



For Immediate Release
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Academy 2018 San Antonio Attendance Shatters All Previous Meeting Records

ORLANDO, FL – November 27, 2018 – Academy 2018 San Antonio, held November 7-10, was the 97th annual meeting of the American Academy of Optometry. It was the largest meeting in the Academy's history with a total of 7,948 registrants (a 3% increase over 2017), including 4,625 optometrists and vision scientists and 1,168 students. Attendees engaged in high-quality continuing education sessions, experienced new products and technologies in the exhibit hall, and learned the latest in vision research that is advancing the profession.

The Plenary Session was titled "Today's Research, Tomorrow's Practice®: The Future of Health Care Delivery." Drs. Ezekiel Emanuel, Gordon Guyatt, and Anthony Cavallerano covered trends affecting the future of providing patient care.

The third joint educational program of the American Academy of Optometry and the American Academy of Ophthalmology, "Imaging Structure and Function in the Eye," took place in San Antonio, and was also presented at the American Academy of Ophthalmology annual meeting in October. Moderators Drs. Austin Roorda and Joel Schuman were joined by Drs. Christopher Leung, Donald Miller, Hiroshi Ishikawa, Adrian Glasser, Stacey Choi, and Jay Duker. The speakers each provided an update on the anterior segment, retinal and glaucoma applications of ocular imaging and their clinical implications. This collaboration represents a continued effort by the two Academy organizations to work together to better prepare and support their members in delivering the highest quality eye care.

A highlight of the meeting was the confirmation of 303 new Fellows – the largest class of new Fellows in the Academy's history. Fellows of the Academy must complete a candidacy process that includes submitting written work demonstrating their skills as an optometrist or vision scientist, and sitting for an oral exam at the annual meeting of the Academy. It is estimated that 10% of practicing optometrists in the United States are Fellows of the American Academy of Optometry (FAAO). Optometrists, scientists, educators, librarians, administrators and editors are eligible to become Fellows of the Academy and earn the right to use "FAAO" after their name.

In addition, an impressive record 17 individuals were awarded Diplomate status by Sections of the American Academy of Optometry. Diplomates are Fellows of the Academy who wish to demonstrate their skill in a specific area. Currently eight

Sections offer Diplomate programs: Anterior Segment; Binocular Vision, Perception and Pediatric Optometry; Comprehensive Eye Care; Cornea, Contact Lenses & Refractive Technologies; Glaucoma; Low Vision; Optometric Education; and Public Health & Environmental Vision.

The American Academy of Optometry Foundation (AAOF), the Academy's foundation supporting research and education, would like to thank registrants, sponsors, donors, awardees, and volunteers for making Academy 2018 San Antonio another huge success. The meeting resulted in nearly \$200,000 in donations and new pledges. Approximately 200 supporters attended the Foundation's Celebration Luncheon. Special thanks go to the seven individuals and couples who joined the Presidents Circle or moved up a level during the meeting by making pledges or donations of \$10,000 or more. Because of their commitment, the AAOF Circle of Giving, which includes President's Circle, now has more than 185 members. Additionally, the AAOF would like to thank the Alcon Foundation for their donation in the amount of \$25,000, triggered by participants who shot a total of 2,020 digital baskets in the exhibit hall as part of the Hoop it Up 20/20 Challenge.

In addition, Dr. Barbara Caffery of Toronto, Canada was inducted as President of the American Academy of Optometry on Saturday, November 10 at the Fellowship Banquet. She will serve her 2019 and 2020 term alongside the following board members: Dr. Timothy McMahon (President-Elect), Dr. Susan Cotter (Secretary-Treasurer), Dr. Joseph Shovlin (Immediate Past-President), Dr. Jenny Coyle, Dr. Andrew Mick, Dr. Carl Spear, and Dr. Jeff Walline.

2018 New Diplomates

Anterior Segment

Anne Mika Moy, Berkeley, California

Binocular Vision, Perception and Pediatric Optometry

Jameel Rizwana Hussaindeen, St. Thomas Mount Chennai, India

Comprehensive Eye Care

Bisant Labib, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Stephanie A. Klemencic, Wheaton, Illinois
Danielle L. Weiler, Tucson, Arizona
Tina R. Porzukowiak, Auburn, New Hampshire

Cornea, Contact Lenses & Refractive Technologies

Daniel G. Fuller, Germantown, Tennessee
Melanie J. Frogoso, San Antonio, Texas
Julie DeKinder, Saint Louis, Missouri

Low Vision

Hendrik Peter Derksen, Arnhem, Netherlands
Greg R. Hopkins II, Columbus, Ohio
Gay Tokumaru (posthumously)
Matt S. Valdes, San Antonio, Texas

Optometric Education

Daniel Arnett Taylor, Big Rapids, Michigan
Raymond H. Chu, Fullerton, California

Public Health and Environmental Vision

Ruth Hyatt, Ormond Beach, Florida
Hector C. Santiago, Bayamon, Puerto Rico

New Fellows Class of 2018

Batoul Fayez Abuharb, Houston, Texas
Stephanie M. Aguilar, San Antonio,
Texas
Joseph Bryan Ahlborn, Harker Heights,
Texas
Kwadwo Owusu Akuffo, Kumasi, Ghana
Denise D. Alexopoulos, Chicago, Illinois
Joseph J. Allen, Maple Grove,
Minnesota
Peter M. Allen, Cambridge, United
Kingdom
Muhammed S. Alluwimi, Riyadh, Saudi
Arabia
Kingsley Osemwegie Alohan, Makurdi
Benue State, Nigeria
Thomas Andrea, Salem, Massachusetts
Reuben A. Arunasalem, San Antonio,
Texas
Bitu Asghari, Needham, Massachusetts

Bright Senyo Ashimatey, Los Angeles,
California
Siavash Assar, San Jose, California
Javeria Azhar, Oakbrook Terrace,
Illinois
Vanessa Bachir, Montreal, Canada
Adam Wesley Baird, Bowling Green,
Kentucky
Morgan A. Baker, West Bloomfield,
Michigan
Jill M. Bakota, Spring Lake, North
Carolina
Lisa Beard, Shepherdstown, West
Virginia
Matthew Nicholas Beard,
Shepherdstown, West Virginia
Jessica M. Beauregard, Sunnyvale,
California
Lindsey Behrendt, Omaha, Nebraska

Monica Bentley, San Antonio, Texas
 Amitabha Sankar Bhakta, West Palm
 Beach, Florida
 Robert C. Binkley, Granger, Indiana
 Sondra Black, Toronto, Canada
 Jenna Blechman, New York, New York
 Mary Botelho, Staten Island, New York
 Daniel Brigham, Dublin, Georgia
 Cerina Buchanan, Baltimore, Maryland
 Emily Bucher, Seattle, Washington
 Laura L. Capelle, Minneapolis,
 Minnesota
 Kelsey A. Carriere, Cincinnati, Ohio
 Nicholas A. Castellano, Ballwin,
 Missouri
 Steven Chang, Los Angeles, California
 Kenny Chen, Fresh Meadows, New
 York
 Taylor Chesnut, Johnston, Iowa
 April G. Chiu, Portland, Oregon
 Dorothy Chou, Berkeley, California
 Alexander Chow, Bellevue, Washington
 Joanna Chu, Bayside, New York
 Sharon Chua, Singapore, Singapore
 Ashley Greenawalt Chung, Santa Clara,
 California
 Cameron Waters Clinard, Bath, North
 Carolina
 W. Reid Cluff, Henderson, Nevada
 Jeffrey James Connor, Temecula,
 California
 Cheryl Conovaloff, San Jose, California
 Joseph S. Conrad, Howell, Michigan
 Luisa Holguin Colorado, Brisbane, QLD,
 Australia
 Andrea N. Cotler, New York, New York
 Halie Cottrill, Memphis, Tennessee
 Emily Crane, New York, New York
 Allison Cronin, San Antonio, Texas
 Nicole Sangani Cumella, New York,
 New York
 Brad Thomas Cunningham, Fort Eustis,
 Virginia
 Jeffery T. Curry, Alachua, Florida
 Avani Dave, Mississauga, Canada

Matthew L. Decker, Virginia Beach,
 Virginia
 Dirck DeKeyser, Overland Park, Kansas
 Sean P. Dempsey, Saint Cloud,
 Minnesota
 Maria Rachel Denietolis, Bridgewater,
 Massachusetts
 Lisa M. Dok, Mill Creek, Washington
 Katherine D. Dronka, Sealy, Texas
 Eva Duchnowski, Bethpage, New York
 Kim S. Duong, Birmingham, Alabama
 Ikechi Caius Duru, Kingstown, St.
 Vincent and The Grenadines
 Amanda S. Duty, Shalimar, Florida
 David Edmunds, Chicago, Illinois
 Tybee Eleff, Flushing, New York
 Leah Ellenberg, Great Neck, New York
 Candace Marie Ellis, Naples, Florida
 Emily Eng, Honolulu, Hawaii
 Elizabeth Escobedo, Phoenix, Arizona
 Karisa Jean Etter, Minneapolis,
 Minnesota
 Noelda Karen Fernandes, Scarborough,
 Canada
 Lauren Anne Feroli, Campbell Hall, New
 York
 Veronica M. Ferris-Metzger,
 Birmingham, Alabama
 Sarah Galt, Houston, Texas
 Janet Garza, Houston, Texas
 Jeremy Gerritsen, Salt Lake City, Utah
 Alex Gibberman, Loveland, Ohio
 Nina Glauch, East Lansing, Michigan
 Celia R Gong, Brisbane, California
 Jill Gottehrer, Boston, Massachusetts
 Lauren Ashley Grainger, Dacula,
 Georgia
 Katherine Green, Davie, Florida
 Nicholas Green, Irmo, South Carolina
 Carly J. Grondin, Philadelphia,
 Pennsylvania
 Kelsey Deitz Guth, Williamsburg,
 Virginia
 Mark S. Hakim, Oak Park, Michigan
 Meghann Hamidiani, Denver, North
 Carolina

Mengli Han, Worcester, Massachusetts
 Sulman Hans, Sterling Heights,
 Michigan
 Brooke Morris Harkness, Portland,
 Oregon
 Marni M. Harris, Chicago, Illinois
 Pinar Haytac, Davie, Florida
 Genna D. Higbee, Chicago, Illinois
 Sara Hitchman, Beachwood, Ohio
 Catherine M. Hogan, Ooltewah,
 Tennessee
 Katherine M. Hogan, Cincinnati, Ohio
 J. Mark Hooton, Mineola, Texas
 Alexandra Horne, Gorham, New
 Hampshire
 Robert D. Houghteling, Kingsland,
 Georgia
 Lindsay B. Howse, Park City, Utah
 Sarah E. Huff, Glendale, Arizona
 Janice Hui, Markham, Canada

 Adrian Nichole Hulbert, Vacaville,
 California
 Sara Hyatt, San Antonio, Texas
 Alexander F. Hynes, Mississauga,
 Canada
 Jonathan J. Jacesko, Groton,
 Connecticut
 Maria C. Jen, Berkeley, California
 Stephanie Jian, Nashville, Tennessee
 Petra Jo, Columbia, South Carolina
 Jaclyn Johnson, Santa Fe, New Mexico
 Susan L. Johnson, Los Angeles,
 California
 Kelsey Lynn Jordan, Lebanon, New
 Hampshire
 Joseph Edward Kane, Jr., Waltham,
 Massachusetts
 Ashley Katsikos, San Francisco,
 California
 Mary Kelinske, Houston, Texas
 Michael William Kerekgyarto, Anacortes,
 Washington
 Nareh Keshishyan, Long Island City,
 New York
 Protiva Khan, New York, New York

Jewearly S. Kho, University Place,
 Washington
 Philip Kim, Hollywood, Florida
 Alicia Elizabeth Kinch, Chicago, Illinois
 Nicole Marie Klein, Platteville,
 Wisconsin
 Steven R. Klein, Raeford, North
 Carolina
 Piana Krymskaya, Lakewood, Ohio
 Doan Trang Huynh Kwak, Philadelphia,
 Pennsylvania
 Zoe Lacroix, Bath, Canada
 Julie Lafreniere, Leawood, Kansas
 Jessica Amanda Lam, Memphis,
 Tennessee
 Colleen McIntyre Largent, Westfield,
 Indiana
 Joanne Chih-Ann Lee, Ottawa, Canada
 Michelle C. Lee, Chicago, Illinois
 Rachel B. Lee, Des Plaines, Illinois
 Annie C. Lee Kim, Alhambra, California
 Laura Leis, San Francisco, California
 Suzzane Li, Tucson, Arizona
 Millie Mei Liu, Orange, California
 Kristine Loo, Elon, North Carolina
 Katelyn Lucas, Brownsburg, Indiana
 Jeanie C. Lucy, Willowbrook, Illinois
 Paul D. Luong, Saint Louis, Missouri
 Karin Rose Lypka, Davie, Florida
 Jonathan Jay Lytle, Galloway, Ohio
 Ann M. MacDonald, Millington,
 Tennessee
 Kelsey Etheredge Mach, Cincinnati,
 Ohio
 Christie Mackenzie, Hunt Valley,
 Maryland
 Megan Claire Mannen, Saint Helens,
 Oregon
 Pamela Martin, Denver, Colorado
 Simin Masoudi, Sydney, Australia
 Ancil S. Mathew, Missouri City, Texas
 Jeffrey Mattson, Spokane, Washington
 Lauren May, Rossville, Tennessee
 Esmeralda Carrillo McClean, San Diego,
 California

Darah L. McDaniel-Chandler, Memphis,
 Tennessee
 Megan L. Meyer, Chicago, Illinois
 Calista Siobhan Ming, Manhattan
 Beach, California
 Kasie J. Mix, Roseville, Minnesota
 Ayda Moaven Shahidi, Mississauga,
 Canada
 Karen Eula Molina, Berkeley, California
 Rebecca Moran, New York, New York
 Hunter Morgan, New York, New York
 Chrisoula Morris, Columbus, Ohio
 Azinda Morrow, Brooklyn, New York
 Sarah R. Munther, Cleveland, Ohio
 Marc Musto, Rapid City, South Dakota
 Manbir Nagra, London, United Kingdom
 Sandra A. Nassar, Charlotte, North
 Carolina
 Christine Wing Wah Ng, San Jose,
 California
 Ryan T. Ngo, New York, New York
 Natalie Nguyen, Hillsborough, New
 Jersey
 Nathania C. Nhouyvanisvong, Bellevue,
 Washington
 Ashley Elizabeth Nickell, Modesto,
 California
 Alisa Nola, San Antonio, Texas
 Kerri Norris, Kennewick, Washington
 Clement I. Nwadozi, Mt Pleasant,
 Michigan
 Brett O'Connor, Jacksonville, Florida
 Jaclyn G. Oliver, Akron, Ohio
 Chibueze Elechi Onyelucheya,
 Basseterre, St. Kitts/Nevis
 Mark Ortiz, Columbus, Ohio
 Raelyn Anne Michelle Ottenbreit, San
 Antonio, Texas
 Desiree V. Owen, Riverwoods, Illinois
 Janki H. Parikh, Old Bridge, New Jersey
 Reed Breckenridge Parker, Knoxville,
 Tennessee
 Anisha K. Patel, Orlando, Florida
 Haina Patel, Medina, Ohio
 Harshil R. Patel, Morristown, New
 Jersey

Forum Patel, Hillsborough, New Jersey
 Pratik Patel, New York, New York
 Bethany A. Peebles, Grand Rapids,
 Michigan
 Alyssa Perlman-Hensen, Lexington,
 South Carolina
 Marcella E. Pipitone, Cleveland, Ohio
 Stephanie Pisano, Bexley, Ohio
 Amanda Polacco, Yonkers, New York
 Samantha Lynn Polster, Indianapolis,
 Indiana
 Cameron K. Postnikoff, Irondale,
 Alabama
 Winston Blair Posvar, Columbus, Ohio
 Clinton Roger Prestwich, Meridian,
 Idaho
 D'Laine Pulliam, Hurst, Texas
 Leigh Purvis, Johns Island, South
 Carolina
 Sloan Rajadhyksha, New York, New
 York
 Jennifer Ramey, Lewiston, Idaho
 Kirsti K. Ramirez, San Antonio, Texas
 Monica V. Ramirez, El Paso, Texas
 Samantha J. Rao, Cheshire,
 Connecticut
 Ayeswarya Ravikumar, Manvel, Texas
 Jennifer Reilly, Stoughton,
 Massachusetts
 Markus Ritzmann, Taegerwilen,
 Switzerland
 Brenna Robertson, Fairchild AFB,
 Washington
 Becky L. Rock, Highland, Illinois
 Kimberly L. Rock, Hilliard, Ohio
 Joshua James Rogers, Macedonia,
 Ohio
 Bryan Michael Rogoff, Baltimore,
 Maryland
 Rebecca Rojas, Abu Dhabi, United Arab
 Emirates
 Jamie Rosenberg, Jackson, New Jersey
 Tracy E. Rossi, Bethpage, New York
 Sean Patrick Rowan, Tucson, Arizona
 Grace M. Salone, Georgetown, Texas
 Vanessa Saltzgaber, Omaha, Nebraska

Waziha Samin, Irving, Texas
 Ellen T. Sanders, Lexington, Kentucky
 May Sanguanlosit, Glendale, California
 Michael Santos, Pawtucket, Rhode
 Island
 Lea Sawicki, Macedonia, Ohio
 Diane N. Sayah, Montreal, Canada
 Austin L. Schipper, Rice Lake,
 Wisconsin
 Katherine Schmidt, Centennial,
 Colorado
 Rachel Alexandria Schreiber, Longmont,
 Colorado
 Sari Rachel Schwartz, Memphis,
 Tennessee
 Alexandra Scovill, San Diego, California
 Jenna Sembrat, Rockville, Maryland
 Avni Ajay Shah, San Diego, California
 Vidhi Shah, Fremont, California
 Angela Shahbazian, San Francisco,
 California
 Julie Shalhoub, Memphis, Tennessee
 Andrea Christine Shank, East Lansing,
 Michigan
 Kelli Y. Shaon, Columbia, Missouri
 Erin Sherman, Fairless Hills,
 Pennsylvania
 Justin Sherman, Fairless Hills,
 Pennsylvania
 Neha P. Sheth, Manhasset, New York
 Rina K. Sheth, Elgin, Illinois
 Linda Shi, Portland, Oregon
 Hannah Shinoda, Beaverton, Oregon
 Delaram Shirazian, New York, New
 York
 Megan K. Shirey, Fayetteville, Arkansas
 Lor Sildiryan, Toronto, Canada
 Charlene Singh, Long Beach, California
 Soney Siriphone, Brooklyn, New York
 Kelsea Vance Skidmore, Greenville,
 Texas
 Stephanie M. Sloan, Dubuque, Iowa
 Nancy Catherine Sorrell, Granbury,
 Texas
 Kevin Sorya, Hammond, Louisiana
 Lauren Soukup, Minneapolis, Minnesota

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 Andrew Steele, Louisville, Kentucky
 Jeffrey Adam Sterling, Greenville, North
 Carolina
 Jenae Stiles, Waynesville, Missouri
 Kassy Swanson, Rapid City, South
 Dakota
 Emmylou M. Swartz, Milwaukee,
 Wisconsin
 Abby Tang, Cambridge, Massachusetts
 Noah Maxwell Tannen, Trenton, New
 Jersey
 Rachel Tanner, Greer, South Carolina
 Holly Ternus, Omaha, Nebraska
 Alicia Loren Thibodeaux, Gallup, New
 Mexico
 Matthew C. Tholl, APO, Armed Forces
 Sony Thomas, Des Plaines, Illinois
 Emy Katherine Thompson, Clarksville,
 Tennessee
 Amanda Mariah Thurmes, Saint
 Michael, Minnesota
 Erin S. Tomiyama, Rancho Santa
 Margarita, California
 Amanda M. Tompkins, Memphis,
 Tennessee
 Angelina Anh Tran, Houston, Texas
 Nguyen Tran, Pasadena, California
 Alan Tsai, Morganville, New Jersey
 Barbara Katarzyna Tylka, Hickory Hills,
 Illinois
 Pavanjeet Ubhi, Vaughan, Canada
 Amanda Umlandt, Grundy, Virginia
 Sierra Unruh, Minot, North Dakota
 Melissa Valdellon, Berkeley, California
 Jennifer Vicente, Kearny, New Jersey
 Michelle Jenn Vickers, Prince Albert,
 Canada
 Kristen M. Vincent, Dewey Beach,
 Delaware
 Kelly Voltz, San Francisco, California
 Betty Wang, Orlando, Florida
 Steven Weifenbach, Charlotte, North
 Carolina
 Kathryn Werner, Long Island City, New
 York

Jing Zeng Wickenburg, Bellevue,
Washington
Emily Katrina Wiecek, Boston,
Massachusetts
Leah Wiedemann, Saint Louis, Missouri
Denise Thomas Wilcox, Doylestown,
Pennsylvania
Casey John Wilgenbusch, Raeford,
North Carolina
Meagan G. Williams, Memphis,
Tennessee

Alexandra Williamson, Commerce
Township, Michigan
Kristin S. Wilson, Northfield, Minnesota
Rebecca Wong, Toronto, Canada
Meng-Hua Wu, San Francisco,
California
Ziwei Wu, Concord, New Hampshire
Nayuta Yoshioka, Kensington, Australia
Carol Yu, Hollywood, Florida
Cathy Yuen, Rochester, New York
Amy Zhang, Herndon, Virginia

About the American Academy of Optometry

The American Academy of Optometry (AAO) enhances excellence in optometric practice by fostering research and disseminating knowledge in vision science through its journal, *Optometry and Vision Science*, and the continuing education presented at its annual meeting. Fellows of the Academy are committed to the premise that learning is a lifelong obligation of a professional, as is the commitment to expand the profession's knowledge base through ongoing fellowship and exchange.

About the American Academy of Optometry Foundation

The American Academy of Optometry Foundation (AAOF) is a 501(c)(3) philanthropic organization that develops and provides financial support for optometric research and education in vision and eye health to improve patient clinical care. The AAOF is a proud affiliate of the American Academy of Optometry.

The next annual meeting of the Academy will be October 23-27, 2019 in conjunction with the 3rd World Congress of Optometry at the Orange County Convention Center in Orlando, FL. For more information, visit: <http://www.aaopt.org>.

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