Alumniscope

FOCUSING ON OUR FUTURE COLLEAGUES

WITH EXPERIENCE, COMES VISION

Southern California College of Optometry
Ensuring a Great Future

A Personal Touch Guides SCCO’s Search for the Best Students

So — how does the Southern California College of Optometry recruit the best men and women to become doctors of optometry? How do we ensure that a student we recruit, admit, teach, and graduate will be an outstanding vision care provider and member of his or her community, and a responsible member and colleague of a professional community?

The six-person staff of the College’s Student Affairs Office is responsible for the recruitment and matriculation of 96 students every August. Currently, they are on track to process 600 applications for the Class of 2011, that’s better than a 6-to-1 ratio for each available seat. What are the reasons for a strong applicant pool?

“A key strength in developing a strong applicant pool each year is the building of personal relationships with our prospective applicants. The Student Affairs staff is committed to working with all of our applicants as individuals and not just papers in a file. We are proud of the fact we respond quickly to all Email messages and phone calls,” notes SCCO’s Vice President of Student Affairs Lorraine I. Voorhees, O.D., M.S., ’71. “In addition, the College’s solid academic and clinical programs are viewed positively by the applicants. We offer an exceptional program.

“The fact that we’re located in Southern California just adds to the College’s appeal, especially during the winter months when the temperatures are in the 70s,” notes Dr. Voorhees. “However, we’re always complimented on the caring staff of the Student Affairs Office. We do our best to make each applicant feel important and special. We are excited when someone makes the decision to apply to SCCO when so many other fine optometric institutions are available. We’re just as excited on graduation day when we witness the successful applicant to SCCO who became a student, and who then, became a Doctor of Optometry!”

The process for admission to SCCO has been well documented and analyzed. A prospective student submits, online or through the postal system, a completed application, three essays, and a $50 fee. Official transcripts from all colleges attended (a baccalaureate degree is required for admission) and high school of graduation are required, as are the results of the Optometry Admission Test (OAT), and three letters of recommendation. A resume of extracurricular activities, awards and work experience, is optional. To be competitive, applicants must have earned a GPA of 3.00 or higher, and a mean OAT score of 300 (50th percentile).

An applicant, who meets SCCO’s academic criteria, has submitted the appropriate essays, has acceptable letters of recommendation, and has demonstrated professional behavior during the process, is invited to the Fullerton campus for an interview. The interview provides an assessment of the applicant’s research into and understanding of
Ten Questions Applicants Should Ask When Selecting an Optometry College

1. Who teaches the labs and pre-clinic courses?
All courses and laboratories at SCCO are taught by faculty members and not graduate assistants.

2. How accessible are the faculty?
The majority of SCCO faculty are full-time and are readily available to the students every day.

3. Where do the students live?
There are many nearby apartments and rental houses for housing consideration. About 50 percent of the students live within one mile of the SCCO campus.

4. If I call during the day, will someone be there to answer my questions?
Someone from the SCCO Student Affairs Staff is usually available during regular business hours to assist every prospective student.

5. When will I see my first patient?
First-year interns at SCCO receive their first introduction to patient care in the College’s Eye Care Center. Interns begin seeing their own patients in the Eye Care Center in the third quarter of the second year.

6. What kind of preparation assistance is provided for the National Board Exams, and is there an additional fee?
SCCO provides a review course for Part I for currently enrolled students at no fee and a faculty-reviewed and edited manual at minimal cost.

7. What are the opportunities for leadership and involvement in the profession?
Through the SCCO Student Association, of which all students are members, students are invited to take an active part in the governance of the College as student representatives serving on the administrative and faculty committees. The mission of the Student Association Board of the Southern California College of Optometry is to represent and act on behalf of the student body to enhance the quality of education, improve student life, and promote student involvement in our profession and the community.

8. What types of patients will I see?
The Outreach Clinical Programs of the Southern California College of Optometry were established with the intent of broadening the clinical education experiences of fourth professional year interns. The mission statement and goals guide the development of the College’s Outreach Clinical Programs.

The mission of SCCO’s Outreach Clinical programs is to deliver the highest quality patient care and service, and to educate interns in the art and science of optometry in diverse patient care delivery environments.

Fourth-year interns spend three quarters of their final year assigned to external outreach clinical sites, and one quarter at the College’s Eye Care Center in Fullerton.

To offer fourth-year interns a wide variety of clinical educational experiences, the Southern California College of Optometry has approximately 75 Outreach Clinical Program affiliations with various military, public health, Department of Veterans Affairs, low vision rehabilitation, and developmental/pediatric clinics. The clinics are located throughout the United States, with the majority located west of the Mississippi River, as well as an international site located in Japan. These clinical programs are operated in conjunction with a number of independent, local, state, and federal agencies.

9. How will I be assigned to fourth-year rotations?
SCCO interns select their outreach assignments at the beginning of the third professional year, which allows for a full year of planning.

10. Can you get personal counseling for financial planning?
The members of SCCO’s Financial Aid Staff are available to assist students and potential students with financial planning from the beginning of the admissions process and continuing throughout the four years of the program. Because of the personalized approach to financial planning, our alumni are well prepared to meet their obligations after graduation. Our graduates’ loan default rates are consistently less than one percent.
the profession. A sampling of the areas discussed include: knowledge of the scope of optometry, the role of optometry in the health care system, the concept of providing service, and the relationship between optometrists and other health care providers. Experiences in activities related to optometry (have they worked in an optometric office?) and leadership roles the applicant has held, are also discussed. Likewise, an applicant may ask questions of any of the three members of the interview team. The final decision on acceptance or non-acceptance is based upon the evaluation of all non-academic factors, primarily the interview.

“Optometry is a great and growing profession and we are proud, excited and happy to tell prospective students that,” said SCCO’s Director of Admissions Jane Ann Munroe, O.D., ’77. “Likewise, we are proud, excited and happy to tell our alumni that their future colleagues will be outstanding practitioners and assets to the communities and professional circles in which they serve. Optometrists today are major players in the diagnosis, treatment and management of eye care and prospective students are excited to learn this — it’s not just glasses and contact lenses anymore.

“Better yet, we’re not the only ones touting our profession,” notes Dr. Munroe. “Optometry was selected as the second best career choice in the entire private sector by US News and World Report. Optometry is also the third largest independent health care profession and the mean income, according to 2004 statistics, is more than $136,800 per year.”

Recruitment of students today incorporates many traditional components, as well as many that are technology based. The College’s website provides an abundance of information for prospective students and correspondence via Email continues to grow.

Communication via Email is important to the pre- and post-admissions process. Daily, the members of the Student Affairs Office answer questions, process requests for information, and send confirmations of interview appointments to applicants via Email. Once an applicant has been accepted and has submitted his or her full matriculation fee their contact information is added to a listserve of those accepted to the incoming class. This has become a great way for classmates to get to know one another and find roommates in anticipation of their August start date at the College.

“I spend a great deal of time responding to admissions questions sent via Email and have written a wide variety of FAQs that can be forwarded...
to prospective applicants,” Dr. Munroe remarked. “However, it’s the one-on-one conversations with applicants that are best. Those conversations often start between the prospective student and his or her optometrist and are then followed by conversations with the staff of the College’s Student Affairs Office. It’s those personal relationships that our applicants tell us are so important and we know to be a real strength of our overall program.”

Colleges and universities throughout California are visited each year during the admissions cycle, as are institutions in Arizona, Colorado, Nevada and Utah. Other universities and colleges throughout the mid-west are also visited on a regular basis. During visits to dozens of college campuses, Dr. Munroe meets with students in pre-optometry clubs and students who seek her out at a Grad Fair. Her enthusiasm for the profession translates to enthusiastic applicants.

“It’s important for these young men and women to understand the career commitment they are considering. I tell them it’s similar to making a commitment to marriage,” Dr. Munroe said. “Once that commitment has been made, one must uphold the responsibilities that come with making such an important career choice.

“We are grateful to our alumni and non-alumni ODs who continue to promote their profession to their patients and others interested in a career in optometry. We are also most appreciative of our alumni who accompany me to a presentation at their local college,” continued Dr. Munroe. “Optometrists are still the number one referral source to our program and we value their participation in the recruitment process. The role of the optometrist in promoting a career in optometry is essential to all — the future colleague, the communities that will be served, the College, and the profession.

“To become an optometrist is to make a lifelong commitment to a fantastic profession — to my profession,” notes Dr. Munroe. “SCCO’s interns will serve their chosen profession well.”
SCCO Students Today

Spirit and Integrity Characterize Scholarship Recipients

The caliber of today’s SCCO students is outstanding. Our students have been gifted with the intelligence to become Doctors of Optometry and an incredible desire to dedicate themselves to a professional life of leadership and service to others. Following are two student essays, written for scholarships, that showcase the spirit and integrity of today’s students. I trust you’ll be as proud as I am of our future colleagues.

Lorraine I. Voorhees, O.D., M.S., ’71
Vice President of Student Affairs
American Optometric Association Student Leadership Scholarship

This $1,000 scholarship, sponsored by the American Optometric Association, is presented to an entering Fourth-Year Student. The recipient must be a member of the American Optometric Student Association, have maintained a 3.00 GPA, and be an active leader and participant in student government at the Southern California College of Optometry. A short essay on how these leadership experiences will benefit one’s career is required. The Vice President of Student Affairs selects the scholarship recipient.

In August 2006, Keith Tyler, a member of the Class of 2007, was named the recipient of this scholarship. Keith’s winning essay follows.

Keith Tyler, Class of 2007
President, SCCO Student Association, 2005–06

During my tenure at optometry school, I have been fortunate to hold a couple of leadership positions. During my second year, I was President of the Omega Epsilon Phi optometric organization, as well as Director of Extracurricular Activities for the Student Association. During the 2005–06 school year, I have been serving as the Student Association President.

These positions have allowed me to experience optometry school in a different way than almost all of my classmates.

At our school, the SA President is designated as the Student Delegate to both the American Optometric Association House of Delegates and the California Optometric Association House of Delegates. Both of these meetings have allowed me to gain an inside look at why we are always told, “Optometry is a legislated profession!” I have tried to use my experiences to promote membership among all of the students in our school by telling them the things that I have learned from being there, and why it is important to join. We can only hurt our own futures by not joining optometric associations and by not being active.

I think that the most valuable lesson that I have learned with my leadership positions is that I have the ability to make a difference. When I started applying for positions my second year, my friends all asked me why I would want to put all that time in. I would like to think that over the last two years I have shown them that it is not only worth the effort to be involved, but it is also our duty. Leadership is one of the hardest things to convince people to do. You have to put yourself in front of people and let them know that you are willing to spend your own time to help them.

I have used the position of SA President to help co-found a program at our school titled,
Students Karing for Youths’ Vision (SKY Vision). This is a program to help kids who can’t afford the proper eyeglasses with the necessary funds to purchase them. This experience, for me, has been the most rewarding aspect of my leadership position. The program, while still in its early stages, has been readily accepted by everyone in our school — we have already raised almost $600 towards purchasing kids’ glasses! This is a program that I hope will only grow, and I am proud to know that I was a part of its beginning.

It is hard for me to put into words what I have gained from my positions as a leader on my campus. It is not just running a meeting, or helping someone out who needs it. It is not just sending out emails to people regarding the happenings in our school. I think that being an example for people to follow, and hopefully inspiring them to do all that they can do, is what I have gained the most from my leadership positions.

**Dr. Richard L. Hopping Ethics Endowed Scholarship**

This endowment, established by Southern California College of Optometry President Emeritus Richard L. Hopping, O.D., D.O.S., D.Sc., D.O.S., and his wife, Patricia, provides a $1,000 scholarship to an entering third-year student. The student must submit an essay on the importance and/or role of ethics in carrying out the various tenets of the Optometric Oath. The Student Affairs Council selects the recipient.

In September 2006, Third-Year Student W. Craig Poulter, Class of 2008, was named the recipient of this scholarship. Craig's winning essay follows.

**W. Craig Poulter, Class of 2008**  
*President, SCCO Student Association, 2006–07*

While the future of optometry depends on optometrists that practice with diagnostic ability and clinical proficiency, it depends most on doctors that practice with sincerity and integrity.

To the casual observer, the Optometric Oath reads as a list of “I wills” that simply lay out the manner in which an optometrist is expected to practice. When read quickly, it gives a basic outline of what an optometrist will do in the practice of optometry. However, the Optometric Oath was not written for the perusal of the casual observer, and should definitely not be read quickly — especially by those who have taken or plan to take upon themselves that Oath. The Optometric Oath, rather, serves as a template by which an optometrist should live and practice, in order to most effectively provide care for patients.

While the body of the Oath is important for the understanding of the responsibilities of an optometrist, I would suggest that the first and last lines of the Oath play a more important role in the establishment of the moral principles by which an optometrist will govern himself or herself. In other words, the importance of the Oath is not found in the list of what an optometrist pledges to do, but it is found in the moral framework of one who is capable of living faithful to the Oath.

The first line reads, “With full deliberation I freely and solemnly pledge that.” This sentence clearly establishes that one who is to carry out the tenets of the Oath needs to be a person of integrity, one who is willing to make a pledge, and then strive to keep that commitment. While many are able to make commitments, it takes a person of character to keep commitments such as honesty, compassion, and service. In the closing sentence it then states, “I hereby commit myself to be steadfast in the performance of this my solemn oath and obligation,” which establishes again that commitment and integrity are integral to the fulfillment of the principles of the Oath. Without those attributes, one could freely disregard the tenets of the Oath in favor of one's own self interest.

Thus, the ability of an optometrist to capably fulfill the tenets of the Optometric Oath depends completely on the moral principles that govern his or her life. Those optometrists who live their lives with integrity will be able to pledge themselves to be steadfast to the obligation of the Oath, while those who do not have proven themselves unworthy to be entrusted with the healthcare of patients.
Choosing A New Career

At 33, Brian Parker Trades the Supermarket for the Classroom

A slightly sore back, long hours on the job, and working on the Fourth of July made Brian Parker’s decision to change careers easier. A 12-year employee of a large food-store chain, he knew it was time for a career change that would enable him to help others, better control his work schedule and time with his growing family, and earn a higher income.

Brian and his wife, Andrea, are both graduates of the University of California, San Diego; he with a degree in urban planning and she with a degree in psychology. Originally, he was studying biology, wanting to be an ecologist, and then the news of an incredible housing development along the San Diego Bay triggered a switch to urban planning. He thought the project would be a good combination of his background in biology and urban planning.

Long story short — the San Diego project never materialized and finding employment in urban planning was difficult. In 1994, Brian took a job with Trader Joe’s to pay the bills. In 10 year’s time he became vested with the food store and shortly thereafter, he and Andrea began seriously thinking about a lifestyle change.

Brian worked at the Trader Joe’s store in Temecula, California, where he and Andrea had purchased a home. Next door to the store was the office of Donny Broyles, O.D. The doctor was a frequent patron of the food store and he and Brian spoke often. In fact, Brian became a patient of Dr. Broyles.

“I saw a snapshot of his lifestyle and it seemed more favorable to me,” said Brian. “Dr. Broyles helped people, he worked better hours, and he made more money. Those were all incentives for me. I thought a career in optometry would be a good fit for my family that, at that time, included four children.

“I asked myself, do I want to work at Trader Joe’s until I retire?” recalled Brian. “Although, it’s a great company to work for, the answer was, no. I wanted to control my own destiny. I knew through my experience that helping people was a natural fit and I enjoy interacting with people. The opportunity to establish a private optometric practice where I could assist patients with their vision care needs was important to me. A career in optometry would bring tremendous benefits to my patients and to my family, and provide much personal satisfaction for me. At this time, I’m considering focusing on helping school-aged kids who are experiencing vision-related learning difficulties.”

Another part of his research into a career in vision care was fueled by his Dad’s need for eye surgery due to a macular hole and his Mom’s diagnosis of glaucoma. “I looked into optometry and liked what I was learning. I researched the AOA and AOSA websites and optometry seemed to be the best career choice for me. At 33 years old, I was heading back to school to complete a few prerequi-
sites for optometry school. It took a year to finish up the courses. In addition to that, I was lucky that SCCO was in Fullerton. The vision-related parts of the puzzle were coming together,” Brian said.

With SCCO in Fullerton, his parents living in Newport Beach, and he and Andrea and their children settled in Temecula, he thought, “This could work.”

And work it has; primarily, he admits, because of Andrea. “She makes it all possible. I have a beautiful wife, of an amazing caliber, who has afforded me the opportunity to focus on my studies,” he relates. “Andrea, our children, and our parents provide me with incredible, enthusiastic support for becoming a doctor of optometry. SCCO Alumnus, Dr. Scott Lewis, who practices in nearby Murrieta, has been extremely supportive, too. I’m so grateful.”

Today the Parker family includes six children: Luke, 10; Brigid, 8; A.J., 6; Madalyn, 5; Owen, 3; and Kevin, 1. Andrea home schools the older children who range from fifth grade to pre-school.

In addition to his studies at SCCO, Brian is active in the Student Association. Currently, he serves as a Co-Director of the Department of Community Health and, he also gives his time at numerous vision screenings provided to the public via the student-supported Project Concern.

As an older student, Brian says he’s fortunate that he has a big portion of post-SCCO life figured out. “I have an advantage because Andrea and I are settled in Temecula, a city that presents great practice opportunities; we have six beautiful children; and we own a home,” he commented. “We are established and involved in our community through our church and through a great group of parents who home school their children. Our friends will provide a great referral base for me when I begin to practice.

“Now in my second-year at SCCO, I’m more fascinated than ever with optometry,” he remarked. “Optometry is an amazing field. I never knew the full scope. I love it more and more every day.”
Third Generation Optometrist-to-Be

Service and Family Guide
Stephen Gildersleeve’s Career Choice

“I wanted to be like Dad,” stated SCCO First-Year Student Stephen Gildersleeve, when asked why he’s pursuing a career in optometry. When he graduates in 2010, this Nebraska native will be just like his Dad, just like his mother, just like both his grandfathers, and just like an uncle; all are SCCO alumni. Steve will be a third generation optometrist and a third generation SCCO alumnus.


The First-Year SCCO Student graduated from the University of Nebraska with a B.S. in biology. While attending the university in Lincoln he worked as a technician in the practice of Richard Powell, O.D. Over the years, he has done the same work in his Dad’s practice back home in O’Neill, a three-hour drive from Lincoln.

“I like the idea of a profession that leaves time for a family and, where there’s an opportunity to give back through community service,” said Steve, who plans to return to Nebraska to practice.

“Vision often defines the quality of one’s life. As an optometrist, I’ll be given the opportunity to maintain my patients’ vision through the quality of care I provide. Optometrists make a substantial difference in how people perceive the world — we really make a difference.”

In August 2006, Steve and his 97 classmates began their O.D. studies. His class had the highest number of applicants at 549, and highest Mean GPA at 3.37 for the past five years. Twenty-one states and Canada are represented.

The transition to life at SCCO and Southern California has been good. Steve has become a member of the two campus-based fraternities, the Delts and the Phis, and he’s discovered many local activities that provide a nice break from studying. He’s also found that his classmates, the faculty and the staff are incredibly supportive.

“The faculty are second to none and are here to help us succeed. They teach you what you need to know and make sure that you understand it.”
The Second, Second-Generation OD

Tracy Tom to Join Dad and Brother in Practice

“I literally grew up in my Dad’s optometry office. The school bus would drop-off my brother and me at the office and we would do our homework there. I was always around the office,” said SCCO First-Year Student Tracy Tom. “It’s a great profession for serving people and it provides a lot of flexibility for raising a family.

Tracy’s Dad, Dewey Tom, O.D., is a 1970 graduate of the Pennsylvania College of Optometry. She speaks with pride of the fact that he opened a practice in Kaneohe, Hawaii, on the island of Oahu.

“My father opened his private practice in 1971, the same year my parents were married,” noted Tracy. “Right after graduating from PCO, he worked at an optical lab to acquire more optician skills. Ironically, my father, my brother, and myself, have worked at the same optical lab, which still stands today.”

Following her 2010 graduation from SCCO, Tracy will join her Dad in practice as the second, second-generation O.D. in the family. Her brother, Taylor Tom, O.D., a 2004 alumnus of UC Berkeley, School of Optometry, has been practicing since his graduation with their Dad.

Prior to her matriculation to SCCO, Tracy completed a B.S. in sociology from the University of Washington, Seattle, and her special education licensure from Chaminade University in Honolulu. She taught special education classes at an elementary school for four years and is excited to apply and implement experiences from the classroom to her patients. “I made that connection early on,” notes Tracy. “The skills I acquired as a special education teacher can be applied toward assisting patients. As a teacher, I had a few students who wore corrective glasses, including a student with strabismus. As a special education teacher, I was taught to focus on identifying learning and psychological disabilities, but I also had to ask myself, ‘What if my students really need assistance with their vision?’”

When asked why she chose SCCO Tracy responded, “For everything — the technology, the Eye Care Center, the curriculum, the faculty, the campus. I had a good feeling when I stepped on campus. My family has been very supportive of my decision. SCCO is a good fit for me. I love it here. I love Fullerton; it really feels like home.

“There’s not a competitive atmosphere on campus and I enjoy that,” she continued. “You assist your classmates and they assist you. There’s a nice camaraderie on campus.”

Today, Kaneohe’s 50,000 residents receive vision care from nine optometrists and two ophthalmologists — Tracy is anxious to be added to that number. She envisions taking time out of the office to visit local schools and enhance the children’s knowledge about vision care via education and screenings. “I remember dental presentations during my years as a teacher and think, ‘why not vision presentations?’” she said.

In September 2006, Tracy’s proud parents, Dewey and Helene (a retired school administrator), traveled to Fullerton for the White Coat Ceremony for the Class of 2010. A family picture from that special ceremony now hangs in the Kaneohe office.

“I feel blessed to be here and grateful to SCCO for accepting me as a student.” Tracy said. “I’m extremely fortunate.”
Distinguished Alumnus of the Year 2006

Irvine Optometrist and Assistant Professor David T. Wakabayashi, O.D., has been honored by the Alumni Association of SCCO as its 2006 Distinguished Alumnus of the Year. Dr. Wakabayashi, a 1970 graduate of the College, was selected for this special recognition based on his service to his alma mater, leadership within the optometric profession, and achievement in community service.

“Dr. Wakabayashi joins a select group of 25 graduates of the College that have received this honor in recognition of their dedication and support on behalf of their alma mater, profession and community,” noted College Trustee Duane A. deCroupet, O.D., a 1970 graduate of SCCO and the 2002 recipient of the Distinguished Alumnus of the Year Award.

Dr. deCroupet presented the award to his classmate, Dr. Wakabayashi, at the College's Reunion Banquet held on October 7 in Fullerton.

In addition to his private practice in Irvine, Dr. Wakabayashi has been a member of SCCO's faculty since 1970. A life member of the College's Alumni Association, he has been serving on the organization's Board of Directors for more than 12 years.

A member of the American Optometric Association, he's also an active member and past president of the Orange County Optometric Society; and, a founder, past president and member of the Japanese American Optometric Society, now known as the Asian American Optometric Society. A fellow of the American Academy of Optometry, Dr. Wakabayashi has, for more than three decades, participated in several clinical trials in the area of contact lens research.

Supporting all of his professional and community activities is his wife, Reiko. The couple resides in Huntington Beach.

SCCO Alumni Association

Distinguished Alumnus of the Year Award Recipients

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Class Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>David T. Wakabayashi, O.D.</td>
<td>'70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Mark M. Morris, O.D.</td>
<td>'63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Wayne W. Hoefl, O.D.</td>
<td>'59</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2003</td>
<td>James L. Cox, O.D.</td>
<td>'67</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Duane A. deCroupet, O.D.</td>
<td>'70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Tony Carnevali, O.D.</td>
<td>'75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Rodger T. Kame, O.D.</td>
<td>'62*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Hershel B. Welton, O.D.</td>
<td>'64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Robert L. Gordon, O.D.</td>
<td>'71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Akio Kanai, O.D.</td>
<td>'72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Warren Harvard Low, O.D.</td>
<td>'52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Renald J. Anelle, O.D.</td>
<td>'65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Richard H. Kendall, O.D.</td>
<td>'51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1993</td>
<td>Lynn Caffrey Gabriel, O.D.</td>
<td>'78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1992</td>
<td>Robert L. Severtson, O.D.</td>
<td>'51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>L. Earl James, O.D.</td>
<td>'48*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1990</td>
<td>J. Davis Armitstead, O.D.</td>
<td>'48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989</td>
<td>James R. Gregg, O.D.</td>
<td>'48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1988</td>
<td>Arthur C. Heinsen, O.D.</td>
<td>'48*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1987</td>
<td>Robert F. Kettenhofen, O.D.</td>
<td>'46*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1986</td>
<td>Paul C. Barr, O.D.</td>
<td>'48</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1985</td>
<td>O. Doyle Dannenberg, O.D.</td>
<td>'48*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1984</td>
<td>Harold R. Lutes, O.D.</td>
<td>'38*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1983</td>
<td>Homer H. Hendrickson, O.D.</td>
<td>'38*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1980</td>
<td>Leslie W. Scown, O.D.</td>
<td>'21*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1979</td>
<td>Louis H. Jaques Sr., O.D.</td>
<td>'11*</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

NOTE: No award was given in 1981 or 1982.
*Deceased
Alumni Notes

1971
Paul A. Chenard, O.D., writes, “I have decided to retire after 35 years as an optometrist. I have enjoyed a varied career and it all started with the excellent education and experiences I had at SCCO. I decided to go to the ‘other coast,’ where I had never been, to enjoy my less stressful life.” Dr. Chenard and his wife, Jannelle, have relocated to Wilmington, NC.

1974
A newspaper announcement of vision care services offered today by, Donald L. Barniske, O.D., at his Brawley, CA, practice was juxtaposed with a photo from 1919 of the practice of Norman E. Dupont, O.D., ‘16 (deceased).

1980
William L. Petersen, O.D., Dana Point, CA, was featured in surfing legend Corky Carroll’s column, “Surf’s Up,” in the Orange County Register. The September 9, 2006 article, “Optometrist mixes practice, passion,” traces Dr. Petersen’s research and subsequent published articles on wearing contact lenses while surfing, as well as the effects of sunlight on the eyes while on the ocean. In the 1980s, Dr. Petersen developed, Suntacts, dark-tinted contact lenses and, he was a consultant in the development of Hobie Sunglasses. An original member of the Surfers Medical Association, he and the other members of this group of surfing doctors have traveled the world to surf and, along the way, have provided vision and medical care to people in very remote areas. Dr. Peterson counts many famous surfers, including Corky Carroll, and numerous surf photographers as his patients.

1997: Sierra Chang Gronquist celebrated her first birthday on January 13, 2007. Her proud parents are Joanne C. Gronquist, O.D., and her husband, Tem Gronquist, O.D., and her big sister is, Audrey. The Gronquists practice in Santa Barbara, CA, where the family also makes its home.

COA Board of Trustees

Elected in February to serve on the 2007 California Optometric Association (COA) Board of Trustees are the following SCCO alumni: Immediate Past President Kenneth S. Lawenda, O.D., ’70; Secretary/Treasurer James R. Dallas, O.D., ’86; and Trustees Movses D’Janbatian, O.D., ’83, and Harue J. Marsden, O.D., M.S., ’87. The four alumni were elected at the COA’s House of Delegates.

Honored at the same meeting were: SCCO Trustee Glenda B. Secor, O.D., as the 2006 Optometrist of the Year; Corey A. Hodes, O.D., ’01, Minna Huang, O.D., Res., ’02, and Rahul L. Keswani, O.D., ’01, as 2006 Young Optometrists of the Year; James L. Cooperman, O.D., Res., ’84, as Keyperson of the Year; Associate Dean for Clinical Education and Assistant Professor Julie A. Schornack, O.D., M.Ed., who received the Excellence in Optometric Education Award; and Fourth-Year Student Trevor Irish, ’07, who was named the recipient of the George I. Deane Jr., Memorial Leadership Scholarship.

1940: A Proclamation from the City of Los Angeles was one of dozens of congratulatory messages received by Leon G. Lipkis, O.D., on the occasion of his ninetieth birthday. Family and friends celebrated with Dr. Lipkis on January 18, 2007.

1965: Carl B. Melnik, O.D., and his wife, Donna, are pictured at Vision Expo, September 2006, in Las Vegas, NV. The Melnik’s reside in Granada Hills, CA.

1996: Caroline E. Rankin, O.D., and her husband and classmate, Brian H. Rankin, O.D., welcomed their third child, Brooke Elise, on August 15. She joins siblings Brady, 7.5 and Hayley, 5.5, at home in Elk Grove, CA. Mom and Dad both practice optometry with Kaiser Permanente in Sacramento.

1997: Sierra Chang Gronquist celebrated her first birthday on January 13, 2007. Her proud parents are Joanne C. Gronquist, O.D., and her husband, Tem Gronquist, O.D., and her big sister is, Audrey. The Gronquists practice in Santa Barbara, CA, where the family also makes its home.

The 88-year-old photo was in the October 7, 2006 issue of The Brawley News in celebration of the town’s Founders Days Celebration. Dr. Barniske’s practice was originally started in 1919, the same year Dr. Dupont opened his practice.
In July 2000, Kristi L. Rhodes, O.D., moved to Sisters, OR, and "opened cold," with the only full-time office in town. "My practice is growing strong and I am doing everything just the way I want," she wrote to SCCO President Les Walls, O.D., M.D., in September 2006. "Of course, I am making mistakes on my own, too. I am booked three days a week now. This is perfect for me because I have a one-year-old daughter. I am now at the point that I could add days, but I haven't yet. This was the best mode of practice for me and I would recommend it to any new graduate."

Josephine Tran Vu, O.D., and classmate, Justin B. Michaels, O.D., were married this past summer. Dr. Vu recently joined AcuFocus, Inc., in Irvine, CA. The couple resides in Fullerton.

IN MEMORIAM
SCCO was saddened to hear of the deaths of the following alumni and friends.

Robert A. Crawford, O.D., ’35
Costa Mesa, CA
Bernard A. Barents, O.D., ’41
Los Angeles, CA
Roy P. Smith, O.D., ’47
Sacramento, CA
O. Doyle Dannenberg, O.D., ’48
Trustee, 1960–75
Trustee Emeritus, 1975
Distinguished Alumnus, 1985
Council of Regents, 1988–0
Centennial Honoree, 2004
Escondido, CA
James D. Tavis, O.D., ’53
Lakewood, CO
Sheldon Kronfeld, O.D., ’56
San Diego, CA
Ronald S. Joelson, O.D., ’57
Saratoga, CA
Carl L. Young, O.D., ’58
Paso Robles, CA
Thomas J. Tappen, O.D., ’59
Buhl, ID
Patrick J. O’Brien, O.D., ’66
Fair Oaks, CA
Frances M. Boyer, O.D., ’67
Oceanide, CA
Raymond G. Haefele, O.D., ’70
Rialto, CA

Class of 1957
50-Year Reunion Luncheon
Held prior to SCCO’s 103rd Commencement Exercise Friday, May 25, 2007
Join the fun on SCCO’s beautiful Fullerton Campus!

Contact Class Chairs:
Ernest Nankas, O.D.
Office: 310.823.4595
Henry H. Oster, O.D.
Office: 323.655.3550

2000: Darren E. Elg, O.D., Queen Creek, AZ, has been inducted into Brigham Young University’s Athletic Hall of Fame. Dr. Elg was a seven-time All-American while performing as a gymnast for the BYU Cougars. As a senior in 1996, he was named the recipient of the Nissen Award given annually to the nation’s top gymnast. In a show of friendship and support for Dr. Elg and his wife, Stephanie, four SCCO graduates attended the Hall of Fame Banquet in Provo, UT on September 22. Pictured are (l-r): T. Lance Williams, O.D., ’00, Casa Grande, AZ; Richard J. Houghton, O.D., ’00, Lindon, UT; Dr. Elg; Jason P. Behunin, O.D., ’00, Orem, UT, and Carl C. Cottrell, O.D., ’98, Newcastle, WY.

2004
In July 2004, Kristi L. Rhodes, O.D., moved to Sisters, OR, and "opened cold," with the only full-time office in town. "My practice is growing strong and I am doing everything just the way I want," she wrote to SCCO President Les Walls, O.D., M.D., in September 2006. "Of course, I am making mistakes on my own, too. I am booked three days a week now. This is perfect for me because I have a one-year-old daughter. I am now at the point that I could add days, but I haven’t yet. This was the best mode of practice for me and I would recommend it to any new graduate."

Josephine Tran Vu, O.D., and classmate, Justin B. Michaels, O.D., were married this past summer. Dr. Vu recently joined AcuFocus, Inc., in Irvine, CA. The couple resides in Fullerton.

1999: Ethan James Smith arrived on February 5, much to the delight of his parents, Todd R. Smith, O.D., and his wife and classmate, Bethanie H. Deemer, O.D. The family resides in Phoenix, AZ, and the couple has a private practice in nearby Peoria.

2003: Corey J. Hoekstra, O.D., and his wife and classmate, Alissa A. Pepin, O.D., have welcomed their first child, Austin James. The bundle of joy arrived on February 21 weighing 7 pounds and 13 ounces. The family resides in Folsom, CA.
AROUND THE CAMPUS

A New Name: Signage goes up in anticipation of the Naming Ceremony for the Southern California College of Optometry's Carling Huntington Childs Family Eye Care Center. "The building naming commitment to SCCO and the Eye Care Center is the largest gift to the College in its 103-year history," noted President Les Walls, O.D., M.D., D.O.S. The estate gift from Mr. Childs, an SCCO Trustee and Benefactor, will be used to enhance vision technology, equipment and training at the campus-based clinical education facility. The Naming Ceremony was held March 15. Photo by Vice President of Advancement Bill Heaton.

How to Reach Us

Alumni Relations Office .......................................................... 714.449.7462
Optometric Placement Service "In-Sight" ..................................... www.scco.edu
Address/Record Changes ....................................................... 714.449.7462
Campus Store ........................................................................ 714.449.7434
Continuing Education Office .................................................... 714.449.7442
Development Office ................................................................. 714.449.7464
Eye Care Center ...................................................................... 714.449.7400
M.B. Ketchum Memorial Library .............................................. 714.449.7440
Publications Office ................................................................. 714.449.7463
Student Affairs Office ............................................................. 714.449.7444
Admissions ............................................................................. 714.449.7444
Financial Aid .......................................................................... 714.449.7444
SCCO Home Page ................................................................. www.scco.edu

Core Values

The core values of the Southern California College of Optometry are those qualities that constitute the educational philosophy and spirit of the institution, and permeate every aspect of the campus community. The College emphasizes and enhances these values in its students throughout the professional program. The core values of SCCO are leadership, ethics, professionalism, compassion, commitment, pursuit of excellence, pursuit of knowledge, collegiality, and sense of community.

Vision Statement

Enhancing the quality of life through vision care.

The mission of the Southern California College of Optometry is to provide the highest quality optometric education through excellence in teaching, patient care, research, public service and institutional management.

On the Cover:

Seven members of the Class of 2010, are working toward becoming third- or second-generation optometrists. The proud ODs-to-be of the current first-year class include an SCCO third-generation candidate Steve Gildersleeve (back right); and second-generation candidates Tracy Tom, Clare Halleran and Ed Wu. Not pictured are: Arian Fastash, Donald Gottlieb, and Scott Schwartz.

Alumniscope is published three times per year by the Southern California College of Optometry, in cooperation with the Alumni Association, 2575 E. Yorba Linda Blvd., Fullerton, CA 92831.
Printed on recycled paper.
Mark Your Calendars

CONTINUING EDUCATION*

SCCO Online CE
Co-Sponsored by Vision West, Inc.
Five Courses; 2 CE credits each
Register at: www.scco.edu/ceonline

Friday & Saturday,
April 13 & 14
Indian Health Service CE Program
16 CE Credits / Flagstaff, AZ

Sunday, April 29
Corneas & Contacts
7 CE Credits / SCCO

Wednesday, May 23
Student Research Symposium
4 CE Credits / SCCO

Sunday, June 10
Pediatric Eye Care:
   Current Perspectives
7 CE Credits / SCCO

Saturday & Sunday, July 7 & 8
Ocular Disease, Part 2
18 CE Credits / SCCO

Sunday, July 8
Coding & Billing for
   the Optometric Office
3 CE Credits / SCCO

Sunday, July 8
Technician Boot Camp @ SCCO
4 CE Credits / SCCO

SPECIAL EVENTS

Friday, May 25
103rd Commencement Exercise
4:30 p.m. / SCCO

*Continuing Education offerings are subject to change. Please contact
SCCO’s Office of Continuing Education for registration information: Voice
714.449.7442; FAX 714.992.7809;
Website: www.scco.edu

ALUMNI REUNION WEEKEND

Saturday & Sunday,
October 13 & 14
Continuing Education
12 CE Credits / SCCO
Alumni Association Annual
Meeting
All Family BBQ
Reunion Banquet
Reunion Information:
714.449.7462
CE Information: 714.449.7442

Special Announcements

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING
The Annual Meeting of the Alumni Association will be held during
the Alumni Reunion All Family BBQ on, Saturday, October 13.
Be sure to attend.

SHARED VISIONS ART EXHIBIT
Second Annual Art Exhibit by Artists Who Are Blind
or Legally Blind
Through September 2007
Eye Care Center, SCCO Campus

ALUMNUS OF THE YEAR
Nominations are now being accepted for the Southern California
College of Optometry’s Alumnus of the Year Award. To nominate an
alumnus, please visit the College’s website at www.scco.edu; navigate
to “Alumni,” select, “Alumni of the Year,” then select Nomination
Form near the bottom of the page. Deadline for receipt of nomina-
tions: Friday, June 1, 2007 at 5 p.m.