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

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Rosita Ghazanfari, OD
Brandalyn D. Loyko, OD
Jessica L. Lucas, OD

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

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Alex W. Cohen, MD, PhD
Rhea L. Siatkowski, MD
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McGee Eye Surgery Center (MESC)
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(405) 232-8696 • Medical Director: James R. Simonson, MD

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Dean McGee Eye Institute Satellite Locations

EDMOND
1005 Medical Park Blvd., 73013
(405) 271-0913

Comprehensive Ophthalmology/Ophthalmic Surgery
Theresa A. Larson, MD

Comprehensive/Neuro-Ophthalmology
Anil D. Patel, MD

Optometry
Ananda M. Plant, OD

Optical Services
(405) 271-0909

NORTHWEST OKC
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Ralph B. Hester III, MD
Brian K. Firestone, MD

Optometry
Tasha J. Schellenberg, OD

Optical Services
(405) 271-9506

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(580) 250-5855

Comprehensive Ophthalmology/Ophthalmic Surgery
Jean R. Hausheer, MD, FACS
Ann A. Warn, MD, MBA

Optical Services
(580) 585-5425
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Discovery and Innovation
KEY ELEMENTS OF DMEI MISSION

IN ORDER TO PROVIDE OUR PATIENTS
with the very best in clinical and surgical care, the Dean McGee Eye Institute has, since its founding, been committed to a spirit of discovery and culture of innovation. The Stephenson Laser Center, for example, housed one of the country’s first VISX excimer lasers for refractive surgery. Recently (and thanks to the support of a generous donor), we acquired the technology to engage in collagen cross-linking studies to more effectively treat corneal conditions such as keratoconus, in which central thinning of the cornea creates distortion and reduction of vision.

Over the past 38 years, our clinicians and surgeons have participated in hundreds of clinical studies and projects, including multicenter clinical trials sponsored by the National Eye Institute. Some federally funded projects have included the Collaborative Ocular Melanoma Study (COMS), the Collaborative Initial Glaucoma Treatment Study (CIGTS), the Age-Related Eye Disease Study 2 (AREDS 2), the Comparison of AMD Treatment Trials (CATT) for age-related macular degeneration (AMD), the Early Treatment of Retinopathy of Prematurity (ETROP) Trial, the Telemedicine Approaches to Evaluating Acute-Phase Retinopathy of Prematurity (eROP), the Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension Trial (IIHT), and studies of diabetic retinopathy hosted through the Diabetic Retinopathy Clinical Research Network. In order for the Eye Institute to maintain its standing as a national leader in eye care, it is important that we continue our engagement in key national studies such as these.

Our DMEI Clinical Trials Unit is typically involved in 30-40 projects at a time, all with
the purpose of discovering new and better treatments for a variety of conditions that can impair vision and even result in blindness. By working with and supporting our highly respected clinicians and surgeons (three-fourths of whom are listed among the Best Doctors in America), our clinical trials team enables the Dean McGee Eye Institute to offer unique and cutting-edge treatment opportunities to our patients.

In this edition of InVision, we are featuring some of the surgical innovations offered by Drs. Steven Sarkisian and Mahmoud Khaimi. Since joining the faculty in 2006 and 2007 respectively, these two surgeons have been very active in numerous studies of new and emerging technologies and have established reputations as thoughtful surgical innovators. Learn more about canaloplasty, the iStent, and other exciting surgical techniques on pages 32-35.

Other new technologies now available to our patients at DMEI include the LipiFlow Thermal Pulsation System for the treatment of dry eyes. Yet another is the ORA System used in the McGee Eye Surgery Center to provide more precise determination of the power of the intraocular lens that is placed in the eye after the removal of a cataract. We are currently evaluating other additional technologies related to cataract surgery.

Our clinicians and surgeons also collaborate with our basic scientists with the intent of bringing observations from the laboratory to the clinical setting. One example of such collaboration is work by Alex Cohen, MD, PhD, and Michael Elliott, PhD, on preclinical studies of the inhibition of caveolin-1 (a protein found in corneal tissue) to promote corneal wound healing. This work could be applicable to a variety of corneal injuries.

Advances in the field of ophthalmology must be driven by innovation and the development of new technologies and treatments. At the Dean McGee Eye Institute, we will continue our commitment to providing our patients with the latest and best technologies to help fulfill our constant and overarching mission to preserve and restore vision.

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
MARY BEE CLARK, AN OKLAHOMA CITY resident and local artist, has written and illustrated two books for young children. Upon being diagnosed with lung cancer this past fall, Mary Bee decided to seize the day and pursue her dream of publishing children’s books. *My Gran’s Glasses* is a colorful and fun text that showcases a Gran’s eclectic glasses wardrobe. On Saturday, August 3, Full Circle Bookstore hosted a story time event, where Mary Bee read the book to local children followed by a book signing. She has generously donated all proceeds from *My Gran’s Glasses* to the Dean McGee Eye Institute to benefit the Global Eye Care Program, which is supported through private funds. To donate, go to [www.dmei.org](http://www.dmei.org) and click on the “Donate Today” button.
Standing left to right are: Bradley K. Farris, MD, Nick Collison, Professional Basketball Player, and Mahmoud A. Khaimi, MD.

**DMEI OPHTHALMOLOGISTS PROVIDE SERVICE TO THE THUNDER**

**NOW IN THE 5TH YEAR,** DMEI ophthalmologists continue to serve as the eye doctors for the Oklahoma City National Basketball Association (NBA) Thunder team. Next to orthopedic injuries, eye injuries are the most common medical problem in professional basketball. The NBA therefore requires a team ophthalmologist in attendance at all games. Dr. Bradley Farris is the Thunder Lead Ophthalmologist, and Dr. Mahmoud Khaimi is the Thunder Associate Lead Ophthalmologist. Many other DMEI ophthalmologists volunteer to provide coverage at the home games for the Thunder and visiting teams.

Dean McGee’s Residency Program Receives Maximum Accreditation

**ON FRIDAY, MAY 17,** the Institute was notified by the Residency Review Committee (RRC) in Ophthalmology that the residency program at the Dean McGee Eye Institute/University of Oklahoma (DMEI/OU) was awarded the maximum accreditation of five years. “This is not only a reflection of the outstanding quality of the program but also the residents, faculty, and all who contribute to our residents’ educational experience,” said Dr. Gregory L. Skuta, DMEI President and CEO. Many thanks goes to Dr. R. Michael Siatkowski for his exceptional leadership as Residency Program Director, Amber Roberts as Residency Program Coordinator, and Dr. Jacquelyn Jetton as Chief Resident during this vigorous review process. Dr. Siatkowski also serves as Vice Chair of the RRC.
EYE TRIAGE CLINIC OFFERED FOR MAY 20 TORNADO VICTIMS

A DMEI EYE TRIAGE CLINIC at the Moore Community Center was made available on May 23 and 24 following the devastating May 20 tornado that hit Moore, Oklahoma. Doctors and staff from the Dean McGee Eye Institute provided aid to emergency responders and those who suffered minor eye injuries or whose glasses were lost or damaged in the storm or cleanup. In all, 75 people were evaluated, and 45 pairs of eye glasses were made and dispensed within 48 hours. Among those who received glasses, one was the brother of a young boy who did not survive the storm and another was a young woman who was able to better enjoy her high school graduation ceremony.

Doctors and staff who played a critical role in this effort include Drs. Dana Garber, Jessica Lucas, Sean Paul, Jared Jackson, Blake Isernhagen, and Tyler Sorensen and the DMEI support team consisting of Robert Dimick, Mary Scammahorn, Beulah Garcia, Elaina Cozad-Torres, Lavonda Warnemuende, Rachael Thomason, Jimmy Darden, Chelsie Hughes, Stephen Jackson, Nicole Glenn, and Melody Marcum.
TRANSITIONS IN BOARD LEADERSHIP

**DMEI Board of Trustees Elects David E. Rainbolt Chair of the Board**

David E. Rainbolt was unanimously elected as the new Chair of the Dean McGee Eye Institute’s (DMEI’s) Board of Trustees at the DMEI Board’s September 25 meeting. Mr. Rainbolt is Chief Executive Officer of BancFirst and has served on the Board of Trustees since 1996. He succeeds James R. Tolbert III, who retired as Chair after more than 20 years in this role.

**New Chair of the Dean McGee Eye Institute Foundation**

G. Rainey Williams, Jr. assumed the role of Chair of the Dean McGee Eye Institute Foundation (DMEIF) in late 2012. Mr. Williams, who is President of Marco Capital Group and an active community volunteer, has served on the Foundation Board since 1998. He succeeds Stanton L. Young, who formed the DMEIF and had served as its Chair since 1992.

**James R. Tolbert III Becomes Chair Emeritus**

James R. Tolbert III was elected Chair Emeritus to the DMEI Board of Trustees at the Board’s meeting in September. Mr. Tolbert has served the Dean McGee Eye Institute for more than 40 years and was instrumental in forming the DMEI Board of Trustees and recruiting David W. Parke II, MD, former DMEI President and CEO, and Gregory L. Skuta, MD, current DMEI President and CEO. He also played an integral part in DMEI’s recent capital campaign.

**DMEI Receives the Best of Lawton Award**

For the second consecutive year, the Dean McGee Eye Institute-Lawton office has been selected to receive the Best of Lawton Award in the Eye Care Specialists category by the Lawton Award Program. The program recognizes outstanding local businesses and organizations that serve the local market, have achieved exceptional marketing success, and enhance the positive image of small business through service to their customers (or patients in this medical setting) and community. The DMEI Lawton facility was opened in 1994 under the leadership of Dr. Ann A. Warn. Dr. Jean R. Hausheer joined Dr. Warn at the facility in early 2012.
XUE CAI, PhD, was promoted to Assistant Professor of Research in the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine’s Department of Ophthalmology.


LAYNE E. GOETZINGER, MD, was promoted to Clinical Associate Professor in the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine’s Department of Ophthalmology.

DAVID W. JACKSON, MD, was promoted to Clinical Associate Professor in the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine’s Department of Ophthalmology.


RONALD M. KINGSLEY, MD, recently presented “The Age-related Eye Disease Study 2 (AREDS 2),” University of Oklahoma Department of Ophthalmology Resident and Alumni Meeting, June 2013. He served as a co-author with The Age-Related Eye Disease Study 2 (AREDS 2) Research Group for the publication “Lutein + Zeaxanthin and Omega-3 Fatty Acids for Age-Related Macular Degeneration: AREDS 2 Randomized Clinical Trial,” JAMA Ophthalmology online, May 2013.


ANIL D. PATEL, MD, was promoted to Clinical Professor in the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine’s Department of Ophthalmology. He received an Achievement Award from the American Academy of Ophthalmology in 2013 for his contributions to the Academy, its scientific and educational programs and to ophthalmology.

RAJU V.S. RAJALA, PhD, was promoted to Professor in the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine’s Department of Ophthalmology, was appointed as a member of Oklahoma Center for Neuroscience Board/Executive Committee in September 2013, and is now an Advisory Editorial Board Member for the American Journal of Current Biology (4-year appointment made in October 2013). His most recent published journal articles include: Rajala A., Dighe R., Agbaga M.P., Anderson R.E., Rajala R.V.S. “Insulin Signaling in Cones,” Journal of Biological Chemistry, July 2013; and Rajala A., Gupta V.K., Anderson R.E., Rajala R.V.S. “Light Activation of the Insulin Receptor Regulates Mitochondrial Hexokinase. A Possible Mechanism of Retinal Neuroprotection,” Mitochondrion, August 2013. He delivered a guest lecture at the 64th Delhi Ophthalmological Society Annual Conference, New Delhi, India, entitled “The Insulin Receptor Signaling Pathway and Retinal Neuroprotection.” He presented a scientific poster at ARVO in Seattle, Washington in May 2013: Rajala R.V.S., Woodruff M.L., Fain G.L. “Modulation of cGMP-gated Channels by Grb14.”
STEVEN R. SARKISIAN, JR., MD, traveled to Armenia in July 2013, where a surgical team implanted 65 second- and third-generation iStents (a new micro/minimally invasive glaucoma device). These surgeries will be included in data presented to the FDA by Glaukos as these stents are evaluated for the US market. He is also an investigator in the active US trial for the second-generation iStent. In July 2013, Dr. Sarkisian pioneered a new technique called TRAB360 in which a trabeculotomy procedure is performed through a 1.8 mm corneal incision, thus avoiding sutures and conjunctival tissue dissection. Recent publications include: Johnson, M., Sarkisian, S.R. “Using a Collagen Matrix Implant (Ologen) Versus Mitomycin-C as a Wound Healing Modulator in Trabeculectomy with the Ex-PRESS Mini Glaucoma Device: A 12-Month Retrospective Review,” Journal of Glaucoma, in press. Dr. Sarkisian presented five lectures at a major glaucoma meeting sponsored by the University of California, San Francisco and held in Napa, California in September 2013. He also lectured at the European Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery in the Netherlands in October 2013.


RHEA L. SIATKOWSKI, MD, was promoted to Clinical Associate Professor in the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine’s Department of Ophthalmology.

GREGORY L. SKUTA, MD, received a Life Achievement Honor Award from the American Academy of Ophthalmology in 2013 for his many years of distinguished service and contributions to the Academy, its scientific and educational programs and to ophthalmology. In March 2013, he served as a clinical applications grant reviewer for the National Eye Institute in Bethesda, Maryland. Dr. Skuta addressed the New England Ophthalmological Society in Boston as a Guest of Honor on May 17, 2013, and the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary’s Chandler-Grant Glaucoma Society on May 18. In July 2013, he served as a co-moderator for a symposium and course at the World Glaucoma Congress in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

LILY L. WONG, PHD, was promoted to Assistant Professor of Research in the University of Oklahoma College of Medicine’s Department of Ophthalmology.

TAMMY L. YANOVITCH, MD, MHSc, was interviewed by the health reporter from *The Oklahoman* about “What’s It Like to Have Lazy Eye or Crossed Eyes Corrected,” July 2013.

5 Star Service Award Winners Recognized

DMEI SERVICE STAR AWARD RECIPIENTS were recognized during the second quarter of 2013 by (back, left to right) Gregory Skuta, MD, President and CEO, and Matthew Bown, Executive Vice President and COO. These staff members have been recognized by their co-workers, physicians, managers and patients as excellent in providing patient service. Service Star recipients pictured are (front, left to right): Sonny W. Icks, Clinical Trials, Patricia L. McLaughlin, Secretary Floater, and James E. Ayers, Front Desk, Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery.
**DMEI OPHTHALMOLOGIST RECEIVES 2013 J. LAWTON SMITH AWARD**

**DEAN MCGEE EYE INSTITUTE (DMEI)**  
ophthalmologist  
Bradley K. Farris, MD,  
received the 2013 J. Lawton Smith Award from the Christian Ophthalmology Society (COS) at its annual meeting in Houston. Farris, Professor of Ophthalmology and Adjunct Professor of Neurology and Neurosurgery in the OU College of Medicine, was selected to receive the prestigious award for “practicing first-class medicine in a spirit of love.” The COS was co-founded by Dr. Smith, and his namesake award is given annually to one U.S. ophthalmologist.

Dr. Farris has served the Christian Ophthalmology Society as the organization’s president from 1990–2000 and as a trustee since 2000. The society was formed in 1977 as an inter-denominational group of Christian ophthalmologists. Its mission is to decrease the burden of blindness through clinical care, research and teaching.

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**Jean Ann Vickery, FCLSA, Director of Contact Lens Services RETIRES AFTER 21 YEARS**

“SINCE OCTOBER 1, 1992, Jean Ann Vickery has been an absolutely vital member of the Dean McGee Eye Institute family, and it has been an extraordinary honor and privilege for all of us to work with her and for our patients to benefit from her remarkable skills,” says Gregory L. Skuta, MD, President and CEO of the Dean McGee Eye Institute. A major leader in the national contact lens community, Vickery served as president of the Contact Lens Society of America (CLSA) from 1995 to 1997. Her commitment to excellence has been reflected in her every action and patient encounter. To honor her and her career and legacy, gifts can be made to the Dorothy O’Leary Fund, which was established in memory of Vickery’s mother, Mrs. O’Leary, in 2004. Since that time, the Dorothy O’Leary Fund has helped support contact lens care for patients with special vision needs not covered by insurance or financial assistance programs. Vickery also has been a very dedicated mentor to Carri Ferguson, her associate and the current president of the CLSA.
Dr. Ann A. Warn was among a distinguished list of women honored as Fifty Making a Difference at the 33rd Annual Woman of the Year Gala sponsored by The Journal Record newspaper. The event recognized Oklahoma female business and community leaders who excel in their chosen fields.

“Dr. Warn is a longstanding member of the Dean McGee Eye Institute family who is highly regarded by both her patients and medical peers. In addition to being a superb clinician and surgeon, and a well-published clinical researcher, Dr. Warn has held leadership positions in a wide variety of local, state, and national organizations. We are pleased that The Journal Record is recognizing this extremely talented woman in this very special way,” said Dr. Gregory Skuta, President and CEO of the Dean McGee Eye Institute.

The Fifty Making a Difference recipients are selected from hundreds of nominations across the state and are included in a special publication by the same name. The women were honored in ceremonies October 3 at the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum in Oklahoma City, where Marnie Taylor, president and CEO of the Oklahoma Center for Nonprofits, was named 2013 Woman of the Year.

Dr. Warn also was appointed this fall by Governor Mary Fallin to serve for seven years on the Oklahoma Board of Medical Licensure and Supervision. Dr. Warn previously served on the Oklahoma State Board of Health from 2001 to 2010 and as its President in 2005-2006.
JANINE E. COLLINGE, MD, joined the Dean McGee Eye Institute/OU Department of Ophthalmology’s Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus Service as Clinical Assistant Professor on August 5. A native of New Jersey, Dr. Collinge earned her undergraduate degree from the University of Delaware (with distinction and honors) and her medical degree from the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. She completed a residency in ophthalmology at Washington Hospital Center/Georgetown University in Washington, DC, where she served as Chief Resident, and a fellowship in Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus at the highly respected Eugene and Marilyn Glick Eye Institute/Indiana University Medical Center in Indianapolis.

ROSITA GHAZANFARI, OD, joined the Dean McGee Eye Institute on October 14 as a Clinical Instructor. Her clinical focus will be on contact lens services. A native of Oklahoma, Dr. Ghazanfari received her bachelor’s degree from the University of Oklahoma - Norman and earned her optometric degree (summa cum laude) in 2012 from Northeastern State University in Tahlequah, Oklahoma, where she received numerous honors and awards. During the past year, she completed additional rigorous training in specialty contact lens fitting at the State University of New York (SUNY) University Eye Clinic in New York City. This also included clinical experience with David Ritterband, MD, and John Seedor, MD, prominent corneal specialists at the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary.
New Researcher Joins DMEI

DIMITRIOS KARAMICHOS, PhD, joined the Dean McGee Eye Institute/OU Department of Ophthalmology’s basic science research faculty as an Assistant Professor on August 15.

Born in Athens, Greece, Dr. Karamichos earned his undergraduate degree with honors in electrical and electronic engineering from Manchester Metropolitan University in Manchester, United Kingdom (UK); a master’s degree in engineering and physical sciences in medicine from Imperial College in London, UK; and his PhD in tissue engineering/molecular biology from University College London. He pursued postdoctoral training at the University College London (2005-2006) and the University of Texas – Southwestern Medical Center (2006-2008) in Dallas (human cornea tissue engineering). From 2008 to 2011, he was at the Schepens Eye Research Institute in Boston, where he was a senior research associate. Prior to joining the Institute and Department, Dr. Karamichos was an instructor in the Department of Ophthalmology at Harvard Medical School. His research interests include corneal wound healing and corneal dystrophies, including keratoconus. “Dr. Karamichos has consistently expressed his enthusiasm for joining the DMEI/OU faculty. I am delighted that he is now among our talented team of scientists and look forward to continuing growth in our vision research programs and the important contributions that he will make in this regard,” said Gregory L. Skuta, MD, DMEI President and CEO.

RESEARCH FACULTY—DEPARTMENT OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

Robert E. Anderson, MD, PhD
Martin-Paul Agbaga, PhD
Seifollah Azadi, PhD
Richard S. Brush, BS
Xue Cai, PhD

Michelle C. Callegan, PhD
Daniel J.J. Carr, PhD
Phillip S. Coburn, PhD
Michael H. Elliott, PhD
Dimitrios Karamichos, PhD

Feng Li, MD, MPH, MS
Nawajes A. Mandal, PhD
James F. McGinnis, PhD
Raju V.S. Rajala, PhD
Lily L. Wong, PhD
NAWAJES A. MANDAL, PhD, a DMEI research scientist and an Assistant Professor in the University of Oklahoma Department of Ophthalmology, has received the Research to Prevent Blindness (RPB) Ernest & Elizabeth Althouse Special Scholar Award in the amount of $75,000 to support research of blinding diseases. The award, part of RPB’s Special Scholar Program, is designed to support outstanding young scientists who are conducting research of unusual significance and promise.

“This grant will be critical to advancing our Department’s scientific study of retinal degenerations, diabetic eye disease, infections and inflammatory disease, and other conditions that can result in vision loss,” Dr. Skuta stated. “Our strong history of support from RPB has played a vital role in the success of the vision research programs on this campus.”

RPB is the world’s leading voluntary organization supporting eye research. To date, the organization has awarded grants totaling more than $4.9 million to the OU Health Sciences Center, placing it among the top 11 centers in the nation in cumulative RPB funding.

TO SUPPORT RESEARCH INTO THE CAUSES, treatment, and prevention of blinding diseases, Research to Prevent Blindness (RPB) has awarded a grant of $110,000 to the Department of Ophthalmology at the Dean McGee Eye Institute and the University of Oklahoma (OU) Health Sciences Center. The research will be directed by Gregory L. Skuta, MD, Edward L. Gaylord Professor and Chair of the OU Department of Ophthalmology and President and CEO of the Dean McGee Eye Institute.

“This grant will be critical to advancing our Department’s scientific study of retinal degenerations, diabetic eye disease, infections and inflammatory disease, and other conditions that can result in vision loss,” Dr. Skuta stated. “Our strong history of support from RPB has played a vital role in the success of the vision research programs on this campus.”

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THE 7TH ANNUAL OU VISION WORKSHOP took place on September 5 and 6 at the Samis Family Education Center in Oklahoma City.

Lois E. Smith, MD, PhD, Professor of Ophthalmology at Harvard Medical School/Children’s Hospital of Boston, delivered the keynote lecture entitled, “Can We Prevent Retinopathy of Prematurity (ROP) by Replacing In Utero Factors?”

As in previous years, the top two presentations made by graduate and postgraduate scientists were awarded with the Robert E. Anderson Best Presentation Award. This year’s winners were Derek Royer (mentored by Dr. Daniel Carr) and Elizabeth Moran (mentored by Dr. Jian-Xing Ma). Katie Hudson, PhD, a postdoctoral fellow with Dr. Carr, was the recipient of the 2013 Dr. Wei Ciao Innovation Award.

SAVE THE DATE

Monday, September 29, 2014
THE 23RD ANNUAL WALTER J. STARK MEMORIAL LECTURESHIP
8:30am–9:30am • Tullos O. Coston Lecture Hall

Russell N. Van Gelder, MD, PhD
Boyd K. Bucey Professor and Chair, Department of Ophthalmology, University of Washington, Seattle
President-Elect Designate, American Academy of Ophthalmology
TWENTY-FOUR PATIENTS HAVE ENROLLED in a clinical trial sponsored by Avedro for the treatment of keratoconus using a technique known as collagen cross-linking. Keratoconus is a degenerative disorder of the eye in which structural changes within the cornea cause it to thin and change to a more conical shape than its normal gradual curve. It can cause substantial distortion of vision, with multiple images, streaking and sensitivity to light. Keratoconus is typically diagnosed in the patient’s adolescent or early adult years. If it afflicts both eyes, the deterioration in vision can affect the patient’s ability to drive a car or read normal print. Because this is an FDA trial, results cannot be discussed until the study is finished and the treatment becomes FDA-approved, at which time it can be offered to all keratoconus patients.

The collagen cross-linking procedure involves removing the epithelium or superficial layer of the cornea, after which riboflavin solution (a B vitamin) is applied for 20 minutes until it has thoroughly penetrated the cornea. The ultraviolet (UV) source is then used to activate

the riboflavin and initiate the cross-linking chemical reaction. The UV source is applied for 2.5 to 8 minutes depending on the particular protocol. This strengthens the cornea to prevent further steepening.

It is expected that 95% of patients will experience stabilization of their disease, which is usually progressive until they have a corneal transplant, and 50% of patients may notice some improvement; however, the 95% stabilization rate is the key. “If we can treat patients before their disease becomes severe, we anticipate a drastic reduction in the need for corneal transplants for keratoconus in the years to come. This will require improved screening in the community, and, of course, FDA approval to improve access to the treatment,” says Dr. Donald U. Stone, DMEI Clinical Associate Professor and corneal specialist.
STANTON L. YOUNG

Endowed Chair in Ophthalmology

MR. STANTON L. YOUNG HAS ESTABLISHED a truly remarkable legacy of leadership at the Oklahoma Health Center. Among his many leadership roles, he served in exceptional fashion as Chair of the Presbyterian Health Foundation from its formation in 1985 until 2004. After decades of dedicated service to the Dean McGee Eye Institute (DMEI), he retired as Chair of the Oklahoma Eye Foundation in September 2011, as a member of the DMEI Board of Trustees in September 2012, and as Chair of the DMEI Foundation in October 2012.

To honor Mr. Young’s outstanding leadership and service to the Oklahoma Health Center and the Dean McGee Eye Institute, the Stanton L. Young Endowed Chair in Ophthalmology has been established with leadership gifts of $500,000 from the Presbyterian Health Foundation and the DMEI Foundation. A goal of $2.0 million has been set for the endowed chair to provide support for a faculty member committed to academic achievement.

The Eye Institute and the University of Oklahoma (OU) Department of Ophthalmology currently have six other endowed faculty chair positions, the Thomas E. Acers Chair, the Edward L. Gaylord Chair, the James P. Luton Chair, the M.G. McCool Chair, the Dean A. McGee Chair, and the David W. Parke II Chair. The first five positions were created and funded in the mid-1980s through the year 2001 and have served as a very useful tool in recruiting and retaining outstanding DMEI/OU faculty. The Parke Chair was announced earlier this year. The addition of the Stanton L. Young Endowed Chair in Ophthalmology will assist in supporting the Institute’s academic mission while perpetuating Mr. Young’s extraordinary legacy.

To contribute to this endowed chair, you may send a check made payable to the DMEI Foundation to the DMEI Development Office, 608 Stanton L. Young Blvd, Oklahoma City, OK 73104 or go online to www.dmei.org and click the “Donate Today” button on the website.
DR. W. STANLEY MUENZLER WAS A PROMINENT and highly revered corneal surgeon who practiced in Oklahoma City for almost 50 years. He earned his undergraduate and medical degrees from the University of Oklahoma (OU) and also completed his residency in ophthalmology at OU in 1964. He later served as a corneal surgery fellow with Dr. Max Fine in San Francisco. To honor Dr. Muenzler, who passed away in August 2013, and memorialize his extraordinary legacy, the W. Stanley Muenzler, MD Professorship in Corneal Disease has been established by friends, colleagues, and family at the Dean McGee Eye Institute (DMEI) and with the support of the DMEI Foundation.

A gifted clinician and skilled surgeon, Dr. Muenzler was highly respected by his medical colleagues and loved by his patients. During his illustrious career, he served as President of the Oklahoma Academy of Ophthalmology (1989-1990), Director of the Tullos O. Coston Lectureship (1980-2004), Director of the Charles A. Royer Corneal Study Group (1984-2003), President of the South Central Region of the Eye Bank Association of America (1971-1973), Medical Director of the Oklahoma Lions Eye Bank (1968-2013), Director of the Cornea Clinic at the OU Health Sciences Center (OUHSC – 1968-1975), and Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology at OUHSC (1986-2013). He also served as a member of the Acers Society Committee. In June 2013, Dr. Muenzler was recognized with the Oklahoma Academy of Ophthalmology’s Distinguished Service Award for his outstanding leadership and contributions to the state Academy and the profession of ophthalmology.

Given Dr. Muenzler’s enormous impact on the OU Department of Ophthalmology and the Eye Institute, DMEI and the DMEI Foundation are honored to participate in the establishment of the W. Stanley Muenzler, MD Endowed Professorship in Corneal Disease. The DMEI Foundation will contribute one dollar for every two dollars in personal contributions with a goal of at least $500,000 for the Professorship, which provides a unique opportunity to honor Dr. Muenzler and advance his remarkable legacy.

To contribute to this professorship, you may send a check made payable to the DMEI Foundation to the DMEI Development Office, 608 Stanton L. Young Blvd, Oklahoma City, OK 73104 or go online to www.dmei.org and click the “Donate Today” button on the website.
LANA G. IVY NAMED AFP 2013 MIKE MCDONALD OUTSTANDING PROFESSIONAL FUNDRAISER

THE ASSOCIATION OF FUNDRAISING PROFESSIONALS (AFP)—OKLAHOMA CHAPTER named Lana G. Ivy, MBA, Vice President of Development at the Dean McGee Eye Institute, as the 2013 Mike McDonald Outstanding Professional fundraiser. The award is the top individual honor given by the organization during its annual National Philanthropy Day celebration recognizing philanthropic leadership in Central Oklahoma. Ivy was among those honored at a special luncheon at the Skirvin Hilton Hotel in Oklahoma City on October 31.

“Lana Ivy has distinguished herself among her peers and here at the Dean McGee Eye Institute as an outstanding development officer,” said Dr. Gregory Skuta, President and CEO of the Dean McGee Eye Institute and Edward L. Gaylord Professor and Chair of the OU College of Medicine’s Department of Ophthalmology. “The impact of her exceptional work is visible throughout our facility and in the lives of the patients we touch every day. Her fundraising efforts were vital to the completion of our new $46 million world-class research and clinical facility. In addition, her work has helped us attract the finest minds in our field and equip them with the technologies needed for the breakthrough discoveries and treatments that make this Institute a national leader.”

Presenting a bouquet of flowers to Lana Ivy, DMEI VP of Development (center), at the National Philanthropy Day luncheon are Dr. Gregory Skuta, DMEI President and CEO (left), and Matthew Bown, DMEI Executive Vice President and COO (right).
THE CLINICAL FACULTY, SCIENTISTS AND STAFF of the Dean McGee Eye Institute gratefully acknowledge our annual donors listed below. The generosity of these donors allows us to continue our missions of patient care, vision research, education and community outreach for the benefit of all Oklahomans. Every effort has been made to include all gifts and pledges from January 1, 2012 – December 31, 2012 (excludes Capital Campaign donors).

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A charitable bequest is one of the easiest ways you can leave a lasting impact on the Dean McGee Eye Institute. Contact Lana G. Ivy, Vice President of Development, at 405-271-7803 or by email at lana-ivy@dmei.org to receive more information.
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WE SINCERELY APPRECIATE, RECOGNIZE AND HONOR the many generous patients, friends, corporations, foundations, alumni, faculty and staff who have demonstrated their support of patient care, vision research and education by contributing to the Dean McGee Eye Institute Capital Campaign. Every effort has been made to include all gifts and pledges from January 1, 2012 – December 31, 2012.

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Residency: Scott & White/Texas A&M Health Science Center

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Incoming Residents for 2014
Clifton C. Fay, MD – Medical College of Georgia
James C. O’Brien, MD – University of Texas, Galveston
Andrew L. Rodenburg, MD – University of North Dakota
Ilya (Eli) Sluch, MD – University of Oklahoma

Chief Resident 2013–2014
Congratulations to Evan Allan, MD, who was appointed to serve as our Chief Resident for the 2013–2014 academic year.
THE DEAN MCGEE EYE INSTITUTE

WELCOMED Terrence P. O’Brien, MD, as the 22nd Annual Walter J. Stark Memorial Lecturer on October 7, 2013. His lecture was entitled, “Progress in Microbial Keratitis or Not?”

An internationally recognized expert in ocular infectious diseases and corneal, anterior segment and refractive surgery, Dr. O’Brien is Professor of Ophthalmology and holds the Charlotte Breyer Rodgers Distinguished Chair at the top-ranked Bascom Palmer Eye Institute of the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. He previously served as Director of Ocular Infectious Diseases at the Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, where he was on the faculty for 14 years, rose to the rank of Professor, and was awarded the Tom Clancy Endowed Chair.

A distinguished leader in American ophthalmology, Dr. O’Brien is Past President of the Ocular Microbiology and Immunology Group and serves on the Executive Board of the International Conference of Eye Infections. He is the past Senior Associate Editor of the Journal...
Robert G. Small, MD, Resident Award

Dr. and Mrs. T.E. Acers Excellence in Attending at VA Award

Ronald M. Kingsley, MD, Resident Honor Award

Yasser Elshatory, MD, PhD, Fellow Teaching Award

Edward and Thelma Gaylord Faculty Honor Award

Deana S. Watts, MD, Distinquished Service Award

W. Stanley Muenzler, MD, Chief of Refractive Surgery and past Editor-in-Chief of Contemporary Ophthalmology

2013 Oklahoma Academy of Ophthalmology

SERVICE, TEACHING AND RESEARCH AWARDS

and past Editor-in-Chief of Contemporary Ophthalmology and currently serves as an Editor of Ophthalmology Therapy and on numerous other editorial boards, organizational boards and advisory groups. The author or co-author of more than 100 peer-reviewed scientific publications and more than 30 book chapters, Dr. O’Brien has lectured widely both nationally and internationally, has delivered numerous named lectures, and has served as Chair of the American Academy of Ophthalmology’s (AAO’s) Refractive Surgery Subspecialty Day.
2013 Resident & Alumni Meeting

Randall J. Olson, MD, Chair, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences at the University of Utah’s John A. Moran Eye Center, speaks at the 2013 Resident & Alumni Meeting.

Diana Hampton, MD, (right) President of the Oklahoma Academy of Ophthalmology (OAO), presents the OAO Distinguished Service Award to W. Stanley Muenzler, MD (left) during the Resident & Alumni luncheon on June 8, 2013. Dr. Muenzler passed away unexpectedly in August 2013. See page 20 to learn about the Professorship established in his memory.

Randall J. Olson, MD, (left), Chair, Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences at the John A. Moran Eye Center in Salt Lake City and Coston Lecturer at the 2013 Resident & Alumni Meeting, accepts a thank you gift from William S. Clifford, MD (right).
Acers Alumni Reception

Pictured above (left) is Acers Society special guest and presenter, Barrett G. Haik, MD, FACS, Hamilton Professor of Ophthalmology and Director, Hamilton Eye Institute at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center, with Mrs. Jackie Acers (right).

Enjoying the Acers Society Alumni Reception in the new DMEI pavilion are (left to right) William S. Cifford, MD, Barrett G. Haik, MD, Ann Acers Warn, MD, and Gregory L. Skuta, MD.

SAVE THE DATE  May 31, 2014
38th Annual DMEI Ophthalmology Symposium/ OU Resident and Alumni Meeting

35th Tullos O. Coston Lecture
Peter A. Netland, MD, PhD
Dupont Guerry III Professor and Chair
Department of Ophthalmology
University of Virginia, Charlottesville

Samis Education Center, Children’s Hospital
Oklahoma City
IN AUGUST, DR. JACQUELYN JETTON, DMEI Global Eye Care Fellow, left for a two-month rotation in Swaziland, Africa—one of three international rotations this year (Swaziland, China, Peru). She spent time with Dr. Jonathan Pons’ team at the Good Shepherd Eye Clinic in Siteki, Swaziland. Dr. Jetton is the first Fellow in the Global Eye Care Program and will be spending one year in various clinical settings both in Oklahoma and overseas. She graduated from Wake Forest University, completed medical school in San Antonio, and served as a resident in ophthalmology at the University of Oklahoma/Dean McGee Eye Institute, where she was appointed as Chief Resident in her third year. Dr. Jetton has had a lifelong passion for international medicine and caring for the underserved, which is all coming to life for her now.

World Sight Day was on October 11. Groups from all over the world used this occasion to organize screenings and educate the public on vision loss. In the Kingdom of Swaziland, a small screening event was organized by Dr. Sharon Maseko, the senior optometrist for Mbabane Government Hospital, and Sikelela, the case finder.

The morning started with a prayer and some singing by students from the school for the blind. Speeches were given by local rural health motivators and the optometrists about the need for regular eye exams in individuals affected by chronic conditions such as hypertension and diabetes.

Patients were sent to Dr. Msiska (the government ophthalmologist) and to Dr. Jetton for eye exams. Those in need of glasses were sent to the optometrist’s station for help in selecting the correct ones. According to Dr. Jetton, “We mostly saw dry itchy eyes (imagine constantly living outside with high winds and desert), cataracts, and end-stage glaucoma. It was a successful screening day. The people were appreciative, and we fulfilled the purpose of World Sight Day in getting the word out.”
In collaboration with the existing ophthalmology resources in Swaziland, the Ministry of Health and CBM (an international Christian development organization committed to improving the quality of life of persons with disabilities in the poorest countries of the world), the Global Eye Care Team is helping to develop a comprehensive plan for eye care in the Kingdom. Using the framework advocated by the World Health Organization and the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness, the plan will address the stakeholder community to enhance their understanding of eye care; help identify and garner the resources required for success of the plan; and implement disease management strategies to target the leading causes of blindness in Swaziland, which are cataract, retinopathies, glaucoma, refractive error and amblyopia (in children).

To contribute to the Global Eye Care Program, you may go online to www.dmei.org and click the “Donate Today” button on the website.
innovations
IN GLAUCOMA SURGERY
PROVIDE SUCCESS, REDUCE RISKS
FOR AT LEAST A DECADE, Edmond interior designer Judy Gross felt as tired every day as her eyes did. They were constantly red and gritty and tired from her glaucoma medications, and there was the terrifying specter of future blindness in the back of her mind. Deteriorating vision from the presence of cataracts left Gross unable to examine fabrics and read their tiny labels without repeatedly putting on and taking off her reading glasses.

But not anymore.

For Stillwater engineering technician Michael Stephenson, the detection of his glaucoma eight years ago came as no surprise. His eyeballs were unusually large, and he had worn glasses since the age of 5 for nearsightedness so severe that making out the alarm clock in the middle of the night was impossible without glasses or contact lenses. Keeping his glaucoma under control required two medications daily.

But not anymore.

Gross and Stephenson are the beneficiaries of innovative glaucoma surgery techniques such as canaloplasty and the iStent being advanced by surgeons at the Dean McGee Eye Institute. Patients whose intraocular pressure (IOP) cannot be controlled by medications are appropriate candidates for these new techniques, which can be used alone or in combination with cataract surgery, depending on a patient’s needs. Traditional surgical intervention called trabeculectomy, which creates a reservoir for the extra fluid buildup, is useful for more advanced patients who need a dramatic lowering of their pressures. However, trabeculectomy carries with it potential complications that became the driving force for developing newer techniques that would be efficient, effective, less invasive and less risky.

These newer techniques are called minimally invasive glaucoma surgeries or MIGS and may be performed in tandem with cataract removal and lens replacement, sometimes using the same incision. These MIGS also have in common their utilization of the eye’s natural outflow or drainage system to relieve pressure on the optic nerve and halt or slow progression of the disease.

“In a nutshell, in glaucoma you have a sink and a faucet that is always turned on, so you have to have a drain for this fluid,” said DMEI surgeon Mahmoud Khaimi, MD, who became a member of the faculty in 2007. “In the disease process, you develop pressure buildup and optic nerve damage, which leads to loss of side vision and, later, central vision in glaucoma.”

...continued on next page...
The challenge, he said, is either to suppress production from this faucet through drops and some surgical techniques or determine how to resuscitate the sink and allow the fluid to flow out more effectively, which the newer techniques do. Older surgical procedures typically bypass the natural drainage system and “put in a whole new sink.”

Unfortunately, explained DMEI surgeon Steven R. Sarkisian, Jr., MD, traditional techniques “avoid the system God gave to you, create a new system, either through trabeculectomy or some sort of drainage implant into space under the conjunctiva, and use areas [in the eye] that were not intended to collect fluid. They can sometimes become infected, leak and require revision.”

“As a result of these potential complications, I’ve been involved in finding more minimally invasive ways to lower eye pressure,” said Sarkisian, who joined the DMEI faculty in 2006. Soon afterwards in 2007, he and Khaimi began using the original MIGS procedure called endoscopic cyclophotocoagulation, or ECP, in which a special microscopic instrument shrinks the fluid-producing tissues in the eye, “essentially turning down the faucet.”

Both Sarkisian and Khaimi recently introduced DMEI patients to the iStent, a microscopic titanium device placed in the eye’s natural drainage system to allow a natural outflow of fluid.

Sarkisian is currently one of a select group of American surgeons participating in a trial of a procedure that improves drainage and reduces IOP by placing two of these tiny stents in each eye. This fall, Sarkisian used a microscopic probe to insert the stents into the eyes of Stillwater resident Stephenson after removing cataracts and inserting new lens implants. The left eye, in which the glaucoma was worse, was operated first, and the change was almost instantaneous. His IOP was halved, his two glaucoma prescriptions were reduced to one and he could see well enough to walk his dog at 5 a.m. without glasses. The second surgery, a month later, had a similar, successful result.
Stephenson has found that “getting up in the middle of the night and being able to see the alarm clock is pretty dang neat. I am definitely thankful that DMEI is here. I especially appreciate Dr. Sarkisian’s efforts.”

As for Gross, she jokes about erecting a billboard to heap praise on DMEI and Khaimi, who performed a procedure called canaloplasty to halt her disease progression. Similar to balloon angioplasty by an interventional cardiologist to open an artery, this procedure dilates the canal of Schlemm a full 360 degrees and holds it open with a suture finer than a human hair. Khaimi and Sarkisian were the first in Oklahoma to perform this procedure, and they have since taught it to DMEI fellows and to visiting surgeons from around the globe.

Gross now uses no medications, her tiredness is gone and she wakes up wanting “to get out and do it. It’s been a miracle.”

Both surgeons continue to investigate other promising new techniques. As one example, Khaimi is a Phase I principal investigator for the InnFocus Microshunt being evaluated in 10 leading US glaucoma centers. See Faculty News (pages 8–10) for more.

DMEI President Gregory L. Skuta, MD, a glaucoma specialist himself with a decades-long history in search of better treatments, finds it “very exciting that these new technologies are available to glaucoma patients who, for many years, had rather limited options that carried substantial risk in some situations.”

“All procedures carry some risk. However, to have multiple options out there, and the ability to make individual surgical decisions based on the level of IOP and glaucoma damage, is very attractive.”

“Our goal in glaucoma surgery is to identify procedures that can be performed efficiently and effectively with substantial lowering of intraocular pressure, high success rates, limited risks and preservation of vision,” Skuta said. “The Dean McGee Eye Institute and our surgeons will continue to be in the forefront of advancing innovative surgical techniques.”
“Life is either a daring adventure or nothing at all.”

—Helen Keller, The Open Door