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Foundation Contact
Jennifer Rubin
Grants and Awards Manager
321-319-4870
JenniferR@aaoptom.org

American Academy of Optometry Foundation Announces the 2020 Joe and Janet Barr Early Career Cornea and Contact Lens Research Award Recipient

ORLANDO, Florida, June 11, 2020 – The American Academy of Optometry Foundation (AAOF) is pleased to announce the recipient of the Joe and Janet Barr Early Career Cornea and Contact Lens Research Award.



Sidra Sarwat is a first-year Ph.D. candidate at the School of Optometry and Vision Science, University of New South Wales. Her research project entitled, “In Vivo Labelling and Bioimaging of the Tear Film Using Silicon Quantum Dots,” was chosen out of the six applicants who applied for the award. Sidra presented an impressive resume of experience in clinical research, volunteer service and lecture presentation.

The award provides a first- or second-year M.S. or Ph.D. vision science or physiological optics student with a \$2,000 research project seed fund in the area of cornea/ocular surface or contact lenses.

Sidra will be honored at the AAOF’s Annual Celebration Luncheon on Saturday, October 10, 2020 at Academy 2020 in Nashville, TN.

For more information, visit <https://www.aaopt.org/home/aaof>.

About the American Academy of Optometry

The American Academy of Optometry (AAO) inspires 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. For more information, visit the website: <http://www.aaopt.org>.

About the American Academy of Optometry Foundation

The American Academy of Optometry Foundation (AAOF) is the 501(c)(3) philanthropic arm of the American Academy of Optometry (AAO) and was founded in 1947 for the “upholding, broadening, fostering, promoting and aiding of optometric education; the profession of optometry and its practitioners.” The organization provides financial support for optometric research and vision and eye health education to improve patient clinical care. For more information, visit the website: <https://www.aaopt.org/home/aaof>.