed patient care and clinical teaching for our busy clinics.

Faculty Development

There was a strong showing at the American Academy of Optometry meeting in fall 2015 with 40 attending our clinical faculty meeting in New Orleans, LA. Some clinical faculty members presented lectures, papers and workshops at the annual meeting.

bTalks: In November 2014, a monthly lecture, bTalks Optometry Discussion Series, was started to promote faculty development. The lectures are open to all optometry and vision science faculty, residents, and 4th year students. All doctors receive one hour of CE credit for participating. The topics vary each month and guest speakers are invited both from within the school and from outside modes of practice. About 20-25 doctors/residents and ~10 students have attended each lecture and there has been very positive feedback. This year’s bTalks included:

11/2014 - Carl Jacobsen, OD, “Photos vs. OCT: Does Old Technology Still Play a Role in Glaucoma Management?”
01/2015 - Kathy Tran, OD, “An Update on All-Laser LASIK: Patient Selection and Post-Operative Management”
02/2015 - Kuni Kanai, OD, “Hypertension in Office - When to reprimand, send home, and send to ER”
03/2015 - Dean Flanagan, OD, “Normal Tension Glaucoma: What is it and why do I treat it differently?”
04/2015 - Langis Michaud, MD, “Sclerals for Normal Eyes - Where are We?”
05/2015 - Lee Vien, OD, “Clinical Applications of SD-OCT: beyond peripapillary RNFL scans”
06/2015 - Brandon Lujan, MD, “SDOCT in the Diagnosis and Management of AMD”
07/2015 - Camille DiMiceli, MD, “Retinopathy of Prematurity: Short-term & Long-term Care”
08/2015 - Meredith Whiteside, OD, “ICD-10 is Coming: Get Ready”
09/2015 - Mira Lim, MD, Cataract Surgery Options”
10/2015 - Jeffrey Burack, MD, “HIV/AIDS 2015 Global Update”
11/2015 - Christine Wildsoet, OD, “The evolving myopia epidemic - why should we care, what have we learnt about underlying factors, and what can we tell patients and their parents?”
12/2015 - Maria Liu, OD & Sarah Kochik, OD, "Clinical application of evidence-based myopia control treatments"

Continuing Education

Glaucoma Grand Rounds was offered in March and August 2015 with a total of 74 attendees. The next offering will be on March 22-23, 2016. For more information, visit: http://optometry.berkeley.edu/ce/bold-introduction.

In July 2015 a slit lamp laboratory course was offered to physician assistants throughout the bay area. The course provided hands on mentored practice on slit lamp skills, diagnostic eye procedures, and a lecture course on the diagnosis and management of frequently encountered eye conditions in the emergency room. Approximately 30 participants enrolled in this four hour course.

Clinical Curriculum

In the Spring semester of 2015, a change was implemented to the 200D Lab course. The final exam was converted to include most elements of a full eye exam. In addition to performing the tests, the students were required to enter the data they obtained into an electronic health record (EHR) rather than handwriting their results as done previously. A supplemental Qualifying Exam was administered by the Clinic Administration to test the students’ proficiency in using Compulink, the Clinic’s EHR. The Qualifying Exam tested the ability to enter and print prescriptions (spectacle, contact lens, and medicine) in addition to choosing correct diagnoses and procedure codes. A passing grade in both the 200D Lab course as well as the Clinic Qualifying exam are required in order to start patient care in the Summer Session.

Changes to Clinical Externships

Due to space constraints, the Portland VA Health Care System externship in Portland, Oregon was terminated in Spring 2015. Students who were assigned to that site for 2015-2016 were reassigned to other locations.

Crow Indian Health Services externship (located about an hour from Billings, MO) commenced in Summer 2015. Currently, we are sending one student per session. We hope to send two students per session for academic year 2016-2017.

Kaiser Daly City will be coming onboard as an externship site beginning in May 2016.
Kaiser Sacramento Valley encompassed three sites at Davis, Sacramento (Point West), and Roseville. In Fall 2015, it was trimmed to one site and will be known as Kaiser Point West.

The Castle Family Health Center externship ended in May 2015. Dr. Randall McPherran who was the faculty mentor returned to the bay area to teach at Minor Hall and our Alameda Health Systems clinics.

Seymour Johnson Air Force Base will be discontinued at the end of December 2015 due to the reassignment of the preceptor.

Kaiser San Francisco has been discontinued due to the retirement of the preceptor.

The Cal State Sacramento rotation will no longer be operated by UC Berkeley School of Optometry beginning Spring 2016 but our fourth year student interns will continue there as an external training site.

A new additional instructor has been hired to expand services at UCSC. This site will be offered as an externship starting Fall 2016.

**Changes to Clinical Services**

The Southeast Health Clinic in San Francisco closed in September 2015. Pending a relocation of the optometry facility, the clinic may restart services there.

In September 2015, the Novato community clinic opened an extra day for a total of four days a week. Our current provider, Dr. Charlie Ngo, sees patients directly on that day. Students will be providing exams on all four days starting Summer 2016.

Beginning October 2016, we will have partnered with See Well to Learn which is run by Prevent Blindness North America to provide vision exams to school-aged children in a mobile eye clinic. This clinical service was added to the in-house templates for the Class of 2017’s 4th year rotations. The See Well to Learn mobile eye clinic will travel to schools in the bay area.

Dr. Pia Hoenig is continuing to lend her binocular vision expertise to the clinic by doing direct patient care twice a week starting August 2015.

There have been a few changes to the front desk services staff this year. In addition to the new front desk hires, our previous Patient Services Supervisors, Saidah Shabazz and Beth Taylor, have moved on from their leadership positions. In the interim, Theresa Bertero and Penny Parker have served as acting patient services supervisors. Penny Parker was officially hired as a Patient Services Manager in November 2015 and served until her unexpected passing on December 19, 2015.

Most of our clinic service fees were updated in January 1, 2015. Furthermore, Binocular Vision clinic service fees were updated in Summer 2015.
Changes to Clinical Operations

Personnel additions and adjustments have driven many of the most significant changes in clinic operations over the past year. Beth Taylor was hired to be the clinic’s compliance officer in April. Tyler Crooks joined our team as a Health Care Systems Analyst with his primary responsibility being the management of Eyecare Advantage, the clinic’s practice management and medical records system. Anita Dykes, a member of our billing team moved to Georgia but continues to work for us remotely on credentialing and compliance projects as they relate to billing while also filling gaps in day to day billing operations. Alicia Wise came aboard in October to take over the day to day billing activities Anita left behind.

There have been significant progress in clinical operations in the area of Information Technology from the efforts of our joint University Health - Optometry IT Team. The most significant change was the move of Eyecare Advantage from being stored and operated locally on clinic servers to the campus data center and a secure Citrix environment. This move provides better security, reliability, performance and disaster recovery for our PM/EMR system. Other accomplishments of the IT team include: successful migration of clinic workstations to the campus domain, successful upgrade of Eyecare Advantage to version 11.0.5.1, establishment of testing and training environments for Eyecare Advantage, completion of the riser project, migration to the new voice network, and the implementation of a change control process.

Compliance continues to be an area of focused effort. Our HIPAA compliance program grew in maturity in 2015 as evidenced by our latest Annual Risk Assessment that showed a reduction of areas determined to be high risk from 15 in 2014 to 5 in 2015. Some components contributing to this progress include: The establishment and publishing of privacy and security policies on optohub.berkeley.edu, implementation of a system of internal HIPAA audits and incident response protocols, quarterly HIPAA training for all personnel along with monthly security reminders and previously mentioned IT security enhancements. In late 2015 the beginnings of a comprehensive compliance program for our billing department were set in motion. Policies, standards and procedures for coding, billing and auditing are being drafted to insure compliance in this critical area.

On October 1, CMS transitioned the rule set for recording diagnoses from ICD-9 to ICD-10. A combined effort of faculty, compliance, IT, and administrative staff resulted in changes in our computer system and the training of our faculty, staff, and students made this a smooth transition in our clinic with no delays in payment from our insurance carriers.

The clinic greatly improved its revenue generating prospects by partnering with UCOP to negotiate participation in and the reimbursement from a variety of insurance plans including VSP and Blue Shield. The results of these negotiations will show a 31% increase in exam reimbursement for VSP Signature and Choice plans and allow the clinic to accept Blue Shield insurance from our patients requiring medical care. We plan to see further progress with the addition of more carriers in 2016.
Equipment & Facilities Improvements

In January of 2015, phase one of the Riser project -- the campus initiative to enhance the internet infrastructure throughout the campus -- was completed. New internet nodes and enhanced data lines were installed. As of December 2015, phase two -- the switch over to the new network and removal of old internet equipment -- start date is TBA.

In March of 2015, security cameras were installed throughout the clinic. The rollout was spearheaded in part by a change in campus policy in which cash handling now needs to be monitored. We designed the camera placement to also cover general areas of the clinic to heighten our overall security. Monitoring software was installed on supervisor work stations and can be called up at any time.

In October of 2015, we supplemented our security with motion detectors in our glasses dispensary. The motion detectors are passcode activated allowing selected staff members to be able to arm and disarm them at will. As an extra precaution, the motion detectors were also programmed to automatically arm after hours if they were left on.

In December of 2015, our Pediatric clinic floor received new tiles. The waiting area, two exam rooms, and the adjacent hallways were retiled using monies from a WorkSafe Grant from the university.

RESIDENCIES

Mission Statement

The Optometry Residency Program at the University of California, Berkeley School of Optometry seeks to recruit and admit the best qualified post-graduate optometrists and provide them with advanced clinical education and concentrated clinical experience in specialty areas of optometry. This mentored educational and clinical experience will prepare optometrists for lifelong scholarship in patient care, education, and optometric leadership.

Administration

The Residency Program is administered by Mika Moy, OD, FAAO, Director of On-Campus Residency Programs, and Christina Wilmer, OD, FAAO, Director of Affiliated Residency Programs.

Current Programs

The on-campus and affiliated residency programs include the following areas of emphasis and residency training positions.

UC Berkeley Optometry
(UCB: 1 position in each of the following areas)
Program Emphasis Chief Mentor
Vision Therapy and Rehabilitation  Deborah Lee, OD, FAAO
Cornea and Contact Lenses  Pam Satjawatcharaphong, OD, FAAO
Ocular Disease  Carl Jacobsen, OD, FAAO
Low Vision / Ocular Disease  Marlena Chu, OD, FAAO
Pediatrics / Primary Care  Deborah Orel-Bixler, PhD, OD, FAAO
Primary Care / Contact Lenses  Christina Wilmer, OD, FAAO

ACOE Site visit for all programs April 2015, fully accredited. Next site visit 2023

Veterans Affairs Central California Health Care System Fresno
(FVA: 3 positions)
Primary Care Optometry
Next ACOE site visit 2016
Residency Coordinator: Deana Lum, OD, FAAO

Veterans Affairs Palo Alto Health Care System
(PAVA: 4 positions)
Primary Care/Low Vision (3 positions)
Primary Care/Brain Injury (1 position)

ACOE Site Visit April 20, 2015, fully accredited. Next site visit 2023
Residency Coordinator: David Yang, OD, FAAO

Sierra Nevada Health Care System Reno
(RVA: 2 positions)
Primary Care Optometry
Next ACOE site visit 2022
Residency Coordinator: Marla Plecha, OD, FAAO

Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, San Francisco
(SFVA: 3 Positions)
Primary Care Optometry
Next ACOE site visit: 2017
Residency Coordinator: Andrew Mick, OD, FAAO

Current Residents

The residency application process is very competitive. All residents match through the ORMatch process found at the following link [https://natmatch.com/ormatch/index.html](https://natmatch.com/ormatch/index.html). We chose not to fill our Vision Therapy and Rehabilitation position due a decrease in staffing (planned maternity leave). We also chose not to fill our on-campus pediatric program due to a lack of qualified applicants. Applications are up for next year across programs, and we are adding a track on-campus in Primary Care/Community Health Optometry.

The following residents have matched with the corresponding programs during the 2014 application cycle:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
<th>Resident</th>
<th>OD Degree from</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

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Shared Educational Components

In addition to patient care, all residents participate in the following educational program components. These are required for successful completion of the program and the awarding of the residency program certificate.

Resident Lecture Series
All residents prepare and present three oral case presentations during the program year. Residency mentors, faculty members, and interns attend the resident lectures during the fall and winter. In the summer the program presents the Resident Forum, which is open to community optometrists as well as affiliated personnel. The 2015 Resident Forum was the 12th annual event. It was the most attended program in the history of the Forum. The following were held during the 2015 calendar year.
- Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, San Francisco January 30, 2015
- Resident Forum: UC Berkeley School of Optometry June 14, 2015
- Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, San Francisco Sept 25, 2015

Resident Paper
All residents must complete a paper of publishable quality on an interesting case, clinical research or literature review on a clinical topic.
American Academy of Optometry

Attendance at the AAO meeting is not a requirement of the residency program but highly encouraged. The following residents had posters accepted at the AAO meeting in New Orleans 2015.

1. Dr. Stefanie Chan (UCB): Minimizing Hypoxia in Scleral Lenses on a Post-Infectious Cornea with Neovascularization
2. Dr. Michelle Chun (UCB): Diagnosis and Management of AZOR: A Case Report
3. Dr. Christina DalPorto (PAVA): Progressive trans-synaptic retrograde degeneration of optic nerve fibers documented by optical coherence tomography from traumatic brain injury
4. Dr. Amelia Fanaieyan (SFVA): The Role of Oral Carbonic Anhydrase Inhibitors in Glaucoma Management
5. Dr. Ashley Katsikos (UCB): Black hole amidst a star flecked fundus: navigating through a low vision exam in a patient with oxalosis retinopathy
6. Dr. Irin Pansawira (UCB): Glaucomatocyclitic Crisis: the Role of Systemic Anti-Viral in its Treatment and Management
7. Dr. Krystal Vanichsarn (SFVA): Fingolimod-Associated Macular Edema (FAME)
8. Dr. Alfred Vong (SFVA): Outer Retinal Tubulation: Diagnosis and Management
9. Dr. Shiyin (Linda) Wang (PAVA): Peripheral Exudative Hemorrhagic Chorioretinopathy Diagnosis and Management
10. Dr. Janelle Yanogacio (PAVA): Utilizing Spectral Domain Optical Coherence Tomography to Determine the Etiology of Recurrent Serous Pigment Epithelial Detachments
11. Dr. Tina Zheng (PAVA): Ocular complications associated with idiopathic hypertrophic cranial pachymeningitis (IHCP) and subsequent vision rehabilitation

New Initiatives

The following program changes occurred during 2015.

1. A new residency track has been developed for the On-Campus program in Primary Care/Community Health Optometry. Dr. Meredith Whiteside will be the Chief Mentor for this track. The track will be filled beginning 2016-17.
   a. Benefits: This program will provide much needed training community health optometry as well as place a resident in the primary care modules at Minor Hall which has a diverse and robust patient population currently untapped by the program.
   b. Outcomes: As the program has not begun yet, the most significant outcome currently is to provide an additional residency training opportunity to graduating optometrists.

The following clinical educational components have been added during the 2015 residency year.

1. Virtual Journal Club: Dr. Kuniyoshi Kanai spearheaded the effort to make on-line resource for residents, interns and faculty cataloguing key papers in various subject areas. The 2014-15 residents helped to launch the project. Future residents will continue to curate the collection based on their specialty areas and with input from their mentors.
a. Benefits: This program provides experience to the residents in scrutinizing the literature for landmark papers. It is also a resource to the Berkeley community as a starting place for research on a topic, preparing a seminar, or learning outside of the classroom and clinic.

b. Outcomes: The list of papers gives the resident a good starting point at the beginning of their residency year to study in their specialty area. It also serves the clinic faculty and interns to assist them in literature searches and finding milestone articles.

T35 NEI SUMMER RESEARCH PROGRAM

Nature of Support

The UC Berkeley School of Optometry runs a short-term (~10 weeks) summer research training program for OD students, supported largely by an NIH/NEI T35 training grant. One of the best indices of its success is its record of continuous funding — 25 years, with a further 5 years of funding from the NEI awarded in 2014. This training grant supports the recruitment annually of 12 trainees from Optometry programs from around the US, with the specific target being first-year students. Unfortunately this grant does not allow for the appointment of students who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents. In an effort to cater to the needs of this excluded group, private funds are sought on an on-going basis. To date, funds have allowed the support of only one student every other year, thereby excluding many talented students. Appointment of more senior students is precluded due to other competing course commitments for the students of most programs. In the past, before recent changes to the UC Berkeley curriculum, a limited number of local students were reappointed at the end of their second year. Nonetheless, every effort is made to support the continued involvement in research of UC Berkeley trainees, with the UC Berkeley Honors in Research Program proving to be a suitable conduit. Faculty mentors for both Optometry and Vision Science programs are recruited from the pool of established vision science and clinical science researchers, with most mentors being faculty members in the UC Berkeley School of Optometry and also members of the Vision Science Group.

Goals

The overriding goal of the T35 training program is to introduce talented students to clinical and/or translational research by way of developing their interest, awareness, and enthusiasm for a career in biomedical or behavioral research. Training is provided within the laboratories of 23 faculty mentors in the School of Optometry, who are also involved in the training of pre-doctoral research students and postdoctoral fellows are involved in the Graduate Program in Vision Science. Some mentors also train graduate students in other disciplines (e.g., neuroscience, computer science, molecular and cell biology, psychology and infectious disease), and many have faculty collaborators from other disciplines, providing the trainees with a window into the cross-disciplinary research environment. Each T35 trainee is assigned a faculty mentor, matched according to research interests where possible, with faculty mentors only rarely assigned more
than one trainee to ensure there is time for quality mentorship, which is frequently supplemented by graduate students and post-doctoral fellows.

**Applicants, Trainees & Protects**

This program remains highly competitive, with the applicant pool rarely dipping below 20. In 2015 there were 20 applicants of whom 5 were from schools and colleges other than UC Berkeley School of Optometry. Because many schools of optometry are without such training programs, an inclusive policy is applied in selecting trainees, with the positive benefit of contributing to diversity and generating ambassadors to the serve as recruiters at other schools. A Canadian student from UC Berkeley was also supported from other funds. Unfortunately, ethnic diversity is still very limited within our pool of trainees, although some improvement was evident in the 2015 pool. As a strategy to further improve the diversity of our applicant pool, outreach to faculty involved in equity/diversity activities in the various programs is on-going. Another new strategy to improve performance on this front is to use, as communication channels, student chapters of the National Optometric Association, whose membership is largely composed of minorities. The yield from this strategy is likely to benefit greatly from the recent establishment of a local student (NOSA) chapter.

The table below provides details of the successful applicants, including the Optometry program in which they were enrolled, the titles of their research projects and their mentors. The wide range of research undertaken by trainees reflects the equally wide range of on-going research within the School of Optometry/Vision Science Program. The strong translational emphasis of their research is also noteworthy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trainee</th>
<th>Optometry School of Origin</th>
<th>Title of Project</th>
<th>Faculty Mentors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Molly Duong</td>
<td>BERK</td>
<td>Amblyopia: Beyond the Critical Period</td>
<td>Dennis Levi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jup Grewal</td>
<td>BERK</td>
<td>The Role of Blur &amp; Disparity in Depth Perception</td>
<td>Marty Banks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kathie Huang</td>
<td>BERK</td>
<td>Non-invasive vs. Invasive Tear Break Up Time: Why Are They Different?</td>
<td>Meng Lin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elysa Ison</td>
<td>BERK</td>
<td>Atropine for Myopia Control</td>
<td>Maria Liu</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nikita Katoozi</td>
<td>PUCO</td>
<td>Human Behaviors Related to Refractive Error</td>
<td>Elise Harb/Christine Wildsoet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hee Yoon Kim</td>
<td>BERK</td>
<td>Peripheral Refraction</td>
<td>Stan Klein</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Megan Lopez</td>
<td>BERK</td>
<td>Factors allowing <em>Pseudomonas Aeruginosa</em> Traversal of Multilayered Human Corneal Epithelial Cells</td>
<td>Suzanne Fleiszig</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Rosner</td>
<td>ACO</td>
<td>Role of Wnt5a in Corneal Lymphangiogenesis</td>
<td>Lu Chen</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shivani Sharma</td>
<td>BERK</td>
<td>Investigating Corneal Innervation in Aqueous-Deficient Dry Eye</td>
<td>Nancy McNamara</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Using an Ex Vivo Co-Culture Model.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Institution</th>
<th>Project Description</th>
<th>Mentor</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lily Wang</td>
<td>BERK</td>
<td>Elucidating the Bioactions of a Novel Molecule - LTB6</td>
<td>Karsten Gronert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Camille Weissenberg</td>
<td>BERK</td>
<td>Hard Exudates Proximity to the Fovea for Priority Referral of CSME</td>
<td>Jorge Cuadros</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Wong</td>
<td>BERK</td>
<td>Induced Higher Order Aberrations Post-Refractive Surgery &amp; Stereo Acuity</td>
<td>Sangeetha Metlapally/ Cliff Schor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diane Yan</td>
<td>SCCO</td>
<td>Tear Evaporation Rate of Symptomatic &amp; Asymptomatic Contact Lens Wearer</td>
<td>Meng Lin</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

ACO: Midwestern University – Arizona College of Optometry; BERK: UC Berkeley School of Optometry; SCCO: Southern California College of Optometry, Marshall B. Ketchum University; PUCO: Pacific University College of Optometry

Measuring Success

How successful is our program in achieving its long-term goal by serving as a pipeline for clinician scientists? By any measure, our program appears to be achieving its goal. If more advanced training in translational research can be viewed as an index of success, two past T35 trainees, having graduated from our OD program, are currently undergoing advanced training through the Vision Science PhD program and one is supported by our local NEI-funded K12 clinician scientist training program. One of our recent NEI-funded K12 clinician scientist and Vision Science PhD graduates was also a T35 trainee and a fourth former trainee is now on the faculty at SCCO after completing a PhD at UC Berkeley. Another index, the number of enrollment in honors research, presents a positive picture, with four X-trainees graduating with honors in 2015 and a similar number of students expected to graduate with honor this year. Over half of the 2015 T35 trainees also indicated interest in research honors. Finally, trainees from this program are also consistently featured among student presenters at the American Academy of Optometry.

Future Development

In terms of developmental plans, new funding sources are being sought to expand the size and scope of the program to include a small number of UC Berkeley's Summer Opto-campers, who would undergo research training in the summer prior to entering Optometry school, recognizing that these students tend to come from diverse backgrounds. Funding is also being sought for conference travel support for trainees. Other options to be explored are the inclusion of T35 trainees as potential presenters in UC Berkeley's annual translational conference and ophthalmic industry internships as follow-up to initial training.
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA OPTOMETRIC STUDENT ASSOCIATION (UCOSA)

Clinical Preparation

UC Berkeley Optometry students appreciate how receptive the school administration is in addressing student feedback and enhancing curriculum and facilities. Recent changes are preparing students for clinic and advanced eye care management.

Pre-Clinic Updates
To facilitate the transition from 2nd year into clinic, the pre-clinic team revised the team care experience to include more one-on-one patient time. All of the computers in the pre-clinic rooms have been installed with the most up to date EMR system to mimic the one used in the Meredith Morgan Eye Clinic to better familiarize students with the system. The pre-clinic team also organized an intensive final practical for 2nd years which included the completion of a comprehensive eye exam, integrated with entries into the EMR. Furthermore, they implemented an EMR proficiency for the 2nd years before entering into their summer clinic rotation.

BIO Boot-Camp
Second and third year students continue the tradition of organizing monthly seminars to personally tutor first year students with their binocular indirect ophthalmoscopy skills and clinical thinking. Students remember how difficult new concepts can be and return every year to help the incoming students.

Equipment Fair
To help students make a well-informed purchasing decision, the UCOSA Equipment Committee held multiple informational sessions hosted by equipment representatives from ophthalmic instrument companies such as Pioneer, Heine, Keeler, Welch Allyn, and Ocular Instruments. These informational sessions were held to inform students about the companies and their products to assist their equipment purchasing decisions. The annual Spring Equipment Fair was held in early February, where equipment distributors and vendors came to UC Berkeley to showcase their equipment and inform students in a hands-on manner.

Intro To Clinic
The upperclassmen volunteered their time to help orient incoming third years into clinic to make the transition smoother.

Scleral Lens Workshop
In coordination with Valley Contax, this hands on workshop was developed to provide more opportunities for fourth year students to practice fitting scleral contact lenses in April. Five residents from the Contact Lens department were also present to assist Dr. Roya Habibi of Valley Contax teach the course. Due to the demand, this was split into two sessions on that day.

NBEO Injections Practice
With supervision from Stephanie McGovern RN and Dr. Meredith Whiteside, UCOSA organizes groups of fourth year students to have private practice time for the Injections Station on Part 3 of the National Board Examination of Optometry (NBEO). The Injections Station on NBEO
assesses the student’s ability to perform intravenous injection for fluorescein angiography and intramuscular injection of epinephrine for anaphylactic shock on a model arm.

**NBEO Berkeley Study Guide**

UCOSA continually revises, updates, and improves a study guide trilogy that is designed to prepare all students of optometry for both Part 1 and Part 2 National Board Examination of Optometry (NBEO). Part 1 of the NBEO tests applied basic science and Part 2 focuses on clinical science. Most recently, Part 2 was revised in early 2015.

**American Academy of Optometry**

For the first time this year, students got time off from clinic in order to attend the American Academy of Optometry Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana from October 7 to October 10, 2015.

**Commitment to Service**

Outside of school, UC Berkeley optometry students outreach to local and global communities in providing eye care.

**Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity**

Berkeley Optometry students enjoy working with VOSH in providing eye care on a global scale. In 2015, UC Berkeley students helped with the organization of three service trips. From January 12 to 15, a collaboration of 20 opto students from UCBSO, SUNY, and MCPHS and 7 doctors from VOSH-CT provided eye care to 3188 patients in Nicaragua. This Nicaragua service trip marks the 16th consecutive year that Berkeley Optometry has coordinated with VOSH-Connecticut optometrists. Additionally, 8 Berkeley students and 1 doctor provided eye care to special needs children and underprivileged villagers in Vietnam.

**Suitcase Clinic**

UC Berkeley Optometry students provide vision screenings and referrals for free eye exams to the Berkeley community at monthly Suitcase Clinic visits. The General Clinic is the oldest of the Suitcase Clinic’s three drop-in centers targeting low-income and homeless populations in Berkeley, receiving up to fifty patients per night on average. For over twenty years, the General Clinic has been a safe and successful place for homeless individuals to receive medical or other professional services, to pick up hygiene supplies, to talk to a lawyer, or simply chat with Berkeley Optometry students.

**World Sight Day**

This year, Berkeley UCOSA Philanthropy held a social media photo contest in order to raise awareness about World Sight Day and its mission to prevent blindness.

**Hot Meals**

UCOSA Philanthropy partnered with St. Mark's Episcopal Church Hot Meals program to serve dinner to homeless individuals during the Holidays.

**Family Giving Tree**

Students, faculty, and staff participated in a holiday drive to fulfill the holiday wishes of underserved children in the Bay Area. Twenty gifts were donated to the Family Giving Tree.
The Big Give
On November 19, thanks to contributions from students, faculty, alumni, and outside donors, UC Berkeley School of Optometry placed 3rd in UC Berkeley’s annual online fundraising event, The Big Give. Berkeley Optometry won the campus prize for most student contributors!

In addition to participating in annual service programs, UCOSA philanthropy partners with local optometrists, legislators, organizations, and schools to increase access to eye care.

Student Life

The School of Optometry fosters a sense of community amongst both students and faculty.

Eyeball
Organized by the first year optometry class, Eyeball is an annual gala towards the end of the year where students enjoy an evening with friends, significant others, and classmates. In 2015, the school celebrated with a Masquerade at the Waterfront Hotel in Oakland.

Skit Night
Before the end-of-the-year final exams, students, faculty, and professors gather for a relaxing night of humor, talent, and healthy competition. Skit Night is the golden opportunity to poke fun at anyone in the school community, including professors, classes, and students, all in good fun. The night transforms into a pure talent show, that including skits, videos, and songs that embrace the life of an optometrist. Videos of the event can be found on UCOSA’s YouTube account: http://www.youtube.com/user/TheOptoBear

Optometry’s Meeting: Student Bowl
First through third year students compete in a Jeopardy style contest for the chance to represent Berkeley Optometry at Student Bowl, the national competition at AOA’s annual Optometry Meeting. A panel of distinguished faculty members help moderate and judge the event, bringing the whole school together for a night of class rivalry. In 2015, the students cheered on Jennifer Parks, a third year optometry student, as the representative for Berkeley Optometry in Seattle, Washington. In addition, Berkeley students were able to network with doctors and participate in continuing education classes, supplementing knowledge learned in courses.

Rafting Trip
The annual rafting trip is focused on having some fun in the sun while cruising in a 10-12 person raft on the American River in Sacramento. The trip down the mellow rapids is a great way to get to know the classmates better. Popular among all Berkeley optometry students, the rafting trip is a chance to gain insight from upper-class students.

Sib Fest
Sib Fest is an annual tradition where optometry “siblings” have an opportunity to meet one another, while enjoying food, beverages, and games. At the beginning of the year each entering first-year student at Berkeley Optometry is assigned to a big brother or sister who serves as a mentor. Sibs provide valued advice on courses, optometric equipment, and clinical experience. Berkeley Optometry families can be traced back 23 generations!
**Ski Trip**
The yearly trip to Tahoe is a nice reunion for optometry students after Winter Break. Students enjoy the slopes and spend three days in a cabin with all optometry classes.

**Optometric Legislation**

Students are encouraged to participate in local, state, and federal advocacy of the profession. Students have the opportunity to explore local societies, California Optometric Association, and American Optometric Association.

**California Optometric Association: Legislative Days**
In February, Berkeley Optometry headed to Sacramento with Marshall B. Ketchum College of Optometry, Western University College of Optometry, and California optometrists. The students and doctors met with senators and assemblymen to discuss optometry’s role in health care reform. To narrow the provider gap in primary care, optometrists currently monitor patient weight, blood pressure, and provide basic primary care and preventative services in California.

**California Optometric Association: House of Delegates**
In February, Berkeley Optometry students travelled to San Jose to meet with representatives from local societies, the trustees of California Optometric Association, and other student leaders in discussing how California optometrists would fit in the health care exchange.

**American Optometric Association: House of Delegates**
In June, students attended House of Delegates to learn the goals and policy of American Optometric Association. The House discussed thoughts on board certification and continuing education. The event also provided an opportunity for UCOSA members to connect with other student leaders across the country.

**Organized Optometry Kickoff**
During orientation on August 26, incoming first year students were greeted with Top Dog’s finest hot dogs and updates about active optometric legislation. To demonstrate the tripartite levels of optometric advocacy, UCOSA representatives arranged booths with information about local societies, California Optometric Association, and American Optometric Association.

**American Optometric Association Congressional Advocacy Conference**
In the spring, along with hundreds of students and doctors, Berkeley Optometry students visited Washington, D.C. to educate legislators about the role of optometry in primary care. While the conference is usually held in April, the conference was held in a timely manner to meet directly with policymakers before the full implementation of many substantial Affordable Care Act provisions, including the Harkin non-discrimination law and the inclusion of pediatric vision care as an essential health benefit. Optometry students nation-wide also have relayed concerns about the exclusion of optometry students from the National Health Service Corps, a federal loan repayment program for recent graduates who provide healthcare to rural or low-income areas.

**Graduate Assembly**
Two first and one second year optometry students represent the Berkeley Optometry in monthly Graduate Assembly meetings, a forum for graduate students to express concerns, suggestions, and vote on university issues. The Graduate Assembly delegates assist all Berkeley Optometry student groups, UCOSA included, in applying for student group funding. In 2015, the Graduate Assembly helped raise awareness of the Professional Degree Supplemental Tuition increases.

**Professional Development**

To ensure students can achieve career goals, UCOSA has worked to provide student events that introduce students to alumni networks, different applications of optometry, and practice management.

**Bay Area Optometric Council Mentorship Program**
The Bay Area Optometric Council (BAOC) represents and lobbies in the best interest of optometry at a local level. In Fall 2013, Berkeley Optometry students trialed the first mentorship program by pairing selected students with local society doctors. The mentorship program is an outlet for developing a professional relationship in learning how to run a practice and how to be successful in the post-graduate workforce. Many of the volunteering doctors are highly involved in organized optometry and look forward to sharing their experiences with students. As of Fall 2015, the mentorship program continues to spark immense interest in both students and optometrists as there are twice as many mentors and three times as many mentees participating. The program continues to grow and improve with each year as more events are hosted to better foster these relationships.

**Vision Development Club**
The Vision Development Club is a student run organization with the purpose of introducing Berkeley Optometry students to the concept and benefits of vision therapy earlier in their education. The goal is to introduce vision therapy, to inform students how one might integrate vision therapy into a private practice setting, and to give them resources to pursue a future in developmental optometry. This is accomplished through inviting guest speakers, as well as hosting workshops and journal club meetings.

**Optometric Business Management Club**
The Optometric Business Management (OBM) Club’s goal for 2015 was to orient students with the skills required to succeed in the business world upon graduation. OBM set out to accomplish this by welcoming a variety of great speakers throughout 2015. Early in the year, Dr. Justin Bazan from Brooklyn, New York spoke on the benefits of integrating social media into your business strategy. Dr. Matthew Geller traveled from San Diego to discuss how to make a name for yourself, land your dream job, and how to generate income without seeing patients. Andrew Ventura spoke on all things financial, such as how to improve your credit score, recommendations about financial stability in managing your personal/school expenses, and how to financially prepare for buying into or starting your own practice. Mark Gergen, Professor of Law at Boalt, broke down and simplified a common contract that a private practice owner would provide to an associate. Dr. Ryan Parker visited from Oklahoma to share all of his finest practice management tips and demonstrated how to make our exam “The best the patient has ever had.” To close out the year, OBM invited Dana Beards to speak on saving for retirement, both for ourselves and our future employees.
NOSA
NOSA’s mission at Berkeley is to increase the diversity of students within the schools and colleges of optometry as well as to increase patient care of minority populations. NOSA has collaborated with minority healthcare undergraduate organizations to educate them about the field of optometry and the importance of annual eye exams. Additionally, NOSA educates our students in optometric Spanish and Mandarin in order to provide better patient care to these populations. Lastly, within our school, NOSA promotes cultural awareness and the embrace of diversity. NOSA fills an important gap in the organizations within Berkeley Optometry. NOSA promotes Berkeley Optometry and the field of optometry to youth in our local community and helps our students become more culturally sensitive when working with patients in clinic.

Western Regional Conference
This year, Western Regional Conference was held at Berkeley, and was organized by the American Optometric Student Association (AOSA) to provide students with a program filled with educational benefit. With topics ranging from blue light blocking technology and myopia control to personal accounts, attendees were exposed to various groups that shape our profession today. In addition to our presentations, industry and legislative representatives were present to share the latest developments and to share how we are the future leaders and pioneers for our profession. 170 students from Berkeley, Marshall B. Ketchum, and Western attended.

Optometric Professional Development Day (OPDD)
The Admissions & Student Affairs Office and Alumni Relations work with UCOSA in planning an event focused on career development. In 2015, the keynote speaker was Dr. Blake Kuwahara. Dr. Kuwahara is a well-established Berkeley alum and the founder of FOCUS GROUP WEST (FGW), a multi-disciplinary boutique design firm that takes a comprehensive approach to branding and designing for eyewear and fashion companies. Students were also treated to a panel of recent graduates who gave their perspectives on their chosen career paths.

VISION SCIENCE
There are approximately 35-40 graduate students are enrolled in the Vision Science Graduate Group at any given time. Rich diversity in academic backgrounds among its’ members -- including neuroscience, biology, engineering, computer science, psychology, optometry, and others -- is a hallmark of the group.

Admissions
- 37 direct applicants [23 domestic (>100% increase compared to the 2014 application pool) and 14 international], 2 of whom had OD degrees, 1 had a vision focused DVM degree
- 10 applicants from Neuro, Hellen Wills, BioE and Psychology were invited to transfer to VS
- 21 applicants were invited for the March 9-10 Interview Day
• 12 offers of admissions were made in March
• 9 applicants enrolled Fall’15, including 2 applicants with OD and one applicant with a DVM degree
• Average GRE %: 63/66/54
• Average GPA: 3.6

Funding

• $492,571 in T32 Vision Science Training Grant
• $143,20 in Block Grant
• $45,306 in NRT waivers (4 Non Resident Tuition waivers)
• $141,810 in Graduate Division Awards (1 Berkeley, 2 Chancellor's)
• $109,000 in School of Optometry Funds (Sweigert Fund and Morgan Fund)
• $740,484 in CORE Grant (provides research support through 4 modules)
• $114,300 in FSREP (current balance)
• >$11 Million in Vision Science faculty research support funds. Annual NIH support for research for Vision Science Faculty with a primary appointment in the School of Optometry was ~$6 million in the form of 11 R01/Multi-PI/Program Project NIH research grants.

Faculty

• 44 current faculty appointments

Students

• As of December 31, 2015, there were 38 graduate students enrolled in the Vision Science program, six of whom were students with an OD degree.
• The annual student stipend level was increased to $30,000.
• Student awards received: three Ezell Fellowships (Thao Yeh, Taras Litvin, Kavira Ratnam), Phi Beta Kappa Dissertation Fellowship (Elise Piazza), NSF Graduate Research Fellowship (Natalie Stepien), Minnie F. Turner Memorial Fund for Impaired Vision Research Award (Katherine Foote), Thomas C Alber Science & Engineering for Global Health Fellowship (Kalbel Asfaha), two Graduate Research Fellowship NVIDIA and NSF (Brian Cheung), Berkeley Dissertation Fellowship Award (Diane Nava)
• Vision Science students authored 19 papers in 2015.

Degrees Conferred

• Taekjun Kim (Freeman)
• James Gao (Gallant)
• Elise Piazza (Silver, Banks)
• Aaron Sullivan (Fleiszig)
• Tan Truong (Chen)
• Christopher Purington (Klein)
• William Sprague (Banks)
Bay Area Vision Research Day (BAVRD)

BAVRD is an annual one-day conference (free and open to the public), which is hosted and organized entirely by the 2nd year Vision Science graduate students. It is devoted to bringing the vision research community of the San Francisco Bay Area together in order to present and discuss new and exciting findings in the fields of optometry, ophthalmology, visual psychophysics, neuroscience, biology, and computer vision. The 26th annual conference was awarded the Oski Student Leadership Award for Best Program/Event of the Year by the LEAD Center in 2015.

Welcome Picnic

The welcome picnic is an annual event held to welcome the new class of 1st year graduate students to campus, and to introduce them to the VS community. Traditionally the event has been held in Tilden Park, where students, faculty, other researchers and staff barbeque and play lawn games together. This year, the picnic was moved to the Minor Beach (an affectionate moniker for the patio adjoining Minor Hall and Minor Hall Addition) in an effort to increase accessibility. This worked splendidly, and a large group enjoyed mingling, playing “VS Bingo,” and the catering provided by Top Dog.

Weekend Getaway

Another beloved student tradition is the annual weekend getaway, typically planned by the 1st year students. Some past itineraries include biking and camping in Napa and skiing and snowboarding in Tahoe. This year, students travelled to Santa Cruz and enjoyed a relaxing weekend lounging on the beaches and exploring the boardwalk. The program chair and school dean have consistently provided supplementary funds to help subsidize the cost of this trip to graduate students.

Holiday Luncheon

To mark the conclusion of the fall semester and celebrate the holiday season, the Vision Science Club holds a student luncheon. Catering is provided by a local restaurant, and students supply music and seasonal cheer. Unlike the majority of meetings which focus on specific action items, this gathering is centered on celebrating our community and enjoying each other’s company.

Vision Science Retreat

The annual VS retreat marks an important opportunity for students to engage with all of their peers (rather than a particular cohort or lab), as well as their research. All students are invited to give a 5-minute lighting talk, for which prizes are awarded. Postdoctoral scholars and staff often give slightly longer talks detailing their work. The keynote address from a faculty member (a student favorite) intertwines their personal narrative and scientific career with advice for success. The event has many social aspects as well, including a group activity planned by the 1st year class, and a student-faculty poker game.
Visit Days & Buddies

“Visit Days,” is the 3-day period where prospective graduate students are invited to campus to interview with faculty and current students. Vision science students volunteer to serve as “buddies,” for interviewees, shepherding them around campus and providing advice. These relationships often continue throughout one’s graduate career. The current students also host a party for the prospective students, which in recent years has featured homemade eyeball piñatas.

Year-End Celebration Lunch

A new event that first took place in 2015, and is slated to occur again this year, is the year-end celebration lunch. Hosted by the Vision Science Club, this event reflects on the various accomplishments of the closing academic year – honoring the publication of papers, giving of lectures, winning of awards and fellowships, and the most recent class of graduates. This provides a forum for students and faculty to reflect on the fruits of their labor and celebrate their accomplishments.