

# Academy Notebook

NEWS • TIPS • RESOURCES

## WHAT'S HAPPENING

### The Next Generation of Physician Advocates

During the Mid-Year Forum 2016, Academy Secretary for State Affairs Kurt F. Heitman, MD, gave the Platinum Participation Award to the Illinois Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons (ISEPS) and the Ohio Ophthalmological Society (OOS) for their outstanding support of the Academy's Advocacy Ambassador Program. The Advocacy Ambassador Program is a collaborative effort between the Academy and state, subspecialty, and specialized interest societies and training programs to sponsor members in training to attend the Mid-Year Forum.

**New advocates in D.C.** As Advocacy Ambassadors, 164 members in training joined seasoned Academy and society leaders in visiting legislators on Capitol Hill during Congressional Advocacy Day. They also participated in L.E.A.P. Forward, a session created especially for them where they networked with Academy and society leadership while discussing the 4 L.E.A.P. modules: leadership, engagement, advocacy, and practice management. Ambassadors attended a debrief session where they shared experiences on the Hill, asked questions of Academy and society advocacy physician leaders and staff, and



were educated on the importance of their involvement at the state level.

**Illinois residents put lessons learned into action.** Twelve residents from various training programs in Illinois participated as Advocacy Ambassadors sponsored by ISEPS at the Mid-Year Forum 2016. They are putting the pearls they learned into action as they participate in an ongoing legislative battle in Illinois. Chris Albanis, MD, ISEPS Past President and Academy Associate Secretary for State Affairs, said, "It has been critical for ISEPS to engage the future generation in our efforts to maintain quality eye care for our patients. Our state legislators need to hear from these residents who can beautifully articulate the level and length of training they undergo in order to protect sight for the patients of Illinois."

## FOR THE RECORD

### Annual Business Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Business Meeting of the American Academy of Ophthalmology will be held Sunday, Oct. 16, 10:00-10:30 a.m., in North Hall B of the McCormick Place Convention Center in Chicago.

### 2016 PLATINUM PARTICIPATION

**AWARD RECIPIENTS.** Dr. Heitman recognized leaders of ISEPS (some of whom are shown here) and OOS for their outstanding support of the Academy's Advocacy Ambassador Program. From left to right: **Dr. Heitman;** **Ahmad A. Aref, MD,** Councilor, ISEPS; **David W. Parke II, MD,** Academy CEO; **Dr. Albanis;** **William L. Rich III, MD,** Academy President; **Sohail J. Hasan, MD, PhD,** Councilor, ISEPS; and **Rich Paul,** Executive Director, ISEPS.

### Board Nominees

In accordance with Academy bylaws, notice is hereby given of the following nominations for elected board positions on the 2017 board. These nominations were made by the Academy Board of Trustees in June. If elected, the following individuals will begin their terms on Jan. 1, 2017.

#### President-Elect:

Keith D. Carter, MD



Dr. Carter.



AMERICAN ACADEMY  
OF OPHTHALMOLOGY  
Protecting Sight. Empowering Lives.

### Senior Secretary for Ophthalmic Practice:

Robert E. Wiggins, MD, MHA

### Secretary for Annual Meeting:

Maria E. Aaron, MD

### Trustees-at-Large:

Sanjay D. Goel, MD

William F. Mieler, MD

## Board Appointments

During the June Board of Trustees meeting, the following individual was appointed to the 2017 Board of Trustees and will begin his fifth term as public trustee on Jan. 1.

### Public Trustee:

Paul B. Ginsburg, PhD

## Nomination Procedures for the Academy Board

Elections to fill the 5 open positions on the 2017 Board of Trustees will take place by ballot after the Oct. 16, 2016, Annual Business Meeting.

To nominate a candidate by petition, submit a written petition to the Academy's CEO no later than Aug. 17. The petition must be signed by at least 50 voting Academy members and fellows.

To suggest a nominee for the 2018 board, watch for the call for nominations that will be published in the January *EyeNet*.

To read the rules in full, visit [www.aao.org/about/governance/bylaws/article5](http://www.aao.org/about/governance/bylaws/article5).

## TAKE NOTICE

### U.S. Senior Surgical Retina Fellows: Apply for Award

The Ronald G. Michels Fellowship Foundation is accepting applications for its annual cash award to support second-year vitreoretinal fellows—the application deadline is July 15. The awards are given to outstanding vitreoretinal fellows (not their sponsoring institutions).

The Michels Foundation was established in 1991 to honor the many talents of Ron Michels, MD, and to provide funds to young scholars so that they may follow in his footsteps. Dr. Michels distinguished himself through his important contributions to the peer-reviewed literature, his passion for

training vitreoretinal fellows, and his dedication to providing cutting-edge patient care. On its website, read about the state of the Michels Foundation as it celebrates its 25th anniversary.

To apply, visit [www.michelsfoundation.org/appformuploads.html](http://www.michelsfoundation.org/appformuploads.html).

For more information on the Michels Foundation, visit [www.michelsfoundation.org](http://www.michelsfoundation.org).

### PQRS: Aug. 1 Deadline for Cataracts Measures Group

If you do not have electronic health records (EHR), what's the least burdensome way to participate in the Physician Quality Reporting System (PQRS)?

If you perform cataract surgery, you can report the Cataracts Measures Group by manually entering data into the IRIS Registry Web portal. You'll need to report 8 predetermined measures for at least 20 patients (at least 11 must be Medicare Part B).

However, you must meet the following deadlines:

- By Aug. 1, submit your signed IRIS Registry agreements.
- By Sept. 30, provide preoperative surveys and perform cataract surgery on at least 20 patients who meet the reporting criteria.
- By Jan. 15, 2017, provide patients with postop surveys, submit all Cataracts Measures Group reporting data in the IRIS Registry Web portal, and submit your signed consent allowing the IRIS Registry to send data to the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services.

If you don't perform cataract surgery, you can use either the new Diabetic Retinopathy Measures Group or individual measures to report PQRS manually via the IRIS Registry Web portal, but you must sign up by Oct. 31.

If you do have EHR, the deadline for signing up to integrate your system with the IRIS Registry in 2016 has already passed; if you met that deadline, you must get your system mapped to the IRIS Registry by Aug. 1.

For more information, visit [www.aao.org/irisregistry](http://www.aao.org/irisregistry).

### Updated HIPAA Advisory Opinion

During its April 2016 meeting, the

Academy Board of Trustees approved a newly revised ethics Advisory Opinion. *Release and Confidentiality of Patient Records* was updated to reflect current federal regulations regarding the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA). The goal of the revision is to ensure that Academy members have the most up-to-date information available for comprehensive understanding of the complexities of HIPAA compliance.

To view the Advisory Opinion, visit [www.aao.org/ethics-detail/advisory-opinion--release-confidentiality-of-patie](http://www.aao.org/ethics-detail/advisory-opinion--release-confidentiality-of-patie).

## 2016 AWARDS

### Announcing the 2016 Academy Awards

It is with great pleasure and pride that the Board of Trustees and the Awards Committee announce this year's award recipients.

### Special Awards

These honorees are invited to attend AAO 2016 as guests of Academy President William L. Rich III, MD, FACS, and will be formally recognized during the Opening Session.

### LAUREATE AWARD

The Academy's highest honor, this award recognizes individuals who have made exceptional contributions to the betterment of eye care leading to the prevention of blindness and restoration of sight worldwide.

Matthew D. Davis, MD

### GUESTS OF HONOR

This award recognizes individuals chosen by the Academy president for their contributions to ophthalmology.

Stephen A. Kamenetzky, MD

James A. Loreto, MD

A. Raymond Pilkerton Jr., MD

### DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARD

This award recognizes individuals or organizations for ongoing notable service to ophthalmology and the Academy.

Association of University Professors  
of Ophthalmology

### SPECIAL RECOGNITION AWARD

This award recognizes an individual or organization for outstanding service in a specific effort or cause that improves the quality of eye care.

European Board of Ophthalmology

### OUTSTANDING HUMANITARIAN SERVICE AWARD

This award recognizes Academy members for outstanding humanitarian efforts through their participation in charitable activities, care of the indigent, and involvement in community service performed above and beyond the typical duties of an ophthalmologist.

Paul S. Bernstein, MD, PhD

Benjamin W. Roberts, MD

### OUTSTANDING ADVOCATE AWARD

This award recognizes an Academy member for participation in advocacy-related efforts at the state and/or federal level.

Donald J. Cinotti, MD

### INTERNATIONAL BLINDNESS PREVENTION AWARD

This award recognizes an individual who has made significant contributions to reducing blindness and/or restoring sight worldwide.

Van C. Lansingh, MD

### Achievement Awards Program

The Achievement Award program recognizes individuals (members and nonmembers) for their time and contribution to the scientific programs of the annual meeting and those who serve as Academy committee members, representatives, trustees, councilors, authors, coauthors, and reviewers of educational material.

### LIFE ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Individuals who have cumulatively earned 60 points and have made significant contributions to ophthalmology as determined by the Awards Committee were nominated to receive this award.

James V. Aquavella, MD

Keith D. Carter, MD, FACS

George A. Cioffi, MD

Robert D. Fechtner, MD, FACS

### D.C. REPORT

## The Academy Focuses on Congress

Although presidential politics dominate the media, the Academy is concentrating on Congress, working to reelect ophthalmology's champions already serving at a federal level, along with selecting new candidates who understand ophthalmology's issues. Luckily, in many cases those who are running are physicians.

**The importance of congressional relationships.** The Academy is an active participant in the legislative process because it develops and maintains strong relationships with those who can make a tangible impact in the House of Representatives or the Senate. Having an advocate who serves on the right congressional committee or holds the right leadership position in the House or Senate can make or break efforts to move or derail important legislation, and can enable the Academy to put pressure on federal regulators through the oversight that Congress holds over many agencies. Considering the full plate of issues ophthalmology is working with (Medicare fee cuts, compounding, and the meaningful use of electronic health records, to name a few), having friends in high places is critical.

**Looking forward.** In November 2016, the Academy will be paying particular attention to the outcomes of races in Arizona, Florida, Kansas, Louisiana, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, and Nevada. In some of these states, physicians are seeking to gain a seat in the House or Senate. In some, candidates like ophthalmologist Sen. Rand Paul, MD (R-Ky.), are facing tough reelections. In others, allies who have supported ophthalmology for years are retiring or moving on to different positions. And for each of the House seats that is up for grabs, it's important that we know who the Academy's supporters are and how to gain new friends.

### What You Can Do

**Invest in OphthPAC.** Since 1985, OphthPAC has helped keep friends in Congress close, amplifying ophthalmology's voice in Washington, D.C. When Congress' new class of lawmakers take office in 2017, your OphthPAC dollars will help Academy lobbyists greet them with a powerful handshake from our profession.

**Familiarize yourself with congressional candidates.** It's important to know what's going on below the presidential fray—that's where the foundation of ophthalmology's advocacy success will be built.

David B. Glasser, MD

Andrew George Iwach, MD

Glenn J. Jaffe, MD

Jost B. Jonas, MD

Ronald R. Krueger, MD

Ferenc P. Kuhn, MD, PhD

Andrew G. Lee, MD

Careen Yen Lowder, MD, PhD

Mark J. Mannis, MD

H. Richard McDonald, MD

Terrence P. O'Brien, MD

David A. Plager, MD

Francis W. Price Jr., MD

Christopher J. Rapuano, MD

Carl D. Regillo, MD, FACS

William L. Rich III, MD, FACS

Alan L. Robin, MD

Stuart R. Seiff, MD

Stephen G. Slade, MD, FACS

Jason S. Slakter, MD

Scheffer C. G. Tseng, MD, PhD

Rohit Varma, MD, MPH

M. Edward Wilson Jr., MD



To see the recipients of the Achievement, Senior Achievement, and Secretariat Awards, visit this article at [www.aao.org/eyenet](http://www.aao.org/eyenet).



## SENIOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Individuals who have cumulatively earned 30 points were nominated to receive this award.

Athiya Agarwal, MD  
 Ali A. AlRajhi, MD  
 Rajiv Anand, MD  
 Bryan P. Arthurs, MD, FRCSC  
 Robert L. Avery, MD  
 Raj V. Azad, MD, FRCS(Ed)  
 Caroline R. Baumal, MD  
 Carlos Buznego, MD  
 Kenneth Paul Cheng, MD  
 Patricia Chévez-Barrios, MD  
 Oscar Alfredo Cruz, MD  
 Lucian V. Del Priore, MD, PhD  
 Burkhard Dick, MD  
 Kimberly A. Drenser, MD, PhD  
 Dean Elliott, MD  
 Robert G. Fante, MD, FACS  
 William J. Feuer, MS  
 Suzanne K. Freitag, MD  
 K. Bailey Freund, MD  
 Ivan Goldberg, MBBS, FRANZCO  
 Michael H. Goldstein, MD  
 Alana L. Grajewski, MD  
 Sandeep Grover, MD  
 John A. Hovanesian, MD  
 G. Baker Hubbard, MD  
 David G. Hunter, MD, PhD  
 Stephen H. Johnson, MD  
 Young H. Kwon, MD, PhD  
 Michael S. Lee, MD  
 Martha Motuz Leen, MD  
 Naoyuki Maeda, MD  
 James F. Martone, MD, MPH  
 Eugenio J. Maul, MD  
 Louise A. Mawn, MD  
 Colin A. McCannel, MD  
 Felipe A. Medeiros, MD  
 Darlene Miller, DHSC, MPH, CIC  
 Mary A. O'Hara, MD  
 Julian D. Perry, MD  
 Paul H. Phillips, MD  
 Marianne O. Price, PhD  
 Srinivas R. Sadda, MD  
 Jeffrey S. Schultz, MD  
 Gail F. Schwartz, MD  
 Joseph Tauber, MD  
 Clement C. Y. Tham, FRCS,

MBBS, FCOphth(HK)  
 Jennifer E. Thorne, MD, PhD  
 Jeewan S. Titiyal, MD  
 Lawrence Tychsen, MD  
 David D. Verdier, MD  
 David T. Vroman, MD  
 Ann A. Warn, MD, MBA  
 Keye L. Wong, MD  
 Tien Yin Wong, MBBS  
 Michael E. Zegans, MD

## ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Individuals who have cumulatively earned 10 points were nominated to receive this award.

Chris Albanis, MD  
 Shiro Amano, MD  
 Robert W. Arnold, MD  
 Sayan Basu, MBBS  
 Jacqueline E. Beltz, FRANZCO  
 Paul S. Bernstein, MD, PhD  
 Gil Binenbaum, MD  
 Andrea D. Birnbaum, MD, PhD  
 Michele M. Bloomer, MD  
 Gabrielle R. Bonhomme, MD  
 Patrick R. Boulous, MD  
 Vikram S. Brar, MD  
 Mitchell Brigell, PhD  
 Bruce Christian Carter, MD  
 Daniel H. Chang, MD  
 Robert T. Chang, MD  
 Brian T. Chan-Kai, MD  
 James G. Chelnis, MD  
 Jay K. Chhablani, MBBS  
 Erik A. Chotiner, MD  
 W. Lloyd Clark, MD  
 Helen V. Danesh-Meyer, MBCHB, MD  
 Isabel Dapena, MD  
 Arup Das, MD, PhD  
 Anita Dash-Modi, MD  
 Jan-Tjeerd H. N. de Faber, MD  
 Sophie X. Deng, MD, PhD  
 Martin Dirisamer, MD  
 Kendall E. Donaldson, MD  
 Laura B. Enyedi, MD  
 Michael R. Feilmeier, MD  
 Oliver Findl, MD  
 John R. Fish, MD  
 Terry L. Forrest, MD  
 Donald A. Gagliano, MD  
 Tamer O. Gamaly, FRCS, MD  
 Sidney K. Gicheru, MD

Marine Gobbe, PhD  
 David G. Godfrey, MD  
 Shubhra Goel, MD  
 David D. Goodwin  
 Mark Greiner, MD  
 Jeffrey G. Gross, MD  
 Davinder S. Grover, MD  
 George Harocopos, MD  
 James M. Heltzer, MD  
 David M. Hinkle, MD  
 Gary S. Hirshfield, MD  
 Ching Lin Ho, FRCS, MBBS  
 Aaron C. Holtebeck, MD  
 Makoto Inoue, MD  
 Jin Wook Jeoung, MD  
 Guy V. Jirawuthiworavong, MD  
 Jason J. Jones, MD  
 Ula Jurkunas, MD  
 Kazuaki Kadonosono, MD  
 Paul C. Kang, MD  
 Peter J. Kertes, MD  
 Mounir A. Khalifa, MD  
 Baseer U. Khan, MD  
 Saj Khan, MBBS, FRCSEd(Ophth)  
 Femida Kherani, MD  
 Ivo Kocur, MD  
 Adrian H. Koh, MD  
 Shiho Kunimatsu, MD  
 Sara E. Lally, MD  
 Janice C. Law, MD  
 Eun Ji Lee, MD  
 Julia Lee, JD, OCS  
 Won Ki Lee, MD  
 Gary J. Lelli, MD  
 Grant T. Liu, MD  
 William C. Lloyd III, MD  
 Mikel W. Lo, MD  
 Jeffrey J. Machat, MD  
 Kaweh Mansouri, MD  
 Carlos Mateo, MD  
 Jose Gabriel Matos, MD  
 Ann McColgin, MD  
 Anne Elizabeth Miller, MD  
 David Mittelman, MD  
 Brian G. Mohny, MD  
 Rene Moreno, MD  
 Kazuhiko Mori, MD  
 Nigel Morlet, MBBS  
 Michael Mrochen, PhD  
 Orkun Muftuoglu, MD  
 Francisco J. Munoz-Negrete, MD  
 Yohko Murakami, MD  
 Mayank A. Nanavaty, MD  
 George Nardin, MD

Jonathon Q. Ng, MBBS  
 David P. O'Brart, MD, MBBS  
 Jeffrey L. Olson, MD  
 Stephen E. Orlin, MD  
 Timothy P. Page, MD  
 Ana Belen Pajarin, MD, PhD  
 Ana Gabriela Palis, MD  
 Sanjay V. Patel, MD, FRCOphth  
 Vivek R. Patel, MD  
 Fernando Yaacov Pena, MD  
 Fernando M. Penha, MD  
 Jeff H. Pettey, MD  
 Stacy L. Pineles, MD  
 Asim R. Piracha, MD  
 Frik J. Potgieter, MD, FRCSE  
 Tal Raviv, MD  
 Lindsay A. Rhodes, MD  
 Leonard S. Rich, MD  
 Gisbert W. Richard, MD  
 Shira L. Robbins, MD  
 Brian T. Rose, MD  
 Alain Saad, MD  
 Mandeep S. Sagoo, MBBChir, PhD  
 C. Michael A. Samson, MD  
 Marcony R. Santhiago, MD  
 Martha P. Schatz, MD  
 Amy C. Scheffler, MD  
 Joanne F. Shen, MD  
 Diana R. Shiba, MD  
 Bradley T. Smith, MD  
 Elliott H. Sohn, MD  
 Peter W. Stalmans, MD, PhD  
 J. Timothy Stout, MD, PhD, MBA  
 Lisa Tuomi  
 Anja E. Tuulonen, MD  
 Jimmy M. Uddin, MD  
 M. Reza Vagefi, MD  
 Viraj A. Vasavada, MD  
 B. Vineeth Kumar, FRCS  
 Eduardo C. Viteri, MD  
 David E. Vollman, MD, MBA  
 Alan L. Wagner, MD, FACS  
 Thomas R. Walters, MD  
 Jill R. Wells, MD  
 Michael B. Yang, MD  
 Hee Kyung Yang, MD  
 Gui-shuang Ying, PhD  
 David Zadok, MD  
 Jialiang Zhao Sr., MD

## SECRETARIAT AWARDS PROGRAM

This program recognizes individuals for contributions



outside the scope of the Achievement Awards program. Each of the Academy's secretaries and senior secretaries can submit nominees to the Academy's Awards Committee.

Nominated by the Senior Secretary for Clinical Education:

**James T. Banta, MD**  
**George A. Cioffi, MD**  
**K. David Epley, MD**  
**Dasa Gangadhar, MD**  
**Leon W. Herndon Jr., MD**  
**Erich P. Horn, MD**  
**Herbert J. Ingraham, MD**  
**Edward K. Isbey III, MD**  
**Stephen A. Kamenetzky, MD**  
**Colin A. McCannel, MD**  
**Faruk H. Orge, MD**  
**Jay Perlman, MD, PhD**  
**Ashvini K. Reddy, MD**  
**Rebecca Sands Braverman, MD**  
**Brian D. Sippy, MD**

Nominated by the Secretary for Quality of Care:

**Elizabeth A. Bradley, MD**  
**Michele Melia, ScM**  
**Bruce E. Prum Jr., MD**

Nominated by the Senior Secretary for Ophthalmic Practice:

**Nancy Baker**  
**Susan Loen**

Nominated by the secretaries for State Affairs and Federal Affairs, and the Senior Secretary for Advocacy:

**Janet A. Betchkal, MD**  
**Susan K. Burden, MD**  
**Glen Cockerham, MD**  
**Sidney K. Gicheru, MD**  
**Thomas A. Gaul, MD**  
**David S. Greenfield, MD**  
**Dale K. Heuer, MD**  
**Stuart R. Seiff, MD**  
**Charles Slonim, MD**  
**Alan L. Wagner, MD, FACS**

Nominated by the Secretary for the Annual Meeting:

**Kathryn A. Colby, MD, PhD**  
**William F. Mieler, MD**

Nominated by the Secretary for Communications:

**Robert G. Fante, MD, FACS**  
**Sonny Goel, MD**  
**Ron W. Pelton, MD**  
**Erin M. Shriver, MD**

Nominated by the editor of *Ophthalmology*:

**Iqbal K. Ahmed, MD**  
**Mark Greiner, MD**  
**Jonathan M. Holmes, MD**  
**Joan M. O'Brien, MD**  
**Randall J. Olson, MD**

Nominated by the Secretary for Member Services:

**Janice C. Law, MD**  
**William C. Lloyd, MD**  
**Jeff H. Pettey, MD**  
**Gwen K. Sterns, MD**  
**Grace Sun, MD**

Nominated by the Chief Medical Editor of *EyeNet*:

**Richard P. Mills, MD, MPH**

Nominated by the Secretary for Global Alliances:

**Ebtisam K. Al Alawi, MD**  
**Brad H. Feldman, MD**  
**Ivo Kocur, MD**  
**Frank Joseph Martin, MD**  
**Stefan Seregard, MD**