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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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READ MORE stories online at magazine.ketchum.edu.
Construction is not new to Ketchum University.

On May 15, 1997, the groundbreaking for Building A and the parking garage began at 2:30 p.m. The library moved into Building A on May 18, 1998, and a temporary use permit from the City of Fullerton allowed guests to park in the parking garage for the inauguration ceremony of Lesley L. Walls, OD, MD, DOS, on Saturday, April 25, and for commencement on May 15, 1998.

Today, students from all three Colleges utilize these facilities while yet another construction project is taking place at the former home of the University Eye Center at Fullerton.

An expansion effort in 2016 allowed the University to move its clinical services to an 80,000-square-foot off-site facility in Anaheim Hills, known as Ketchum Health. The move has allowed Ketchum University to advance on a variety of renovations to the former campus eye care center. It opens up space for the Health Professions Building, a progressive academic environment for interprofessional education, which is transforming the student experience at Ketchum University. Optometrists, PAs and pharmacists will learn together in both flipped and traditional classroom settings with access to simulation equipment, expanded practice exam rooms and shared social spaces like the new second-floor student lounge.

To share your throwback photos and stories, contact us at alumni@ketchum.edu.
Health Professions Building construction

Scheduled completion: Summer 2017

DEAR ALUMNI AND FRIENDS,

Earlier this year, many Ketchum Magazine readers received the Marshall B. Ketchum University 2015-16 Annual Report. In that report I outlined the fiscal health of Ketchum University and highlighted some of the accomplishments over the previous fiscal year, including the landmark gift made by Dr. Warren Harvard Low, ’52.

Today, even as we settle into our new clinical home at Ketchum Health in Anaheim Hills, we are renovating the former clinical facility at our flagship campus in Fullerton, and we need your help. I urge you to consider supporting a capital initiative in our new Health Professions Building. Gifts made all at once or pledged over time to fund capital initiatives ensure that we can continue offering our students spaces that support a state-of-the-art didactic and clinical education.

I close by thanking all alumni, faculty, staff, the Ketchum Board of Trustees and University friends for supporting the vision to create a truly unique institution that has already established itself as a national leader in interprofessional education.

Warm regards,

Kevin L. Alexander, OD, PhD
President

TO LEARN MORE about supporting Ketchum University and the ACHIEVING 20|20 Campaign, please read the campaign update on page 29, call 714.463.7550 or email advancement@ketchum.edu.
In their words

“Instrumental in securing the University’s fiscal future, Dr. Warren Harvard Low, ’52, will be remembered for his dedication, generosity and long-standing support of Ketchum University.” – Kevin Alexander, OD, PhD, president

“During the injection assessment, I could observe my classmates and it was apparent that many of us were nervous since it was our first time performing immunizations. The faculty created an interactive and approachable learning environment to ease away the tension and anxiety. We were able to practice subcutaneous and intramuscular injection techniques on each other. This experience provided the students with valuable, lifelong skills that we will utilize throughout our careers as pharmacists.” – Andrew Kaewtavorn, COP ’20

“The 2016 InfantSEE event was an extraordinary vehicle for us to promote the importance and benefits of infant vision care.” – C. Troy Allred, OD, assistant professor and chief of pediatric vision service and Studt Center for Vision Therapy at the University Eye Center at Ketchum Health

sharing the love

Facebook

When a student’s story goes viral, the University takes notice. In March, when SCCO’s Dr. John Lee paid a visit to Coree Tayong, SCCO Class of 2017, and her family at Kaiser Permanente in Fresno, thousands were touched by a special moment caught on camera between a father and his daughter.

Thank you @MBKETCHUMU @SCONEWS and #BoyScouts Troop 578 for helping provide vision screenings and glasses to 60 of our kids! @SGCcentralOC

Twitter

@SERG2210 “Splinting and casting in class #splint #cast #school #PA #PAschool #PAstudents #PA #serg #LA #social #Losangeles #Medicine”

@SCCO2020 “Thanks to @BAUSCHLOMB for teaching us about their new recycling program yesterday and dropping off goodies! #willlearnforpizza”

@_EYEOLOGY “You see John Lennon glasses, but we see #fusion. Cover-test and sensory fusion lab with Dr. Heyman! #SCCO2020 #optometryschool #famEYEly”

@_MARIAFELIXX Gracias “mamá por todos tus sacrificios, esfuerzo, cariño, ¡y amor. Beyond grateful to have been offered a seat at my dream school, the Southern California College of Optometry c/o 2021 #yogirlsgonnabeadoctor”
President Kevin Alexander, OD, PhD, presented three Circle of Vision awards honoring volunteer and philanthropic achievement to Donald E. Studt, OD, ’51; Lesley L. Walls, OD, MD, DOS, & Mary Ann Keverline Walls, OD; and Allen Woodyard Souchek, OD, ’70 & Marilyn Souchek.

The first award honored Dr. Donald E. Studt who graduated from the Los Angeles College of Optometry in 1951, following in the footsteps of his father and alumnus, Walter Studt who graduated in 1919. He is the co-founder of The Studt Foundation and has been a loyal supporter of MBKU for decades in a variety of areas including the library program, capital fund and special events. He is the distinguished benefactor for the Studt Center for Vision Therapy at the University Eye Center at Ketchum Health.

The second award honored Drs. Lesley and Mary Ann Keverline Walls. Dr. Lesley L. Walls became the sixth president of the Southern California College of Optometry, where he served from 1997-2008. Prior to that time, he had been involved in medical and optometric education for more than 20 years. Dr. Lesley Walls has an annual endowed award in his name, established as tribute to his legacy and love of teaching, and presented annually to a graduating MBKU student with the highest cumulative GPA.

The third Circle of Vision award for distinguished philanthropy honored Dr. Allen & Mrs. Marilyn Souchek. Dr. Souchek graduated from Los Angeles College of Optometry in 1970 where he met his wife, Marilyn, when she went for an eye exam and vision therapy. Dr. Soucek practiced optometry for 30 years in both private practice and at Kaiser Permanente. Together, Dr. Allen and Marilyn Souchek have contributed in support of advancing the development of a sports vision program at SCCO. In recognition of the couple’s lifetime support, the Soucheks will place their name on the “Allen W. & Marilyn Souchek Atrium” at Ketchum Health.

“It was an honor to recognize each award recipient for their continuing support and leadership among our many generous donors,” said President Alexander. “Like most non-profits, Ketchum University relies on the generosity of alumni and friends that support the institution’s vision and mission. This support has been instrumental in our growth and ability to offer unmatched academic opportunities, exceptional clinical training and a purposeful effort to educate students in a team-based environment,” concluded Alexander.
Nathaniel Greeley, PA-C, ’16: Finding his calling in ER medicine

By Kristi Garrett

Nathaniel Greeley, PA-C, a member of the inaugural PA class, begins professional practice, thanks in part to connections forged during his program at Ketchum.

Networking at the American Academy of PAs conference eventually led to a position in the emergency room at Rideout Memorial Hospital in Marysville, California, after his November 2016 graduation.

Jobs in the ER are often reserved for PAs with more experience, but Rideout is one of the few that likes to train new graduates. PAs play an integral part in the intake team at Rideout, where the goal is to start treating patients as soon as possible after they arrive.

While the acute care team handles patients arriving by ambulance, a clinical intake team of a PA and nurse will triage the walk-in patients, doing an initial examination and ordering tests as required.

By incorporating the services of PAs in a rapid care section of the emergency room, patients who might otherwise have to wait hours to see a doctor can have their non-life-threatening complaints addressed quickly. With PAs handling more routine cases of cuts and broken bones, ER doctors are able to focus more fully on acute care cases. However, even in the rapid care section, cases are not always this cut and dry and PAs will care for the more serious illnesses that arise.

Nevertheless, Greeley says some hospitals are even now exposing PAs to the acute side of care, which makes sense considering the history of the profession. In the 1960s, Vietnam vets returning with experience in addressing trauma and surgical conditions were tapped for fast-track training to respond to the need for more physicians. Greeley sees the day — possibly within the next five years — that PAs will consistently begin to solely manage heart attacks, strokes and trauma cases.

“As a new grad in this particular ER, we have one month of shadow shifts where we see our own patients, with one of the other experienced PAs or nurse practitioners alongside us guiding and offering support and advice as we manage the patients — in the rapid care section, primarily,” says Greeley. “And then a few shifts here or there on the acute side, just to get the exposure to that.”

Greeley says the exposure he had doing procedures such as stitches and fracture reductions has been very valuable in the transition to a hospital setting.

“By incorporating the services of PAs in a rapid care section of the emergency room, patients who might otherwise have to wait hours to see a doctor can have their non-life-threatening complaints addressed quickly. With PAs handling more routine cases of cuts and broken bones, ER doctors are able to focus more fully on acute care cases. However, even in the rapid care section, cases are not always this cut and dry and PAs will care for the more serious illnesses that arise.”

“Nathaniel Greeley, PA-C, working at Rideout Memorial Hospital.”

“What Ketchum did for us was give us a wide variety of knowledge and experiences in our clinical rotations to prepare us for the diversity that we’re going to see in the ER.”

“There’s a lot of on-the-job learning, I’m finding out. But what Ketchum did for us was give us a wide variety of knowledge and experiences in our clinical rotations to prepare us for the diversity that we’re going to see in the ER,” Greeley says.

Greeley counts himself lucky to have chosen the PA profession. His foray into research while obtaining a master’s degree in immunology only convinced him that research wasn’t his passion because it wasn’t directly tied to helping people.

“Once I began shadowing PAs, everyone I met was pumped about their career choice,” he says. “A number of the physicians even said if they had to do it again they’d be a PA, not an MD. Which is pretty cool.”
The Affordable Care Act created a sea change in the health care industry when it put the emphasis on preventative medicine and early diagnosis to control costs. Optometrists are at the forefront of that effort, often being the first health care provider to spot the signs of systemic disease.

As Chief Eye Care Officer for United Health Care, Linda Chous, OD, who also served as president of the Minnesota Optometric Association, is steering a course toward greater public and professional awareness of the role optometrists play in public health.

In a foundational study for UHC, Dr. Chous and Thomas L. Knabel, MD, of Optum counted eight chronic conditions that are commonly discovered by eye care practitioners: diabetes, high cholesterol, hypertension, multiple sclerosis, juvenile and adult rheumatoid arthritis, Crohn’s disease and Graves disease. “Since [eye care practitioners] often see patients more frequently than [primary care providers], this provides an excellent opportunity for optometrists to re-engage patients into care for their chronic conditions that may have been otherwise lost to follow-up,” the researchers concluded in “Impact of Eye Exams in Identifying Chronic Conditions.” “This previously overlooked role for eye care may create improved health outcomes and cost avoidance.”

Dr. Chous followed up that study in a paper with Kim K. Christopher, MBA, quantifying opportunities to re-engage patients into care for their chronic conditions.

“If we can identify those conditions early and get them into care, those savings — and I’m not just talking about costs, but also quality of life — are going to be so much better, since these people will be saved from the consequences of their chronic conditions.”

Dr. Chous makes it her aim to educate UHC members and the public about the importance of regular exams. She posts brief videos in the “Ask the Expert” series on the UHC website dealing with such topics as preventive eye care, children’s eye care, heart health and computer vision syndrome. To address health literacy, she creates educational content that is written at a level that’s easily understandable. “Communication only makes a difference if people understand what you’re saying,” she says.

Although she’s very proud of the work she does with children in her pediatric optometry practice, The Glasses Menagerie in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Dr. Chous is grateful for her position at United Healthcare which provides her with the opportunity to help people create healthier lives. She leads a team at UHC that manages the Bridge2Health program, a health and wellness program that monitors chronic conditions and includes reminder phone calls for patients who have not had an eye exam and also drives disease management referrals.

“Everybody talks about the eye doctor’s part in identification of chronic disease — and that’s true, of course. But the re-engagement piece is absolutely huge, because too many patients are lost to follow-up for their conditions,” says Dr. Chous. “When you look at something like hypertension or diabetes — especially Type 2 diabetes — the symptoms, especially in the early stages, can be quite subtle. I have the opportunity to change the world with every patient I see in practice, but your amount of success is often based on the number of people you reach. And working at United Health Care has given me that opportunity to expand the public awareness of the important role the optometrist plays in health care.”
Harue Marsden, OD, MS, ’87

Tireless advocate and champion of the profession

By Kristi Garrett

Whether it was on the floor of the House of Delegates of the American Optometric Association or in the close confines of an exam room, Harue Marsden, OD, MS, ’87 was impossible to miss. As everyone who knew her will attest, her booming voice and irrepressible laughter made her a force to be reckoned with.

“She was not shy about expressing herself and taking someone on, yet she treated everyone with respect,” said AOA President Andrea P. Thau, OD. “She was a champion of optometry and for our patients and our students.”

Dr. Harue Marsden may have lost her battle with cancer on Feb. 2, 2017, but her legacy of leadership, advocacy and mentorship leaves the profession and those who knew her enriched for the experience.

A 1987 graduate of the Southern California College of Optometry, Dr. Marsden completed a residency and master’s degree at the University of Houston College of Optometry and then joined the SCCO faculty in 1989. Over the course of her almost 30-year career she ultimately became associate dean of clinical education at Ketchum University, watching over the progress of students in the clinical program — a role that well suited her, said long-time friend and colleague, Julie Schornack, OD, MEd, senior vice president and chief of staff at Ketchum.

“If you had someone who was struggling, Harue would be the one to structure the program to try to constructively help them out of the weaknesses they might be having as a clinician. That completely played to her strengths,” said Dr. Schornack. “Over and over again people talk about how they were mentored by her. It wasn’t one, but hundreds, quite frankly, and she did this for close to 30 years.”

Dr. Marsden also operated two private practice offices, with Eric Leser, OD, and Vicki Leung, OD, who said Harue believed employees should be nurtured and taught, especially if...
they were having trouble on the job: “She’d ask, ‘Vicki, have we given them all the tools they need to do their job the best they can?’”

Everywhere they went, such as conferences and trade shows, “people flocked to her like she was the Pied Piper. They just wanted to be near her,” Leung said. “She had a way of making you feel significant, because if she was speaking to you, she was also listening intently and she remembered everything you said.”

**Tireless advocacy**

A woman of extreme energy and passion, over the years Dr. Marsden devoted herself to leadership positions in the California Optometric Association and Orange County Optometric Society, the national American Optometric Association and American Academy of Optometry, the Great Western Council of Optometry and Association of Optometric Contact Lens Educators. As COA president she ferried the association through a contentious battle over board certification for optometrists. “It really forms you as a leader when you go through those tough times,” said Dr. Schornack.

Dr. Marsden’s legacy is a generation of optometry professionals who are patient-centered, academically prepared, politically astute and better doctors because of Harue’s mentorship, said Glenda Secor, OD, FAAO, who is immediate past chair of the Ketchum University Board of Trustees, Diplomate in Cornea and Contact Lens and communications chair of the American Academy of Optometry.

During the years she volunteered to serve AAO, Dr. Marsden’s contributions spanned from work on various committees and special interest groups, to teaching leadership, to diplomate award chair, where she helped candidates to demonstrate their expertise in order to qualify for extra distinction within the profession. “She was inspiring to so many colleagues because of her enthusiasm and she was just always fun to be around,” said Dr. Secor, pointing to Harue’s uncanny ability to wear a number of hats at the same time. “Regardless of issues that were clinically significant or clinically compromising, she was able to bring a collective voice in being more collaborative.”

**Distinctive leadership**

The California Optometric Association President Stevin Minie, OD, wrote an eloquent tribute to Dr. Marsden: “Undoubtedly, many of you reading this message are a better doctor of optometry having been mentored or befriended by Harue. She probably had no greater passion than the next generation of optometry, her students, imparting her vast knowledge, infinite wisdom and relentless advocacy of the extensive ophthalmic skills doctors of optometry bring to patients.”
Ketchum University President Kevin Alexander, OD, PhD, noted Harue’s dedication over the years, recalling “she was engaged in everything, whether it was patient care, teaching, advancing the profession or engaging in her love for travel. Her friendly intensity was a force of nature. Harue was someone you definitely wanted on your team and someone you always wanted to be with.”

For example, Dr. Thau added, among the many positions Dr. Marsden held on AOA committees was the Evidence-Based Optometry Committee, charged with developing clinical practice guidelines for the profession. “Members of that committee need to be very thoughtful, intelligent, hard-working people who can comb through all the research and data and compile clinical practice guidelines based on the strength of the research while working as a team to develop them,” said Dr. Thau. “It takes an incredible amount of time and effort and she always did it gladly.”

The fact that Dr. Marsden was on so many AOA committees is testament to the high regard with which she was held, said Dr. Thau. “Everyone loved Harue. She could discuss and debate things with you, but she treated everybody with respect and always had the best interests of our patients and our profession at heart. I think it was because of that that she was such a great role model to the students and to our colleagues.”

Dr. Alexander added, “I first met Harue about 15 years ago in the House of Delegates at the American Optometric Association. I was presenting a controversial issue on behalf of the AOA Board. I remember that there were
many vocal opponents and Harue was one of them. During a break as I stepped away from the podium, Harue came right at me and she said, ‘you really might want to consider these points,’ as she handed me a sheet of paper, ‘it will make your argument stronger.’ I was overwhelmed by her honesty, integrity and her ability to make me feel good about the process that day. To me, that was her special gift.”

**Larger-than-life personality**

Despite her fervent professionalism, Harue never missed an opportunity to be silly, noted Dr. Schornack, telling of the countless times Harue taught children to hang spoons on their faces, eat “see food” and ignore table etiquette with abandon. Her laugh — loud and infectious — was prone to get her in trouble with restaurant managers. In fact, she was once asked to leave for having too much fun — at a comedy club.

Harue and her sisters — twin Midori, Yuki and Fumi — and brother Akira grew up in the San Diego area, the children of a Marine Korean War veteran and a Japanese mother, Bruce and Fujiko Marsden.

Nicknamed “Evil Hands” by her mother because she broke so many things, Harue learned early to put things back together, said her sister Yuki. “She was just always into things.” But she was quick to forget an offense, always looking for the best in others, and had the gift of gab and a fabulous laugh that would crack others up, said Yuki, confirming that all it took to locate Harue in a crowd was to stop and listen. “She always had a happy, positive vibe.”

Harue’s love of travel was legendary, often journeying with friends and sister Yuki to adventurous locales such as Peru, Japan, South Africa, Zambia and beyond. Yuki attributed their adventurous spirit to their father: “My dad loved to travel, and I think we both inherited that gene of loving to travel and loving to explore new cultures and try new things.”

“She never let anything stop her; she lived life to the fullest,” said AOA’s Dr. Thau. “I think the lesson we have to learn from her is to cherish every day and do as much as you can while you’re here … and don’t be shy about making lots of noise advocating for what is right.”

That’s what brought Harue the most happiness, agreed Dr. Schornack — seeing others succeed and assume leadership positions. “It’s kind of a legacy of leadership,” she said. “A legacy of achievement.”

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**Harue never missed an opportunity to be silly, noted Dr. Schornack, telling of the countless times Harue taught children to hang spoons on their faces, eat “see food” and ignore table etiquette with abandon. Her laugh – loud and infectious – was prone to get her in trouble with restaurant managers.**
FELLOW ALUMNI, STUDENTS AND FRIENDS, 2017 marks the beginning of a very important time for your MBKU Alumni Association — the addition to the Alumni Board of our first director and alumnus from the School of PA Studies, Jon Ukishima, PA-C, ‘16. We also welcomed two new directors, Jeffery Shiau, OD ‘13, and Annalisa Fernando, OD ‘06, to the board. It is exciting to have solid representation of alumni from each College/School. All alumni are invited to join our quarterly association meetings (February, May, August and November). If you wish to learn more, please contact us at alumni@ketchum.edu.

One of the goals of the MBKU Alumni Association is to foster and strengthen the professional alliance between Ketchum and its alumni and students. Throughout the year, look for Ketchum University alumni events and networking receptions at state and national meetings. These events bring together hundreds of participants to share stories, reconnect with other alumni, learn about the University and strengthen the Ketchum community.

In collaboration with the University Student Executive Council, a mentoring program is also being developed to connect third- and fourth-year optometry students to SCCO alumni. This program will eventually be extended to include each PA and pharmacy students and alumni. As alumni across various modes of practice, we can bring valuable guidance and service to students. More information about this mentoring program will be available online shortly. In the meantime, check out our refreshed alumni website at ketchum.edu/alumni which offers information about all of our alumni programs and benefits.

Lastly, the admissions reception room at the Fullerton Campus is now completely renovated with funding provided by your MBKU Alumni Association. Contact us to arrange a visit. I wish to extend my personal appreciation to all alumni who have contributed to this cause. Every gift, great or small, makes a difference.

Cindy Siu Blancq, O.D., FAAO
SCCO, Class of 2000
President, MBKU Alumni Association

TO LEARN MORE ABOUT GIVING to Ketchum, visit ketchum.edu/giving.
Most people have at one point encountered a quiet hero — that person who on a daily basis gives back to her community with no expectation of special recognition. The person for whom the act of giving is reward enough.

Such heroes abound in the health care field, steadfastly practicing high-quality care and feeling honored to be given the opportunity to do so.

Ketchum University is fortunate to have many of these quiet health care heroes in its fold. They are the backbone of the University and give students the seminal opportunity to tap into their passionate commitment and unique skill set.

Here’s a look at four such health care heroes who bring their quiet magic to the campus.
Susan Cotter
OD, MS, FAAO

“If I can teach 100 students per year to go out there and deliver quality eye care to children, then I can have an even bigger impact. It’s sort of like paying it forward.”
At a young age, Dr. Susan Cotter became fascinated with the link between vision and learning. That fascination was a key driver in her decision to become an optometrist and ultimately resulted in her becoming an internationally renowned researcher in the pediatric eye care and binocular vision field.

Dr. Cotter, who was diagnosed with near-sightedness at a young age, was fitted with contact lenses early on. Her improved vision got her thinking.

"Wow, what if I didn't have these?" she says. "What would happen if you didn't have good vision and good visual function?"

That question and the fact that her uncle was an optometrist influenced Dr. Cotter to pursue optometry as a career. She received her doctor of optometry degree from the Illinois College of Optometry, did a residency in children's vision at SCCO, and later completed a master's degree in clinical and biomedical investigations at the University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine.

These days, in addition to her teaching, Dr. Cotter spends approximately 50 percent of her time involved in clinical research. She is the principal investigator for the Ketchum Health clinical site as well as the vice chair for the Convergence Insufficiency Treatment Trial — Attention & Reading (CITT-ART) study. Funded by the National Institutes of Health/National Eye Institute, the study is a multicenter randomized clinical trial designed to determine if vision therapy treatment for children with symptomatic convergence insufficiency results in improvements in reading comprehension.

The CITT-ART is the result of work that Dr. Cotter and her colleagues have been conducting since 1994. "This is a collaborative effort. Not only do we have nine clinical sites, but we have a totally awesome Ketchum Health study team consisting of Drs. Barnhardt, Borsting, Chen, Chu, Huang and Retnasothie, as well as study coordinators Sue Parker and Judith Wu."

Dr. Cotter and a team of researchers also have submitted a grant to study convergence insufficiency secondary to concussion. If awarded, Ketchum Health would be one of five research sites for the five-year grant.

"Patients with concussion — both adults and children — often have severe visual symptoms," says Cotter.

In fact, a recent study of adolescents with post-concussion syndrome reported that 49 percent of them had convergence insufficiency. Dr. Cotter says that she and other researchers want to learn whether the standard vision therapy treatment protocol that is used for children with convergence insufficiency without concussion is effective for those with concussion.

A particular point of pride for Dr. Cotter is her years of work with the Pediatric Eye Disease Investigator Group, or PEDIG, of which she is currently on the executive committee and is the incoming co-chair. The group is a clinical research network of pediatric eye care providers who perform clinical investigations related to pediatric eye conditions. The research is funded by the National Eye Institute. Dr. Cotter says that the PEDIG network — made up of more than 300 investigators — includes both pediatric optometrists and pediatric ophthalmologists and is a "good example where both groups work together."

She explains, "I am particularly lucky that we have a great group of PEDIG investigators here at Ketchum Health. It is only because of the dedication and collaborative efforts of Drs. Chen, Chu, Heyman, Han, Huang, Patel and Retnasothie, and coordinators Sue Parker and Judith Wu, that our clinical site is so successful. In fact, last year we received PEDIG’s "top performance" award.

The research studies conducted by PEDIG over the years have changed clinical practice paradigms for the management of amblyopia and other pediatric eye conditions.

"For example, what we teach our students in regard to amblyopia treatment now is totally different from what we taught 10 or 15 years ago, and this is primarily because of PEDIG study results," says Dr. Cotter.

"There has been a shift to less intense treatments that has been widely implemented for thousands of children in clinical practices in the U.S. and abroad, decreasing the treatment burden for families and resulting in fewer clinical care visits and lower health care costs," she adds.

In addition to her research, Dr. Cotter, in her role as professor, teaches courses to third-year students, works with the pediatric optometry residents, and supervises fourth-year students in the Studt Center for Vision Therapy at Ketchum Health. "It’s rewarding to watch our students develop their clinical skills and critical thinking ability," she says.

"I went into this profession thinking I might be able to help children by providing good vision care," says Cotter. "If I can teach 100 students per year to go out there and deliver quality eye care to children, then I can have an even bigger impact. It’s sort of like paying it forward. When you have had great SCCO mentors like I had — Drs. Mike Rouse, Betty Caloroso and Lou Hoffman — it makes you want to help to develop the next generation of optometrists."
Carol Alexander
OD, FAAO

“If we envision a future for our profession that is better than what we see today, it is our responsibility to contribute to that future ... and we can do that through both advocacy and philanthropy.”
A fter 20 years of owning and operating her own optometry practice in Sylvania, Ohio, Dr. Carol Alexander’s career headed in an unexpected — yet equally rewarding — direction. Dr. Alexander is the director of professional communications at Johnson & Johnson Vision. In that role she is responsible for assuring eye care professionals understand the benefits of ACUVUE® Brand Contact Lenses for their patients through development and coordination of the speakers’ bureaus at JJV.

She also represents JJV at both state and federal levels in advocating for the contact lens industry on legislative and regulatory issues that affect patient health and safety with contact lenses.

“As I find myself in the halls of the Capitol in Washington, D.C., I think — ‘Who’d have thought?’” says Alexander, who can frequently be seen on the Ketchum campus with her husband, Ketchum University President, Kevin Alexander, OD, PhD.

Dr. Carol Alexander’s path to advocacy work and faculty development for Johnson & Johnson is founded in her deep commitment to her profession. A graduate of The Ohio State University, Dr. Alexander prioritized volunteerism early in her career and ultimately became the first woman to serve as president of the Ohio Optometric Association. Her experience there — working on policy and in various leadership positions — led to an opportunity with Johnson & Johnson Vision.

Her primary responsibility is managing a speaker’s team to conduct promotional programs sharing best practices on behalf of JJV “because optometrists confirm they find the most credible information comes from the experience of other doctors,” she says. She oversees more than 200 promotional programs per year that are facilitated by practicing optometrists.

She is also proud of her role in advocacy as it allows her to continue to champion issues that are important to optometrists and protect patient health. An issue she has been working on at the federal level is the Federal Trade Commission’s 10-year review of the Contact Lens Rule, which includes the guidelines that enforce the Fairness to Contact Lens Consumer Act. On the state level, Alexander has worked on legislative proposals extending or eliminating the one-year contact lens expiration date to potentially allowing patients to receive a contact lens prescription by simply filling out an online questionnaire.

Dr. Alexander’s work on behalf of Johnson & Johnson Vision in these areas has helped raise awareness with her colleagues and through promoting grassroots efforts, played a role in generating thousands of letters to federal and state officials promoting patient safety.

Another space to watch, says Dr. Alexander, is telemedicine, and how that will impact doctors and patients. For instance, new innovation in refractive technology can unwittingly promote vision assessment without health assessment. That’s a change Alexander and others are concerned about because it potentially distances patients from their doctors and could result in patient harm if systemic and ocular conditions are missed.

“To always put patient health first is what Johnson & Johnson is about,” says Dr. Alexander. “We are very much in favor of technological advancement, but we also want to make sure it meets current standards of care.”

Alexander views her advocacy work as a way to strengthen the profession and therefore ensure high quality of care for patients. She also views philanthropy as an important part of giving back to the profession. She and her husband President Dr. Kevin Alexander attend numerous fundraisers for Ketchum University, and support all three programs: SCCO, The School of PA Studies and College of Pharmacy. She says they are committed to “leading by example.”

When asked to look back and share one piece of advice on creating a career of purpose, Dr. Alexander says, “give your heart and soul ... making sure you are fully present, say yes and give 100 percent and then find the next thing to give your time to.”

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When asked to look back and share one piece of advice on creating a career of purpose, Dr. Alexander says, “give your heart and soul ... making sure you are fully present, say yes and give 100 percent and then find the next thing to give your time to.”

“Who knows what tomorrow will bring?” she says.
Sandra Fineman
PA-C

“I think that what makes us special — it’s not me or the facilities — it’s about serving our community for the greater good.”
Sandra Fineman, PA-C, director of clinical education at Ketchum’s School of PA Studies, says she can trace her desire to enter the health care field to her stay in the hospital when she was 12 years old after having an appendectomy. She shared a room with a Spanish-speaking new mother. Since Fineman is fluent in Spanish, the mother asked her to translate during a conversation with the attending nurse.

The mother wanted to know when the baby had last eaten because the child was crying and the nurse wanted to know when the mother had last fed the baby. There had been critical miscommunication because of the language barrier that could have carried significant consequences.

The incident left a lasting impression, driving home the importance of culturally competent patient care and effective communication. Fineman started considering a career in health care.

“My mom made it a point to say — ’With your love of science and bilingual skills, you would be a great asset to patients who need help the most,’” says Fineman. When Fineman first learned of the PA profession and the type of care performed, she found her calling.

Sandra graduated from the Stanford Physician Assistant program after earning her bachelor’s degree in child development from California State University at Fullerton. She has practiced as a PA in family medicine, women’s health and pediatrics in Santa Ana, La Habra and Whitter. She has worked as a clinical site evaluator for Stanford University’s Southern California PA students and has been a clinical preceptor for PA, nursing and medical assistant students. She is also the committee chair for education for the California Academy of PAs.

Sandra Fineman, PA-C, was tapped by Ketchum in 2014 to help develop its physician assistant program.

“I was working as a PA and was perfectly happy, but then one day I brought one of my sons to Ketchum for vision care and saw that the University was developing a PA program,” says Fineman. She contacted the school and said she had an interest in being a part of the developing program. She started off volunteering doing student interviews for the inaugural class, then was offered a position teaching clinical skills. Now she is director of clinical education. She has also earned her national certification for bilingual health care providers and is passionate about sharing the Spanish language with Ketchum University students.

PA Fineman views purposeful placement of students with preceptors in the field as one of the core missions of her job. She says she tries to spend time with students before placing them with preceptors so she can make a strong match.

“We get to know the students personally and what kind of personalities they have,” says PA Fineman.

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Fineman says she is able to learn those specific details about students because Ketchum is a smaller school, enrollment speaking, allowing for more personal contact.

“We really want to get to know our preceptors and get to know our students,” she says. “It makes us unique.”

Fineman says the proliferation of PA schools will make it more difficult to find quality preceptors, but she remains undaunted, given the success of her approach.

“The quality that we look for in our preceptors is that they all have a commitment to giving back. They have a sense of commitment to the students,” she says. “We don’t just want a warm body ... here’s a hole, let’s fill it.”

PA Fineman says that the core value in the School of PA Studies at Marshall B. Ketchum University is high-quality standards of patient care.

“Everything that the student does here starts with patient care,” says Fineman. “They are going to be practitioners in our community and we really want them to be the best at what they do.”

Fineman says the school seeks to develop compassionate, competent PAs. “Underserved communities are especially in need of talented PAs,” she says. And as the field blossoms and more schools come online, she hopes they too continue to adhere to strict standards.

“I hope that all of the other schools have that high bar, because we don’t want the profession to suffer if they don’t,” she says.

And when she considers what makes Ketchum stand above the other schools, the notion of service comes to mind.

“I think that what makes us special — it’s not me or the facilities — it’s about serving our community for the greater good,” says Sandra Fineman, PA-C.
“It is rewarding to know each and every one of our amazing students, learn about their individual interests and career goals, and encourage them to be actively involved in our pharmacy community.”
Dr. Eva Wong was drawn to the health care field in her home state of Hawaii. During her hospital volunteer experience, she encountered firsthand many people who struggled with chronic illnesses, especially diabetes.

“I’ve been interested in chronic diseases since early on,” says Dr. Wong, who volunteered at an ambulatory care clinic in Hawaii. “It was inspiring and eye-opening to see that a pharmacist could do more than dispensing and use their pharmacotherapy knowledge to work closely with patients to help them achieve their blood glucose and blood pressure goals.”

Dr. Wong pursued her interest in disease management at the University of the Pacific where she earned her doctorate of pharmacy. Diabetes is one of the chronic diseases upon which Dr. Wong hopes to have an impact.

“Diabetes is a chronic disease that pharmacists can play a big role in,” she says. “We can help patients manage the disease early on.”

Dr. Wong is board certified in pharmacotherapy, ambulatory care and diabetes education. She has worked at the Veterans Affairs San Diego Medical Center as an ambulatory care clinical pharmacist and at Scripps Memorial Hospital in Transitions of Care clinical pharmacy.

“Being able to start from the very beginning has been incredibly rewarding. You are able to have a lot of input to bring your ideas to fruition.”

Dr. Wong’s clinical practice also highlights another need in the health care community — that of working in interprofessional teams. Since illnesses — especially chronic ones — often cascade into an array of symptoms that creates a need for treatment and monitoring by a group of health care professionals.

In her work as clinical faculty at the College of Pharmacy at Ketchum, Wong has been instrumental in building the school’s interprofessional coursework to prepare students for a collaborative practice workforce. The IPE courses allow pharmacy students to work alongside optometry and PA students in treating patients. The students learn the importance of holistic health care and a team approach. This approach is especially helpful with patients who are non-compliant with their medications.

“They can see how the different health care professionals work with each other,” says Wong. “The students are engaged and enjoy learning from and amongst each other.”

Dr. Wong says it has been particularly rewarding to come onboard at the inception of the program at Ketchum University. She believes it allows her to be more creative in her curriculum development.

“I like to keep up to date. Academia allows us to serve our pharmacy profession, mentor our future pharmacist practitioners and remain lifelong learners at the same time.”

“Being able to start from the very beginning has been incredibly rewarding,” says Wong. “You are able to have a lot of input to bring your ideas to fruition.”

Dr. Wong believes her interest in interprofessional care was furthered during her time working at the VA. She says the VA was very forward thinking and the institution gave clinical pharmacists the ability to provide comprehensive patient-centered care in pharmacist-managed clinics with prescribing authority in collaboration with providers. At Scripps, she worked alongside health care providers in interprofessional teams, working together on patient care to prevent hospital readmissions due to new or uncontrolled chronic disease conditions. She says her work at the VA and Scripps were invaluable and greatly enhanced the skill set she brings to Ketchum.

“Some folks go into academia straight out of residency,” she says. “I wanted to develop a strong clinical foundation before going into academia.”

Dr. Wong continues to keep abreast of advancements in the pharmacy field by reading the latest research.

“I like to keep up to date,” she says. “Academia allows us to serve our pharmacy profession, mentor our future pharmacist practitioners and remain lifelong learners at the same time.”

And one of the unique aspects of Ketchum’s College of Pharmacy is its modern, integrated curriculum and relatively small size.

“With the small class sizes, we are able to provide more personalized education and active learning,” says Dr. Wong. “It is rewarding to know each and every one of our amazing students, learn about their individual interests and career goals, and encourage them to be actively involved in our pharmacy community.”
Expanding horizons without losing sight of home

HE WAS JUST 6 YEARS OLD, and Christos McClain got his first pair of glasses. When he showed up to elementary school one day without those glasses, he received a valuable lesson about how dependent he was on his vision. That early memory of frustration led Christos to pursue a career in optometry.

After graduating from Texas A&M University, Christos began working for a local optometrist, Dr. Matthew Greene, in College Station, Texas. Dr. Greene quickly became a mentor to Christos, teaching him about the optometry field and welcoming him into his private practice. “More than anything,” Christos said, “I respect Dr. Greene because he advocates for his patient’s best interest. He is continually developing his own professional abilities and learning new technologies in order to best serve his patients.”

“Even though SCOO has been around for over 100 years, they’re not dated … if anything, they’re pushing the boundaries in optometry as a leader in the field.”

That passion for ongoing education and professional development is something that drew Christos to Ketchum University. Opening Ketchum Health last year, the school has created an expansive and state-of-the-art clinic for students to gain relevant hands-on training under the mentorship of SCOO’s world-class faculty. “Walking into the clinic on that first day, I was totally impressed with how Ketchum continually tries to improve the educational environment for its students — creating new opportunities to interact with patients and learn from first-hand experiences,” he said. “Even though SCOO has been around for over 100 years, they’re not dated … if anything, they’re pushing the boundaries in optometry as a leader in the field.”

Leading and collaborating

Christos has seen the role Ketchum University plays in the much bigger world of optometry by attending some of the American Academy of Optometry conferences. At a conference earlier this year he watched as one of his own professors, Catherine Heyman, OD, present a lecture to a room packed with other optometrists. “It’s pretty amazing to see the professor who is teaching you — actually give a lecture to a room full of other doctors in the field,” he said. “I realized then that Ketchum was a great collection of thinkers, leaders and innovators … not just on our small campus but within the entire industry.”

In addition to his optometry studies, Christos has been equally impressed with the interprofessional courses at MKBU. “By learning what the PAs and pharmacists do — it allows us to all learn together and not just operate in a silo,” he said. “When we work together, we’re able to collectively treat the whole patient with a better combined outcome.”

With his clinical rotations just a year away, Christos is looking to expand his horizons, literally. He is exploring options to work in a different state, potentially as far away as Alaska. Christos is excited to experience a new community and also suspects that one day his path may lead him back to Dr. Greene’s practice and his happy memories in College Station.

But for now he’s happy to be living and learning in California at Ketchum University, the premier optometry school in the country with a clear vision for the future.

Finding a home away from home

IN MAKING THE MOVE FROM HER HOME STATE OF FLORIDA to join the School of PA Studies, Shelby Stinson was leaving a lot behind. However, once she interviewed and toured the Ketchum University campus, she knew “this was where I had to be.”

With a warm and welcoming staff and just 43 students in her class, she instantly felt she had the support system to make the huge life change.

“Being from out of state, the faculty really has helped me through the transition process,” she said. “I always feel like they want me to grow … not just as a student, but as a person as well. Ketchum is a truly unique place for that reason alone.”

After completing her year of didactic studies, Shelby and her classmates will begin their PA clinical rotations. “The PA profession is so new to health care, it’s growing and changing from year to year and Ketchum is really a leader in the field.”

Caring and problem solving

Shelby was drawn to the health care field because she enjoys the challenge of piecing together all the intricate details about her patient in order to solve a problem. “It’s extremely rewarding to figure out what’s wrong with a patient and help guide them towards a treatment that will improve their overall health and happiness,” she said. In her studies and experiences at Ketchum University, Shelby has learned that in order to fix the problem — you first have to treat the person with compassion, understanding and respect.
Over the last two years, she has interacted with a lot of professors and health care providers Shelby would characterize as “heroes.” But her leading hero is one closer to home. “My dad is a registered nurse and was my biggest supporter in coming to Ketchum to fulfill my dream of becoming a PA,” she said. “He’s worked for more than 20 years as a traveling nurse and really opened my eyes to the opportunities that were out there. I definitely wouldn’t have made it this far without him.”

With her acceptance into the School of PA Studies, Shelby and her dad packed up her car and headed west. Their road trip took them through a dozen states and a quick side trip to the Grand Canyon. Shelby is looking to use those experiences — meeting new people and exploring new places — as she looks ahead to her clinical rotations. “I can’t wait to actually get there and do what I’ve been studying these last six months,” she said. Whether providing health screenings to underserved communities or offering educational information at the Boys and Girls Club, Shelby says Ketchum has encouraged her to get out of her comfort zone. She credits the program with giving her a greater self-confidence and improved communication skills in dealing with patients.

Shelby is looking to follow in her dad’s footsteps in patient care. “I care about my patients and want to give them the highest quality care possible … which is something my dad has always taught me.”

**Making a mark in a growing community**

**AS PART OF KETCHUM UNIVERSITY’S COLLEGE OF PHARMACY INAUGURAL CLASS,** Andrew Kaewtavorn knew he wanted to make a mark. Elected as class president, he is looking to help the program grow, develop and expand in the years ahead.

The son of a nurse, Andrew has always been drawn to the medical profession. “I knew pharmacy was an area I wanted to explore — and Ketchum is the best place in the country to do that.” Andrew graduated from California State University at Fullerton in 2012 and spent a few years as a pharmacy technician, getting real-world experience before applying to Ketchum University in 2017. Practical application is something the College of Pharmacy looks for in successful applicants. Andrew was one of 43 selected for the four-year pharmacy program.

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Andrew Kaewtavorn
COP Class of 2020

Quite a departure from a large state school like Fullerton, Andrew is amazed how much the small class size at Ketchum positively impacts the academic experience. The professor-to-student ratio creates a greater sense of community and comradery between faculty and staff. Andrew describes one of his teachers, Jozef Stec, PhD, as a person he admires not only for Dr. Stec’s approach to science but also for the way he applies that outlook to his students and life. “His energy literally lights up the room … and dare I say, he actually makes organic chemistry enjoyable.” No small feat.

**Following a hero**

Andrew was initially drawn to the field of pharmacy because it combined two passions — working with people and using his communication skills to help patients; something he first experienced watching his mom throughout her career. “I would definitely say my mom is one of my heroes in health care because I see her passion for what she does. She creates lifelong relationships with her patients by giving them the highest quality of care,” he said. “She literally brings life into the world every day, as a labor and delivery nurse, and I can tell it’s not just a job for her — it’s what she loves to do.”

Andrew knows his mom will be overjoyed to see him walk across the stage in 2020 — the first in his family to graduate from a professional school.

Looking to the future, Andrew is excited to see what the next few years bring. In his third year he will start his clinical rotations in a hospital pharmacy, on a reservation for Native Americans or working at a local retail location — Ketchum encourages students to expand their horizons with rotations they wouldn’t normally try. “Pharmacy is an ever-evolving field in health care and Ketchum is pushing us to be the most well-rounded, polished pharmacy students and practitioners we can be,” Andrew said. “This is an incredible time to be in pharmacy school … I can’t wait to see what comes next for my class, our University and the advancement of our field as a whole.”

**“I always feel like they want me to grow … not just as a student, but as a person as well. Ketchum is a truly unique place for that reason alone.”**

Andrew Kaewtavorn
COP Class of 2020
Southern California College of Optometry

**AT THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF OPTOMETRY MEETING IN ANAHEIM** we had a tremendous showing that highlighted our wonderful work and commitment with numerous scientific papers, posters and lectures. Dr. Raman Bhakhri has been a champion for student engagement as the AAO faculty liaison, while Dr. Susan Cotter continues to provide exemplary leadership on the board of directors.

**AAO AWARD WINNERS**

Dr. Tim Edrington — Michael G. Harris Award for Excellence in Optometric Education  
Dr. Jason Ng — Innovation in Education Grant from the AOF and Johnson & Johnson  
Dr. Elaine Chen — George W. Mertz Contact Lens Resident Award from AOF and Johnson & Johnson

“We were proud to be a part of Care Harbor once again in 2017. 956 eye exams were performed and 583 pairs of glasses were distributed to patients in need.”

**KUDOS**

Dr. Angela Chen has been appointed as Vice Chair for the Pediatric Eye Disease Investigator Group. The SCCO pediatric/VT team was also recognized as the PEDIG Clinical Site of the Year Award for outstanding performance in clinical trials.

At the COA House of Delegates, Dr. Mark Nakano was elected to the board of trustees and Dr. Ranjeet Bajwa, ’08, assumed the duties of president-elect. Dr. Rachelle Lin is beginning her term as president of the Orange County Optometric Society.

Dr. Benedicte Gonzalez has been working hard to develop the eye and vision care services at the Serve the People Community Clinic, a federally qualified health center. Both third- and fourth-year students have benefited from the high patient census and varied clinical presentations.

SCCO was awarded a $750,000 grant that will support enhancements in academic and clinical technology, provide recruitment scholarships for incoming SCCO students and upgrade equipment at the University’s regional Los Angeles clinic. In concert with a strategic alignment with College objectives, the gift honors SCCO alumnus, Dr. Jonathan Smith, ’90, for his years of dedicated board service as a trustee of the Reynolds Foundation.

We were proud to be a part of Care Harbor once again in 2017. Led by Ms. Michele Whitecavage and Dr. Mark Nakano, 155 SCCO students and 31 faculty, staff, alums and administrators, along with COA member optometrists volunteered their time and talent. 956 eye exams were performed and 583 pairs of glasses were distributed to patients in need.

There are countless ways that the SCCO family works together to positively impact the members of our community. We’re working hard to make you proud, and we appreciate your support and encouragement.
ON FEB. 24, 2017, AT A COLLEGE-WIDE RETREAT, the faculty of Marshall B. Ketchum University’s College of Pharmacy ratified the self-study for obtainment of candidate status, and it was subsequently sent to each member of the site visit team. Our site visit for achieving candidate status occurred April 11-13, 2017, and we will receive the results of the visit after the Accreditation Council for Pharmacy Education meets in June. Classes continue, highlighted by the beginning of our compounding laboratory course, teaching students about over-the-counter medications, and all students gaining certifications for immunizations. Six of our first-year PharmD students attended the California Pharmacists Association Western Pharmacy Exchange meeting held in Palm Springs in February, and 14 students attended the National American Pharmacists Association meeting held in San Francisco at the end of March. It is heartening to see how quickly the inaugural class of PharmD students are getting involved both on a state and on a national level.

The entire College eagerly awaits the day that we move to the main campus in Fullerton. Renovations are ongoing and are on schedule for the College to move from temporary offices on Chapman Avenue to the Ketchum University campus before the fall 2017 quarter begins. It will be a great day when the College of Pharmacy joins with the rest of the University at its flagship campus.

School of PA Studies

KETCHUM UNIVERSITY CONTINUES TO CREATE HISTORY. On Nov. 11, 2016, 27 students graduated from the School of Physician Assistant Studies. They represent the first class of PA students to graduate in Orange County. We are proud to report a 100 percent pass rate on the PA National Certifying Exam. The average national pass rate for PA programs is 96 percent. Two-thirds of the graduates from the Class of 2016 are now employed. Sixteen are employed in California, two in Colorado, and one in Texas. They have chosen careers in multiple specialties including family practice, orthopedics, hepatobiliary surgery, pediatric surgery, asthma and allergy, trauma surgery and emergency medicine. Two graduates are employed in federally qualified health centers.

The School of PA Studies is meeting its goal of providing all students with experiences in caring for underserved communities during clinical rotations. The Class of 2017 students have completed one-third of their rotations, and more than 80 percent of the students have completed at least one rotation within an underserved community. We are receiving exceptional feedback from preceptors regarding our PA students’ performance.

The Class of 2018 has successfully completed 16 modules thus far. The faculty are planning and implementing new methods of active learning that improves student comprehension of material and develops critical thinking and clinical diagnostic skills. In addition, students are regularly participating in at least one medical community outreach event each quarter. Recently, students discovered that a homeless client’s blood sugar level was over 600 and they helped him get to the nearest hospital for treatment. He returned the following week to thank the students for saving his life. Community engagement is a rewarding aspect of PA education at MBKU.

ONCE YET UNUSUALLY

Edward Fisher, PhD, RPh
Dean, College of Pharmacy

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Dry eye had been a 20-year problem for Betty Ferrell, RN, PhD. But three years ago, discomfort became agonizing pain. Long days of reading and writing ended with ice packs on her eyes and head. She had been to many doctors and various clinics, none of whom could help solve this growing problem.

“As a researcher, I spend a lot of time on the computer writing,” she says. “I also travel quite a bit and I’m frequently in dry areas like airplanes. It was becoming worse and worse.”

She experienced a heightened sensitivity to light. She constantly used eye drops and took ibuprofen around the clock to dull the pain.

“My grandkids were ready to play but I had ice packs on my eyes and head,” she remembers. “It was miserable. It was a part of my everyday life, the pain, light sensitivity and exhaustion.”

Her condition became dangerous when she had to pull off the road while commuting to work because the morning light was too intense for her to see properly, even though she wore two pairs of sunglasses. She worried about how she would continue her work in cancer research at City of Hope and, more importantly, if she would be able to play with her grandchildren. Her daughter, who witnessed her suffering, was increasingly concerned.

**THE TURNING POINT**

Her optometrist referred Dr. Ferrell to Justin Kwan, OD, FAAO, assistant professor at the Southern California College of Optometry at Marshall B. Ketchum University and chief of the Stein Family Center for Cornea and Contact Lens at Ketchum Health in Anaheim Hills, California.
A broad vision for healing

A NEW CHAPTER

After a comprehensive examination and series of tests, Dr. Kwan discovered that Dr. Ferrell suffered from Meibomian Gland Disease (MGD), an oil gland dysfunction that is leading cause of dry eye for more than 86 percent of patients.

MGD occurs when the meibomian glands, located in the eyelids, no longer produce and release the oils needed to maintain healthy tears. The watery layer in the tear film begins to evaporate causing discomfort and in some cases, extreme pain. Patients like Dr. Ferrell would wash out their eyes to restore moisture, but Dr. Kwan notes this can actually add to the problem as the good components of the tears are flushed away.

When Dr. Kwan prescribed an oil-based eye drop, Dr. Ferrell’s relief was immediate.

“I just can’t begin to tell you,” continues Dr. Ferrell, “it was a night and day difference on the quality of my life.”

Quality of life was not just important to Dr. Ferrell. It is her life’s work. Dr. Ferrell’s research specifically focuses on quality of life for patients and families facing cancer. She is a pioneer in palliative care and pain management and in 2000, launched the End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium project that has trained hundreds of thousands of nurses in palliative care. She is now developing a new palliative care curriculum for all nursing schools in the nation.

“Having an untreated eye problem takes over your life,” she says. “My daughter is a physician and unbeknownst to me, she wrote a letter to Dr. Kwan thanking him for his care. It was quite a statement in that she saw such a remarkable difference in me and my ability to be a mother, grandmother and a happy person.”

LOOKING BEYOND THE SURFACE

As a faculty member and dry eye focused clinician, Dr. Kwan appreciates the opportunity to practice in a world-class, comprehensive teaching facility that provides the latest research, high-tech facilities and advanced tools at his fingertips. Dr. Kwan and his students have the knowledge, network and tools to respond in a coordinated manner that prioritizes quality of life and the overall health and well-being of the patient.

“We’re looking at different approaches to customize care for each patient that fits the reality they personally live in,” he says.

Additionally, Ketchum Health provides advanced instrumentation such as the OCULUS Keratograph® 5M, allowing Dr. Kwan to show patients the surface of their eyes, which makes a decided impact on education around diagnosis and care.

“If a patient can see their own eyelashes and oil glands and the surface of their eyes, they can understand the degree of severity that their eyes are affected and really get to buy into their treatment plan,” he says. “We can educate them so they can take ownership of their condition and treatment.”

With more than 50 percent of optometry practices independently owned it can be difficult for every practice to invest in this level of advanced instrumentation, leaving patients like Dr. Ferrell feeling frustrated when, in her case, treatments fail to bring relief and symptoms worsen. But collaboration and patient referral with teaching facilities like Ketchum Health levels the playing field and allows every independent optometrist access to the same diagnostic tools and evaluations as even the largest clinics and academic institutions. This results in more comprehensive evaluation, better training for future optometrists and improved patient care.

“Having an untreated eye problem takes over your life,” she says. “My daughter is a physician and unbeknownst to me, she wrote a letter to Dr. Kwan thanking him for his care. It was quite a statement in that she saw such a remarkable difference in me and my ability to be a mother, grandmother and a happy person.”

“We’re detectives that put pieces of puzzles together. We do a powerful thing here at Ketchum in terms of our patient care.”

—Justin Kwan, OD, FAAO

A NEW CHAPTER

After a comprehensive examination and series of tests, Dr. Kwan discovered that Dr. Ferrell suffered from Meibomian Gland Disease (MGD), an oil gland dysfunction that is leading cause of dry eye for more than 86 percent of patients.

MGD occurs when the meibomian glands, located in the eyelids, no longer produce and release the oils needed to maintain healthy tears. The watery layer in the tear film begins to evaporate causing discomfort and in some cases, extreme pain. Patients like Dr. Ferrell would wash out their eyes to restore moisture, but Dr. Kwan notes this can actually add to the problem as the good components of the tears are flushed away.

When Dr. Kwan prescribed an oil-based eye drop, Dr. Ferrell’s relief was immediate.

“I just can’t begin to tell you,” continues Dr. Ferrell, “it was a night and day difference on the quality of my life.”

Quality of life was not just important to Dr. Ferrell. It is her life’s work. Dr. Ferrell’s research specifically focuses on quality of life for patients and families facing cancer. She is a pioneer in palliative care and pain management and in 2000, launched the End-of-Life Nursing Education Consortium project that has trained hundreds of thousands of nurses in palliative care. She is now developing a new palliative care curriculum for all nursing schools in the nation.

“Having an untreated eye problem takes over your life,” she says. “My daughter is a physician and unbeknownst to me, she wrote a letter to Dr. Kwan thanking him for his care. It was quite a statement in that she saw such a remarkable difference in me and my ability to be a mother, grandmother and a happy person.”
MEDICAL DETECTIVES

For his students, Dr. Kwan can’t imagine a better training environment than Ketchum Health. As students from the School of PA Studies and the College of Pharmacy begin their clinical training, and the medical clinic and pharmacy build out are completed, optometrists will be training collaboratively with other health care professionals.

“Dry eye is often linked to the rest of the health of the body,” Dr. Kwan says. “Autoimmune disorders can affect the water gland of the eye. Disorders such as Sjögren’s and lupus can be managed collaboratively with other health professionals so we can care for the eyes and the rest of the body.”

The collaboration of all three disciplines working toward a precise diagnosis and targeted treatment plan, versus an uncoordinated trial and error methodology, can only benefit the patient. This patient-centric, forward-thinking culture will prepare the next generation of optometrists, PAs and pharmacists for the new health care landscape that streamlines care and looks at the whole patient.

“We’re detectives that put pieces of puzzles together,” Dr. Kwan says. “We do a powerful thing here at Ketchum in terms of our patient care.”

THE FUTURE IS NOW

With her experience of 39 years in researching cancer and palliative care, Dr. Ferrell has seen the power of interprofessional training and practice for the benefit of patients and families.

“Ketchum’s commitment to quality of life is the same as ours,” she says. “When we care for the human being and the family, bringing together the PAs, pharmacists and optometrists, it is a different kind of health care and it is the future.”

30 percent of the population is estimated to experience dry eye, according to Dr. Justin Kwan, OD, FAAO, assistant professor and chief of the Stein Family Center for Cornea and Contact Lens at Ketchum Health Anaheim.

“The vast majority of dry eye conditions are due to oil gland dysfunction, but many of the over-the-counter drops people use are water-based and are only effective for minutes,” he says.

In low-humidity climates, Dr. Kwan and his team regularly hear very specific stories of patients suffering from dry eyes. “Going from different temperatures throughout the day when we travel indoors and outdoors, Santa Ana winds during certain times of the year and allergens can irritate the eyes,” he says.

However, for some individuals, dry eye can be a complex condition caused by chronic health issues such as fibromyalgia or post menopause.

Some of the symptoms Dr. Kwan recommends patients to look out for are:

» A noticeable fluctuation in vision
» They can only work comfortably the first half of the day
» The eyes feel tired before dryness and pain sets in

When these symptoms cause an individual to shut down for minutes at a time throughout the day, they need to see an optometrist soon as dry eye can permanently damage vision.

“Here at Ketchum Health, we see a lot of adult patients whose primary care physician has referred them to me,” he says. “We want to get all of our patients back to their normal, productive lives. It is really rewarding when we do so.”

CALL THE UNIVERSITY EYE CENTER, at Ketchum Health Anaheim today to schedule an appointment: 714.463.7500.
ACHIEVING 20|20
Campaign update

2017 SIGNALS AN EXCITING TIME IN THE LIFE OF THE ACHIEVING 20|20 CAMPAIGN.

Earlier this year, Ketchum University honored Dr. Warren Harvard Low, ’52, for a lifetime of commitment and generosity to his alma mater. Dr. Low’s $2.7 million donation stands as the largest gift in University history, and we were excited to name the Warren & Carol Low Student Union on the campus of Marshall B. Ketchum University in his honor.

With the addition of Dr. Low’s gift to the campaign, Ketchum University has now raised more than half of its total goal of $20 million. This significant milestone in the life of our campaign is certainly a chance for us to pause and celebrate, but we know that there is still more work to do. We are enlivened to continue building important relationships with you, our alumni and friends.

Dr. Low’s legacy gift is just one example of the many ways you can give to Ketchum University, and I want to take this opportunity to tell you a little more about planned giving.

From bequest intentions and beneficiary designations to charitable gift annuities, charitable trusts and gifts of real estate, with planned giving, you can provide long-lasting support for Marshall B. Ketchum University while enjoying financial benefits for yourself.

If you would like to create a plan for your future or need to make updates to an existing plan, Ketchum’s Wills Planner can help you get started. To learn more about your planned giving options, please visit ketchumlegacy.org. There, you will learn about the best assets to make a planned gift, about gifts of cash, securities and property, and discover gift options that provide tax and income benefits.

You’re invited to discover the best planned gift to meet your goals at ketchumlegacy.org today.

WHAT LEGACY DO YOU WANT TO LEAVE BEHIND?
To learn more about planned giving options, please visit ketchumlegacy.org.
OWNER OF ALAMITOS EYE CARE, DR. AVANI PATEL, ’95, nominated the Los Alamitos Youth Center for a $1,000 grant from ABB Optical Group, which was awarded in November. Not only does Dr. Patel have a passion for the center that seeks to transform children’s lives, but she and the Alamitos Eye Care also plan to match this grant for the center. Great work, Dr. Patel!

Professional accomplishments

DR. STEPHANIE WOO, ’11, is now a part owner of Havasu Eye Center. She was a patient there from the time she was eight years old until she graduated college.

DR. HOWARD SAULLES, ’79, was recently appointed as the interim executive director of the University Health Service at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, an ambulatory health center that sees more than 80,000 patients a year and employs more than 160 staff. Dr. Saulles has served at the University for more than 35 years as director of their Eye Care Clinic at UHS and in other administrative positions.

DR. ANGIE CHEN, ’09, is serving as a vice chair for PEDIG, an NEI-funded clinical research network of more than 325 pediatric ophthalmologist and optometrist investigators who perform clinical investigations related to pediatric eye conditions. In this role, Dr. Chen oversees the day-to-day activities of the network, formulates general PEDIG policies, reviews any clinical site performance issues, and prioritizes studies for protocol development. Read more about NEI-funded clinical research on page 15.

DR. TAWNA ROBERTS, ’04, was selected as the only OD for the PEDIG Leadership Development Program and is a protocol chair for an upcoming ATS study.

DR. ROBERT SANET, ’74, has partnered with Eyecarrot to help make vision training more accessible and effective throughout the world. Dr. Sanet is an educator and practitioner in behavioral optometric care, vision training and practice management and will be a significant addition to Eyecarrot.

Primary Care Optometry News

MBKU congratulates those from our community who are the newest members of PCON 250 (Primary Care Optometry News), including our president, residents, faculty and alumni. These outstanding optometrists are recognized for practicing progressive and innovative patient care, conducting research, or demonstrating excellence in academics.

Dr. Kevin L. Alexander, President
Dr. Jeffery K. Austin, ’85
Dr. Marc R. C. Bloomenstein,’95
Dr. Susan Cotter, ’84
Dr. Steven G. Ferrucci, ’97
Dr. Scott G. Hauswirth, ’99
Dr. Jeffery C. Krohn, ’87
Dr. Richard London, ’79
Dr. Harue J. Marsden, ’87
Dr. Robert E. Prouty, ’85
Dr. Scott Schachtter, ’89
Dr. Nicoletta Stefandis, ’89
Dr. Elizabeth Wyles, ’99
American Academy of Optometry

American Academy of Optometry

New Fellows

Class of 2016

Laura Addy
Erica Anderson
Ryan Anderson
Mackenzie Black
Heather Bowman
Julia Casanova
Stefanie Chan
Elain Chen
Jennifer Chet
Allyson Chun
Vin Dang
Amy DeVries
Amanda Dexter
Dean Fasciani
Rachel Grant
Colton Heinrich

Paula Johns
Mark Landig
Allison Moy
Chelsea Park
Victoria Piamonte
Maureen Plaumann
Natalie Ramirez
Kristy Remnick-Waltman
Amy Rindahl
Jonathon Ross
Oliver Solis
Kyle Tetrault
Catherine Tuong
Lisa Wahl
Abby Wicks
**Recognition**

**DR. JASON NG, ’03,** received the 2016 Innovation in Education Grant from the American Optometric Foundation in collaboration with Johnson & Johnson Vision Care, Inc. for the development of an interactive learning module to improve learning of signal detection theory.

**AS THE 2006 NANSEN REFUGEE AWARD WINNER, DR. AKIO KANAI, ’72,** was recognized in a short film created for the 2016 Nansen Refugee Award ceremony. Dr. Kanai has led vision missions to different areas of Azerbaijan to assist internally displaced people. Most recently, Dr. Kanai led a team of optometrists to Barda, supporting people who have limited access to optometric services.

**DR. LINDA M. CHOUS, ’87,** was a recipient of The Dr. Gertrude Stanton Award for Innovation by Women in Optometry at the American Academy of Optometry meeting held in November. Dr. Chous has played an integral part in treating patients with chronic conditions through her work as the Chief Eyecare Officer for United Healthcare and her involvement with the National Association of Vision Care Plans. Read more about Dr. Chous on page 7.

**DR. LARRY JERGE, ’74,** was awarded Lion of the Year by the Tega Cay Lions Club in Tega Cay, South Carolina, for his many contributions to the community. Dr. Jerge has screened nearly 7,000 students and helped to establish a modern vision screening program using the Welch Allyn Spot screener.

**JEZZERI WU, SCCO CLASS OF 2018,** was one of the recipients of the 2016 J. Pat Cummings Scholarship from the American Optometric Foundation in collaboration with Johnson & Johnson Vision Care, Inc. Ms. Wu received this award after demonstrating high academic performance, participation in extra-curricular activities, and dedication to patients via internships and other volunteer activities.

**DR. ARASH SADEGHIAN, ’03,** was presented a certificate of recognition by the California Legislature Assembly for exceptional volunteer service in the 60th Assembly District.

**In Memory**

Dr. Frank A. Word, ’42
Dr. Sheldon B. Johnson, ’52
Dr. Robert W. Ridley, ’82
Dr. James M. Jackman, ’55
Dr. Al Mayer, ’66
Dr. Gregory D. Gilman, ’77
Dr. Darol Joseph Bonander, ’79
Dr. Harue J. Marsden, ’87

**Conradtations**

to the SCCO Class of 2017

Welcome to your new opportunity to contribute as health care providers, alumni mentors and proud believers in the value of your Ketchum University education.

**Endless Summer Savings**

Ketchum Health Designer Showcase

Saturday, June 10, 2017
10 a.m. - 4 p.m.
5460 E. La Palma Ave.
Anaheim, CA 92807

All designer frames 30% OFF!
Ketchum University faculty publications

A listing of Ketchum University faculty publications in peer-reviewed journals.
June 2016 — April 2017

JUNE 2016


AUGUST 2016


SEPTEMBER 2016


Oquindo CA. Creating protocol to organize your glaucoma practice. California Optometry 2016;43(5).
OCTOBER 2016


NOVEMBER 2016


DECEMBER 2016


JANUARY 2017


FEBRUARY 2017


APRIL 2017


BOOK CHAPTERS


Last year the M.B. Ketchum Memorial Library underwent renovations to accommodate the growing needs of Ketchum University’s students and faculty. As you might imagine, with the addition of two new programs, additional seating and study space was needed to appropriately support the increasing number of students.

To avoid disrupting the students’ studying schedules as much as possible, the library closed for a two-week period between the spring and summer quarters to complete all major construction. This included moving the heavy, fully loaded book stacks, replacing carpet and installing a new electrical system.

The upgrades made way for 64 additional seats in two new seating areas, rolling white boards for mobile study spaces, and an electrical tracking system that runs under the carpet, allowing for numerous plug-in stations throughout the library.

The library staff surveyed the students anonymously about how they wanted to change the library space and used that feedback to help plan the renovation. One student commented, “I love you MBKU for taking the students’ input on this! It’s the little things like this that make us feel valued.”

“The M.B. Ketchum Memorial Library supports the research, instructional and information goals of all Ketchum University students, faculty, and the health care community in their pursuit of lifelong learning,” said the Library Director, D.J. Matthews, “It’s wonderful to have a space that brings that mission to life.”