

Fall 2017

Visionary Fall 2017

College of Optometry

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GLOBAL EXPERIENCES BROADEN ALUMNA'S VIEW

PAGE 8

It's time to get published!

Tell us your stories and see your name in *The Visionary*.

Please let us know if you have

- been promoted or accepted a new professional position
- had a major article or book published
- been appointed to a committee or board of directors
- conducted research
- received any special awards or recognition

We want to read about your achievements, so please submit your information by email by October 15, 2017. If possible, include a high-resolution, original photo in a jpeg or tiff format.

So we can continue to send you *The Visionary* and other important college and alumni information, please update your contact information regularly by emailing us.

We look forward to hearing from you.

mm2094@nova.edu



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ON THE COVER: 2017 graduate Julie Schaefer, O.D., admires an impressive view of the Great Wall of China.

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Dean's Message



I am starting my 21st year as dean at the NSU College of Optometry (NSUCO) and have seen many positive changes over the past 20 years. When I arrived, I recall discussing with Morton Terry, D.O., his vision for the future of the Health Professions

Division (HPD), and I am sure he would be very pleased with the progress and expansion of the HPD, as well as NSU. The growing legacy of NSUCO continues with more than 2,500 alumni, including many who serve in very important positions both inside and outside of Florida.

I think we have evidence to show we are fulfilling our mission: To prepare, educate, and train optometric physicians to practice at the highest level of proficiency, integrity, and professionalism and to provide a multi-disciplinary environment that encourages scholarly activity, service, and lifelong learning.

Because the optometry program has been at the Fort Lauderdale/Davie Campus since 1997, it was clear that specific clinics and labs needed a face-lift. Through HPD administration funding and grants, the Pediatrics/Binocular Vision Service was renewed with an expanded office for student/resident/faculty interaction, as well as space for additional head trauma, sports vision, and autistic patient services.

The Ophthalmic Optics/Contact Lens Lab and the Pediatrics/Low Vision Lab were restored with new furniture and additional counter space and sinks. This summer, the Procedures Lab—also known as OTM—is being transformed with new exam rooms that include electronic presentation capabilities, video slit lamps, a room with procedure simulation equipment, and a dedicated National Board of Examiners in Optometry room for students to prepare for Part III of the national boards.

To help train students for advanced procedures, a new Injection and Surgical Procedures Lab was constructed in an auxiliary space with the practice arms and other

required equipment. These efforts demonstrate that the college is moving in a positive direction for student education.

As in the past, students receive a portion of their clinical training in The Eye Care Institute, which consists of five clinical sites. One advantage of our clinical program is the diverse patient population in South Florida. We continuously update or replace standard ophthalmic equipment and purchase the latest state-of-the-art diagnostic tools so our students are exposed to the newest techniques, and patients receive the most advanced care.

Faculty members are publishing in peer-reviewed journals and presenting papers and posters at professional meetings. Significant progress is being made to develop the research skills of the optometry faculty members, who can enroll in the college's Master of Science in Clinical Vision Research program at a reduced cost. Additionally, many of our faculty members were recognized through academic awards and research funding by NSU, private companies, and federal grants.

Scholarships make it possible for us to attract and retain an exceptional, diverse student body and develop the next generation of outstanding optometric physicians. I encourage you to make a contribution to the college to assist current and future students with their educational costs. Your support will enhance the college now and sustain its excellence in the future. If you would like to initiate a pledge or make a one-time donation, please visit realizingpotential.nova.edu/give/.

On a similar note, I would like to express gratitude to our alumni and faculty and staff members who generously donate to the college. Every gift, regardless of the amount, assists in our continuous growth as a premier optometric institution.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "David S. Loshin". The signature is fluid and cursive, written over a light blue background.

David S. Loshin, O.D., Ph.D., F.AAO
Dean, College of Optometry
Nova Southeastern University

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Interim Chancellor's Communiqué



During this interim leadership period, it is important for the Health Professions Division (HPD) to keep the momentum it has established through the years. We are commencing projects that have been planned for years and initiating new endeavors, which is why it is important to continue this progress.

Frederick Lippman, R.Ph., Ed.D., who was appointed as NSU interim executive vice president and chief operating officer, and I have been working together for more than 20 years and will continue to work collaboratively on issues related to the Health Professions Division. As a result, we will continue to progress consistently at the HPD without disruption.

NSU is on track to realize its potential as a major university, while at the HPD, new facilities are being constructed and planned. Expansion is in the works as we seek to better serve our students and faculty and staff members and meet the increasing needs of health care education in our community.

We are continuing our focus on research and our work on the new College of Allopathic Medicine. Additionally, the HPD has made significant progress related to the new hospital and Academical Village that will be built on the Fort Lauderdale/Davie Campus, and in achieving the goals outlined in Vision 2020.

As we look to the future, we should recognize those who had the vision to plan and assemble the resources to get the Health Professions Division to its excellent state. They faced many challenges and had the determination to complete the task.

I look forward to working with the HPD deans, faculty and staff members, and students to continue our progress.

Irving Rosenbaum, D.P.A., Ed.D., M.P.A.
Interim Chancellor
Health Professions Division



Living the Values Program Receives University-Wide Recognition

BY MICHELLE M. MORGADO, M.B.A., MANAGER OF MARKETING SERVICES

In pursuit of defining the Nova Southeastern University (NSU) of tomorrow, George L. Hanbury II, Ph.D., NSU president and chief executive officer, collaborated with faculty and staff members, deans, alumni, student leaders, community members, and the NSU Board of Trustees to create a single, shared vision based on eight core values. NSU's Core Values include academic excellence, student centered, integrity, innovation, opportunity, scholarship/research, diversity, and community.

Kelly Duke, B.A., manager of employee services for the College of Optometry, created the Living the Values program as a result of the 2016 Employee Engagement Survey and to fulfill Hanbury's vision. The purpose of the program, which began on July 1, 2016, and ends on October 31, 2017, is to recognize coworkers who are living NSU's Core Values.

The Living the Values program focuses on each value for two months, then switches to the next value. All NSUCO employees can nominate coworkers they see or have seen demonstrating the current focus value. All nominated employees receive recognition during the monthly staff meeting, which honors the value they were recognized as portraying.

At an NSU town hall meeting held on January 25 at the Rose and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center, Duke received recognition from Hanbury for creating the program. Due to the program's success, NSU executives are considering implementing it university-wide. □

Previous NSUCO nominees are listed below.



Academic excellence is the provision of the highest-quality educational and learning experiences made possible by academically and professionally qualified and skilled instructional faculty and staff members, opportunities for contextual learning, state-of-the-art facilities, beautiful surroundings, and effective resources necessary to support learning at the highest level. Additionally, academic excellence reflects the successful relationship between engaged learners and outstanding instructional faculty and staff members.

From left to right: Rita Ey, Maura Cohen, Marlem Aleman, and Jeanne DeCaro



Students are the focus of institutional priorities, resource decisions, and planning. We are stewards of student needs and advocates for student academic success and professional development.

Top row from left to right: Jeanne DeCaro, Rita Ey, Juan Carlos Saavedra, Rachel Snell, Juan Carlos Gonzalez, and Nicole Bras-Feliciano

Bottom row from left to right: Michelle Merida Morgado and Maura Cohen



Integrity involves honesty and fairness, consistency in instruction, ethics of scholarship, freedom of inquiry, and open and truthful engagement with the community through effective communication, policies, and practices.

From left to right: Rachel Snell, Vanessa McDonald, and Kelly Duke



Innovation is the creative and deliberate application of teaching, research, scholarship, and service for effective education and the development of useful products or processes providing a value added to the community.

From left to right: Tatiana Campos, Nicole Bras-Feliciano, and Marlem Aleman



Diversity includes, but is not limited to, race, ethnicity, culture, religion, philosophy, gender, physical, socioeconomic status, age, and sexual orientation. Differences in views, interpretations, and reactions derived from diversity are important. Diversity enriches a learning environment focused on preparing individuals to live and work in a global society.

From left to right: Juan Carlos Gonzalez, Rita Ey, Nicola Cooper, Tatiana Campos, Rachel Snell, and Nicole Bras-Feliciano

News Blasts



Relay for Life: Take a Bite Out of Cancer

During the Relay for Life Plantation event held at Plantation Central Park, the NSUCO team—led by Linda S. Rouse, O.D., M.B.A., FAAO, assistant dean of finance and chief operations officer of The Eye Care Institute, and Lori Vollmer, O.D., FAAO, associate professor and director of residencies—raised nearly \$2,500.

With a “take a bite out of cancer” theme, the community came together to honor cancer survivors, remember loved ones lost, and fight against cancer. Relay for Life teams camp overnight and take turns walking or running around the track. The event lasts for 24 consecutive hours for a symbolic reason: Because cancer never sleeps, organizers ask each team to have at least one participant on the track at all times. □



Left to right: George L. Hanbury II, Ph.D., NSU president and chief executive officer; David S. Loshin; and Frederick Lippman, R.Ph., Ed.D., NSU interim executive vice president and chief operating officer

NSUCO Dean Receives Highest HPD Honor

David S. Loshin, O.D., Ph.D., FAAO, NSUCO dean, was honored with the Health Professions Division (HPD) Distinguished Service Award for his numerous contributions to the health care field and NSU during the HPD’s 32nd annual Bal Fantastique held April 1 at the Hyatt Regency Pier 66 in Fort Lauderdale.

Hosted by NSU’s HPD, the Bal Fantastique raises funds to support educational and community programs in areas such as allopathic medicine, dental medicine, health care sciences, medical sciences, nursing, optometry, osteopathic medicine, and pharmacy. □



The Eye Care Institute staff members from the five clinical locations worked hard to ensure that the annual Optical Style Show was a success. Pictured are staff members and students from the Fort Lauderdale/Davie Campus location.

Egyptian Theme Defines Optical Style Show

On March 30, The Eye Care Institute hosted its annual Optical Style Show, which featured a Walk Like an Egyptian theme with raffles, music, food, and fun. The show's sponsoring frame vendor was Luxottica, which showcased full collections of its top brands, including Burberry, Coach, Dolce & Gabbana, Michael Kors, Oakley, Prada, and Tory Burch.

The style show serves as a successful way to promote The Eye Care Institute clinics to their surrounding communities via radio ads and invitations, as well as through campus-wide promotion for NSU students and faculty and staff members. The Optical Style Show remains a perennial success thanks to the efforts of Linda S. Rouse, O.D., M.B.A., FAAO, assistant dean of finance and operations and chief operations officer of The Eye Care Institute; Ana Abugazaleh, managing optician; Michelle M. Morgado, M.B.A., manager of marketing services; and The Eye Care Institute staff members. □



Manager of Employee Services Awarded Administrator of the Year at STUEYS

Kelly Duke, B.A., manager of employee services, received the Administrator of the Year Award at the 19th annual Student Life Achievement Awards, commonly referred to as the STUEYS. For those unfamiliar with the STUEY Awards, the event honors the people and organizations that best exemplify the core values of academic excellence, student centered, opportunity, scholarship/research, integrity, diversity, innovation, and community within the university.

During the event—held April 13 at NSU's Rose and Alfred Miniaci Performing Arts Center, students, faculty and staff members—corporate partners, and alumni were honored for their contributions toward building a greater sense of community and campus life. Additional NSUCO nominees included Michael Bacigalupi, O.D., M.S., for Executive of the Year and NSUCO's student of the year, Jeremy Outinen, B.A., for overall NSU Student of the Year.

Duke joined NSU in 2001 as assistant director of online programs for the H. Wayne Huizenga College of Business and Entrepreneurship, where she worked until the end of 2011. She left her position at NSU and became campus director of an international film school in Miami, Florida, where she worked for two years.

In 2014, Duke returned to NSU and joined the College of Optometry as manager of employee services. She earned her bachelor's degree in sociology and has pursued master's-level studies in business administration and human resources and professional studies in law. □

Externship in China Helps New Graduate Expand Global Experiences

BY ARNIE ROSENBERG

How is an optometry clinic like Black Friday?

If it's Tianjin Medical University Eye Hospital in Tianjin, China, you have hundreds of people waiting for the doors to open, long lines, and a staff moving people through as quickly as it can.

Just ask Julie Schaefer, O.D., who graduated from NSUCO in May. She lived it nearly every day during her six-month externship in Tianjin. And, the comparison to America's notorious after-Thanksgiving day of shopping isn't even her own analogy. It came from one of the Chinese optometrists in the massive clinic where she worked.

"That's our hospital every day," the doctor told Schaefer. She quickly found out just how right he was. "Black Friday actually is an accurate reference," Schaefer said. "It's really crowded, and there are huge lines as soon as you come in. But they're very good at handling all of the patients. They're very efficient."

They need every bit of that efficiency, Schaefer discovered. Patients actually line up in the exam room, which is "something unheard of in America," said Schaefer, who hails from Weston, Florida, and is a summa cum laude graduate of Florida State University (FSU). "They stand in the exam room, waiting for their turn in the chair. It's amazing the way the doctors multitask and are able to keep everything straight in their heads."

While working and studying in China could present its own challenges, living in such a foreign setting wasn't at all intimidating, especially for someone who had become an accomplished world traveler in the past few years.

The wanderlust hit Schaefer when she graduated from FSU in 2013. After a 28-day whirlwind trip with her brother through Europe—seeing Paris, London, Munich, Barcelona, and Amsterdam—she was hooked. The next summer, she was back in Europe with her best friend. Next came backpacking through Japan and Korea, and then another backpacking trip through Bosnia and Serbia.

During her third year at NSU, as she skimmed through the list of available externship sites, she first focused on an opportunity in Alaska, but quickly seized on Tianjin. That was a whirlwind as well. With studying for the national board exam in March and then finals in April, she barely had time to learn a few phrases in Mandarin before hopping on the plane.

Still, even the language barrier wasn't insurmountable for this adventurous extern. She was paired with a Chinese optometry student who helped her with Chinese and soon became her best friend.

None of that was surprising for NSUCO professor Bin Zhang, M.D., Ph.D., FAAO. Schaefer, he said, was the perfect candidate for the Tianjin externship. The clinical rotation in China was established more than 15 years ago. Zhang helped extend it from the initial three months to six months so Schaefer could pack more travel across China around her clinical experience.

"Julie is quite an outgoing girl, so I knew she would fit quite well," said Zhang, who taught Schaefer during her first three years at NSU. "She is willing to try different things to meet and embrace the new culture. I really never worried about whether she would fit in."

Schaefer found the six-story Tianjin hospital very modern and “super high tech. Things I’d only read about in books, I saw first-person,” she said. “Equipment and technology were very state of the art, but the patients themselves were in extreme poverty.”

She was soon able to master enough Chinese to work directly with patients. “I wanted to learn some Chinese so I could do exams with a little bit of independence,” Schaefer recalled. “I asked one of the doctors to teach me how to give patients basic instructions so I could do at least a slit-lamp exam. So I was able to tell the patient, ‘Open your eye, blink, look up, look down.’ ”

Each month, Schaefer rotated through a different specialty area, experiencing cataract, cornea, glaucoma, and retina surgeries. But her personal interactions, which were mostly with patients, left the most lasting impressions.

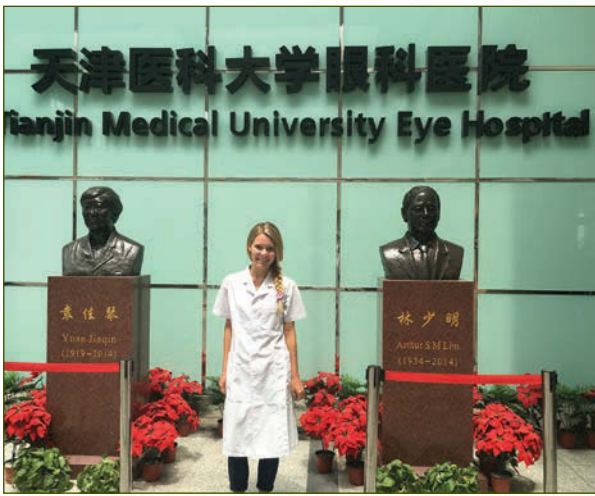
“I was a bit of a novelty to the patients,” she said with a chuckle. “They would always take out their phones and take pictures of me. They would come up and want to touch my hair. It was always fun to try to speak a little Chinese to them because they didn’t expect it. They would always be pleasantly surprised and then seem very grateful and happy I was making the effort.”

For much of her time in Tianjin, Schaefer was the only foreigner in the hospital. Yet, even though her patients never had seen a Westerner, Schaefer found she could bond with them even without a common language.

Continued on page 10



Julie Schaefer, O.D., savors a breathtaking view of the sand dunes in Dunhuang, China.



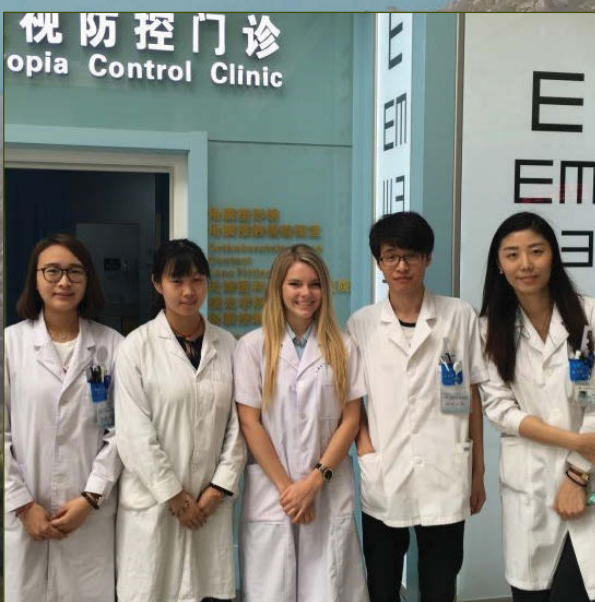
Top: Schaefer's first day at the Tianjin Medical University Eye Hospital Center and bottom: Schaefer poses with Chinese optometrists from the hospital.

Continued from page 9

and every time they saw me in the hallway, they would come over and interact with me," she explained. "They didn't speak a word of English, so we couldn't talk to each other at all. But we always had this flow of communication. I would always see them when I came in, and they would always wave to me. You realize you can have this language barrier, this cultural distance, but you still can connect with people."

Now, Schaefer is looking forward to finding her first job, ideally in a family practice in South Florida. And, she's quick to recognize that her experience in China will last a lifetime.

"I realized that no matter how different someone is, you can create a relationship, you can find something in common, you can connect with anybody. Because I was there by myself, I had to be very open to making new connections and relationships," she said. "I've made it my personal mission to share a smile with every patient I have. I've really found it so much easier. I feel I can connect with anyone after this, no matter how different they are." □



Student Segment



Student Appointed COVD National Liaison

Samantha Del Campo ('18) was appointed as the College of Optometrists in Vision Development (COVD) national liaison for the upcoming year. Her new position entails communication and coordination between all optometry schools and their designated liaisons.

The COVD is a nonprofit, international membership association of eye care professionals with a mission that involves “improving lives by advancing excellence in optometric vision therapy through education and board certification.” The organization provides education and board certification for optometrists and vision therapists who are prepared to offer state-of-the-art services in behavioral and developmental vision care, vision therapy, and visual rehabilitation.



NSUCO Student Appointed VP of International Student Organization

Melissa Zaleski ('18) was appointed vice president of the American Optometric Student Association (AOSA) at the association's annual board of trustees meeting held January 4–7 in San Diego, California. The AOSA represents the more than 6,700 students who attend the 24 schools and colleges of optometry throughout the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico.

Each school has a unique AOSA chapter, which works hard to represent the interests of students and the optometric profession. The AOSA is the largest affiliate of the American Optometric Association and represents 95 percent of optometry students in the United States. Each school is represented on the AOSA board by a trustee and trustee-elect.

Student Segment



◀ **Hakkam Alsaïdi** ('17) was awarded the 2017 Alcon Case Report Award and a \$1,000 prize. While he was a fourth-year student, Alsaïdi wrote a case report titled “Successful Contact Lens Wear and the Impact of a Healthy Ocular Surface.”



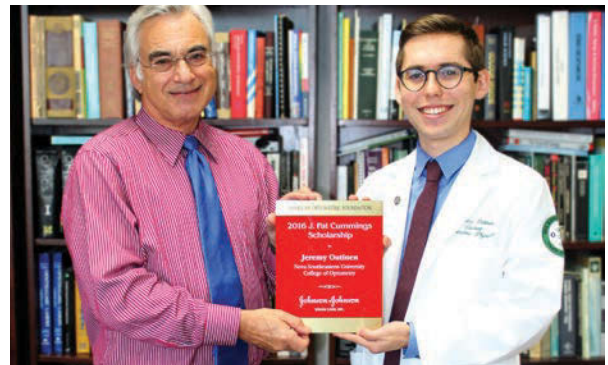
▲ **Ann Awadalla** ('20) was selected by the NSUCO Alumni Chapter as the 2016 scholarship recipient for outstanding leadership and community service.

Pavendeep Korotana ('19), NSUCO American Optometric Student Association trustee, had her article “Insurance Options for the New Grad” published in the spring 2017 issue of *Foresight* magazine.



◀ **Christian J. Meyer** ('17) attained the highest score of all the students in his class on the National Board of Examiners in Optometry Part I—Applied Basic Science examination.

Ashley Noble ('18) received two awards at the National Optometric Association annual convention. She was honored with the Cave Memorial Award and the Dr. Robert Johnson Pediatric/Vision Therapy Award for demonstrating a commitment to community service related to pediatric conditions, binocular vision, and vision therapy.



▲ **Jeremy Outinen** ('18) was selected as the 2016 recipient of the J. Pat Cummings Scholarship from the American Optometric Foundation, conferred to students who best demonstrate the ideal eye care standards of practice. To qualify, the recipient must demonstrate achievement in both academic performance and extracurricular activities. The scholarship is generously sponsored by Johnson & Johnson Vision Care, Inc.



◀ **Vy Pham** ('17) received a national honor in the Essilor of America Varilux Student Grant competition. Pham wrote the winning case and was selected for the top prize due to her innovative thinking, analysis of the case,

and dispensing skills used to meet her patient’s needs. She was originally awarded \$1,000 for writing the top case for the NSU College of Optometry and will receive an additional \$2,500 in prize money for receiving the national award.



◀ **Brian Roberts** ('18) and **Adam Morrow** ('18) attended the Bausch + Lomb Contact Lens and Ocular Surface Program in Rochester, New York, in April.

Jeriann Sandrik ('19) was selected to participate in the U.S. Army Health Professions Scholarship Program.



▲ **Aaron Thomas** ('17) was awarded the 2016–2017 Don E. Williamson, O.D., Memorial Scholarship for his outstanding leadership and academic achievements.



▲ **Sara Toomey** ('18) received the Florida Optometric Association (FOA) Student Development Award at the FOA 114th Annual Convention on July 14, 2016, in Palm Beach, Florida.



◀ **Kaily Tschantz** ('17) and **Justin Chelette** ('17) received the NSUCO 2017 Vision Service Plan/AOF Practice Excellence Scholarship. Tschantz and Chelette were selected by the college's faculty

members and administration for their commitment to enter independent practice and demonstrating excellence in both clinical performance and academics.



▲ **Crystal Victor** ('20) was awarded the inaugural Modern Optical/National Optometric Association Scholarship based on mentorship, leadership, and service.



◀ **Melissa Zaleski** ('18) was selected as one of three new Women in Optometry board members. As a student, Zaleski brings a unique and important perspective to the board, which primarily consists of optometrists.

Student Segment



Forty NSUCO students completed the requirements to become student fellows in the American Academy of Optometry (AAO). This impressive number of fellows represents an extensive commitment by the distinguished students listed below.

Russul Abbas	Salman Ghanchi	Shundale Thomas Mixon	Sarah Regal
Poonam Agrawal	Emily Hall	Candice Moses	Jessica Siu
Kristin Barnes	Mahdi Hedayat	Hieu Nguyen	Christina Spelich
Laurie Bateh	Melanie Hong	Ashley Noble	Jasmine Thompson
Reema Bhagat	Thien Huynh	Jeremy Outinen	Sara Toomey
Ellen Butts	Tiffani Jackson	Nageena Parasher	Christopher Tran
Pamella Chang	Prajakta Joshi	Bhoomi Patel	Ryan-Quang Van
Joanna Cotter	Rachel Luke	Heather Purman	Amy Hope Vinogradov
Kinza Dada	Brandon Luu	Michelle Quach	Linda Yan
Samantha Fernandez	Jade McLachlin	Sara Rasekhi	Melissa Zaleski

The honorees, who received student fellow lapel pins and commemorative certificates, will also have their candidacy for fellowship application dues waived during their graduation year. The AAO launched this program in 2011 to inspire improved integration of all the opportunities offered at the academy meeting, encourage future involvement, and persuade students to become fellows upon graduation.

The AAO Student Fellowship Program is a great opportunity for students to engage in cutting-edge knowledge and technology through lectures, workshops, posters, and much more. The program is geared to guide students to develop their skills as optometric or vision science professionals. □

Continuing Education

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- **SEPTEMBER 9–10, 2017**

Interprofessional Conference and Glaucoma Update
Nova Southeastern University Health Professions Division
3200 South University Drive
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33328-2018

- **DECEMBER 2–3, 2017**

Orlando Super Weekend
Nova Southeastern University Orlando Campus
4850 Millenia Boulevard
Orlando, Florida 32839-6012

Please visit optometry.nova.edu/ce/index.html for additional information about the upcoming events.

Faculty Focus

Fulfilled Faculty Member Lives an All-Encompassing Life

BY SCOTT COLTON, B.A., APR, HPD DIRECTOR OF MEDICAL COMMUNICATIONS AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

Like so many children, Julie A. Tyler, O.D., FAAO, wanted to emulate her parents from a professional perspective and become a teacher when she grew up. When she was about 10 years old, however, a defining moment occurred. She attended a summer camp called College for Kids, and participated in a science class.

“We got to dissect a cow eyeball and learn a little about vision. I absolutely loved it,” said Tyler, who serves as associate professor and chief of one of NSU’s College of Optometry’s (NSUCO) primary care modules. “From that time, my fascination with the eye and vision continued to grow. Around the same time, I also received my first pair of contact lenses, so I turned my focus toward becoming an optometrist.”

After receiving her Bachelor of Arts degree in Biology and Psychology from Creighton University in Omaha, Nebraska, Tyler set her sights on earning a Doctor of Optometry degree from Indiana University School of Optometry, which she accomplished in 1996. Interestingly, Tyler’s decision to do her primary care residency training at NSUCO would allow her to pursue her love of optometry—and lead her to emulate her parents after all.

“I really fell in love with teaching during my residency training, and I’ve been at NSUCO ever since,” she said. “I was an ophthalmic optics assistant instructor/teacher’s assistant when I attended optometry school at Indiana University, and while I enjoyed the job, I didn’t imagine a career in academic optometry. However, when I was a resident who was not simply seeing patients but also working in the challenging NSU clinics and teaching



Julie A. Tyler

the students, I really found a new passion for a career I already loved.”

Intrinsically, Tyler knew she had found her professional home. After completing her residency, she accepted a position as an NSUCO instructor in 1998 and has spent the past two decades making significant contributions to the college on a range of levels. “I was provided great opportunities early on in my NSU academic career to learn and grow not only as an optometrist, but also a teacher,” she said. “I’ve had amazing mentors and have developed an optometric family that consists of some of the best people.”

During her NSUCO career, Tyler has held diverse roles but has worked primarily as a module director and as primary care chief in the third-year optometry clinics at the Fort Lauderdale/Davie Campus. She also started teaching the Ocular Disease I: Anterior Segment course, which she said has been a “new, fun challenge.”

Additionally, Tyler takes great pride in the research projects she has participated in at the college, such as her first research role—serving as a member of the college’s CLEK (Collaborative Longitudinal Evaluation of Keratoconus) study team. “It was such a wonderful opportunity to work as a co-coordinator early in my career and be involved in a multicenter research project with amazing colleagues who served not only as mentors, but also became friends,” she said.

In the ensuing years, Tyler has been involved with various research activities, such as studying diabetes in the eye, vitreomacular traction, central corneal thickness in children, adult strabismus, and convergence insufficiency treatment effects on reading and attention.



On July 3, 2016, Julie Tyler celebrated with her husband, Gregory Black, when he visited his 50th state, Rhode Island.

“With each new project, I learn more about the eye and visual system,” she said. “Inevitably, these forays into research keep me humble and motivated to continue to learn and contribute however I can.”

Career Fulfillment, Personal Bliss

Tyler’s life has been a mix of contentment and gratitude thanks to her thriving NSUCO career and her longtime marriage to fellow NSUCO faculty member Gregory Black, O.D., assistant professor and chief of the Primary Care Service at The Eye Care Institute’s Broward Boulevard clinic.

Black and Tyler, who met while they were classmates at the Indiana University School of Optometry, started off as friends. However, as the months passed and they spent more time together working as teaching assistants in ophthalmic optics, their romance blossomed.

“He is a laid-back, super-friendly, smart man with a heart of gold. We definitely fall into balance with each other. I help him plan, and he keeps some spontaneity in my life,” Tyler explained. “We got engaged just before we became residents together at NSUCO and got married during our residency in December 1996.”

Unlike his wife, who remained at the college after completing her residency training, Black ventured into private practice and independent contracting for several years before rejoining the NSUCO fold in 2000. Not surprisingly, their ties to the college are steadfast and strong.

“The main advantage we have of working in the same college is that we share the NSU family experience,” said Tyler, who has received more than a dozen teaching awards from her grateful students. “We have been blessed with so many great friends and experiences over the years. Greg and I have shared many amazing adventures and life experiences with our colleagues, such as traveling to continuing education workshops and mission trips or supporting each other when times have been challenging.”

Tyler also cites her numerous patient interactions as a reason for her professional satisfaction. “I really love taking care of our patients,” she said. “I remember being at the disease clinic where I completed my optometry degree, and it was full of diabetics who were well controlled and insured. It’s nothing like the patients we have the opportunity to serve here, who have serious optometric and medical issues. We can really make a difference in their lives.”

When she’s not working, Tyler loves indulging her favorite hobby: visiting all 50 U.S. states. “We do love to travel; and in the summer of 2016, Greg completed his 50 states,” she said. “I’m currently at 45 states and hoping to knock off at least 2 more this year.”

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Meeting new people and being exposed to the country's diversity has enhanced Tyler's life. "The great thing is that after many years of teaching, we know people in almost every state who we can visit," she explained.

The most recent and memorable U.S. traveling experience Tyler enjoyed was a visit to Newport, Rhode Island, in 2016. "We had a great time in Newport walking and enjoying the small seaside city," she said. "We had an amazing sunset at dinnertime on the evening before the Fourth of July and then woke up the next day to see historic cannons firing and witness a reading of the Declaration of Independence near the city square. It was very patriotic and a lot different than what we do on the Fourth of July in South Florida."

In terms of a life axiom, Tyler believes "things happen for a reason. I try to keep that in mind when things in my life aren't working the way I'd like them. If you asked me 25 years ago where I'd be and what I'd be doing now, I'd likely still be an optometrist," she said. "But, I would not



Julie Tyler, third from right, attended the college's 25th anniversary celebration in September 2014. Pictured (from left) are Lori Vollmer, O.D., FAAO; Nicole Patterson, O.D., M.S., FAAO; Heidi Wagner, O.D., M.P.H., FAAO (former faculty member); Alexandra Espejo, O.D., FAAO; Diana Shechtman, O.D., FAAO (former faculty member); Laura Falco, O.D., FAAO; Tyler; Erin Jenewein, O.D., M.S., FAAO (former faculty member); and Jamie Althoff, O.D.

have had so many chances to explore the world, educate students, care for a huge variety of patients, meet so many new people, and do most of it with a great husband. A change in plans and working at NSU have afforded me these great opportunities and this wonderful life." □

Faculty Highlights

Professor Receives National Recognition



The National Academies of Practice (NAP) honored Janet Leasher, O.D., M.P.H., FAAO, professor and director of community outreach, with a medallion of honor and induction as a distinguished practitioner and fellow at the organization's conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Leasher was one of seven optometrists in the nation recognized as a 2017 inductee. Membership in the National Academies of Practice is an honor extended to those who have excelled in their profession and are dedicated to furthering practice, scholarship, and policy in support of interprofessional care. The NAP's central purpose is to advise public policymakers on health care issues using NAP's unique perspective—expert practitioners and scholars joined in interdisciplinary dialogue.

The 14 academies of practice within the NAP include audiology, dentistry, medicine, nursing, occupational therapy, optometry, osteopathic medicine, pharmacy, physical therapy, podiatric medicine, psychology, social work, speech-language pathology, and veterinary medicine.

Leasher, who joined NSUCO as a professor in 2003, spearheads community health education and promotion projects in visual health. She teaches public health didactic courses in community health promotion, economics, ethics, health systems, and policy, and is a clinical preceptor for third-year students in the binocular, pediatric, and primary care clinics. Additionally, Leasher is a 2007 Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry and has coauthored more than 40 papers in high-impact journals, which have been cited internationally more than 8,200 times. □

Faculty Highlights

Professor Receives National Award



Rachel A. (Stacey) Coulter, O.D., M.S.Ed., FAAO, FCOVD, professor, received the American Academy of Optometry's (AAO) prestigious William Feinbloom Award at a ceremony held November 11, 2016, at the Anaheim Convention Center in California.

Each year, the AAO recognizes distinguished individuals who have made countless contributions to advancing the profession of optometry. Established in 1983, the William Feinbloom Award is presented annually to an individual who has made a distinguished and significant contribution to clinical excellence and the direct clinical advancement of visual and optometric service.

"The individuals nominated for awards this year were all exceptional individuals, which made it a difficult, but rewarding, task to come up with leading candidates," said Chris A. Johnson, Ph.D., D.Sc., FAAO, Awards Committee chair. "The high quality of candidates is an indication of the success, improvement, and influence of the American Academy of Optometry, the American Optometric Foundation, and its members."

According to the AAO, Coulter demonstrates the link between her clinical research expertise while raising the standards of routine clinical optometric practice and is an outstanding role model for individuals aspiring to combine research and clinical practice in their career goals. Throughout her career, Coulter has gained significant research experience in the areas of autism and vision, convergence insufficiency, preschool vision screening, and ocular motility and attention. □

Assistant Professor Attains Fellowship



Michael J. Au, O.D., FCOVD, assistant professor of optometry, completed the requirements to become a College of Optometrists in Vision Development (COVD) Fellow at the organization's annual meeting held April 24–29 in Jacksonville, Florida. Au, who is a 2012 NSUCO alumnus,

also completed a residency in pediatrics and binocular vision in 2013.

The COVD is a nonprofit, international membership association of eye care professionals including optometrists,

optometry students, and vision therapists. Established in 1971, the COVD provides board certification for eye doctors and vision therapists who are prepared to offer state-of-the-art services in behavioral and developmental vision care, vision therapy, and visual rehabilitation.

The COVD International Examination and Certification Board process includes a rigorous evaluation of the eye care professional's knowledge and abilities in providing developmental and behavioral vision care for patients. Optometrists who successfully complete their certification process are board certified in vision development and vision therapy and are designated fellows of the COVD, earning the designation of FCOVD. For more information, visit covd.org. □

Faculty Highlights



David S. Loshin, O.D., Ph.D., FAAO, dean, and **Hua Bi**, O.D., Ph.D., FAAO, associate professor, were awarded a President's Faculty Research and Development Grant on May 15 for their research project "Effect of EnChroma Lens on Spectral Sensitivity of the Retina in Color Vision Deficiency."



Ava K. Bittner, O.D., Ph.D., FAAO (Dipl.), associate professor, was awarded research diplomate status in the Low Vision Section of the American Academy of Optometry (AAO) at the organization's annual meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana, in October 2016. She also is the new program chair for the AAO's Low Vision Section and an invited symposium speaker at Vision 2017, which is the 12th International Conference by the International Society for Low Vision Research and Rehabilitation, to be held in The Hague in the Netherlands. Bittner will present her research findings for the project "Feasibility of Telerehabilitation for Low Vision" at the symposium.



Marlon J. Demeritt, O.D., M.B.A., FAAO, assistant professor, and **Beata Lewandowska**, O.D. (Dipl.), assistant professor, published the article "A Case Report Discussing the Options for Placement of Glaucoma Drainage Devices in the Presence of Corneal Decompensation" in the *Internet Journal of Allied Health Sciences and Practice*. Demeritt also published an article in the April 2017 edition of *Optometric Management* titled "Equipment Acquisition" with **Diana Shechtman**, O.D., FAAO, professor.



Philip Kim, O.D., instructor, had his article "Fixing a Hole" published in the January 2017 issue of *Review of Optometry*.



Rim Makhoul, O.D., FAAO, assistant professor, had her article "Could This Be Glaucoma?" published in the January 2017 issue of *Review of Optometry*.

Faculty Highlights



Chandra Mickles, O.D., M.S., FAAO, FSLs, associate professor, became a Fellow of the Scleral Lens

Education Society (SLS), which teaches contact lens practitioners the science and art of prescribing scleral contact lenses. The SLS supports public education that highlights the benefits and availability of scleral contact lenses.



Thuy-Lan Nguyen, O.D., assistant professor, had her article “Put Your Vendors to Work to Build Your

Practice” featured in *Review of Optometric Business*.



Julie Rodman, O.D., M.Sc., FAAO, associate professor, was named as a young innovator and new

addition to the PCON 300—a select group of 300 optometrists who the publisher and editors of *Primary Care Optometry News* have identified as optometry thought leaders.



Sherrol A. Reynolds, O.D., FAAO, associate professor, had her article “Clinical: Retina—The Protein

Preventers” published in the February 2017 issue of *Optometric Management*. She also had her American Academy of Optometry lecture featured on the *Optometry Times* website in an article titled “Why O.D.s Should Monitor Hypertension in Patients.”



Leticia Rousso, O.D., instructor, and **Joseph Sowka, O.D., FAAO (Dipl.),** professor, had their article “Recognizing Abnormal Vasculature” published in the January 2017 issue of *Review of Optometry*.



Diana Shechtman, O.D., FAAO, professor, was named a visionary by Vision Expo for being an

inspirational professor and had her article “Clinical: Interdisciplinary—Facilitate Lab Test Ordering” published in the February 2017 issue of *Optometric Management*.



Joseph Sowka, O.D., FAAO (Dipl.), professor, and **Lindsay Baker, O.D.,** optometric resident,

had their article “A Symptom-Free Season” published in the March 2017 edition of *Optometric Office*.



Jessica Steen, O.D., FAAO, instructor, was featured in the article “OCTA Useful for Early Detection in

Diabetic Retinopathy” on the Healio website regarding a press conference where she presented her study results. Steen found that optical coherence tomography angiography detected microaneurysms, which were not seen in fundus photography.

New Faculty Members



Nathalie Findlater, O.D.

Nathalie Findlater, O.D., instructor, received her Doctor of Optometry degree from NSUCO in May 2015 before completing a pediatric and binocular vision residency at the University of Missouri St. Louis College of Optometry in July 2016. She joined the NSUCO faculty in August 2016.

Findlater, whose research and specialty interests are in binocular vision and vision therapy, is a member of the Beta Sigma Kappa Honor Society, the National Optometric Student Association, the Fellowship of Christian Optometry, the College of Optometrists in Vision Development, and the American Optometric Association.



Katherine Green, O.D.

Katherine Green, O.D., instructor, received her Doctor of Optometry degree at Illinois College of Optometry in Chicago in May 2015. She completed a pediatric and binocular vision residency at NSUCO in July 2016 and joined the college's faculty in August 2016.

Green is a member of the Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation Association, the College of Optometrists in Vision Development, the Optometric Extension Program Foundation, the Gold Key International Honor Society, the American Academy of Optometry, and the Broward County Optometric Association.



Pinar Haytac, O.D.

Pinar Haytac, O.D., instructor, earned her Doctor of Optometry degree from NSUCO in May 2015. She remained at NSUCO to do a primary care with emphasis in ocular disease residency, which she completed in July 2016, and joined the college's faculty in August 2016.

During her time as a student, Haytac was the recipient of numerous awards. She received the J. Pat Cummings Scholarship in 2013 for demonstrating the ideal eye care standards of practice, achievement in both academic performance and extracurricular activities, and participation with other professional pursuits, such as involvement with patients through internships, community service, and other volunteer activities. In 2015, Haytac received the Lenny Cherdack Student Legislative Award for exhibiting professional behavior consistent with the high ideals and moral ethics of organized optometry.

New Faculty Members



Philip Kim, O.D.

Philip Kim, O.D., instructor, received his Doctor of Optometry degree from NSUCO in May 2015. He then completed an ocular disease residency at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute in July 2016. Kim described his residency as both a cornerstone and a highlight in his career. “The multitude of complex cases I dealt with was impressive,” he explained. “My patients all stand to benefit thanks to the time I spent working with brilliant ophthalmologists, optometrists, and fellow residents.”

Kim, who joined the NSUCO faculty in August 2016, is a member of the American Academy of Optometry and the Optometric Retina Society and serves as a reviewer for *Review of Optometry*.



Leticia Rousso, O.D.

Leticia Rousso, O.D., instructor, received her Doctor of Optometry degree from NSUCO in May 2015. As a student, she participated in rewarding and humbling medical outreach trips to Nicaragua and Belize, where she traveled to remote villages and served hundreds of patients who would otherwise have little access to health care.

Rousso completed a primary care with emphasis in ocular disease residency at NSUCO in July 2016 and joined the college’s faculty in August 2016. She is a member of the American Optometric Association, the Florida Optometric Association, and the Broward County Optometric Association.



Amar Sayani, O.D., FAAO

Amar Sayani, O.D., FAAO, assistant professor, earned a Doctor of Optometry degree at Pennsylvania College of Optometry at Salus University in Elkins Park, Pennsylvania, in May 2010. He completed a pediatrics and vision therapy residency at Southern College of Optometry in Memphis, Tennessee, in July 2013 and is pursuing a Master of Public Health degree at Salus University. After a few years in private practice working specifically in adult and pediatric ophthalmology, he joined the NSUCO faculty in August 2016.

Sayani, a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry and a fellowship candidate for the Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation Association, is a member of the Lupus Foundation of America, the American Public Health Association, and the American Optometric Association. He has a special interest in learning-related visual problems, sports vision, and traumatic brain injury, which is specifically related to visual sequela due to concussions and pediatric pharmacology.



Optometric residents, from 10 programs affiliated with NSU, share their experiences.

Spotlight on Residents

Residents' Weekend, which was held January 28–29, showcased 36 outstanding optometric residents from 10 programs affiliated with NSU's College of Optometry throughout Florida. During the various sessions, the participating residents presented interesting and challenging cases encountered during their residency training in the form of rapid-fire grand rounds.

A range of topics related to ocular conditions were covered—such as binocular vision, anterior segment disease, posterior segment disease, congenital conditions, and neuro-ophthalmic disease. NSUCO students were afforded an opportunity to interact with residents from the various programs, learn more about residency training, and gain insight into the opportunities residency training provides.



Lori Vollmer, O.D., FAAO, associate professor and director of residencies (center), is pictured with two residents—Lindsay Baker, O.D. (left), and Margaret Wilczek, O.D. (right).



Joseph Sowka, O.D., FAAO (Dipl.), professor (center), is pictured with two primary eye care and ocular disease residents—Margaret Wilczek, O.D. (left), and Tsung-Hao (Albert) Wu, O.D. (right).



NSUCO students were invited to attend the annual event.

Welcome to the 2018 Residency Class

Primary Eye Care with Emphasis in Contact Lenses

- Anisha K. Patel, O.D., New England College of Optometry
- Carol Yu, O.D., Berkeley School of Optometry

Primary Eye Care with Emphasis in Ocular Disease

- Heather Gauger, O.D., Nova Southeastern University College of Optometry
- Karin Lypka, O.D., University of Waterloo, School of Optometry and Vision Science
- Rebecca Wong, O.D., University of Waterloo, School of Optometry and Vision Science

Primary Eye Care with Emphasis in Pediatrics

- Janice Hui, O.D., University of Waterloo, School of Optometry and Vision Science
- Lor Sildiryan, O.D., University of Waterloo, School of Optometry and Vision Science

Primary Eye Care with Emphasis in Low Vision

- Samantha Kayser, O.D., Nova Southeastern University College of Optometry

Pediatrics and Binocular Vision

- Lang Woodmansee, O.D., Nova Southeastern University College of Optometry

For more information about the optometric residency programs offered by NSU's College of Optometry, please visit optometry.nova.edu/residency/.

Alumni News

Alumni Chapter President's Message



MARLON DEMERITT,
O.D., M.B.A., FAAO

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR
AND PRESIDENT,
NSUCO ALUMNI CHAPTER

I am proud to discuss the recent developments at Nova Southeastern University's College of Optometry. While I am sure many of you are aware of our specialty services at The Eye Care Institute (TECI), I am pleased to inform you about new services in our clinics.

Due to the initiation and direction of one of our former colleagues, Surbhi Bansal, O.D., FAAO, FCOVD, the Traumatic Brain Injury (TBI) Service was developed within the Pediatric and Binocular Vision Service. Because of Bansal's tireless commitment and dedication, within one year of its inception, it became a busy and well-established service that benefited many patients.

Since her departure, the herculean effort of our pediatric and binocular vision faculty members has allowed the TBI Service to grow and provide care to more patients. This service is a tertiary care center for community health care professionals seeking to comanage, obtain consultation, or refer patients with visual problems associated with incidents such as strokes and motor vehicle accidents. Doctors can see patients at The Eye Care Institute at the Fort Lauderdale/Davie Campus on Wednesdays.

In addition to the TBI Service, our Pediatric and Binocular Vision Service now offers advanced care services to the special-needs population. This service provides care for the community and/or health care professionals who seek to comanage, obtain consultation, or refer patients with visual problems associated with cerebral palsy, Down syndrome, and other conditions. Doctors can see patients at TECI at Kids In Distress on Thursdays.

Our faculty members in the Pediatrics and Binocular Vision Service also see patients in the Strabismus and Amblyopia Service, as well as in the Autism Service. In addition to the aforementioned services, the Strabismus and Autism Service acts as a tertiary care center for community optometrists, ophthalmologists, and other health care professionals seeking to comanage, obtain consultation, or refer. Doctors can see patients at TECI at the Fort Lauderdale/Davie Campus on Mondays.

As I mentioned last year, Andrea M. Janoff, O.D., FAAO, and Chandra Mickles, O.D., M.S., FAAO, FSLs, were developing a Dry Eye Care Center at TECI. Many patients suffer with dry eyes, and it is immensely gratifying when a health care provider can help them alleviate the continual discomfort. I am privileged to report that the Dry Eye Care Center is a fully functional tertiary care center for many patients with complex ocular surface disease.

In other news, the Alumni Chapter celebrated the 1997, 2002, 2007, and 2012 classes at the 21st annual Clinical Eye Care Conference and Alumni Reunion, held at the Sonesta Fort Lauderdale Beach hotel.

We always want to keep you apprised of the latest NSUCO events and activities, which are published in each issue of *The Visionary*. We also want to keep your classmates and all other alumni updated about your personal and professional accomplishments. Please send these updates to Michelle M. Morgado at mm2094@nova.edu. Also, if we do not have your current email address and contact information, please take a few minutes and provide us with that information.

I also encourage our alumni to support our incoming students with scholarship gifts. Any amount is appreciated. I want to thank Vanessa McDonald, M.S.; Arnie Patrick, O.D.; Sherrol A. Reynolds, O.D., FAAO; Annette Bade, O.D., FAAO; and Cristina Llerena-Law, O.D., FAAO; for their help during the past year. You're the best! □



Stuart I. Kaplan (left) with George L. Hanbury II, Ph.D., NSU president and chief executive officer

Distinguished Alumni Award Winner

Stuart I. Kaplan, O.D. ('01), who was selected as NSUCO's Distinguished Alumni Award winner, practices optometry at Tyson Eye at the Cape Coral Eye Center in Fort Myers, Florida. He serves as director of the center's dry eye treatment program and is involved in multiple clinical trials relating to glaucoma management, intraocular lenses, and dry eye therapy.

Kaplan, who earned his Bachelor of Science in Vision Science, serves as the governor-appointed chair of the Florida Board of Optometry and is the immediate past president of the Southwest Florida Optometric Association. He is active in professional, veterans, and youth athletics groups.

Kaplan, who is a Gulf War veteran, served four years in the U.S. Army and an additional four years in the Florida Army National Guard. He is the finance officer and past commander of the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotilla 9-1 in Fort Myers Beach. "After receiving my degree from NSU, I developed a peer relationship with professors and the administration by being involved in local and society memberships, legislation, and lecturing, which have helped me realize the importance of advocating for the profession of optometry," he said. □

Alumni Spotlight



April Jasper, O.D., FAAO, who graduated from NSUCO in 1995 with highest honors, completed a residency program in Boston, Massachusetts, during which she received specialized training in primary care, contact lenses, and ocular disease. During

her residency, Jasper was an adjunct professor at New England College of Optometry, where she taught primary care and ocular disease to optometry students and ophthalmology residents.

Jasper is in private practice in West Palm Beach, Florida. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry, president of the Florida Optometric Association, coeditor of *Women in Optometry* magazine, and a contributor to several other publications. She also serves on several advisory boards, including Eyefinity, Marco, Shire, and Vision Source.

A 2015–2016 Benedict Professor in practice management at Houston College of Optometry, Jasper has completed more than 180 speaking events around the United States and has more than 20 years of leadership experience. Her unfaltering basis for life is the belief that we are all leaders and have been given the responsibility to utilize our talents fully for the benefit of others, thereby living the most fulfilling life possible.

A current passion project is the development of a company called Distinctive Strategies and Leadership that will help others develop strategies, remove obstacles, and implement processes that allow them to create businesses of distinction. □

Class Specs



Monica Brown, O.D. ('07), had her article "Purchasing an Established Practice" published in the *Women of Optometry* private practice insights section.

Cory Collier, O.D., FAAO, FSLs ('14); **Priscilla Sotomayor**, O.D., FSLs ('11); and **Mike Rebarchik**, O.D., FSLs ('10), became fellows of the Scleral Lens Education Society (SLS) in 2016. The SLS teaches contact lens practitioners the science and art of prescribing scleral contact lenses and supports public education that highlights the benefits and availability of scleral contact lenses.

Alicia A. Groce, O.D., FAAO ('14), had her article "Evaluating and Treating Concussion" published in the August 2016 issue of *Optometry Times*.

Amanda Zeller Manley, O.D., FCOVD ('03), her husband, Joseph Manley, M.D., and their children David Bear and Olivia Claire, welcomed the newest family addition, John Fox Manley, who was born on November 12, 2016.

Mark Marciano, O.D. ('98), was elected to the Palm Beach Gardens City Council in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida.

Andrew Morgenstern, O.D., FAAO (Dipl.) ('99), spoke at a National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine workshop on the foundational report "Making Eye Health a Population Health Imperative: Vision for Tomorrow."

Christina Newman, O.D., FAAO ('07), had her article "Fitting Ortho-K Contact Lenses" published in the August 2016 issue of *Optometry Times*.

Stephanie Sarosi, O.D. ('16), was inducted into the NSU Athletics Hall of Fame for women's basketball for her contributions from 2007 through 2011.

Rebecca Schoonover, O.D. ('04), married Donald Sharpe in 2016 at the Fort Lauderdale Marriott Harbor Beach Resort & Spa. In attendance were **Emily Baker**, O.D. ('04); **Candace Christen**, O.D. ('04); **Jeannine Fowler**, O.D. ('04); **Nate Roland**, O.D. ('04); **Allen Safir**, O.D. ('04); and **Hema Jadoodanan Daverman**, O.D. ('05). The couple resides in northeastern Pennsylvania, where Schoonover owns a private practice.

Marc B. Taub, O.D., FAAO, FCOVD, FNAP ('04 residency alumnus), who serves as chief of the Vision Therapy and Rehabilitation Service at Southern College of Optometry in Memphis, Tennessee, published *Vision Therapy: Success Stories from Around the World, Volumes 1 and 2*. Each volume contains 20 cases in which vision therapy was employed and 40 vision therapy activities.

Jennie Smith Zolman, O.D., FCOVD ('06), is serving as the 2016–2017 president of the South Carolina Optometric Physician Association, while her husband, **Mike Zolman**, O.D. ('06), is serving as the association's vice president. □

Please share your alumni news by mailing your information and photos to
Michelle M. Morgado at mm2094@nova.edu.



Chief of Clinical Education Receives FOA Optometrist of the Decade Award

Barry J. Frauens, O.D., FAAO (Dipl.), chief of clinical education and associate professor, received the prestigious Edward K. Walker, O.D., Optometrist of the Decade Award during the Florida Optometric Association 115th Annual Convention held July 20–23 in Orlando.

Frauens, who is a 1996 NSUCO alumnus, has spent the past two decades serving the optometric profession with distinction. He is a past president of the Broward County Optometric Association (BCOA)—where he served as a board member for eight consecutive years—and was elected president of the Florida Optometric Association (FOA) in 2014. Additionally, he served as an FOA Board of Trustee member for nine years.

Over the years, his achievements have been recognized on both a local and statewide level. His list of accolades includes the 2002 BCOA Optometrist of the Year Award, the 2003 NSU Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award, and the 2006 FOA Optometrist of the Year Award.

In addition to being a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry, Frauens serves as a medical abstract writer for *Optometry* magazine. He also has lectured on a national and international level on topics ranging from ocular disease management to the prevention of medical errors. □



From left: Barry J. Frauens and Kenneth Lawson, O.D.,
past president of the Florida Optometric Association



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