



SCO VISIONS

SOUTHERN COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY ALUMNI MAGAZINE | SPRING 2018



connections

SCO helps create the ties that bind for generations of alumni. In making lifelong colleagues and friends, our graduates share experiences and memories that will last them for a lifetime. SCO is proud of our legacy in building meaningful relationships that strengthen the profession of optometry.

You can show your appreciation for SCO's impact on your life by helping the next generation of optometry students through your gift at sco.edu/donate.

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Thanks in part to support from Allergan, SCO hosted Bon VonEyes, a daylong program and evening reception for third-year students as they prepared to depart for their fourth-year externships.

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Look for SCO at these upcoming events...

May 4

*Commencement
Cannon Center
Memphis, TN*

June 8-9

*Residents' Weekend
SCO Campus
Memphis, TN*

June 20-24

*AOA
Denver, CO*

August 24

*White Coat Ceremony
SCO Campus
Memphis, TN*

October 4-7

*Homecoming and Fall Continuing
Education Weekend
SCO Campus
Memphis, TN*

From the President

Thank You For Your Feedback

Nearly 500 alumni recently responded to a survey SCO conducted to gauge input from various stakeholders, including our students, employees, patients, and others. We were heartened by the positive responses we received, including the more than 90 percent of our graduates who are proud to call themselves SCO alumni.

Here's a sampling:

- *I have found no better. The experience was life changing. Thank you for all you did.*
- *Great training and well-respected school.*
- *I feel that SCO prepared me well to be a doctor. It is great to meet so many SCO alumni in practice, too.*
- *SCO has very high standards. I have also been impressed with the continued board passage rate and graduation rate.*
- *I feel like I got a top notch education with the best facilities and greatest opportunities while in school.*
- *Not only was I prepared for my career, but the friendships made there will last a lifetime.*

More than 85% of respondents keep in touch with classmates, and two-thirds have attended an SCO reception at a state, regional, or national meeting.

Alumni cited campus improvements, the increase in board passage rates, and its dedication to students as some of the positive changes they've noticed since graduation. Additionally, more than 62% of the survey's respondents have supported SCO at some point with a gift, and the majority of these cited the impact that SCO has made on their career as the primary factor behind their support.



In terms of changes that concerned some alumni, private practice instruction, rising tuition, and larger class sizes were cited by a number of respondents. All of these are factors that the college will continue to address.

In our surveys of students, the cost of optometric education remains a significant concern. The college is committed to combatting student debt and rewarding outstanding students who demonstrate the potential to succeed. Our Board shares our commitment to increasing the amount of scholarships in both quantity and amount to address this issue.

In terms of class size, the national optometry pool continues to challenge all schools. Thus far, SCO has been able to recruit top qualified students in terms of OAT and GPA scores without compromising standards. SCO's graduates continue to thrive, as evidenced by the zero percent student loan default rate reported for our alumni.

We will continue to evaluate and make strategic decisions to position SCO as a leading optometry college. In the interim, it is up to all of us to influence younger generations to consider optometry as a viable career. Thanks to each of you for your support, particularly as we identify and recruit the best prospective students to enter our profession.

Lewis Reich, OD, PhD

SCOVISIONS

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SOUTHERN COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY



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Potter to Receive Honorary Degree



C. Ellis Potter, OD '67, FAAO, was chosen to receive SCO's Doctor of Ocular Science degree and deliver the commencement address to the Class of 2018. Known for his longtime service to VOSH International and other international causes, Dr. Potter was recognized by the American Academy of Optometry in 2017 with its Brien Holden Humanitarian Award.

Now retired from his practice in Iola, Kansas, Dr. Potter has served on numerous committees as well as Editor of the *Kansas Optometric Journal*. Active in his

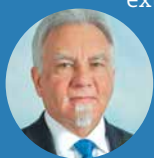
local Rotary Club, he is a member of the Rotary Action Group for Avoidable Blindness.

In 2008, Dr. Potter and his local Rotarians formed the Vision Quest International Foundation, whose purpose is the education and alleviation of Refractive Error Blindness. He has led the organization as president. A member of VOSH-Kansas and a Fellow of VOSH International, Dr. Potter has led or participated in numerous VOSH medical missions. He was awarded the VOSH/International Dr. Harry I. Zelter Lifetime Achievement Award at the VOSH/International annual meeting in Chicago in October 2017.

New Members Named to SCO Board

SCO recently welcomed two new members to the college's Board of Trustees: **Stacey J. Meier, OD '84**, and **Lynn T. Shaw, Sr.**, a Memphis financial services executive. Additionally, **Doug C. Clark, OD**, was named Board Chair for a one-year term.

With more than 40 years of service in the eye care industry, **Dr. Stacey Meier** began his career as a licensed optician before pursuing his optometry degree. He has extensive clinical experience in corporate optometry, an ophthalmology surgery center, and nearly 30 years of private practice. He is currently the Executive Director of the Arizona Optometric Association and owner of Desert View Vision-North in Phoenix.



His service includes leadership of the Central Arizona Optometric Society, the Arizona Optometric Association, the Great Western Council of Optometry, and the International Association of Optometric Executives. He's received OD of the Year awards from the Arizona Optometric Association and the Great Western Council of Optometry and was appointed to the Arizona State Board of Optometry in 2008.

Lynn Shaw, Sr., has nearly 40 years of experience as a financial services professional and is an Accredited Wealth Management Advisor at Raymond James. He began his career with E.F. Hutton in New York in 1978 and joined Morgan Keegan in 1987, where he rose to the rank of managing director. He served as a member of Morgan Keegan's investment consulting group advisory board, alternative investments advisory committee, private client group advisory board, and Chairman's Club.



Recognized as a Top Wealth Advisor by a number of publications, Shaw is actively involved in the Memphis community, where his charitable support includes United Way, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, and the American Cancer Society.

Modern Living

SCO Student and Employee Experience Living in Crosstown Concourse

Two members of our SCO family have one thing in common: they both live, work and play in the same building that houses our newest clinical facility, FocalPoint at Crosstown Concourse. That building is Crosstown Concourse, which has been making its mark in Memphis for almost a year and dominating the skyline a few miles from campus.

Located in the Crosstown neighborhood, Crosstown Concourse was formerly known as Sears Crosstown, a Sears, Roebuck & Co. distribution center that was constructed in 1927. Eighty-seven years later, Sears Crosstown became what's now known as Crosstown Concourse, a mixed-use "vertical urban village" that houses several restaurants and retailers, including our very own FocalPoint at Crosstown Concourse, the Eyewear Salon of Memphis.

Crosstown Concourse also houses Parcels at Concourse, which consists of apartments with brick walls, high ceilings, original concrete floors, 24-7 on-site security, and other amenities.

"We have something here for all," said Felecia Gargus, Property Manager for Parcels at Concourse. "Our location is convenient to both downtown and midtown and there are always events going on that residents can attend."

A couple of familiar SCO faces reside in the Parcels when they are not at SCO.

Student Services and Admissions Officer Rebecca Griffin has been living in the Parcels since August 2017. Before being hired at SCO, Griffin moved to Memphis from Michigan to

live in the Parcels with her fiancé, Michael Smietana, who has been living in the Parcels since the building was under construction in January 2017.

"We wanted to be in the middle of the city, where the action was, and part of a community to meet new people and do fun activities," said Griffin.

For more information about the Parcels at Concourse, visit PARCELSATCONCOURSE.COM.
For more information about Crosstown Concourse, visit CROSTOWNCONCOURSE.COM.



Rebecca Griffin

"We wanted to be in the middle of the city, where the action was, and part of a community to meet new people and do fun activities."



Kelsy Whitcomb
with husband, Pierce
Velderman

While living in the Parcels, Griffin enjoys playing games on the pinball machines located near French Truck Coffee, visiting the Crosstown Arts Gallery, picking up items from the Curb Market, and mixing/mingling at events in the common area.

"It is fun to see students in the building [at FocalPoint] and to have that connection between where I live and where I work," said Griffin.

Just down the way lives 1st year student Kelsey Whitcomb and her husband, Pierce Velderman. Whitcomb and her husband moved to the Parcels in July while the building was still under construction.

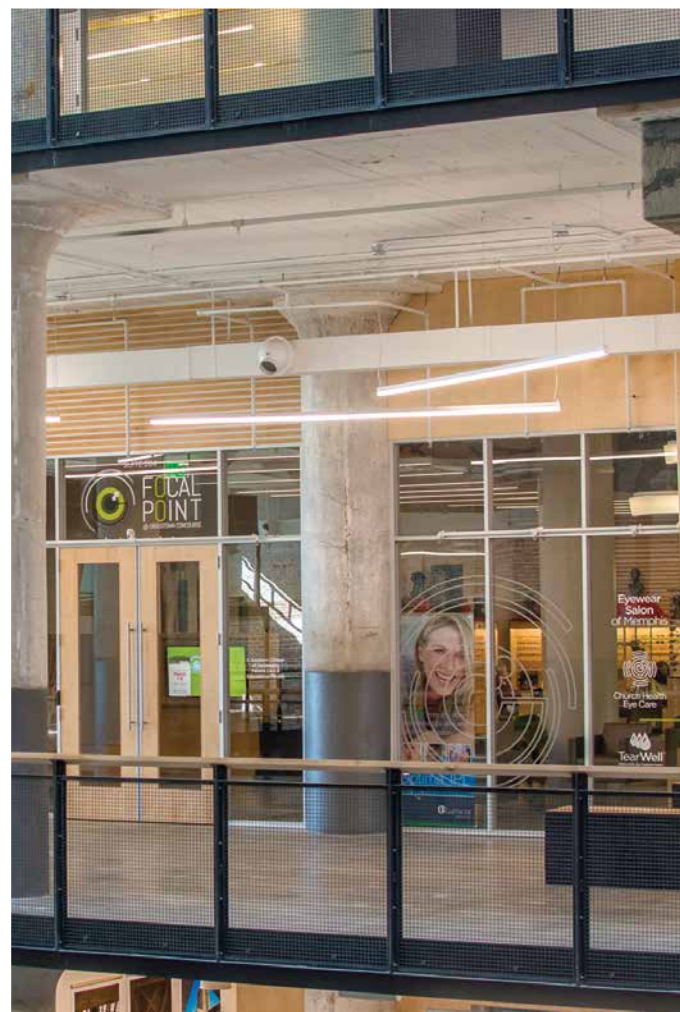
"It's amazing to see how much the building has changed and watching the area being redeveloped and reclaiming its identity," said Whitcomb.

When they are not busy at work, Whitcomb and her husband enjoy indulging in breakfast biscuits at The Curb Market and popsicles at MemPops.

"It's super convenient being two minutes away from school and the apartments are gorgeous and energy efficient," said Whitcomb.

Both ladies enjoy living in the Parcels, its amenities, and the convenience of being near SCO and FocalPoint. The apartments come highly recommended by residents and staff.

"We recommend the Parcels at Concourse to everyone. We have something for everyone," said Gargus.





Students Learn Valuable Career Lessons from SCO Board

In January, 18 second-year students had the opportunity to participate in the pilot program of the Board of Trustees (BOT) Leadership Roundtable, which was conducted by the Office of Institutional Advancement.

“The second-year class welcomed the opportunity to think about career planning as they are so covered in classroom and lab work,” said Cecily Freeman, Director of Alumni Giving.

Each board member was placed at an individual table. The students were placed at a table to discuss different topics and ask questions and rotated every 15 minutes so that they would have the opportunity to visit each table. Each board member discussed successes that they have



◀◀ Stacey Meier, OD '84, talked with students at SCO's first Board of Trustees Leadership Roundtable.

to become outstanding doctors of optometry. They are highly engaged in the process and interested in our wonderful profession and their place in it."

Dr. Stacey Meier, Executive Director of the Arizona Optometric Association, stressed the importance of students and ODs being involved in optometric associations. Dr. Meier informed the students that their careers will be enhanced and that they will be more successful if they become involved in their state optometric associations and take advantage of the benefits that AOA has to offer.

"These young students represent the future of our profession," said Dr. Meier. "I found them to be very curious about organized optometry and eager to learn what it takes to be most successful as their careers unfold."

Jacob Boehme, '20, took this advice to heart as he thoroughly enjoyed the roundtable.

"I learned that it is never too early to get involved with your state and national optometric organizations," said Boehme. "I also learned that those who do get involved early, are more knowledgeable about the profession as a whole."

Boehme plans to get involved in AOA and will attend the Iowa Optometric Association meeting in April.

With optometry being a constantly advancing field, lifelong learning is very vital. Dr. Kristin Anderson, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, expressed the importance of lifelong learning through residency, fellowship, CE and other learning opportunities.

"Don't let external influences ruin your learning," said Dr. Anderson to the students.

The roundtable left a lasting impression. Boehme and the other participants strongly encourage future second-year students to participate in the roundtable to enhance both their personal and professional development.

"I would recommend this event to any student who is curious about how becoming an active member in optometry can help you grow personally and professionally," said Boehme.



◀◀ Dave Sattler shared his observations about industry's impact on professional education.

experienced in their optometric careers and shared their expertise on the following topics:

- **Dave Sattler** – Industry Impact on Professional Education and IPE
- **Dr. Steve Compton, '78** – Practice Transitions
- **Dr. Stacey Meier, '84** – Importance of Involvement in Organized Optometry
- **Dr. Ryan Powell, '02** – "Follow Your Dream" Practice
- **Dr. Kristin Anderson** – Lifelong Learning

Dr. Ryan Powell, owner of the multi-location practice, Insight Eyecare Specialties in Missouri and an adjunct faculty member, talked with the students about having a "dream practice" in hopes of encouraging the students to start taking steps now to get to where they want to go.

"I found the roundtable to be very engaging and fun. The students seemed to enjoy the discussion and asked great questions," said Dr. Powell. "I am impressed with their focus and determination

SCO's Graduating Class of 2018



Daniel L. Adams
Orem, UT



Ethan C. Adkins
Chapmanville, WV



Laura M. Aelvoet
San Antonio, TX



Lauren A. Agnew
New Orleans, LA



Leah N. Akin
Hebron, KY
KY



Jonathan M. Allee
Knoxville, TN



Harrison L. Amburn
Knoxville, TN



Kelly N. Arnhart
Alpharetta, GA
GA, SC



Sneha Bagavandoss
Ballwin, MO



Andrew M. Belknap
Murfreesboro, TN
TN, AL



Mary N. Chase
McKenzie, TN
TN, GA, FL



Caitlin A. Condrion
Shoreham, NY
CT



Madeline M. Coughlin
Wheaton, IL



Anne E. Czelusniak
Malta, NY



Melinda T. Dang
Savannah, GA
GA



Thuan D. Dang
Nashville, TN



Marcus H. Daniel
Dickson, TN
TN



Catherine E. Danko
Woodridge, IL



Kristen M. Davis
Arlington, TN



Lizabeth C. Frontino
Brookville, PA
PA



Danny J. Garcia
Woodstock, GA
GA



Alison E. Gottlieb
Greenwood, SC



Carlos L. Grandela
Virginia Beach, VA
UT, IL, VA



Julia L. Ham
Osage, IA
IA



Mallory K. Harris
Greenfield, TN
TN, KY



Chase R. Harter
Willard, OH
AR



Mugdisa B. Hashmi
Memphis, TN



Nathan R. Haverkamp
Detroit Lakes, MN



Brehana J. Hawkins
Baton Rouge, LA



Kathryn R. Johnson
DeLand, FL



Brooke Jones-Cannon
Johnson City, TN



Morgan L. Kickliter
Hendersonville, TN
FL



Haley L. Kincannon
Duncan, OK
OK, NC, MS



Nicole R. Lamb
Hopkinton, MA



Misty D. Lane
Herndon, WV



Alexander J. Leong
Pleasanton, CA
CA



John T. Lindsey
Clarksville, TN
TN



Alyssa M. Louia
Rose Hill, KS
KS



Kristian A. Mostert
Columbia, SC
SC, GA, CO



Leon Nguyen
Plano, TX
TX, TN



Paul V. Nguyen
Blytheville, AR
AR



Taylor S. Nicks
Bowling Green, KY



Hilarie L. Nixon
Lake Charles, LA
TN, LA, AL



Ashlyn M. Norsworthy
Clarksdale, MS



Rachel S. Obrock
Dorchester, WI
IN



Corey R. Ommen
Rapid City, SD
SC



Austin A. Pace
Franklin, TN
TN, MS



Molly T. Pace
Greenville, MS
MS, TN



Laurel E. Roberts
Germantown, TN
TN



Luke H. Robin
Prince Rupert, Canada
BC, WA, OR



Caleb H. Robinson
Huntington, TX
TX



Gustavo Rodriguez
Yakima, WA
WA



Shelby C. Rogers
Naperville, IL



Nicholas J. Roovers
Kimberly, WI
WI



Nicholas J. Sachse
Bergman, AR



Keisha M. Sands
Spanish Wells, Bahamas



Chelci Schade
Dodgeville, WI
WI, IA, IL



Anna J. Spradling
West Point, MS
MS, AL, NC



Victoria M. Stewart
Cole Harbour, NS CAN



Whitney J. Stock
Renville, MN
MN



William F. Stringer Jr.
Daphne, Alabama
MS, AL, FL



Anh V. Ta
New Iberia, LA



Robin K. Thomas
Lakeland, FL



Mong T. Van
Myrtle Beach, SC



Sandra K. Vu
Wichita, KS
KS



Tyler E. Wadzinski
Franklin, TN

Meet the graduating Class of 2018 (*bold face state listings are where each graduate hopes to work*). During their four years at SCO, The Hayes Center has worked with them to find placement opportunities at sco.edu/placementservice. Alumni are invited to post practice opportunity information on our site for students or young alumni as well. Contact Lisa Wade, OD in The Hayes Center at lwade@sco.edu to learn more. Congratulations to the Class of 2018!



Emily C. Boss
Hopkins, MN
MN



Jacob R. Bowen
Norphlet, AR
AR, TN, WV



Tiffany M. Brawner
Toccoa, GA
GA, SC



Laura A. Brown
Maryville, TN



Lauren E. Bruehl
Stillwater, MN
MN



Logan S. Brunner
Black Earth, WI



Jamie B. Buckingham
Sterling, IL



Caitlin M. Byrne
Atlanta, GA



Theresa K. Cassidy
Memphis, TN
TN, AR, MS



Michelle Chan
Lawrenceville, GA
WA, OR, DC



Nathan D. Dederman
Albuquerque, NM



Elora D. Dittmar
Greer, SC
SC



Jillian E. Duhon
Jennings, LA
LA



Jennifer Eng
Sugar Land, Texas
TX, TN



Elizabeth C. Fahy
Pewee Valley, KY



Meagan R. Fazzio
St. Amant, LA
LA



Kendra Jo Fink
Cozad, NE



Katherine J. Fontenot
Lake Charles, LA



Jason S. Foote
Las Vegas, NV
AZ, ID, CO



Bryce R. Heffington
Springfield, MO
MO



Cindy K. Heng
Reynoldsburg, OH
OH



Tiffany L. Hesse
Chattanooga, TN



Andrew J. Hickman
Hot Springs, AR
AR



Kathryn K. Hutchins
Little Rock, AR
AR, TX



Devin R. Jackson
Cedar Hills, UT
CO, UT, WA



Jamie C. Jacobs
New Carlisle, OH
OH, KY, IN



Shanelle M. Jenkins
Charlotte, NC
NC, SC, GA



Bryce S. Johnson
Cottage Grove, MN



Joseph H. Johnson
Idaho Falls, ID
CO, NV, AZ



Jacob A. Luthman
Saint Marys, OH



Alyssa S. Mabry
Senatobia, MS
MS



Trent W. Martin
Adamsville, TN



Sarah E. Maxey
Ashland City, TN
TN



Allan J. McCleary
Puyallup, WA
TX, OR, WA



Michael B. McCullough
Tupelo, MS
MS



Dalton R. Miller
Quincy, IL



Luke D. Moix
Rogers, AR
KY, IN



Ashley L. Morneau
Onamia, MN
MN



Anisha A. Patel
Tyrone, GA
GA



Leena M. Patel
Clarksville, TN
TN, GA, VA



Elizabeth A. Perch
Green, OH
OH



Ryan W. Piche
Marion, IA



Lauren J. Plewes
Alexandria, VA



Emma E. Pope
Fall River, WI



John T. Popham
Cedartown, GA
GA



Kinsey Powell
Buena Vista, GA



Julie M. Rallo
Louisville, KY
KY, IN



Stephanie K. Reynolds
Riceville, TN
TN



Bradley S. Schuster
Blaine, MN
WI



Alexandra E. Schwab
Charlottesville, VA



Laura B. Schwartz
Fredericksburg, VA



Sarah C. Scoggin
Camdenton, MO



Wen D. Shiau
Raleigh, NC



Amanda N. Smith
Lawrenceburg, TN
TN, AL



Robert S. Smith
Quitman, MS
MS



Monique A. Smyth
Memphis, TN



Alex A. Soliz
Longview, TX
TX



Ashlyn B. Ward
Des Moines, IA
IL



Jessica Ward
Kennesaw, GA
GA, FL, SC



Tessa R. Wellsandt
Talmage, NE



Kelsey L. White
Russellville, TN



Mason A. Williams
Addison, IL



Eric W. Woodward
Paul, ID



Laura E. Wooten
Conway, AR
AR



William T. Wooten
Conway, AR
AR

NOT PICTURED:
Kalah Burchfield
Oneida, TN
Ty Smith
Brookhaven, MS

Class Notes

1962 Leonard Indianer, OD, was recognized in the previous issue of *Visions* for a tribute donation that he made in memory of his deceased classmates. Our apologies to Dr. Indianer or any of his living colleagues who may have thought that the tribute was made in his memory; we're happy to report that he is indeed alive and well.

1968 Billy Cochran, OD, SCO President Emeritus, has been announced as this year's recipient of the ASCO Lifetime Achievement Award. The award recognizes an outstanding individual who, over an extended period of time, provided exceptional leadership to ASCO and to optometric education, made outstanding contributions to the optometric community, and displayed exemplary commitment and dedication to the association.

1974 Robert Grand, OD, recently published his first children's picture book, *The Cosmic Carrot: A Journey to Wellness, Clear Vision and Good Nutrition*. Chronicling how a young boy gets on track to clear distance vision with the help of his optometric physician, the book's illustrations were made with ink and water colors. The new book can be ordered online.



1977 Jack Schaeffer, OD, recently sold his 18 practices to MyEyeDr.

1984 Mario Contaldi, OD, right, is pictured visiting with SCO President **Lewis Reich**, OD, PhD, and **Mackenzie Kohnen**, '21, and **Bailey Kennedy**, '19, at the recent Texas Optometric Association meeting.



1987 Fred Farias III, OD, was recently named Vice Chair of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

1992 Carla Lindsay, OD, is one of the authors of a new book, *Diary of a Ready Woman*, available online.

1993 Jon Franklin, OD, was honored by Cumberland University for his outstanding baseball playing during his time as an undergraduate student.

1995 AOA Trustee **Steven Reed**, OD, and Mississippi State Senator **David Parker**, OD, recently joined Mississippi Optometric Association leaders and staff in meeting with U.S. Senator Roger Wicker to discuss the proposed paperwork mandate around Contact Lens Rule changes. **Jason "Bo" Beddingfield**, OD '06, also

wrote a newspaper editorial about the topic.

1997 Shawn Ricker, OD, was inducted in the 2017 Great American Rivalry Series Hall of Fame in recognition of his high school and college football career.

Jim Williamson, OD, was interviewed for a new SCO-produced video created to promote SCO's residency rotations at the Memphis VAMC.

1998 Jason Lake, OD, was named Missouri's OD of the Year for 2017.

2000 Shane Ford, OD, was recently appointed to the Arkansas Board of Optometry.

2001 Tonyatta Hairston, OD, was recently named to the advisory board for *Women in Optometry* magazine.

2002 Nimesh Patel, OD, PhD, recently reported his research which found that astronauts who spend time aboard the International Space Station return to Earth with eye structure changes which could affect their vision.

Dwight Barnes, OD was recently named a Fellow of the American Academy of Orthokeratology and Myopia Control.

2008 Christopher Smith, OD, recently completed his new, larger practice location in Kansas.

2009 T.J. Smith, OD, recently joined Delaware Eye Clinics.

2010 Kinsey and **Dustin Honeyman**, OD, welcomed a son, Callan Phillip, in December.

2011 Ginnie and Jacob Hodges, OD, welcomed a daughter, Coralie Elise, in December.

Jennifer Lyerly, OD, was named a Transitions Brand Ambassador at this year's Transitions Academy.



Blake Rust, OD, and his wife, Mimi, welcomed a son, Britton Stephenson, on March 8. He weighed 7 lbs., 11 ozs.



2012 Adam Ramsey, OD, was named by *Florida Legacy Magazine* to its Top 40 Under 40 list.

Elizabeth Reese, OD, recently moved with her husband to New Hampshire to practice at Conway Eye Care and Coos Eye Care.

2014 Anna Lammers, OD, recently relocated her practice to a new site where she shares space with her childhood OD in Traverse City, Michigan.

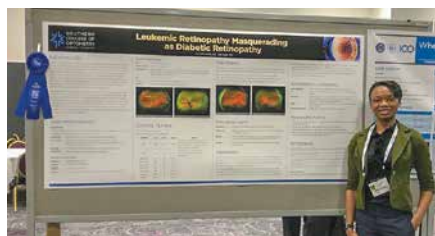
William Tantum, OD, and his dad, **Lloyd Tantum**, OD '78, report that their practice

in Maryville, Tennessee was named one of Review of Optometry's Office Design Contest winners.

2015 Jennie Kutschka, OD, welcomed a daughter, Sophia Grace Ta, born February 13. She joins big brothers, Brayden and Camden.



2016 Jennyffer Smith, OD, was one of several SCO residents who recently presented posters at the Heart of America meeting in Kansas City. Dr. Smith had one of five award-winning posters at the conference.



2017 Ashley Oakes Earwood, OD, recently joined Brooks Eye Center in Mississippi.

Hallina Portner, OD, recently joined fellow alumni **Hank Murray, OD '79**, and **Greg Groves, OD '80**, at their West Virginia practice.

INMEMORIAL

Arthur D. Glenn, OD '48
William R. Jones, OD '48
W. Sweeney Smith, OD '48
Robert L. Coleman, OD '51
Joseph C. Moore, OD '51
William A. Hancox, Jr., OD '57
Jack Kettleson, OD '59
William B. Henry, OD '61

Robert N. Goodhead, OD '62
Richard Authier, OD '63
William J. Higgins, OD '63
John Isbell, OD '63
Orrie R. Morlong, OD '63
John Scruggs, OD '67
John McElroy, OD '73
Michael Shannon, OD '85

John Casto, OD '60

A former SCO Board member and recipient of SCO's Lifetime Achievement Award, Dr. Casto's distinguished service to the profession and advancement of optometry privileges in West Virginia earned him numerous honors and awards through the years.

Shauna Witt, OD '01

Dr. Witt's tragic murder as the result of a domestic assault perpetrated at her Mississippi practice made national headlines in January. Her colleagues, including MOA President Tonyatta Hairston, OD '01, have taken steps to establish an SCO memorial scholarship in her honor.

Wayne Pyeatt

The former SCO Board member passed away in January. An SCO scholarship bears Mr. Pyeatt's name.

Irwin Suchoff, OD

Distinguished Service Professor Emeritus at SUNY, Dr. Suchoff died in March. Known for his pioneering work in child development, he is credited for giving Glen Steele, OD '69, the nickname of "Bubba." SCO awarded him the honorary Doctor of Ocular Science degree in 1992.



Interesting Hobby?

LET'S HEAR FROM YOU!

SCO's Alumni Affairs is interested in hearing from graduates who have fascinating hobbies. If you skydive, travel to really faraway locations, build model trains, like submarines, or anything unusual or remarkable, we're looking for human interest stories to show off a different side of our graduates. Contact Beth Fisher at bfisher@sco.edu with your ideas, even if they're about an interesting classmate who you think should be profiled in an upcoming issue of our Visions magazine.

The Hayes Center for Practice Excellence Announces 2018 Award Recipients



Pictured are Kevin Rogers, OD '08, Kourtney Rogers, Courtney Shay, OD '12, Timothy LeFreniere, OD '12, Canaan Montgomery, OD '14, and Rebecca Montgomery, with Jerry Hayes, OD '73, Cris Hayes, and Nathan Hayes.

The Hayes Center (HCPE) for Practice Excellence, a vital resource for SCO students and alumni, is pleased to announce its 2018 award recipients for the HCPE Practice of Excellence Award.

The HCPE Practice of Excellence Award is designed to identify and reward successful practices, recognize the achievements made by SCO graduates, and help foster joint relationships that benefit

both the alumni and current optometry students.

The awards are divided into three sections based on the number of years of practice: long-term graduate, midterm graduate and recent graduate.

A panel of judges consisting of members of the Hayes Center for Practice Excellence Advisory Board, the Director of HCPE and Dr. Jerry Hayes made the selection.

"This was far and away the most distinguished pool we have received for this prestigious award with 36 VERY WORTHY young

ODs and practices submitting applications," said Lisa Wade, OD '84, MPA, Director of HCPE.

Long-Term Graduate Award recipient **Kevin Rogers, OD**, is a 2008 SCO graduate and the owner of Rogers Regional Eye Center, located in Greenwell Springs, Louisiana. Dr. Rogers is an active member in the American Optometric Association and the Optometry Association of Louisiana. He has also served as Past President of the Louisiana Southeast Optometric Society and is also a board member of the Central Chamber of Commerce in Central Louisiana and the Board of Commissioners for Central Fire Protection District.

Midterm Graduate Award recipients **Courtney Shay, OD** and **Timothy LeFreniere, OD** are 2012 graduates and are the owners of Virginia Eyecare Center in Burke, Virginia. Both doctors are certified by the National Board of Examiners in Optometry and the Virginia Board of Optometry.

Recent Graduate Award recipient **Canaan Montgomery, OD** is a 2014 graduate and the owner of the West End Eye Care in Paducah, Kentucky. Dr. Montgomery has written articles for *newgradoptometry.com* and is in the process of writing a book on opening an optometry office.

Congratulations to the HCPE Practice of Excellence Award recipients!

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Matt Jones, OD '09, Joe Sugg, OD '09 and wife, Ali, Matt Morris, OD '09

▶▶▶ *Caroline, Emmaline, and Horace Deal, OD '97*

Bonnie-Kim Hang, OD, and Karan Shah, OD '16 ▶▶▶



▶▶▶ *Scott Gordon, OD '05, Gail Cox Gordon, OD '03*



▶▶▶ *OD of the South Jerry Gerdes, OD '02, BOT member James Sandefur, OD '65*



▶▶▶ *2015 classmates Ashley Stowe, Lauren Howard, Jessica Haynes, Kyle Anderson, Andrew Hawkins, Theresa Dellaert, and Brenda Flores*

On Campus Focus

Faculty News

SCO faculty joined colleagues from the University of Tennessee and Hamilton Eye Institute for the 4th joint CE program sponsored by the Annual Montgomery/Cochran Distinguished Visiting Professorship, held on the UT campus. The early part of the program featured lectures and remarks from Drs. **Mike Gerstner '97**, **Lewis Reich**, and **Bart Campbell '87** representing SCO. >>>

Chris Borgman, OD, and **Mary Hoang**, OD '14, authored an article, "Case history crucial component of rubella retinopathy diagnosis" in *Primary Care Optometry News*.

Dan Fuller, OD, **Glenn Goldring**, OD '78, and **Mike Christensen**, OD, PhD, participated in the 2018 Global Specialty Lens Symposium in Las Vegas. Drs. Christensen and Goldring attended the Cooper Vision Educator's Meeting, and Dr. Fuller and resident Jessica Lam, OD, participated with a lecture and two posters. Dr. Fuller joined the Executive Board of the Scleral Lens Education Society as its new Public Education Chair.

Whitney Hauser, OD '01, continues to lecture and publishes about dry eye treatments in regular installments for *Optometric Management* magazine.

John Mark Jackson, OD '99, and Jessica Lam, OD, 2017-18 Cornea and Contact Lens Resident, authored a GP Insights article in *Contact Lens Spectrum*.

<<< **Tyler Kitzman**, OD '16, and **Halie Cottrill Kitzman**, OD '16, represented SCO's booth at this year's Heart of America meeting in Kansas City.



Shaleen Ragha, OD '16, and Drew Rixon, OD, authored a case report, "What's Your Diagnosis?" in *Primary Care Optometry News*.

Brian Knight, OD '14, joined Drew Rixon, OD, in contributing to an article published in *Review of Optometry*.

Lewis Reich, OD, PhD, was interviewed for a Q&A piece published by the *Memphis Downtowner Magazine*.

Marc Taub, OD, MS, and **Trish Walker**, OD, were among the lecturers at SECO.

Lisa Wade, OD '84, MPA, was interviewed for a *Review of Optometry* story about the shrinking applicant pool for optometry schools and how colleges are responding to the challenge.



NATIONAL BOARDS PERFORMANCE

When the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry recently reported National Board pass rates (first time and ultimate) for all optometry schools, SCO was proud to note its stellar performance in every category, including a 100% passage rate on Part II of the exam.

Dr. Lindsay Elkins, '07, SCO's Director of Academic Programs, announced the news on campus with these additional remarks:

"Over the last several years SCO students have consistently performed above the national average on the NBEO exams. This tremendous achievement is a testament to the hard work of the entire campus. SCO faculty and staff provide a learning environment conducive to success and we have the brightest students with the discipline to achieve success. This is one more reason we can all be proud to be part of this institution and I look forward to celebrating all of our future successes!"

<<< STATE DAY 2018

State Day, an event which began at SCO and has since been emulated by other schools, was held in January, drawing representatives from 16 different state, regional, and national optometry groups.



<<< DISCOVER OPTOMETRY

SCO welcomed dozens of prospective students and their families to campus for Discover Optometry in late March. If you know of a prospective student who is interested in touring SCO, please let our Admissions Office know, and we'll be glad to arrange a visit.



BUILDING RECOGNITION

SCO's fourth-floor renovation project was named a finalist for the Memphis Business Journal's Building Memphis Awards recognizing exceptional construction and renovation projects completed in 2017.



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OF OPTOMETRY

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2018 Homecoming/Fall CE Weekend

