

**40**  Dean McGee  
EYE INSTITUTE  
1975 - 2015

The Dean A. McGee  
EYE INSTITUTE

Celebrating  
*40 Years*



Dean McGee  
EYE INSTITUTE

• DMEI •  
**inVIsion**

A PUBLICATION OF THE DEAN MCGEE EYE INSTITUTE

patient care  
education  
vision research  
leadership  
service

# DMEI clinical directory

## Oklahoma Health Center

DMEI Acers and Parke Pavilions ▪ 608 Stanton L. Young Blvd. ▪ Oklahoma City, OK 73104

### Comprehensive Ophthalmology/ Cataract Surgery

(405) 271-1090 ▪ (800) 787-9012

Cynthia A. Bradford, MD  
Brian K. Firestone, MD  
Layne E. Goetzinger, MD  
David W. Jackson, MD  
Theresa A. Larson, MD  
Deana S. Watts, MD

### Contact Lenses

(405) 271-6084 ▪ (800) 787-9012

Carri L. Ferguson, FCLSA  
Contact Lens Specialist  
Rosita Ghazanfari, OD  
Contact Lens Specialist

### Cornea and External Disease

(405) 271-1095 ▪ (800) 787-9017

Rhea L. Siatkowski, MD  
Jennifer L. Wu, MD

### Glaucoma

(405) 271-1093 ▪ (800) 787-9015

Andrew K. Bailey, MD  
Mahmoud A. Khaimi, MD  
Steven R. Sarkisian, Jr., MD  
Gregory L. Skuta, MD

### LASIK Surgery

(405) 271-2500 ▪ (877) 406-4193

David W. Jackson, MD  
Jennifer L. Wu, MD  
(580) 250-5855  
Jean R. Hausheer, MD, FACS

### Low Vision Rehabilitation

(405) 271-1793 ▪ (800) 787-9012

Rebecca K. Morgan, MD

### Neuro-Ophthalmology

(405) 271-1091 ▪ (800) 787-9013

Bradley K. Farris, MD  
Anil D. Patel, MD  
(405) 271-1094 ▪ (800) 787-9016  
R. Michael Siatkowski, MD

### Ocular Oncology/Ophthalmic Pathology

(405) 271-1090 ▪ (800) 787-9012

Brian K. Firestone, MD

### Ocular Prosthetics

(405) 271-3391 ▪ (800) 787-9012

Nancy A. Lambert, BCO

### Ophthalmic Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery

(405) 271-1096 ▪ (800) 787-9018

P. Lloyd Hildebrand, MD, FACS  
Annie Moreau, MD, FACS

### Optical Services

(405) 271-6174 ▪ (800) 787-9012

### Optometry

(405) 271-1090 ▪ (800) 787-9012

Dana M. Garber, OD  
Rosita Ghazanfari, OD  
Brandalyn D. Loyko, OD  
Jessica L. Lucas, OD  
Jamie N. Rodriguez, OD (August 2015)

### Pediatric Ophthalmology/Strabismus

(405) 271-1094 ▪ (800) 787-9016

Janine E. Collinge, MD  
R. Michael Siatkowski, MD  
Tammy L. Yanovitch, MD, MHSc

### Retina/Vitreous

(405) 271-1092 ▪ (800) 787-9014

Reagan H. Bradford, Jr., MD  
Stephen R. Fransen, MD  
Ronald M. Kingsley, MD  
Robert E. Leonard II, MD  
Vinay A. Shah, MD

### Stephenson Laser Center

(405) 271-2500 ▪ (877) 406-4193

### Trauma/Emergency

(405) 271-6060 ▪ (800) 787-9012

### Uveitis

(405) 271-1090 ▪ (800) 787-9012

Theresa A. Larson, MD  
Jennifer L. Wu, MD

## McGee Eye Surgery Center (MESc)

Harold Hamm Diabetes Center ▪ 1000 N. Lincoln Blvd., Suite 150 ▪ Oklahoma City, OK 73104

(405) 271-3363 ▪ Medical Director: Robert J. Christensen, MD

## Dean McGee Eye Institute Satellite Locations

### EDMOND

1005 Medical Park Blvd., 73013

(405) 271-0913

### Comprehensive Ophthalmology/ Ophthalmic Surgery

Theresa A. Larson, MD

### Comprehensive Ophthalmology/ Neuro-Ophthalmology

Anil D. Patel, MD

### Contact Lenses

Rosita Ghazanfari, OD

### Glaucoma/Comprehensive Ophthalmology/ Ophthalmic Surgery

Andrew K. Bailey, MD

### Optometry

Angela M. Plant, OD

### Optical Services

(405) 271-0909

### NORTHWEST OKC

3500 N.W. 56th, #101, 73112

(405) 271-9500

### Comprehensive Ophthalmology/ Ophthalmic Surgery

Brian K. Firestone, MD

Ralph B. Hester III, MD

### Contact Lenses

Carri L. Ferguson, FCLSA

### Optometry

Tasha J. Schellenberg, OD

### Optical Services

(405) 271-9506

### LAWTON

3201 W. Gore Blvd., #200, 73505

(580) 250-5855

### Comprehensive Ophthalmology/ Ophthalmic Surgery

Jean R. Hausheer, MD, FACS

Ann A. Warn, MD, MBA

### Retina/Vitreous

Vinay A. Shah, MD

### Optical Services

(580) 585-5425



## Dean McGee Eye Institute

Home to the Department  
of Ophthalmology of the  
University of Oklahoma  
College of Medicine

*DMEI President and CEO*  
Edward L. Gaylord Professor and Chair  
Department of Ophthalmology  
University of Oklahoma  
Gregory L. Skuta, MD

*DMEI Executive Vice President  
and Chief Operating Officer*  
Administrator, Department of Ophthalmology  
Garyl G. Geist

*DMEI Vice President*  
Patient Accounts  
Compliance and Privacy Officer  
Loretta Y. Yazdanipناه

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SUMMER 2015

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# DEAN MCGEE EYE INSTITUTE Celebrates *40 Years* of Service in 2015

**ON DECEMBER 4, 1975, THE DEAN MCGEE EYE INSTITUTE (DMEI)**

**CELEBRATED** the dedication of its original building in a momentous ceremony that included many dignitaries from Oklahoma City and the University of Oklahoma (OU) Health Sciences Center. Noted business and civic leader Dean McGee himself was there as someone who had undergone successful surgical repair of a retinal detachment just four years earlier. Through that experience, Mr. McGee recognized the importance of building a major eye institute in Oklahoma City. Without question, he would be very proud of what he helped create 40 years ago.

Stanton L. Young, another major civic icon who passed away in mid-March of this year at age 87, also was there. In fact, it was at the same event that 11th Street in front of the newly christened Eye Institute was renamed Stanton L. Young Boulevard. Mr. Young served for many years on the DMEI Board of Trustees and as chair of its Oklahoma Eye Foundation and DMEI Foundation. The Board of Trustees and DMEI Foundation are now chaired by two major leaders of the next generation, David Rainbolt and Rainey Williams, Jr. respectively.



*Gregory L. Skuta, MD*

The many other community leaders and ophthalmologists who, between 1965 and 1975, helped create the vision for the 70,000-square-foot Dean McGee Eye Institute included Drs. Richard Clay, Tullos Coston, and Thomas Acers, the latter of whom was the first full-time chair of the OU Department of Ophthalmology and the founding president of the Eye Institute. Thirty years later, the second president of the Eye Institute, Dr. David Parke II, and James Tolbert III,

then chair of the DMEI Board of Trustees, recognized the need for a second 78,000-square-foot pavilion, which was dedicated on a beautiful autumn day in September 2011 to further advance the Institute's missions of patient care, education, vision research, leadership, and service.

To honor the legacies of the Institute's first two leaders, the pavilions were named the Thomas E. Acers, MD Pavilion and David W. Parke II, MD Pavilion respectively in May 2014. Dr. Acers passed away in 2005, and Dr. Parke now serves as Executive Vice President and Chief Executive Officer of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, the world's largest and most influential such organization.

As the Dean McGee Eye Institute celebrates its 40th anniversary in 2015, we are grateful for the opportunity to help preserve and restore vision for the hundreds of thousands of Oklahomans from all 77 counties who have passed through our doors. In 2014, our clinicians and surgeons, many of whom are national leaders in their fields, provided more than 170,000 total patient visits and performed almost 8000 surgical procedures in our surgery center. In fact, patient visits over the past 20 years have exceeded 2.5 million!

Education was one of Dr. Acers' passions, and our educational programs remain among the most competitive in the nation. Since 1975, we have trained 123 residents and 89 fellows in ophthalmology. More than 60% of our former

residents elected to practice in Oklahoma and surrounding states.

The vision research enterprise at the Eye Institute is among the most productive in the country with respect to funding from the National Institutes of Health and Research to Prevent Blindness. Our scientists, led by Robert E. Anderson, MD, PhD, will continue to relentlessly pursue treatments and cures

for macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, infectious diseases affecting the eye, corneal disorders, and other major eye conditions.

All of this has become possible because, 40 years ago, forward-thinking Oklahoma

City leaders very much like today's leaders created and literally built upon an extraordinary vision for our future. All of us at the Dean McGee Eye Institute pledge to advance that vision for the next 40 years and beyond!



Gregory L. Skuta, MD  
President and Chief Executive Officer  
Dean McGee Eye Institute  
Edward L. Gaylord Professor and Chair  
Department of Ophthalmology  
University of Oklahoma College of Medicine

**“...we are grateful  
for the opportunity  
to help preserve  
and restore vision...”**

# Robert E. “Gene” Anderson, MD, PhD, Honored for his 20 Years of Service as Director of Research

**A CEREMONY WAS HELD IN THE INASMUCH FOUNDATION ATRIUM** on Wednesday, December 10 to honor Dr. Robert E. “Gene” Anderson and his 20 years of scientific discovery, leadership, mentorship, and distinguished service at the Dean McGee Eye Institute (DMEI) and in the University of Oklahoma (OU) Department of Ophthalmology. The ceremony included remarks from Dr. M. Dewayne Andrews, Senior Vice President and Provost of the OU Health Sciences Center and Executive Dean of the OU College of Medicine.



*Dr. M. Dewayne Andrews, Senior Vice President and Provost of the OU Health Sciences Center and Executive Dean of the OU College of Medicine offers his remarks at the ceremony.*

Dr. Anderson was appointed to a position at the Dean McGee Eye Institute in January 1995 by former President and CEO, Dr. David W. Parke II, and brought his National Institutes of Health (NIH)-supported research projects from the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston to Oklahoma City. In the 20 years since Dr. Anderson’s arrival, DMEI has become one of the nation’s premier vision research centers. The Institute now has ten independent scientific investigators all with their own funded research. Dr. Anderson is currently the Director of Vision Research at the Eye Institute, a George Lynn Cross Research Professor, the Dean McGee Professor of Ophthalmology, Professor of Cell Biology, and Adjunct Professor of Geriatric Medicine at the OU Health Sciences Center.

Dr. Anderson said that, of his accomplishments, he is most proud of the Eye Institute’s two consecutive five-year grants from the NIH as a Center of Biomedical Research Excellence in support of young scientists as they pursue specific research projects. Dr. Anderson further notes that “that program was huge in developing the infrastructure at DMEI to conduct vision research as well as developing the careers of young people. The whole program was designed to mentor young scientists and help them achieve scientific independence so they could





*Dr. Robert E. "Gene" Anderson (fourth from the right) stands with family and friends and a sign now posted in one of DMEI's conference rooms to honor his 20 years of service.*

successfully compete for NIH gold standard funding.”

“Dr. Gene Anderson, one of the world’s leading vision scientists, has, in his 20 years at the Dean McGee Eye Institute, wielded an enormous and transformative impact not only on the scientific mission and level of grant support for vision research at the Eye Institute and in the Department of Ophthalmology, but also at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center as a whole,” said Dr. Gregory L. Skuta, President and CEO of the Dean McGee Eye Institute.

In honoring him on this special day, it was announced that the conference room on the lower level of the David W. Parke II, MD Pavilion has been named the *Robert E. Anderson, MD, PhD Conference Room* in recognition of his extraordinary achievements and contributions. ■

## NEW FEMTOSECOND LASER HAS ARRIVED

DAVID W. JACKSON, MD (below), a cataract surgeon at DMEI, prepares a patient for the initial steps of cataract surgery using the new femtosecond laser technology. This innovative new technology, which was funded through private gifts, provides unique capabilities in comparison to traditional cataract surgery. DMEI surgeons perform more than 4,000 cataract surgeries annually. ■



# LEGISLATIVE VISITS

ON JANUARY 22 Oklahoma State Representative Mark McBride toured the Dean McGee Eye Institute. Representative McBride represents District 53 and was elected in 2012. He serves as Vice Chair on three committees in the House.

*Pictured (left to right): Dr. Gregory L. Skuta, President and CEO of the Dean McGee Eye Institute, Lana G. Ivy, Vice President of Development for DMEI, State Representative Mark McBride, and Dianne Rasmussen, LLC.*



DMEI EXECUTIVES VISITED with and toured state Senators Rob Standridge, Chair of the Health and Human Services Committee and Ervin Yen, MD, Vice-Chair of the Health and Human Services Committee, on April 17. These visits are coordinated to assist the Senators in learning about the mission of the Dean McGee Eye Institute and its vital service to Oklahomans and their constituents.

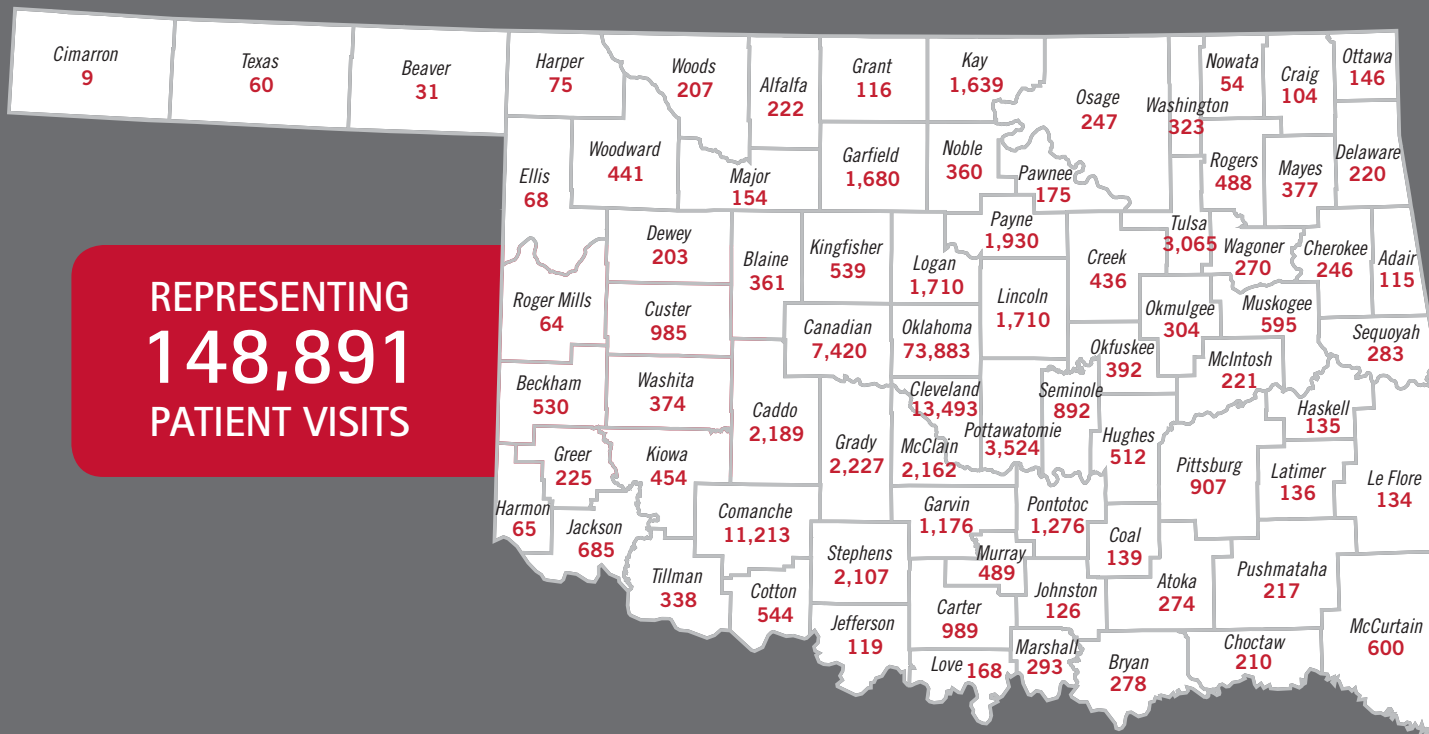
*Pictured (left to right): Dr. Gregory L. Skuta, President and CEO of the Dean McGee Eye Institute, Senator Rob Standridge, Senator Ervin Yen, Lana G. Ivy, Vice President of Development for DMEI, Garyl G. Geist, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer for DMEI, and Dianne Rasmussen, LLC.*





# Dean McGee Eye Institute – Serving Oklahomans

## 2014 Oklahoma Patient Visits by County



### SEVEN OKLAHOMA STATE LEGISLATORS visit DMEI on April 28 from the House Public Health Committee.

Front row (left to right): Dianne Rasmussen, LLC, State Representatives Claudia Griffith (District 45) and Jeannie McDonald (District 78), and DMEI Vice President of Development, Lana Ivy.

Back row (left to right): DMEI Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Garyl Geist, Representatives Mike Ritze, Chair (District 80), Glen Mulready (District 68), Weldon Watson (District 79), Doug Cox (District 5), Ben Loring (District 7), Matt Nowlin, Representative Cox's intern, and DMEI President and CEO, Gregory L. Skuta.

# Celebrating the 2014 Holiday Thunder Tailgate Party!

**DMEI EMPLOYEES GATHERED** in the Inasmuch Foundation Atrium on Friday afternoon, December 12, 2014, for a Holiday Thunder Tailgate Party. In a series of holiday celebrations, this event followed DMEI Thunder Night on December 9 against the Milwaukee Bucks (Thunder 114, Bucks 101) for which each employee was given two tickets. The tailgate party included *Employee Service Recognition Awards* and drawings for many special gifts. ■

## 20 YEARS



Congratulations to employees with 20 Years of Service (left to right): Dr. P. Lloyd Hildebrand, Delores Watley, Cherie Davis, and Dr. Ann Warn (not pictured).

## 15 YEARS



15 Year Service Awards were given to (left to right) Dr. R. Michael Siatkowski, Laura Blish, Keri West, Dr. Dana Garber, Melanie Hykes, Dr. Daniel Carr, and Dr. Feng Li. Not pictured are: Dawn Bartosh, Karen Carter, and Dr. Rhea Siatkowski.





Kathy Mills and Dr. Anil Patel enjoying the 2014 Holiday Thunder Tailgate Party.



DMEI employees (left to right), Cherie Vinson, Cati Killman, Karina Edrington, Steve Peters, Ashley Eberhardt, Charonna Hill, and Kathy Axton visiting at the DMEI 2014 Holiday Thunder Tailgate Party.

## 10 YEARS



Employees recognized for their 10 Years of Service with Dr. Gregory L. Skuta (second from left) and Matt Bown (far right) are: Fatemeh Shaviati, Teresa Berry, Leela Baker, Dr. Anil Patel, Robert Dimick, Lorrie Brison Neal, Sonya Strang, Linda Boone, Ammaji Rajala, and Richard Brush.

## 5 YEARS



5 Year Service awardees were recognized with Dr. Gregory L. Skuta (second from left) and Matt Bown (far right). Employees standing left to right are: Dr. Xue Cai, Roseanne Goliwas, April Coker, Bianca Smith, Daniel Carrel, Kristi Lutes, Geraldine de la Cerda, Jill Srnka, and Sherry Anderson. Not pictured are Sonny Icks, Katherine Ramirez, Brandi Turner, and Ramonia Wilson.



# New DMEI Executive Vice President/ Chief Operating Officer Named



*Garyl G. Geist*

**MR. GARYL GEIST BEGAN HIS APPOINTED POSITION** as the new Executive Vice President/Chief Operating Officer (EVP/COO) of the Dean McGee Eye Institute (DMEI) on February 9, 2015. Prior to his appointment, he was the Chief Operating Officer of the Oklahoma Allergy and Asthma Clinic, a role that he held since 2010.

From 2001 to 2010, he served as President and Chief Executive Officer of Valir Health, LLC.

During Geist's tenure at the Oklahoma Allergy and Asthma Clinic (OAAC), OAAC experienced increased productivity and efficiency of the clinical operations and growth in the number of providers. He also oversaw renovations of the main Oklahoma Health Center clinic and OAAC's three satellite clinics. Those with whom he has worked have praised Geist's skills as a leader, organizer, communicator, problem-solver, strategic thinker, and motivator. A graduate of Leadership Oklahoma, Geist was recognized by *The Journal Record* in 2009

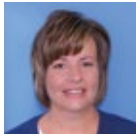
among "Achievers Under 40" and in 2010 among "Most Admired CEOs."

"Garyl Geist's impressive background in healthcare management, strategic planning and operations underscores our commitment to a continuing legacy of strong leadership in this position at the Dean McGee Eye Institute," said Gregory L. Skuta, MD, DMEI President and CEO and Edward L. Gaylord Professor and Chair of the OU Department of Ophthalmology. "Garyl's exceptional leadership has resulted in remarkable growth and increased effectiveness and efficiency in the organizations for which he has worked in the past. I am confident that Garyl will apply those same skills here to help propel the Eye Institute to new levels of excellence in the years to come."

A native of Ardmore, Geist earned his undergraduate degree in accounting from East Central University in Ada and his Master's Degree in Accountancy from the University of Oklahoma.

The Geist family resides in northwest Norman. Lynn Geist, Garyl's wife of 23 years, is a fifth-grade teacher at Truman Elementary School in Norman. They have two sons (Conner and Caden) and two daughters (Lillie and London) ranging in age from 17- to 5-years-old. ■

# FACULTY & STAFF AWARDS AND ACTIVITIES



**SHERRY D. ANDERSON, COT**, received her Certified Ophthalmic Technician certification from the Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (JCAHPO), April 2015.



**MICHELLE C. CALLEGAN, PhD**, recently presented: “The Blood-Retina Barrier and Endophthalmitis,” University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, Department of Physiology, March 2015 and “Bacterial Endophthalmitis: Diagnosis and the Impact of Virulence,” Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology, Guangzhou China, April 2015. She co-chaired the “Diagnosis of Infectious Diseases Symposium,” Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology, Guangzhou China, April 2015.



**HAYLEE M. DRAKE, COA**, received her Certified Ophthalmic Assistant certification from the Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (JCAHPO), April 2015.



**MICHAEL H. ELLIOTT, PhD**, recently published the following articles: Reagan A., Gu X., Hauck S.M., Ash J.D., Cao G., Thompson T.C., and Elliott M.H. “Retinal Caveolin-1 Modulates Neuroprotective Signaling,” *Advances in Experimental Medicine and Biology*, In press; Bhatti F., Bal G., Hobbs R., Linens A., Munzar S., Akram R., Barber A.J., Anderson M., Elliott M., and Edwards M. “Pulmonary Surfactant Protein A is Expressed in Mouse Retina by Müller Cells and Impacts Neovascularization in Oxygen Induced Retinopathy,” *Investigative Ophthalmology & Visual Science*, Jan. 2015; Chucair-Elliott A.J., Elliott M.H., Cohen A., and Carr D.J.J. “Corneal Stem Cells: A Source of Cell Renewal with Therapeutic Potential,” pp. 99-113, In: *Studies on the Cornea and Lens; Applied Basic Research and Clinical Practice*, Babizhayev et al. (eds.), Springer Science and Business Media, New York, NY; Li X., Gu X., Boyce T.M., Zheng M., Reagan A.M., Qi H., Mandal N., Cohen A.W., Callegan M.C., Carr D.J.J., and Elliott M.H. “Caveolin-1 Increases Pro-Inflammatory Chemoattractants and Blood-Retinal Barrier Breakdown but Decreases Leukocyte Recruitment in Inflammation,” *Investigative Ophthalmology & Visual Science*, 2014; and Ding L., Cheng R., Hu Y., Takahashi Y., Jenkins A.J., Keech A.C., Humphries K.M., Gu X., Elliott M.H., Chen Q., and Ma J.X. “Peroxisome Proliferator-Activated Receptor Protects Capillary Pericytes in the Retina,” *American Journal of Pathology*, Aug. 2014. Dr. Elliott began his term as Chair of the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology’s (ARVO’s) Members-in-Training Committee at the conclusion of ARVO 2015 in Denver, CO; was a member of the ARVO Content Working Group in 2014; became a Review Board member for the Pennsylvania Lions Sight Conservation & Eye Research Foundation; and was recently an invited guest lecturer at the North Texas Eye Research Institute, University of North Texas Health Science Center, Fort Worth, TX, Sept. 2014 and Vanderbilt Eye Institute, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN, March 2015.

# FACULTY & STAFF AWARDS AND ACTIVITIES



**BRADLEY K. FARRIS, MD**, recently presented: “Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension,” Department of Neurology Grand Rounds, Oklahoma Children’s Hospital, Oklahoma City, OK, March 2015; and “Neuro-Ophthalmology,” Neuro-Night, Fountains at Canterbury, Oklahoma City, OK, Jan. 2015. Recent poster presentations include: “Risk Factors for Progression of Visual Loss after Optic Nerve Decompression in Patients with Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension,” North American Neuro-Ophthalmology Society, San Diego, CA, Feb. 2015; and “Comparison of Objective and Subjective Techniques of Strabismus Measurements in Adults with Normal Retinal Correspondence,” American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus, New Orleans, LA, March 2015.



**P. LLOYD HILDEBRAND, MD, FACS**, recently published: Ebenezer D., Quinn G.E., Hildebrand P.L., Ells A., Hubbard G.B., Capone A., Martin E.R., Ostroff C.P., Smith E., Pistilli M., Ying G.S. for the e-ROP Cooperative Group. “Validated System for Centralized Grading of Retinopathy of Prematurity Telemedicine Approaches to Evaluating Acute-Phase Retinopathy of Prematurity (e-ROP) Study,” *JAMA Ophthalmology*, March 2015.



**ASHLEY R. HUGHES, COA**, received her Certified Ophthalmic Assistant certification from the Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (JCAHPO), April 2015.



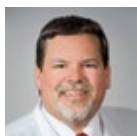
**DIMITRIOS KARAMICHOS, PhD**, recently published the following: McKay T.B., Lyon D., Sarker-Nag A., Priyadarsini S., Asara J.M., Karamichos D. “Quercetin Attenuates Lactate Production and Extracellular Matrix Secretion in Keratoconus,” *Scientific Reports*, March 2015; Karamichos D. “Ocular Tissue Engineering: Current and Future Directions,” *Journal of Functional Biomaterials*, Feb. 2015; Karamichos D., Zieske J.D., Sejersen H., Sarker-Nag A., Asara J.M., Hjortdal J. “Tear Metabolite Changes in Keratoconus,” *Experimental Eye Research*, March 2015; Priyadarsini S., Sarker-Nag A., Allegood J., Chalfant C., Karamichos D. “Description of the Sphingolipid Content and Subspecies in the Diabetic Cornea,” *Current Eye Research*, Nov. 2014; and Priyadarsini S., Hjortdal J., Sarker-Nag A., Sejersen H., Asara J.M., Karamichos D. “Gross Cystic Disease Fluid Protein-15/Prolactin-Inducible Protein as a Biomarker for Keratoconus Disease,” *PLoS One*, Nov. 2014.



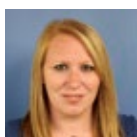
**MAHMOUD A. KHAIMI, MD**, was recently appointed Vice Chair of the Glaucoma Panel for the Practicing Ophthalmologists Curriculum – American Academy of Ophthalmology; participated in “Meet the Expert” sessions at the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery (ASCRS) Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA; served as “Canaloplasty Symposium” moderator and speaker at the ASCRS Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA; and conducted an OU web chat explaining the severity, symptoms, risk factors, and treatments for glaucoma. He presented two posters at the American Glaucoma Society Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA entitled “Outcomes of Bleb Revision with Mitosol After Express Shunt Surgery” and “Express Shunt Surgery Following Failed Canaloplasty.” He presented three posters at the ASCRS Annual Meeting, San



Diego, CA entitled “Efficacy of Selective Laser Trabeculoplasty After Canaloplasty;” “Regional Corneal Thickness in Eyes with the Ex-PRESS Drainage Device;” and “Intermediate Outcomes of Mini Glaucoma Shunt Surgery Under Scleral Flap After Failed Canaloplasty.” He recently published Allan E.J., Khaimi M.A., Jones J.M., Ding K., Skuta G.L. “Long-Term Efficacy of the Baerveldt 250 mm<sup>2</sup> Compared with the Baerveldt 350 mm<sup>2</sup> Implant,” *Ophthalmology*, March 2015.



**ROBERT E. LEONARD II, MD**, was an invited guest speaker for the Montana Academy of Ophthalmology, Big Sky, MT, Feb. 22 - 24, 2015.



**KIMBERLY J. MAXFIELD, COA**, received her Certified Ophthalmic Assistant certification from the Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (JCAHPO), April 2015.



**ANNIE MOREAU, MD, FACS**, was elected to the OU Health Sciences Center Faculty Senate. Her recent presentations include: Robinson M.E., Moreau A., Siatkowski R.M., Farris B.K. “Relationship Between High Opening Pressure on Lumbar Puncture and Failure of Optic Nerve Sheath Decompression to Prevent Progressive Visual Loss in Patients with Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension,” North American Neuro-Ophthalmology Society Annual Meeting, San Diego, CA, Feb. 2015; and video presentation, “Complex Grade III Choristoma of the Anterior Segment,” at the American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic & Reconstructive Surgery Annual Fall Meeting, Chicago, IL, Oct. 2014.



**HEMANG K. PANDYA, MD**, was featured on KFOR-TV with host Linda Cavanaugh and discussed age-related macular degeneration, April 2015.



**RAJU V.S. RAJALA, PhD**, was recently awarded a bridge grant from Presbyterian Health Foundation, “Light Activation of Retinal Insulin Receptor Signaling,” Oct. 2014 – Sept. 2015. He recently published the following articles: Woodruff M.L., Rajala A., Fain G.L., Rajala R.V.S. “Effect of Knocking Down the Insulin Receptor on Mouse Rod Responses,” *Scientific Reports*, Jan. 2015; Gupta V.K., Rajala A., Rajala R.V.S. “Non-Canonical Regulation of Phosphatidylinositol 3-Kinase Gamma Isoform Activity in Retinal Rod Photoreceptor Cells,” *Cell Commination and Signaling*, Feb. 2015; Zulliger R., Naash M.I., Rajala R.V.S., Molday R.S., Azadi S. “Impaired Association of Retinal Degeneration-3 with Guanylate Cyclase-1 and Guanylate Cyclase Activating Protein-1 Leads to Leber Congenital Amaurosis,” *Journal of Biological Chemistry*, Feb. 2015; Takahashi Y., Chen Q., Rajala R.V.S., Ma J.X. “MicroRNA-184 Modulates Canonical Wnt Signaling Through the Regulation of Frizzled-7 Expression in the Retina with Ischemia-Induced Neovascularization,” *FEBS Letters*, March 2015; and Rajala R.V.S., Ranjo-Bishop M., Wang Y, Rajala A., Anderson R.E. “The p110 $\alpha$  Isoform of Phosphoinositide 3-Kinase

# FACULTY & STAFF AWARDS AND ACTIVITIES

is Essential for Cone Photoreceptor Survival,” *Biochimie*, May 2015. His recent presentations include: Wang Y., Rajala A., Ranjo-Bishop M., Ma J.X., Rajala R.V.S., Rajala RVS. “Targeting Lipid-Based Nanoparticles Promotes Cell-Specific Gene Delivery to Eyes and Improves Vision *In Vivo*,” Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO), Denver, CO, May 2015; Rajala R.V.S., Rajala A., Wang Y., Anderson R.E. “Characterization of Pyruvate Kinase M2 in the Retina,” ARVO, Denver, CO, May 2015; and Takahashi Y., Chen Q., Rajala R.V.S., Ma J.X. “Functional Role of Micro RNA-184 in Diabetic Retinopathy,” ARVO, Denver, CO, May 2015.




**STEVEN R. SARKISIAN, JR., MD**, presented “Implantation of Trabecular Micro-Bypass Stent, Cataract Extraction, and Endoscopic Cyclophotocoagulation (ICE): Review of Surgical Technique and Postoperative Findings,” European Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery Meeting, London, England, Sept. 2014; presented “Breakfast with the Experts” lecture discussing “Modulating Wound Healing in Glaucoma Filtration Surgery,” Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, Chicago, IL, Oct. 2014; was a visiting professor at the Kansas City Society of Ophthalmology and Otolaryngology Annual Meeting and spoke about “MIGS: The Next Frontier in Glaucoma Surgery” and “An Update on Pediatric Glaucoma Surgery,” Jan. 2015; presented “War Room Briefing: Advising the Troops on Using New Weapons to Fight Glaucoma,” American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery Side X Side Winter Meeting, Miami, FL, Feb. 2015; and presented “Trabecular Meshwork Outflow Stents,” Annual Meeting of the American Glaucoma Society, San Diego, CA, Feb. 2015.



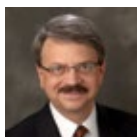
**VINAY A. SHAH, MD**, was featured on News 7, KSWO-TV “MedWatch Minute” and discussed diabetic eye disease and macular degeneration, May 2015; speaker and moderator for “AAO Technology Theater: Smartphone Update and Disruptive Technologies,” American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, Oct. 2014; course director and senior Instructor for “AAO Skills Transfer Lab: The iPhone for Ophthalmologist (Basic),” AAO Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, Oct. 2014; and course director and instructor “AAO Skills Transfer Lab: The iPhone for Ophthalmologist (Advanced),” AAO Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, Oct. 2014. His recent publications include: Elshatory Y., Shah V.A., Hildebrand P.L. “Blurry Vision After Orbital Decompression Surgery,” *Ophthalmic Surgery, Lasers and Imaging Retina*, May 2014, Epub 2014 and Walgama J., Elshatory Y.M., Shah V.A. “Ophthalmomyiasis: A Lit Path,” *JAMA Ophthalmology*, Feb. 2015.



**R. MICHAEL SIATKOWSKI, MD**, was an invited Visiting Professor at University of California-Davis, April 2015. He recently published: Quinn G.E., Ying G., Daniel E., et al for the e-ROP Cooperative Group. “Validity of a Telemedicine System for the Evaluation of Acute-Phase Retinopathy of Prematurity,” *Journal of the American Medical Association (JAMA) Ophthalmology*, Oct. 2014; and co-authored the peer-reviewed presentation: Robinson M.E., Moreau A., Siatkowski R.M., Farris B.K. “Relationship Between High Opening Pressure on Lumbar Puncture and Failure of Optic Nerve Sheath Decompression to Prevent Progressive Visual Loss in Patients with Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension,” *North American Neuro-Ophthalmology*



Society, San Diego, CA, Feb. 2015. His recent speaking engagements include: “Mechanical Strabismus following Ocular Surgery,” North American Neuro-Ophthalmology Society, San Diego, CA, Feb. 2015; XXXVI BPEI Inter-American Course in Ophthalmology, pediatric neuro-ophthalmology, Miami, FL, Oct. 2014; “Pediatric Optic Nerve Disorders,” American Association of Certified Orthoptists/American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus (AAPOS) Symposium, Chicago, IL, Oct. 2014; and “Functional Visual Loss: What to Tell the Patients and the Parent,” AAO/AAPOS/AAP Pediatric Ophthalmology Subspecialty Day, Chicago, IL, Oct. 2014. Other recent presentations include: Sussenbach E.C., Siatkowski R.M., Ding K., Yanovitch T.L. “Pediatric Ophthalmologists’ Trends in Abusive Head Trauma,” E-poster, AAPOS Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, March 2015; Bitner D.P., Adesina O., Siatkowski R.M., Farris B.K. “Comparison of Objective and Subjective Techniques of Strabismus Measurement in Adults with Normal Retinal Correspondence,” E-poster, AAPOS Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, March 2015; Edmond J.C., Siatkowski R.M. “Neuro-Ophthalmic Manifestations of Systemic Disease, Part 2,” Workshop, AAPOS Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, April 2015; and Siatkowski R.M., Freedman S.F., Granet D.S.B., Ellis G.S., Pritchard C., Wiggins R.E., Morse C.L. “Difficult Conversations in Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus,” Workshop, AAPOS Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, April 2015.



**GREGORY L. SKUTA, MD**, is currently serving as Immediate Past President of the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) and is in his last year on the AAO’s Board of Trustees. He has been appointed to serve on the Board of Directors of the American Glaucoma Society Foundation. Dr. Skuta participated in a Special Emphasis Panel grant review for the National Eye Institute in Bethesda, Maryland, in March 2015. In May 2015, Dr. Skuta delivered the Judy and C. David Fritch, MD Lecture, “Glaucoma Surgery 2015: Where Are We Now? Can We Do Better,” at the University of Nebraska Medical Center’s Gifford-Truhlsen Conference in Omaha, where he serves on the Advisory Council for the Truhlsen Eye Institute. At the Congress of the European Society of Ophthalmology in Vienna in June 2015, he co-moderated a symposium entitled “Clinical and Surgical Perspectives in Glaucoma” and also presented a lecture on “Trends in Glaucoma Care in the United States.”



**LILY L. WONG, PhD**, recently published Wong L.L., Pye Q.N., Chen L., Seal S., McGinnis J.F. “Defining the Catalytic Activity of Nanoceria in the P23H-1 Rat, a Photoreceptor Degeneration Model,” *PLoS ONE*, March 2015. Wong L.L., Zhou X., McGinnis J.F., and Seal S. “Neovascularization by Cerium Oxide Nanoparticles” was also recently granted an Australian Patent.



**TAMMY L. YANOVITCH, MD, MHSc**, recently published Prakalapakorn S.G., Proia A.D., Yanovitch T.L., DeArmedy S., Mendelsohn N.J., Aleck K.A., Kishnani P.S. “Ocular and Histologic Findings in a Series of Children with Infantile Pompe Disease Treated with Enzyme Replacement Therapy,” *Journal of Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus*, Nov-Dec 2014.



# PHILANTHROPY UPDATE



## Remembering a Great Visionary

**THE DEAN MCGEE EYE INSTITUTE** lost a friend and Oklahoma City a prominent civic and business leader, Stanton L. Young, on March 15, 2015. Mr. Young was president of The Young

Companies, which included Pepsi Cola franchises, Journey House Travel, oil and gas production and various commercial real estate ventures.

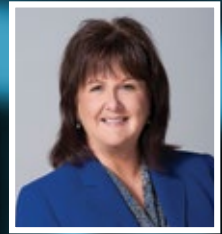
For more than four decades, Stanton L. Young was a champion of the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center. He was unwavering in his vision to elevate the health sciences center to a premier academic medical center of national stature. Mr. Young served as Chair of the Presbyterian Hospital Board of Trustees, Presbyterian Health Foundation, Dean McGee Eye Institute Foundation, Oklahoma City Urban Renewal Authority Board, Greater Oklahoma

City Chamber, and Oklahoma County Chapter of the American Red Cross.

During his lifetime, he served on numerous civic boards and received many awards. Mr. Young was awarded Honorary Doctorates from the University of Oklahoma, Oklahoma City University and Oklahoma Christian University and was honored by the dedication of the Stanton L. Young Biomedical Research Building in his name. In 1975, a portion of 11th Street was renamed Stanton L. Young Boulevard in recognition of his efforts on behalf of the Health Sciences Center.

Stanton L. Young leaves an extraordinary legacy of generosity and service to others and will be greatly missed by DMEI and all who knew him. Memorial contributions can be made to the Dean McGee Eye Institute Foundation in support of the Stanton L. Young Endowed Chair in Ophthalmology. ■





Lana G. Ivy  
Vice President of Development

## THE ANSCHUTZ FOUNDATION PROVIDES GRANT FOR VITAL LASER EQUIPMENT

**THE ANSCHUTZ FOUNDATION** has provided a grant to assist in the purchase of a new state-of-the-art multi-wavelength laser that replaced an aging laser. This new laser will allow DMEI glaucoma and retinal surgeons to better serve patients from Oklahoma and the surrounding states.

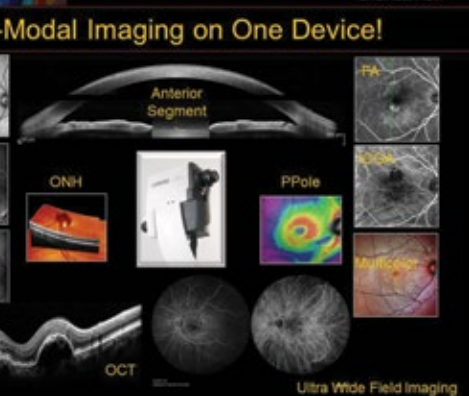
The gift from the Anschutz Foundation was recently supplemented by a gift from Mr. Richard Dulaney to complete funding for this vital technology.

This multi-wavelength laser permits its use for such glaucoma procedures as laser suture lysis after glaucoma filtering surgery, laser trabeculoplasty for open-angle glaucoma, and

laser iridotomy for angle-closure glaucoma and such retinal procedures as panretinal photocoagulation and macular laser procedures for conditions such as diabetic retinopathy and macular degeneration.

Glaucoma and retinal disease are leading causes of blindness, and DMEI's glaucoma and retinal surgeons are among the busiest in the country. In the 2013-2014 academic year, the Glaucoma Service, now comprised of four attending ophthalmologists and a fellow, and the Retina Service, which includes five attending ophthalmologists and a fellow, provided more than 28,700 total patient visits and more than 2,200 office laser procedures. ■

## HELP US GROW THE DMEI TECHNOLOGY FUND



**A BIG THANK YOU** to our 2014 annual appeal donors who gave to the DMEI Technology Fund! With your help, over \$120,000 was raised and we were able to purchase a much needed Spectralis HRA/OCT. This equipment has multicolored imaging that delivers high contrast, detailed images, and its ultra-wide field lens produces superior peripheral angiography. All of these qualities will help in the diagnosis of such retinal-related eye conditions as diabetic retinopathy, age-related macular degeneration, and ocular tumors.



The DMEI Technology Fund helps provide our patients with the most up-to-date equipment for the diagnosis and treatment of diseases affecting all parts of the eye. Our technological needs continue to increase for clinical patient care. If you would like join us in supporting this effort, please use the enclosed pledge card in the magazine. ■

# 2014 ANNUAL DONORS

**THE DEAN MCGEE EYE INSTITUTE** gratefully acknowledges the donors who gave gifts in 2014 to support our missions of patient care, vision research, education, and community outreach. Every effort has been made to include all gifts and pledges from January 1, 2014 - December 31, 2014.

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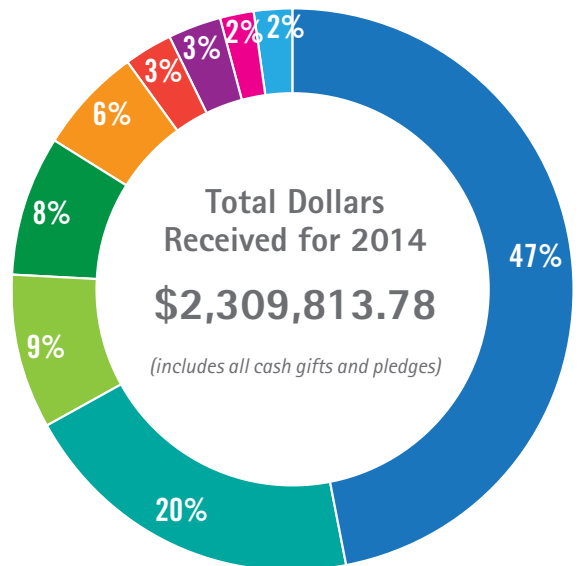


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- Stanton L. Young Endowed Chair in Ophthalmology
- Femtosecond Laser
- General Fund
- DMEI Technology Fund
- Other
- W. Stanley Muenzler, MD Endowed Professorship in Corneal Disease
- Multi Wavelength Laser
- Global Eye Care

## Foundation Fighting Blindness Inaugural VisionWalk in Oklahoma City

THE INAUGURAL OKLAHOMA VISIONWALK benefiting the Foundation Fighting Blindness was held on November 1, 2014, at Stars and Stripes Park at Lake Hefner in Oklahoma City. Participants from the OU Department of Ophthalmology and the Dean McGee Eye Institute raised over \$8,000 for retinal disease research. ■



## DMEI RESEARCHERS RECEIVE NEW R21 NIH/NEI GRANT



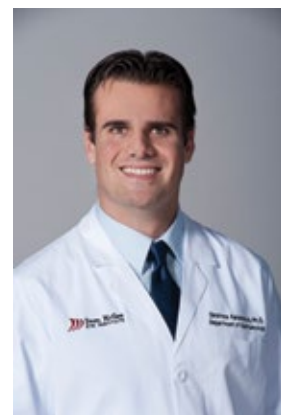
Nawajes A. Mandal, PhD

### CO-PRINCIPAL INVESTIGATORS,

Drs. Nawajes A. Mandal and Dimitrios Karamichos, have received a two-year grant totaling \$429,078 from the National Institutes of Health (NIH) and the National Eye

Institute (NEI). The grant will support the study of human scar formation mechanisms as a result of corneal injury, which currently causes severe vision loss or blindness in

more than 10 million people worldwide. Studies of human scar formation mechanisms have been limited by the unavailability of human tissue and culture models. They will investigate a novel mechanism of corneal scar formation by evaluating the role of sphingolipids in their 3D human *in-vitro* model as well as *in-vivo* mouse model. The grant began in April and will conclude in March 2017. ■



Dimitrios Karamichos, PhD

# Presidential Professorship Awarded to Michelle C. Callegan, PhD

## AT THE OU HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER SPRING FACULTY AWARDS CEREMONY

on April 27, President David Boren announced that Michelle C. Callegan, PhD, James P. Luton Professor of Ophthalmology and Professor of Microbiology and Immunology, has been awarded an *Edith Kinney Gaylord Presidential Professorship*.

Dr. Callegan, who also serves as Associate Director of Research for the Oklahoma Center for Neuroscience (OCNS), joined the faculty at the University of Oklahoma (OU) in 1999 after completing her postdoctoral fellowship training in the Department of Ophthalmology. Her research in the pathogenesis and treatment of bacterial ocular infections has been generously supported by numerous funding agencies, including the National Institutes of Health/ National Eye Institute (NIH/NEI), Research to Prevent Blindness (RPB), and the Department of Defense. She has more than 60 peer-reviewed publications and is particularly well known for her important work on *Bacillus* endophthalmitis and endogenous endophthalmitis.



Dr. Michelle C. Callegan, PhD, (left) accepts the Presidential Professorship award from University of Oklahoma President David L. Boren (right) at a ceremony on April 27.

Dr. Callegan is past Program Committee chair for the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology's (ARVO's) Immunology/ Microbiology section and has been recognized as a Gold Fellow by ARVO for her service to this large international organization. In addition, Dr. Callegan was the recipient of OCNS' Distinguished Service Award in 2013. ■

## RESEARCH FACULTY— DEPARTMENT OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

Robert E. Anderson, MD, PhD  
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Richard S. Brush, BS  
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Darren J. Lee, PhD  
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Nawajes A. Mandal, PhD  
James F. McGinnis, PhD  
Raju V.S. Rajala, PhD  
Lily L. Wong, PhD



## CLINICAL TRIALS: ONE YEAR STUDY RESULTS RELEASED

**THE DEAN MCGEE EYE INSTITUTE IS** participating in a two-year NIH-funded trial study to determine the use of the drugs Eylea, Avastin, and Lucentis for patients with diabetic macular edema (DME). The nationwide study includes 660 people from 89 sites. Participants are 61 years old on average and have had type 1 or type 2 diabetes for 17 years (on average). Under the direction of DMEI retina physicians, Drs. Ronald M. Kingsley, Robert E. Leonard II, and Vinay A. Shah, seven patients are being treated at DMEI in the trial.

The one-year results show that all three drugs, on average, improved vision at 1 year in eyes in patients with DME, but Eylea provided more improvement for patients with moderate vision loss. Lucentis and Avastin performed similarly to Eylea, on average, when vision loss was mild.

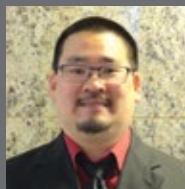
Mrs. Mary Smith, a DMEI patient, heard about the study through Dr. Kingsley and wanted to participate for two reasons: (1) to maintain her sight, and (2) to improve her sight if possible. Mrs. Smith, who has had diabetes for 32 years, says “the study and care that that she received at DMEI met her expectations and also helped explain previous and future issues for her vision. The protocol was lengthy. The education was



Mrs. Mary Smith, DMEI patient (seated left), visits with, Dr. Ronald M. Kingsley (seated right) and Sonny Icks, COA, CCRC, Clinical Trials Coordinator (standing).

as good as the study results. I can't express my gratitude enough to Dr. Kingsley and all the persons who dealt with my care.” The study was especially challenging for Mrs. Smith, as she was diagnosed with breast cancer during the course of the study and was undergoing chemotherapy at the same time of the clinical trials.

*Diabetic macular edema (DME) involves a build-up of blood and fluid in the macula, the part of the eye needed for sharp, straight-ahead vision. DME can occur in people with diabetic retinopathy and is the most common cause of diabetes-related vision loss. Of the 15 million Americans with diabetes, 7.7 million have diabetic retinopathy and 750,000 have DME. DME can occur at any stage of diabetic retinopathy. The full results of the study can be found at [www.mei.org/clinical-trials-studies](http://www.mei.org/clinical-trials-studies). ■*



**IN LATE APRIL**, Darren J. Lee, PhD, a basic scientist from Boston University with coveted ROI funding from the National Eye Institute, became an Assistant Professor in the Department of Ophthalmology and will study experimental models of uveoretinitis. More details will be provided in the next edition of *InVision*. ■

## Two DMEI Researchers Testify at House Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee Hearing

ON APRIL 29, DRS. DANIEL J.J. CARR AND ROBERT E. "GENE" ANDERSON testified in Washington, DC before the US House of Representatives' Subcommittee on Labor, Health and Human Services (LHHS), Education and Related Agencies of the House Committee on Appropriations in support of increased funding for the National Institutes of Health/National Eye Institute (NIH/NEI) and of the NIH's Institutional Development Award (IDeA) Program. A major component of the IDeA Program focuses on establishing major institutional Centers of Biomedical Research Excellence (CoBRE) grants, which help broaden the geographic distribution of NIH funding and support the professional development of young scientific investigators.

Oklahoma Congressman Tom Cole serves as the chair of this vital Appropriations Subcommittee. Dr. Anderson spoke on behalf of the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO), and Dr. Carr spoke on behalf of ARVO and the National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research (NAEVR). ■



*Robert (Gene) Anderson, MD, PhD, seated at the table, testifies in Washington, DC to the House LHHS Appropriations Subcommittee.*



*House LHHS Appropriations Subcommittee Chair Tom Cole (R-OK), center, with witnesses and ARVO members Robert (Gene) Anderson, MD, PhD and Daniel Carr, PhD, both from the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center.*



### SAVE THE DATE OU Vision Workshop *September 17-18, 2015*

Keynote lecturer: Robert E. Marc, PhD, Distinguished Professor of Ophthalmology, Calvin and JeNeal Hatch Presidential Endowed Chair in Ophthalmology & Visual Science, and Director of Research, John A. Moran Eye Center and the University of Utah. September 17, 4:00-5:00 pm.

*Samis Education Center located at The Children's Hospital, Oklahoma City*

## *DMEI Distinguished Lecturer Series 2015-2016*

- August 17**     **Glenn H. Strauss, MD**  
*Chief Medical Officer, Help Me See, New York, NY*  
TOPIC: Global Ophthalmology
- September 28**     **WALTER J. STARK MEMORIAL LECTURE**  
**Bartly J. Mondino, MD**  
*Director, Jules Stein Eye Institute, Los Angeles, CA*
- October 12**     **William J. Feuer, MS Scientist**  
*Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, Miami, FL*  
TOPIC: Biostatistics
- January 11**     **Douglas J. Rhee, MD**  
*Chair, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences*  
*University Hospitals Case Medical Center, Cleveland, OH*  
TOPIC: Glaucoma



*On April 12, Richard A. Lewis, MD (center), Distinguished Lecturer from the Cullen Eye Institute at the Baylor College of Medicine, spoke to DMEI Residents and Fellows about Ophthalmic Genetics.*

## SAVE THE DATE

### Dean McGee Eye Institute Ophthalmology Symposium 2016

**June 4, 2016**

**40<sup>TH</sup> OU RESIDENT AND ALUMNI MEETING**  
**37<sup>TH</sup> TULLOS O. COSTON LECTURE**

**Carol L. Shields, MD**

*Professor, Jefferson Medical College*  
*Wills Eye Institute, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*

Samis Education Center, The Children's Hospital, Oklahoma City





## DMEI PHYSICIANS RECOGNIZED AS *BEST DOCTORS IN AMERICA (2014), OKLAHOMA SUPER DOCTORS (2015), AND CASTLE CONNOLLY'S TOP DOCTORS (2015)*

Cynthia A. Bradford, MD	<i>Best Doctors In America, Oklahoma Super Doctors, Castle Connolly's Top Doctors</i>
Reagan H. Bradford, Jr., MD	<i>Best Doctors In America, Oklahoma Super Doctors, Castle Connolly's Top Doctors</i>
Bradley K. Farris, MD	<i>Best Doctors In America, Oklahoma Super Doctors, Castle Connolly's Top Doctors</i>
Stephen R. Fransen, MD	<i>Best Doctors In America, Oklahoma Super Doctors, Castle Connolly's Top Doctors</i>
Ralph B. Hester III, MD	<i>Best Doctors in America</i>
P. Lloyd Hildebrand, MD, FACS	<i>Best Doctors in America, Castle Connolly's Top Doctors</i>
David W. Jackson, MD	<i>Best Doctors in America</i>
Mahmoud A. Khaimi, MD	<i>Best Doctors in America</i>
Ronald M. Kingsley, MD	<i>Best Doctors in America, Oklahoma Super Doctors</i>
Robert E. Leonard II, MD	<i>Best Doctors in America, Oklahoma Super Doctors</i>
Rebecca K. Morgan, MD	<i>Best Doctors in America, Castle Connolly's Top Doctors</i>
Anil D. Patel, MD	<i>Best Doctors in America</i>
Steven R. Sarkisian, Jr., MD	<i>Best Doctors in America, Oklahoma Super Doctors, Castle Connolly's Top Doctors</i>
Vinay A. Shah, MD	<i>Best Doctors in America</i>
R. Michael Siatkowski, MD	<i>Best Doctors in America, Oklahoma Super Doctors, Castle Connolly's Top Doctors</i>
Rhea L. Siatkowski, MD	<i>Best Doctors in America</i>
Gregory L. Skuta, MD	<i>Best Doctors in America, Oklahoma Super Doctors, Castle Connolly's Top Doctors</i>
Ann A. Warn, MD, MBA	<i>Oklahoma Super Doctors, Castle Connolly's Top Doctors</i>
Tammy L. Yanovitch, MD	<i>Best Doctors in America</i>



**LEE SCHOEFFLER, MD**, was named 2015 Physician of the Year - Private Practice by the University of Oklahoma (OU) College of Medicine Alumni Association. Dr. Schoeffler, a practicing ophthalmologist and vitreoretinal surgeon in Tulsa, completed his residency training in the OU Department of Ophthalmology in 1975. He has remained organizationally active in the field of medicine with service to the American Association of Ophthalmology, to the American Academy of Ophthalmology, as President of the Oklahoma State Medical Society in 2008, on the Board of Directors of PLICO, and on the Oklahoma Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision. In 2009, he was the inaugural recipient of the Oklahoma Academy of Ophthalmology's Distinguished Service Award. ■

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**Friday, October 30, 2015**

## **Macular Degeneration/ Low Vision/Glaucoma (MDLVG) Seminar**



Please join us for this informative seminar to learn from the Dean McGee Eye Institute faculty and an occupational therapist and hear about the latest adaptive devices and technology for those experiencing low vision.

If you would like to be added to the mailing list for this seminar, please call 405-271-7801.

A special thanks to our 2014 MDLVG Seminar supporting sponsors and speakers: Alcon Laboratories, Samis Education and Conference Center, Southwestern Group of Companies, and ComTech Design & Mail. Exhibiting companies included DMEI Optical Services, Genuine Care, NanoPac, Inc. Distributor for Freedom Scientific, Oklahoma Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, and Precision Optical. Supporting Speakers: Cathy Holden and Marlene Show, NewView Oklahoma, Deborah Trout, Department of Rehabilitation Services, and Judy Brookover, Library for Blind & Physically Handicapped, State of Oklahoma.

**SAVE THE DATE**

**Monday,  
September 28,  
2015**

**THE 24<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
WALTER J. STARK  
MEMORIAL  
LECTURESHIP**

**8:30 am–9:30 am  
Tullos O. Coston Lecture Hall**



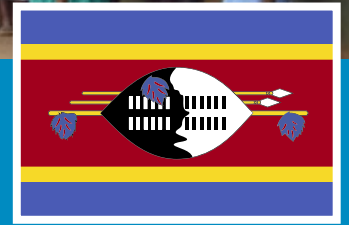
**Bartly J. Mondino, MD**

*Chair, UCLA Department of  
Ophthalmology  
Director, Jules Stein Eye Institute  
Los Angeles, California  
Executive Director Emeritus,  
Association of University Professors of  
Ophthalmology (AUPO)*

Queuing up for eye screenings in Swaziland, Africa.



# Global Eye Care Update



**IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE LUKE COMMISSION (TLC)**, the Global Eye Care (GEC) Program is developing a new vision screening and cataract surgery initiative in support of Swaziland's National Eye Care Plan. This February, Dr. P. Lloyd Hildebrand traveled to Swaziland to help design and implement a vision screening station in TLC's robust mobile hospital outreach program. These outreaches evaluate 800-1000 patients per day using eight stations for different aspects of health screening. Vision screening has become Station 9 for TLC's mobile hospital and is now staffed 100% by TLC staff. During his visit, Dr. Hildebrand led three vision screening outreaches providing care for 200-250 patients a day including vision testing, reading glasses and referrals for advanced disease. Over 120 patients blind from cataract were identified and referred for vision-restoring surgery.



*P. Lloyd Hildebrand, MD, examines a child with an eyelid problem.*



*Elizabeth Gauger, MD, GEC Fellow, performs small incision cataract surgery in Siteki, Swaziland.*

Drs. Mark Robinson (neuro-ophthalmology fellow), Derek Bitner (senior resident) and Evan Sussenbach (senior resident) participated in high volume clinics, community outreach visits, eye surgery and academic exchange with local physicians and nurses. The surgical workload included many cases referred from TLC vision screenings performed a month earlier.

The Dean McGee Eye Institute's first Global Eye Care (GEC) Fellow, Dr. Jacquelyn Jetton, is completing her Master's of Public Health in International Eye Care at the prestigious London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in London, England and will be returning to Swaziland to complete her thesis in pediatric vision screening.

Dr. Elizabeth Gauger, the current GEC Fellow, is in Chengdu, China, where she will spend three months working with the Sichuan Provincial People's Hospital ophthalmology program and its Blindness Prevention Program. ■

In March, the Global Eye Care team returned to Swaziland, this time working alongside Dr. Jonathan Pons, an ophthalmologist at the Good Shepherd Eye Clinic in Siteki. This year, under the leadership of Dr. Bradley Farris, the team consisting of OU/DMEI faculty members Lloyd Hildebrand and Brian Firestone along with



*Brian Firestone, MD, and Senior Resident Derek Bitner, MD examine a patient at St. Theresa's Eye Clinic, Manzini, Swaziland.*



# Preserving Eyesight Through *Foresight*



**IN THE MID-1960'S, THE SOUTHWEST REGION OF THE UNITED STATES**

was number one in reported cases of new blindness per year relative to its population. Many of the nation's visual science centers were on the east and west coasts, and facilities for blindness prevention were very limited.

Oklahoma City ophthalmologist Richard Clay, MD had an idea that would dramatically alter that landscape: an independent eye institute in Oklahoma. Early champions included civic leaders Stanton L. Young, James R. Tolbert III, Robert S. Kerr, Jr., Harvey Everest, John

Kirkpatrick, E.K. Gaylor, and John Houchin. Their big, bold goal was to establish not just an eye institute, but the premier eye institute that would serve the entire state and surrounding region. The first step was to create

the Oklahoma Eye Foundation to raise funds and lay the groundwork.

Then, in 1971, the man for whom the institute would be named, Dean A.

*...continued on next page...*

*Dean A. McGee in his hard hat marking the start of construction of the Dean A. McGee Eye Institute on October 26, 1974.*



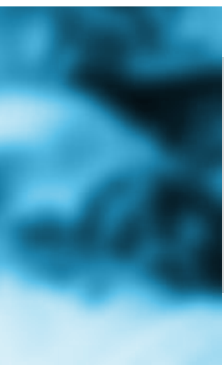
*The original land that was purchased at NE 10th and Lincoln to build the Dean A. McGee Eye Institute, August 1974.*



*The beginnings of construction, January 1975.*



*John M. Houchin, President of the Board of Trustees of the Dean McGee Eye Institute, standing beside Mr. and Mrs. Dean A. McGee, seated at right, addresses a luncheon banquet marking the start of construction of the Eye Institute. A banner captured the very essence of what the new Institute would be: "Preserving eyesight through foresight: Created to saving your vision through treatment, education and research." (Photo courtesy of The Oklahoman 10-26-74)*





McGee, became the catalyst that propelled the concept forward.

“Mr. McGee had a detached retina and was referred by his ophthalmologist to Tullos O. Coston, MD and Thomas E. Acers, MD, who repaired it,” recalls Tolbert, who has served on the Dean McGee Eye Institute Board of Trustees for more than four decades and as its chair for half that time. “In the course of that experience, there was a lot of discussion about why there

was such a limited number of eye specialists in Oklahoma City.”

That situation changed in the span of only four years, during which the foundation raised funds for facility construction, negotiated the purchase from the Oklahoma City Urban Renewal Authority of the 5.5-acre site on which the Institute would be built, and entered into a unique affiliation agreement between the Institute and the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine whereby physicians at the

*Doors opened December 5, 1975.*



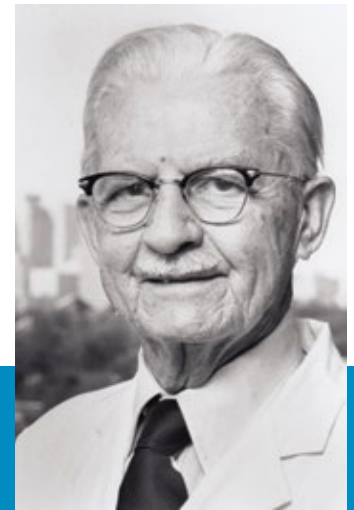




*Dr. Richard Clay (left) sits beside Dean A. McGee (right) at the December 4, 1975 building dedication ceremony.*



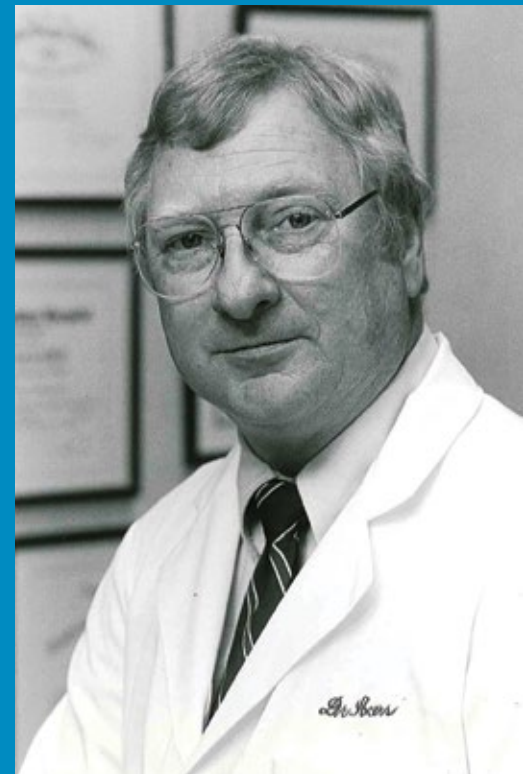
*Dr. Thomas E. Acers, left, stands with Mrs. Paul Snetcher, center, and Stanton L. Young, right. Mrs. Snetcher funded the Paul and Cora Snetcher Eye Research Center which was completed in 1978.*



*Tullos O. Coston, MD*

“The uniqueness of the Dean A. McGee Eye Institute was more than just its private–public university relationship or ‘hybrid’ faculty structure. Its real uniqueness was in its teaching philosophy—that relationship of student and teacher—and a ‘code of conduct’ based on mutual respect.”

*Acers reflected in his book, *A Story of Vision: An Anecdotal History of the Dean A. McGee Eye Institute and University of Oklahoma Department of Ophthalmology*, which was dedicated to Tullos O. Coston and Dean A. McGee.*



*Thomas E. Acers, MD*



On November 22, 2004, DMEI leadership and DMEI Board of Trustees pose for groundbreaking ceremonies for what would be a 78,000-square-foot expansion to the existing building.



David W. Parke II, MD, second President and CEO of the Dean McGee Eye Institute (1992-2009), speaks at groundbreaking ceremonies on November 22, 2004, about "A Vision for Oklahoma: Building Expansion—Capital Campaign." James R. Tolbert III is seated behind him.

Institute also would be faculty members of OU's Department of Ophthalmology.

The 70,000-square-foot, \$2.5 million Dean McGee Eye Institute (DMEI) opened its doors on December 5, 1975, with Acers, chair of the OU Department of Ophthalmology, as its founding president. He recruited Coston and four other top ophthalmologists to join him as clinicians and educators.

Today, DMEI is the preeminent organization that its founders envisioned, with an international reputation for outstanding patient care, vision research, and educational programs.

"This was an unusual hybrid because the idea was to have a not-for-profit organization—the Institute—with doctors who also would be

**Today, DMEI is the preeminent organization that its founders envisioned...**

OU faculty members," Tolbert explains. "Tom Acers was a gifted and passionate clinician. But his deepest commitment was to education. He really wanted to train doctors. That was infectious."

Acers' daughter, Ann Warn, MD, MBA, who has practiced ophthalmology in DMEI's Lawton, Oklahoma, facility her entire 20-year career, says Acers thought of each resident as one of his children. But, she adds, his passion for people extended to every individual who was part of the DMEI team or walked through its doors.





*Construction of building expansion.*

“My dad devoted his life to the Eye Institute, resident education and family,” Warn says. “He cared about every individual in the building and strived to make sure everybody was treated with the utmost respect. His legacy was striving for excellence and always putting the patient first.”

With Acers’ retirement in 1992, the Institute conducted a national search and hired David W. Parke II, M.D. from the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston as its new chief executive. Parke, in turn, recruited Robert E. “Gene” Anderson, MD, PhD from Baylor in the Texas Medical Center in Houston to be the director of research.

Parke, currently CEO of the San Francisco-based American Academy of Ophthalmology, says

he was excited to come to DMEI because of its very strong clinical and educational reputation and its separate structure of governance and funding, which set it apart from a typical academic department. “The Eye Institute had a lot of potential to grow and expand by its own vision and ability to execute that vision,” Parke states. “It had a lot of room to progress in terms of research and grow larger and more significant in the delivery of tertiary and quaternary care in addition to primary eye care.”

His decision to recruit Anderson, he says, was deliberate and intentional. “I realized we were starting from nothing in terms of research,” he relates. “We had no National Institutes of Health (NIH) research grants, no real peer-reviewed



basic science going on and no tradition of it. But the Board bought into the vision and operational realities of trying to build a basic and translational research presence.”

In less than 10 years, DMEI became one of the largest NIH-funded ophthalmology centers in the country.

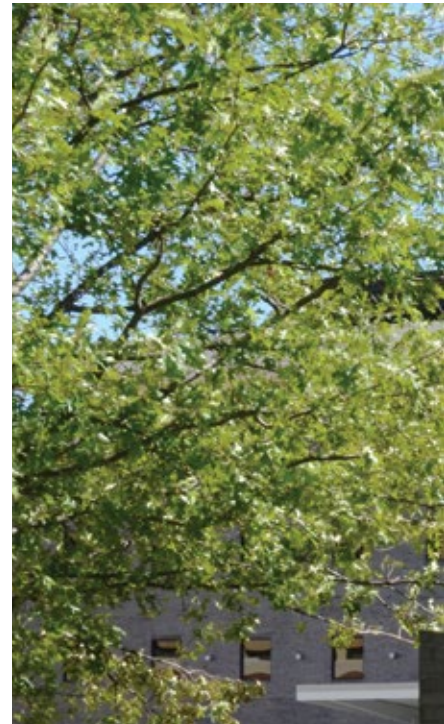


*Gregory L. Skuta, MD, third President and CEO of the Eye Institute, speaks in the Inasmuch Foundation Atrium.*

“David literally took us to the next level,” Tolbert says. “We expanded rapidly and became justifiably recognized regionally as the best place for clinical care. And we consistently have had great success in attracting the most highly qualified graduates to become residents in our educational program.”

With that growth came the need for additional space. A new 78,000-square-foot, \$47 million expansion and renovation that includes the pavilions now named in honor of Acers and Parke was dedicated in September 2011.

“We are deeply appreciative of the opportunity to compassionately serve our patients in a very special and unique environment that also emphasizes the importance of conducting world-class vision research and educating future generations of ophthalmologists,” says Gregory L. Skuta, MD, who in 2009 became the Eye Institute’s third president and CEO and shares some of his perspectives on page 2. “The remarkable achievements of



*Ribbon-cutting for dedication of new 78,000-square-foot pavilion on September 30, 2011.*



the Dean McGee Eye Institute are the result of attracting many of the nation's leading clinicians, surgeons, and educators; an amazing and committed staff; the disciplined and creative work of our scientists; the insightful stewardship of our volunteer Board members; and the hundreds of generous donors who have supported our missions over the past 40 years."

"As we look toward the next 40 years and the 40 beyond that, I am confident that the Eye Institute will continue to fulfill its deep commitment 'to serving all Oklahomans and the global community through excellence and leadership in patient care, education, and vision research.'" ■



“The Dean McGee Eye Institute is dedicated to serving all Oklahomans and the global community through excellence and leadership in patient care, education, and vision research.”







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[www.dmei.org](http://www.dmei.org)