PRESIDENT’S REPORT, 2004–05
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY
OUR FOCUS
Next to life itself,
God’s most precious gift is sight,
And to the ministry of this great gift,
The profession of optometry dedicates itself.

OUR VISION
Enhancing the quality of life through vision care

OUR INSPIRATION
Good vision is more than seeing 20/20...it is seeing without effort.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY, 2004–05

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Dear College Family and Friends,

As a parent, I know the pride one feels when their child has pursued and achieved a health career. For many of you — your children have also chosen a health profession as a career, and for many, that choice is optometry at the Southern California College of Optometry. Like you, the College Family is proud of your son or daughter, who has decided on a rewarding career as an optometrist.

Our alumni records show a number of second and third generation optometric families. In fact, many parent and child practices have resulted. We are delighted, for we know that the parent’s passion for the profession is a key factor in the child’s pursuit of a similar career.

The Southern California College of Optometry is proud of its role in providing the necessary education for one to become a primary health care provider. We’re equally as proud when an optometrist — either an SCCO alumnus or not — recommends their profession to a prospective student or to their own child. In fact, optometrists remain the number one referral source of men and women to the profession. We think that speaks well of our profession and the Southern California College of Optometry.

The 2005–07 Chairman of the College’s Board of Trustees Mark A. Galvan, O.D., is the father of a new SCCO graduate and a soon-to-be graduate. His son, Brent, graduated with the Class of 2005 and daughter, Candice, is a member of SCCO’s Class of 2008. They intend to practice optometry together in nearby Whittier.

Three optometric families are highlighted on the following pages. A common thread that runs through the stories is the confidence of the senior doctor in having selected the right profession and the pride that he or she feels now that their child or in one case, the son-in-law, has pursued the same career path; that each of the younger doctors brought to the practice new skills and a new enthusiasm that have significantly contributed to the practice and to the community in which it is located; and that no matter the year of graduation from the Southern California College of Optometry every optometrist strives to provide each patient with clear, comfortable vision.

Sincerely,

Lesley L. Walls, O.D., M.D., D.O.S.
President
Joining Harold L. Reber, O.D., ’66, in practice 25 years after his graduation was his son, Clay O. Reber, O.D., ’91. In 25 years’ time his alma mater had gone from being called the Los Angeles College of Optometry to the Southern California College of Optometry, in fact the College was relocated to Fullerton, and more importantly, the scope of optometric practice had changed. Therapeutics was the biggest difference in the optometric educations of father and son — but not for long.

“I felt like a dinosaur,” recalled Dr. Harold Reber. “We were living in New Mexico and I’d been practicing just across the state line in Texas. Unlike Clay, I was not licensed to use therapeutics in New Mexico. I really had to scrape and dig to catch-up with Clay; however, once I became licensed we were on equal footing.”

The senior doctor, who had been practicing for 10 years in Texas, had optometric licenses in both Texas and Arizona. He decided, 26 years after his own graduation, to obtain a New Mexico license in order to practice with his son.

“Dad was very accommodative,” noted Dr. Clay Reber. “In 1992, we had options to expand into New Mexico. The state of New Mexico had both a written board exam and a practical in therapeutics, so Dad began studying to become licensed in our home state.”

The Rebers purchased a practice in Hobbs, New Mexico. Joining the practice six years after Clay was his younger brother, David B. Reber, O.D., ’97. Over the years two more practices would be added — one in Lovington and the other in Carlsbad. The three New Mexico towns, Hobbs (population 30,000), Carlsbad (26,000), and Lovington (9,000) are gas and oil communities in the southeast part of the landlocked state.

His sons’ careers in optometry came as a surprise to the family patriarch. “The boys had always worked in the office doing custodial work,” Dr. Harold Reber recalled. “I also had a fabrication lab and they worked in the lab, too. I’m very happy that they chose optometry. It’s a nice feeling to practice together. We think alike and we practice alike.”

All three doctors note that there is very little difference in their approach to patient care. They rotate between the three offices and they believe that the care provided to their patients is seamless. Patients even tell them that it’s reassuring to know that it doesn’t matter which doctor they see because all three provide the same quality of care. “Our patients appreciate that they are receiving the same comprehensive vision care — spanning visual acuity, contact lenses, and diagnosing, treating and managing ocular diseases — from each of us,” said Dr. Clay Reber. “It’s rewarding that our family is able to provide the families in our community such complete care.”
The Rebers believe that weekly business meetings — with the doctors meeting first and then the staff joining in — are key to the success of the practice. “If we have different ideas we don’t go forward until we feel united,” Dr. Clay Reber explained. “We are one big partnership.”

Younger brother David added another plus to practicing as a family, “What’s also really nice in a partnership setting is that we can easily consult with each other on patient cases. This is terrific for the patients and for the doctors.”

The enjoyment of working together though, tops the list of highlights for the father and sons. Building, opening and remodeling offices has been special for the family as well.

“Being together as a family is a highlight of practicing with my Dad and my brother. We get along wonderfully in every aspect of our business,” noted Dr. David Reber.

Church and family are important to the three doctors. Dr. Harold Reber and his wife, Mina Joy, have seven children and 16 grandchildren. Dr. Clay and his wife, Sharlyn, have four children: Kyle, 17; Allison, 15; Garrett, 12; and Andrea, 9. Dr. David Reber and his wife Regina, have three boys: Jared, 7; Zachary, 5; and Derek, 2.5. All three families live in Hobbs. With 16 grandchildren, Clay and David are certain that another Reber or two will become optometrists.

“I often take my seven year-old son, Jared, with me to the office if I’ve been called in on the weekend for an emergency,” said Dr. David Reber. “Depending on the nature of the emergency, he’ll often observe what I’m doing. After one such day, Jared asked me about our sign out in front of the Hobbs office that lists the three doctors. ‘When grandpa retires, what are you going to do with his name?’ he asks. I told him that we would probably leave grandpa’s name on the sign for a while and then eventually take it down. ‘Good,’ Jared says, ‘because you can put mine up there.’ That will be just fine with me.”

Members of the Reber Family gathered together on Thanksgiving Day in Hobbs, NM. Pictured are: Mina Joy and Harold L. Reber, O.D., ‘66 (center); Clay O. Reber, O.D., ’91 (third from left) with his wife, Sharlyn, and their children, Allison, 15, Garrett, 12, Kyle, 17, and Andrea, 9; and David B. Reber, O.D., ’97 (second from right) with his wife, Regina, and their sons, Derek, 2.5, Zachary, 5, and Jared, 7.
In ninth grade, Glenn Nakayama made a career notebook for a class project; he researched and wrote about optometry. He remembers writing to the St. Louis office of the American Optometric Association and receiving a number of pamphlets about the profession. Years later, he would earn a degree in microbiology to pursue, what he thought, would be a career in the Los Angeles County Health Department. After receiving the degree he found that the County’s employment qualifications had changed and that he would need to earn a graduate degree. Near the end of the graduate program, he decided to pursue something else and then he remembered the career notebook he created in the ninth grade. He applied to the Southern California College of Optometry. He earned his Doctor of Optometry degree in 1978.

Years working part-time at the front desk in her father’s practice didn’t pique Erin Nakayama’s interest in optometry. By the end of her second year at the University of California, San Diego, she decided to pursue a career in a health field, but wasn’t sure which one. In researching different health care professions, she learned about optometry and the more she learned the more intrigued she became. She applied to the Southern California College of Optometry. She earned her Doctor of Optometry degree in 2003.

“When I told my father about my decision, I think he was surprised,” remarked Erin A. Nakayama, O.D., ’03. “He and I both never thought that I would follow in his footsteps.”

Her Dad’s initial reaction to her career choice was one of delight. “I’ll have time to start playing golf again!” said Glenn S. Nakayama, O.D., ’78. “But seriously, I was somewhat surprised that Erin decided to enter optometry. She had worked in the office since high school but never expressed an interest until part way through college. I’m glad she chose SCCO as the institute to pursue her career. In fact, I’m happy we came to share the same career.”

Different paths led them both to careers in optometry. Today, Dr. Erin Nakayama, who was born when her Dad was a third-year student at SCCO, has joined her father’s Alhambra, California practice on a part-time basis. She also practices part-time at another office and, one day per week she’s a faculty supervisor for the College’s School Screening Program.

Differences in their optometric education can be attributed to the changes in the scope of practice. However, the father and daughter share similar patient-care philosophies.

“The main difference in Erin’s education and training is the greater emphasis on pathology detection and treatment,” notes Dr. Glenn Nakayama. “When I graduated in 1978, California had recently passed
the DPA bill, and only three other states had passed their TPA bills. Since that time, the diagnosis and treatment of ocular disease has been expanded within the curriculum; however, the foundation of the profession is still general optometry, contact lenses, low vision and vision therapy. I attribute the changes in the curriculum to the passing of the TPA bills in all 50 states, including the treatment of glaucoma, and the recent advancement of instrument technology.

“In the past, I would dilate selected patients, such as diabetics, those with symptoms of flashes and floaters, or visual field defects,” he said. “Since Erin joined the practice, I dilate most patients. She has enhanced my philosophy of providing quality care.

“Erin is an excellent clinician and has detected several sight-threatening conditions,” Dr. Nakayama proudly remarked. “Those patients were gratefully appreciative. I often hear from my previous patients who have since been seen by Erin, that they were impressed with her thoroughness and will be switching to Erin as their optometrist. Their half-kidding remarks brought joy and satisfaction to both of us. It validates that she is an asset to our practice and to the optometric profession as well.”

Daughter Erin mentioned that some patients have noticed that she and her father use different clinical techniques and testing. “Some longtime patients have mentioned to me, ‘I’ve never had that test done before.’ But, I tell them that my father and I test the same things, just in different ways,” Dr. Nakayama said. “Another difference in how we practice is in how we use therapeutics. Since he was at SCCO, the program has greatly increased in its therapeutic treatment training.

“There are a lot of similarities in how my father and I practice optometry, being educated by the same college. However, I think that the difference in therapeutics training between us affects our approaches to patient care. He is usually more cautious in treating pathology than I am. Another difference is the time it takes for each of us to examine our patients. My exams are, of course, longer in duration due to the number of tests I perform and the way in which I perform them. But, I think a lot of that has to do with the years of experience my father has ahead of me, as well as his familiarity with his patients,” she said.

“I have really enjoyed working with my father,” notes Dr. Nakayama. “He has always been involved with my various academic and extracurricular activities as I was growing up, but now we have a professional level to our relationship. I am only in his practice part-time, but it’s nice to have a colleague in the office to discuss diagnoses and treatment options, from contact lenses to vision therapy, for patients. I have learned a lot from him in practicing patient care, but also, he has allowed me to bring new ideas to the practice. Because he is my father, I have no qualms about putting my two cents in when it comes to practice management decisions.

“I also find it somewhat humorous that some of the patients I see have heard about me from my father since I was a child,” remarks the daughter who became the doctor. “They have known my accomplishments, schools I have attended, places I have lived, and now I am seeing them as their eye doctor. It’s so very special to share with my father his longtime patients and, even more special, to be his colleague and to share his career.”
Little did anyone know when Kristine Manell and Michael Cooper met as young teenagers that they would date, fall in love, attend college together, marry, he would study to become an optometrist and eventually, he would join his father-in-law’s Escondido, California practice.

“I tried my best to chase him away, like every father tries to keep the boys away from their daughter,” said Ken Manell, “but he stuck around. It’s been very rewarding to watch Mike become and optometrist and now to have him practice with me.”

In high school Mike wanted to be an architect and then he became interested in a career in health care. “By my third year in College I definitely knew that I was going to pursue a career in optometry,” he noted. “Having spent so much time at the Manells’ home while I was dating their daughter, I would see him come home and he didn’t have any stress. He enjoyed his work. I realized that’s what I wanted to do,” said Dr. Cooper. “After awhile I think Dr. Manell could tell that I was serious about both things — his daughter and optometry.”

“I had no preconceived idea that I would go into practice with my father-in-law as he had been practicing for many years with Dr. Doyle Dannenberg,” recalled Dr. Cooper. “As it turned out, I joined the practice immediately following graduation and had the pleasure of practicing with Dr. Dannenberg until he retired a few years later.”

Dr. Manell remembers that he and his wife, Janet, were initially “surprised and proud” at Mike’s decision to pursue a career in optometry.

“We thought, gee whiz, this is a nice thing,” Dr. Manell said. “We were pretty sure he was going to marry our oldest daughter so it was also very special to have our son-in-law come into the practice.”

Dr. Ken Manell is a 1968 graduate of the Southern California College of Optometry. At that time the College was known as the Los Angeles College of Optometry and his was the last class to complete just three years of study for the Doctor of Optometry degree. Dr. Mike Cooper graduated 27 years later in 1995, after completing four years for the O.D. degree at his father-in-law’s alma mater.

“Today’s graduates are better prepared for practice,” notes Dr. Manell. “In 1968, the College was preparing to add the fourth year of study for the O.D. degree and so we got a small dose of the new curriculum that was coming. It included a lot more pathology and clinical time with patients.

“One of the differences I saw with Mike was that he was ready to see patients right out of school because he’d had a lot more patient encounters than I had. His knowledge of optometry from vision therapy to pathology was far greater. His expanded studies in pathology can be at-
tributed to legislative changes in the areas of diagnostics and pharmaceuticals since the time I had graduated,” Dr. Manell said. “We didn’t even think about those things in ’68. If there was an infection we referred the patient to a physician — that was the standard of care at that time.”

Eventually, the senior doctor obtained the necessary education to diagnose, manage and treat ocular pathology but he was glad to have Dr. Cooper in the office with whom he could consult.

“If a patient with something questionable was in my exam room I would have Mike take a look and use the opportunity to introduce them to the new doc in the practice,” Dr. Manell said. “Mike brought a knowledge base to the practice that was good for the patient and good for me. He helped me build my confidence in this area.”

Dr. Cooper also brought a background in computer technology to the office. “I spent the time between graduation and waiting for my license to practice to computerize the office,” remembers Dr. Cooper.

His father-in-law quickly notes his own lack of experience in the computer area. “If the staff has a problem related to technology they find Dr. Cooper, not me,” he laughed.

Dr. Cooper though, gives a nod to his father-in-law for his tutelage in the area of managing patient flow. “There’s a difference between school and practice with regard to the day-to-day moving of patients through the office,” notes Dr. Cooper. “Dr. Manell helped me streamline my exam techniques and to better utilize our staff in the process.”

The two doctors agree that they see no difference in their approach to practice. “We see each patient one at a time,” said Dr. Manell. “The most important person is the person in the chair. Solving their chief complaint is our goal.”

The son-in-law echoed his father-in-law’s approach to patient care as well as his sentiments about getting to know the patients and their families.

“The fun part for me and why we get along is that we approach practice in a similar way. We know our patients and their families very
DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY

Doctors of Optometry (O.D.s) are the primary health care professionals for the eye. Optometrists examine, diagnose, treat, and manage diseases, injuries, and disorders of the visual system, the eye, and associated structures as well as identify related systemic conditions affecting the eye.

- Doctors of Optometry prescribe medications, low vision rehabilitation, vision therapy, spectacle lenses, contact lenses, and perform certain surgical procedures.
- Optometrists counsel their patients regarding surgical and non-surgical options that meet their visual needs related to their occupations, avocations, and lifestyle.
- An optometrist has completed pre-professional undergraduate education in a college or university and four years of professional education at a college of optometry, leading to the Doctor of Optometry (O.D.) degree. Some optometrists complete an optional residency in a specific area of practice.
- Optometrists are eye health care professionals state-licensed to diagnose and treat diseases and disorders of the eye and visual system.

Approved by the American Optometric Association Board of Trustees, June 21, 2005.

well. We both love to take the time to spend with our patients,” notes Dr. Cooper. “While in school I observed offices where the doctor saw a patient every 20 minutes. I knew that I didn’t want to practice that way. Dr. Manell likes to talk with his patients — he really enjoys being with them. And like him, my favorite part of practice is getting to know my patients.”

The Manells and Coopers also live in the same Escondido neighborhood and they belong to the same Rotary Club as does the original founder of the practice and the now retired, O. Doyle Dannenberg, O.D., ’48. Another plus of working together and living nearby is that two days each week, Kristine Cooper, continues her work as a dental hygienist and her mom, Janet Manell, takes care of the two grandchildren.

“A highlight for me practicing with my son-in-law is that it has been a nice way to get a lot closer than we would have otherwise,” Dr. Manell noted. “Having Mike as my partner and son-in-law has been wonderful! From the patients’ standpoint they tell me, ‘I couldn’t see you this time and so I saw Dr. Cooper. He’s terrific.’ These comments continue to increase especially, as I take more time away from the practice.

“Somehow, we’re able to blur the two, family and practice, together and make it work,” remarks Dr. Manell. “From a professional and personal standpoint it has been a wonderful experience.”

Dr. Cooper notes many highlights of practicing with his father-in-law. Understanding the social aspect of being with patients is one; however, the personal interest in his welfare is primary.

“I can’t ask more than working with someone who cares about me outside of the practice,” reflects Dr. Cooper. “Someone looking out for my business, community, and family interests is reassuring. He cares about my future. This gives me great security.”
## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY

### ENTRANCE AND DEGREE REQUIREMENTS
(MINIMUM YEARS)

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### GRADUATE COURSE REQUIREMENTS
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| Vision Sciences     | 60   | 270  | 320  | 300  | 300  |

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| Clinical Education/Patient Care | 135  | 420  | 1,454 | 2,490 | 3,260 |
| Total Clock Hours             | 960  | 2,295 | 3,634 | 4,540 | 5,260 |

*In 1997, the College became the first program in the nation to admit a class (the Class of 2001) for which the bachelor’s degree was required for admission.*

Southern California College of Optometry 9
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WALL OF HONOR
Dedicated to those who enhance life through the support of education and vision care.

The returning Class of 1955 is pictured in front of the Wall of Honor in the Richard L. Hopping Academic Center. The Wall of Honor itself includes 15 panels with engraved plaques of 278 donors who have chosen to support the College with a gift of at least $2,500.

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Lions Low Vision/L.O.V.E. Program
Luxottica Group
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ENDOWMENT FUNDS

Dr. Wayne Hoeft, now Professor Emeritus Hoeft, taught low vision at the College for 41 years. He has also taught and mentored thousands of students at the Center for the Partially Sighted in Santa Monica. And in his spare time, Wayne has taught more than a few folks something about golf.

A 1959 alumnus of the College, Wayne created the Betty Lou Hoeft Memorial Scholarship in 1988 and through the years, this fund has benefited nearly two dozen students and it keeps on giving. We are most grateful that Wayne’s devotion to his students prompted the establishment of this fund.

Endowment Funds at the College have been established by alumni and friends to support scholarships, student loans, research, and other special programs and activities.

Endowment Funds offer unique ways for individuals and groups to recognize achievement and distinction in special areas.

SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT FUNDS

The Southern California College of Optometry has an investment of $3,903,638 in scholarship funds:

Fully Endowed Funds
- Dr. Charles A. Abel Memorial Scholarship (1982)*
- Alumni Association of SCCO Scholarship (1979)
- Arizona Vision Service Plan Scholarship (2001)
- Asian American Optometric Society Award (1974)
- Black Student Endowed Scholarship (1997)
- Dr. Frank A. Brazelton Memorial Scholarship (1989)
- Marjorie H. Bright/Bright Family Foundation Endowed Scholarship (1998)
- Dr. Leon Darrow Endowed Memorial Scholarship (2003)
- Dr. Al Dennis Memorial Award (1971)
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- Hispanic Award (1992)
- Betty Lou Hoeft Memorial Scholarship (1988)
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- Dr. Donald E. Jarnagin Endowed Scholarship (1999)
- Kristin A. Jones Memorial Scholarship (1991)
- Dr. Rodger T. Kame Endowed Scholarship (2000)

Partially Endowed Funds
- Nick Meneakis Memorial Award (1978)
- Dr. Homer A. Nelson Memorial Scholarship (1980)
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- Southwest Contact Lens Society Scholarship (1995)
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STUDENT LOAN FUNDS

The Southern California College of Optometry has an investment of $2,513,282 in student loan funds:

Fully Endowed Funds
- Dr. Charles A. Abel Emergency Loan (1982)
- Dr. John A. Harris Student Loan Program (1987)
- Takeo Kanai Student Loan Fund (1994)

OTHER ENDOWMENT FUNDS

The Southern California College of Optometry has an investment of $8,913,484 in other endowment funds.

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- Dr. John R. Dean Memorial Research (1990)
- Developmental Vision Residencies (1994)
- Dr. Richard P. Hemenger Faculty Research Endowment (2001)
- Professor Emeritus Charles B. Margach, O.D., Research Endowment (2000)
- Student Tutorial Assistance (1990)
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Partially Endowed/Others
- Doris J. Caldwell Recognition (1996)
- Walter Wm. Chase Faculty Excellence (1996)
- Dr. H. Paul Schwadrel Low Vision Award (1989)

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July 1, 2004 – June 30, 2005

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*Qualifies for Visionaries Society recognition.
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