

*A Message from
the Section on CCLRT*



Section on CCLRT Annual Meeting Newsletter January 2023

In This Issue:

- Message from the Chair
- From the Vice-Chair
- From the Program Chair
- From the Secretary/Treasurer
- From the Diplomat Award Chair
- Class of 2022 Diplomates
- The Max Schapero Memorial Lecture & The Founders Award
- Resident Case Report Challenge
- Sponsors

Message from the Chair



Another year has passed and when you measure time based on the American Academy of Optometry Annual meeting rather than the Gregorian calendar, you know that you are a dedicated member of an amazing group of leaders whom you share a deep passion. Along with my team members Drs. Cindy Siu, Rick Weisbarth and Marsha Malooley, and of course the AAO Staff Helen Viksnins, Amy Loy and Betty Taylor, I am very proud of the events we organized in San Diego to create a space that was welcoming, comfortable and of course memorable.

I became a Diplomat in 1998, and in 2008 I was asked to become involved in the leadership team of the Cornea, Contact Lens and Refractive Technology Section and I always looked forward to this day

when I would become Chair. Some joke, saying “Yep... you are almost done!” and I say it’s just the beginning.

So to make my time meaningful I needed to take a pause and think about what the section has done for so many of its members, but also what it has the potential to do. Along with Drs. Cristina Snyder and Jeff Krohn, there was a vision to move to the future and to make the leadership more inclusive. As chair it is important for us to perpetuate this environment and to allow these doctors to utilize their talents and develop their own teams and future leaders. This includes new, veteran and potential Diplomates. The path to having a strong section is not necessarily direct, but rather cultivated by others around us so that we are kept motivated, vital and growing. There are three areas of interest that I hope to focus on.

San Diego Pics



First is that we continue to have a strong Diplomate Program, since this is our foundation, as well as driving academics, younger doctors and international to new opportunities and potential leadership roles. But I also think that it is very important to have established doctors partake as this offers them a different challenge, an opportunity to dig deep but more important for them to share their expertise and influence. In order to accomplish these goals, we saw the need to modernize the process as there are many different ways to express their knowledge, to demonstrate the requirements and also to be acknowledged for their accomplishments to our field. Through the great work of Drs. Renee Reeder, Karen Yeung, Beth Kinoshita, Kathy Dumbleton, Danielle Robertson and Kristen Brown, we have completed the Rubrics for the Practical, Written and Oral Exams, so that these skills can be measured as objectively as possible, and questions can be modified as new information becomes available.

Second, it is important to have meaning for ALL members of the section and those interested in our core interests of Corneal Disease and Health, Contact Lenses for Disease and all Refractive States including Presbyopia and the Management/Control of Myopia, and finally Refractive Technology, including IOLS, Medical Treatment and Surgery. We hope to continue to grow the online SOAR program that Dr. Rob Davis developed and have it available throughout the entire year so that our site becomes a “go to” source for knowledge. Dr. Susan Gromacki will be spearheading programs this year

Finally, it is so important for us to “grow” more contact lens specialists. I was fortunate to work with Dr. Dave Roncone and develop the Residents Case Report and Concept Challenge for the past two years and saw the program double. There is so much talent and interest in this area for Dr. Julie DeKinder to continue to cultivate, and I see such potential for our profession and industry. They understand that contact lenses can change lives for those with devastating disease. However, I hope that we can reinforce that prescribing contact lenses offers us the opportunity to enhance someone’s life, to give them more freedom, and of course to change the trajectory of their refractive path.

Our Section is so fortunate to have others in our group such as Melanie Frogozo, Susan Resnick, Ryan McKinnis, Randy Sakamoto, Randy Charrier, Moshe Schwartz, Andy Pucker, Sheila Hickson-Curran, Yianni Giasoulakis, Susan Kovacich, Joe Stamm, Loretta Szcotka-Flynn, Ed Bennett, Glenda Secor, Peter Bergenske, Tom Quinn, Amy Nau, and Jennifer Harthan. They spread the word in social media, work with sponsors, develop programs, and of course up-keep, run and modernize our Diplomate Program. We are the oldest (established 1944) and largest (1,791 members) Section of the

American Academy of Optometry. Let’s look to our future and be the strongest, most significant and most vital section.

Louise Sclafani, OD, FAAO, FSLs
Section on CCLRT Chair



From the Vice Chair

Hard to believe that the 2022 Academy meeting is in the rearview mirror at this point in time.

It was a pleasure working with Cindy Sui, Marsha Malooley and Louise Sclafani on the San Diego Section Planning Committee. We hope you had a great time at the various Section events and were able to reconnect with fellow Diplomates, Section members, other colleagues and friends at our various events.

I am thrilled to be back on the Leadership team after taking a break to serve on the Academy Board and a few other assignments during the last decade plus. As CCLRT Section Vice-Chair, I will be collaborating closely with Louise, our Section Chair, over the next two years. My immediate responsibilities will include working with Cindy Siu, Marsha Malooley, and Ryan McKinnis to plan the various Section activities to be held at the Academy 2023 New Orleans Meeting.

You can look forward to it being an exciting event. Other key projects for next year will be to look at expanding the Section and modernizing the requirements for becoming a Diplomate. As we move into the future – we want to make sure that we continue to grow and expand our family.

In addition, we will continue to evaluate our Diplomate requirements to ensure they are up-to-date and at the same time continue to reflect our high standards of *Fostering professional growth and advocating excellence in patient care through leadership in education and research.*

Stay tuned for additional details.

All the Best in the New Year to You and Your Family!

Rick Weisbarth, OD, FAAO
Section on CCLRT Vice-Chair





From the Program/Education Chair

It was so great seeing so many of you in San Diego. Our events were amazing, and to our 2022 industry sponsors (logos at the end of the newsletter), thank you again for your generosity. Under my direction as Treasurer last year, we raised an Academy-record of \$171,000 (topping the 2021 record amount that we also raised), which will go to good use all year long and at next year's Annual Meeting. To the CCLRT residents, members, Fellows, and Diplomates, please support these wonderful companies, large and small, who have supported us.



Now to my current role as Program/Education Chair: my committee and I have already begun work planning the 2023 CCLRT Annual Meeting Symposium as well as the 2023 CCLRT SOAR Educational Program. Two years ago, this virtual, yearlong lecture series replaced the "Diplomate Prep Course" that used to be held the Tuesday prior to the Annual Meeting. The courses are open to all: Diplomate candidates, residents, students, Fellows, Diplomates, CCLRT section members and nonmembers alike. They are, of course, Academy-level courses presented by CCLRT Diplomates or other subject matter experts that you can take for COPE-approved Continuing Education from the comfort of your own home. SOAR is an acronym for:

- S- Subspecialty
- O- Optometric
- A-- Advanced
- R- Refinement

I am pleased to announce our first SOAR course for February 13, 2023 from 9:00pm to 10:00pm ET (6-7pm PT) by Diplomate Andrew Pucker. Links coming soon for the online presentation. I look forward to seeing you online!



Investigating the Impact of Contact Lenses on Meibomian Gland Health

Andrew D. Pucker, OD, PhD, FAAO, FSLs, FBCLA

Lastly, for all faculty members or AAO Chapter leadership, please utilize the CCLRT Diplomate Speakers' Bureau. Let myself or Randy Sakamoto know if you have any questions regarding that. We are happy to help.



Susan Gromacki, OD, MS, FAAO, FSLs

Section of the CCLRT Program/Education Chair



From the Secretary/Treasurer

"If you're not moving forward, you're falling back."
-- Sam Waterson



Where all good things come to an end, it was an incredible experience as the Diplomate Award Chair. I enjoyed being email buddies to all of the Diplomate candidates in process and to see Drs. Amy Nau, Erin Rueff, and Stuti Misra join our Diplomate family. Of course nothing is possible without my awesome teams: Case Reports: Drs. Susan Resnick, Joe Stamm, Marsha Malooley, and Steve Harney; Practical: Kristen Brown and Beth Kinoshita; Research: Kathy Dumbleton, Sheila Hickson-Curran; and Rubric: Renee Reeder.



Now as the Secretary/Treasurer, I'm fortunate to have a new team: The Sponsor-Liaisons are Drs. Susan Resnick and Moshe Schwartz. Dr. Julie DeKinder is the Director of the Residents. Dr. Randy Charrier is the Renewal/Technology Director. Dr. Ryan McKinnis is the Social Media Coordinator. And Dr. Loretta Szczołka-Flynn is the AAOF liaison. Please welcome them to their roles. I look forward to working with them.

Wishing you and your family a happy New Year!

Karen K. Yeung, OD, FAAO

Section of the CCLRT Secretary/Treasurer

From the Diplomate Award Chair



We have a number of wonderful individuals who have stepped up to serve on the Diplomate Award Committee. Spearheading the development of our oral exam rubric is Dr. Beth Kinoshita. Beth has been instrumental in helping develop our case report and practical rubrics. I'm excited to see what she and her team come up with for the orals. Directing this year's practical is Dr. Gianni Gialousakis. We are looking at an incredible site in New Orleans. Stay tuned for more details. Last but certainly not least, our case report director is Dr. Dave Roncone. We are working on going live with the rubric that last year's team developed and are excited about the reports we will be able to run that will further support the oral. We continue to ask our Diplomates to consider submitting questions for the written exam. In particular, we need questions related to RT (IOLs, inlays, lenticules), sclerals, and multifocal GPs. Thank you to the team and to each of you for all of your help in bringing our candidates through the process.

Renee Reeder, OD, FAAO
Section of the CCLRT Diplomate Award Chair

Welcome: Class of 2022 Diplomates!



Amy Nau, OD, FAAO
Boston, MA

Amy Nau has spent her career pursuing clinical research and the treatment of ocular surface disease, including the medical application of contact lens technology. After spending 15 years in academic institutions, she is now an owner of Korb & Associates in Boston, Massachusetts, one of the oldest continuing practices in the country. She spends her free time traveling, cooking, biking, learning French, playing the cello, and spending time with her husband and three children.



Erin Rueff, OD, PhD, FAAO
Southern California College of Optometry

Erin Rueff is Chief of the Cornea and Contact Lens Services at the Southern California College of Optometry at Marshall B. Ketchum University, where she also teaches in the contact lens and basic science curriculums. Clinically, she enjoys working with patients with dry eye, keratoconus and fitting multifocal contact lenses. She completed her optometry, contact lens residency, and graduate training at The Ohio State University, where she began her research in better understanding how vision and vision-related disorders influence contact lens discomfort.



**Stuti Misra, BOptom, MSc Optom, PhD, FAAO
University of Auckland**

Stuti Misra received her Research CCLRT Diplomate with the topic of 'Influence of Hormones on Dry Eye Disease in Females'. She is a senior lecturer at the University of Auckland, with research interest in ocular surface disease, ocular imaging, corneal innervation and diabetic eye disease. She is an avid adrenaline junky! Stuti has a love of heights, be it skydiving, bungee jumping or para sailing. She also enjoys flying and would love to get her pilot license. She has already enrolled for a few beginners lessons.

The Max Schapero Memorial Lecture & Founders Awards

The Founders Award

This award is in memory of and in honor of those Academy Fellows who founded the Contact Lens Section of the American Academy of Optometry. The award was originally the Policoff Award, honoring one of the section founders, William W Policoff. The name was later changed to honor all the founders of the Section. It is presented to an individual, group or company that has made an outstanding contribution to the clinical aspect of the art or science of contact lens fitting.

There are few more gifted at the art of contact lens design and manufacturing than our 2022 recipient, William C. "Bill" Carter of Clovis, California. If you can describe a corneal topography or clinical problem requiring contact lenses, Bill can figure out how to make it. He pioneered toric rigid lenses made without crimping, decentered OZ lenses for keratoconus, and many multifocal rigid lens designs. Bill gained his exposure to contact lenses from his father who had an optical wholesale business, but it took his engineering experience while in the Air Force and time at Boeing as a mechanic to really kickstart his career. After his time in the military he moved to the Bay Area of California and started making spectacles and contact lenses. He then met Dr. Akira Tajiri, one of our section Diplomates, and started making contact lenses with him. He eventually moved to the California's Central Valley and started Sequoia Contact Lens Laboratory. Through Dr. Tajira's connections to Japan, Bill was introduced to Menicon, the biggest contact lens company in Japan at the time, which eventually purchased Sequoia to launch Menicon USA. Following his exit from Menicon USA, Bill started yet another lab called Carler Contact Lenses with his son and continued another 20 years before retiring. He is smart, innovative, unfailingly kind, and a very deserving recipient of the Founders' Award.



Max Schapero Memorial Lecture Award

The 2022 Max Schapero Memorial Lecture Award, our section's highest honor, was presented to Dr. Robin Chalmers, with an introduction by Diplomate Sheila Hickson-Curran. Robin exemplifies the tenets of the award: a clinical, researcher or scholar who has made a significant contribution to the corneal and contact lens field by virtue of their publications, lectures or research efforts. She has a long history of excellence in clinical research, and somehow also finds time for a full calendar of philanthropic activities. Robin started her research activities as an OD student at UC Berkeley doing work study research with some true legends in the field: Drs. Tony Adams, Gunilla Haegerstrom-Portnoy and Brian Brown. After a stint in private practice, she spent five years with Ciba Vision and then began her significant work as a clinical trials consultant. In that role, she partnered with academic and corporate researchers to deliver key contributions to the contact lens and dry eye bodies of literature and has been a significant force in developing and mentoring optometric researchers and leaders for generations to come. In her non-optometric life, she is heavily involved in MedShare, a non-profit organization that collects and distributes medical supplies to deserving populations around the world. The section is grateful for her unflagging dedication to our profession, and we look forward to welcoming her as a Diplomate in the not too distant future (hint, hint, nudge, nudge, Robin).



Resident Case Report Challenge

The Centennial Celebration of the American Academy of Optometry in San Diego was well represented by CCLRT Residents.

Residents attended and connected with Section Diplomates at the virtual Diplomate Enlightenment Program in the early autumn before the meeting. One month later, 16 Residents encompassing the Class of 2022 and 2023, participated in the Case Report Challenge, a creative five-minute video on an interesting case treated and managed in their clinic and generously supported by grant money through CooperVision®.



2022 Best in Class (\$750)

Raymond Chartier Indiana University School Optometry, IU '22
Jessica Liaw University Eye Center at Ketchum Health, SCCO '22
Becky Su The Cornea & Laser Institute, New Jersey '22
Cindy Shan Northeastern State University-Oklahoma '21

2022 Honorable Mention (\$500)

Cindy Lam University Eye Center at Ketchum Health, SCCO '22
Stephanie Schumacher Michigan College of Optometry '21

2022 Achievement of Participation (\$250)

German Aparicio Illinois Eye Institute, ICO '22
Brittany Bowman Georgia Eye Partners, SCO '22
Joanne Chan Salt Lake City VAMC , SCCO '22
Emily Gottschalk Michigan College of Optometry, MCO '22
Fareedah Haroun Havener Eye Institute, OSU '22
Julie Song State University of New York '22
Lilly Tran UHCO TERTC Fellow, UHCO '22
Nina Van University Eye Institute, UHCO '22
Kori Watkins Salt Lake City VAMC/Moran Eye Center, SCCO '22
Michelle Yoshimoto Midwestern University, AZCOPT '22

Dave Roncone, OD, FAAO

Section of the CCLRT Resident Travel Grant Chair 2021-2022

Highlights from the CCLRT 2022 Symposium

This year's Cornea Contact Lens and Refractive Academy Symposium in San Diego was highlighted by the developer of the cryo preserved amniotic membrane device, Scheffer Tseng, MD, PhD. His presentation discussed the healing properties of cryo preserved amniotic membrane therapy for wound healing, chemical burns, bacterial ulcers and ocular surface disease. Dr. Tseng provided evidence for anti-scarring, anti-inflammation, promoting epithelial cellular replacement and nerve regeneration in dry eye with the cryo-preserved amniotic membrane. He concluded his presentation by discussing research liquefying amniotic membrane material under a scleral lens.

Dr. Moshe Schwartz discussed the clinical uses of amniotic membrane therapy for ocular surface disease. He illustrated with case presentations the cornea must be repaired with persistent epithelial defects before it can receive tears which is the hallmark of ocular surface disease. He identified differences between cryo preserved and dehydrated amniotic membranes and when to use each modality. Dr. Schwartz also outlined the application and billing guidelines for amniotic membrane devices.

The second half of this year's Symposium was dedicated to drug infused contact lenses. Dr. Houman Hemmati discussed the market potential for drug infused contact lenses. He discussed the competitive advantages of drug infused contact lenses due to drops having low bioavailability, non-compliance, and preservative side effects. A drug delivery contact lens system has continuous dosing, preservative free and is both vision correcting while administering medical drug therapy. Dr. Hemmati outlined the successful bimatoprost clinical glaucoma trial of lower IOP pressure with a drug infused contact lens. The study emphasized the continuous therapeutic IOP pressure outcome for the drug infused contact lens versus the up and down IOP pressure readings for the drop. The

future for the drug infused contact lens will include atropine for myopia therapy, allergy medication, glaucoma therapy and ocular surface disease.

Dr. Shalu Pal discussed her clinical experience with TheraVision drug eluding contact lenses for allergy therapy. She cited 93% of the surveyed practitioners were interested in drug delivery contact lenses. The main advantage of the drug infused contact lens is the delivery of the drug to the ocular surface whereas less than 5% of bottle filled therapeutic drop actually reaches the ocular surface. The Johnson & Johnson Acuvue Moist Ketotifen combination is a preservative free mast cell anti-histamine therapeutic option for patients with seasonal allergies. One of the advantages of this drug eluding contact lens is the length of therapeutic effect versus a drop. The contact lens sandwiches the medication between the cornea and lens for greater therapeutic effect. The system also inhibits normal drainage from the puncta and obvious solution spillage from administering the drop. Contact lens patients enjoyed the convenience of the double action allergy drug eluding contact lens.

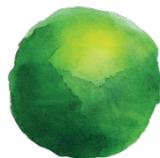
Robert L Davis OD FAAO

Thank you to our 2021-2022 Sponsors!

Major Sponsors

Alcon
SEE BRILLIANTLY

BAUSCH + LOMB



CooperVision®

Johnson & Johnson VISION

Supporters

Contamac, Dompe, Euclid, SynergEyes

Associates

Essilor, Glaukos, Menicon, Paragon/CooperVision SEC, RVL/Osmotica, Tarsus, Visioneering Technologies, Inc.

Contributors

Dalsey Adaptives

Mission Statement

Fostering professional growth advocating excellence in patient care through leadership in education and research.

Section on CCLRT Leadership**Chair**

Louise Sclafani, OD, FAAO

Vice Chair*

Rick Weisbarth, OD, FAAO

Program Chair*

Susan Gromacki, OD, MS,
FAAO

Secretary/Treasurer*

Karen Yeung, OD, FAAO

Diplomate Award Chair

Renee Reeder, OD, FAAO

Immediate Past Chair*

Jeffrey Krohn, OD, FAAO