

# Ketchum

Fall 2017

MARSHALL B. KETCHUM UNIVERSITY



**2017 Optometrist of the Year, Paul Barney, OD, '84:  
Changing the Future of Optometry | 8-9**

**Ketchum University Students  
Dig Deep, Harness Grit to Excel | 10-19**

**Ketchum Health Patient Finds  
Her Way Around the World | 20-23**



# Ketchum

*Ketchum Magazine is published twice a year and is sent to University alumni, faculty, staff and friends of Ketchum University. Published by the Office of Marketing & Communications.*

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**Marshall B.  
KETCHUM UNIVERSITY**

## **OUR VISION**

We seek to reimagine the future of health care education.

## **OUR MISSION**

The mission of Marshall B. Ketchum University is to educate caring, inspired health care professionals who are prepared to deliver collaborative, patient-centric health care in an interprofessional environment.

## **OUR CORE VALUES**

Marshall B. Ketchum University is guided by the values of:

**Accountability:** We are committed to honesty, fairness and responsibility for our words and actions.

**Caring:** We strive to address the needs of our University community and others by nurturing a spirit of compassion.

**Excellence:** Consistent with our legacy, we are committed to achieving outcomes of the highest quality.

**Innovation:** We have the courage to dream and experiment with creative and unique ideas.

**Respect:** We value the unique talents and diversity of people, strive to work collaboratively and honor the open exchange of ideas.



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## throwback



# 1904

**In 1904, Dr. Marshall Bidwell Ketchum began a school in Los Angeles with the humble mission of teaching students how to refract and fit glasses to help people see better.** He founded the third-oldest optometry school in the nation in the Lankershim Building, located in downtown Los Angeles.

The history of the Southern California College of Optometry didn't truly begin when the institution was founded as the Los Angeles School of Ophthalmology and Optometry in 1904, but rather it began years before as a vision of its founder, Dr. Marshall B. Ketchum. His vision of eye care came at a time in history when the profession of optometry was in its infancy and striving to develop its own identity. He made very significant and long-standing contributions to the profession not only in California, but in the nation. Without a doubt, Dr. Marshall B. Ketchum was a visionary, entrepreneur and prominent leader in the profession.

In 2013, SCCO became part of something bigger – Marshall B. Ketchum University. In 2018, we will celebrate the first of many milestones – the University's fifth birthday. Ketchum University is leading a momentous change in health care education – a change that breaks down the traditional silos between different professional programs so students understand, on a comprehensive level, how to deliver excellent patient care in a team environment.

Dr. Ketchum would be proud. His entrepreneurial spirit is still alive today as Marshall B. Ketchum University reimagines health care education.



**TO SHARE YOUR THROWBACK PHOTOS AND STORIES**, contact us at [marketing@ketchum.edu](mailto:marketing@ketchum.edu).



## { By the numbers }

**120+** **SCCO students** participated in AOA+ in Washington, D.C., this past July.

**200** **new students** began their studies at Ketchum University in August.

**40,000+** **square feet** was transformed into a state-of-the-art Health Professions Building at the home of the former Eye Center on Ketchum's main campus.

## *In their words*

**"I am confident that our new graduates** will practice optometry at the highest level and with a commitment to strict ethical standards."

- **University President, Kevin L. Alexander, OD, PhD**

**"The College has done so much for me.** I have an unspoken debt to give back to a place that has given me so much."

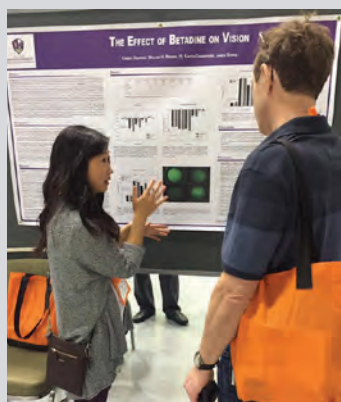
- **Class of 1967 Alumnus**

**"Thank you for the class quilt!** It's the perfect way to close my chapter of optometry school! This is an MBKU masterpiece!"

- **Siva Sivalingam, OD, '17**

## sharing the love

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Caren Oquindo rocking it at ARVO!  
#SCCO #MBKU

### Instagram

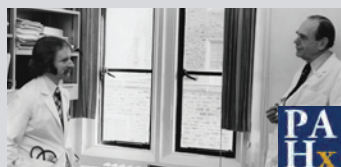


@AAMANDABEAU Love my peds peeps  
#residencygraduation



@BECCAROHRER So excited for Kira as she starts PA School!!! Go Keekers!

### Twitter



This month's  
Featured Associate:  
Marshall B. Ketchum  
University's School of  
PA Studies!  
@PA\_HX



RT @MBKETCHUMU:  
"Reena Patel, OD, isn't just  
passionate about pediatric  
eye care - she's an  
absolute, fervent advocate."  
@VISTAEECARE

**STAY CONNECTED**, follow us on social media. @MBKETCHUMUNIVERSITY and @KETCHUMHEALTH on Facebook. @MBKETCHUMU on Twitter and Instagram. @MBKU on Vimeo. **MARSHALL B. KETCHUM UNIVERSITY** on LinkedIn.



**Dr. Kevin L. Alexander** was named the first president of Marshall B. Ketchum University in 2013, and has overseen the transition to an interprofessional health care University with the addition of the School of PA Studies and College of Pharmacy.

## DEAR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS,

**F**all represents a time of change and transformation. At Ketchum University, the 2017 fall quarter is particularly exciting as we open our new Health Professions Building, bringing together all three professions on the Fullerton campus for the first time since we became a University in 2013. I encourage you to turn to page 26 to see for yourself this beautiful interprofessional learning environment.

I'm also excited to share that fall has brought forward some leadership changes at the University. I would like to introduce our readers to the new MBKU Alumni Association President, Wynette Augustine, OD, '84, and the new Chair of MBKU's Board of Trustees, Judge Carol Najera.



**Wynette Augustine, OD, '84**

Dr. Augustine graduated cum laude from the University of California, San Diego, with a Bachelor of Arts in Biology. She then graduated with honors from the Southern California College of Optometry in 1984. For the first five years of her professional career, Dr. Augustine was an Assistant Professor at SCCO. She also practiced in multiple settings, including private practice and large multi-specialty medical practices.

Today, she practices at Orange County Eyecare Optometry, Inc. in Placentia, Calif. Her experience in the profession of optometry has included contact lens and solution investigational studies. Previously, she served as an expert examiner for the National Board of Optometry in Fullerton, Calif. and New York, N.Y. She also served for many years as an expert exam writer for the California Board of Optometry.

I am excited to work alongside Dr. Augustine and our dedicated volunteers who serve on the MBKU Alumni Association Board. These talented individuals act as our conduits to our alumni around the world, so I encourage you to learn more about the Alumni Association by visiting [ketchum.edu/alumni](http://ketchum.edu/alumni).



**Carol J. Najera, JD**

I am also honored to introduce Carol J. Najera, JD, to you as the new Chair of the Board of Trustees. Judge Najera has served as a Los Angeles County Deputy District Attorney for 30 years, before being elected to serve as a Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge, a position which she currently holds.

She graduated from the University of Southern California Law School, where she also earned her undergraduate degree. At law school, she distinguished herself by earning a position on the Hale Moot Court Honor Society and attaining the level of quarter-finalist in the annual competition.





Just before fall quarter began, President Alexander helped move the faculty and staff into Ketchum University's newest facility, the Health Professions Building.



President Alexander encouraged SCCO students to view the eclipse through his personal telescope, which was equipped with a solar filter.

After becoming a Los Angeles County Deputy District Attorney, she successfully co-prosecuted the Menendez Brothers for the murders of their parents.

In the past she has served on the Board of the Lincoln Training Center, an organization that provides training and vocational therapy for people with developmental and physical disabilities. She was also an officer in the Women Lawyer's Association and served on the Board of the Association of Deputy District Attorneys.

On a personal note, her grandparents emigrated here from Mexico at the turn of the last century. Her parents came to California during the depression and settled in East Los Angeles. Her father was a steel worker and union shop steward at Bethlehem Steel for 35 years, while her mother raised their 11 children.

Judge Najera has been married for nearly 30 years to a Los Angeles County Deputy Sheriff who is now retired. He is also a veteran of the Vietnam War. They have four children.

"It is now my privilege to serve as President of the Board of Trustees of Marshal B. Ketchum University," says Judge Najera. "As you know, this is a dynamic time in the history of our University. It is a time that presents wonderful opportunities and exceptional challenges, and I will work with President Alexander on behalf of this institution to seize these opportunities and accept and complete these challenges."

This fall, I welcome all new and returning students back to campus and am looking forward to working with Dr. Augustine and Judge Najera as we reimagine the future of health care education.

Warm Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin L. Alexander".

**Kevin L. Alexander, OD, PhD**  
*President*

# Ketchum University's Fall Orientation Program: Creating a Culture of Student Success

**K**etchum University welcomed its incoming classes of optometry, PA and pharmacy students. The students hit the ground running with a unique orientation program designed to meet them where they are and introduce them to the school's carefully crafted culture of success.



Ketchum University's Peer Advisors pose for a group photo.



Ketchum's Senior Vice President and Chief of Staff Dr. Julie Schornack presents on professionalism and Ketchum Health during orientation.

"Our goal with orientation is to make the students feel welcome here on campus and introduce them to the culture of the University," said Vice President for Student Affairs Dr. Carmen Barnhardt. "We also devote time and create events during orientation for students to connect with each other."

Students from all three disciplines participated in a one-day orientation on Aug. 16, then attended separate orientations within their respective Colleges. The one-day University orientation provides them with an overview of campus expectations, procedures and policies, as well as a look into the resources available to them so they may stay on track, working toward success.

"One of our messages during orientation is to let students know – 'We are glad you are here, we know you will be successful, but if something gets in the way and you need support – we are here for you,'" said Dr. Barnhardt.

Orientation week opened with an evening picnic on Tuesday, Aug. 15. MBKU Peer Advisors hosted the picnic and offered first-year students a chance to make connections with their new classmates both within their professional graduate program and with the other professional programs as well.

"The students also had time to interact with their Peer Advisors and tour the campus," said Dr. Barnhardt.

University orientation begins with an address from Ketchum President Kevin L. Alexander, OD, PhD. Later, students are introduced to all three Deans during "Meet the Deans." Here the Deans provide an overview of the professions so all students understand the variety of programs offered at Ketchum. "This is also a perfect introduction to interprofessional education, a core component of the curriculum," said Dr. Barnhardt.





All first-year OD, PA and PharmD students pose for a University photo in the Ernest A. Hutchinson Memorial Amphitheater.

Since all of the students will have successfully navigated undergraduate school prior to being accepted to Ketchum, the students typically are accustomed to functioning on their own. Most students also realize graduate school will be more difficult, but some underestimate how much more difficult it can be, especially the transition period. Many aspects of life during this time may change (e.g., living situation, relationship status, finances, etc.). For that reason, the University works hard to develop programs to help students succeed academically and emotionally.

Director of University Student Counseling Services Dr. Alyse Kirschen provides students with an overview of services available at the counseling center. Many of these services are geared toward teaching students the value of self-care and stress management.

Assistant Director for Student Affairs and Student Engagement Tori Holmes says orientation is also an opportunity to advise students of the services provided by the Student Achievement Center and within the Dr. Lorraine Voorhees Resource Room. Those services include seminars on such topics as communication, financial literacy and managing test anxiety.

“Orientation provides an opportunity to give students information about the services and resources available to them throughout their enrollment at Ketchum University,” said Holmes.


Holmes says attention is also given to address the needs of all students who come to the University as married individuals or as

parents. For instance, the University’s Married Student Club hosts a welcome brunch each year at the end of orientation week.

“We have a lot of students who come to MBKU who aren’t SoCal natives and who have spouses and/or families joining them,” said Holmes.

The individual Colleges also work to make the students feel welcome during their orientations. For instance, the Dean of the College of Pharmacy hosts a dinner for students. The School of PA Studies organizes a service project at the conclusion of its orientation where students spend the day working at a food bank. SCCO students have the opportunity to have coffee and donuts with their first-year faculty members.

“Our job is to meet the students where they are at,” explained Dr. Barnhardt. “We don’t view orientation as a one-day event; we see orientation as a process.”

“I want students to walk away at the end of orientation and say – ‘I am glad I came to school here. I made the right choice,’” added Dr. Barnhardt. 



# 2017 Optometrist of the Year, Paul Barney, OD, '84: Changing the Future of Optometry

By Amy Mehdizadeh

**A**s a graduate from the Southern California College of Optometry at Marshall B. Ketchum University, Dr. Paul Barney joined the Pacific Cataract and Laser Institute (PCLI) and moved to Anchorage, Alaska, in 1999 to head the surgical co-management center. He thought it would be a temporary relocation. However, almost 20 years later, this move dramatically shaped his career, strengthening his fortitude and his determination to change legislation affecting the next generation of optometrists.

On July 26, 2017, Alaska's Governor Bill Walker signed HB 103 into law. "This legislation, in my opinion, is a milestone for optometry because it is the first law in the United States that gives the Board of Optometry the authority to write regulations for whatever is taught at an accredited school or college of optometry," Dr. Barney said.

According to Dr. Barney, HB 103 allows the Alaska Board of Examiners of Optometry the autonomy and flexibility to write regulations that coincide with the current technology and education available to students graduating with optometry degrees. "Today, an education in optometry and related training, coursework and technology has moved leaps and bounds further than we could have anticipated decades ago," he said. "We need to have the ability for the profession and practice to keep up with the times."

Currently, each state has its own unique statute of what an optometrist can do within the practice and those parameters can vary greatly from state to state. The goal of this legislation is to give the Board of

Examiners of Optometrists in Alaska the ability to set the parameters for those in the field – and hopefully serve as a template for other states to follow.

Dr. Barney and his colleagues have exhibited tremendous tenacity and grit working tirelessly for the last three years to get this bill in front of the governor to sign into law. In the winter, Dr. Barney traveled to the state capitol six times to testify to the Legislature and work on moving the bill through the proper channels. "It's a huge undertaking to create a new law," he said. "The amount of review, cost, time and oversight is astounding ... and I'm so proud that we were able to weather all these challenges to push optometry into the 21<sup>st</sup> century!"

In addition to this legislation, Dr. Barney has testified before the state Legislature numerous times throughout the year, routinely traveling to the state capitol in Juneau, Alaska, located 850 miles from his home. Juneau is such a remote location, it is only accessible by boat or plane; Dr. Barney opts for the plane.

**"We need to have the ability for the profession and practice to keep up with the times."**

*Paul Barney*





Dr. Paul Barney delivers his acceptance speech at the 2017 Optometry's Meeting®.



AOA Immediate Past President Andrea P. Thau, OD, poses for a photo with Paul Barney, OD, after he accepts AOA's Optometrist of the Year Award.


**His grit and determination to work with the Legislature to make long-lasting, substantial changes in the field of optometry is admirable.**

Although Dr. Barney lives far from his alma mater, his impact on the optometry community can be felt throughout the United States and globally as well. As an optometric leader around the world, Dr. Barney travels domestically and internationally to improve optometry education and increase accessibility to quality eye care. It was two former SCCO classmates – Robert McQuaid, OD, '84, and his wife, Rheda Gerlock, OD, '84, – who first introduced Dr. Barney to an optometry program at the Ramkhamhaeng University in Bangkok. Each year, Dr. Barney donates several weeks of his time to travel to Bangkok and teach at the university's optometry program. Some of his courses include "Applied Ocular Therapeutics" and "Diagnosis and Treatment of Anterior Segment Diseases." In addition to his lectures, Dr. Barney mentors students from the program throughout the year via email.

For his work in advancing his field, both at home and abroad, Dr. Barney was named the 2016 Optometrist of the Year by the Alaska Optometric Association (AKOA) and was recognized with a Legislative Citation by the Alaska State Legislature following the signing of HB 103 into law. Each year an optometrist is selected from most states as a leader in their field. Dr. Barney has been the first recipient of Alaska's statewide recognition in the last 18 years.

On the heels of the Alaska recognition, Dr. Barney was honored by the American Optometric Association (AOA) with the 2017 Optometrist of the Year Award. The AOA selects the honoree by selecting from the optometrists recognized by their states. Dr. Barney and his family traveled to Washington, D.C., to accept the award at the national conference in June surrounded by 3,000 colleagues and peers. "It was definitely a very humbling experience," Dr. Barney said.

When he's not working, guest lecturing, leading committees, mentoring or traveling, Dr. Barney is an avid bike rider and roadside mechanic for local charity rides. In his 32-mile roundtrip commute to work, he said it's not uncommon to cross paths with a bear or moose ... which only encourages him to ride at a slightly quicker pace. He also has a passion for wilderness photography, especially capturing images of the animals of Alaska.

With all his work and hobbies, it is amazing Dr. Barney has time for anything else on his plate. But it's his strides to change the laws affecting optometry that will truly mark his legacy as a pioneer in the field. His grit and determination to work with the Legislature to make long-lasting, substantial changes in the field of optometry is admirable. 



Dr. Barney's passion for wilderness photography is captured in these stunning images he photographed in his home state of Alaska.



**Alicia Austerman**  
School of PA Studies, '18



**Michael Goering**  
SCCO, '19



**Steven Nguyen**  
College of Pharmacy, '20



**Steven Bayer**  
School of PA Studies, '17



**Diana Nguyen**  
SCCO, '19



**Sandy Rios**  
College of Pharmacy, '20



**Alexander Paradis**  
SCCO, '19



**Angie Kim**  
School of PA Studies, '17





# Ketchum University Students Dig Deep, Harness Grit to Excel

By Pamela Martineau

**“Grit: Firmness of mind or spirit; unyielding courage in the face of hardship or danger.”**

That’s the Merriam-Webster dictionary definition of “grit,” that elusive trait that researchers are finding trumps intelligence, physical strength and academic prowess in predicting success. Those who’ve studied the trait believe its underpinnings are resilience and passion. If someone has passion for what they are doing and can adapt to an inevitably shifting terrain, they can attain their goals.

Here we take a look at some of our students who’ve embraced grit to propel them to success.



**ALICIA AUSTERMAN** | School of PA Studies, '18

## Her Own Medical Journey Led Her to a Career in Medicine

Alicia Austerman, School of PA Studies, '18, knows firsthand the critical role PAs play in patient care. It was a PA who made Austerman's journey through cancer less clinical and more humane.

"I wasn't a number to him," Austerman says of the PA who attended to her during her cancer treatment. "The whole process (with cancer) showed me I wanted to go into medicine to be that kind of provider."

Austerman's journey through cancer began when she was an 18-year-old college freshman at Arizona State University. She was studying one day and noticed some bumps on her arm. She had it checked out and was ultimately diagnosed with a very rare form of non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma. Her form of the disease was so rare, it was only the 23<sup>rd</sup> case that had been seen in the entire Mayo Clinic system.

The next years of Austerman's life were a haze of medical treatments – chemotherapy, radiation, hospitalizations. She tried to carry on her undergraduate studies throughout it all, but at times had to stop.

"The second I was cleared, I immediately got a wig and got back into college," she says, adding that she has been in remission for 10 years.

Her time in medical treatment taught her the power of PAs and the impact a good health care provider can have on a patient.

"When you are being treated like that, you experience the good and the bad of the health care system," she says. "And you sometimes meet people who change your life."

"I had a good physician, but they don't have a lot of time," she says, adding that her PA was able to spend more quality time with her and her mother.

"The PAs would come into the room first, and they would leave the room last," she says.

Both Austerman and her then-boyfriend (now-husband) experienced a life change because of her treatment. Both are now pursuing a career in medicine. He is a

neurosurgeon completing his seven-year residency in Houston. They have a long-distance relationship.

"We both took a 180-degree turn and decided we wanted to go into medicine and help people," she says.

Austerman grew up in both Minnesota and Arizona, splitting time between her parents' houses. Once she went into remission, she pursued her education fiercely, earning an undergraduate degree and then later a master's degree in global medicine from the University of Southern California.

But her goal remained becoming a PA. She says she chose to study at Ketchum University because of its solid reputation and her decision was cemented once she stepped on campus.

"When I stepped on the campus I had a really good feeling about it," she says. "I felt like it was a place you could really grow as a person."

"The professors really do a good job," she says of MBKU. "They make you want to learn and work harder."

Austerman hasn't chosen a specialty yet, but has enjoyed working in neurology and orthopedics.

She and her husband enjoy traveling and have been to Ireland, England and the Dominican Republic. They have worked at orphanages in the Dominican Republic.

Her journey with cancer brought some unexpected gifts too. Perspective is one of them.

"I don't take things for granted," she says. "Bad things can happen, but in the end, good things can come out of it."





**MICHAEL GOERING** | SCCO, '19

## Meeting Each Challenge with Positivity and Gratitude

Michael Goering, SCCO, '19, learned the importance of embracing grit early in life. The second to the youngest child in a family of 13 kids, Goering's mother was diagnosed with leukemia when he was 10 years old.

"I was always at the hospital visiting her," says Goering. "I knew then that I wanted to do some kind of medicine. I just didn't know what type."

Money was tight growing up in Iowa and Goering had to rely on himself to pay for his education. He was offered a full scholarship at a university in Iowa, but that commitment to him ultimately wasn't honored when he returned from his two-year Latter-day Saints' mission in Malaysia and Singapore.

Like all resilient people, Goering hit the reset button and launched into Plan B. Plan B was applying elsewhere and obtaining a football scholarship at Southern Virginia University where he studied pre-med.

Studying in Virginia allowed him to volunteer at a free community clinic in the Appalachian Mountains. The clinic offered underserved patients free dental and vision care.

Initially Goering set his sights on becoming a dentist, but that first tour of duty in the community clinic shifted that dream.

"I first helped out the dentists for about 30 minutes at the clinic. I didn't like it and went to help the optometrists," he says. "I just loved it. I thought it was awesome. I saw how much of a difference it made in their lives."

Goering was hooked and set out to apply to optometry school. He honed in on a school in Memphis, but during a virtual optometry school fair, he spoke to some admissions officers from SCCO.

"I thought if the admissions office is this nice, I can only imagine what the school is like," says Goering.

"I have always wanted to go into private practice, so the practice management classes at Ketchum University were what really stood out to me, as well as the

history and reputation for producing top clinicians."

He says his instincts were right. He loves the school. But the work has been challenging, he adds.

"The professors expect so much from us, which is good because it pushes us to be the best that we can be. I just didn't realize how much we would have to learn on our own outside of lecture," he says.

"But I'm kind of a big nerd so I do study a lot," he adds.

His studies have been challenging for other reasons too. His mother was diagnosed two years ago with another form of cancer. He went to visit her this summer, knowing it may be the last time he sees her.

"The hardest part for me is trying to stay focused and not get caught up in the what-ifs," he says, adding that his mother has been an inspiration to him. She has made a list of about 100 things she wants to do before she passes and has been ticking them off the list, despite her illness.

The U.S. Army is paying for Goering's education. When he graduates, he will go on active duty, then later join the reserves. Ultimately, he hopes to open his own practice.

He and his wife enjoy visiting the beaches of Southern California and taking Ryder, their Australian Shepard, on long hikes.

"My wife and I love to explore and try new foods and different restaurants, go to the beach, hike," he says. "It's mostly just stuff to let go and unwind."

*Editor's Note: At the time of publication, we are deeply saddened to share that Michael's mother has passed away. The entire Ketchum community extends their deepest condolences to Michael during this difficult time.*



**STEVEN NGUYEN** | College of Pharmacy, '20

## Setbacks Prompt Reflection - and Inner Fortitude

Steven Nguyen, College of Pharmacy, '20, found direction and inner strength from the unlikelyst of places – academic disqualification as an undergraduate. The experience forced him to dig deep, and learn some hard truths. It was a setback he never expected and one that forever changed his outlook.

“It was a wake-up call that life isn’t easy and life isn’t fair,” says Nguyen. “And things aren’t going to be just given to you.”

The academic disqualification came his junior year at UC Irvine as a biology major. He admits he had been “flaking,” not knowing what he wanted to do. Still, it came as a surprise to both him and his family.

“I was the first one in my extended family to be academically disqualified,” he explains. “It forced me to do some soul searching to see what I wanted to do.”

The experience helped to focus him as he continued taking community college classes to get back into good academic standing. He ultimately did get back in good standing and finished his degree at UC Irvine.

Along the way, he strengthened his relationships with his family members.

“I wasn’t opening up to them then as much as I am now,” he says.

Throughout all of this, he had been consistently working in a pharmacy as a pharmacy technician, a span that totaled seven years. It gave him the opportunity to see how pharmacists work to help people live healthier lives. He knew that was the path he wanted to pursue and applied to Ketchum University for graduate school.

“I had the goal of pharmacy early on, but I didn’t put in the work,” he says. “Now I put in the work.”

His choice of the medical field as a profession was confirmed for him in December 2016 when his father was hospitalized for heart problems and ultimately underwent heart surgery.

“I got to see the front lines of health care and saving lives,” says Nguyen.

Nguyen says his studies at Ketchum University are “definitely more challenging than undergraduate school” but he is committed and putting in the hard work.

“If you put in the hard work now, you don’t have to struggle as much down the road,” he says. “It is a long-distance marathon and I have to keep going at my own pace and not let anything distract me.”

Nguyen is drawn to pharmacy work, not just because it is in the medical field, but because he enjoys interacting with people and the job will allow him to do that.

“I’m a people person. I like to interact with them. But I also would like to be part of the medical profession,” he says.

In his free time, Nguyen is an avid rock climber, but pretty much loves anything outdoors.

Nguyen isn’t sure yet if he will work in a retail pharmacy, a private setting or hospital, but he knows he has chosen the right field. He grew up in Irvine, Calif., and plans to stay in Southern California after graduation.

“I always had the goal of pharmacy,” he says.





**STEVEN BAYER** | School of PA Studies, '17

## Maneuvering Through Life's Challenges to Chart His Destiny

Steven Bayer, School of PA Studies, '17, knows precisely what it takes to work through challenges – intense resolve and lots of positivity. He hopes to share that message with his patients.

"I do everything in my power to achieve what I put my mind to," says Bayer.

And Bayer has achieved much, despite some physical hurdles along the way.

His freshman year in college at Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Bayer started experiencing bad headaches and vision problems. When he went in to the doctor to be checked, doctors found he had a blood clot in his brain. He underwent eight surgeries and had a shunt implanted in his brain. Surgeons couldn't fix the entire blood clot, so he remains on blood thinners to this day.

But talk to Bayer about the experience, he sounds almost grateful for it. It led him to his current profession and taught him to appreciate life.

"Honestly, it was an eye-opener that life can be very short," says Bayer. "I don't let my diagnosis limit my life and control me. I live as happy as I can."

It was during his time in the hospital in Colorado that he first learned of the PA field. A PA worked with him extensively in the hospital. He saw what an impact he had on him and others. He researched the field and even shadowed PAs. He'd found his life's profession, he says.

"Becoming a PA, navigating through my clinical year, I couldn't even imagine another profession," says Bayer. "Talking with the patients and connecting, you leave at the end of the day and feel you've made a difference in someone's life."

Perhaps Bayer's grit was cemented as a child. He always had to work harder than others at sports to achieve his goals. He was born without a thumb on one hand and taught himself how to pitch. He rose all the way to playing on the varsity baseball team in high school. He also played soccer, basketball and skied.

His idol growing up was Major League Baseball player Jim Abbott, a pitcher for the California Angels and other teams who was born without a right hand. Abbott's

book – "Imperfect: An Improbable Life" – made a huge impact on Bayer. The book's premise: Find something you love and go after it with all of your heart.

"He just wanted to prove his disability didn't hold him back," says Bayer. "That's how I've taken everything in life. All the people who've doubted me along the way, I wanted to prove them wrong and show them nothing will hold me back."

"I worked three times as hard," he adds.

Bayer passes on his philosophy of personal power to his patients. For instance, if a patient talks about how he is having trouble bringing his blood sugar down, he encourages him.

"It helps me encourage them," he says of his experiences. "I say – 'Yes you can. If you put your mind to it and you don't let your disease control you.'"

Bayer was born and raised in Vermont, but plans to stay after graduation in the San Diego area where he now lives with his future spouse. He hopes to practice in a primary care setting because that's where "there is the most need in all of health care."



**DIANA NGUYEN** | SCCO, '19

## Transitioning From Television Reporter to Optometrist: Persistence Pays Off

Diana Nguyen, SCCO, '19, worked for three years as a television reporter after graduating from San Jose State University. She covered some exciting stories, but also depressing ones.

"Whatever bleeds leads," Nguyen says of the oft-quoted mantra describing television news.

She chose to go into optometry because it is a helping profession, and one in which patients don't fear visiting their doctor like they often do visiting a dentist or surgeon.

"They come in excited to see you because you can make a big difference in their everyday life," she says, adding that she chose the field after working in her aunt's optometry office in Sacramento, Calif.

But Nguyen says her journey to optometry school was challenging. Before applying to SCCO, she needed to return to school to take her prerequisite math and science classes. It took three years because she couldn't always get the classes she needed for post-baccalaureate students.

Nguyen persisted and was accepted to SCCO. Once here, she experienced a rough transition, she says. She had been taking prerequisite classes at UC Berkeley and at a local community college, which were both on the semester system, as was San Jose State. SCCO is on the quarter system and the pace of learning is faster.

"It was hard to adjust. We sometimes had tests two times a week," she says, adding that she eventually adjusted and worked to change her learning style.

"There were always times when I felt like I can't make it through this. But I always fought and worked as hard as I could," she says.

"Since I was able to make it through all of the obstacles to this point, it makes me feel as though I have the strength to accomplish anything in the future," says Nguyen.

Nguyen credits her persistence and her SCCO professors for much of her success.

"The professors have been amazing. They go out of their way to help you," she says.

"They make themselves available. Some even give out their cellphone numbers right before exam days for any last-minute questions."

The work has been hard, but she knows she made the right choice in profession, she says. She hopes to work in private practice and one that is on the smaller side so she can take more time with patients.

"I want to give comprehensive, thorough exams," she says, "so the patients know the full scope of any ocular problems they might have."

She grew up in the San Jose area and plans to stay in California. In her free time she plays electric guitar and surfs.

"I practice guitar during study breaks," she says.

And her advice to other students who may be experiencing a tough transition?

"Don't give up," she says. "There have been so many times where I wanted to give up, but I accomplished so much by believing in myself."





**SANDY RIOS** | College of Pharmacy, '20

## Working to Help Patients Bridge the Language Barrier

Sandy Rios, College of Pharmacy, '20, grew up in the East San Fernando Valley of Los Angeles where she says there are many socio-economic barriers to higher education. Rios's parents immigrated from Mexico in the 1980s and didn't make much money while she was growing up. But they did give her an enormous gift: a respect and yearning for a higher education.

"We didn't have much, but what they provided was the importance of education," says Rios. "They taught me I could dream of graduate school."

Rios embraced that gift and studied hard in school. She was accepted to and subsequently graduated from the University of California, San Diego. While there she worked at a free clinic and learned how the experiences of her past could shape her future and help others.

She worked as a pharmacy assistant at the clinic and the majority of her patients were Spanish speaking. She saw again – as she had during her childhood translating for her parents at doctors' appointments – how potentially detrimental a language barrier can be in medicine.

"I learned firsthand how the language barrier has an impact ... and it is present in underserved communities," she says.

"I was born here and it was easier for me to adapt than my parents," she says. "I would stop and help them with things like bills and doctors' appointments."

Rios played a similar role with the patients at the clinic, helping them to understand their medications, their dosage and functions.

"You would be the bridge between the language and helping them to understand that there is nothing to fear," she says.

Rios says the experience working at the clinic has propelled her to a career in helping others. She hopes to work in a clinic setting once she graduates from Ketchum University.

"Working at the free clinic was a major turning point in my life," she says.

"I felt I can do this. I can give back and make a difference."

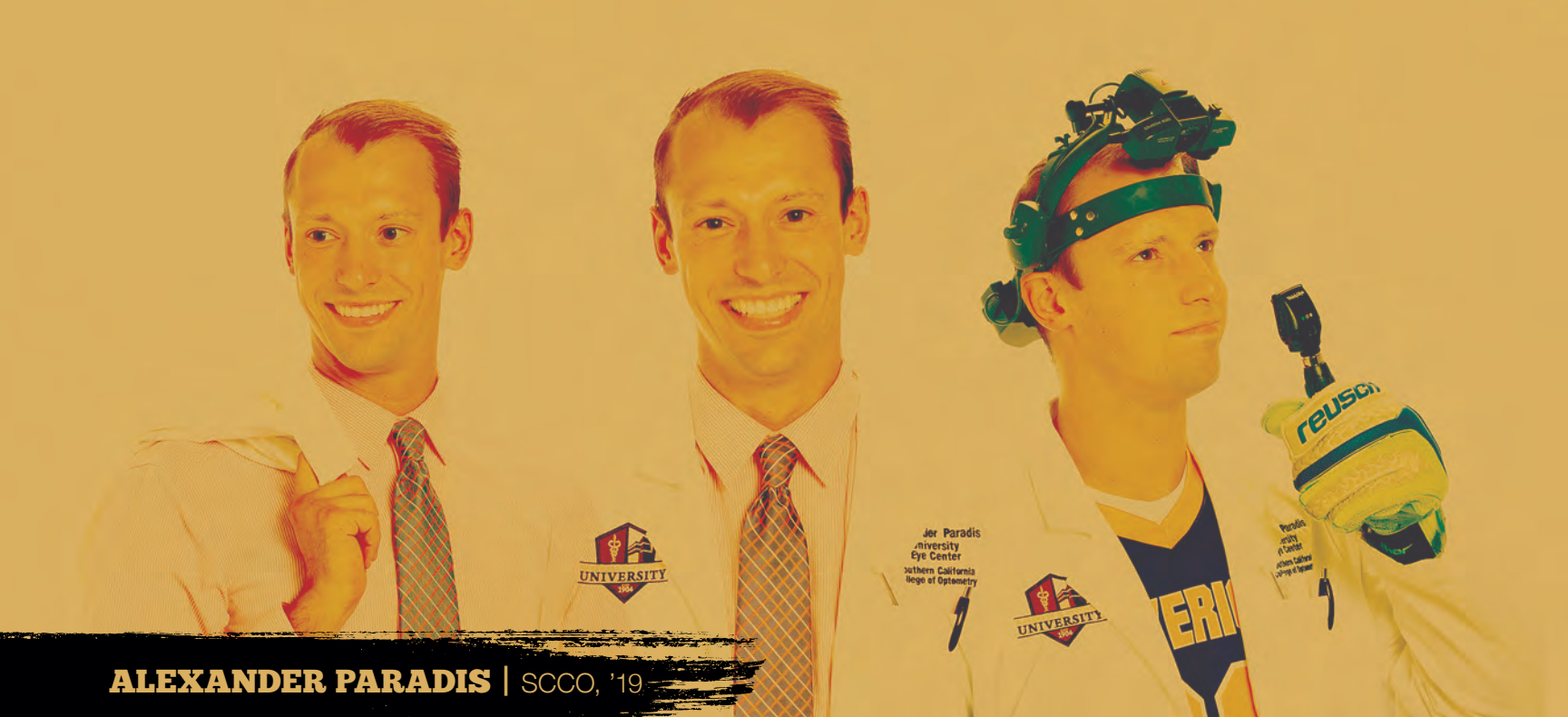
She describes her experience studying at Ketchum University as "energizing."

"I actually love it," she says. "I am at an institution where everyone is excited to be studying for their degree," she says. "I feel like I am in a different position as far as the trajectory of my family."

Rios is working hard at MBKU. Her days are made longer by her commute from Panorama City, which she makes every day on public transportation. She studies during her travels. For fun, she likes to hike, hang out in cafés, check out new restaurants or head into Los Angeles to wander through museums.

But her main focus is school. She is soaking in everything she can because she views it as essential to being able to effect change for the good.

"I have been blessed to have these opportunities," she says. "I am always learning how to help others ... I am trying to grasp as much as I can so when I graduate I can serve as a leader in my community to break down socio-economic barriers."



**ALEXANDER PARADIS** | SCCO, '19

## Gaining Compassion and Understanding From Life's Challenges

Growing up in Minnesota, Alexander Paradis, SCCO, '19, is grateful that his best friend was his older brother. It's not just that liking your brother enough to call him your best friend is cool, it's also that Paradis's brother has autism and his neuro-atypical perspective taught Paradis so much.

"My brother is my drive in life and in school," says Paradis. "He has changed who I am for the better. He has made me realize to accept everyone for who they are. Really step back and try to view others' lives from their point of view."

Living with his brother taught Paradis to watch for other people's perspectives, something he says makes him less judgmental and more compassionate.

Paradis's path to SCCO was a bit circuitous. Originally, he wanted to be a police officer and first majored in criminal justice at Minnesota State University, Mankato.

"I wanted to be a cop for my entire life," says Paradis.

But after he learned more about the profession and the impact it has on a police officer's family, he decided to go a new route and think about another career. A friend introduced him to the field of optometry and he was able to travel with a group of optometrists to Ghana for a 40-day internship.

"I truly found my passion in optometry," Paradis says of his trip. "Seeing the impact on people's lives. I fell in love with the profession."

Paradis especially remembers a teenage boy in Ghana who had waited more than five hours to see an optometrist. His vision was quite bad and when he was outfitted with glasses, it was transformative.

"His instantaneous smile was amazing," Paradis remembers. The image of that boy stays with Paradis and reminds him of the passion he feels for the profession.

Paradis relied on his grit to make it through college. He played lacrosse and traveled frequently, studying on the bus. He seriously injured his knee his senior year, but returned to play lacrosse his "super senior" year. He also held down a job to pay his bills. He graduated cum laude and was President of the Pre-Optometry Club.

He originally planned to study at Salus University in Pennsylvania, even enrolling there. "But for some reason," he explains, he decided to interview with SCCO. He got a great feeling for the school.

But he says his first couple of years at Ketchum University were tough. His family back in Minnesota was going through a rough time with his dad's alcoholism.

"It was so hard to be away from home," he says. "I wanted to help out with the family."

His dad sought help and got better.

"Now my dad is back on track and healthy," he says.

Paradis adds that his experiences with his brother and his father will make him a better optometrist.

"You're not judging. You are listening. Maybe you can provide a little input along the way," he says.

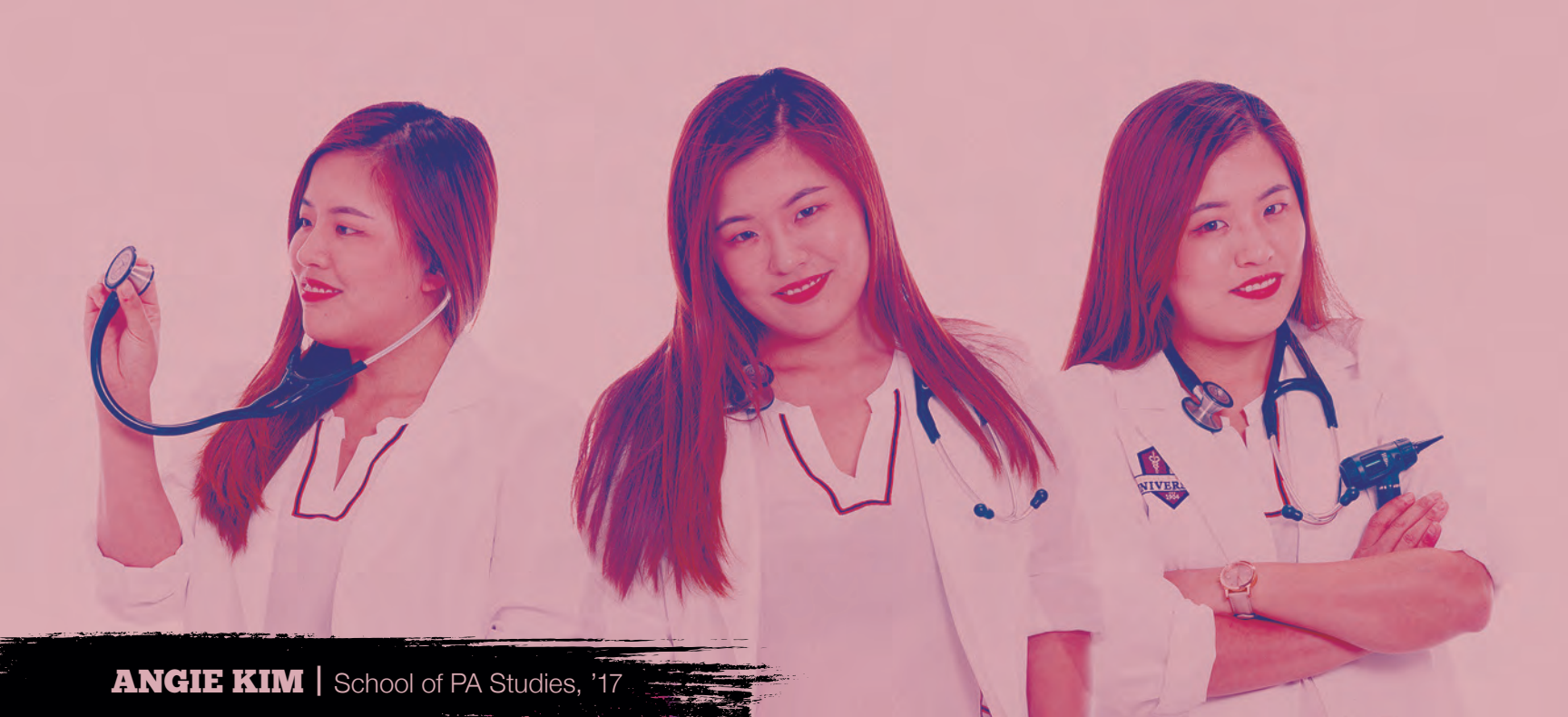
Paradis has continued his volunteer work at MBKU. He is Co-President of the Student Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity – SVOSH – and has traveled to Mexico on numerous service trips.

A big outdoorsman, Paradis enjoys camping, fishing, hiking and kayaking during his down time. He also plays in two different soccer leagues and enjoys a good game of pick-up basketball.

When he graduates, he hopes to return to Minnesota to work in a private practice group, as well as continue to serve people through his work.

"I have a huge heart and love to help others," he says.





**ANGIE KIM** | School of PA Studies, '17

## Bringing Life's Experience to a New Level of Compassionate Care

Angie Kim, School of PA Studies, '17, was drawn to the medical profession because it offers her the opportunity to practice compassionate care. And when she encounters a patient who has experienced domestic violence, she offers another level of understanding to her compassionate care – she knows domestic violence firsthand.

"I grew up in a violent home ever since I was child," Kim says. "Seeing my family member getting hurt made me want to help others."

Kim says she has only recently been able to speak of her experience with domestic violence.

"It happened all of my life. The day after my high school graduation I convinced my mother to go to a women's shelter," she says.

"Initially, growing up it was something I didn't talk about. The fear was so great," she says. "But it's not something to feel ashamed about. Anyone can seek help."

Kim was born in Seoul, South Korea, and immigrated to the United States when she was 8 years old. She grew up in Southern California. She says she has always been drawn to the medical profession. She studied biology at Cal Poly Pomona and worked as a medical assistant in an internal medicine practice. It was there that she first learned about compassionate care.

"Before that I never saw how much care that PAs give," she says.

She decided to become a PA because they are in need and can serve in so many capacities. She hopes to work in an underserved area.

She says her experience at Ketchum University has been "much more than (she) ever wished for in a graduate program."

"Our professors are so devoted to teaching us, not just the medical aspect, but about compassionate care too," she says. "Our preceptors say it's great to have us at rotations. I feel that has to do with how we were taught and how the faculty prepared us."

Kim says she is putting a lot of thought into the area of medicine she will ultimately choose to practice in. She says she is drawn to primary care and emergency medicine.

She already has been able to use her family experiences to help others. During her emergency room rotation she encountered a young woman who had been beaten by her boyfriend. While she didn't directly speak of her own experience, she encouraged the young woman to seek help.

"There are resources out there and I encouraged her to reach out," she says.

When not studying, Kim enjoys taking her cockapoo to the dog park, going to Disneyland and exploring new restaurants. She also enjoys traveling. This year, she will visit Taiwan and South Korea for her brother's wedding and go to Portugal for Christmas. **K**

### KETCHUM UNIVERSITY IS FULL OF STUDENTS WHO'VE SHOWN GRIT

along their journey to the University and as they pursue their studies at MBKU. We are proud to share some of their stories with you.

Nominate a student to be featured in the next edition of Ketchum Magazine by emailing [marketing@ketchum.edu](mailto:marketing@ketchum.edu).



# Ketchum Health Patient Finds Her Way Around the World

By Mary Castillo



'Bogotá, Colombia was the first stop on my journey during my solo travel experience in South America over the summer. It was my first exposure to traveling with a language barrier and relying on other skills (beyond talking and seeing) to navigate the new city. I would count street intersections and pay close attention to monuments and churches to make sure I didn't get too turned around! Fortunately, the city is covered with beautiful street art so it is a perfect city to get a little lost and explore.' - Ciera Ramos

**If** you ask Ciera Ramos, 24, what it is like to travel the world with 20/200 vision, she'll ask you what it's like to travel with 20/20 vision. Born with optic nerve atrophy (ONA), she grew up not knowing the difference. Resourceful by nature and with the support of the University Eye Center at Ketchum Health, Ciera has embraced the challenges of limited vision and grown into an adventurous world traveler.

Ciera's vision issues became apparent to her teachers and parents when, in kindergarten, she struggled with distance vision such as reading the chalkboard and recognizing faces. She remembers her parents taking her from one optometrist to the other. "They couldn't see anything physically wrong with my eyes and they weren't sure what the problem was," she remembers. "One suggested that I wanted glasses to look cool!"

But the answers came when Ciera met Catherine Heyman, OD, '93, Associate Professor at the Southern California College of Optometry and member of the Pediatric Vision Care Services team at the University Eye Center at Ketchum Health. Dr. Heyman's comprehensive evaluation correctly diagnosed Ciera with optic nerve atrophy, an extremely rare condition. Visual impairment affects less than 1% of the population and ONA is an even lower percentage.

Optic nerve atrophy results from mild to severe damage to the optic nerve that can affect central vision, peripheral vision and color vision. Causes include tumor, trauma, decreased blood supply (ischemia) or oxygen supply (hypoxia). For Ciera, the damage to her optic nerve occurred at birth due to labor complications.

"The back of the eye is the freeway that connects visual information to the brain," Dr. Catherine Heyman explains. "When those nerves are not working properly, information from the outside world to the brain is not clear."





'My life held such uncertainty as a child with a diagnosis that didn't have much optimism for a future of independence, but here I was, solo traveling through nine Latin American countries and succeeding!' - Ciera Ramos

While there is no cure for ONA, proper treatment with glasses or contact lenses and low vision rehabilitation can provide patients with good use of their remaining functional vision. Dr. Heyman played an important role in Ciera's formative years, helping her to succeed in school and life.

"We initially decided to come up with treatment options that would help her do better in school," Dr. Heyman remembers. "The best thing with low vision patients, especially children, is to go at it in terms of goals."

However, like most children born with low vision, Ciera had adapted to her eyesight. She learned how to find her friends on the playground by memorizing what they wore and she was very good at listening to and memorizing directions when she couldn't see the chalkboard.

Her family, though, worried how Ciera would grow up to live an abundant, independent life. Would she ever learn to drive? Could she play sports like the other kids?

"Around the time I was diagnosed, my grandma took me to the store," she recalls. "As we were checking out, I wanted to push the cart back." Ciera's grandma hesitated, fearful that her then 6-year-old granddaughter would get lost or become afraid if she couldn't see to find her.

■ ■ ■  
**"The back of the eye is the freeway that connects visual information to the brain," Dr. Heyman explains. "When those nerves are not working properly, information from the outside world to the brain is not clear."**

But she agreed and watched Ciera like a hawk, ready to swoop to her rescue.

"I marched over with the cart and marched right on back and she asked, 'How did you find me?'" Ciera smiles. "I said, 'Duh, grandma, I counted the check-out lanes!'"

For Ciera, it was simply how she did things. "I didn't know any other way but for my grandma, it was an awe-inspiring moment. My world was so different and yet I was able to function and find my way back," she says.

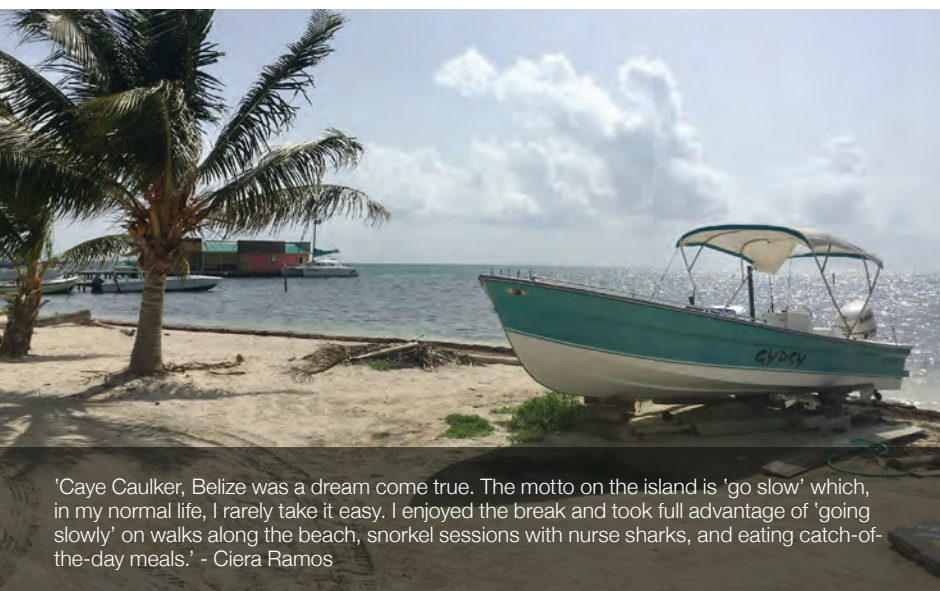
## GROWING WITH HER PATIENTS

Dr. Heyman took a progressive approach with technology that adapted to Ciera's needs as she got older. Ciera was given a monocular and magnifying glass for reading and her parents worked with her teachers to make sure that she sat in front of the classroom and received worksheets that were high contrast and not cluttered.

"As children grow up from elementary to middle school and to college, we switch up their technology aids so that we meet their needs where they are in their lives," she says.

"On a good day, I have 20/80 vision. I know I'm never going to have 20/20, but I'm always open to trying new things," says Ciera.

She appreciated the tools and resources available at Ketchum to help her in her growth. "In college, I utilized a transformer, a telescope-like instrument that gave me a better view of the board to catch everything. Calculus is really hard to listen to," she says.



Catherine Heyman, OD, '93

**"At the University Eye Center at Ketchum Health, students get the opportunity to see a patient, like Ciera, who couldn't see the board and then can see it because of something the student**

**was part of," she says. "It is a profound experience to learn from experts and take that knowledge to help their own patients."**

In the beginning of her career, when Ciera first became her patient, Dr. Heyman remembers that adaptive technology was clunky. Because of the rarity of conditions such as ONA, the market had not developed specific technologies for patients. But as the technology market has realized the needs of low vision patients, the team at Ketchum's University Eye Center has eagerly adopted this next generation of adaptive technology and the devices now available.

"Because of technology like smartphones and other mobile devices, today's kids come in understanding how to use this technology, so we don't have to teach them," she says. "We can adapt these technologies for them to live independently."

Dr. Heyman takes great pride in the Mary Ann Keverline Walls Low Vision Center at Ketchum Health, not only because they possess every technology option available, but because it is staffed with technical specialists who themselves are visually impaired.

"They bring an element of compassion in that they help patients use these devices based on their own personal experience," she says. "It is powerful for a patient to work with someone who can relate to them because they are dealing with the same struggles."

## A LIFETIME OF EXPERIENCE

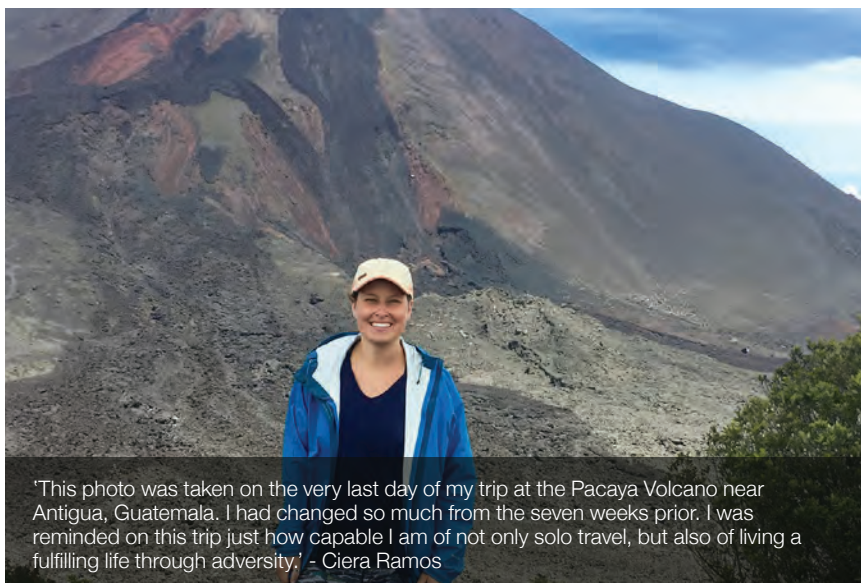
Dr. Heyman has seen that the doctors at the University Eye Center truly care about their patients. She received her Doctor of Optometry degree in 1993 from the Southern California College of Optometry and completed a residency in pediatric optometry and vision in 1994. She takes pride in sharing that commitment, as she views herself forming partnerships with each patient and their families to collaborate in giving them the best care.

"My colleagues here work together very closely and I can go to any of them for help," she said. "We can give the most comprehensive treatment for each patient."

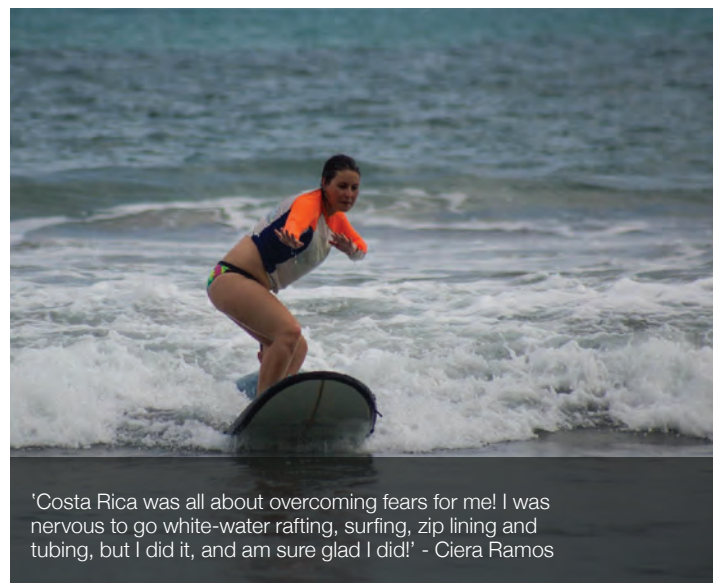
Additionally, she enjoys teaching, working and doing research within a state-of-the-art clinical facility. She feels it is the cornerstone of her education and training.

"At the University Eye Center at Ketchum Health, students get the opportunity to see a patient, like Ciera, who couldn't see the board and then can see it because of something the student was part of," she says. "It is a profound experience to learn from experts and take that knowledge to help their own patients."





'This photo was taken on the very last day of my trip at the Pacaya Volcano near Antigua, Guatemala. I had changed so much from the seven weeks prior. I was reminded on this trip just how capable I am of not only solo travel, but also of living a fulfilling life through adversity.' - Ciera Ramos



'Costa Rica was all about overcoming fears for me! I was nervous to go white-water rafting, surfing, zip lining and tubing, but I did it, and am sure glad I did!' - Ciera Ramos

Dr. Heyman is also the coordinator of the Vision Program at the Blind Children's Learning Center in Santa Ana and oversees the Special Population/ Pediatric Visual Impairment Service at SCCO. Her research interests include accommodative response in children with visual impairment as well as work with the Pediatric Eye Disease Investigative Group network.

"Our entire department participates in clinical trials that look at different aspects that affect children's vision. In some cases, it has changed clinical practice," she says.

## FINDING HER WAY BACK

One of the challenges that hasn't changed for ONA and low vision patients is the geography of Southern California. For these patients, getting from one place to the other is a challenge.

But Ciera, who graduated from Chapman University in 2015 and drives a car, feels that her vision impairment strengthened certain character traits. She is a determined, detail-oriented person who is keenly observant of her surroundings.

"Sometimes, when we go out to a basketball game or a show and someone needs to find the restroom, I'll say no problem; it's down the hall on the right a hundred feet on the left," she says. "Everyone always asks how did I know that? But for me, I have to make those mental cues and remember those things."

She recalls the questions and fears she and her family had all those years ago when she was first diagnosed. She took on all those challenges and this past summer, quit her job and traveled solo through South America.



Ciera Ramos

**"I love proving people wrong," she says. "If they say I can't do something, or I think they think I can't do something, I show them I can live a full life and do what I put my mind to."**

"I love proving people wrong," she says. "If they say I can't do something, or I think they think I can't do something, I show them I can live a full life and do what I put my mind to."

If anything, as she discovered on a solo trip to Germany and Austria in 2016, the challenges of traveling internationally are not so different than when she pushed the shopping cart for her grandma. Although, she didn't exactly enjoy getting lost in the airport terminal for 40 minutes in Germany because she'd missed the sign.

"There's an adrenaline and joy you can find when traveling internationally," she says. "Being able to get lost and find yourself is an incredible experience."

She advises anyone who is perceived to have a disability not to be the one who sets their own limits.

"Peers, teachers and society can be the ones who set boundaries for you," she says. "But you have to understand what you're capable of." [K](#)

**CIERA SHARES HER TRAVEL EXPERIENCES** at  
her blog: [BeyondWhatEyeSee.com](http://BeyondWhatEyeSee.com)

## Southern California College of Optometry



**Eric J. Borsting, OD, MSEd**  
*Interim Dean, Southern  
California College of  
Optometry*

### **AS THE CLASS OF 2021 BEGINS THEIR EDUCATION**

at the Southern California College of Optometry, we are all excited to have students from the optometry, PA and pharmacy programs on the same campus for the first time. In addition to a number of interprofessional educational opportunities the incoming optometry class will experience with their peers in other graduate programs, there are a number of college specific opportunities as well. For this issue of *Ketchum Magazine*, we would like to acknowledge some of the many activities that our optometry students

participate in outside of the classroom.

In June of this year, the American Optometric Association's annual Optometry's Meeting® in Washington, D.C., drew more than 2,300 students from across the country. More than 120 students from SCCO attended the meeting, representing the largest student contingent from the state of California. The students learned about how national and state legislation impacts their future practice and the communities that they serve.

Students also participated in a local advocacy day in July at Marshall B. Ketchum University where a state senator and assemblywoman came to MBKU's Fullerton campus for further dialogue on how optometry impacts lives. Our students serve as great ambassadors for our profession and SCCO has a long tradition of encouraging students to participate in professional optometric organizations.

In the area of public service, 48 students and two residents volunteered last June for the Special Olympics Lions Club Opening Eyes event. The students actively participated in providing high quality eye care to the athletes. Two hundred eighteen athletes were screened and 75 orders for prescription glasses and 28 orders for prescription sports goggles were filled. Additionally, in May, two students from SCCO were selected to join OneSight volunteers at the clinic in Tanzania. The goal was to bring vision care to 2,500 people. Since 1988, OneSight has impacted more than 9 million lives across 46 countries, and SCCO was excited to participate this year.

Each summer several students participate in summer research programs sponsored by the National Eye Institute at different optometric institutions. This experience allows the student to participate in active research projects in laboratories. Finally, 27 doctors of the graduating Class of 2017 will be participating in a residency program. These one-year training programs allow the newly graduated doctor to obtain clinical expertise in a subspecialty or discipline of vision care. The programs provide training in a wide range of disciplines including

## School of PA Studies



**Judy Ortiz, PhD, PA-C**  
*Deputy Chief of Staff for  
Academic Services  
Dean, College of Health  
Sciences  
Director, School of Physician  
Assistant Studies*

### **THE FACULTY AND STAFF IN THE SCHOOL OF PA STUDIES ARE EXCITED TO WELCOME OUR FOURTH COHORT,**

the Class of 2019, to join our vibrant community at MBKU. We kicked off the year with our annual community service event at the Orange County Food Bank, and the students spread random acts of kindness throughout our local Fullerton community.

The students in the Class of 2018 are completing their Master's Capstone projects, and are preparing for their clinical rotations that commence in November. The Master's Capstone projects address specific health care needs within our community. This year, PA students have developed community health projects to assist several different populations in our community including veterans, children in shelters, refugees, the homeless population, the LGBTQ population and pregnant teens. The projects were designed to address the social determinants of health (SDOH) established by the World Health Organization. The SDOH's focus is to create social and physical environments that promote good health for everyone.

The students in the Class of 2017 are completing their final clinical rotations and are preparing to graduate in November. Consistent with our school goals, all students will experience a clinical rotation with an underserved population by graduation. As part of the students' preparation for clinical practice, they are participating in a "mock clinic" that requires the students to manage two patients simultaneously. This includes completing the histories and physical exams, ordering and interpreting diagnostic tests, making diagnoses, developing appropriate treatment plans and coding/billing. PA faculty and staff couldn't be prouder of how our bright, hard-working students are representing Ketchum University's School of PA Studies. **K**

pediatric optometry, cornea and contact lenses, low vision and rehabilitative optometry and ocular disease.

We are looking forward to another great year with our students. We take great pride in their accomplishments and we look forward to seeing their continued excellent work at SCCO. **K**



## College of Pharmacy



**Edward Fisher, PhD, RPh**  
*Dean, College of Pharmacy*

**ON JULY 24, 2017**, the College of Pharmacy moved to its permanent facility in the Health Professions Building on the main campus of Marshall B. Ketchum University. Each and every administrator, faculty and staff member has been looking toward this great day where we joined with SCCO and the School of PA Studies at Ketchum University.

The Class of 2020 went through their first experiential rotations, and based

on the feedback, they have made good impressions all around. We were excited to welcome the Class of 2021 to campus in August. Now that each class will have a dedicated lecture hall, it makes a very exciting time at the College.

The College of Pharmacy has been reorganized into three departments. In addition to the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences and the Department of Pharmacy Practice, we will have a Department of Social and Administrative Sciences. Given this reorganization, we were very fortunate to hire Dr. Elvin Hernandez

who will serve as Associate Professor and Chair of the new department. Additionally, this summer, we hired four Assistant Professors in the Pharmacy Practice Department: Drs. Azita Alipour, Joshua Garcia, Herman Johannesmeyer and Puja Patel, as well as an Associate Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Dr. Young Cho.

Last April, for the second time, we welcomed a site visit team from the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education, and we are still on track for full accreditation in 2020. Looking forward, the major challenge that we face is the creation of a state-of-the-art pharmaceutical sciences laboratory. President Alexander remains steadfast on its creation within the next year.

Finally, Ketchum University's College of Pharmacy was well represented at the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy annual national meeting held in Nashville, Tenn., in mid-July, as nine members of the College were in attendance presenting posters, attending various sessions on admissions, accreditation, curriculum and the most modern educational modalities.

The College of Pharmacy is excited about its growth and the new opportunities the future will bring. **K**

## Center of Interprofessional Studies

In the Center of Interprofessional Studies, we are excited to announce the opening of the MBKU Simulation Center in the Health Professions Building this fall. The PA students will use the Laerdal SimMan 3G simulation mannequin to practice emergency care management, decision-making and team communication. The mannequin displays physiological and neurological symptoms such as reactive pupils, and breathing and cardiac complications. The mannequin also has automatic drug recognition technology that will provide teaching opportunities for both PA and pharmacy students.

Through simulation, students can practice basic and advanced medical skills without risk to patients. Students from all three professions will interact with mock patients as an interprofessional team. They'll practice consulting with each other, and working together to develop a treatment/management plan for their patient. They will have opportunities to observe the other health professions students as they interact with the patient.

Participating in simulation scenarios will better prepare our students to participate as members of interprofessional teams at Ketchum Health. **K**



MBKU's Laerdal SimMan 3G simulation mannequin.



All MBKU students will have access to the latest advances in medical technology, including virtual-dissection Anatomage Tables.

# Ketchum University Debuts State-of-the-Art Health Professions Building

New Campus Building Encourages Interprofessional Collaboration





Proximity can foster greater understanding. That axiom was a driving force in the development of Ketchum University's Health Professions Building – a 43,000 square-foot newly remodeled multifaceted building that houses learning spaces for all three of MBKU's professional programs: optometry, physician assistant (PA) and pharmacy.

Soft-opened on July 31, 2017, the building offers state-of-the-art labs, classrooms and physical exam rooms, as well as uniquely designed student gathering places. The building is envisioned as a place to hone practical skills using the latest technology, while strengthening interprofessional bonds among Ketchum University's professional health care programs.



**“An expansion effort in 2016 allowed the University to move its clinical services to an additional campus in Anaheim Hills, known as Ketchum Health,” explained President Kevin L. Alexander, OD, PhD. “The move has allowed us to advance on a variety of renovations to the former university eye care center in Fullerton. It opened up space for the Health Professions Building and a progressive academic environment for interprofessional education, which is transforming the student experience at MBKU.”**

- Kevin L. Alexander, OD, PhD  
President

## Recognition



**REENA PATEL, OD, '09**, received the Dr. W. David Sullins Jr. InfantSEE® Award at Optometry's Meeting® for her significant work in the optometric community through the InfantSEE program.

**RICK HURLBUT, OD, '80**, founder of Accent Optics, will join Vision Care Specialists (VCS), the leading group of eye-care doctors in Denver, Colo. Dr. Hurlbut shares the same passion for patient care as VCS and looks forward to the ability to offer more services as a member.

**VALERIE LAM, OD, '12**, and **Belinda Kuo, OD, '13**, were awarded the prestigious Fellowship of the College of Optometrists in Vision Development (FCOVD) and inducted as new fellows.

**CARL MELNIK, OD, '65**, is Granada Hills' honorary Mayor. He has served the Granada Heights community for more than 40 years.

**DONALD STUDDT, OD, '51**, received the 2017 Making Vision Therapy Visible Award from the College of Optometrists in Vision Development (COVD).



**ASHLEY NICKELL, OD, '17**, started her residency at Pediatric Vision Care Services and the Studdt Center for Vision Therapy at the University Eye Center at Ketchum Health.

**DENH TUYEN, OD, '12**, joined the optometry faculty at Emory Eye Center in Atlanta, Ga. Dr. Tuyen also completed a one-year primary care residency at Pennsylvania College of Optometry in Philadelphia, Pa., followed by a one-year ophthalmology internship at Eye Physicians and Surgeons in Wilmington, Del.

**TO SHARE YOUR CLASS NOTES**  
contact us at [alumni@ketchum.edu](mailto:alumni@ketchum.edu).

## In Memoriam

**THOMAS E. AMEN, OD, '64**, passed away at the age of 78. He opened several successful practices throughout Southern California during his 45 years in optometric practice. He was an avid golfer, enjoyed the outdoors and loved people. He is survived by his wife of 57 years and their three adult children.

**ROBERT A. GREENLEY, OD, '53**, passed away at the age of 91. He ran a successful optometry practice in San Jose for nearly 40 years and was highly involved in various optometric associations, both locally and nationally. He is survived by his wife of nearly 69 years, a son, a daughter-in-law, grandchildren and a sister.

**JOSEPH J. JANKOWSKI, OD, '74**, passed away at the age of 69 after 48 years of service to the eye care needs in West Los Angeles and Big Bear. He was an avid explorer and philanthropist, traveling all over the world and using his medical expertise to serve his community and those across the country.

**BOB "DOC" RIDLEY, OD, '52**, passed away at the age of 89. He served as a medic in the military, and went on to receive his degrees in zoology, medicine and accounting. He completed a residency in ophthalmology and opened a practice Tullahoma, Tenn.





# ACHIEVING 20|20

## Campaign update

**WE WANT TO THANK AND CELEBRATE THE MBKU BENEFACTORS** who have generously contributed to the ACHIEVING 20/20 Campaign! Please join them in supporting MBKU by considering a gift to support the Ketchum Fund or fundraising priorities in our three professional programs: optometry, physician assistant and pharmacy.

If you would like to discuss any of the gift opportunities below, please contact University Advancement at 714.463.7551.

### Health Professions Building

NAMING OPPORTUNITY	TOTAL PLEDGE
College of Pharmacy	\$10,000,000
College of Health Sciences	\$10,000,000
Clinical Science Building	\$3,000,000
Health Professions Building	\$3,000,000
Endowed Deanship	\$2,000,000
Endowed Academic Center	\$1,500,000
Endowed Professorship	\$1,000,000
Simulation Center	\$500,000
Flipped Classroom	\$250,000
Student Lounge	\$100,000
Practice Lab	\$50,000
Specialty Room	\$35,000
Consult Room	\$25,000
Conference Room	\$15,000
Practice Exam Room	\$10,000
Executive Leadership Office	\$10,000
Faculty Office	\$5,000

### Ketchum Health

NAMING OPPORTUNITY	TOTAL PLEDGE
Ketchum Health Campus (Anaheim)	\$5,000,000
Ketchum Health Campus (Los Angeles)	\$5,000,000
Endowed Clinical Service Chief	\$1,500,000
Optical	\$500,000
Pharmacy	\$500,000
Patient Waiting Room	\$250,000
Research Lab	\$50,000
Production Lab	\$35,000
Consult Room	\$25,000
Tutoring Room	\$25,000
Team Room	\$15,000
Health Room	\$15,000
Clinical Exam Room	\$10,000
Clinical Faculty Office	\$5,000

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS ANY OF THE GIFT OPPORTUNITIES**, please contact University Advancement at 714.463.7551.



# Ketchum University faculty publications

A listing of Ketchum University faculty\* publications in peer-reviewed journals.

May 2017 – August 2017

## MAY 2017

Jordan W, Fujimoto L, Vejagul P, Chong T, Matson M. Spontaneous malignant glaucoma in a phakic patient. Clinical and Refractive Optometry 2017;28:58-66.

Laby DM, Kirschen DG. The refractive error of professional baseball players. Optometry and Vision Science 2017;94:564-73.

## JUNE 2017

Cao J, Giebel J, Tong D. Multi-modality optometric treatment of deep amblyopia secondary to micro-esotropia and anisometropia. Optometry and Visual Performance June 2017;5(3):13-21.

Compan V, Aguilera-Arzo M, Weissman BA. Corneal equilibrium flux as a function of corneal surface oxygen tension. Optometry and Vision Science 2017;94:672-9.

Dashtipour K, Bhidayasiri R, Chen JJ, Jabbari B, Lew MF, Torres-Russotto D. RimabotulinumtoxinB in sialorrhea: Systematic review of clinical trials. Journal of Clinical Movement Disorders 2017;4:9.

Ng JS, Shih B. Level of visual acuity necessary to avoid false-positives on the HRR and Ishihara color vision tests. European Journal of Ophthalmology 2017;27:363-6.

## JULY 2017

Chahal JS, Heur M, Chiu GB. Prosthetic replacement of the ocular surface ecosystem scleral lens therapy for exposure keratopathy. Eye and Contact Lens, July 2017;43(4):240-4.

Nguyen T, Stark LR. Surround proximity and tonic accommodation. Optometry and Vision Science, June 2017.

Ridder WH III, Oquindo CA, Dhamdhare K, Burke JA. Effect of povidone iodine 5% on the cornea, vision, and subjective comfort. Optometry and Vision Science, June 2017.

## AUGUST 2017

Zimmerman AB, Richdale K, Mitchell GL, Kinoshita BT, Lam DY, Wagner H, Sorbara L, Chalmers RL, Collier SA, Cope JR, Rao MM, Beach MJ, Yoder JS. Water exposure is a common risk behavior among soft and gas-permeable contact lens wearers. Cornea, August 2017;36(8):995-1001.

## BOOK CHAPTERS

Chen JJ. Parkinson's disease. In: Katz MD, Matthias KR, Chisholm-Burns MA, editors. Pharmacotherapy Principles and Practice Study Guide: A case-based care plan approach. Fourth ed., New York: McGraw-Hill, 2017; pgs. 137-40. [K](#)

\*Gold denotes MBKU faculty



# Continuing Education Calendar

2017

DATE	LOCATION	PROGRAM	CE CREDIT
<b>OCTOBER 22</b>	SCCO   MBKU Fullerton Campus	Dr. Morris & Arlene Applebaum Symposium: Interprofessional Collaborative Practice	<b>8</b>
<b>NOVEMBER 4</b>	College of Pharmacy   MBKU Fullerton Campus	APhA's Pharmacy-based Cardiovascular Disease Risk Management Certificate Training Program	<b>20</b>
<b>DECEMBER 3</b>	SCCO   MBKU Fullerton Campus	Clinical Topics in Optometry	<b>8</b>

2018

<b>JANUARY 28</b>	SCCO   MBKU Fullerton Campus	SCCO   MBKU & Stein-Doheny   UCLA Presents Advances in Eye Care Symposium	<b>8</b>
<b>FEBRUARY 25</b>	SCCO   MBKU Fullerton Campus	Annual Glaucoma Forum	<b>8</b>
<b>MARCH 17 &amp; 18</b>	SCCO   MBKU Fullerton Campus	MBKU's Annual Specialty Course   Ocular Disease: Part I	<b>6</b>
<b>APRIL 8</b>	SCCO   MBKU Fullerton Campus	The 19 <sup>th</sup> Annual Cornea & Contact Lens Clinical Symposium	<b>8</b>
<b>JUNE 4 - 7</b>	SCCO   MBKU Fullerton Campus	Returning to Marshall B. Ketchum University Indian Health Service Biennial Eye Care Meeting	<b>25</b>
<b>JULY 14 &amp; 15</b>	SCCO   MBKU Fullerton Campus	MBKU's Annual Specialty Course   Ocular Disease: Part II	<b>16</b>
<b>AUGUST 19</b>	SCCO   MBKU Fullerton Campus	Clinical Pearls You Shouldn't Practice Without, ft. USC Faculty	<b>8</b>
<b>SEPTEMBER 9</b>	SCCO   MBKU Fullerton Campus	Treatment & Management of Ocular Disease, ft. VA Faculty	<b>8</b>
<b>OCTOBER 14</b>	SCCO   MBKU Fullerton Campus	Clinical Topics in Optometry	<b>8</b>
<b>DECEMBER 2</b>	SCCO   MBKU Fullerton Campus	Annual GP Lens Specialty Practice Clinical Symposium	<b>8</b>

Year-round

LOCATION	PROGRAM	CE CREDIT
CE Website	Online Coursework ketchum.edu/ceonline	<b>2 - 2.5</b>
West LA VA, Sepulveda VA	VA Clinical Seminars Thursdays 1-5 p.m.	<b>4</b>
North Vegas VA	VA Clinical Seminars Fridays 1-4 p.m.	<b>3</b>

**TO REGISTER FOR A COURSE,**  
please visit "CE Courses and Registration"  
via the CE Homepage at [ketchum.edu/ce](http://ketchum.edu/ce).



# IRA

## CHARITABLE ROLLOVER

# YOUR SAVINGS, YOUR LEGACY.



Avoid taxes on transfers of up to \$100,000 from your IRA to support our cause.



Satisfy some or all of your required minimum distribution for the year.



Reduce your taxable income, even if you do not itemize deductions.



Make a gift that is not subject to the 50% deduction limits on charitable gifts.



Use your rollover to make payments on an existing pledge to us.

## You have saved and saved, now use your savings to create your legacy.

If you are 70½ or older, you can use your individual retirement account (IRA) to support Ketchum University. Making an IRA charitable rollover gift to us will lower the income and taxes from your IRA-required minimum distributions this year.

**VISIT KETCHUMLEGACY.ORG** to learn about how you can create your legacy by making an IRA charitable rollover gift to support our cause this year.

Ready to talk? Please give us a call at **714.463.7550**.





# YOU'RE INVITED

Join Marshall B. Ketchum University President Kevin L. Alexander, OD, PhD, and the Ketchum community in celebrating the dedication of the Health Professions Building, a hallmark project of the ACHIEVING 20|20 Campaign.

Tuesday, October 24, 2017

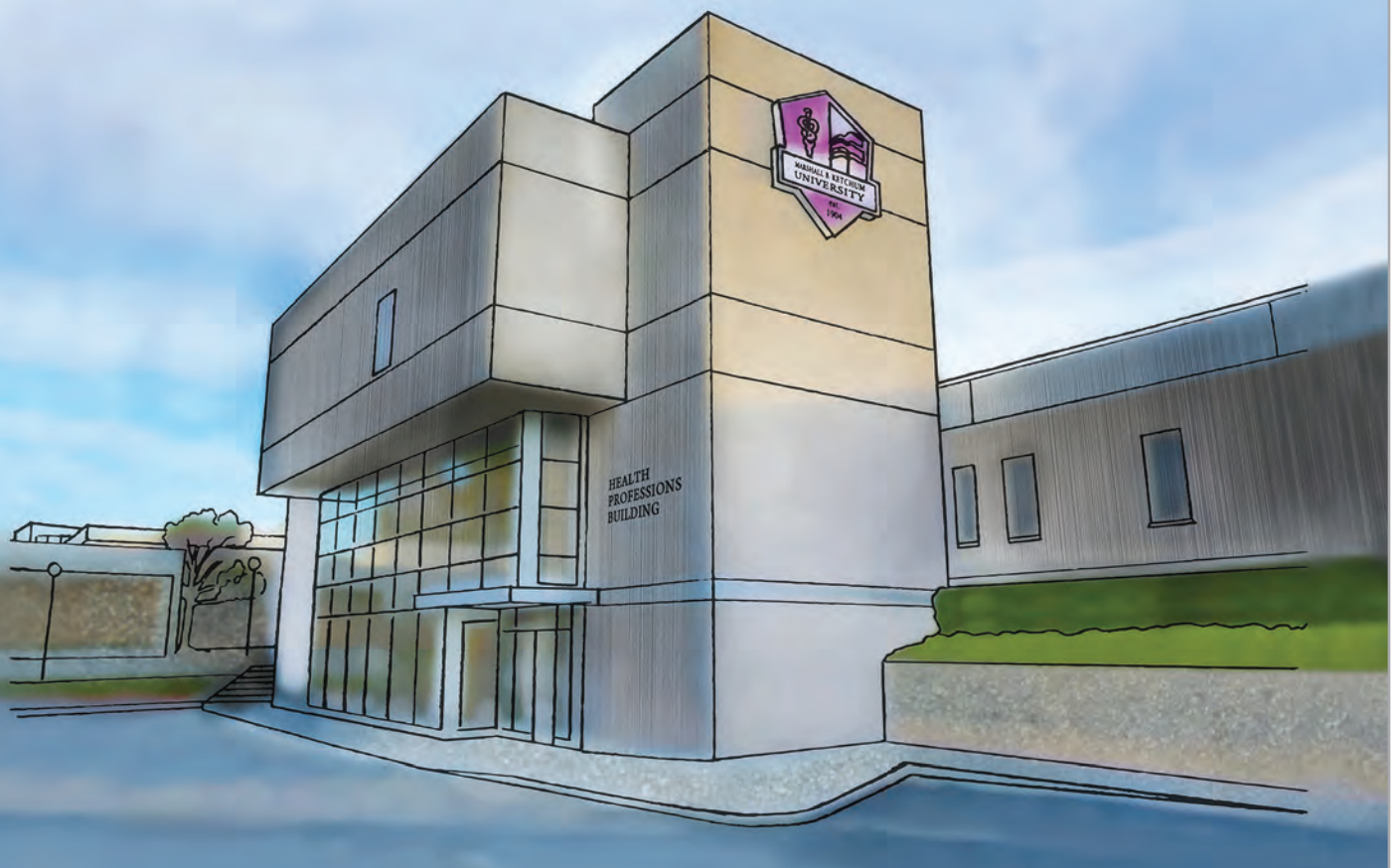
4:00 – 5:30 p.m.

Ketchum University

Fullerton, California

We look forward to sharing this historic occasion with you.  
Hors d'oeuvres and cocktails will be served.

**Kindly RSVP to [events@ketchum.edu](mailto:events@ketchum.edu) by October 13, 2017**





**Marshall B.  
KETCHUM UNIVERSITY**

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# More about that



## *Earlier this year*

Assistant Professor Reena Patel, OD, '09, was honored at Optometry's Meeting® in Washington, D.C., with the Dr. W. David Sullins Jr. InfantSEE® Award. The award recognizes an individual doctor of optometry who has made significant contributions to optometry or to his/her community for outstanding public service involving the InfantSEE® program.

InfantSEE, a public health program managed by Optometry Cares – The AOA Foundation, is designed to ensure that eye and vision care becomes an integral part of infant wellness care to improve a child's quality of life. Under this program, AOA optometrists provide a no-cost comprehensive eye and vision assessment for infants within the first year of life regardless of a family's income or access to insurance coverage.

"I am very passionate about helping children because they are the future and it is our responsibility, not just as health care providers, but as individuals to ensure they are set up to succeed in life," said Dr. Patel. "There is nothing more rewarding than improving a child's life and I am fortunate to be able to do that on a daily basis."

Children's vision is a priority for Dr. Patel. She is an InfantSEE advocate, offering no-cost eye exams to infants 6 to 12 months of age. She has also led hands-on workshops, training other doctors to do these same exams. "I wanted the doctors to feel comfortable working with infants, and to show them how simple it is to examine infants with basic equipment in a primary care setting," said Dr. Patel. "In addition, I wanted to motivate the practitioners to become InfantSEE providers."

Dr. Patel also participates in "Children's Vision Days," that take place weekly at the University Eye Center at Ketchum Health in Anaheim Hills, and she testified at the state Capitol in April on Assembly Bill 1110, authored by Assemblywoman Autumn Burke, D-Inglewood, which would require children to receive a comprehensive eye exam prior to starting school.

"Whether I am seeing patients, doing research, teaching or advocating, the bottom line is the same," stated Dr. Patel. "I want to make a positive difference in the lives of our children."



Dr. Patel accepts the Dr. W. David Sullins Jr. InfantSEE® Award at Optometry's Meeting®.



An InfantSEE® exam at the University Eye Center at Ketchum Health.