MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR:

I am proud to report remarkable growth and progress across many of the UCHealth Eye Center’s most important facilities and programs, especially in 2015. Thanks to the talents and dedication of our outstanding faculty and the visionary commitments of our donors and institutional partners, the University of Colorado Department of Ophthalmology is advancing in significant ways and delivering important impacts for our deserving patients. I encourage you to learn more about the UCHealth Eye Center by exploring the website and links on page 6 of this report, including exciting videos and information, or by contacting us at 720-848-2500.

Because we recognize with deep appreciation the trust placed in us by our many patients, stakeholders and the community, we are more dedicated than ever to our mission of providing premier eye care and to our vision of accelerating the rate of change in eye care through translational research. In large part due to community support, we are continuously improving the exceptional patient-centered experience we deliver in our clinics every day, offering the best sight-saving technology, pursuing life-changing research that takes place in our laboratories and expanding the efforts of our faculty to train the next generation of leaders in ophthalmology. The Department of Ophthalmology at the UCHealth Eye Center is internationally recognized and has become a comprehensive and nationally progressive center of excellence at the University of Colorado School of Medicine.

Sincerely,

Naresh Mandava, MD
Sue Anschutz-Rodgers Endowed Chair in Retinal Diseases
Professor and Chair, Department of Ophthalmology
Director, UCHealth Eye Center

EYE CENTER OVERVIEW:

From humble beginnings, but with the support of the Rocky Mountain Lions service organization, in just over a decade we have established the world-class UCHealth Eye Center on the University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus. The campus is a major statewide economic engine, employing over 21,000 people, and a destination medical center for the intermountain region. The campus is the country’s largest new academic medical complex that represents more than $4 billion in new construction, including the University of Colorado Schools of Medicine, Pharmacy, Dental Medicine, Public Health and College of Nursing; three major hospitals; more than one million square feet of research space; and is served by 4,700 full-time faculty who attract over $420 million per year in research grants.

Our faculty ophthalmologists, surgeons, optometrists, low-vision experts and research scientists provide compassionate, leading-edge treatment for all eye conditions, and offer specific expertise in the most complex and disabling conditions. The UCHealth Eye Center represents a partnership between our faculty at the CU School of Medicine, and colleagues and facilities at University of Colorado Hospital, Children’s Hospital Colorado, as well as Denver Health Medical Center, the Veterans Administration and other institutions.
Our Eye Center headquarters are located in the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute (RMLEI) building, and our faculty serve additional patients at patient care centers located throughout the community.

Our faculty and professional research group has grown in number from 29 in 2009 to 76 in 2015, substantially increasing the faculty’s patient care capacity. As the only academic eye center within a 500-mile radius, the department is the highest-volume provider of academic vision care between St. Louis, Missouri and Salt Lake City, Utah. We are serving more patients than ever before at RMLEI, and total Eye Center visits more than doubled from 44,614 to 95,106 annually over the past six years.

The department has a major commitment to graduate medical education, annually training 21 ophthalmology residents and fellows. The department has one of the largest pediatric ophthalmology groups who treat children with a range of eye conditions throughout our community. The UChealth Eye Center is also home to six Specialized Programs of Excellence in translational research and transformational clinical care, including: the Visual Sciences Innovation Program, the Ocular Stem Cell and Regeneration Program, the Ophthalmic Translational Research Program, the Clinical Effectiveness Program, and the Macular Degeneration and Glaucoma Programs.

**OUR SPECIALIZED PROGRAMS:**

**INNOVATIONS TRANSFORMING THE FUTURE OF EYE CARE**

- **Visual Sciences Innovation Program:** Empowering fundamental discovery in vision science
- **Ocular Stem Cell and Regeneration Program:** Technology and research to restore vision
- **Ophthalmic Translational Research Program:** Biotech accelerator for vision technologies and bioengineered devices
- **Clinical Effectiveness Program:** Epidemiology of disease and clinical outcomes research
- **Glucoma Program:** Advanced Imaging and novel therapeutics
- **Macular Degeneration Program:** Diagnostic innovation, advanced surgical and molecular therapies
The 18-month expansion of the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute building on the CU Anschutz Medical Campus, completed last May, was made possible in large part by private philanthropy. Now recognized as one of the largest and finest academic vision care facilities in the U.S., the RMLEI houses our specialty-care clinics and offers comfortable space for more than 100,000 patient visits each year with tremendous capacity for future growth.

In January 2016 we achieved a challenging $10 million fundraising goal to establish a new Ocular Stem Cell and Regeneration Program (OSCAR) that will rapidly advance the national and international frontier of knowledge about vision loss and the potential of restoring sight. OSCAR is a strategic collaboration with the Gates Center for Regenerative Medicine and represents a major initiative to develop new clinical approaches to treating age-related macular degeneration, a condition affecting a large percentage of our patients. We are combining the talents of exceptional faculty, a deep research track record, and our well-developed platform of first-rate facilities and equipment to push forward new stem cell technologies and therapies that will benefit thousands of patients.

Made possible by a major philanthropic commitment, the new Frederic C. Hamilton Macular Degeneration Center will soon be established at CU Anschutz dedicated to the causes, treatments, prevention and cure of age-related macular degeneration – an area of particular faculty expertise with untold potential for impacting patient care.

Established in 2015, the Frederic C. Hamilton Macular Diagnostics Center is equipped with advanced imaging technology and diagnostics to improve care for patients with the most blinding eye diseases.
MILESTONES TIMELINE

2015
- Established Macular Diagnostics Center
- Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute expansion increased building from 48,000 to 135,000 sq feet opened Spring 2015
- Faculty & Staff: 76
- Patient Visits: 95,016

2016
- Second to implant Argus 2 (bionic eye) device in the Western United States
- Established OSCAR Program
- Established Clinical Effectiveness Program
- Endowed third faculty chair

2010
- Faculty & Staff: 31
- Patient Visits: 49,269
- First to perform ultrathin DSAEK surgery in the US
- First imaging of ocular outflow system with multi-photon microscopy

2011
- Faculty & Staff: 51
- Patient Visits: 71,318
- First academic eye center in the US to commercially perform femtosecond laser – assisted cataract surgery

2012
- Developed first device for harvesting trabecular meshwork (Dual Blade)
- Established Macular Degeneration Center
- Developed first commercial modular intraocular lens system

2013
- Established OSCAR Program
- Endowed two faculty chairs
- total patents issued 6, patents filed 53, companies started 9

2007
- Faculty & Staff: 25
- Patient Visits: 30,000
- Naresh Mandava, MD, is appointed Department of Ophthalmology chair and director of the Eye Center

2008
- First to research stimulation of the retina with photovoltaic nanoparticles

2009
- First to discover use of silicone oil to mitigate damage of radiation to the eye
- First to unravel cause of intraocular pressure rise after eye injections for macular degeneration
PROFILE OF A **LOYAL DONOR:**

The Rocky Mountain Lions service organization is one of the UCHHealth Eye Center’s greatest friends. The Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute Foundation is one of our top donors, contributing many millions of dollars since our partnership began. These funds were raised by the dozens of Lions Clubs of Colorado and Wyoming, and the Lions International Foundation. The Lions raised half the cost of the original RMLEI building when it was constructed in 2006, and recently contributed a major gift to the RMLEI building’s clinical expansion.
THE IMPACT OF PHILANTHROPY:

• In 2012 the UCHealth Eye Center launched the $83 million “Bringing Sight to Life” initiative, and we are excited to report the results of our fundraising efforts, which demonstrate the broad philanthropic commitment of insightful members of the community willing to invest in bold new ideas. Through March 2016, gifts and commitments from private and institutional investors totaled over $59.6 million.

• Since 2012, our generous donors have made possible the RMLEI expansion, the creation of an endowed fellowship and an expanded resident and fellow graduate training program, innovative research and device development efforts, the establishment of three faculty endowed chairs, and the founding of four major clinical and translational research enterprises.

• In addition, the UCHealth Eye Center is aware of the plans of thoughtful donors who have provided for our future through tax-advantaged gift and estate plans. These resources will support the growth of faculty talent, research initiatives and the ongoing training of future generations of ophthalmologists.

To learn more about the UCHealth Eye Center:

Visit the UCHealth Eye Center | Department of Ophthalmology website: www.eyeinstitute.org

Explore these exciting videos and access important information: Introducing the Eye Center, Eye Center Expansion Goal: Curing Blindness, Patient Receives Region’s First Bionic Eye Implant, Ophthalmology Stem Cell Research and much more.

Contact the office of the Chair at 720.848.2500

To learn about giving, getting involved and the many ways you can make an impact, contact:

Randall A. Stubbs | Office of Advancement, Department of Ophthalmology
Mail Stop A065, 13001 E. 17th Place, Room EI-3031, Aurora, CO 80045
720-848-5018 | randall.stubbs@ucdenver.edu | supportcuanschutz.ucdenver.edu
UCHEALTH EYE CENTER locations now offer you convenient access to the highest-quality eye care in the region. All locations are staffed by CU School of Medicine faculty.

**Anschutz Medical Campus**:  
1675 Aurora Ct. | Aurora, CO 80045  
720.848.2020

**Boulder**:  
5495 Arapahoe Ave. | Boulder, CO 80303  
303.545.2020

**Cherry Creek**:  
The Colorado Center  
2000 South Colorado Blvd. | Annex Building Suite 100 | Denver, CO 80222  
720.553.2020

**LoDo**:  
1435 Wazee St. | Suite 101 | Denver, CO 80202  
720.553.0393

**Lone Tree**:  
9552 Park Meadows Dr. | Suite 100  
Lone Tree, CO 80124  
720.848.2020

*We are the only academic Eye Institute in a 500-mile radius*