



NEWS & VIEWS

A Newsletter for the
Members, Associate Members
and Administrators of the
Association of University
Professors of Ophthalmology

SEPTEMBER 2011

PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Should AUPO Be Exactly the Same in Five Years?

BY DAVID L. EPSTEIN, MD



WHAT IS YOUR VISION for what AUPO should be? Should it be primarily a networking organization (and meeting), or should it have a broader academic presence? Your Board of Trustees is beginning a strategic planning process that will soon include the membership at large, in trying to

define what the future goals for AUPO should be.

AUPO has recently expanded its academic umbrella function, and one cannot help but be impressed by the enthusiasm, energy and accomplishment that resulted from including the “next generation” of members such as the medical student educators, fellowship compliance committee members, and the residency program directors in our meetings and processes. We also now have an additional mission to catalyze the research program directors’ involvement in AUPO, and in particular, to focus even more on clinical translational research. As your new president, I would like to do even more to involve “the next generation” and your younger faculty in AUPO. (For your own perspective, you might do a simple “test” and simply ask your younger faculty: what are your thoughts about what AUPO is, or should be?)

For these purposes, but also because of the content of next January’s annual AUPO meeting January 24-29, 2012 in Miami, Florida, **I have a special request to ask of you: please consider bringing as your guest one of your younger faculty members who you believe**

has leadership potential. In addition to trying to achieve a “critical mass” of “the next generation” at AUPO meetings themselves, this upcoming meeting has two special symposia that might be very important to the careers of your new leaders and your department. The Podos Symposium will discuss “the life cycle of chairmanship”: from the decision to become a chair, to important lessons in various five-year phases of chairmanship, to strategic department planning, to matters of “life after chairmanship.” Every year the president gets to put together the Podos Symposium, and I have done so with great care and added attention by including outstanding speakers from among your colleagues, with the goal of bringing important new information and new insights to everyone in the audience – from future leader to senior leader. **So please consider inviting one of your young**

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faculty leaders to attend our AUPO annual meeting as your guest!

The second mentioned symposium relates to an attempt to catalyze clinical translation research. Dr. Steven Feldon has organized an outstanding session to both transmit important practical information and also provide perspective on academic department goals. Again, my hope and expectation is that everyone in the audience, from future leader to senior leader, will gain important new information and new perspectives, including how and what to do.

Finally, as your new president, my focus also remains on how to reverse the **“deprioritization of ophthalmology”** by academic medical centers that we discussed at previous years’ symposia. I truly believe **this is the critical issue facing ophthalmology in the future.** My vision

is that AUPO should be an effective and vigorous resource to reverse this current trend, which (in better news), has been more “metastable” nationwide in the past year, rather than continuing the previous downward trend. As our population ages and the prevalence of ophthalmological diseases becomes greater, there may well be greater recognition among academic medical centers of the value of ophthalmology. However, one needs to “trust, but verify” our relationships with the greater academic medical centers to which we belong and, as we have discussed, with which we need to be better integrated. As your new president, it is important to me that AUPO vigorously represent “everything academic” about ophthalmology – all of our core missions of clinical care, education, and meaningful translational research that we do share with the academic medical centers. But we all need to discuss together and strategically plan how AUPO can best be a strong advocate for the **“re-prioritization” of ophthalmology.** ■

What’s Happening at AUPO

BY BARTLY J. MONDINO, MD

AS ALL OF YOU ARE AWARE, AUPO represents and promotes academic ophthalmology in its three missions of research, education and patient care. AUPO should play an important role in helping to monitor and define academic medicine. It is, or should be, the voice of academic ophthalmology. Whether good or bad, right or wrong, things are changing at AUPO, and it is developing a louder voice.

Several years ago, the only Associate Members at the time, program directors, could not attend our annual AUPO meeting without the chairperson of their department being present. My understanding was that the Associate Member would encourage the chair to attend so that the program director could attend. This encouragement provided an incentive for the chair to attend the AUPO meeting. If a chair were not able or did not want to attend the Annual Meeting, the program director would be forced to find another chair to sponsor him or her as a guest. More than likely this would happen, but I am not sure it was in the best interest of the morale and self-esteem of program directors.

In October 2005, the Board of Trustees of AUPO changed our bylaws so that Associate Members could attend the

annual AUPO meeting without their chairs being present. This motion carried by a tremendous landslide of our membership. By the way, the program directors, organized as the Program Directors Council, continue to do an excellent job in furthering residency training throughout the United States. The AUPO/AAO Straatsma Award was created to recognize an outstanding program director each year. One-on-one meetings with Residency Review Committee representative, Dr. Patricia Levenberg, are available at our annual meetings – a valuable resource for our program directors.

Over the years, all of us have seen research directors from various institutions popping up here and there at the AUPO meetings. Research directors were granted membership in AUPO as Associate Members in July 2007. More than 20 have joined, and have been responsible for a workshop in 2010 and then a symposium in 2011. Research is a critical mission of AUPO and the presence of research directors as an organized body in our organization will be of great benefit.

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What's Happening at AUPO

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Departments of ophthalmology have been marginalized in hospitals and schools of medicine to the point that many curricula in medical schools do not even include ophthalmologists. To recapture our role in the medical school, medical student educators have organized and also become Associate Members of AUPO in January 2009. Under Dr. Linda Lippa, the AUPO Medical Student Educators have set up a website, www.aupomse.org, and developed a curriculum. They have also presented workshops and symposia at our annual meetings. Ongoing projects include plans to collaborate on creating tools for medical educators to address the competencies and to develop a site for students to perform self-teaching.

As a result of all of the above, our membership has grown, as well as the attendance at our annual meetings. Adjacent hotels in close proximity to the main hotel are now a necessity. Our annual meetings are considered by our membership to be our most important AUPO service, according to a survey taken in 2005. Evaluations of our meetings are consistently favorable.

AUPO continues its focus on new chairs and about-to-be chairs. The UCLA management course for new chairs or about-to-be chairs has not been resurrected for several years but may be replicated at a site other than UCLA. A mentoring program for new chairs has been established wherein a mentee can obtain a mentor from a past president of AUPO and emeritus chairman of a department of ophthalmology. Dr. Ronald Smith has organized a workshop for new chairs at our annual meeting that is quite popular. Dr. David Epstein has organized a symposium, which has been presented at AUPO's annual meetings and twice at ARVO: "Do you want to be a Chair of Ophthalmology?" The big problem with all these programs is that we need to ensure that our young faculty with leadership promise is able to attend them. They should be invited to our meetings and encouraged to participate in these leadership activities early in their careers.

The AUPO Match system has become more electronic and less paper-driven. A central application service for fellows has been added, so that they can apply to multiple programs rather than each one individually.

One of the most important accomplishments of AUPO over the past few years has been the creation of the AUPO Fellowship Compliance Committee (FCC) under Dr. John Keltner. The goals and objectives of the AUPO FCC are to provide a system that will enhance patient care by promoting

uniform standards for fellowship training and educational programs in the following ophthalmic subspecialties: Cornea, External Disease & Refractive Surgery; Glaucoma; Neuro-Ophthalmology; Pathology; Pediatric Ophthalmology; Surgical Retina; and Uveitis. The compliance process is entirely voluntary. Each subspecialty, through the action of its subspecialty organization(s), defines a set of criteria for its own subspecialty, constituting standards for fellowship training to include curriculum as well as research and clinical experience. In addition, the FCC develops general guidelines applicable to all fellowships. The FCC helps to coordinate the establishment of fellowship requirements and monitor compliance of individual fellowship programs with these requirements. The FCC determines the compliance of initial applications of individual fellowship programs for inclusion in the compliance program. Programs admitted to the compliance program are monitored on a triennial or quadrennial program review basis to assure that they remain in compliance. The AUPO FCC program offers educational standards, protection of the public, protection of institutions, protection of trainees, accountability and enforcement.

AUPO created a Salary Survey for academic ophthalmology in February 2007. This salary survey detailed salaries for academic ophthalmology by rank, specialty, geographic area and responsibilities.

An AUPO/UCLA Introduction to Clinical Research Course was established several years ago on a biennial basis. This course is co-sponsored by AUPO, endorsed by ARVO, and is supported by a grant from the NEI. Attended by ophthalmology residents, clinical fellows, and faculty from across the nation, the course provides a comprehensive overview of research methods, interpretation of statistical tests, regulatory issues, and manuscript preparation. It is designed to assist new investigators who are beginning their academic careers, and to help physicians read and interpret scientific literature more critically. The course involves instructors from various UCLA departments, as well as guest speakers from other institutions. It is entirely free to participants and a number of travel fellowships are available from the NEI.

In summary, the AUPO has been expanding its role in many different areas. Its membership has been enlarged substantially. While such enlargement is certain to enhance our role in academic medicine, these things may come at a price. It creates problems for our annual meeting in terms of numbers of attendees and hotels, and our meeting may no longer be as intimate and conducive to networking as it once was. ■

Administrator's Update

BY PERRY B. SCHECHTMAN, MPP

THE UNIVERSITY ADMINISTRATORS of Ophthalmology (UAO) Board of Directors recently held its summer meeting to begin preparation of the program for January's annual joint meeting with AUPO. The meeting will be held January 26-28 at the JW Marriott Marquis in Miami, Florida.

The program aims to provide useful, "take-home" information for our members, to assist in both the day-to-day management and strategic planning for our departments. Last year's program was highly rated by our members, for the opportunity it provided them to engage in both group and one-on-one discussions with other members about common issues, and for the sessions collaborating with chairs about broader management issues.

Next year's program will continue this format. The preliminary program content includes:

- Management Symposium with chairs and program directors: **Top Ten Management Problems** (*in Academic Ophthalmology Departments*). The format will be three-minute presentations followed by twelve-minute panel discussions. Both chairs and administrators will be asked to participate on the panels
- **Straatsma Award Lecture for Excellence in Resident Education**
- **Hot Topics, Panel and Member Discussion**
- Stephen M. Podos Symposium: **The Life Cycle of Chairs** – topics related to recruitment, chair package negotiations, management/policy/goal-setting issues facing chairs (and administrators serving with chairs) during first years as chair and beyond
- **The Ideal Patient Care Experience** – policies, procedures and management tools to encourage/enable all faculty and staff to strive to provide the best possible patient experience
- **What's Happening in My Backyard** – three presentations about successful implementation of new programs or policies from member departments
- **Annual Business Meeting**
- **List Serve Live**
- **EMR Implementation Workshop** – joint session with chairs

As Vice-President of the UAO Board of Directors, Wayne Imbrescia of the Moran Eye Center at the University of Utah is the primary organizer of the program and will be in touch with many of you to participate and help.

During the summer Board meeting the Board also elected officers to serve for the two-year period of April 2012-March 2014. Much thanks to the following individuals for volunteering to serve and being selected as the 2012-2014 executive officers:

- **President:** Wayne Imbrescia, University of Utah
- **Vice-President:** Sheri Farber, Washington University of St. Louis
- **Treasurer:** Larry McGranahan, University of Iowa
- **Secretary:** John Meade, University of Rochester

Two member-at-large Board positions will be open for three-year terms beginning April 2012. Sheri Farber will be soliciting nominations in the fall. Much thanks to Dan Badgley of Henry Ford Health System, who will be leaving the Board after serving as Vice-President and President and to Kathy Austin of the University of Nebraska who has just completed six years as Treasurer.

Our membership has been very active as of late, soliciting and providing information on the Listserv on an almost weekly basis. Topics addressed include clinic staff benchmarking, optical shop management, EMR, residency program staff, use of nurse-practitioners, photography, coding, indirect cost revenue policies and others. The level of participation has been outstanding and the sharing of information has been very useful. Much thanks to everyone for their valuable participation.

I look forward to hearing from everyone regularly and seeing you next year in Miami. Best wishes for your continued success and well-being. ■

Association of University Professors of Ophthalmology

2012 Annual Meeting—January 25–28; JW Marriott Marquis, Miami, Florida

Preliminary Schedule

Wednesday, January 25

8:00 am–5:00 pm Educating the Educators Meeting

Thursday, January 26

7:00 am–7:45 am AUPO/RPB New Chairs Breakfast
(by invitation only)

8:00 am–4:40 pm RRC Appointments with
Pat Levenberg (by program
registration)

8:00 am–8:15 am Welcome

8:15 am–11:30 am Management Symposium: *Top
Ten Management Problems in
Ophthalmology*

9:30 am – 10:00 am BREAK

11:30 am–12:00 pm Straatsma Award Presentation and
Lecture

12:00 pm–12:45 pm AUPO Business Meeting

12:45 pm LUNCH (on your own)

1:30 pm–4:30 pm Residency Program Symposium

6:00 pm–7:30 pm Members & Guests Welcome
Reception

Friday, January 27

6:45 am–7:45 am Breakfast with Colleagues

8:00 am–4:40 pm RRC Appointments with
Pat Levenberg (by program
registration)

7:45 am–10:30 am President's Symposium in Memory
of Steven M. Podos: *For Everything
There is a Season – Passages – The Life
Cycle of Chairs*

Friday, January 27 (continued)

10:30 am–10:45 am BREAK

10:45 am–11:45 am Resident and Fellow Research
Forum

11:45 am–12:45 pm Organization Reports (Part I)

12:45 pm LUNCH (on your own)

1:30 pm–2:30 pm Medical Student Educator Business
Meeting

2:00 pm–3:30 pm Caucus: *Different Models for
Translating Research into Clinical
Innovation*

6:30 pm–10:00 pm Reception and Banquet for
Members, Administrators and
Registered Guests

Saturday, January 28

8:00 am–8:45 am Organization Reports (Part II)

8:45 am–9:00 am BREAK

9:00 am–11:00 am Symposium: *Becoming a Clinician
Scientist Today*

11:00 am–11:15 am BREAK

11:15 am–12:45 pm Workshops and Discussion Groups
1. RRC
2. Skills for Chairs
3. Medical Student Educators
4. Electronic Medical Records

12:45 pm Meeting Adjournment

University Administrators of Ophthalmology Preliminary Schedule

Wednesday, January 25

7:30 pm–9:30 pm Administrators Welcome Reception

Thursday, January 26

8:00 am–8:15 am Welcome

8:15 am–11:30 am Management Symposium:
Top Ten Management Problems in Ophthalmology

11:30 am–12:00 pm Straatsma Award Lecture for Excellence in Resident Education

12:15 pm–1:45 pm Hot Topics: *Panel and Member Discussion*

Late afternoon/
evening Administrators Outing and Dinner

Friday, January 27

7:45 am–9:45 am Stephen M. Podos Symposium:
The Life Cycle of Chairs

10:00 am–12:30 pm The Ideal Patient Care Experience

6:30 pm–10:00 pm Reception and Banquet for Chairs, Program Directors, Administrators and Registered Guests

Saturday, January 28

8:00 am–9:30 am What's Happening in My Backyard

9:45 am–10:00 am Annual Business Meeting

10:00 am–11:30 am Listserv Live

11:15 am–12:45 pm EMR Implementation Workshop (Joint session with Chairs)

Educating the Educators Wednesday, January 25, 2012

Preliminary Schedule

7:30 am–8:15 am Registration and Continental Breakfast

8:20 am–8:30 am Welcome & Review of Feedback from EE2011

8:30 am–10:00 am Free Paper Session

10:00 am–10:25 am BREAK

10:30 am–12:00 pm Free Paper Session (*continued*)

12:00 pm–1:15 pm LUNCH

1:30 pm–2:45 pm Dr. Mary Lawrence: *VA Systems for Surgical Outcome Assessment*

3:00 pm–4:15 pm Dr. Jeffrey Loewenstein: *Apprenticeship Training*

4:30 pm Wrap-Up/Adjournment

5:00 pm Reception

2012 Annual Meeting IMPORTANT DATES

October 3, 2011

Advance Registration Opens

October 3, 2011

Housing Opens to Advance Registrants Only

January 9, 2012

Advance Registration Closes

The View from RPB

DAVID F. WEEKS HAS ANNOUNCED that he will step down as chairman of Research to Prevent Blindness (RPB) at the end of this year. As of September 1, he will have served as the organization's Chief Executive Officer for 50 years. During his tenure, RPB exponentially advanced the capabilities of the vision research community and contributed to the development of nearly every significant advance in eye care in the last half century. RPB's partnership with AUPO began as a foundational component of RPB's early transformative efforts.

Weeks led the initiative to focus government support directly on eye research through the creation of the National Eye Institute (NEI) within the National Institutes of Health (NIH). To bolster that initiative, RPB polled Americans on their attitudes toward blindness, and conducted the first comprehensive survey ever undertaken of the status of eye research in the U.S.

In 1966, challenging resistance from forces within the Administration and the NIH itself, Weeks authored legislation to found the NEI—but it stalled in committee, lacking support from a national scientific group. As an essential step in facilitating the bill's passage, Research to Prevent Blindness helped stimulate the formation of the Association of University Professors of Ophthalmology. An RPB grant of \$1,250 underwrote the initial meeting, and AUPO's first order of business was to endorse the concept of a National Eye Institute, which officially came into being in August 1968.

Weeks also implemented all facets of RPB's "assault" on blindness, a comprehensive program which included the

creation of strategically located eye research institutes at medical schools across the country.

RPB grants were made available only to departments of ophthalmology, creating a powerful incentive for medical schools to elevate ophthalmology from divisional status within departments of surgery. The organization's provision of unique "seed money grants" made it possible for vision scientists to pursue and develop concepts which frequently challenged existing doctrine – and also allowed them to secure major funding from the government and other sources.

RPB's mandate to catalyze all resources in support of eye research is at the heart of its alliance with AUPO, according to Weeks: "AUPO strengthens every aspect of the very vision research community RPB is committed to serving. The two organizations share a forward-looking mission."

"David's legacy of innovation and flexible adaptation to emerging needs will more than endure," says Bartly Mondino, MD. "His stewardship of RPB has created a strong momentum in eye research that will yield even greater advances in the years to come."

Weeks is an honorary member of the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) and AUPO. He has served on the National Advisory Eye Council of the NIH and on the Ophthalmic Device Committee of the Department of Health and Human Services in the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. He holds an honorary PhD from the University of Louisville, and was a three-term mayor of Ho-Ho-Kus, New Jersey, from 1968 to 1975. Succession planning at RPB is underway. ■

RPB Launches the Innovative Ophthalmic Research Award

IN ORDER TO CAST A WIDER NET and fund cutting-edge research that applies to blindness, yet is conducted outside of a department of ophthalmology, RPB has announced the Innovative Ophthalmic Research (IOR) Award. The award provides \$100,000 to mid-career basic scientists actively engaged in research in collaboration with, and under the jurisdiction of, a department of ophthalmology, with the common goal of understanding the visual system and the diseases that compromise its function.

New technologies and cutting-edge translational research will be supported through this award. Twenty-one IOR applications have been submitted for the inaugural review. For more information on the RPB Innovative Ophthalmic Research Award, contact Patricia Byrne-Moran: (212) 752-4333 or pmoran@rpbusa.org. ■



Association of University of Professors of Ophthalmology
 Fellowship Compliance Committee
 AUPO FCC



THE AUPO FCC AND THE COMPLIANT programs have been very active during the past summer months. During the months of June–August the AUPO FCC monitors the compliance of individual fellowship programs using each of the subspecialty program’s requirements. As part of the monitoring process, graduating fellow exit surveys and program triennial reviews were conducted. In 2011, 64 triennial reviews were conducted in 6 of the 7 participating subspecialties.

2011 Triennial Reviews	
CORNEA	13
GLAUCOMA	18
NEURO OPHTHALMOLOGY	4
PATHOLOGY/ONCOLOGY	5
PEDIATRICS	15
SURGICAL RETINA	0
UVEITIS	9

243 Fellows from 7 subspecialties completed exit surveys.

2011 Exit Surveys	
CORNEA	29
GLAUCOMA	53
NEURO OPHTHALMOLOGY	15
PATHOLOGY/ONCOLOGY	4
PEDIATRICS	46
SURGICAL RETINA	41
UVEITIS	15

Results of continued compliance will be shared with each individual program and then posted on the AUPO FCC website during the month of September. Fellowship programs in compliance with the AUPO FCC are listed on its website, www.aupofcc.org, and are also listed on the San Francisco Fellowship Match website, www.sfmach.org, as being in compliance.

New applications are now being accepted online at <http://www.aupofcc.org/fellowships> between now and May 1, 2012 for the 2012/2013 academic year.

The AUPO FCC would like to welcome two new representatives from the AUPO. In July, Andreas K. Lauer, MD replaced Mark Juzych, MD as the representative from the Program Directors. Nicholas J. Volpe, MD has replaced Julia Haller, MD as the member-at-large representative. We would like to thank both Mark Juzych, MD and Julia Haller, MD for their valuable input and participation. ■

AUPO FCC OFFERS:

- Educational standards ■ Protection of institutions
- Accountability and Enforcement
- Protection of the public ■ Protection of trainees

**OPHTHALMOLOGY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAMS
 IN COMPLIANCE:**

Pediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus	
Programs in Compliance	46
Cornea Refractive Surgery and External Disease	
Programs in Compliance	40
Neuro-Ophthalmology	
Programs in Compliance	15
Glaucoma	
Programs in Compliance	44
Uveitis	
Programs in Compliance	12
Oncology and Pathology	
Programs in Compliance	6
Surgical Retina and Vitreous	
Programs in Compliance	47

Please let your residents know about the AUPO FCC process!
 For more information, visit www.aupofcc.org

Association of Veterans Affairs Ophthalmologists (AVAO)

BY FRANCISCO GARCIA-FERRER, MD, *President, AVAO*

THE ASSOCIATION OF VETERANS AFFAIRS Ophthalmologists (AVAO) invites AUPO members to attend the annual VA/Department of Defense (DOD) noontime symposium at the Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Ophthalmology. The 2011 session, "Excellence in Vision Research: Cutting Edge Innovations in VA and DOD," will occur Monday, October 24, 2011, from 12:15 pm to 1:45 pm in room W101a of the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, Florida. Speakers in this free session include Dr. Mark Petrash (Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology), Dr. Randy Kardon (VA Center of Excellence for Prevention and Treatment of Visual Loss), Dr. Joseph Rizzo (VA Center of Excellence for Innovative Visual Rehabilitation), Colonel Anthony Johnson (Ocular Trauma Division, US Army Institute of Surgical Research), and Colonel Don Gagliano (Director, Joint DOD/VA Vision Center of Excellence). Discussions will focus on the full spectrum of research, from addressing ocular trauma and acute battlefield needs, to finding new approaches for the treatment of vision loss, vision restoration, and visual rehabilitation. Sources and types of research funding will be highlighted.

On Monday, October 24, 2011, the AVAO will also host its Annual Business Meeting for active members from 7:00 am to 9:30 am in the Rainbow Springs Room I & II of the Peabody Orlando Hotel. AUPO members with joint VA appointments who have not yet joined AVAO may request membership information and RSVP for the business meeting by emailing Stephen Moss at smoss@aao.org. This meeting serves to update AVAO membership on current issues in the VA and provides an excellent opportunity to network with other VA ophthalmologists.

The final AVAO event on October 24th will be the evening social from 5:00 pm to 7:00 pm in the Peabody Rock Spring Room I of the Peabody Orlando Hotel. During this year's social, the AVAO will honor Dr. Jim Orcutt, who served as the VA National Program Director for Ophthalmology for over 18 years. Dr. Orcutt recently stepped down as National Program Director to concentrate on other national and regional posts he holds within the VA. If AUPO members would like to join the AVAO in congratulating Dr. Orcutt on his tireless service to our profession, please RSVP to Stephen Moss at smoss@aao.org. ■

OKAP To Be Administered March 31, 2012

IN JULY, CONSIDERABLE DISCUSSION and concern were expressed over the proposed move to a three-day test window in April. The Academy reached out to individual program directors and department chairs through the Association of University Professors of Ophthalmology (AUPO) Listserv, in addition to the AUPO Board of Trustees. The feedback revealed that program directors and department chairs overwhelmingly support the move to a computer-based examination. More than 80 percent of survey respondents requested that, of the available options, the test be administered on Saturday, March 31, 2012. The Academy has therefore arranged to have the test administered on that date.

Before changing the test date, however, the Academy reviewed an analysis of site availability. This analysis confirmed that the Saturday, March 31 date will accommodate

the 2012 OKAP. Given test site size and previously scheduled tests, it may be necessary for some sites to have two testing sessions, rather than simply one. This will not pose an issue of test security.

In the worst-case scenario, no more than four programs may have residents who must travel 45-60 miles to a test site. **Those residency programs have already been contacted directly by the Academy.**

It will be very important that residents register for the 2012 OKAP through the Prometric site as soon as possible. The Academy will provide additional details well in advance. Payment will not be due at the time of registration.

If you have urgent concerns about the move of the 2012 OKAP to Saturday, March 31, please write to OKAP Program Manager, Stacey Samuels, at ssamuels@aao.org. ■

AAO Mid-Year Forum, Washington, D.C.

BY OSCAR A. CRUZ, MD

I ATTENDED THE AMERICAN ACADEMY of Ophthalmology (AAO) Mid-Year Forum (MYF) in Washington, D.C. from April 6-9, 2011, in my role as Councilor of the Association of University Professors of Ophthalmology (AUPO). This was the 19th Annual MYF, which includes a Council meeting for all the state representatives and all the representatives of the subspecialty organizations. Prior to the start of the MYF, there was the Congressional Advocacy Day at the U.S. Capitol.

Michael X. Repka, MD, AAO's Medical Director for Government Affairs, started the MYF with the symposium, "Outlook for Medicare Payment Under Health Care Reform Implementation." This included presentations by Humphrey J.F. Taylor, Chairman, The Harris Poll, and Bruce Fried, Esq., Partner, SNR Denton US LLP, on what the future of the health care system might be in 2020.

The Keynote speaker of the MYF was Tucker Carlson, veteran journalist and political commentator for Fox News Channel. He provided an entertaining perspective on the current political landscape.

The final day of the MYF consisted of multiple mini-symposia. The initial one was "The Ethical and Practical Aspects of Implementing an Integrated Eye Care Delivery Team." It was presented by Christie L. Morse, MD, Chair, AAO's Ethics Committee, and David A. Durfee, MD, AAO's Senior Secretary for Ophthalmic Practice. It included a lively debate regarding the use of optometrists in an eye care delivery team. An additional symposium was, "All Wired Up: Electronic Health Records and Data Registries," moderated by Anne L. Coleman, MD, PhD, AAO's Secretary for Quality of Care. This examined the significant gap between what is known (evidenced-based medicine) and what is being done (current practice). The speakers addressed the benefits and future use of data registry and security concerns, and meaningful use requirements for electronic healthcare record adoption.

The final symposium, moderated by Ruth D. Williams, MD, AAO's President-Elect, and Brad H. Feldman, MD,

Chair, AAO's Young Ophthalmologist International Subcommittee, was "Going Global: Considerations for Effective Volunteering." The panel presented a broad-based and long-term experience in volunteering to improve eye care in developing nations throughout the world.

Lastly, there was a symposium on "Running for Office: Pearls, Pitfalls and Political Survival," chaired by Cynthia A. Bradford, MD, AAO's Senior Secretary for Advocacy. Dr. Bradford highlighted what it takes to build successful campaigns and how to manage competitive messaging. This included summaries from ophthalmologists who hold local and state offices. There was a presentation by Andy Harris, MD, a freshman member of the House of Representatives and an attending anesthesiologist at John's Hopkins University.

The AAO Council met for the final two days of the meeting. I believe that AUPO representation is critically important to AAO. AAO has specifically requested input from AUPO regarding the issues of attendance and educational programs for optometrists at AAO annual meetings. The Council meeting also provides the state council representatives and the subspecialty organizations an opportunity to submit council advisory recommendations to AAO regarding issues of concern to the Academy Membership-at-Large. This year, representative council advisory recommendations included: greater transparency of the AAO Political Committee (OPHHPAC), a request for an Academy statement on implications of the Femtosecond Laser, a task force to address the state membership crisis, a statement on ordering genetic tests for eye diseases, and a discussion on the education of optometrists at the AAO Annual Meeting.

AUPO is strongly represented at this meeting by Dr. Russell N. Van Gelder, the incoming Chair of the Council, Dr. John Sutphin, the Councilor for the American Board of Ophthalmology, and Dr. James Tsai, the Councilor for the American Glaucoma Society. AUPO has an opportunity to become more active in the AAO MYF. This will be discussed at the upcoming AUPO Board of Trustees meeting. ■

AUPO Board Highlights

July 15, 2011 Meeting

- Reviewed preliminary outlines for the 2012 Annual Meeting Management Symposium, President's Symposium, and Clinician Scientist Symposium.
- Added a Breakfast for the Experts session for chairs to the 2012 Annual Meeting schedule.
- Established a one-day Annual Meeting registration fee for non-members.
- Proposed a meeting with research directors to discuss how to help members be more effective in translational research.
- Narrowed the choices for the 2013 Annual Meeting site to a hotel in the Phoenix/Scottsdale, Arizona area or in San Diego, California.
- Approved the audited financial report for fiscal year 2010.
- Established a policy for recognizing contributions.
- Reviewed NAEVR/AEVR's report on 2010 deliverables and its expense analysis in keeping with AUPO's policy on the monitoring and use of grant funds in the United States.
- Approved the Straatsma Award Committee's recommendation of Dr. Richard Harper as the 2011 Straatsma Award winner.
- Approved drafting a letter to the Academy, stating the AUPO's position in support of allowing optometrists who are sponsored by a member ophthalmologist attending the meeting to attend the Academy's Annual Meeting.
- Approved the appointment of Dr. Andreas Lauer and Dr. Nicholas Volpe to the Board of Managers of the AUPO Fellowship Compliance Committee.
- Established a policy of not releasing resident emails to requestors.
- Approved funding to support a possible future meeting concerning the Milestones Project.
- Agreed to draft a proposal for a new salary survey. ■

San Francisco Match Update

THE SF MATCH IS EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE that we have added a new feature to our system that will save time while searching and filtering applicants for your program. This web-based search and filtering tool will allow programs to create searches using items from the CAS application form, categorize applicants and create shortlists. Our main goal in adding this capability is to provide you with a faster and more effective way to select the right candidates for your program. We have worked closely with Dr. Andy Lauer, the PDC and an advisory group of program directors and coordinators to insure that this new feature provides a useful and effective tool for programs. ■

The Heed Foundation Merit Award Fellowship Program

The Heed Ophthalmic Foundation has designated the Heed Fellowship as a merit award of \$10,000. This annual award is granted to individuals pursuing post-graduate studies in ophthalmology or the related visual sciences. Applicants for the award must be citizens of the United States, graduates of either accredited medical schools or schools of osteopathic medicine, and the post-graduate studies must be conducted in the United States. Deadline for receipt of applications is January 15th for fellowships beginning in the same year. For information, please contact:

Froncie A. Gutman, MD
 The Heed Foundation
 Cleveland Clinic Foundation
 9500 Euclid Avenue, Desk i-32
 Cleveland, OH 44195
www.heed.org
 Phone: 216-445-8145 | Fax: 216-444-8968



Association of University Professors of Ophthalmology

AUPO/RPB Resident and Fellow Research Forum

ABSTRACT SUBMISSION DEADLINE: OCTOBER 1, 2011

The AUPO Board of Trustees is proud to announce the **AUPO/RPB Resident and Fellow Research Forum**. AUPO was founded to promote excellence in ophthalmic education. The AUPO Board of Trustees believes strongly that skills learned by participating in research are an invaluable component of the education of an ophthalmologist. The establishment of the AUPO/RPB Resident and Fellow Research Forum is an acknowledgment by AUPO of the importance of research in ophthalmic education. The Forum is intended to encourage the most promising house officers to pursue a career in academic ophthalmology and vision research.

The AUPO/RPB Resident and Fellow Research Forum will be held during the annual meeting of AUPO. Residents or fellows, carrying out research on a full or part-time basis in any approved residency training program in the United States and Canada, may apply to participate in the Forum. Medical students doing a full year of research may also apply. Research content should reflect ongoing or very recent research that has not yet been published or accepted for publication at the time of submission. Abstracts of research carried out by candidates should be submitted to Steven E. Feldon, MD, AUPO/RPB Forum Chair, at the address listed on the application. **The deadline for receipt of abstracts is October 1 each year.** Abstracts should be in ARVO format. **Please note: the introduction should contain a single sentence statement of the hypothesis, and the conclusion a single sentence statement of the relevance of the work to the prevention of blindness (why the study is therefore important).** The abstract must be accompanied by a supporting letter from the candidate's department chair and a one-page curriculum vitae. The abstract should indicate the percent of "hands-on" effort of the abstract work actually performed by the candidate. No candidate may submit more than one abstract, although there is no

limit to the number of abstracts that may be submitted from any department. In general there should be only one submission from the laboratory or program of an individual scientific faculty preceptor. Applications across the full spectrum of ophthalmic diseases are encouraged. A winning presenter is eligible to present only once at an AUPO annual meeting. An AUPO committee will review the abstracts and notify successful candidates by November 30. A maximum of 4 candidates will be chosen to present their research at the annual meeting.

Each year, AUPO schedules a session for the Resident and Fellow Research Forum as an integral part of the AUPO annual meeting. The 2012 Forum will be held at the Marriott Marquis in Miami, Florida, on Friday, January 27, 2012. AUPO will be responsible for all travel-related expenses in keeping with AUPO reimbursement guidelines. The winners who present their research will receive a cash award of \$500 plus a commemorative certificate.

The AUPO Trustees and members wish to express their appreciation to Research to Prevent Blindness, to its Board of Directors, and to David F. Weeks, Chairman, and Diane S. Swift, President, for the generous grant to AUPO that has made possible the Resident and Fellow Research Forum. The AUPO Trustees hope that this forum will continue to promote excellence in research by residents and fellows and to identify and support those individuals considering a career in ophthalmic research. Additionally, this forum will serve to familiarize AUPO members with ophthalmic residents and fellows who show unusual promise for productive careers in academic ophthalmology.

The abstract form is available on the AUPO website at
www.aupo.org/awards/awards.html

2011 Straatsma Award Recipient: Richard A. Harper, MD

AUPO WISHES TO CONGRATULATE **Richard A. Harper, MD**, as the recipient of the 2011 Straatsma Award for



Excellence in Resident Education. Dr. Harper is currently the Ophthalmology Program Director at the Jones Eye Institute, University of Arkansas College of Medicine. This award is sponsored by the American Academy of Ophthalmology and AUPO, and Dr. Harper will make presentations at both annual meetings. ■

AUPO Chair Mentoring Program

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES of AUPO has established a chair mentoring program for chairs or about-to-be chairs. Mentoring is an important element in the academic way of life and is currently mandated in many universities. A mentor provides his or her mentee with advice, guidance, perspective, wisdom, counsel and perhaps even inspiration. Chairs and about-to-be chairs are invited to participate in AUPO's Chair Mentoring Program. Mentors include retired chairs who have been presidents of AUPO. If you are interested in having a mentor, please contact Sara Nguyen at snguyen@jsei.ucla.edu.

AUPO – New Member Updates

Chairman

Cho, Raymond I.	Ft. Sam Houston, TX	Brooke Army Medical Center
Couch, Marion E.	Burlington, VT	University of Vermont
Juzych, Mark S.	Detroit, MI	Wayne State University School of Medicine
Liss, Robert	Baltimore, MD	University of Maryland School of Medicine
Mayers, Martin	Bronx, NY	Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center
Weinreb, Robert N.	La Jolla, CA	University of California, San Diego, School of Medicine
Weiss, Jayne S.	New Orleans, LA	Louisiana State University School of Medicine
Woodruff, Todd E.	Akron, OH	Summa Health System/Akron City Hospital

Program Director

Bradley, Anika	Columbia, SC	University of South Carolina School of Medicine
Espinoza, Gabriela M.	Saint Louis, MO	Saint Louis University School of Medicine
Green, Laura	Baltimore, MD	Sinai Hospital of Baltimore
Liang, David	Hershey, PA	Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine
Mieler, William F.	Chicago, IL	University of Illinois, College of Medicine at Chicago
Pruett, Paul	Atlanta, GA	Emory University School of Medicine
Schultze, Robert L.	Slingerlands, NY	Albany Medical College
Siatkowski, R. Michael	Oklahoma City, OK	University of Oklahoma College of Medicine
Tapino, Paul J.	Philadelphia, PA	University of Pennsylvania Health System

Research Director

Cousins, Scott W.	Durham, NC	Duke University School of Medicine
West, Sheila K.	Baltimore, MD	Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine

CMSE

Baik, Annie K.	Sacramento, CA	University of California, Davis, School of Medicine
Burden, Susan K.	Winston Salem, NC	Wake Forest University School of Medicine
Jun, Albert S.	Baltimore, MD	Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine
Lind, John T.	Saint Louis, MO	Saint Louis University School of Medicine
Martinez Navarro, Wanda M.	Milwaukee, WI	Medical College of Wisconsin
Singh, Annapurna	Cleveland, OH	Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine
Stec, Lori	Royal Oak, MI	Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine
Winn, Bryan J.	New York, NY	Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons

DUES NEWS

Renew your dues! Renewing AUPO Members and Associate Members may pay dues using either a Visa, MasterCard, or check. Online dues renewal is encouraged! To pay online please login to My Profile located on the Membership page of the AUPO website. Please contact the AUPO office at 415-561-8548 if you need to reset your username and/or password.

Medical Student Educators and **Directors of Research** may now join AUPO as Associate Members. Information about the activities of the Council of the Medical Student Educators can be found on their dedicated website, www.cmse.ophed.com. Please call the AUPO office at 415-561-8548 for an application. Encourage your Medical Student Educator and

Research Director to get involved with this growing part of our membership!

Annual Meeting registration will open October 3rd. If your 2011–2012 dues are still outstanding, Members and Associate Members will not be able to register for the Annual Meeting and Administrators will need to register as non-members. Contact the San Francisco office at 415-561-8548 or aupo@aaop.org if you have questions regarding your Member or Associate Member dues status. Contact Kathy Austin at 402-559-5379 or keAustin@unmc.edu about your Administrator dues status. The information needed to reserve a hotel room at the AUPO-negotiated rate will only be provided after registering for the Annual Meeting. ■

Future Annual Meeting Date



January 26–28, 2012
J. W. Marriott Marquis Miami
 Miami, Florida

FACULTY POSITIONS AVAILABLE

SEPTEMBER 2011

For the most complete, up-to-date listing of faculty positions, with full descriptions, please visit the "Faculty Positions" section of www.aupo.org.

**Albert Einstein College of Medicine and Montefiore Medical Center
Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences**

- Comprehensive Ophthalmologist
- Vitreo-Retinal Surgeon

**Casey Eye Institute
Oregon Health Science University**

- Glaucoma Specialist

**Dean McGee Eye Institute
University of Oklahoma Department of Ophthalmology**

- Comprehensive Ophthalmologist
- Pediatric Ophthalmologist

**Doheny Eye Institute and Keck School of Medicine
Department of Ophthalmology, University of Southern California**

- Retina-Vitreous Surgeon Faculty Position

**Eugene and Marilyn Glick Eye Institute
Indiana University School of Medicine**

- Director of Basic Science and Translational Research Associate Professor/Professor of Ophthalmology
- Neuro-Ophthalmologist / Neurologist

**SUNY Downstate Medical Center
Department of Ophthalmology**

- Pediatric Ophthalmologist

**Tulane University Health Science Center
Department of Ophthalmology**

- Retina Specialist

**University of Kansas Medical Center
Department of Ophthalmology**

- Glaucoma Specialist
- Surgical Retina / Vitreous Specialist

**University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Department of Ophthalmology**

**University of Pennsylvania
Scheie Eye Institute**

- Vitreo-Retinal Specialist

**University of Pittsburgh
UPMC Eye Center**

- Director, Glaucoma Service
- Clinician-Scientist, Retina Service
- Director, The Louis J. Fox Center for Vision Restoration of UPMC and the University of Pittsburgh

**University of Toronto
Department of Ophthalmology and Vision Sciences**

- Chair, Department of Ophthalmology and Vision Sciences

**University of Vermont
Division of Ophthalmology**

- Chief of Ophthalmology
- Neuro-Ophthalmologist
- Comprehensive Ophthalmologist
- Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgeon

**UT Southwestern Medical Center
Department of Ophthalmology**

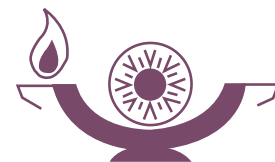
- Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, or Professor
- Comprehensive Ophthalmologist

**Virginia Commonwealth University
VCU Medical Center, MCV Hospitals and Physicians**

- Glaucoma Specialist
- Oculoplastic Surgeon

**West Virginia University Eye Institute
West Virginia University School of Medicine**

- Cornea Specialist

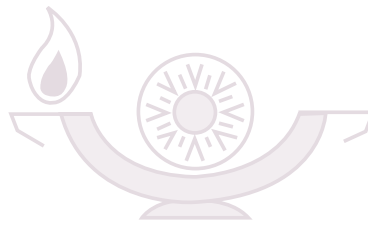


Compensation Survey

Limited quantities of the compensation survey report produced in 2007 are still available for purchase through the AUPO office. The order form is located on the AUPO website in the "What's New" section. The 2007 survey is the most recent data available. Programs that participated in the survey receive a substantial discount on the price. ■

Annual Business Meeting

The membership is invited to submit agenda items to the Executive Vice President for consideration at the Annual Business Meeting. Submissions of items of business in advance will allow full discussion of issues of concern by all AUPO members.



NEWS & VIEWS

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