February 20-26, 2016  
9th Annual Illinois Eye Review

Friday, April 22, 2016  
9th Annual Retina Symposium

Wednesday, May 25, 2016  
2016 Spring Glaucoma Symposium

Friday, June 17, 2016  
40th Annual Alumni / Resident Day

Sunday, October 16, 2016  
Alumni Reception at the AAO Meeting

Saturday, October 22, 2016  
The Chicago Chronic GVHD Meeting
The Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary is known as a leader in the field of ophthalmic training in the region and in the nation. One component of this leadership is providing the highest level of surgical training that is available. This year we inaugurated the 9 station state-of-the-art Cless Family Ophthalmic Surgical Training and Simulation Center (Cless Lab), the premier center for ophthalmic surgical training in the Midwest. The Cless Lab will be home to surgical training courses, webcasting and live surgery streaming as well as surgical simulation technology. A generous investment made by the Cless Family Foundation, along with support from faculty and alumni, made this vision a reality. Establishing the Cless Lab is an enormous advancement in how we train our residents and surgical fellows. It is an active learning environment allowing for a virtual-reality simulation experience within which attention to the finest, most minute details, such as the careful orchestration of hand and foot instrument manipulation, can be perfected without putting patients at risk. It will no doubt significantly increase trainees’ aptitude and confidence when performing in a live operating room.

The virtual connections this equipment makes possible will enable us to examine how fellow surgeons from all corners of the world do work, and repeat it right here. This exposure to new information and practices will fuel the innovation and breakthroughs that will happen here first. And, when they do, we can share them with the rest of the world right from the Cless Lab. We now are able to provide services few places in the world can offer. Our faculty, residents, fellows, alumni and local ophthalmologists can learn more, innovate faster and pioneer surgical curriculum because of these connections.
A MESSAGE FROM THE DEPARTMENT HEAD

I am deeply honored to serve as the Head of the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences at the Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary/University of Illinois College of Medicine.

The Department has a historic legacy of unparalleled clinical care, outstanding education, and innovative research. This could not have been done without the combined efforts of our faculty, staff and supporters. For over 155 years, the Infirmary has been leading the way in advanced care for patients who have some of the most serious and complicated eye conditions. The subspecialty services and clinicians in the Department are nationally known for providing this care. We all share in this invaluable commitment to treating and curing eye diseases such as cataracts, glaucoma, and age-related macular degeneration.

Ophthalmologic innovation is happening here.

The modern healthcare landscape and the rapid development of new technologies present us with a unique opportunity to foster innovation and pursue new connections between medicine and engineering to address complex ophthalmic conditions. We are pursuing the development of new fellowship opportunities, including ones in global ophthalmology, which will allow us to inspire innovation here at home and impact patients and clinical care around the globe. Our scientific discoveries will influence how we treat the most serious and complicated eye conditions, and enhance the quality of life for our patients.

Our Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary (IEEI) residents and trainees have shaped our department, programs and clinics. Their commitment to innovative, inspired and impassioned medicine has helped to establish IEEI as a national center for excellence in resident education. We are proud to train the best and brightest in ophthalmology and we are excited to roll out a brand new surgical curriculum for our trainees in 2016 that corresponds with our new state-of-the-art Cless Family Ophthalmic Surgical Training and Simulation Center.

Innovative medicine is happening now.

In the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, we are pioneering innovation in three important areas: high-resolution functional imaging, nanoscale device development and tissue engineering to help us better diagnose and treat eye disease earlier, and preserve the sight of our patients.

In order to continue to lead and stay in sync with advances in medicine, science and technology, we have established an exciting partnership with the University of Illinois College of Engineering at Urbana-Champaign. This partnership will support joint conferences, train physicians and scientists, and collaborate between departments to develop solutions for sight-threatening diseases. Our intentional convergence of medicine and engineering will greatly improve ophthalmic conditions around the world.

Our new Ophthalmology Clinical Trials Center underscores our commitment to medical research, which has contributed to advances in Ophthalmology and related areas of medicine. These fundamental discoveries impact our academic medical program and allow us to provide quality eye care to those in need.

We offer our gratitude to our friends and supporters and invite you all to join us on this journey for ongoing innovation, productivity and discovery.

Mark I. Rosenblatt, MD, PhD, MBA
Professor and Head
Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences
Lions of Illinois /Charles I. Young Chair in Ocular Research
Director, Corneal Regenerative Medicine Laboratory
Medical School
University of Miami (PhD, Biochemistry)
Residency in Ophthalmology
Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary
Clinical Fellowship
Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary (Cornea)
Research Fellowship
Schepens Eye Research Institute
Graduate School
New York University (MBA)
The Argus II® retinal prosthesis system – also known as the “Bionic Eye” trial – has been making news at the Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary’s (IEEI) Department of Ophthalmology since manufacturer Second Sight named the IEEI one of 13 North American clinical testing sites after getting FDA approval in 2013.

“It’s the chance to give some sight back to patients blind from retinitis pigmentosa. Right now, there is no other way you can return vision to completely blind patients,” explains project leader Jennifer I. Lim, MD. The Argus II system is designed to restore limited sight to individuals suffering from retinitis pigmentosa, a genetic disease that causes progressive blindness by destroying the light-sensing cells in the retina. Eventually, this artificial retina system may help tackle other sight-destroying diseases like macular degeneration.

The University of Illinois Hospital & Health Sciences System is the only medical center in Illinois selected to offer the artificial retina. Lim says the success of the device – a surgically implanted chip on the retina that wirelessly receives information from a head-mounted camera to help blind individuals “see” light and shapes in black and white – depends on the patient’s motivation and willingness to undergo “visual training after implantation” to learn how to use the device.

“The Department has always been a place of innovation,” said Lim. “A lot of the most common procedures you see today were in clinical trials at the IEEI including the first clinical trials for diabetic retinopathy, macular degeneration, vein occlusion and sickle cell management.”

The device uses an electrode array that goes directly onto the patient’s retina. The electronic chip is connected to a silicone strip that holds a receiver and is mounted to the outside of the eye. There is no discomfort and the current technology is still in the early phase, Lim adds. “It’s not right for everyone” suffering from RP, Lim explains. “A patient has to be comfortable knowing that they will be implanted with an electronic device and that the vision will not be ‘normal vision,’” she explained. At this time, the device does not allow for enough resolution to see faces or colors. However, for many patients, the added visual information provided by Argus II can improve the patient’s ability to navigate paths, find doorways and “see people moving about,” returning a significant degree of visual independence to their lives. Additionally, given advances in engineering which allows technology to become smaller and more powerful over time, vision outcomes, comfort and other features of the bionic eye project will improve.

“Today, depending on how severely impaired a patient’s vision is, a patient might be able to see a white line that can help them walk independently or be able to sort clothing into light and dark colors,” Lim explains. Future upgrades to the Argus system – named for the all-seeing giant of Greek mythology – might not only eliminate the current required bulky headgear of dark glasses and head-mounted camera but also provide the possibility of sharper images.

Lim has worked with the inventor of the device, Mark S. Humayun, MD, PhD, the biomedical engineer and retina physician who developed the bionic eye at the University of Southern California. She points out that such collaborative relationships are common at the Department of Ophthalmology.
“It’s the chance to give some sight back to patients blind from retinitis pigmentosa. Right now, there is no other way you can return vision to completely blind patients,” explains project leader Jennifer I. Lim, MD.
For over 150 years, the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences at the Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary (IEEI) has provided the field of ophthalmology with a long list of firsts in research, surgical technique and groundbreaking patient care.

Henry Winters knows this personally. Winters’ life changed on Jan. 5, 1978 when he suffered chemical burns over 60 percent of his body at the manufacturing plant where he worked as a supervisor. “I got hurt at 27 years of age, and I was in suspended animation from that day,” said Winters, who was completely blind for three years before receiving his first of several transplanted natural corneas starting in the 1980s.

Unable to work or drive from the day of the accident, Winters got minimal and temporary improvement from those transplants and in recent years, he noticed again that the remaining vision in his left eye began to worsen. He and his wife started to look for other options, and in 2012, Winters and his doctor M. Soledad Cortina started discussing the transplantation of the artificial cornea known as the Boston Keratoprosthesis, or KPro. KPro is now considered a surgical option for patients with poor prognosis for standard corneal transplants or whose corneal transplants have failed. Later in 2012, Winters was implanted with a Boston Type 1 KPro. After more than 30 years, he finally saw clearly from his less-injured left eye.

“It was so exciting – it was the first time out of all those years that I got a chance to see me,” Winters explained. “I could go places, see places and I could read. When you start seeing the words again after you’ve heard them all that time, they don’t feel the same. I was finally able to get familiar again with what I saw.”

Now 65, Winters is retired and has elected not to try to drive. But seeing again reminded him how withdrawn he was for so much of his life.

“The Department of Ophthalmology at the IEEI has a particular and unique approach to the artificial cornea. We understand that these patients suffer from complex eye disease and we have formed a team of specialists to provide them with the most comprehensive care possible. At the IEEI we have incorporated cornea, glaucoma, vitreoretinal, ocuoplastics, contact lens and uveitis specialists into the artificial cornea team resulting in an interdisciplinary approach” said Cortina, Director of the Artificial Cornea Program at the University of Illinois College of Medicine.

The Department has one of the largest artificial cornea programs in the country with a strong research team to complement the large clinical program. Our goal is to advance the field of artificial cornea and we have made significant contributions including improvement of surgical outcomes using high resolution imaging to evaluate the formation of damaging membranes behind the Kpro device and studying the formation of potentially dangerous microbial biofilms on the device. Additionally, our engineering and basic science team lead by Drs. Yu and Rosenblatt is investigating new materials and designs for a novel Keratoprosthesis device.

Cortina and fellow faculty member Jose de la Cruz have published a seminal first textbook on KPro technology and transplant. The team gathered the latest and most comprehensive knowledge and best practices on the device from leading specialists around the world and published “Keratoprosthesis and Artificial Corneas: Fundamentals and Surgical Applications” late in 2014. Says Cortina: “Much of what you will find in the book goes beyond current literature to experiences that have not been shared anywhere else. All aspects of KPro surgery, from history and preoperative evaluation to surgical techniques and postoperative management of complications, are addressed by more than two dozen leading surgeons as chapter authors in the first edition.

As the work of the Artificial Cornea Program continues, patients like Winters illustrate the Department’s unique approach to the toughest cases in eye medicine.
“It was so exciting – it was the first time out of all those years that I got a chance to see me,” Winters explained. “I could go places, see places and I could read...I was finally able to get familiar again with what I saw.”
PROSE (short for Prosthetic Replacement of the Ocular Surface Ecosystem) is a device and treatment system that aims to restore vision, promote healing and improve the quality of life for patients with complex corneal disease.
When Dr. Ellen Shorter, OD, FAAO joined the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences at the Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary (IEEI), one of her first objectives was to complete the intensive BostonSight® PROSE Clinical Fellowship.

Pioneered at the Boston Foundation for Sight, PROSE (short for Prosthetic Replacement of the Ocular Surface Ecosystem) is a device and treatment system that aims to restore vision, promote healing and improve the quality of life for patients with complex corneal disease.

In 2010 the IEEI opened its PROSE Clinic, one of only 12 in the United States, with Shorter as its first director.

“Most of our patients have severe ocular surface disease or advanced corneal ectasia,” Shorter explains. “Many of our patients have been to multiple eye doctors and are frustrated. PROSE treatment is a final option when other standard therapies have failed.”

For many patients, PROSE may be the ideal and sometimes only treatment that can restore vision and dramatically reduce eye pain and light sensitivity. PROSE offers hope to patients with conditions such as Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS), severe dry eye syndrome, Sjogren’s syndrome, keratoconus, pellucid marginal degeneration (PMD), ocular trauma and post-transplant or LASIK complications.

For example, Shorter notes that several of her patients have had cancer and may suffer from chronic graft versus host disease (cGvHD), which can occur six to 12 months after a bone marrow transplant. “Patients with ocular cGvHD have severe dry eye with constant, debilitating eye pain and light sensitivity,” she explains.

PROSE patient Sheri Rapaport had no experience with cancer but had developed keratoconus, a degenerative corneal disease, in her 20s. She learned about PROSE from a friend’s son who had leukemia and developed cGvHD. He was a medical student, and had done some research on the PROSE devices.

Rapaport, 67, had undergone four cornea transplants over the previous four decades with only minimal success. “Every procedure worked for a short time,” she explained, “then the keratoconus took over again.” Eventually, Rapaport couldn’t drive anymore or perform everyday tasks due to her severely diminished eyesight. “Even going to the grocery store was a challenge,” she recalls.

Rapaport conferred with her doctors at Milwaukee’s Eye Institute and mentioned she had heard about PROSE. They referred her to the Department’s PROSE Clinic and after her first visit to Chicago in January 2014 she planned to began treatment that summer.

PROSE prosthetics are thin transparent devices made of gas-permeable plastic that allow oxygen and a healing saline solution to reach the ocular surface. The device fits under the eyelid and rests on the sclera (the white tissue of the eye), vaulting the cornea, and creating a reservoir of saline solution that continuously bathes the diseased eye in oxygenated artificial tears. The result is a new, smooth optical surface.

“I could see with the PROSE devices immediately,” says Rapaport.

All PROSE devices are customized with computer-aided design (CAD) software to precisely fit the patient’s unique eye shape and are manufactured in the Boston Foundation’s state-of-the-art lab. It can take several months of customization to get the best fit. Dr. Shorter and her team help to train patients on the devices which are removed at bedtime and re-inserted in the morning.

PROSE devices can solve a variety of eye problems. Patients like Sheri Rapaport cannot see with spectacles and her PROSE devices aid her vision. Other patients might need them to permanently protect or temporarily heal the ocular surface due to injury.

Rapaport says Dr. Shorter has been a calming influence throughout her treatment. “It has been a real hopeful, positive process from the beginning.” She adds, “Now I can go to the grocery store and see what is on the shelves…It’s like PROSE has given me my independence back.”

Even better, Rapaport said she can now clearly see her newborn grandchild. “It’s just been phenomenal.”
Severe and chronic ocular injuries and diseases have long vexed ophthalmologists trying to find ways to accelerate healing and promote regeneration of the eye surface.

Stem cell research might finally provide an answer.

“We’ve never had very effective treatments for severe eye injuries and for chronic conditions where the corneal surface cannot regenerate itself,” says Ali Djalilian, MD, Associate Professor of Ophthalmology/Cornea Service. That’s why Djalilian, Director of the Infirmary’s Corneal Epithelial Biology and Tissue Engineering Laboratory, is researching ways to apply stem cell-produced factors – specialized proteins that can get diseased or injured cells to heal – as a topical treatment on the eye surface.

Djalilian anticipates that such stem cell-produced factors may be dispensed through eyedrops or by specialized contact lenses that lock the healing solution in place.

“We think this will be helpful for a wide range of patients with severe injuries or diseases of the surface of the eye,” says Djalilian of the 1 million dollar project, which launched about a year ago and is roughly two to three years away from human trials.

Stem cells are cultured in the Infirmary laboratory so such factors can be collected,” says Djalilian. To date, most of his studies have “been based on optimizing those conditions and testing them in animal models.” This summer, the Department’s team is hoping to begin pre-clinical studies that will eventually allow the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to give the Department clearance to start clinical trials.

Stem cell research is a very hot topic right now in ophthalmology, but Djalilian says the Department provides a unique home for this new technology to flourish. “As a department and a team, we are set up very well to translate this research to the clinic. We see the most difficult patients that no one else is able to take care of.”

He adds that “the Department of Ophthalmology has a long history of cultivating important research with the infrastructure to do top quality work.”

This particular project has been supported by the U.S. Department of Defense, which is seeking greater treatment options for eye injuries and combat-related conditions. Djalilian’s project is also being supported with a grant from the Vision for Tomorrow Foundation, a Chicago-based organization that supports families affected by aniridia—an absence of the iris in one or both eyes, or albinism—a disorder that prevents the body’s ability to produce or distribute melanin.

Helen Mopsick, board member at Vision for Tomorrow, said the organization connected with Djalilian in 2011 and supports the research because current treatment for aniridia is a cornea transplant. Said Mopsick, “If this works, (Djalilian) will literally be changing the course of treatment for thousands of people. Part of the condition of aniridia is that if the cornea starts to deteriorate in someone’s late teens or early twenties, the injury just doesn’t heal.”

Mopsick added that Djalilian approached the foundation and a lab visit made it a partnership. “He has quite a few patients and we love finding researchers who are also in clinic,” she said. “This is our first project with [the Department of Ophthalmology at the Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary], and it’s been a very good experience: very responsive. And we’ll be back.”

"If this works, (Djalilian) will literally be changing the course of treatment for thousands of people."
“As a department and a team, we are set up very well to translate this research to the clinic. We see the most difficult patients that no one else is able to take care of.”
CORNEA AND REFRACTIVE SURGERY

The Cornea and External Disease Service manages patients with diseases of the front of the eye including corneal and conjunctival infections, keratoconus, cataracts, tumors of the iris and conjunctiva, blepharitis, dry eye, corneal scarring, complications of trauma and ocular surgery as well as hereditary corneal diseases like Fuchs’ Dystrophy. The service has extensive expertise in all forms of partial thickness corneal transplantation including DMEK, DSAEK/ DSEK, and DALK as well as traditional penetrating keratoplasty that provides patients with the widest array of treatment options. Those not eligible for human corneal transplantation may qualify for our Artificial Cornea Program, which is the largest program of its kind in the Midwest for implanting keratoprostheses. The service also provides access to state-of-the-art imaging technology to quickly and accurately diagnose a wide spectrum of diseases. Cornea specialists also work with the Contact Lens Service to offer advanced contact lens therapies including the PROSE lens and offer the opportunity to participate in the latest clinical trials for dry eye diseases, corneal transplantation and corneal infections.

DIRECTOR
Elmer Y. Tu, MD  
Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology  
Director, Cornea Service

MEDICAL SCHOOL  
University of Miami

RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY  
University of Wisconsin

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP  
Bascom Palmer Eye Institute (Cornea)

Clinical Interests  
Corneal transplantation including DMEK, DSAEK, DALK and Full thickness corneal transplantation; Corneal infections and corneal inflammatory disorders; Complex and routine cataract surgery

Research Interests  
Corneal infections and inflammation; Corneal transplantation; New surgical and drug therapies

IMAGE: Photo of iris and pupil courtesy of the Eye Photography Service.
Dimitri T. Azar, MD, MBA
Dean, University of Illinois College of Medicine
Distinguished Professor of Ophthalmology, Bioengineering and Pharmacology
B.A. Field Chair in Ophthalmologic Research

MEDICAL SCHOOL
American University of Beirut, Lebanon

RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY
Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP
Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary (Cornea)

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
Schepens Eye Research Institute

GRADUATE SCHOOL
University of Chicago (MBA)

Clinical Interests
Laser vision correction; cornea and cataract surgery

Research Interests
Matrix metalloproteinases in corneal wound healing and angiogenesis; Refractive surgery; Optics; Accommodating intraocular lenses

M. Soledad Cortina, MD
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology
Director, Comprehensive Ophthalmology Faculty Practice (COFF) and General Eye Clinic
Director, Artificial Cornea Program

MEDICAL SCHOOL
University of Buenos Aires School of Medicine, Argentina

RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY
Louisiana State University

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP
Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary (Cornea)

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
Louisiana State University, Neuroscience Center

Clinical Interests
Ocular surface disease and high-risk corneal transplantation including Boston keratoprosthesis; Cataract surgery and endothelial keratoplasty

Research Interests
Sterile keratolysis in Boston keratoprosthesis patients; Optical properties of artificial corneas; Corneal nerves and their regeneration after injury

Jose de la Cruz, MD
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology
Co-Director, Millennium Park Eye Center

MEDICAL SCHOOL
Ponce School of Medicine, Puerto Rico

RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY
New York Eye and Ear Infirmary

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP
Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary (Cornea)

GRADUATE SCHOOL
Indiana University at Bloomington (MS)

Clinical Interests
Advances in keratoprosthesis transplantation; Anterior segment imaging in cornea and refractive surgery; Femtosecond technology for corneal transplantation

Research Interests
Development of surgical devices for conjunctival manipulation; New techniques in refractive surgery and femtosecond assisted keratoplasty; Advanced technology intraocular lenses for correction of presbyopia and astigmatism

Ali R. Djalilian, MD
Associate Professor of Ophthalmology
Director, Corneal Epithelial Biology and Tissue Engineering Laboratory

MEDICAL SCHOOL
University of Minnesota

RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY
University of Minnesota

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP
Cincinnati Eye Institute (Cornea)

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
University of Minnesota (Cornea)

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
National Eye Institute (Ocular Immunology)

Clinical Interests
Ocular surface disease; Limbal stem cell deficiency; Corneal and limbal stem cell transplantation; Immunologic diseases of the cornea

Research Interests
Stem cell based therapy; Corneal wound healing; Tissue engineering

Sandeep Jain, MD
Associate Professor of Ophthalmology
Director, Corneal Neurobiology Laboratory
Director, Dry Eye Service

MEDICAL SCHOOL
University of Delhi, India

RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY
Harkness Eye Institute

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP
Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary (Cornea)

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
Wilmer Eye Institute (Cornea)

Clinical Interests
Dry Eye and Ocular surface disease; Ocular graft-versus-host-disease; Neurotrophic keratitis

Research Interests
Molecular and cellular aspects of corneal nerve regeneration; Molecular and cellular aspects of ocular surface disease; Translational research

Mark I. Rosenblatt, MD, PhD, MBA
Professor and Head
Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences
Illinois Lions/Charles I. Young Chair in Ocular Research
Director, Corneal Regenerative Medicine Laboratory

MEDICAL SCHOOL
University of Miami (PhD, Biochemistry)

RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY
Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP
Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary (Cornea)

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
Schepens Eye Research Institute

GRADUATE SCHOOL
New York University (MBA)

Clinical Interests
Corneal disease; Cataract; Refractive surgery; Ocular pain; Dry Eye disease; Keratoplasty

Research Interests
Ocular regenerative medicine; Corneal stem cells; Corneal nerve regeneration; Angiogenesis; Tissue engineering; Biomaterials; Nanomedicine
Joel Sugar, MD
Professor in Ophthalmology
Vice Chair, Clinical Operations

MEDICAL SCHOOL
University of Michigan

RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY
Washington University, St. Louis

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP
University of Florida, Gainesville (Cornea)

Clinical Interests
Corneal disorders; Herpes simplex; Herpes zoster; Congenital anomalies of the anterior eye

Research Interests
Keratoplasty outcomes; Herpes; Fuchs dystrophy

Charles Qian Yu, MD
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology

MEDICAL SCHOOL
University of California Davis

RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY
Stanford University

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP (CORNEA)
Cornell University

Clinical Interests
Cataract; Penetrating keratoplasty; Endothelial keratoplasty; Keratoprosthesis

Research Interests
Corneal healing; Artificial cornea; LASIK clinical trials; Virtual reality
CONTACT LENS

The Contact Lens Service provides care to patients requiring medically necessary contact lenses and related services. Our doctors are nationally known for their clinical and research expertise and their ability to help patients with various complex corneal diseases including: Keratoconus, Post-corneal transplant, Dry eye syndrome, Graft-versus-host disease (GVHD), Limbal stem cell deficiency, Sjögren’s syndrome, Neurotrophic keratitis, Corneal scarring, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, Post-LASIK, and Aphakia. We have extensive experience with all types of medically necessary contact lenses including scleral, hybrid and rigid contact lenses as well as customized soft contact lenses. The service’s PROSE clinic is one of only 12 clinic sites in America to offer BostonSight® PROSE treatment for patients with severely compromised ocular function as a result of complex corneal disease.

DIRECTOR
Charlotte E. Joslin, OD, PhD, FAAO
Associate Professor of Ophthalmology
Department Affiliate, Epidemiology and Biostatistics
Director, Contact Lens Service

OPTOMETRY SCHOOL
Ohio State University College of Optometry

RESIDENCY IN OPTOMETRY
Jessie Brown VA Medical Center and Blind Rehabilitation Center of Hines VA Hospital

GRADUATE SCHOOL
University of Illinois at Chicago (PhD, Epidemiology)

Clinical Interests
Medically necessary contact lenses for diseases such as: Keratoconus; Post-corneal transplant; Dry eye; Graft-versus-host disease (GVHD); Limbal stem cell deficiency, Sjögren’s syndrome, Neurotrophic keratitis; Corneal scarring; Stevens-Johnson syndrome; Post-LASIK

Research Interests
Epidemiology of various eye diseases and infections; Racial differences in various eye and other health-related outcomes

Timothy T. McMahon, OD, FAAO
Professor of Ophthalmology
Vice Chair for Optometry

OPTOMETRY SCHOOL
Illinois College of Optometry

RESIDENCY IN OPTOMETRY
Kansas City VA Medical Center

Clinical Interests
Medically necessary contact lenses; Corneal topography; Anterior segment diseases and injuries

Research Interests
Keratoconus and other corneal ectatic conditions and diseases; Dry eye; Blepharitis

Ellen Shorter, OD, FAAO
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology
Director, Prosthetic Replacement of the Ocular Surface Ecosystem (PROSE) Clinic

OPTOMETRY SCHOOL
Illinois College of Optometry

RESIDENCY IN OPTOMETRY
Jessie Brown VA Medical Center and Hines VA Hospital

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP
Boston Foundation for Sight (PROSE)

Clinical Interests
Ocular surface disease; Corneal ectasia; Keratoconus; Keratoprosthesis

Research Interests
Dry eye; Adenoviral conjunctivitis
GLAUCOMA

Glaucoma is the leading cause of irreversible blindness in the world. Our Glaucoma Service is nationally recognized as a center for the diagnosis and treatment of glaucoma in adults and children. It is a site for testing investigational new drugs and has been a leader in the use of laser and surgery to treat all forms of the disease. Our service offers comprehensive care and management of all forms of glaucoma, including specialized diagnostic testing and the latest technologies for laser and surgical treatment. Faculty members are actively involved in glaucoma research and are nationally recognized as experts in their field.

DIRECTOR
Thasarat S. Vajaranant, MD
Associate Professor of Ophthalmology
Director, Glaucoma Service

MEDICAL SCHOOL
Chulalongkorn University, Thailand

RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY
Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP
Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary (Glaucoma)

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary (Low Vision)

Clinical Interests
Diagnosis and management of glaucoma and cataract; Management of complex glaucoma and cataract; International ophthalmology

Research Interests
Glaucoma epidemiology; Women’s eye health; Aging of the optic nerve; Outcomes of glaucoma surgery; Management of glaucoma after corneal transplants

IMAGE: Fundus photo highlighting optic nerve of glaucoma patient courtesy of the Glaucoma Service.
Ahmad A. Aref, MD
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology

MEDICAL SCHOOL
Northwestern University

RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY
Penn State Hershey Eye Center

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP
Bascom Palmer Eye Institute (Glaucoma)

Clinical Interests
Complex cataract surgery; Trabeculectomy and glaucoma drainage implant surgery for advanced glaucomatous disease; Microinvasive glaucoma surgery for mild/moderate glaucomatous disease; Selective laser trabeculoplasty for open-angle glaucomas; Laser iridotomy for angle-closure glaucomas

Research Interests
Surgical techniques in complex glaucomas; Risk factor analysis of steroid-response glaucoma; Glaucoma associated with retinal disorders; Novel glaucoma medical therapies; Optic nerve imaging

Jacob T. Wilensky, MD
Jacob T. Wilensky MD Professor of Ophthalmology Director, Glaucoma Fellowship Program

MEDICAL SCHOOL
Tulane University

RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY
Tulane University Affiliated Hospitals

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP
Washington University, St. Louis (Glaucoma)

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
National Eye Institute (Glaucoma)

Clinical Interests
Diagnosis and treatment of glaucoma with special emphasis on laser therapy

Research Interests
Investigation of new drugs for glaucoma; Laser therapy treatment for glaucoma

David S. Hillman, MD
Assistant Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology

Mark W. Lunde, MD
Assistant Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology
The Neuro-Ophthalmology Service offers expert evaluations and treatment for neuro-ophthalmologic conditions, including: optic neuritis, idiopathic intracranial hypertension (pseudotumor cerebri), ischemic optic neuropathies, optic neuropathies of unknown etiology, ocular myasthenia gravis, cranial nerve palsies, thyroid eye disease and visual or oculomotor complications of stroke, brain tumors, multiple sclerosis and other neurological diseases. The service facilitates and interprets a wide range of diagnostic testing relevant to the diagnosis and management of neuro-ophthalmic diseases, including: Goldmann and Humphrey perimetry, infrared pupilometry, optical coherence tomography, electroretinography, lumbar punctures and magnetic resonance imaging. The service works closely with doctors in the University of Illinois Hospital and Health Sciences Systems’ departments of Neurosurgery, Neurology, Radiation Oncology and Rheumatology to provide interdisciplinary, state-of-the-art treatments.

DIRECTOR
Heather E. Moss, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology
Director, Neuro-Ophthalmology Service
Director, Neuro-Ophthalmology Fellowship Program

MEDICAL SCHOOL
Harvard Medical School

RESIDENCY IN NEUROLOGY
University of Pennsylvania

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP
University of Pennsylvania (Neuro-Ophthalmology)

GRADUATE SCHOOL
Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology (PhD, Medical Engineering)

Clinical Interests
Idiopathic intracranial hypertension; Optic neuritis; Optic neuropathies; Optic chiasm disorders; Visual disorders with neurological causes; Ocular myasthenia gravis; Cranial nerve palsies

Research Interests
Idiopathic intracranial hypertension; Optic neuritis; Visual system dysfunction in amyotrophic lateral sclerosis

IMAGE: Brain MRI depicting orbital structures courtesy of iStock.
James Goodwin, MD
Associate Professor of Ophthalmology

MEDICAL SCHOOL
University of Illinois College of Medicine

RESIDENCY IN NEUROLOGY
University of Minnesota

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP
Bascom Palmer Eye Institute (Neuro-Ophthalmology)

Clinical Interests
Optic neuritis; Optic neuropathies; Ophthalmoplegia; Visual field loss; Idiopathic intracranial hypertension; Cranial nerve palsies

Research Interests
Optic neuritis; Autoimmune optic neuropathy; Optic nerve decompression

Peter W. MacIntosh, MD
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology

MEDICAL SCHOOL
The Chicago Medical School

RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY
Stroger Cook County Hospital

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP
Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary (Neuro-Ophthalmology)

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP
Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary (Oculoplastics)

Clinical Interests
Idiopathic intracranial hypertension; Diplopia; Ptosis; Eyelid and orbital tumors; Orbital trauma

Research Interests
Thyroid eye disease; Nonarteritic anterior ischemic optic neuropathy (NAION)

Anil Gulati, MD
Assistant Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology
OCULOPLASTIC & RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY

The Oculoplastic & Reconstructive Surgery Service provides assessment and treatment for conditions of the eyelids, orbit, face and lacrimal system. Systemic disease, trauma, birth defects and the aging process can alter the area around the eyes. Conditions such as blepharoptosis, ectropion, entropion, eyelid retraction, blepharospasm, epiphora, tumors of the ocular adnexa and orbit and fractures of the orbit are just a few of the conditions treated in this specialty. Patients can be seen at both the Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary and the Millennium Park Eye Center.

DIRECTOR

Pete Setabutr, MD
Associate Professor of Ophthalmology
Director, Oculoplastic & Reconstructive Surgery Service
Co-Director, Millennium Park Eye Center

MEDICAL SCHOOL
University of Texas-Houston

RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY
University of Texas-Houston

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP
Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary (Oculoplastics)

Clinical Interests
Cosmetic and reconstructive eyelid surgery; Orbital surgery; Diseases of the lacrimal system

Research Interests
Diseases of the eyelid; Diseases of the orbit; Epidemiological international vision research

IMAGE: Artistic rendering of a human skull courtesy of Lisa Birmingham.
Vinay K. Aakalu, MD, MPH
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology
Director, Lacrimal Cell Biology Laboratory

MEDICAL SCHOOL
Mount Sinai School of Medicine

RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY
Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP
Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary (Oculoplastics)

GRADUATE SCHOOL
Columbia University (MPH)

Clinical Interests
Thyroid eye disease; Orbital tumors; Facial and ocular trauma; Ocular surface disease and scarring; Inflammatory orbital disease; Congenital eyelid and orbital disorders; Eye socket reconstruction; Facial palsies; Eyelid malposition; Lacrimal disease; Aesthetic surgery and treatments

Research Interests
Regenerative medicine; Lacrimal cell biology; Dry eye disease; Cell based therapies; Orbital imaging; Orbital oncology; Novel and minimally invasive orbital and aesthetic surgery

Amjad Z. Ahmad, MD
Assistant Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology

MEDICAL SCHOOL
University of Michigan

RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY
Kellogg Eye Institute

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP
Kellogg Eye Institute (Oculoplastics & Reconstructive Surgery)

CLINICAL INTERESTS
Cosmetic eyelid surgery; Thyroid eye disease; Eyelid reconstruction surgery; Ptosis

RESEARCH INTERESTS
Cosmetic eyelid surgery

Peter W. MacIntosh, MD
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology

MEDICAL SCHOOL
The Chicago Medical School

RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY
Stroger Cook County Hospital

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP
Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary (Neuro-Ophthalmology)

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP
Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary (Oculoplastics)

Clinical Interests
Lacrimal drainage surgery; Ptosis

Research Interests
Thyroid eye disease; Nonarteritic anterior ischemic optic neuropathy (NAION)

Allen M. Putterman, MD, FACS
Professor of Ophthalmology

MEDICAL SCHOOL
University of Wisconsin

RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY
Michael Reese Hospital and Medical Center

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP
Manhattan Eye, Ear and Throat Hospital (Oculoplastics)

Clinical Interests
Aesthetic eyelid and facial plastic surgery; Upper eyelid ptosis surgery; Thyroid eyelid and orbital problems; Eyelid and orbital tumors; Tear duct drainage surgery

Research Interests
Development of procedures and instruments for oculofacial plastic surgery
The Pediatric Ophthalmology & Adult Strabismus Service offers general pediatric eye care, including exams for newborns and children up to 18 years of age. This service also provides other specialty clinics treating rare and unusual children’s eye disorders, including glaucoma and genetic, neurocutaneous, and neuro-ophthalmologic disorders. The doctors in this service specialize in strabismus (eye alignment disorders) in adults as well as children. Additional care providers include certified orthoptists and an ocularplastic and reconstructive surgeon.

**DIRECTOR**

Nathalie F. Azar, MD  
Associate Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology  
Director, Pediatric Ophthalmology & Adult Strabismus Service

**MEDICAL SCHOOL**  
Boston University

**RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY**  
George Washington University

**CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP**  
Wilmer Eye Institute (Pediatric Ophthalmology)

**Clinical Interests**  
Adult strabismus; Graves ophthalmopathy; Paralytic and restrictive strabismus; Amblyopia; Pediatric strabismus, cataracts and glaucoma

**Research Interests**  
Amblyopia; Eye movement disorders; Surgical treatment techniques for strabismus; Pediatric ocular anomalies
Benjamin Mathew, MD
Assistant Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology

MEDICAL SCHOOL
University of Manitoba

RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY
LSU Eye Center/Alton Ochsner Clinic Foundation
University of Ottawa Eye Institute

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
University of Ottawa Eye Institute (Ophthalmic Pathology)

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP
University of Wisconsin (Pediatric Ophthalmology)

Clinical Interests
General pediatric ophthalmology; Pediatric cataract; Blocked tear duct; Retinopathy of prematurity

Research Interests
Ophthalmic optics; Automated measurement of strabismus

Ilrene H. Maumenee, MD
Research Professor of Ophthalmology
Director, Ocular Genetics Laboratory

MEDICAL SCHOOL
University of Göttingen, Germany

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS
University of Geneva (Ophthalmology and Genetics)
University of Hawaii (Population Genetics)
Johns Hopkins University (Medical Genetics)

PRECEPTORSHIP IN OPHTHALMOLOGY
Wilmer Eye Institute

Clinical Interests
Management of complications of the Marfan syndrome and related connective tissue diseases; Clinical diagnosis of patients with rare genetic diseases of the visual system

Research Interests
Finding new genes and mutations in hereditary eye diseases through application of whole exome and whole genome sequencing strategies; Special interest in Leber congenital amaurosis

Marilyn T. Miller, MD, MS
Professor of Ophthalmology

MEDICAL SCHOOL
University of Illinois College of Medicine, Chicago

RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY
Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP
Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary and Cook County Hospitals (Strabismus)

GRADUATE SCHOOL
University of Illinois at Chicago (MS, Microbiology)

Clinical Interests
International ophthalmology with special interest in training issues in pediatric ophthalmology; Craniofacial syndromes; Teratology; Duane syndrome

Research Interests
Teratology; craniofacial anomalies; Duane syndrome

OTHER CLINICAL FACULTY

Javaneh Abbassian, MD
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology

Kimberlee Curnyn, MD
Assistant Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology

Lawrence Kaufman, MD, PhD
Associate Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology

Ben Ticho, MD
Associate Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology

SPECIALTY FACULTY

Vinay K. Aakalu, MD, MPH
Oculoplastic and Reconstructive Surgery

R.V. Paul Chan, MD, MSc, FACS
Pediatric Retina

Felix Y. Chau, MD
Pediatric Retina
The Retina Service specializes in treating patients with both medical and surgical retinal vascular and vitreoretinal disorders, such as: age-related macular degeneration, vein occlusion, sickle cell eye disease, ocular complications of diabetes, retinal detachment, vitreomacular adhesion, retinopathy of prematurity, retinitis pigmentosa, intraocular tumors and severe eye trauma. The doctors in this service are skilled specialists in laser and other medical treatment of the retina, vitreoretinal surgery and complex retinal detachment repair.

DIRECTOR
Jennifer I. Lim, MD, FARVO
Marion H. Schenk Esq Chair in Ophthalmology for Research of the Aging Eye
Professor of Ophthalmology
Director, Retina Service

MEDICAL SCHOOL
Northwestern University

RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY
Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP
Wilmer Eye Institute (Retina)

Clinical Interests
Diabetic retinopathy; Age-related macular degeneration; Retinal vascular diseases; Macular diseases; Retinal detachments and vitreoretinal disorders; Ocular tumors; Retinal degenerations

Research Interests
Medical and surgical treatments; Clinical trials to evaluate new medical and surgical treatments of retinal diseases; Retinal imaging as applied to management of retinal diseases and determination of pathophysiology; Collaborative projects with basic scientists on pathogenesis of retinal diseases

IMAGE: Immunofluorescence image of retinal cell layers courtesy of the Vitreoretinal Microsurgery Laboratory.
Norman P. Blair, MD  
Professor of Ophthalmology  
Director, Laboratory of Retinal Circulation and Metabolism  
MEDICAL SCHOOL  
Indiana University  
RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY  
Massachusetts Eye & Ear Infirmary  
CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP  
Retina Associates/Massachusetts Eye & Ear Infirmary (Retina)  
CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP  
Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary (Ophthalmic Pathology)  
RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP  
Schepens Eye Research Institute  
Research Interests  
Retinal oxygenation; Retinal energy metabolism; Retinal blood flow and ischemia; Diabetic retinopathy  

Felix Y. Chau, MD  
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology  
Director, Retinal Bioengineering Laboratory  
MEDICAL SCHOOL  
University of Iowa  
RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY  
Duke University Eye Center  
CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP  
Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary (Retina)  
Clinical Interests  
Pediatric and adult retinal diseases; Retinopathy of prematurity (ROP); Retinoblastoma; Rare congenital and inherited retinal diseases; Proliferative vitreoretinopathy (PVR); Diabetic retinopathy; Macular degeneration; Cystoid macular edema  
Research Interests  
Medical and surgical treatments; Experimental models and risk factors for retinal diseases; Engineering applications in ophthalmology  

Yannek I. Leiderman, MD, PhD  
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology  
Director, Vitreoretinal Microsurgery Laboratory  
MEDICAL SCHOOL  
George Washington University  
National Institutes of Health Partnership (PhD, Molecular Pathobiology)  
RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY  
Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary  
CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP  
Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary (Vitreoretinal Surgery)  
Clinical Interests  
Vitreoretinal surgical diseases; Diabetic eye disease; Complex retinal detachment; Proliferative vitreoretinopathy (PVR); Macular surgery; Treatment of aphakia and placement of secondary intraocular lenses  
Research Interests  
Effectiveness of ophthalmic surgical interventions in diseases of the retina and vitreous; High-fidelity modeling of novel surgical devices and experimental techniques in microsurgery  

William F. Mieler, MD, FARVO  
Cless Family Professor in Ophthalmology  
Vice Chair for Education  
Director, Ocular Oncology Clinic  
Director, Residency and Vitreoretinal Fellowship Training  
MEDICAL SCHOOL  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY  
Bascom Palmer Eye Institute  
CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP  
The Eye Institute, Medical College of Wisconsin (Retina-Vitreous)  
CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP  
Wills Eye Hospital (Ocular Oncology)  
Clinical Interests  
Diseases of the macula, retina and vitreous; Age-related macular degeneration; Diabetic macular edema; Venous occlusive diseases; Vitreoretinal interface disorders; Ocular oncology  
Research Interests  
Ocular pharmacology; Intraocular tumors; Ocular imaging  

Lawrence J. Ulanski, MD, II  
Assistant Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology  
MEDICAL SCHOOL  
University of Michigan  
RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY  
William Beaumont Eye Institute  
CLINICAL FELLOWSHIPS  
University of Toronto, (Vitreo-Retina and Ocular Oncology)  
Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary (Uveitis)  

R. V. Paul Chan, MD, MSc, FACS  
Professor of Ophthalmology  
Vice Chair for Global Ophthalmology  
Co-Director Vitreoretinal Fellowship Training Program  
MEDICAL SCHOOL  
Temple University  
RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY  
New York-Presbyterian Hospital, Cornell University  
CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP  
Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary (Retina)  
Clinical Interests  
Adult and pediatric retinal disease including retinopathy of prematurity (ROP); Retinal vascular diseases; Eye trauma; Eye infections/ endophthalmitis; Diabetic retinopathy; Age-related macular degeneration  
Research Interests  
Global ophthalmology; Telemedicine and tele-education; New methods of diagnosing and managing pediatric retinal disease
UVEITIS

Uveitis causes up to 20 percent of blindness in the United States. The Uveitis Service treats patients with inflammation of the uveal tract, the middle vascular layers of the eye critical to its normal function. Because of the rich circulation of blood throughout this area and its proximity to other important parts of the eye, the uvea is susceptible to immune disorders. Patients are referred to this service for the diagnosis and management of infectious and non-infectious ocular inflammatory conditions such as scleritis and anterior, intermediate and posterior uveitis. Treatment with steroid-sparing systemic immunomodulatory therapy is offered when appropriate. The service also performs procedures for its uveitis patients such as the insertion of steroid eluting implants as well as surgical management of complex uveitic cataracts.

CO-DIRECTOR

Pooja Bhat, MD
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology
Director, Uveitis Service

MEDICAL SCHOOL
Lokmanya Tilak Municipal Medical College and Hospital, India

RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY
Northwestern University

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIPS
Northwestern University (Uveitis)
Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary (Ophthalmic Pathology)

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
Massachusetts Eye Research and Surgery Institution (Uveitis)

Clinical Interests
Scleritis; Anterior, intermediate and posterior uveitis; Vogt-Koyanagi-Harada (VKH) disease; Behcet’s syndrome; Sarcoidosis; Infectious retinopathies; White dot syndromes

Research Interests
Systemic immunosuppression for ocular inflammatory conditions; Seasonal variations in autoimmune diseases; Disc and scleral changes in VKH; Schisis in pars planitis; Anterior segment and posterior segment imaging with optical coherence tomography

CO-DIRECTOR

Ann-Marie Lobo, MD
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology

MEDICAL SCHOOL
Louisiana State University New Orleans

RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY
Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP (OCULAR IMMUNOLOGY/UVEITIS)
Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary

Clinical Interests
Ocular inflammatory disease, including infectious and non-infectious uveitis, scleritis and ocular surface inflammation; Cataract surgery

Research Interests
Diagnostic testing in infectious and non-infectious uveitis; Outcomes of biologic response modifier therapies in the treatment of uveitis; Morbidity of childhood uveitis; Systemic infections and eye disease

IMAGE: Colorized OCT image of VKH patient’s retina courtesy of the Uveitis Service.
LOW VISION

This specialized service introduces patients with low vision to technology and techniques to enhance their remaining sight and facilitate their independence. A low-vision optometrist and a certified low-vision therapist work as a team to provide clinical examination and visual skills assessment. Therapies include special optical and electronic devices, ergonomic equipment and new visual skills training to address routine daily tasks such as reading, writing, managing medication, cooking, locating and sign reading.

DIRECTOR

Joan A. Stelmack, OD, MPH
Associate Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology
Director, Low Vision Service

OPTOMETRY SCHOOL
Illinois College of Optometry

GRADUATE SCHOOL
Johns Hopkins University (MPH)

Clinical Interests
Rehabilitation of patients with vision loss

Research Interests
Creating multicenter clinical trials and observational studies to evaluate rehabilitation strategies and devices to restore or enhance vision

PATHOLOGY

The Ophthalmic Pathology Laboratory is a joint program of the Departments of Pathology and Ophthalmology that provides diagnostic services to patients and physicians within and outside Illinois. The laboratory is integrated with the other clinical laboratories in the University of Illinois Hospital and Health Sciences System, making it possible to utilize the latest cutting-edge diagnostic techniques in immunopathology and molecular pathology available in the diagnosis of ocular disorders.

DIRECTOR

Amy Y. Lin, MD
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology and Pathology
Director, Ophthalmic Pathology Laboratory

MEDICAL SCHOOL
Johns Hopkins University

RESIDENCY
Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary (in Ophthalmology)
University of Illinois College of Medicine (in Pathology)

CLINICAL FELLOWSHIP (OPHTHALMIC PATHOLOGY)
Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary

Clinical Interests
Eye pathology; Pathologic basis of ophthalmic disease

Research Interests
Ocular oncology; Pathology education; Virtual microscopy for learning pathology; Team-based learning
The Comprehensive Eye Clinic is a premiere ophthalmology practice run by recognized Board Certified ophthalmologists. The clinic provides: comprehensive eye exams, eyeglass prescriptions and contact lens fitting. The more extensive services include: state-of-the-art cataract surgery, femtosecond laser assisted cataract surgery, premium intraocular lenses and the management of common and complex eye diseases. Same-day or next-day appointments are available.

**DIRECTOR**

M. Soledad Cortina, MD  
(Cornea)  
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology  
Director, COFP and GEC  
Director, Artificial Cornea Program

**COMPREHENSIVE OPHTHALMOLOGY FACULTY PRACTICE (COFP)**

The General Eye Clinic is the heart of our department and serves as the first point of contact for many of the Infirmary’s neediest patients, as well as a primary location for ophthalmic graduate medical education. Our dedicated residents and world-class faculty provide a wide spectrum of collaborative ophthalmic care ranging from managing common eye diseases and delivering routine eye exams to performing complex medical and surgical cases including cataract, glaucoma and retinal procedures. Special emphasis is placed on providing strong continuity of patient care. The GEC sees emergent referrals from outside providers from throughout the region and accepts “walk-in” patients with acute eye disease.

**COFP FACULTY**

- **José de la Cruz, MD**  
  (Cornea)  
- **Sandeep Jain, MD**  
  (Cornea)  
- **Timothy McMahon, OD, FAAO**  
  (Contact Lens)  
- **Ellen Shorter, OD, FAAO**  
  (Contact Lens)

**GEC FACULTY**

- **Anthony G. Finder, MD**  
  Assistant Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology  
  **MEDICAL SCHOOL**  
  Northwestern University  
  **RESIDENCY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY**  
  Michael Reese Hospital and Medical Center  
  **Clinical Interests**  
  General Ophthalmology; Early diagnosis and medical management of glaucoma; Analysis of problems related to ophthalmic optics and refraction; Resident education

- **Ahmad Aref, MD**  
  (Glaucoma)  
- **Pooja Bhat, MD**  
  (Uveitis)  
- **Ali Djalilian, MD**  
  (Cornea)  
- **Bryan Kim, MD**  
  (Cornea)  
- **Ann-Marie Lobo, MD**  
  (Uveitis)  
- **Peter Macintosh, MD**  
  (Neuro-Oph and Oculoplastics)  
- **Mark Rosenblatt, MD, PhD, MBA**  
  (Cornea)  
- **Joel Sugar, MD**  
  (Cornea)  
- **Elmer Tu, MD**  
  (Cornea)  
- **Charles Yu, MD**  
  (Cornea)
MILLENNIUM PARK EYE CENTER (MPEC)

The Millennium Park Eye Center (MPEC) is the conveniently located city-center clinic of the Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary. Ophthalmologists and Optometrists seeing patients at the MPEC are all members of the Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences faculty. They diagnose and treat a wide range of eye conditions every day, from common eye problems to the most complex ophthalmic issues. The center utilizes the most advanced eye care technology in vision care available, with state-of-the-art diagnostic and surgical instruments.

CO-DIRECTOR
Jose de la Cruz, MD
(Cornea)

CO-DIRECTOR
Pete Setabutr, MD
(Oculoplastic & Reconstructive Surgery)

Ahmad Aref, MD
(Glaucoma)

Dimitri Azar, MD, MBA
(Cornea)

Nathalie Azar, MD
(Pediatric Ophthalmology & Adult Strabismus)

R. V. Paul Chan, MD, MSc, FACS
(Retina)

Timothy McMahon, OD, FAAO
(Contact Lens)

William Mieler, MD
(Retina)

Heather Moss, MD, PhD
(Neuro-Ophthalmology)

Mark Rosenblatt, MD, PhD, MBA
(Cornea)

IMAGE: Cloud Gate sculpture in Chicago’s Millennium Park. Photographer: James Pharaon at iStock.
RESEARCH FACULTY

The Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences has a history of dedicated commitment and record of prominent contributions to vision science research. The overarching goal for the research program is to address the significant challenges central to understanding, treating and preventing blinding eye disease. The program encompasses exemplary and pioneering research in the most critical areas of vision research, including investigations to understand the mechanisms of potentially blinding eye diseases, the development of innovative techniques and instruments for diagnosing and monitoring the progression of eye diseases, genome-wide association studies, visual psychophysics, retinal processing, and visual neurophysiology. The department maintains a tradition of excellence in collaborative and interdisciplinary research that has advanced knowledge in basic vision science and facilitated translation of findings to improve clinical care of patients with eye diseases.

Mahnaz Shahidi, PhD
Vice Chair and Research Director
Morton F. Goldberg Professor of Ophthalmology
Professor of Physics and Bioengineering
Director, Applied Physics Laboratory

Dingcai Cao, PhD
Associate Professor of Ophthalmology
Director, Visual Perception Laboratory

Xiaoyi “Raymond” Gao, PhD
Associate Professor of Ophthalmology
Director, Quantitative Ocular Genomics Laboratory

**Graduate School**
University of Illinois at Chicago (MS, PhD, Atomic and Molecular Physics)

**Research Interests**
- Development and application of optical imaging systems for quantitative assessment of eye diseases, including diabetic retinopathy, age-related macular degeneration and sickle cell retinopathy
- Melanopsin-based visual perception and circadian rhythm; Rod-cone Interaction; Color perception; Retinal physiology; Lighting and health; Acute and chronic alcohol effect on vision and circadian rhythm
- Ocular genomics; Glaucoma; Diabetic retinopathy; Age-related macular degeneration; Human genetics; Statistical genomics; Bioinformatics

*Image: OCT image with retinal layers delineated courtesy of the Applied Physics Laboratory.*
Joelle A. Hallak, PhD
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology
Executive Director, Ophthalmology Center for Clinical Trials and Translational Studies

GRADUATE SCHOOL
University of Illinois at Chicago (MS, PhD, Epidemiology)

Research Interests
Ocular epidemiological research; Mental health; biological and genetic markers; Comparative effectiveness research and statistical analysis of complex data

Nalin M. Kumar, DPhil
Professor of Ophthalmology

GRADUATE SCHOOL
University of Oxford, UK (DPhil Biochemistry)

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
Baylor College of Medicine (Cell and Molecular Biology)

Research Interests
Intercellular channels (gap junctions) and their involvement in the processes and mechanisms that are necessary for vision

J. Jason McAnany, PhD
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology
Director, Clinical Psychophysics and Electrophysiology Laboratory

GRADUATE SCHOOL
University of Illinois at Chicago (MA, PhD, Behavioral Neuroscience)

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
University of Illinois College of Medicine (Psychophysics and Electrophysiology)

Research Interests
Electroretinography; Psychophysics; Pupillometry; Retinal imaging; Acquired and inherited retinal disease

David R. Pepperberg, PhD, FARVO
Searls-Schenk Professor of Ophthalmology
Director, Photoreceptor Research Laboratory

GRADUATE SCHOOL
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (PhD, Biophysics)

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
Harvard University (Vision Physiology)

Research Interests
Developing new molecular therapies that delay the progression of, and restore vision lost in, photoreceptor degenerative diseases such as age-related macular degeneration (AMD)

Deepak Shukla, PhD
Marion H. Schenk Esq. Professor in Ophthalmology for Research of the Aging Eye
Professor of Ophthalmology, Microbiology and Immunology
Director, Ocular Virology Laboratory

GRADUATE SCHOOL
University of Illinois at Chicago (PhD, Microbiology and Immunology)

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
Northwestern University (Virology and Immunology)

Research Interests
Ocular herpes virus infection mechanisms; Development of new therapeutic strategies against viral diseases of the aging eye; Herpes virus vaccine development

Xincheng Yao, PhD
Professor of Bioengineering and Ophthalmology
Director, Biomedical Optics and Functional Imaging Laboratory

GRADUATE SCHOOL
Harbin Institute of Technology, China (MEng, Optical Instrumentation)
Institute of Physics Chinese Academy of Sciences (PhD, Optics)

Research Interests
Biomedical optics; Retinal imaging; Experimental biophysics
RESEARCH FACULTY (CONTINUED)

Jin-Hong Robert Chang, PhD
Research Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology
Director, Angiogenesis Research Laboratory

Graduate School
University of Mississippi (PhD, Biochemistry)

Research Interests
The role of VEGFR1, R2 and R3 activity in vitro and in vivo with the broader goal of characterizing the intrinsic factors of lymphatic cells that regulate corneal angiogenesis and lymphangiogenesis; Development of targeted therapies for corneal injury and disease

Medi Eslami, MD
Research Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology
Corneal Epithelial Biology and Tissue Engineering Laboratory

Medical School
Tehran University of Medical Sciences, Iran

Research Interests
Translational studies in ocular surface disease; Limbal stem cell deficiency; Refractive surgery; Clinical trials and population-based studies; Mesenchymal stem cell based therapy; Corneal innate immunity

Michael A. Grassi, MD
Research Associate Professor of Ophthalmology
Director, Retinal Chemical Genomics Laboratory

Medical School
Northwestern University

Residency in Ophthalmology
University of Iowa

Clinical Fellowship
University of Iowa (Medical Retina)

Research Interests
Improving the treatment of retinal disease; Using cell-based models of retinal disease in genomic and chemical high throughput studies to identify key pathways and novel therapeutic targets

Victor H. Guaiquil, PhD
Assistant Research Professor of Ophthalmology
Corneal Regenerative Medicine Laboratory

Graduate School
University Austral, Chile (MS)
SUNY Downstate Medical Center, New York (PhD, Molecular and Cellular Biology)

Research Interests
Cellular and molecular mechanisms involved in angiogenesis and neurogenesis in the retina and cornea; Cornea nerve regeneration; Oxygen induced retinopathy

Kyu Yeon Han, PhD
Research Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology
Metalloproteinases Research Laboratory

Graduate School
Sungkyunkwan University, Korea (MS, Genetic Engineering)
Kyung Hee University, Korea (PhD, Oncology)

Research Interests
Vascular angiogenesis in vitro and in vivo; The function of membrane type I metalloproteinase in cornea angiogenesis

Zeeshan Pasha, MD, PhD, MPH
Research Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology
Corneal Regenerative Medicine Laboratory

Medical School
Bahuddin Zakarya University, Pakistan

Graduate School
University of Punjab, Pakistan (PhD, Stem Cell Therapy)
University of Illinois at Chicago (MPH)

Research Interests
Stem cell based therapeutics; Induced pluripotent, adult and embryonic stem cells; Regenerative medicine; Small molecules; Angiogenesis; Drug screening; Clinical Trials; Translational research
RESEARCH FACULTY (CONTINUED)

Joy Sarkar, PhD
Research Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology
Corneal Neurobiology Laboratory

GRADUATE SCHOOL
University of Mumbai (MS, Microbiology)
HN Hospital and Research Center, India
(PhD, Biochemistry)

RESEARCH FELLOWSHIPS
Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, India
(Biology)
Northwestern University
(Cellular and Molecular Biology)

Research Interests
Molecular and cellular aspects of dry eye disease; Innate immune mechanisms in dry eye; Role of neutrophil extracellular traps (NETS) and regulatory mechanisms in dry eye; Corneal nerve regeneration after injury

AFFILIATED & JOINT COURTESY FACULTY

Anthony Peter Adams, MD
Eric C. Beyer, MD, PhD
Michael Cho, PhD
Lisa Ebihara, MD, PhD
Gerald Fishman, MD
Robert Folberg, MD
Craig Foster, PhD
David Freedman, PhD
Ken-ichiro Fukuchi, MD, PhD
Richard A. Gemeinhart, PhD
Debra Goldstein, MD
John R. Hetling, PhD
Yulia Komarova, PhD
Jie Liang, PhD
Kirk Packo, MD
Robert Paul Malchow, PhD

Asrar Malik, PhD
Sekhar Reddy, PhD
Daniel Roberts, OD, PhD
Steven Roth, MD
Alfred Rosenbloom, OD
William H. Seiple, PhD
Michael Shapiro, MD
Murray Sherman, PhD
Kimani Toussaint, PhD
Kazuo Tsubota, MD
Xiaojing Yang, PhD

ADMJUNCT FACULTY

Norma Allemann, MD
Wallace Chamon, MD
Molly Gilbert, MD

Charles Kinnaird, OD
Paul Knepper, MD

CLINICAL VOLUNTEER FACULTY

Daniel Alter, MD, PhD
David Badawi, MD
Adrienne Berman, MD
Harit Bhatt, MD
Michael Blair, MD
Rebekah Braslow, MD
Victoria Butcko, OD
Robert Egel, MD
Steven Eiden, OD
Timothy Flood, MD
Enrique Garcia-Valenzuela, MD
Jon Gieser, MD
Daniel Greenberg, MD
Jingtao Guo, MD
Rama Jager, MD, MBA
Kathryn Hare, MD
Bruce Kaplan, MD
Manali D. Kalra, MD
Yuri Kim Kerns, MD
Bryan Kim, MD

Spero Kinnas, MD
Timothy Kissla, DO
Sheridan Lam, MD
Janet Lee, MD
David Lubeck, MD
Smajo Osmanovic, MD
Anna Park, MD
Rakhi Patil, MD
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Kenneth Resnick, MD
Alfred Rosenbloom, OD
Veeral Sheth, MD
Sriram Sonty, MD
Thomas Stelmack, OD
Daniel Tepper, MD
Charles Vygantas, MD
Robert Weiss, MD
Chloe Winterbotham, MD

IMAGE: Immunofluorescence image of conjunctival epithelium cells in ptosis surgical specimens courtesy of the Lacrimal Cell Biology Laboratory.
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<td>Lawrence Ulanski, MD</td>
<td>Multi-Center, Randomized, Single Masked Phase 2 Study of Intravitreal Sirolimus in the Treatment of Central Geographic Atrophy Associated with Age-Related Macular Degeneration</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lawrence Ulanski, MD</td>
<td>Home Vision Monitoring in AREDS2 for Progression to Neovascular AMD Using the ForeseeHome Device</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lawrence Ulanski, MD</td>
<td>AMD Phenotype and Genotype Study (APGS)</td>
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To learn more about any of these investigations and trials, including how to refer patients, please call (312) 996-6590.
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# Ophthalmologists in Training

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Residents</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>THIRD YEAR (Class of 2016)</strong></td>
<td><strong>SECOND YEAR (Class of 2017)</strong></td>
<td><strong>FIRST YEAR (Class of 2018)</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="#">Judy Chen, MD</a></td>
<td><a href="#">Mohsin Ali, MD</a></td>
<td><a href="#">Julie Goldman, MD</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>MD—University of Chicago</td>
<td>MD—Jefferson Medical College</td>
<td>MD—Columbia University</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="#">Eric Feinstein, MD</a></td>
<td><a href="#">Susie Chen, MD</a></td>
<td><a href="#">Shilpa Gulati, MD</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>MD—University of Virginia</td>
<td>MD—University of Wisconsin</td>
<td>MD—University of Michigan</td>
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<td><a href="#">Andrew Francis, MD</a></td>
<td><a href="#">Mark Dikopf, MD</a></td>
<td><a href="#">Robert Hyde, MD, PhD</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>MD—Boston University</td>
<td>MD—University of Illinois, Chicago</td>
<td>MD/PhD—Case Western Reserve University</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="#">Abed Namavari, MD</a></td>
<td><a href="#">Siya Huo, MD</a></td>
<td><a href="#">Alexander Pleet, MD</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>MD—Tehran University</td>
<td>MD—Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine</td>
<td>MD—University of Pennsylvania</td>
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<td><a href="#">Ketki Soin, MD</a></td>
<td><a href="#">Kai Kang, MD</a></td>
<td><a href="#">Bailey Shen, MD</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>MD—Jefferson Medical College</td>
<td>MD—Weill Cornell Medical College</td>
<td>MD—Case Western Reserve University</td>
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<tr>
<td><a href="#">Merina Thomas, MD</a></td>
<td><a href="#">Mei Zhou, MD</a></td>
<td><a href="#">Dan Yoon, MD</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>MD—Vanderbilt University</td>
<td>MD—University of Chicago</td>
<td>MD—New York University</td>
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Clinical Fellows

**CORNEA**
Claire Kelliher, MD  
MD—Trinity College Dublin  
Residency—Scheie Eye Institute

Peter Wu, MD  
MD—Texas Tech University  
Residency—University of California, Davis

**GLAUCOMA**
Sachin Jain, MD  
MD—University of Illinois, Peoria  
Residency—Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary

**NEURO-OPHTHALMOLOGY**
Milena Stosic, MD  
MD—University of Belgrade  
Residency in Neurology—Baylor College of Medicine

**OCULOPLASTIC SURGERY**
Scott Jones, MD  
MD—University of Louisville  
Residency—Tulane University

**PEDIATRIC OPHTHALMOLOGY**
Majid Rouhbakhshzarei, MD  
MD and Residency—Mashhad University of Medical Sciences

**RETINA**
Michael Andreoli, MD  
MD—Boston University  
Residency—Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary

Peter Chang, MD  
MD—Tufts University  
Residency—The New York Eye and Ear Infirmary

**RETINA**
Randee Miller, MD  
MD—Wayne State University  
Residency—Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary

Class of 2014 Residents
Front row: Drs. Kavitha Sivaraman, Randee Miller, Kevin Patel. Back row: Drs. Janet Lim, Senad Osmanovic, Adam Prickett

Class of 2015 Residents  
(left to right) Drs. Bryan Kim, Kaitlyn Wallace Nolan, Michael Andreoli, Sachin Jain and Asim Farooq


Antoine TE, Shukla D. Inhibition of myosin light chain kinase can be targeted for the development of new therapies against herpes simplex virus type-1 infection. Antivir Ther. 2014;19(1):15-29.


Hadigal SR, , Antoine TE, Yakoub AM, Djallilian AR, Hadigal SR, , Antoine TE, Yakoub AM. Heparanase is a host enzyme required for herpes simplex virus-1 release from cells. Nat Commun. 2015 Apr 27;6:6985.


Yin H, Turturro S, Yue BY, et al. Induction of autophagy


BOOKS AND CHAPTERS


Güell JL, Arrodo E, Cortina MS, Echevarria J, Gómez-Resa
IN MEMORIAM

JOHN H. PANTON, MD, (Res' 57) a long-time friend and gracious benefactor to the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences, passed away on January 22, 2016, at the age of 75. Gerhard was an innovator, entrepreneur and family man. Born and raised in Germany, Gerhard met his wife Ruth of 51 years in 1960, after which they emigrated from Germany to Chicago. He co-founded Data Specialties, the forerunner to Lincolnshire based Zebra Technologies which developed the first barcode printers in the early 1980s.

Mr. Cless and his family have been generous supporters of the Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Sciences since 2000. The Cless Family Foundation funded an array of projects and needs for the department including vision research and education programs, support for acquisitions of advanced microscopy, recruitment of retina faculty, clinical studies in the diseases of the retina and macula, as well as support for a retina fellowship. Prior gifts also established the Gerhard Cless Endowed Lecture in 2003 and the Cless Best of the Best Award in 2008. The Cless Family Professorship in Ophthalmology was established in 2013, and most recently Gerhard and Ruth Cless made a transformative gift to establish the Cless Family Ophthalmic Surgical Training and Simulation Center.

Mr. Cless is survived by his wife, Ruth; children, Martin (Kristin) Cless, Jennifer (Stephen) Zehr, Stephen (Anne) Cless and Bryan (Megan) Cless; and 10 grandchildren.

INVESTITURE OF WILLIAM F. MIELER, MD, FARVO
FIRST RECIPIENT OF THE CLESS FAMILY PROFESSORSHIP IN OPHTHALMOLOGY

On November 18, 2014, Dr. William Mieler, Professor of Ophthalmology and Vice Chair for Education, was invested as the inaugural Cless Family Professor among members of the Cless Family, distinguished faculty and UIC Leadership. The Cless Family Professorship was established thanks to the generosity of the Cless Family Foundation. Endowed professorships are one of the highest honors bestowed by the academic community. Income from these funds provides research support and resources for program development that enable educators to pursue projects at the forefront of their fields.

Dr. Mieler is an expert in treating diseases of the macula, retina and vitreous. Throughout his stellar academic career Dr. Mieler has been involved in cutting edge research, published extensively, and demonstrated an outstanding commitment to education in ophthalmology. Dr. Mieler has received multiple awards from the American Academy of Ophthalmology. In 2013 the Macula Society awarded him the prestigious J. Donald Gass Medal for extraordinary contributions to diseases of the macula.

A 1950 graduate of the University of Athens Medical School, Dr. Panton completed his internship at Mercy Hospital-Loyola University and his residency in ophthalmology at the University of Illinois College of Medicine. Dr. Panton often credited his success to his UIC training.

He opened his practice in 1960, and in time was joined by two of his sons, Drs. Peter (Res '86) and Robert Panton (Res '90), and his daughter, Dr. Elizabeth Panton-Karkazis.

The Panton family have been giving to the Department of Ophthalmology since the 1980s. Their great generosity has benefited the Lions of Illinois Eye Research Institute, endowed professorships and most recently the Panton Family Professorship. In 2007, Peter and Robert Panton joined the children of three other resident alumni to establish the Four Fathers Lecture in Ophthalmology. John and Mary Panton also supported the IEEI Library, and the Panton Family Scholarship in the College of Medicine.

John and Mary Panton are survived by their four children, Peter (Estelle) Panton, Evans (Laura) Panton, Robert (Marika) Panton, and Elizabeth (Frank) Karkazis; and 11 grandchildren.
The Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary is known as a leader in the field of ophthalmic training in the region and in the nation. One component of this leadership is providing the highest level of surgical training that is available. This year we inaugurated the 9-station state-of-the-art Cless Family Ophthalmic Surgical Training and Simulation Center (Cless Lab), the premier center for ophthalmic surgical training in the Midwest. The Cless Lab will be home to surgical training courses, webcasting and live surgery streaming as well as surgical simulation technology. A generous investment made by the Cless Family Foundation, along with support from faculty and alumni, made this vision a reality. Establishing the Cless Lab is an enormous advancement in how we train our residents and surgical fellows. It is an active learning environment allowing for a virtual-reality simulation experience within which attention to the finest, most minute details, such as the careful orchestration of hand and foot instrument manipulation, can be perfected without putting patients at risk. It will no doubt significantly increase trainees’ aptitude and confidence when performing in a live operating room.

The virtual connections this equipment makes possible will enable us to examine how fellow surgeons from all corners of the world do work, and repeat it right here. This exposure to new information and practices will fuel the innovation and breakthroughs that will happen here first. And, when they do, we can share them with the rest of the world right from the Cless Lab. We now are able to provide services few places in the world can offer. Our faculty, residents, fellows, alumni and local ophthalmologists can learn more, innovate faster and pioneer surgical curriculum because of these connections.
symposia & events 2016

February 20-26, 2016
9th Annual Illinois Eye Review

Friday, April 22, 2016
9th Annual Retina Symposium

Wednesday, May 25, 2016
2016 Spring Glaucoma Symposium

Friday, June 17, 2016
40th Annual Alumni / Resident Day

Sunday, October 16, 2016
Alumni Reception at the AAO Meeting

Saturday, October 22, 2016
The Chicago Chronic GVHD Meeting