THROUGH THE EYES OF A CHILD— PEDIATRIC VISION CARE
Optometry has made enormous strides over the last thirty years, and it continues to be the most dynamic healthcare profession today. California Senate Bill 1406 is increasing access to affordable, quality eye care by allowing the state’s optometrists to manage and fully treat patients with glaucoma, and Berkeley Optometry is providing the education optometrists need to be certified. But where does the profession go next? While challenges exist, opportunities abound.

Some might argue that the time is right to push for additional expansion in the scope of practice. However, any further gains would be hard fought, and one wonders whether they would be worth the political and financial costs. A different perspective is that now is the time to consolidate our hard-earned gains and focus our legislative efforts on providing access to affordable, quality eye care in California. President Obama’s Healthcare Reform Bill provides some important impetus for this:

- The bill establishes a federal standard of provider nondiscrimination for all health benefit plans, including self-insured ERISA plans. “No health plan or insurer may discriminate against any health provider acting within the scope of that provider’s license or certification under applicable state law.”
- It designates children’s vision care as an essential health benefit.
- It recognizes the importance of vision care in school-based health clinics.
- The bill does not disrupt existing health coverage, including stand-alone vision plans.
- It provides a new emphasis on the preferred “healthcare home” model of patient-centered care, which fully recognizes optometry and the importance of direct access to an optometrist.
- It exempts eyeglasses and contact lenses from a 2.9 percent medical device excise tax, and it exempts the cost of vision benefits from the calculation of a new excise tax on high-cost “Cadillac” health plans.

Given the changing demographics of our state, perhaps we should consider putting our California legislative efforts into laws that reinforce the federal statute and ensure patients can go where they choose for quality eye care, that children receive eye exams prior to starting public school (fulfilling President Jimmy Carter’s challenge to optometry), and that protect the state’s aging and underserved by facilitating optometric services in community health centers.

At Berkeley Optometry we continue to make an impact on the world through excellence in optometric education and research, and by reaching out to provide quality eye care. I look forward to hearing from you and always welcome your thoughts at dlevi@berkeley.edu.
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Our progress in raising funds to strengthen our school.
Merton Clyde Flom passed away February 14, 2010, of heart failure. Born August 19, 1926, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, to Samuel Jacob and Marie Flom, Mert and his family moved to the west coast when he was ten. He graduated from Los Angeles High School, served in the Navy in World War II (in Guam), and attended UCLA and UC Berkeley, ultimately receiving an optometry degree and a PhD in vision science.

At Berkeley, Mert received support from an Ezell Fellowship and a grant from the American Academy of Optometry. As Berkeley Optometry’s first faculty member to receive funding from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), Mert continued to receive NIH support for twenty-five years, primarily for his research on binocular vision, strabismus, and amblyopia. During his twenty-nine years at Berkeley, Mert indulged his passion for teaching as an instructor for vision science and clinical optometry courses. Known as a superb educator and mentor of graduate students, Mert also cared for patients in teaching clinics and private practice. He left Berkeley to develop the graduate program at the University of Houston’s College of Optometry.

Active as a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry, Mert was editor of the Academy’s journal and chair of its editorial council; he also served on the Academy’s executive council for sixteen years and as president for two years. Mert’s consuming interest in developing new leaders led to the Academy’s Leadership InSight program.

Recognitions from the American Academy of Optometry included Fellowship; Honorary Diplomat of the Section on Binocular Vision, Perception and Pediatric Optometry; the Eminent Service Award; the Prentice Medal for distinguished research in vision science; and Life Membership. Mert also received an honorary doctorate from SUNY, the Glenn Fry Medal from OSU, and Alumnus of the Year and the inaugural Mert Flom Teaching Award from the Optometry Alumni Association of UC. He was inducted into both the Berkeley and National Optometry Halls of Fame. The Merton Flom Ezell Fellowship Fund was established in his honor by the American Optometric Foundation to support training in vision science and leadership.

After retiring to Tucson, Arizona, Mert enjoyed presenting occasional lectures, publishing his research, and viewing the Catalina Mountains outside his window. Mert was defined by his ability to instantly engage with new people; his insatiable curiosity; and his energy for investigating and exploring ideas with colleagues, family, and almost everyone he met. Friends and colleagues recall his love of food, jazz, and animals; his keen focus; his championing of “underdogs”; his commitment to social justice; his generosity in teaching and mentoring; and his ultimate optimism.
The PhotoBooth Project

More than 3,000 students, alumni, faculty, parents, friends, and staff have taken part in the “Thanks to Berkeley...” PhotoBooth project—a unique visual expression of the many individuals who make up the Cal community. We’ve displayed a sampling of the photos and quotations of the Berkeley Optometry community here. The full collection can be viewed online at the Campaign for Berkeley website (campaign.berkeley.edu). This site is also the main source for campaign information, including giving opportunities for the School of Optometry.

This project will continue for the next four years. We encourage all members of the Berkeley Optometry community to step into the PhotoBooth to add their “Thanks to Berkeley...”
Optometric Student Association Partners with Chancellor to Create $500,000 Endowment for Student Support

President Britta Hansen of the University of California Optometric Student Association remarked to her fellow students and incoming class of 2014, “Most presidents inherit a deficit … As UCOSA president, I inherited a significant surplus! A surplus that was planned and earned through fundraisers such as the Berkeley Study Guide, the Grad Fund, clothing sales, and class dues for the past many years.”

Concerned about the large sum of money UCOSA was accumulating and wanting it to benefit students directly, Britta and UCOSA Treasurer Jessica Inman met with the Development Office. With the increasing cost of education, UCOSA loved the Development Office’s idea of buying into the endowment. The Student Association contributed $250,000, which the Chancellor matched as part of the “Chancellor’s Challenge.” Investing the $500,000 in the UC Berkeley Endowment and tagging it for student aid increases awards for Berkeley Optometry students. Britta concluded, “I encourage my classmates to thank your mentors who are UCB graduates for their donations, and let them know that UCOSA has been making good decisions with their money.”

Positive Economic News for Berkeley Optometry

Dean Levi convinced the campus to drop the Administrative Full Costing tax on clinic revenue—and that’s not the only good news! Through the Graduate Division Named Fund Initiative and Chancellor’s matched endowments, which enable faculty members to establish new endowment funds to support optometry and vision science graduate students, Berkeley Optometry faculty and friends have created fifty-one named support funds. These will ultimately provide about $800,000 in new student support endowment funds.

2009 William C. Ezell Fellowships

The following Berkeley Optometry vision science students have been honored with Ezell fellowships:

**Alcon Foundation Ezell Fellow: Aleksandra Polosukhina, BSc, PhD candidate.** Research focus: restoring light sensitivity to blind mice using an AAQ photoswitch molecule

**Bausch & Lomb Ezell Fellow: Yang (Kaccie) Li, BSc, PhD candidate.** Research focus: control of mechanical systems, adaptive optics, aberation theory

**Essilor Ezell Fellow: Nicole Putnam, MS, PhD candidate.** Research focus: high-resolution imaging of the human foveula with adaptive optics scanning laser ophthalmoscopy (AOSLO)

Faculty Funding and Awards

Our faculty received a substantial increase in research funding through the federal stimulus package, and they continue to win awards and recognition. Professor Austin Roorda was recognized for his current research as the recipient of the American Academy of Optometry’s Glenn A. Fry Award at its November 2009 annual meeting in Orlando.

At the American Optometric Association’s annual meeting in June 2010 (also in Orlando), Professor Suzanne Fleiszig received the Dr. Donald R. Korb Award for Excellence, recognizing her innovation and leadership in the field of contact lenses and anterior segment disease, specifically the pathogenesis of contact lens related corneal infection.

Dean Levi announced Professor Xiaohua Gong as the first holder of the Pamela and Kenneth Fong Chair in Optometry and Healthcare. Dr. Gong is a molecular geneticist whose research focuses on the mechanisms underlying the development and diseases of the eye. Pursuing primary vision problems common in the Greater China region (cataracts, retinal degeneration, and diabetic retinopathy), Dr. Gong’s teaching and research contributions fit the criteria for the Fong Chair perfectly.

2009 Alumni Trip to China

Alumni and spouses enjoyed twenty days together in China seeing the Great Wall, TerracottaWarriors, Summer Palace, Forbidden City, Three Gorges Dam, Beijing, Xian, Temple of Heaven, Shanghai, Guilin, Yangshuo, 2008 Olympic sights, Hong Kong, and both a Yangtze and Li River cruise.

Berkeley Optometry History Project

After more than three years of effort, Berkeley Optometry’s historian/archivist John Fiorillo has completed a comprehensive, illustrated hardcover book on our school’s history. The book includes a discussion of early optometry and offers a fascinating look at the sixteen-year effort to establish a curriculum in optometry at Berkeley in 1923. Subsequent chapters paint an entertaining and illuminating portrait of the significant events, leaders, and contributions of our school from its inception until the present. Check your e-mail for ordering information.
Admissions
Of 274 applicants for the Class of 2014, 121 were interviewed. Sixty-eight new optometry students enrolled for fall 2010. For those admitted, the average Optometry Admissions Test (OAT) Academic Average was 352; average GPA for science courses was 3.48.

This year Berkeley Optometry participated in the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO) centralized application service, OptomCAS, which offers applicants an efficient and convenient way to apply to multiple optometry programs using a single web-based application. This eliminates the need for duplicate transcripts and letters of recommendation and also provides a real-time tool for applicants to check the status of their applications.

White Coat Ceremony for Second-Year Students
Berkeley Optometry held its sixth White Coat Ceremony at the end of the spring semester. The enhanced curriculum, which provides second-year students with significant patient care experience, results in a true milestone when the students reach their third year. This passage was marked by the White Coat Ceremony held on May 21, 2010, which was highlighted by the presentation of a white clinic jacket (provided by Alcon) to each student and a group recitation of the Optometric Oath.

Academy of Optometry Comes to San Francisco
In conjunction with the Academy meetings in San Francisco this fall, we’re planning the following Berkeley Optometry events. All alumni and guests are invited, regardless of whether you are attending the Academy.

Wednesday, November 17th
5:00 PM–7:00 PM: Berkeley Optometry Open House
7:00 PM–10:00 PM: Dean Emeritus Tony Adams retires and we will help him celebrate his 70th birthday, Bancroft Hotel, 2680 Bancroft Way, Berkeley

Friday, November 19th
7:00 PM–9:00 PM: Alumni reception at Jillian’s Restaurant, 101 4th St., San Francisco

Saturday, November 20th
10:30 AM–12:30 PM: Big Game tailgate on Minor Plaza; register at www.acteva.com/go/optometry.
12:30 PM: Kickoff, Cal vs. Stanford, Memorial Stadium

Sunday, November 21st
8:30 AM–5:00 PM: Translational Research Conference: Technological Advances and the Changing Face of Ocular Diagnosis and Therapy—Bringing Translational Research to Clinicians, presented at Stanford Hall; details and registration at optometry.berkeley.edu/bcsdp-conference.html.

Graduation with Style!
Optometry and vision science graduation ceremonies were held on Minor Plaza Saturday, May 22, 2010. Under an elegant tent replete with blue and gold accents, we honored sixty new Doctors of Optometry and three new Doctors of Philosophy in Vision Science. Graduates and attendees enjoyed faculty speaker Dr. Robert Greer and student speaker (newly minted) Dr. Joy Ohara. We were also thrilled to host three guest speakers: Dr. Susan Muller of the Graduate Division, who conferred the PhD degrees; Dr. Harue Marsden, president of the California Optometric Association, who led the Optometric Oath; and Dr. Timothy Jankowski, honored alumnus (’80) and chair of the VSP board of directors, who offered words of wisdom to the new OD graduates.

Opto-Camp
Berkeley Optometry’s Admissions and Student Affairs Office (ASAO) launched Opto-Camp in 2006, which makes 2010 the fifth year of operation! Opto-Camp’s goals are to introduce underrepresented prehealth science majors to optometry as a career and to prepare them to be successful applicants to optometry school.

Housed in student dormitories, Opto-Campers spend three days attending lectures, touring the facilities, meeting optometry faculty and students, and receiving a free eye exam. Current first-year students are their counselors and companions. Opto-Camp is offered in June and July, and thirty campers are invited to join each session. While in the past Opto-Camp has been free for campers, this year funding challenges required a $125 fee to help cover costs. We awarded eight scholarships (four per session) to help cover the program fee for those with financial need. Of the sixty campers who attended the 2010 camps (from ninety-three applications), thirty-five are first-generation college students, five are African-American, and thirteen are Mexican-American/Latino. Average family income was $50,000, and average GPA was 3.35.

With over 200 camp alumni, we have begun to see Opto-Camp’s impact. The Class of 2013 has eleven Opto-Camp alumni, and the incoming Class of 2014 includes nine who attended the program. With a 60% questionnaire response rate from attendees from 2006 to 2008, 51% are attending optometry schools and 40% are in the application process. We plan to continue our long-term tracking to gauge the success of Opto-Camp as a pipeline for the profession. Other OD programs are now using Opto-Camp as a model: Illinois College of Optometry, Ohio State University College of Optometry, and Pacific University College of Optometry. We are sharing materials freely and comparing our results.

Fourth-year student Lernik Mesropian meets Assemblymember Dr. Ed Hernandez at the COA Day in March 2010.
Maggie never complained about her vision. She didn’t see well up close, but she assumed everyone saw as she did. She passed her vision screening at her school, and her pediatrician saw nothing abnormal in her headaches. But her inability to focus made learning to read far more difficult, and she soon fell behind the rest of her class. It wasn’t long before even her friends labeled her “stupid.” Her teachers placed her in remedial programs, all to no avail. When Maggie came to the Meredith W. Morgan University of California Eye Center, it was because she had tried on a classmate’s glasses out of curiosity and asked if her friend had an extra pair she could borrow. As it turned out, Maggie was extremely farsighted. Even distance vision required effort, but for a short period like a vision screening at distance, she could tell which way the “big E” pointed. At near she could not see well at all, despite considerable effort. Maggie was lucky—she was seen in the Berkeley Optometry clinic while still in second grade, and with her vision corrected she quickly caught up to the rest of her class. Her condition was a simple one (seen by optometrists all too frequently), and it was easily corrected with glasses. Many children are not so fortunate and require complex diagnoses and treatment plans. Berkeley Optometry has developed several clinics dedicated to diagnosing and treating younger patients, including those with formidable vision challenges. This article describes these clinics and provides examples of the patients they see.
It is both widely held and a huge misconception that children who do not exhibit obvious vision problems or are not referred for exams after a school screening do not need a comprehensive eye examination. School screenings, while often detecting children who are myopic (nearsighted), frequently miss the hyperopic (farsighted) child. Many hyperopic children are able to focus for distance viewing but have difficulty with near tasks. President Jimmy Carter, at the 2002 American Optometric Association meeting in New Orleans, challenged the optometric profession to educate the public regarding the importance of early comprehensive eye examinations in children. Two of his grandchildren suffered from curable vision conditions (amblyopia) that were undetected early in their life. (See “Dean’s Message” regarding possible future legislation in this area.) Berkeley Optometry’s Meredith W. Morgan University of California Eye Center provides state-of-the-art eye care and treatment for vision-related conditions in both children and adults, with special facilities for testing and treating very young children. A child coming to the Morgan Eye Center may be seen in a variety of clinics, depending on the age of the child and the reason for the examination as well as any prior eye and vision-related conditions. These specialty clinics include the binocular vision clinic, the low vision clinic, the pediatric care/children’s eye clinic, the infant/toddler/preschooler clinic, the electrodiagnostic and vision functions clinic, and the special visual assessment clinic. The child may be referred by other practitioners inside or outside the school, by teachers of the visually impaired, by school psychologists, or by occupational therapists; or the parents may bring the child directly.

**BINOCULAR VISION (BV) CLINIC**

This clinic cares for patients of all ages with binocular vision anomalies, including strabismus (a condition in which the eyes are not properly aligned with each other) and amblyopia (also known as lazy eye, a disorder of the visual system characterized by poor or indistinct vision in an eye that is otherwise physically normal), and exams provide complete assessments and treatment for these disorders. Vision therapy sessions are also provided for those who have binocular vision disorders. In addition, patients with head injury and those who have suffered strokes are evaluated in this clinic. Children with learning difficulties and reading problems are often evaluated for binocular vision anomalies as well as perceptual skills, and appropriate recommendations are given for treatment. Dr. Pia Hoenig ’89 heads the clinic, which is also staffed by Drs. Karen Chester ’87, Debora Lee ’08, and Nina Tran ’06. Most of the patients in this clinic are school-age children with binocular vision problems and/or reading problems. A representative case of a child seen in this clinic follows.

**BINOCULAR VISION CASE STUDY**

AF, a six-year-old boy, was referred to the binocular vision clinic by a local optometrist, who (on school screening) had found bilaterally reduced acuity, a variable/alternating inward eye turn (esotropia), and anomalous eye movements. At age four, AF had received glasses with a Bangerter filter (translucent occluder) to be worn over the left eye in order to strengthen the right eye. When the glasses were not worn, the left eye was patched as treatment for strabismic anisometropic amblyopia.

AF’s head habitually turned to the right. Ocular motility testing showed an inward eye turn. His eye movements were significantly restricted, with the right eye able to move only from near the nose to almost straight ahead but no further. The boy was diagnosed with right Duane’s retraction syndrome (a rare, congenital eye-movement disorder that involves incorrect “wiring” of the eye muscles, causing some muscles to contract when they shouldn’t and other eye muscles not to contract when they should) and occlusion amblyopia in the left eye (caused by his preferred eye being patched). He disliked fixating with his right eye, because his limited ocular motility in that eye caused text to jump when he attempted to look to his right.

The clinic optometrist removed the Bangerter filter and told AF to wear his glasses full time. No patching was recommended. When AF returned after a few months, his visual acuity in one eye had improved, but the other eye’s acuity had worsened. The doctors advised that he continue to wear his glasses, without patching, due to his right eye’s extremely limited motility. In his latest exam the acuity of both eyes was near normal. He continues to have a small inward eye turn, and his head still turns to the right. The prognosis for this child is expected to be stable.

**LOW VISION (LV) CLINIC**

While the low vision clinic primarily treats adults with severely reduced vision, many children are also seen, with most referred by outside sources. If a visually impaired child is verbal and can communicate effectively, the child will be referred to the low vision clinic. However, if the child has other disabilities in addition to the visual impairment and perhaps also communication problems, that child will be referred to the special visual assessment clinic.

The low vision clinic evaluates the refractive correction and vision function of patients and prescribes the appropriate optical and non-optical low vision devices. Clinic staff also teach patients how to use low vision devices that are prescribed. Counseling by a rehabilitation specialist is also available. Dr. Robert Greer ’92 is the chief of the low vision clinic, and Drs. Ian Bailey and Selma Chin ’91 also see patients. A case of a child recently seen in this clinic is described next.
LOW VISION CASE STUDY

KG, eleven years old, was referred to the low vision clinic. Her reduced vision was due to cortical visual impairment (CVI). KG’s parents and teacher accompanied her to the exam. Because print size decreases throughout grade school, the purpose of the visit was to provide spectacles that would help KG read smaller print.

KG’s best-corrected distance visual acuity was 20/300 in each eye; she was classified as legally blind. At near, KG consistently held reading material 6 inches (15 cm) away, where she was able to read 48-point Verdana (approximately 6 mm) print. With a +9.00 spectacle add, she was able to read 28-point print at this distance. Testing confirmed difficulty focusing up close, so clinic optometrists recommended that KG wear strong reading spectacles to assist her reduced accommodative ability. Although this enabled KG to read smaller print, we continued to recommend that she use a video magnifier to read normal-size print and also use auditory methods to access text. The prognosis for this child is expected to be stable with no further deterioration of vision function.

PRIMARY CARE/CHILDREN’S EYE CLINIC

Most children who come in for routine eye exams are examined in the primary care/children's eye clinic. On weekends, two faculty members with special expertise to see children are assigned, Drs. Sarah Fisher ‘95 and Sara Frane ‘96. Weekends are a popular time to bring in children of school age, because the children don’t have to miss school and the appointments are easier for working parents to keep. A child recently seen in this clinic is described below.

INFANT/TODDLER/PRESCHOOLER (ITP) CLINIC

The infant/toddler/preschooler clinic provides comprehensive assessment of visual function for infants, toddlers, and some children up to six years of age. Patients in this clinic may have strabismus or ocular disorders, or they may need only a routine eye exam. This clinic has the appropriate testing equipment for measuring vision function in young children, including infants. Doctors use techniques and handheld instruments appropriate to the patient to assess refractive error, binocular vision, visual acuity, contrast sensitivity, color vision, stereopsis, visual fields, and ocular health. Deborah Orel-Bixler, OD ‘93, PhD ‘89, is the chief of ITP, and Dr. Sarah Fisher ’95 is the other faculty member. A child recently seen in this clinic is described below.

INFANT/TODDLER/PRESCHOOLER CASE STUDY

JR was referred to the ITP clinic at the age of two years eight months by his preschool teachers, who noted that he held everything very close to his eyes and didn’t attend to activities going on in the classroom. JR was born prematurely at 25 weeks gestation. He had bilateral laser surgery for retinopathy of prematurity. He

Lea chart acuity was 20/100 in each eye, which is reduced by at least a factor of 3 from normal. EB did not show any strabismus (eye turn) at any time during the examination. He was found to have a high farsighted refractive error (+8.00 DS).

The attending doctor prescribed glasses to be worn full time, and the parents were asked to bring EB back to the clinic in three to four months to monitor their son’s progress. The parents were surprised and distressed by this news, and the attending doctor provided her e-mail address in case the parents had questions after leaving the clinic.

The following week the parents made appointments with a local pediatric ophthalmologist and neurologist, both of whom suggested it was possible that glasses were not needed. Following these appointments, the parents sent a number of e-mails asking whether glasses might make the eyes weaker, and whether it would be better to allow their son to outgrow the farsightedness without glasses. The e-mail communication (which was considerable) was the primary factor in determining whether this child was going to receive glasses. While the child is the patient, the parents are the gatekeepers for treatment. If the parents’ concerns had not been considered as seriously as the child’s optometric needs, glasses might have been withheld. In the end, EB received glasses and now refuses to take them off, even in the bathtub. The prognosis for EB is good—a normal childhood with continued eye care and prescription wear. EB may be a good candidate for contact lenses when he gets older.
did not wear glasses. Retinoscopy indicated high myopia (nearsightedness) and anisometropia (difference in refractive error between the two eyes): right eye -7.50 DS, left eye -11.75 DS. Without glasses he was only in focus at a distance of 5 inches for the right eye and 3.3 inches for the left eye.

Glasses were prescribed for full-time wear. After wearing his glasses full time for six months, Jr returned to the clinic for follow-up. His mother and teachers were delighted with his improvement in attending to preschool classroom activities. Jr’s visual acuity with correction was 20/126 with his right eye and 20/166 with his left eye. His contrast sensitivity and color vision were within normal limits. Because he would only be able to see the 20/200 line on a regular visual acuity chart, he is still considered legally blind due to retinopathy of prematurity as well as bilateral refractive amblyopia. We anticipate some improvement of his visual acuity with continued spectacle wear.

**VISION FUNCTIONS CASE STUDY**

CM is an eight-year-old girl referred to the clinic because her local optometrist found retinal changes on a routine eye exam. She can see in the dark but takes a long time to adapt. She has several siblings with no reported problems and no family history of vision loss. She reports seeing well. Uncorrected distance visual acuity was near normal in each eye. She has normal visual fields on Goldmann testing. Dark adaptation of the right eye was measured and showed significantly delayed adaptation with sensitivity reduced by approximately 4 log units (10,000 times) after 35 minutes in the dark. Her electoretinogram (ERG) showed abnormal rod cells (the photoreceptor cells primarily responsible for night vision) but normal cone cells (photoreceptor cells that function best in relatively bright light and gradually become sparser toward the periphery of the retina; they are less sensitive to light than rod cells and allow the perception of color). Fundus photos showed small white dots throughout the fundus. She was diagnosed with fundus albipunctatus. Patients with this disorder eventually attain normal dark-adapted thresholds. The prognosis for fundus albipunctatus is generally favorable as it is not expected to produce progressive visual loss. This patient was returned to the referring optometrist for follow-up care.

**SPECIAL VISUAL ASSESSMENT CLINIC (SVAC)**

The special visual assessment clinic provides an extensive assessment of the visual abilities of individuals who have physical and/or cognitive impairments and cannot participate in the testing procedures commonly used in Berkeley Optometry’s other clinics. This clinic serves individuals from birth through adulthood. Most patients are school-aged children with cerebral palsy and seizure disorders, but older adults with strokes and communic-
tion problems are also seen. The clinic provides complete eye and vision examinations, including an assessment of refractive error, binocular vision, vision function, and ocular health. Both behavioral and objective (visual evoked potential—VEP) techniques are used to assess visual acuity, contrast sensitivity, color vision, and visual fields. The goals of this clinic are to provide parents, guardians, teachers, and physical and occupational therapists with information regarding the individual’s visual capabilities and to offer optical, educational, and other adaptive recommendations. About 73% of the patients who are seen qualify as legally blind, 60% are nonverbal, and 50% are nonmobile. Young children with visual impairments and unusual ocular conditions, such as rod monochromacy, cone dystrophies, or Usher’s syndrome (a relatively rare genetic disorder that is a leading cause of deaf-blindness), are also seen in SVAC. Deborah Orel-Bixler, OD ’93, PhD ’89, is the chief of this clinic; I also treat patients in this clinic.

**SPECIAL VISUAL ASSESSMENT CLINIC CASE STUDY**

TR is a seven-year-old girl who came to the SVAC exam with her adoptive mother and her teacher of the visually impaired. TR was born a triplet who had been exposed to cocaine and methamphetamine in utero. She and her two brothers were placed in foster care. At the age of three, while visiting her biological family, TR was the only survivor of a serious car accident that killed her brothers and several adults. She suffered significant head trauma and had multiple surgeries. She has a seizure disorder and takes medications. She is mobile, somewhat verbal, and mildly developmentally delayed. She had been seen regularly at a local medical center. She had no glasses and had not had any operations on her eyes. She was referred to us because of her difficulties seeing materials in the classroom.

Measurements of her visual acuity showed a 6 times reduction from normal at distance and 13 times from normal at near. At close distances she was considered legally blind. Binocular evaluation showed a large right exotropia (outward eye turn) and small vertical eye turn. She had no vertical eye movements and limited horizontal movements. Her pupils were unequal in size and fixed, with no response to light. We diagnosed bilateral third nerve paresis, which was worse on the left side. She had no accommodative (focusing) ability and had bilateral refractive amblyopia. She also had a moderate farsighted refractive error. Since the accident she had been blurred at all distances but particularly at near, where she could not focus at all. We corrected her refractive error and gave her extra power for near in a bifocal set bisecting the pupil because of her very limited vertical eye movements.

After nine months of wearing her glasses, her visual acuity on the Lea chart was near normal (20/35) binocularly at distance and also binocularly at near through the add (20/25). She is progressing in school. Our recommendations include placing educational material on a typing stand at a distance of 30 cm (the bifocal add). We also recommended tinted glasses for outside to decrease glare, because her pupils do not change in response to light. We anticipate some further slight improvement of her visual acuity. She is now functioning well in the school environment.

“Patch glasses” make testing fun.
Pam Adams Student Diversity Support Fund, the Dr. Stanley Pearle One Sight Scholarship, the Vistakon Eye Health Advisor Student Citizenship Scholarship, and the School of Optometry Leadership and Service Award. Pam hopes to Beta Sigma Kappa Optometric Honor Society. She has received the Tony and her interest in optometry. Returning to California, Pam worked at a private providers could make a difference (Thailand has few optometrists) strengthened her interest in optometry. Returning to California, Pam worked at a private optometric practice to experience the profession’s business side.

Pam’s experiences overseas fueled her passion for philanthropy. In her first year at Berkeley Optometry she returned to Thailand on a VOSH trip, where she helped provide eye exams for the residents of rural Ratchaburi Province. In her second year Pam was elected UCOSA Philanthropy Chair, running the Berkeley Suitcase Clinic, coordinating Save Your Vision Day on campus, and acting as a liaison between the school and the heads of local health fairs. Pam is currently vice president for the Class of 2011 and a member of the Beta Sigma Kappa Optometric Honor Society. She has received the Tony and Elna Adams Student Diversity Support Fund, the Dr. Stanley Pearle One Sight Scholarship, the Vistakon Eye Health Advisor Student Citizenship Scholarship, and the School of Optometry Leadership and Service Award. Pam hopes to pursue a contact lens and cornea residency after graduation.

Sonia was born and raised in Mountain View, CA. Her father and grandparents were immigrants from the Philippines. In high school, conversations with her optometrist (Ronald Seger ’74) sparked her interest in optometry. During her adolescence her grandfather progressively lost his eyesight to glaucoma; this experience compelled her to find a way to help those like him. Sonia graduated from UC San Diego, where she became involved with the pre-optometry club. She enjoyed helping people through opportunities such as screening San Diego preschoolers’ vision, teaching weekly chair yoga classes to senior citizens, and spending time with orphaned children in Tijuana, Mexico.

Sonia spent her junior year abroad in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where she indulged her love for Spanish, studying Latin American literature and culture. Using her Spanish skills, she helped lead the VOSH trip to Peru in her first semester at Berkeley Optometry. She also taught ESL classes at the Day Workers Center of Mountain View (DWCMV), where she committed herself to bringing vision care to uninsured day laborers. She pursued an Albert Schweitzer Fellowship to enable her to create her own community service project. Sonia is grateful to have been chosen as the first optometry student to become a Bay Area Schweitzer Fellow, and she looks forward to bringing eye care to the underserved and fulfilling her promise to DWCMV.

Sheena was born and raised in Manhattan, Kansas, to parents who immigrated from India. Her father pursued his PhD at Kansas State University, where he is now a professor of microbiology. Sheena graduated from K-State in 2007 with a BS in biology and minors in leadership studies and women’s studies.

Sheena had always planned to work in healthcare but had trouble deciding on a field. During a fortuitous week in the fall of her senior year, she learned about the aging process of the eye in a biology class and the optics of the eye in physics. This opened up a new career option for Sheena; after shadowing optometrists in town, she decided to apply to optometry school.

Sheena continues to pursue leadership opportunities: she served as class secretary her first year at Berkeley Optometry and as class president her second and third years. She actively promotes the school as an ambassador and by volunteering at many school events.

In 2010–11 Sheena will attend externships at VA medical hospitals in Sacramento, CA, and Albuquerque, NM, which she hopes will prepare her for a residency in ocular disease. Although Sheena loves the ambiance and variety of foods available in the Berkeley area, eventually she plans to return to the Midwest to open or join a private practice providing quality patient care and education. She also wants to be active in optometric organizations and find ways to provide services for patients without access to eye care.

Greg Wingren had no idea what career he wanted to pursue, but his first three weeks of general chemistry convinced him it wouldn’t be in the sciences or health professions. Graduating UCLA with a BA in anthropology, Greg first worked as a manager for Cal’s outdoor adventure program. Interested in a more academic profession, Greg transitioned to a career evaluating local, state, and national education and health service programs. Although he enjoyed the analytical aspect of education research, he knew that as he progressed the interpersonal interactions he enjoyed would diminish. Optometry, he discovered, is a profession that positively impacts communities, is analytical, and maintains high levels of one-on-one interaction. It seemed to be a good enough fit for Greg to reevaluate his previous aversion to science coursework. In fact, he gained enough mastery of the material to teach a general chemistry lab.

In his first year at Berkeley Optometry Greg worked with the admissions office to develop an evaluative group activity for the application process. He designed the activity and its evaluation criteria to assess traits that are important in the profession of optometry yet are underreported using traditional admissions criteria. Greg has also served as the Class of 2013 equipment chair, volunteered on the VOSH Peru mission, received a 2010 NEI T35 research grant, and was recognized for his contributions with a 2010 Berkeley Optometry Service Award.
Berkeley Optometry’s Humanitarian Efforts Around the Globe

In 1989, students established a Berkeley chapter of Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity (VOSH). Their first chapter mission was on the Philippine island of Negros Occidental in May of that year, where they screened approximately 3,000 patients. That experience was followed by many other VOSH missions around the world, from Central and South America to Asia and Africa. Tens of thousands of villagers and residents of remote rural areas have been served by our intrepid student and faculty volunteers. The first two parts of this article describe recent VOSH missions to Kenya and Peru.

The third part of the article chronicles the role that Berkeley Optometry, and specifically Dean Emeritus Jay Enoch, played in establishing the Elite School of Optometry in India, which has celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary.

VOSH Kenya, May 23–June 6, 2009
By Kim T. Nguyen ’11

The VOSH Kenya team traveled 9,500 miles to a completely different continent, not knowing what to expect. The adventurous group consisted of seven Berkeley Optometry students, three students from the Southern California College of Optometry, optometrists Drs. Robert Rosa and Beverly Smith, and six church volunteers. By the end of an eye-opening two weeks, the team performed over 900 eye exams, providing over 300 patients with prescription glasses and most with new sunglasses. Some patients were also treated for eye infections, dry eyes, and inflammation. But the students received much more than they gave, learning about Kenyan culture and bonding with orphaned children.

Bubbling with anticipation after three long plane rides to Nairobi, the team had another three-hour bus ride to Nakuru, during which they took in Kenya’s lush green landscapes and smiling faces. Their first stop was ROHI Children’s Organization, a Kenyan-run school and orphanage. ROHI (which means “the Lord is my shepherd”) is home to 300 orphaned, abandoned, or destitute children. The team was impressed with the school’s primary and high-school facilities, self-sustaining farmland and animals, and friendly students and staff. The ROHI students were extremely cooperative, bright, engaging, and fun—especially when they were modeling their new sunglasses. We also gave vision exams to the ROHI staff, the local villagers, and the students’ guardians.
From there the team traveled to the Mission in Action (MIA) orphanage. Established by Australians Mary and Ivan Budulica, MIA is home to forty children, ranging from several months to four years in age. The team fell in love with the adorable, well-behaved children and gave them the finger puppets they used during the exams. By the time they left, the team felt like part of the family.

The last group of patients the VOSH team examined resided at a local landfill known as “The Hilton.” A local school served as the clinic site, and a local church provided translators—most of the patients did not speak English. Unlike the orphanages, where English is taught at an early age, the people at the local landfill spoke only Swahili. This was a new challenge for the optometry students and optometrists, but they managed to learn quite a few Swahili phrases.

After five long days of clinic, the team took in a safari visit to the Maasai Mara, seeing giraffes, elephants, and cheetahs up close and personal. The team also visited a bead factory created especially to help single mothers. The girls came away with beautiful jewelry and the guys had one-of-a-kind gifts to bring back.

The trip was memorable, enabling the students to experience a completely new culture as well as help so many Kenyans improve their vision and eye health. As a joint VOSH trip with optometry students from both Berkeley and SCCO, the students enjoyed bonding and teaching each other new techniques. The attending doctors were eager not only to help the patients but also to teach the students. The two doctors, ten students, and six volunteers built a terrific and spirited vision-screening team. As one of the Kenyans pointed out after watching the first day of clinic, “It is easy to put a group together, but it takes hard work, open minds, and a collective purpose to work as a team.”

Carrying a suspicious-looking olive green duffle bag through Lima International Airport, Greg Wingren was immediately flagged for additional screening by customs officials. When asked why he was bringing over 500 pairs of glasses into Peru, he proudly announced in the best Spanish he could muster that “these glasses are watches for the people of Peru!” His Spanish was rusty—he couldn’t think of the correct word for donation and figured “gift” would be close enough, but somehow “reloj” (watch) slipped out instead of the proper word, “regalo.” The official looked at him quizzically, looked at the duffel, turned to her partner and said, “donaciones,” signed a form, and sent Greg on his way. Thankfully, he had a week to improve his language skills before seeing patients during the three clinic days in the outskirts of Lima.

Other volunteers on the January 2010 VOSH mission to Peru had similar awkward encounters as they transported nearly 3,000 spectacles and sunglasses into the country. The trip was organized primarily by Berkeley VOSH president Scott Bartlett, who relied on his experiences as a volunteer on a VOSH trip to rural Panama his second year. For the Peru trip, Scott worked extensively with the Lima Lions Club to select sites, advertise clinic days to the local communities, and coordinate Peruvian optometry student volunteers—offering a unique opportunity for cultural exchange.

Fourteen Berkeley Optometry students and four optometrists provided three clinic days in Cieneguilla and Manchay, two impoverished communities about an hour outside the Lima city center. Every morning, as the volunteers arrived at the local schools that served as clinic sites, they were greeted by people from the community who had lined up long before their arrival. The group provided comprehensive exams to about 1,000 patients, implementing a team approach to
care—patients moved through stations where volunteers checked visual acuities, performed retinoscopy and trial frame refractions, examined patients’ ocular health, and dispensed glasses.

Patient interactions allowed student volunteers to sharpen their clinical skills and exposed them to conditions they had never encountered. All volunteers brought knowledge from their clinical coursework as well as experience in Bay Area vision screenings such as Berkeley’s weekly Suitcase Clinic. But the volume of patients seen in Peru demanded that clinicians work much more efficiently. Everyone returned with stories of helping improve patients’ lives—Scott described how a patient “distraught over being unable to do needlepoint was truly grateful at how a pair of reading glasses allowed her to see things as clearly as she once had.” Other volunteers described patients exploding into smiles or hugging and kissing them when they tried on their new glasses. Daphne Chan ’13 recalls patients being “so grateful to be able to read or see clearly that they would kiss me on the cheeks in thanks—we don’t get that in the United States!” These successes were tempered by limitations. Anne Tasaki ’13 remembers how she and Dr. Andrea Yiasemis ’07 were excited at the possibility of helping an aphakic patient by correcting at least part of his +14 diopters of refractive error with glasses and referring him for lens replacement surgery. But after performing dilated fundoscopy, they were saddened to find that “there was so much scarring and damage to his retina that the surgery wouldn’t have helped.”

Volunteers continued to share their knowledge with the people of Peru beyond the clinic days. Greg will always remember waiting out a downpour under a small shelter in the Pisac ruins of Peru’s Sacred Valley with two taxi drivers and a man who sold wind chimes out of his backpack. When Greg told them about his work near Lima, they asked many questions, resulting in Greg explaining pterygia, latent hyperopia, and presbyopia. Fortunately for them, his Spanish had improved significantly by then.

**Beyond Peru**

For Sonia Menchavez ’13, the VOSH mission was a return to Peru. The summer before she began optometry school, Sonia spent three weeks traveling in Peru. Her familiarity with the language and culture proved critical to the mission’s success. Prior to the VOSH trip, Sonia helped communicate with the Lima Lions Club to answer last-minute questions and coordinate final details. In Peru, she frequently translated more complicated concepts between volunteers and patients. Sonia is bringing the lessons she learned on VOSH back home—as a Schweitzer Fellow, she designed and is now implementing a community service project that provides vision care to underserved, predominantly Spanish-speaking communities in her hometown of Mountain View, California.

**25th Anniversary of the Elite School of Optometry in India**

*By Jay Enoch, Dean Emeritus of Berkeley Optometry*

From my point of view, the Elite School of Optometry originated in the early hours of November 1, 1984, when I received a call from UC Berkeley Chancellor Ira Michael (“Mike”) Heyman. I lifted the receiver and heard Mike’s booming voice shout, “Enoch, you are going to India!” I responded, “Mike, it’s 3 a.m.!” He proceeded, “Enoch, you have two female students in India; Indira Gandhi has been assassinated and there is widespread violence; we don’t know where they are; and you need to bring them home promptly!” I was perplexed: we had no students in India. But there was no convincing Mike on this issue.
A week later, with an Indian visa in my pocket and my arm swollen with shots, I was on a plane to New Delhi. I was told I would be greeted by “our man in New Delhi.” After landing in the early morning hours among a sea of people shouting and milling about, a gentleman amazingly appeared at my side. When he had introduced himself, I asked him where the two ladies could be found. He answered, “We don’t know.” I felt like I was in a surreal movie.

On the advice of my guide, who provided a list of more than fifty possible sites for the two women, I started my search in the Deccan (the central high plateau in northern India). After failing to locate them at a number of places, I visited a small optometric school in Hyderabad that was on my list. At the office, I asked about the students’ whereabouts and was told no one had heard of them. The hospitable secretary invited me to a cocktail party the school was holding that evening, so that my trip might not be entirely fruitless. It was a very pleasant affair under the stars. I noticed across the field someone who looked familiar—a young lady wearing a sari with silver woven into the cloth—lovely! She turned out to be one of the two individuals I was sent to “rescue,” who were actually alumnae of Berkeley Optometry, participating in a program organized by UC Berkeley for professional school graduates. When I told her the chancellor had sent me to bring her home, she politely declined to be rescued. She indicated that the other alumna was on the beach in Kerala (in southwest India). Both ladies were well and enjoying their Indian program. So much for my rescue mission! Now what?

My former graduate student, postdoc, laboratory associate, and longtime friend, now Professor Vasudevan “Vengu” Lakshminarayan of the University of Waterloo School of Optometry, had recently completed a fine dissertation. I was proud of his work and thought it would be nice to visit his father, Professor Vasudevan, in Madras. My goal was to describe Vengu’s research to his father, a distinguished mathematician.

I was unaware that Vengu, his father, Dr. S.S. Badrinath (head of the Sankara Nethralaya, a major private center for eye care located on College Road in Madras), and Mr. C. Shah, head of the Elite Optical Company, had previously discussed opening an optometry school under the aegis of the Sankara Nethralaya program. Apparently, they had planned to seek my cooperation in such a venture. Dr. Vasudevan and I had an engaging conversation about Vengu’s research. He then indicated that he and Dr. Badrinath wanted to speak to me on a separate issue. When we met at the Taj Hotel in Chennai, they raised the topic of the new optometry school. I thought the idea was excellent and indicated my willingness to help.

I suggested that the Berkeley Optometry curriculum would be a fine model for such a school, and I served as the chair of the school’s curriculum committee. A new campus was purchased by Sankara Nethralaya, located at the foot of St. Thomas Mount (near the Madras Airport). Two buildings dedicated to the Elite School of Optometry (so named in honor of Mr. Shah’s generous founding donation) were built; one served as an academic building, and the other housed clinics.

I knew that the attic of Minor Hall contained a large collection of used but still serviceable clinical equipment. After discussion with school and campus personnel, I offered to forward much of that equipment to the Elite School’s new clinic. I also offered to donate my personal ophthalmic library to the school, urging that books in that library also be made available to other optometric institutions in India. In addition, I asked ophthalmic wholesalers in California if they would be willing to donate equipment. So many participated that the volume of the donations exceeded the immediate needs of the Elite School. Some equipment was also sent to a clinic at the Aravind Eye Hospital in Madurai, some to an optometry school in Bombay (later called Mumbai), and some to another school in Mexico City. The equipment was shipped to the Indian schools without charge, thanks to the American President Line shipping company of Oakland.

Over the years we have watched the Elite School of Optometry become a pace-setting optometric institution in India. Today, the school maintains a creditable research program, a quality faculty has developed, and the school recently increased its enrollment. A few years ago Elite School of Optometry entered into a cooperative agreement with the distinguished Birla Institute for Technology and Science to provide programs not only for bachelor degrees in optometry but also for master’s and doctorate degrees in vision science. I am very proud of its achievements!

And yes—our two worthy alumnae returned home safely!
**The Berkeley-Beijing Connection**

**STEPHEN R. CHUN ’74**  
**CLINICAL PROFESSOR, COORDINATOR OF CHINA/ASIA OPTOMETRY PROGRAMS**

On October 12, 2008, Berkeley Optometry and Peking University Third Teaching Hospital (PUTH) signed an agreement at the 50th Anniversary Celebration of PUTH:

This agreement is made … to strengthen the academic exchange and educational cooperation in advancing clinical patient care, teaching, and vision & research. Both institutions have agreed to cooperate in programs or projects of mutual interest … postdoctoral fellowships, faculty exchange, joint symposia, collaborative eye and vision research, clinical rotations, visiting scholars and teaching programs.

PUTH’s President Chen Zhong-qiang and Vice President Wang Wei invited Dean Dennis Levi, Assistant Dean and Clinical Professor Lawrence Thal, and me to Beijing for this special occasion.

In 2009, Jennifer Sablad ’09 and Benjamin Cheung ’09 participated in the first UC Berkeley-Peking University postdoctoral program in primary eye and vision care in Beijing. The program offers a unique educational opportunity to provide eye care, teach optometry, and participate in vision and eye research at the Peking University Eye Center (PUEC) and the Third Hospital (PUTH). Dr. Sablad summarized her recent experience:

Living and working in China was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity … We were able to teach the PUTH and PUEC communities how optometry could be elevated in their country by sharing our knowledge base, demonstrating our skill set, giving lectures on less commonly understood topics (binocular vision, low vision, contact lenses), and working with them to establish new clinics (low vision and vision therapy). It was an honor and privilege to work in a highly respected, internationally recognized, world-class teaching hospital.

PUTH Vice President Wang Wei, a renowned cataract specialist and surgeon, has been instrumental in expanding teaching and learning opportunities for Berkeley Optometry postdocs, ensuring that they experience a great variety and volume of clinical cases.

**CHINA’S NEED FOR EYE CARE**

World Health Organization/World Bank data estimate that at least five million Chinese are blind and nine million are visually impaired. Cataracts account for half of China’s blind. Each year 400,000 people become totally blind from cataracts alone. Adults who are severely handicapped by poor eyesight from trauma, cataract, glaucoma, trachoma, macular degeneration, diabetes, stroke, and other systemically related eye conditions cannot venture out of their homes, and optical aids such as special magnifiers or telescopic lenses are rare. As primary eye doctors, optometrists can relieve the burden on China’s ophthalmologists, whose top priority is treating cataract. Optometrists can also help by providing education, early detection, and treatment to restore sight.

There are significant regional variations in the prevalence of vision problems in China. Data published in *Ophthalmology* (January 2010) show that across nine provinces visual impairment ranges from 6.89% to 15.8%; blindness (<20/400) ranges from 1.27% to 5.40%. Blindness-prevention programs targeting the rural elderly, women, and the uneducated need to be expanded. In 1997 the Ministry of Health created the Life Line Eye Train, an eye hospital and clinic on rails staffed by ophthalmologists. The train travels east-west and north-south to provide cataract surgery and medical eye services to China’s underserved rural and remote populations.

Refractive error correction also needs greater attention. Myopia is estimated to be prevalent in at least half of China’s diverse population of 1.3 billion people (representing 55 distinct ethnic groups). Although many obtain glasses from optical shops in cities or traveling vendors in the countryside, eye doctors who can prescribe lenses are rare. Every summer thousands of children with refractive error stream into Beijing and other large cities, crowding offices and clinics of ophthalmologists. The ratio of vision care provider to patients is 1:60,000 at best, much worse in underserved rural areas.

China has been making rapid progress, focusing on preventive eye care and restoring vision, but still needs skilled and knowledgeable optometrists and the graduate-level optometric education necessary to train them. Berkeley Optometry is striving to do its part.

**HOW THE BERKELEY-BEIJING CONNECTION BEGAN**

My visit with China’s Ministry of Health in Beijing in 1995 confirmed the belief that optometry in China needs to be developed to provide primary eye care for its people. As China’s capital, Beijing is the political, intellectual, and cultural center of the country, so that was the place to start. I met with Zhu Xiu-An, chair and professor of the ophthalmology department at Beijing Medical University (BMU), who expressed great interest in developing optometric education in China. Upon returning to Berkeley I proposed that Berkeley Optometry and BMU work together to advance optometry in China. Then-Dean Anthony Adams responded with an enthusiastic “go for it” and $2,000 seed money from the Annual Fund, marking the beginning of the Berkeley-Beijing optometry connection.

In 1996, Berkeley Optometry presented the first Sino-American Optometry Symposium at BMU. Professor Emeritus Li Feng-ming, China’s founding mother of ophthalmology, proudly welcomed our faculty, Drs. Darlene Fong, Ken Seger, and myself. In 1997, Berkeley Optometry sent its first group of fourth-year optometry students for a clinical rotation in Beijing and presented the second Sino-American Optometry Symposium. That same year Dean Adams and I, BMU’s President Wang De-bing (a hematologist), and Dean Hou Kuan-yong (a liver transplant surgeon), signed a five-year renewable agreement between Berkeley Optometry and BMU to promote academic and scholarly exchange, advance optometric education, develop optometry in China, and collaborate on vision research. UC Berkeley’s Chancellor Robert Berdahl strongly supported the joint program.
Since 1997, Berkeley Optometry has sent 51 fourth-year optometry students to Beijing for clinical rotations, presented five Sino-American Optometry Symposia in Beijing, hosted seven visiting faculty from Peking University's Department of Ophthalmology, and carried out eye-care missions to underserved villages in remote areas of China. Optometry faculty and alumni from Berkeley Optometry; UCLA-Jules Stein; Southern California College of Optometry; Pacific University; University of Missouri, St. Louis; and Ohio State University have also helped to establish optometry clinics on the Peking University campus of the Third Teaching Hospital (PUTH).

In June 2000, Beijing Medical University (BMU) was renamed Peking University Health Science Center (PUHSC) and returned to parent Peking University (PKU), formerly Beijing University. Established in 1898, PKU (which ranks among the top Asian and Middle Eastern universities) includes eight university hospitals and thirteen affiliated teaching hospitals. The only medical institution included in China’s 21st Century Priority Development Program, PKU is also one of ten universities in the International Alliance of Research Universities. Han Qi-de, (PKU’s executive vice president, dean of the graduate school, and director of cardiovascular disease), became president of PUHSC. Dr. Han has traveled twice to Berkeley to meet with Dean Emeritus Adams, Chancellor Birgeneau, and me, and his support for the Berkeley-Beijing connection has been steadfast.

On May 2, 2007, PUTH President Chen Zhong-qiang, Vice-President Wang Wei, Dr. Chen Xue, and International Education Department Director Meng Lu met in Berkeley with Dean Dennis Levi and interested faculty to discuss proposals that would extend our joint efforts to advance optometry in China. That meeting led to the agreement signed in October 2008.
By John Fiorillo
Historian/Archivist, Berkeley Optometry

Since its first informal meetings in 1926, the Optometry Alumni Association of the University of California has played a significant role in the development of Berkeley Optometry as a preeminent teaching institution and a source of distinguished postgraduate continuing education. The recently published Berkeley Optometry: A History includes a chapter on the early years of the association. The following brief article has been excerpted and revised from that chapter.

Fresh from completing the curriculum in optometry, Angus McLeod, one of only two students in Berkeley Optometry’s original graduating class of 1925, was the first to encourage the formation of an alumni association. By 1926, a small group of alumni, students, and faculty gathered to elect officers (Albert Reinke ’26 was the first president) and to begin holding occasional meetings. The earliest members were McLeod, Reinke, Louis Werner (’26), Floyd Green (’26), Harry Kamp (’28), and Robert Keeler (’29). Professor of Physics Ralph Minor (head of the curriculum), Frederick Mason (the first full-time lecturer in optometry), and Theodore Brombach (lecturer) were also active participants.

The group’s initial objectives were to aid and promote studies in optometry and vision science research at Berkeley. Attempts to formalize the association proved elusive, however, until 1931, when alumni finally passed a resolution to create an “Optometry Alumni Association of U.C.” (OAAUC) and adopted bylaws.

Early alumni faced challenges in defining the nature and scope of their organization. Berkeley Optometry

This is the earliest known photograph (c. late 1930-January 1932) of alumni, faculty, and students attending an event sponsored by the Optometry Alumni Association. The meeting was held at the University’s International House. (Back row, standing) Harry Kamp ’28, far left; William L. Harr ’31, second from left; Emily Boettler (the dean’s secretary), fifth from left; Meredith Morgan ’34, sixth from left with his wife, Ida, to his left; Everett Coe ’30, eighth from left; Albert Reinke ’26, tenth from left; Theodore Brombach (faculty), twelfth from left; Dean Ralph Minor, at back beneath the wall lamp; and Frederick Mason (faculty), far right near the window. The alumnus seated at the far left is Angus McLeod ’25, and next to him is Harold James Jue ’28. Plez Guynn ’31 is seated third from left. Raymond Eng ’34, father of Weylin Eng (MOpt ’65, OD ’66), is seated second from left in the middle row. Photograph by Paul W. Hollingshead, San Leandro, CA, Berkeley Optometry Archives.
lacked a distinct research unit (the physiological optics graduate program did not begin until 1946), so the burden to conduct research and promote continuing education fell not only on the few clinical faculty teaching the curriculum but also on alumni. Meetings in the 1930s were mostly educational gatherings whose topics included orthoptics; glaucoma; cataract and strabismus surgery; remedial eye training; fabrication of artificial eyes; trifocals; vision surveys in schools; stereoscopic vision; clinical measurements of fusion, phorias, and accommodative convergence; ocular pathology; dental disorders manifested in the human eye; autonomic nervous system in ocular dynamics; and ocular manifestations of systemic diseases.

The first local chapter of the OAAUC was established in Stockton in November 1939 (guided by President Herbert Player ’34), whereupon Stockton became the center of all OAAUC activity. (Alumni also established branches in Fresno, Los Angeles, and San Joaquin County.) By the time the United States entered World War II, however, the OAAUC had become largely inactive.

Publication of alumni news helped graduates keep in touch and maintain a semblance of community. A few issues of the alumni-produced News Letter appeared in 1940. Player and others also wrote news briefs for the California Alumni Magazine (later called the California Monthly), but there was little published news during most of the war. In 1945, Minor asked Player to serve as editor of an expanded alumni newsletter, U.C. Optometric News, which Player did from 1945 to 1950 (Minor produced the newsletters on his private printing press). In late 1951, Frederick Hebbard (’49, PhD ’57) became the alumni news correspondent, continuing through 1954.

During the Stockton era (1939–51), alumni witnessed a postwar resurgence when overall membership increased from only 19 in 1946 to 162 in 1951. On February 12, 1944, Player was elected president of the OAAUC (for the 1945 term), when he presented plans to reorganize. His primary goals were to revive what had become a largely moribund organization and to reinstitute an educational program.

After a new constitution was adopted in 1947 (guided by Irv Silberstein ’42), activities expanded, scholarships for optometry students were introduced, and educational programs were presented. Soon after the Optometry Building was dedicated in June 1948 (renamed Minor Hall in 1970), the home base of the association shifted from Stockton back to Berkeley. It was a natural transition, given the postwar recovery of the optometry program and a gradual return to normalcy on campus. Dean Kenneth Stoddard (’36), Ralph Lignon (’48), and Hebbard were largely responsible for the relocation. Lignon served as president when the “Annual Meeting Program” (including a formalized continuing education program proposed by Hebbard) was established on November 17, 1951. Hebbard also worked on promotional activities, among them directing a 16mm film about Berkeley Optometry (which still exists in the school’s archives), with Jack Hobson (’30) as cinematographer and Henry Peters (’38) as narrator.

Hebbard’s three-year tenure as president (1952–54) spanned an important period of transition. Under his leadership, the organization continued to grow and improve its financial standing. Treasurer John Parenti (’42; president 1949) helped develop financial assets and an improved program of dues collection and accounting. In 1952, Hebbard created a new class of associate membership for non-alumni and began to coordinate alumni reunions with Cal football home games. The OAAUC also established the Alumnus of the Year Award during Hebbard’s presidency—Meredith Morgan was the first to be so honored, for the year 1953; Hebbard received the award for 1955.

Since its inception, the OAAUC had operated as an unincorporated entity. That changed on January 8, 1964, when the association reorganized under the general nonprofit corporation law of California. The stated purposes of the organization were to (1) provide continuing education programs; (2) provide scholarships and vocational guidance to students; (3) aid and encourage vision research; (4) promote and facilitate the interchange of scientific knowledge and achievement related to optometry; (5) foster fellowship among graduates, students, and faculty; (6) encourage the highest ethical standards in the practice of optometry; and (7) serve the University of California and Berkeley Optometry. The goals of the OAAUC remain largely the same to this day. ■
DONALD SARVER, OD, FAAO

Dr. Donald Sarver has been teaching in the contact lens clinic since 1975. Born and raised in Oakland, Don never really considered attending any college other than UC Berkeley. He received his BS from Cal in 1969 and his OD from Berkeley Optometry in 1971. After graduating he joined his father, Morton Sarver (OD ’47), in private practice on College Ave. in Oakland. Nine years later, his brother, Larry Sarver (OD ’80), also became a partner in the practice. Scott Yokoi (OD ’86) joined the practice shortly after Morton Sarver’s untimely death in 1986. Don served on the UC Optometry Alumni Association board from 1975 until 1981 and was its president in 1978 and 1979. The Berkeley Optometry Goines Poster was commissioned during his tenure. He has been a member of the Optometry Associates of the Benjamin Ide Wheeler Society since 2000 and currently serves on its board. Dr. Sarver was the chair of the Morton D. Sarver Laboratory from 1986 until 2003 and was instrumental in raising the funds that established the Morton D. Sarver Endowed Chair. Dr. Sarver was chair and one of the founders of Pacific Laser Eye Center. He is the author of several publications and has been the principal investigator of numerous clinical studies. He has lectured on toric soft contact lenses, extended wear lenses, bitoric lenses, and orthokeratology. Dr. Sarver is proud to continue his father’s legacy, having recently completed thirty-six years of clinical teaching to the best and brightest students in the country.

Don has attended Cal football games since he was a child and remains hopeful that someday he will see Cal in the Rose Bowl. He enjoys skiing, backpacking, fly fishing, and travel. He and his wife Terry have been married for twenty-nine years. They have four children and three grandchildren.

CHRISTINA TRIFILETTI, OD

Born and raised in Los Angeles as a first-generation Sicilian/Costa Rican, Dr. Christina Trifiletti graduated from UCLA with a BS in molecular, cell, and developmental biology. While at UCLA she volunteered at the Jules Stein Eye Institute, where she discovered her interest in optometry. She went on to earn her OD from Berkeley Optometry in 2008. After graduation, she stayed in the Bay Area to continue working at the Meredith Morgan Eye Center.

Dr. Trifiletti is honored to be part of the clinical faculty, where she works with first-, second-, and third-year optometry students. As a recent alum she is able to integrate her experiences as a student into her teaching. She devotes her time to teaching current optometric advances as well as exposing her students to the challenges young optometrists face as they begin their new careers. In this way, she hopes to prepare them not only for the optometric skills they will require but also for the social and financial demands they will encounter. Aside from teaching, Christina provides pre- and post-operative patient care in the UC Berkeley Refractive Surgery Center. She also works in San Francisco in a private practice. She is fluent in Spanish and enjoys conversing with her Latino patients.

TONY ADAMS, OD, PhD, FAAO

After completing optometric training in Australia in 1962, Professor Tony Adams earned a PhD in vision science (1970) at Indiana University and taught there from 1966 to 1968. Since 1968, Dr. Adams has been at Berkeley Optometry, where he completed his research and dissertation, became a professor of optometry and vision science, and was dean from 1992 to 2001. He was a member of the University of California President’s Health Sciences Committee from 1992 to 2005 and is an author of the recent Health Sciences Reports on UC health education needs.

With NEI/NIH support over the past thirty-five years, Professor Adams has revealed some of the earliest vision and retinal function changes of diabetic patients. He was also principal investigator for an NEI/NIH five-year study of myopia development in children in Orinda. He has mentored twenty-six vision science PhD graduates, published more than 180 articles in refereed journals, and written nine book chapters dealing with applications of vision science.

Tony served on the executive council of the American Academy of Optometry (AAO) from 1991 to 2001 and was its president 1998–2000. The Academy has honored him with the Glenn Fry, Garland Clay, and Eminent Service Awards, as well as its highest award, the Prentice Medal, for vision research contributions. He has served as president of the National Board of Examiners in Optometry, vice president of the San Francisco Smith-Kettlewell Eye Research Institute (SKERI), a director of Prevent Blindness America (PBA), and on the board of the National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research (NAEVR); and he currently serves as president of the board of the American Optometric Foundation (AOF).

He was awarded honorary doctoral degrees by the State University of New York (SUNY) in 1999 and Pennsylvania College of Optometry in 2000. In October 2004 he was elected to the National Optometry Hall of Fame. Tony is an elected member of the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) Committee on Vision and chaired an NAS working group that published the results of a four-year national study on the prevalence and progression of myopia. From 1987 to 2001, he served on the editorial boards of the journals Investigative Ophthalmology and Vision Science, Ophthalmology, Vision Science, Ophthalmic and Physiological Optics, and Clinical and Experimental Optometry, and was chair of the Committee on Research of the AAO from 1988 to 1990. Adams became editor-in-chief of Ophthalmology and Vision Science, the journal of the AAO, in July 2004.

Oh, and by the way, he is totally smitten with his two young granddaughters, loves fine wine, has been active playing tennis since the age of nine, and thoroughly enjoys dancing!
The Berkeley Optometry Hall of Fame is dedicated to honor those alumni and retired faculty whose contributions to the profession of optometry, through service, teaching, or research, have been so monumental as to be universally recognized. These individuals made contributions that distinguish the University of California, Berkeley, School of Optometry above all others!

Inaugural Inductees (2002)

Solon Braff - pioneer in developing corneal contact lenses
Irving Fatt - first measurements of oxygen permeability of contact lenses
Merton Flom - strabismus researcher, educator, and creator of the Flom Prognosis Chart
Allan Freid - coauthor of Low Vision Care (1975)
Edward Goodlaw - published first paper on corneal oxygen uptake (1946)
Monroe Hirsch - fourth dean of Berkeley Optometry, Ojai refraction study
Jack Hobson - leading clinical instructor at Berkeley Optometry (1930s–50s)
Elwin Marg - co-inventor of the Mackay-Marg Tonometer (1960)
Frederick Mason - first full-time instructor at Berkeley Optometry (1924)
Edward Mehr - coauthor of Low Vision Care (1975), Palo Alto Low Vision Clinic
Ralph Minor - founding dean of Berkeley Optometry
Meredith Morgan, Jr. - third dean of Berkeley Optometry, educator, clinician
Henry Peters - Orinda Study (1959), first full-time clinic director at Berkeley Optometry
Morton Sarver - contact lens designer and researcher in corneal physiology
George Schneider - founding optometrist of Berkeley Optometry
Kenneth Stoddard - second dean of Berkeley Optometry
Bernhardt Thal - founding president of Vision Service Plan (1955)
Gordon Walls - author of Vertebrate Eye & Its Adaptive Radiation (1942)

2008 Inductees

Horace Barlow - discovered directional trigger features in nerve cells
Roy Brandreth - cofounder of Vision Service Plan, clinic director (1980s)
Russell DeValois - pioneered recording of subcortical neurons, color vision researcher
Gordon Duffy - optometrist/State legislator who championed healthcare
Jay Enoch - fifth dean of Berkeley Optometry, vision researcher
Gordon Heath - dean of optometry at Indiana University (1975–88)
Richard Hill - dean of optometry at Ohio State University (1988–95)
Arthur Jampolsky - founder and director of the Smith-Kettlewell Eye Institute
Robert Lester - established the contact lens clinic at Berkeley Optometry (1949)
Robert Mandell - author of Contact Lens Practice (1964), contact lens research and design
Kenneth Polse - leading researcher in corneal physiology and contact lenses
Marvin Poston - leader in organized optometry and Vision Service Plan
Charles Seger - president, American Optometric Association (1964)
Lesley Walls - headed optometry programs at three different schools
Gerald Westheimer - leading researcher in neurobiology and vision science
Frank Weymouth - early research in binocular vision and depth perception

Berkeley Optometry Hall of Fame Gala, June 6, 2009
Back, L–R: Gordon Duffy, Jay Enoch, Charles Seger, Robert Mandell, Leslie Walls
Front, L–R: Roy Brandreth, Gerald Westheimer, Kenneth Polse, Arthur Jampolsky
42 **Art Layton:** There aren’t many of us left from the Class of ‘42. I hear from Keith Pierce and would welcome any others. I have been retired for twenty years, have two grown children, play music in the community band, tend an extensive garden, and wish I were eighty again.

51 **Bernard Press** retired from private practice in 1982 and started a practice brokerage business called Practice Consultants. He sold Practice Consultants to Gary Ware, formerly with the buying group PEN, in 2003. Currently president and CEO of medical device company OcumatRx Inc., Bernie is involved in the development of a shunt-like device to treat glaucoma. He lives in San Diego, is married to Helen, and has three stepsons, six grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. He is keeping busy at age eighty-three, still trying to stay out of trouble. Contact Bernie at www.bpressent@cox.net.

68 **Ernie** and Jenny **Takahashi** had a most enjoyable trip to China this fall with a group organized by Berkeley Optometry. “We had great company, delicious food, saw interesting sights, and enjoyed very mild weather.”

72 On April 1, 2010, San Jose optometrist **Karen Kallmann** presented a major one-woman exhibition of four different styles of art and also unveiled a 36-foot outdoor mural of Frank Sinatra at the beautiful K-Jewel Art Gallery in Fresno, CA. Karen has practiced optometry for many years in the Blossom Hill area of San Jose. She developed her own style of oil painting after years of formal training. She has exhibited, sold her works, and won awards in international shows in Paris, London, New York City, Chicago, Las Vegas, and San Francisco. The Sinatra mural is one of the very few large murals of Frank Sinatra in the world. Contact Karl Kallmann at (559) 259-2418.

75 **Arthur Low** still enjoys optometry and works 4+ days a week with Berkeley Optometry alum **Rod Lum ’89.** Art is currently the vice chair of LSCOA-PAC, a board member of COLA, and past president of the Campbell Chamber of Commerce. He also takes annual trips to Mexico for Lions-In-Sight and went to Los Mochis last year. He began playing golf and still enjoys bowling and fishing, but he gave up tennis and skiing to save his joints. He and his wife, Swan, enjoy traveling and are planning a Mediterranean cruise. His older son, Ryan, has been an Oakland policeman for two years and his second son, Evan, is the current mayor of the city of Campbell.

78 **Richard Leong** and **David Dong** are practicing in Sacramento and enthusiastic Cal fans (Go Bears!). They have enjoyed reconnecting with the Berkeley Optometry program through their son, fourth-year student **David Leong ’11.**

79 **Paul Kiyan** suggested that Berkeley Optometry organize an alumni trip to China, because so many of our graduates have roots there. That trip took place in October 2009, and everyone had a fantastic time. Plans for an October 2011 trip to South Africa with Dean Levi are now in the works.

Years ago, **Steve Schwartz**’s book **Visual Perception: A Clinical Orientation (Fourth Edition)** was published in full color by McGraw-Hill. The book is used by most optometry programs in this country and many abroad. He is still on the faculty at SUNY, where he spends most of his time teaching and doing institutional research and planning.
**John White** practiced optometry for ten years in Washington, D.C., with a year and a half off to work in Tokyo and travel around the world. In the 1990s he went to medical school and became a family doctor. John and his family lived in China for three years while his wife worked as a journalist (he was the babysitter). After his residency they returned to Beijing, where he worked for a year. They (his wife, three kids, and himself) currently live in Boise, Idaho, still paying off his student loans.

**Mary Gerhart** closed her practice in Berea, Ohio, and is now working part time in Rocky River, Ohio. She continues to practice part time as an optometric low vision consultant at the Cleveland Sight Center and is in her twelfth year of teaching clinical low vision to first-year ophthalmology residents at Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine in Cleveland.

**Eldon Rollins** ran for State Representative in Oregon District One, which includes all of Curry County, bordering Del Norte County in northwest California. It also includes southern Coos County and southwestern Douglas County.

**Sandra Jeong** enjoyed seeing many friends at the Morgan/Sarver Symposium in April 2010. “Everyone still looks great. My sons are twenty-one and fourteen years old. I have been practicing in my current location for twenty years now. Berkeley Optometry provides great continuing education!”

**Andrew and Beth Wodecki:** “Our first-born, Meagan Wodecki, just enrolled as an undergraduate at Berkeley. Some of our classmates may remember her at our graduation ceremony—she was just a few days old!”

**On January 24, 2010, Karen Kopiko** was awarded Alameda Contra Costa Counties Optometric Society (ACCCOS) Optometrist of the Year.

**Susy Yu’s** daughter Ilsa (four years old) is now proud big sister to Ilan, born January 29, 2010. Susy’s husband, Brian Kim, completed his residency and practices at Kaiser Permanente. Susy works at Kaiser Permanente as Director of Business Strategy and Operations Support for Vision Essentials. She is completing her second term on the California State Board of Optometry and looking forward to becoming more involved at the national level through the ARBO Board of Directors.

**On January 24, 2010,** **Veronica Barber** is in private practice in Roseville, CA. She is married and has two children, one son and one daughter. Veronica is loving life and enjoying each day!

**Mark Helmus** ran the 2009 St. George, Utah, Marathon in 3 hours 3 minutes, placing second in the 55–59 age group. In May 2010 he finished first for his age group at the Tobacco Road Half Marathon in Cary, NC.

**Michael McDermott** and his wife, Lailani, welcomed their first child, Brendan Michael, born on March 16, 2009, at 10 pounds 12 ounces.

**Peter Koh** is a partner at Medical Group of Beverly Hills, a division of Cedars Sinai Medical Care Foundation, where he’s been since 1992. He is married to Sylvia Koh and has two children, Nina (seven) and Marcus (five). Peter’s avocations include enjoying his friends, running, and vacations.

**Courtney Reed Jewell** gave birth to Peyton Aubrey Jewell on May 5, 2009 (Cinco de Mayo). Peyton is happy and healthy with good eyes ... so far!

**Karen Hawk** and her husband, Philip, are expecting their second child in December. Their daughter Hannah is four years old. Karen continues to split her time between working and being a stay-at-home mom. Karen and Philip celebrated their eighth wedding anniversary in June.

**On January 24, 2010,** **Christopher Gee** received the Alameda Contra Costa Counties Optometric Society (ACCCOS) Young Optometrist of the Year award.

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**Berkeley Optometry is saddened to learn of the passing of the following alumni:**

Dr. Jack Aikawa ’54
Dr. Merton Flom ’51, PhD ’57
Dr. Henry Kawahara ’46
Dr. Harry Levin ’41
Dr. Elwin Marg ’40, PhD ’50

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**Shown here with Dean Levi, Tim Jankowski ’80, VSP Board Chair, addressed the 2010 graduating class in May.**
ALUMNI AND FRIENDS TRIP TO SOUTH AFRICA

The alumni trip to China in 2009 was a huge success; many alums who were unable to attend that trip have expressed interest in another alumni trip to China in the future. We are currently planning a second alumni trip, this time to South Africa. The trip will be approximately 15–18 days in October/November 2011, and highlights will likely include Kruger National Park, Victoria Falls, Cape Town, and Johannesburg. Stay tuned and be sure we have your e-mail or mailing address for further updates.

FREE LEGAL SERVICE CONSULTATIONS

We are pleased to announce that we have renewed our arrangement with two prominent law firms in San Francisco for reduced legal consultation fees for alumni and faculty who might need legal services. This has been a popular alumni benefit that has generated outstanding feedback! If you think you might need an attorney or have a quick legal question, you may call 888-392-1960 to receive a free fifteen-minute consultation from attorneys at Sideman & Bancroft LLP and Futterman & Dupree LLP. Many matters can be dealt with in that amount of time. If more time is needed, you may choose to take the information you’ve already received to any attorney of your choice, or you may engage the attorney you just spoke with at rates discounted 20 percent or more. The services offered cover both transactional and litigation matters and encompass employment/human resources, state board regulatory issues, state and federal tax, commercial law, business contracts, real estate, professional liability, partnership formation and dissolution, and leasing, among others. Again, if you have any questions, please feel free to call 888-392-1960.

GLAUCOMA CERTIFICATION

Berkeley On-Line Lectures and Demonstrations (BOLD) is providing video-based, online courses for glaucoma certification of California optometrists. The first course, which may also be taken for TPA CE, covers diagnosis and treatment of glaucoma. A subsequent course emphasizes case management. The self-paced format allows optometrists to conveniently watch presentations on their personal computers. For information on registration, please see our website at www.boldoptometry.org.

ALUMNI REFERRAL SERVICE AND ONLINE COMMUNITY

Whether in the Bay Area, Los Angeles, New York City, or Wheatland, Wyoming, University of California grads and the general public want to find Berkeley-trained optometrists. As a benefit for our alumni, Berkeley Optometry has developed the Findanalum web application to serve as a provider referral site and online community. This tool will help alumni expand their practices by allowing the wider University of California community and the general public to search for optometrists trained at Berkeley Optometry. We also anticipate that this online forum will foster communication among our alumni. Alumni can create and manage profiles by logging on to http://ucberkeleyoptometry.findanalum.com. The profile contains fields for education, areas of expertise, address and contact information, picture, and links to professional and/or personal websites. Alumni can choose which information is available for public access. Alumni members may also search for classmates, communicate by e-mail, and post announcements.

This service is available only for Berkeley Optometry alumni, faculty, and students, and it will be publicized by the California Alumni Association (approximately 450,000 members). If you have any questions about creating a profile, please e-mail Tammy Spath at tspath@berkeley.edu.

GRAND ROUNDS

In May 2010 the schoolwide Grand Rounds (offered to alums without charge) featured Dr. Todd Margolis. The topic of this year’s Grand Rounds was ocular inflammation and infection. Dr. Margolis is a UCSF professor of ophthalmology and the director of the Francis I. Proctor Foundation for Research in Ophthalmology at UCSF Medical Center. This was a special treat for all who attended. Stay tuned for an e-mail announcement about the next Grand Rounds once a date and topic is known.
The following have made gifts, pledges, and pledge payments to funds at Berkeley Optometry other than the Meredith W. Morgan Society Annual Fund from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010.

**$500,000 plus**
CooperVision, Inc.

**$100,000–$499,999**
Margaret Harps
Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation
Lowy Medical Research Institute Ltd.
Elwin Marg ’40, PhD ’50
UCB Optometric Student Association (UCOSA)
Carl Zeiss Vision

**$50,000–$99,999**
Michael G. Harris ’66 and Dawn Block
Jimmy Low ’52
Bernard A. Newcomb Foundation
Margaret Singer Steyer and Allan Steyer

**$10,000–$49,999**
Aeon Imaging, LLC
Alameda Contra Costa Counties Optometric Society (ACCCOS)
Alcon Laboratories
Berkeley Optometry Class of 2012
Canadian Institute for Advanced Research
East Bay Community Foundation
Hoya Optical Laboratories
Joy M. Ohara ’10*, Kok L. Lye ’10*, and Raymond Lye
Radiation Monitoring Devices, Inc.

**$1,000–$9,999**
Acufocus, Inc.
Anthony J. and Elna H. Adams

**Under $1,000**
Samuel Ahn ’99
David Alford ’99
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Cindy Wang ’99
Lawrence Wang ’99 and Jennifer Juang ’99
Matthew R. Wilkening ’09*
Ricky Wong ’99
Uyen Wong ’99
Vikki Yu ’99

**In-Kind Gifts**
Brian Braff
Jeffrey Braff ’63
Jay Enoch
Lynette Feeney-Burns
Susan Kjorlien
Henry Linker ’48 and Eva Linker
Mark M. Morris and Susan S. Morris

*New Alumni Challenge donor
The Meredith W. Morgan Society
Berkeley Optometry Annual Fund Donors (July 1, 2009 to June 30, 2010)

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Lanfang Bai PhD ’94
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Bernard Press ’51 and Helen Press
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Sandra Yuen ’92
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*New Alumni Challenge donor.
Class year denotes year of OD degree. All other degrees as noted.
An endowment is a gift that supports students, faculty, and programs over an extended period. The principal of the gift is invested, and a portion of the return is used each year to support the school, college, or program designated by the donor. Endowments may be established for a wide variety of purposes, including student support, faculty chairs, and program support and research. Endowment gifts of $50,000 or more may be named for the donor or someone the donor wishes to honor or memorialize.

In the 2009–2010 fiscal year, Berkeley Optometry raised over $600,000 in new endowment gifts—over $1,000,000 when including the funds matched by the New Alumni Challenge and Chancellor’s Challenge. Each gift is inspiring. For example, Margaret Singer Steyer and Allan Steyer established the Joseph Singer Fund in memory of her father, who attended optometry school during the Great Depression. This endowment both honors her father and supports current students during these difficult times. Weylin and Roselyn Eng established a fund to support clinical care in underserved communities in the Bay Area. Joy Ohara, Kok Loong Lye, and Raymond Lye established a fund in memory of Ming Pow Low, who lost her eyesight due to retinitis pigmentosa; the fund will support students with a strong interest in low vision optometry.

Supporting Berkeley’s endowment has never been more vital. It provides long-term financial resources that can be used to attract and retain world-renowned scholars, launch groundbreaking research, and make it possible for the most promising students to attend Berkeley regardless of their financial means. Through careful investment of new gifts, Berkeley’s endowment creates the foundation for excellence.

For further information about establishing an endowment or making a gift to an existing endowment at Berkeley Optometry, please contact Tammy Spath at 510-642-2643 or tspath@berkeley.edu.

Additional Endowments and Scholarships

**Student Support Endowments**

- The Tony and Elna Adams Optometry Student Diversity Support Fund
- The Alameda Contra Costa Counties Optometric Society (ACCCOS) Professional Student Support Fund
- The Dr. John R. and Norma M. Austin Optometry Student Support Fund
- The Drs. Stephen R. Chu and Doris Sue Chu Professional Student Support Fund
- The Ciba Vision Endowed Student Scholarship Fund
- The Theodore Cohn Vision Science Fellowship Fund
- The Contact Lens Clinic Faculty Professional Student Support Fund
- The Jorge Cuadros Community Optometry Student Support Fund
- The Russell DeValois Vision Science Fellowship Fund
- The Dr. Raymond L. Eng Family Professional Student Support Fund
- The Myrna, Maricela and Javier Flores Family Professional Student Support Fund
- The Rupert L. Flower Scholarship Fund
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- The Curtis W. Keswick Alumni Veterans’ Affairs Residency Low Vision Student Support Fund
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- The Dennis and Marilyn Levi Optometry Student Support Fund
- The Jimmy and Lillian Low Optometry Scholarship Fund
- The Ming Pow Low Professional Student Support Fund
- The Carl Moore Contact Lens Professional Student Support Fund
- The Peng Family/UCBSO Alumni Association Professional Student Support Fund
- The Morton Sarver Vision Science Fellowship Fund
- The Drs. Morton D. and Donald S. Sarver Professional Student Support Fund
- The A. Lee Scaife/UC Optometry Alumni Patient Management Professional Student Support Fund
- The George L. Schneider Memorial Scholarship
- The Dorothy Bates Sears Endowed Fund
- The Elizabeth Grenier Smider Memorial Professional Student Support Fund
- The Dr. Joseph Singer Memorial Scholarship Fund
- The Larry Stark Vision Science Fellowship Fund
- The Michael E. Stern Ocular Surface Research Fellowship
- The Drs. Berhardt N. and Lawrence S. Thal Professional Student Support Fund
- The UC Optometry Alumni Ocular Disease Professional Student Support Fund
- The UCBSO Optometry Student Support Fund
- The Meredith M. Whiteside and Richard C. Van Suyters Professional Student Support Fund
- The UCBSO Class of 1971 Professional Student Support Fund
- The Berkeley Optometry Class of 1975 Professional Student Support Fund
- The Berkeley Optometry Class of 1980 Professional Student Support Fund
- The UCBSO Class of 1986 Professional Student Support Fund
- The Berkeley Optometry Class of 1999 Professional Student Support Fund
- The Berkeley Optometry Class of 2008 Professional Student Support Fund
- The Berkeley Optometry Class of 2009 Professional Student Support Fund
- The Berkeley Optometry Class of 2010 Professional Student Support Fund
- The Berkeley Optometry Class of 2012 Professional Student Support Fund

**Faculty and Program Support Endowments**

- The Solon M. and Pearl A. Braff Chair in Clinical Optometric Science
- The Weylin and Roselyn Eng Endowed Fund
- The Dr. Weylin and Roselyn Eng Family Endowment in Optometry
- The Pamela and Kenneth Fang Chair in Optometry and Healthcare
- The Fang Optometry Library Fund
- The Dr. Harry Harps Optometry Support Fund
- The Edwin B. Mehr Fund for Training and Research in Low Vision
- The Meredith W. Morgan Memorial Fund
- The Benjamin Nerenberg Distinguished Lectureship Fund
- The Thomas H. Peters Memorial Fund
- The Josh Portnoy Endowed Fund
- The Morton D. Sarver Memorial Chair
“Bequests are a very fulfilling way to give something back to our school and profession. With proper planning, these gifts allow alums to make significant investments in Berkeley Optometry without adversely affecting retirement, the education of our children, or future inheritances. The funds for these gifts come from what, for many, may end up being taxes paid to the state or federal governments.”

Ernie Takahashi ’68
President, OABIWS

The Benjamin Ide Wheeler Society was established in 1987 to recognize and thank visionary individuals whose planned gifts have provided essential philanthropic support, enabling Cal to become one of the world’s great universities. Planned gifts include bequests in wills or living trusts; life income plans such as gift annuities and charitable trusts; and beneficiary designations of retirement plans, brokerage accounts, and life insurance policies.

The society is named for Benjamin Ide Wheeler, president of the University from 1899 to 1919. Not only did President Wheeler transform Berkeley from a small western public university to one of the most distinguished centers of learning in the nation, he also was responsible for arranging the first life income gift to the University of California—a charitable trust from Jane K. Sather.

Berkeley Optometry appreciates receiving information from members of the Wheeler Society regarding the specific purpose of any planned gift. This allows the University to review your gift language to ensure that your philanthropic intention for the school can be implemented. If you have provided for the University in a planned gift but have not yet informed us, please do. We are very grateful to members of the Wheeler Society for carrying on a vital tradition of support. If you would like to speak with someone about your gift planning needs, please contact Tammy Spath at Berkeley Optometry: 510-642-2643 or tspath@berkeley.edu.

Anthony and Elma Adams*
Otto Anderson ’39†
Norma and John Austin ’52
Charles Bailey ’82
Ian and Valerie Bailey
Robert Benn ’54†
Roy Black ’52†
Roy Brandreth ’53 and Karen Walker-Brandreth ’68
Charles Brown ’47*
Bettina Bruckman†
Lily and Collin Chu ’71
Doris Sze and Stephen Chun ’74
Jeanette and Robert Cibull ’57
Allen Coe ’50
Jack Cohen ’52
Barbara and Theodore Cohn†
Charles Conrad ’40†
Lawrence Creasey ’58
Henry Leibee and Bonnie Curtis-Leibee ’69
John Daly ’52
Scott Daly ’83
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Roselyn and Weylin Eng ’65*
Steven Ngin† and Charmaine Eng-Ngin ’63
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Charlotte Tlachac ’78
Bryan Vanezian ’89
Lesley Walls ’68 and Mary Ann Keverline-Walls ’67
Sheldon Wechsler ’52
William Wong ’73

* Founding member
† Deceased
The $20 million Campaign for Berkeley Optometry will strengthen support for faculty recruitment and research, establish a world-class surgical center, upgrade facilities, create new student scholarships, and help prepare the next generation of optometrists and optometric educators.

To date, Berkeley Optometry has raised over $10 million! Thank you for your support!

Optometry Campaign Giving

Our new alumni and current students have participated enthusiastically in the campaign. The Classes of 2008, 2009, 2010, and 2012 have established student support endowments that were matched through the Chancellor's Challenge Program. Our recent grads have also leveraged the New Alumni Challenge, which quadrupled each contribution, raising a total of $138,108 for Berkeley Optometry. These donors are listed in the School Support section and include the Classes of 2010 and 2012. Thanks again to the UC Berkeley Foundation Board of Trustees for making this matching opportunity possible, especially Berkeley Optometry alumni Pam Fong ’77 and Stacy Jacobs ’89, who serve on the Board of Trustees.

For campaign updates and news about events and services for Berkeley Optometry alumni, visit the newly updated External Relations website at http://optometry.berkeley.edu and click on gifts/development. If you would like more information about giving opportunities, please contact Tammy Spath at (510) 642-2643 or tspath@berkeley.edu.

Surgical Center to Become a Reality!

A state-of-the-art ocular surgery center is being planned for the bottom floor in Minor Addition. While it will be primarily a referral center for the University of California Meredith Morgan Eye Center and Tang Center, we are making sure that we have the capacity to provide surgical care for patients referred from the greater East Bay area. It is anticipated that in addition to cataract surgery, the center will offer strabismus and ophthalmic plastic surgery as well. We are in the process of developing affiliations that will make this the premier ophthalmic surgery facility in the East Bay.
On a VOSH trip in June 2009, Berkeley Optometry students enjoy some time off with children from the Mission in Action orphanage at Nakuru, Kenya.