FOCUS ON FELLOWS

Dr. Daniel Reiter
Resident and Editorial Director
We congratulate Dr. Reiter on his promotion to Associate Professor and Environmental Fellow. Our new Fellows are very bright and will bring success and leadership to our Department. Please enjoy the extra minutes you have in a private practice on the east side.

Dr. Susan Rudometkin
(Beta) Reiter, Susan Rudometkin is on call from now until Monday. Please be sure she contacts your patient if anything comes up.
Naren Mudavadi, MD
Kiyoshi Murai, MD
Antonis Carides, MD

Dr. Christopher Gelston
Resident and Editorial Director
Dr. Gelston completed his residency in our Department of Ophthalmology and is returning here to complete a fellowship in vitreoretinal surgery under the guidance of Drs. Edelhauser, Daniel Gregory and Michael Erlanger.
Jeffrey Olson, MD and
(Óptica y Geriatria)
Dr. Michael Erlanger.

We are very appreciative of recent gifts from some of our alumni in support of this residency program. This year, we will bring over 100 high level residents to the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute who will directly impact the training of our students. These gifts are used to provide student scholarships at national ophthalmology meetings and their preparation and presentation of good research projects. Equipment and supplies for the residents’ study room and practice will be available directly to the trainees. In addition, the following equipment may be used for tax-supplies for the residents’ study room and practice.

Jonathan Davidson, MD
Richard Davidson, MD
Cores & External Diseases
Retinal Surgery

Jan Braverman, MD
Richard Davidson, MD
Pediatric Ophthalmology
Comprehensive Ophthalmology

Jeffrey Bennett, MD
Pediatric Ophthalmology
Victoria Polski, MD
Neuro-ophthalmology

Jeffrey Gillis, MD
Pediatric Ophthalmology &
Adult Strabismus

Michael Ansari, MD
Pediatric Ophthalmology

Kara Hanson, OD
Cornea & External Diseases

Tanja Salinas, MD
Cornea & External Diseases


FOCUS ON ALUMNI

Training Tomorrow’s Colleagues: Class of 2009

J. Bryan Westman, MD
Pediatric Ophthalmology &
Adult Strabismus

Kevin Vo, MD
Pediatric Ophthalmology

Song Hee Lee, MD
Pediatric Ophthalmology &
Adult Strabismus


FOCUS ON FELLOWS

Dr. Christopher Gelston
(Compg Peds & Geriatric)

J. Bryan Westman, MD
Pediatric Ophthalmology &
Adult Strabismus

Kevin Vo, MD
Pediatric Ophthalmology

Song Hee Lee, MD
Pediatric Ophthalmology &
Adult Strabismus


Dr. Christopher Gelston
Resident and Editorial Director

The Low Vision Rehabilitation Service opened in January. Dr. Sara Sava, OD, FAAO is providing a personalized treatment plan featuring a comprehensive assessment, evaluations and rehabilitative training. This personalized rehabilitation plan can help the patient: Read newspapers, books and mail
Pay bills and use checks
Text telephone
Enjoy hobbies
Watch television
Drive
View family photographs
Access materials at work or in the classroom
Build confidence in mobility and orientation

The on-site technology area is equipped with the newest low vision devices including closed-circuit televisions and portable video magnifiers. If you have difficulty reading, even while wearing glasses, or have a diagnosed eyeglass condition such as poor acuity, AMD or diabetic retinopathy resulting in reduced vision, then you may wish to schedule an appointment with Dr. Hamer to see if we can improve your daily life through better visual efficiency.

For appointments with Dr. Hamer call: 720-848-2020

FUTURE FOCUS

ANNOUNCING

101st ANNUAL RESIDENT, PELICAN, AND ALUMNI RESEARCH DAY

We are pleased to announce the 101st annual presentation of original research, integrated case histories and resident research projects. This year, we will host the event in person, and Saturday, June 17th, 2006 from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm.

In the Schechter Auditorium on the first floor of the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute.

101st ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

DEPARTMENT OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute

SAVE THE DATE!

SEPTEMBER 29 & 30, 2006

Watch for your symposium brochure!
NEWS FROM OUR PEDIATRIC OPHTHALMOLOGY TEAM:

Becoming a Poster Photographer

The Pediatric Ophthalmology Service is proud to announce that 10 of our residents are presenting posters at the American Association of Pediatric Ophthalmology (AAPOS) meeting in February. Congratulations to the residents for their success and for representing the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute.

Present posters:

- Scott Oliver, MD
- Ryan Prall, MD
- Scott Thomas, MD
- Vikram Durairaj, MD
- Bronwyn J. Bateman, MD
-للأول مرة في تاريخ رملي لايني: مؤسسة بارزة في مجال الأمراض العينية

FOCUS ON FUNDRAISING

Gift Giving Opportunities

To discuss giving opportunities to benefit the programs and services of Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute, please call Development Director at 303-848-5018 or visit www.RML.com.

Gift Giving Opportunities

- Help fund the pedestrian transportation program
- Support clinical and basic research
- Support the Low Vision Rehabilitation Service
- Contribute to the surgical training laboratory
- Make a gift in honor or in memory
- Consider a scholarship

Suggested uses for gifts

- Support the surgical training laboratory
- Support the Low Vision Rehabilitation Service
- Help fund the pedestrian transportation program
- Make a gift in honor or in memory
- Contribute to the surgical training laboratory

To discuss giving opportunities to benefit the programs and services of Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute, please call Development Director at 303-848-5018 or visit www.rockymountainlions.org.

Two forms of AMD exist: "dry" and "wet." The wet form of macular degeneration is more severe and causes one blind spot to grow over the retina, which leads to further loss of vision. AMD is the leading cause of legal blindness in patients aged 65 or older and the most common cause of blindness in the world. The disease significantly affects quality of life and activity levels. Due to the number of patients affected and the difficulties individuals face in their retirement years, AMD affects more than 6.8 million individuals in the U.S. because of the serious visual loss it causes more than 1.7 million individuals are blind or legally blind due to AMD due to AMD, which has been found to benefit public health concerns in the United States, and also a major concern of these individuals with AMD.

Dr. Rebecca Sands presented a workshop on new cutting edge technologies and treatments to our patients. The pediatric ophthalmology department is well recognized nationally for its research and training, and is representative of the entire faculty at RMLEI.

The Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute, as part of our educational services, may be able to provide information on cutting-edge research and treatments at our Community Relations office 720-848-5818 for further information.

DEPARTMENT OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

FOCUS ON RESEARCH

Many ocular diseases require surgical intervention. In December 2004 and began an era of pharmacotherapy for age-related macular degeneration. The inclusion of our faculty members on these lists is an indication of the quality of medical care our patients receive at the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute.

In 2002, the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute, in collaboration with the American Optometric Association, created the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute. The Institute is dedicated to providing an array of cutting edge treatments and surgical procedures. In the future, the Institute will be a nationalized operation for the Rocky Mountain region. The Institute is dedicated to providing an array of cutting edge treatments and surgical procedures. In the future, the Institute will be a nationalized operation for the Rocky Mountain region.

In February she spoke to the Colorado Department of Health and Environment about the importance of including people with vision impairments in all aspects of their lives. In March, she spoke at the Anchor Center on "The Aging Eye" in a presentation about the aging eye and its effects on vision.

The pediatric ophthalmology department is well recognized nationally for its research and training, and is representative of the entire faculty at RMLEI. Faculty and students of the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute are recognized for their contributions to research in ophthalmology.

NEWS FROM OUR PEDIATRIC OPHTHALMOLOGY TEAM:

The Pediatric Ophthalmology Service is proud to announce that 10 of our residents are presenting posters at the American Association of Pediatric Ophthalmology (AAPOS) meeting in February. Congratulations to the residents for their success and for representing the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute.

Arlene Drack, MD and Cameile Moore, CO, COMT, has who is the ROP Coordinator, injected into the eye, causes the blood vessels to grow under the retina, which leads to the blinding condition known as "wet" AMD. Dr. Rebecca Sands presented a workshop on new cutting edge technologies and treatments to our patients. The pediatric ophthalmology department is well recognized nationally for its research and training, and is representative of the entire faculty at RMLEI.

In 2002, the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute, in collaboration with the American Optometric Association, created the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute. The Institute is dedicated to providing an array of cutting edge treatments and surgical procedures. In the future, the Institute will be a nationalized operation for the Rocky Mountain region. The Institute is dedicated to providing an array of cutting edge treatments and surgical procedures. In the future, the Institute will be a nationalized operation for the Rocky Mountain region.
Two forms of AMD exist: “dry” and “wet”. The dry form of the disease is more severe and causes new blood vessels to grow under the retina. These new blood vessels can leak blood and fluid into the clear jelly-like material of the eye, which can scar the retina and eventually lead to central vision loss. The wet form of AMD is much more severe, and affects more than half of all AMD cases. AMD can lead to the loss of 10% of people with the dry form will develop the wet form of AMD within the next 3 years.

For many years the only treatment available was to use a laser to seal the leaking blood vessels. This therapy often causes a narrowing of the blood vessels, which can lead to poorer vision. Other treatments for AMD have been used “off-label” for many years, including both small- and large-scale clinical trials. The use of medications to slow the progression of AMD has been the focus of many studies, and several medications have shown promise in slowing the progression of AMD.

Aranetan is a medication that was derived from a type of fungus in the genus Laccaria and is a potential treatment for AMD. For approximately 20 years, aranetan has been used “off-label” for the treatment of AMD. Several small-case series have been reported with promising results. The medication appears to work by blocking the growth of new blood vessels under the retina. The results of these studies show that aranetan can slow the progression of AMD, which is encouraging for patients and researchers.

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Two forms of AMD exist: "dry" and "wet". The wet form of AMD causes vision loss although typically slowly over decades. This trial sought to evaluate the efficacy of a new injectable drug called Lucentis™. This medication is used for wet AMD among patients who have previously received photodynamic therapy (PDT) and have experienced vision loss in one eye. 20% of patients avoiding severe vision loss and 6% gaining three lines of vision on the ETDRS chart. The one-year results were published in the fall of 2005, of the one-year results for Lucentis™. The RMLEI will soon be available at the end of this summer. The RMLEI will soon be available at the end of this summer. The RMLEI will soon be available at the end of this summer. The RMLEI will soon be available at the end of this summer. The RMLEI will soon be available at the end of this summer. Lucentis™ is an injectable medication that was derived from the protein found in venomous snakes called Insulin. Lucentis™ is a recombinant protein produced through recombinant DNA technology. For approximately 20% of patients, vision improved by more than 15 letters on the ETDRS chart. Small case series have been reported with delivery by aminophylline (ATL) solution or by direct needle injection. Reduction in retinal new vessels, in 60% of patients treated. The medications in patients with cancer colon and intravenously. Furthermore AMD is a disease that affects the macula that is the macula in which the medication was developed in patients with colon cancer and intravenously. A clinical study of AMD as a disease that affects the macula. AMD is a disease that affects the macula that is the macula in which the medication was used in patients with colon cancer and intravenously. Macugen® will be used "off-label" for patients with AMD who have already responded to PDT, who are not responding to PDT, and who are at risk of developing severe visual loss. This treatment causes vision loss although typically slowly over decades. The following patients: 80% with wet AMD and 40% with dry AMD. Only 10% of people with the dry form will develop the wet. causes vision loss although typically slowly over decades. Because of this, the wet form of AMD is the most common cause of legal blindness in patients aged 65 or over and the wet form of AMD affects individuals who lose their independence in their retirement years. AMD affects more than 8 million individuals in the United States and causes significant visual loss in more than 1.7 million individuals. AMD is a disease that affects the macula that is the macula in which the medication was developed in patients with colon cancer and intravenously. Macugen® will be used "off-label" for patients with AMD who have already responded to PDT, who are not responding to PDT, and who are at risk of developing severe visual loss. This treatment causes vision loss although typically slowly over decades.
FOCUS ON RESIDENTS

Clark W. Leber, MD
Chair

CLASS OF 2006

The year 2006 is proving to be an exciting year for the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute (RMLEI). The theme of this issue is collaboration and cooperation. As our institution grows, we have come to realize the importance of working together to achieve our mission.

Recently, our residency program was given a 5 year accreditation by the ACGME, the longest possible award of accreditation. This was only possible because of the cooperative environment created by our residents, program director, faculty, and administration. Cooperation and collaboration are required to achieve this, which will be remembered as one of our most amazing accomplishments. We are proud that cooperation and collaboration are in the mainstream in the Department.

In this issue, you will find interesting updates on the academic activities of our residents. We are actively collaborating with corporations and the National Institutes of Health to fund many clinical trials. We are proud that our dedication to excellence and academic and clinical research has resulted in unique opportunities for collaboration and cooperation for the total faculty in the Department. That brings unique opportunities for collaboration and cooperation for the Department and the RMLEI. Our faculty is working with clinical and basic researchers in many Departments and other divisions within the Department. Our multi-disciplinary environment is critical for the development of innovative technology and all types of research.

One need only look outside our windows at RMLEI to see the tremendous growth here on the Fitzsimons campus. One need only walk down the hallways of RMLEI to see the mission statement of the RMLEI and the Department. Required to achieve this, which will be remembered as one of our most amazing accomplishments, is that our residency program continues to meet the highest standards of excellence in the country, which is a testament to the dedication of the faculty and residents.

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The Low Vision Rehabilitation Service opened in January. Dr. Kara Hanson, OD, FAAO and Dr. Nathan Rudometkin continue to offer patients comprehensive low vision rehabilitation services.

Dr. Christopher Gelton (Anterior Segment and External Diseases) Dr. Gelton completed his residency in our department of ophthalmology and is currently planning to complete a fellowship in the United States. He will be training in the United States under the tutelage of Dr. Antonio Ciardella, MD.

Dr. J. Brannon Batterson, MD, FACS, FAAPREF (Pediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus) Dr. Batterson completed his residency in our department of ophthalmology and is currently planning to complete a fellowship in the United States. He will be training in the United States under the tutelage of Dr. Antonio Ciardella, MD.

Training Tomorrow’s Colleagues: The Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute’s Graduate Education Program has produced 175 ophthalmologists from its residency program. Many of these ophthalmologists have returned to the Rocky Mountain states, enhancing the eye care of our neighbors.

We congratulate our graduates on the accomplishments and careers of our alumni and the current faculty in working very hard to meet and exceed the highest level of clinical and scholarly excellence in the program.

Based on our 2006 survey by an Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, we are once again pleased to announce that our residents and staff have rated our program as one of the highest quality programs in the country.

We are very appreciative of recent gifts from some of our alumni in support of this residency program. These generous donations have been instrumental in enhancing the quality of care we provide directly to our patients, and the training of our residents. These gifts are none other than the graduate students of the past coming together at the request of the RMLEI with the designation - Resident Education.

One need only look outside our windows at RMLEI to see the tremendous growth here on the Fitzsimons campus. The growth is truly unparalleled by any health care center in the country. Our Department has expanded similarly. As our institution grows, we have come to realize the importance of working together to achieve our mission.

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ROCKY MOUNTAIN LIONS EYE INSTITUTE
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BOX 6510
AURORA, CO 80045
720-848-2020

is your direct link to the Rocky Mountain Lions Eye Institute for appointments or consultations with an ophthalmology specialist.

CALL 720-848-2500
For more information visit us
on the web at
www.UCHSC.edu/ophthalmology

VISIONS
SPRING/SUMMER, 2006
Gail Phillips - Editor