



ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS
OF OPHTHALMOLOGY



60TH ANNIVERSARY
AUPO
2026



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FEBRUARY 4–7 SAN DIEGO, CA

Program Schedules · Awards · Speakers
New Members · Hotel Map



ASSOCIATION OF
UNIVERSITY PROFESSORS
OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

655 BEACH STREET
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94109
WWW.AUPO.ORG

WE ARE PLEASED TO ACKNOWLEDGE WITH GRATITUDE THIS YEAR'S SUPPORTERS TO DATE:

AbbVie, Inc.: Women Professors of Ophthalmology, Annual Meeting, and Educating the Educators program support

Alcon Vision, LLC: Annual Meeting and Educating the Educators program support

American Academy of Ophthalmology: Co-sponsor, Straatsma Award for Excellence in Resident Education and Excellence in Medical Student Education Award

Lions World Vision Institute: Research Directors member luncheon

Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc.: Resident and Fellow Research Forum, David F. Weeks Award for Outstanding Vision Research, and general support

SF Match: Educating the Educators program support

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Welcome to AUPO 2026



TERRI YOUNG, MD, MBA
PRESIDENT

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Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I welcome you to the 2026 annual meeting of the Association of University Professors of Ophthalmology (AUPO). This year serves as our 60th anniversary as an organization, and we are excited to celebrate with you. The AUPO is the destination for advancing our collective mission to serve, continually develop, empower, and advocate for academic ophthalmology, and the annual meeting remains the centerpiece of these efforts.

The AUPO Board has completed its priority lists and begun implementation of the first-ever AUPO strategic planning effort to engage external consultants. This work is inclusive, proactive, responsive, and dynamic in these ever-changing times. Every voice is needed to continue our upward trajectory of incorporating new ideas and reshaping/reimagining efforts to ensure the present and future success of our organization in fulfilling all its missions and remaining germane.

My great privilege in serving as the AUPO president is having the opportunity to choose the topic and speakers for the President's Symposium. Held on Thursday, February 5, this year, the symposium is entitled "Advocacy- Sustaining the Quadripartite Mission in Academic Ophthalmology and Vision Science". The discourse will be on advocacy from all sides- patient care, learner development, research, and patient/ community engagement. The speakers are leaders in our space for these missions in ophthalmology/vision science implementation and training, and patient advocacy. All will provide details on current changes and headwinds. Lastly, all will provide call-to-action messages. Our speakers include: Michael X. Repka - immediate Past President and past Medical Director of Government Affairs of the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO); Laura Green - Trustee-at-large of the AAO, member of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) Board of Directors and Executive Committee, Chair of the ACGME Council of Review Committee Chairs, and Past Chair of the ACGME Ophthalmology Review Committee; Dan Ignazewski - Executive Director of National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research (NAEVR) and Alliance for Eye and Vision Research (AEVR) of NAEVR; and Denise Jess - Executive Director of the Wisconsin Council of the Blind and Visually Impaired.

Our Program Committee, expertly chaired by James Tsai and comprised of leaders from all council constituencies, has developed an innovative and relevant program. The varied and robust symposia, workshops, panel discussions, roundtables, etc., provide important opportunities for each constituency to gather separately and collectively to network, inform, update, and share best practices. The signature all-day Educating the Educators kick-off program on Wednesday, February 3, remains a must-attend initiative for all things regarding learner development. The two Boot Camps for

New Chairs and Administrators, and the popular Chair Chat round table sessions will also occur on Wednesday afternoon.

Two additional symposia on Friday and Saturday mornings, respectively, will highlight opportunities for today and tomorrow's clinical eyecare workforce, and on how to cultivate and support members from academic ophthalmology in assuming system positions of leadership. Two workshops on Thursday and Friday will feature program growth strategies for departments and outline partnerships with key affiliated entities in academic ophthalmology. We will continue to offer exceptional Breakfast with Colleagues sessions and repeat the Chair Chat Round Tables, which will host focused small group discussions specifically designed for ophthalmology department chairs. The meeting will end with two exciting programs on Saturday morning: a review of the 2025 Sullivan Cotter Compensation Survey and sharing best practices for academic department research programs.

In addition to the Presidents' Symposium on Thursday morning, the AUPO/AAO Straatsma Award for Excellence in Resident Education and the Medical Student Educator Awards will be celebrated. Friday morning, the RPB David F. Weeks Outstanding Research Award recipient will be recognized, and we will be impressed yet again by the high caliber of research projects presented during the Resident and Fellow Research Forum. The Councils for Administrators, Medical Student Educators, Program Directors, Research Directors, and Coordinators have planned exciting educational content throughout the entire meeting.

Friday evening, we will cap off with the 60th anniversary gala reception and banquet with an entertaining and informative video featuring AUPO leaders. This will be a memorable celebration for all!

In addition to fellow Board members, Council leaders, and committee members, I am especially grateful for the partnership with the AUPO administrative leadership team of Paul Sternberg, Chief Executive Officer, and AMS Lead Amber Mendez. They assumed their new leadership roles at the beginning of 2025 and did not miss a beat in assuring yet again an extraordinarily successful year. Thank you also to our exceptional AMS staff, Alissa Evans, Danica Nesbit, Shirley Chan, and Craig Carey, for their hard work preparing for and staffing our annual meeting. Please thank them personally during the meeting when you see them!

I look forward to seeing all of you, and to celebrating with you AUPO's 60th year anniversary as the pre-eminent organization and voice for academic ophthalmology/academic vision science in the US and Canada. Thank you for your membership and engagement. It has been my honor to serve as your President.

Code of Conduct for AUPO

INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

AUPO champions an inclusive academic ophthalmology community to promote and advocate for excellence and equity in ophthalmic education, professional development, research, and clinical care.

The AUPO code of conduct expresses AUPO's commitment to a civil and just society as reflected in our organization.

The AUPO code of conduct applies to all AUPO members and participants in AUPO events and meetings.

GENERAL PRINCIPLES

AUPO members and participants are committed to acting honestly, truthfully, and with integrity in all our actions and dealings. We commit to treating each other with dignity, courtesy, and respect. We commit to listening to each other while keeping our hearts and minds open, and to speaking thoughtfully and with respect for our listeners.

PROFESSIONAL STANDARDS

AUPO members and participants commit to maintaining competence in our profession, including the following, where applicable: clinical and surgical competency, research knowledge, educational and mentoring skills, and administrative expertise.

AUPO members and participants commit to improving the accountability, transparency, ethical conduct, and effectiveness of academic ophthalmology.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

AUPO members and participants acknowledge the potential for conflict of interest, and the need for this to be recognized and disclosed, as well as the need for appropriate steps to be taken to manage any identified conflicts as outlined in AUPO's conflict of interest policy.

AUPO members and participants commit to serving the AUPO membership and the broader academic ophthalmology community with impartiality, transparency, and fairness.

COMPLIANCE WITH LAWS AND REGULATIONS

AUPO members and participants agree to abide by all applicable laws and regulations.

In addition, AUPO members and participants agree to bring to the attention of the AUPO Board of Trustees any decisions or actions that they identify as unethical or illegal. Further, they commit to informing the Board of the possible results of these decisions or actions.

CONFIDENTIALITY

Officers, trustees, and committee members, together comprising "AUPO leadership" agree to serve AUPO with loyalty and respect for confidentiality, avoiding conflicts of interest and activities that may be perceived as taking personal advantage to the possible detriment of the AUPO or its members.

AUPO leadership agrees to respect and protect confidential information.

PROFESSIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

AUPO is committed to nurturing members and participants in their professional development, as they work to become independent and accomplished contributors to academic ophthalmology. AUPO is committed to developing an inclusive community in which members engage, collaborate, and develop productive professional relationships.

AUPO expects members and participants to develop professional relationships and to achieve resolution of actual or apparent conflicts in a professional and respectful manner.

AVOIDING DISCRIMINATION AND HARASSMENT

AUPO members and participants commit to treating every individual with dignity and respect. Further, they commit to engaging others in good faith and assuming good intent.

Harassment and discrimination are not tolerated in any activity or interaction among AUPO members and participants. Members and participants who witness such behavior agree to bring the incident to the attention of the AUPO Board of Trustees for further review and action.

REPORTING VIOLATIONS AND CONSEQUENCES

AUPO members and participants are encouraged to report violations of the Code of Conduct to the AUPO Board of Trustees. Where the violation involves a trustee, the report will be made to the Executive Vice President (EVP). If the violation involves the EVP, then the report will be made to the President. In the event that the EVP and the President are involved, the report will be made to the AUPO Client Services Manager who will convene an ad hoc committee of appropriate individuals. Reporters acting in good faith will be protected, and the information managed with sensitivity, and in accordance with the AUPO Policy Statement on "Governance: whistleblower protection." Retaliatory behavior will not be tolerated.

The AUPO will review complaints and determine necessary action, up to and including loss of membership. These disciplinary actions will be applied in a fair and consistent manner.

REVIEW AND UPDATE PROCESS

AUPO leadership commits to reviewing and updating the code of conduct at a minimum every three years, utilizing a process that solicits feedback from members. The AUPO Code of Conduct will be posted on the AUPO website. Approved July 23, 2024.

Meeting Information

AUPO MISSION

We champion an inclusive academic ophthalmology community to promote and advocate for excellence and equity in ophthalmic education, professional development, research, and clinical care.

MEETING OBJECTIVES

After attending this program, participants should be able to:

- Discuss timely information from multiple external sources that facilitate growth of the academic missions in ophthalmology: research, education, and patient care.
- Facilitate collaborative discussions leading to best practices in academic ophthalmology.
- Develop consensus around newly introduced educational techniques for training of medical students, ophthalmology residents, and fellows.

TARGET AUDIENCE

AUPO's annual meeting serves as a forum for members, affiliates, and guests to attend symposia and workshops addressing topics of interest or concern for chairs, residency program directors, associate residency program directors, research directors, directors of medical student education, vice chairs of education, administrators, and residency program coordinators in ophthalmology departments.

CME CREDIT

No Continuing Medical Education (CME) credits are available for this meeting.

DISPLAY OR DISTRIBUTION OF MATERIALS

AUPO has retained use of the Hilton San Diego Bayfront to enable registered members and guests to participate in Society-sponsored educational and informational activities. Display or distribution of non-sponsored information or advertising in or on the property, except at exhibit booths and on

the AUPO notice board, is prohibited. Violation of this policy may result in confiscation and disposal of the material.

PHOTOGRAPHING AND RECORDING OF EXHIBITS, POSTERS, AND PRESENTATIONS

No portion of the program or posters may be photographed, audio-recorded, or video-recorded without the written consent of AUPO, the presenter, or the exhibitor. Attendees wishing to photograph or videotape an exhibit must secure permission from the exhibiting company before doing so.

WI-FI INTERNET ACCESS

Wi-Fi internet access is not available in the AUPO meeting rooms.

BADGES

AUPO name badges should be worn during all sessions and social events. Replacement badges can be obtained at the registration desk.

EXHIBIT HALL

Exhibitor booths will be on display in the Indigo AE Ballroom from Thursday, February 5, to Friday, February 6.

BREAKFASTS AND BREAKS

Breakfast will be available in the Indigo AE Ballroom on Thursday and Friday and in the Indigo West Foyer & Terrace on Wednesday and Saturday. Morning and afternoon refreshment breaks on Wednesday – Friday will be held in the Indigo AE Ballroom. Times are posted in the program schedule.

BREAKFAST WITH COLLEAGUES

NETWORKING ROUNDTABLE SESSIONS

Advance sign-ups and remaining availability for the two Breakfast with Colleagues Networking Roundtable sessions are available through the QR code on p. 14. Seating is limited per table. If your plans change after registering, please update the list accordingly. If a table is full, advance registrants have the first option for the seats at the table up to 5 minutes after the session starts.

RECEPTION & BANQUET

The reception and banquet will be an informal, casual attire event. The reception will take place in the Indigo Ballroom BCFG and the Indigo Terrace. Plated dinner will be served. We encourage our guests to mingle and move about freely to facilitate socialization.

MEETING ATTIRE

Casual or business casual attire is encouraged for the duration of the meeting; ties are discouraged. Sweaters or light jackets are recommended, as it is difficult to find a temperature that is conducive to all.

SPEAKER READY ROOM

Presenters must submit final PowerPoint presentations to the audiovisual staff no less than 4 hours before their presentation. A speaker-ready station will be available at the AV tech table in the general session room, Indigo BCFG Ballroom, as follows:

- Tuesday, Feb. 3, 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM
- Wednesday, Feb. 4, 6:30 AM – 5:00 PM
- Thursday, Feb. 5, 7:00 AM – 4:15 PM
- Friday, Feb. 6, 7:00 AM – 4:00 PM
- Saturday, Feb. 7, 7:00 AM – 10:45 AM

REGISTRATION HOURS

- Tuesday, Feb. 3, 3:00 PM – 5:30 PM
- Wednesday, Feb. 4, 6:30 AM – 5:00 PM
- Thursday, Feb. 5, 6:30 AM – 4:30 PM
- Friday, Feb. 6, 6:30 AM – 4:15 PM
- Saturday, Feb. 7, 6:45 AM – 11:00 AM

QUESTIONS?

If you have questions regarding AUPO or the annual meeting, please stop by the Registration Desk during registration hours located in the Indigo West Foyer for staff assistance.

AUPO Schedule at a Glance

Tue.	3:00 PM – 5:30 PM	Registration Open
Wed., Feb. 4	6:30 AM – 5:00 PM	Registration Open
	6:45 AM – 8:00 AM	EE Breakfast
	7:00 AM – 5:00 PM	Educating the Educators (EE) Meeting
	12:45 PM – 3:50 PM	Boot Camp for New Chairs
	1:00 PM – 5:00 PM	Administrator Boot Camp
	4:00 PM – 5:30 PM	Chair Chat Roundtables
	5:00 PM – 5:45 PM	New Program Director Member Reception
	5:00 PM – 6:00 PM	Research Director Member Reception
	5:30 PM – 6:30 PM	Chair Member Reception
	5:30 PM – 6:30 PM	EE Reception
Thur., Feb. 5	6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	Administrator Welcome Reception
	6:30 AM – 4:30 PM	Registration Open
	6:30 AM – 7:45 AM	Breakfast in Exhibit Hall
	7:00 AM – 7:45 AM	Breakfast Tables: Directors of Medical Student Education, Administrators, and Coordinators
	8:00 AM – 8:15 AM	Welcome and Updates
	8:15 AM – 9:45 AM	President's Symposium
	9:45 AM – 10:15 AM	Refreshment Break and Exhibits
	10:15 AM – 5:00 PM	Coordinator Program
	10:15 AM – 5:30 PM	Administrator Program
	10:20 AM – 10:40 AM	AUPO/AAO Straatsma Award for Excellence in Resident Education
	10:40 AM – 11:00 AM	AUPO/AAO Excellence in Medical Student Education Award
	11:00 AM – 11:05 AM	AAO Commitment to Advocacy Award Presentation
	11:10 AM – 11:25 AM	Best of Journal of Academic Ophthalmology
	11:30 AM – 11:55 AM	Chair Member Business Meeting
Fri., Feb. 6	12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Lunch in Exhibit Hall
	1:00 PM – 2:30 PM	Review Committee (RC) for Ophth: Update & Dialogue
	1:00 PM – 2:30 PM	Research Director Quick Exchanges
	1:15 PM – 2:30 PM	From Small to Big: Program Growth Strategies for Departments
	2:30 PM – 3:00 PM	Refreshment Break and Exhibits
	3:00 PM – 4:30 PM	Ophthalmology Medical Education Paper Session
	3:00 PM – 4:30 PM	Research Director Roundtables
	6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	AUPO Welcome Reception
	6:30 AM – 4:15 PM	Registration Open
	6:30 AM – 7:45 AM	Breakfast in Exhibit Hall
	6:45 AM – 7:45 AM	Breakfast with Colleagues Networking Roundtables Session 1
Sat., Feb. 7	7:55 AM – 9:30 AM	Challenges for Tomorrow's Clinical Eye Care Team
	8:00 AM – 9:30 AM	Research Directors Grand Rounds
	9:30 AM – 10:00 AM	Refreshment Break and Exhibits
	10:00 AM – 4:40 PM	Administrator Program
	10:00 AM – 5:00 PM	Coordinator Program
	10:05 AM – 10:30 AM	RPB David F. Weeks Award for Outstanding Vision Research
	10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	AUPO/RPB Resident and Fellow Research Forum
	11:30 AM – 12:10 PM	Organization Reports
	12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Lunch on Own and Exhibits Open
	1:00 PM – 2:15 PM	Application Potpourri
	2:30 PM – 3:30 PM	DMSE Membership Meeting
	3:15 PM – 3:45 PM	Refreshment Break and Exhibits
	3:45 PM – 4:45 PM	DMSE Happy Hour
	3:45 PM – 5:00 PM	Partnerships and Collaboration with Key Affiliated Entities
	6:30 PM – 11:00 PM	Closing Reception and Banquet
	6:45 AM – 11:00 AM	Registration Open
	6:45 AM – 7:45 AM	Breakfast with Colleagues Networking Roundtables Session 2
	6:45 AM – 8:00 AM	Breakfast
	8:00 AM – 9:30 AM	Mentoring, Inspiring, and Supporting Future Leaders in Academic Ophthalmology
	9:30 AM – 10:45 AM	Sullivan Cotter Compensation Survey Presentation
	9:40 AM – 11:10 AM	Research Director Best Practices: Dealing with Challenging Managerial Problems



JENNIFER LUIZ LINDSEY,
MD, MBA

Straatsma Award for Excellence in Resident Education

The Straatsma Award was established through funding from the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO), the Association of University Professors of Ophthalmology (AUPO), and private funds, to recognize and celebrate an outstanding Program Director in ophthalmology.

Dr. Jennifer Luiz Lindsey, is a distinguished ophthalmologist and educator whose career spans over two decades of clinical excellence, academic leadership, and national advocacy. A graduate of Rice University (BA, Biochemistry, cum laude) and Baylor College of Medicine (MD), Dr. Lindsey completed her ophthalmology residency at Baylor and later earned an Executive MBA with honors from Vanderbilt University's Owen Graduate School of Management, where she was inducted into the Beta Sigma Gamma Honor Society. She is a 2020 graduate of the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) Leadership Development Program.

Dr. Lindsey's academic career began at Baylor and flourished at Vanderbilt University Medical Center, where she served as Assistant and then Associate Professor of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences. She held numerous leadership roles, including Residency Program Director and the James H. Elliott Endowed Director of Resident Education. Her tenure at Vanderbilt and the Veterans Health Administration's Tennessee Valley Healthcare System was marked by transformative contributions to surgical education and clinical innovation, including the development of a comprehensive online learning management system for ophthalmology residents.

In 2024, Dr. Lindsey joined Mass Eye and Ear and Harvard Medical School as a faculty member and was named Vice Chair for Education and Director of Resident Education at Harvard Ophthalmology, where she continues to shape the future of ophthalmic training. In 2025, she was named the Diane and Albert Kaneb Chair in Ophthalmology. She practices comprehensive ophthalmology, with an emphasis on cataract surgery, and is an active clinical and surgical teacher for Harvard medical students and ophthalmology residents.

Nationally, Dr. Lindsey has held leadership positions in the Association of Veterans Affairs Ophthalmologists (past President), the AAO Secretariat for State Affairs, and the Association of University Professors of Ophthalmology (AUPO), where she is the current President of the Program Directors Council. Her scholarly work includes numerous peer-reviewed publications on surgical education, health policy, and clinical outcomes, and she has been recognized with multiple awards for teaching excellence and leadership, including the AAO Achievement and Secretariat Awards.

Dr. Lindsey's career is defined by her commitment to patient care, educational innovation, advocacy, and mentorship. Her work continues to influence ophthalmology training programs nationwide, advancing excellence and innovation in medical education.

STRAATSMA AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESIDENT EDUCATION

PAST RECIPIENTS:

PRATAP CHALLA, MD (2024)

FASICA A. WORETA, MD, MPH (2023)

LAURA K. GREEN, MD (2022)

EVAN "JAKE" WAXMAN, MD, PhD (2021)

R. MICHAEL SIATKOWSKI, MD (2020)

SUSAN M. CULICAN, MD, PhD (2019)

PRESTON H. BLOMQUIST, MD (2018)

SHAHZAD I. MIAN, MD (2017)

STEVEN J. GEDDE, MD (2016)

TARA A. UHLER, MD (2015)

LAURA L. WAYMAN, MD (2014)

ANDREAS K. LAUER, MD (2013)

THOMAS A. OETTING, MD (2012)

RICHARD A. HARPER, MD (2011)

MARIA M. AARON, MD (2010)

MARK S. JUZYCH, MD (2009)

PAUL D. LANGER, MD (2008)

JAMES P. DUNN, JR., MD (2007)

KARL C. GOLNIK, MD (2006)

ANTHONY C. ARNOLD, MD (2005)

NICHOLAS J. VOLPE, MD (2004)

ALFREDO A. SADUN, MD, PhD (2003)

EXCELLENCE IN MEDICAL STUDENT EDUCATION AWARD

PAST RECIPIENTS:

LISA D. KELLY, MD (2024)

ANJU GOYAL, MD (2023)

PRITHVI S. SANKAR, MD (2022)

JANICE C. LAW, MD (2021)

JAMIE B. ROSENBERG, MD (2020)

JOANN A. GIACONI, MD (2019)

DANIEL KNOCH, MD (2018)

EVAN "JAKE" WAXMAN, MD, PhD (2017)

RUKHSANA G. MIRZA, MD (2016)



NISHA CHADHA, MD

Excellence in Medical Student Education Award

The Award for Excellence in Medical Student Education provides national recognition for an outstanding medical student educator. It was established through funding from the Association of University Professors of Ophthalmology (AUPO) and the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO).

Dr. Chadha is an Associate Professor at the New York Eye and Ear Infirmary of Mount Sinai/Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai (ISMMS), where she has served as faculty since 2015. She completed her ophthalmology residency at The George Washington University, followed by a glaucoma fellowship at the Yale Eye Center. Since 2017, she has served as the Director of Medical Student Education (DMSE) in Ophthalmology and was elected to the DMSE Council in 2022.

In addition to being actively involved in medical education across all levels of training, Dr. Chadha has a strong interest in curricular innovation and educational scholarship. In 2020, she co-founded “20/20 SIM” (2020SIM.com), a free, online, case-based ophthalmology learning tool designed for healthcare providers. This resource has been formally integrated into the ISMMS undergraduate medical curriculum, enhancing ophthalmology education at the medical student level.

Beyond her leadership in ophthalmology, Dr. Chadha has made notable contributions to undergraduate medical education (UME). She served as a course leader in the school’s clinical skills course from 2019 to 2024, where she developed and implemented a range of innovative curricula in ophthalmology and general medical education. In 2024, she was appointed the inaugural Director of a school-wide shadowing program within the Office of Curricular Affairs.

A strong advocate for gender equity in medicine, Dr. Chadha served as President of the Women in Ophthalmology New York City Group (WIO NYC) from 2021 to 2024. Her leadership and contributions were recognized nationally with the 2024 Emerging Leader Award from Women in Ophthalmology. She was also inducted as a fellow of the ISMMS’s Institute for Medical Education in 2020, and has received multiple nominations for institution-wide Excellence in Teaching Awards.

Dr. Chadha’s work reflects a deep commitment to educational excellence, innovation, and leadership in academic medicine. Through her multifaceted roles, she continues to advance the future of ophthalmology and medical education.



ERIC PIERCE, MD, PhD

RPB David F. Weeks Award for Outstanding Vision Research

The RPB David F. Weeks Award for Outstanding Vision Research has been established through the generosity of Research to Prevent Blindness (RPB), an anonymous donor, and the Association of University Professors of Ophthalmology (AUPO), to annually recognize and celebrate an outstanding ophthalmic vision scientist whose research has made meaningful contributions to the understanding and/or treatment of potentially blinding eye disease.

Dr. Pierce is the Chatlos Professor of Ophthalmology at Harvard Medical School, and the founding Director of the Ocular Genomics Institute (OGI) at Mass Eye and Ear. Dr. Pierce received his AB in Biochemistry from Dartmouth College, his PhD in Biochemistry from the

University of Wisconsin-Madison, and his MD from Harvard Medical School. He did his residency in Ophthalmology at Harvard and fellowship in Pediatric Ophthalmology at Children’s Hospital, Boston, where he also took his first faculty position. He was then recruited to the Department of Ophthalmology at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine, where he was promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. He returned to Harvard in 2011 to establish the OGI. The mission of the OGI is to translate the promise of precision medicine into clinical care for patients with inherited eye diseases. Dr. Pierce’s research program is focused on improving our understanding of the genetic causality of inherited retinal degenerations (IRDs) and developing genetically informed therapies for these disorders. His work has led to the identification of several IRD disease genes, helped highlight the importance of non-coding variants in IRDs, and supported clinical translation of genetic therapies for several genetic forms of retinal degeneration. Dr. Pierce has been an investigator for multiple first-in-human clinical trials of genetic therapies for IRDs and is the senior PI for the Brilliance trial of in vivo genome editing for the treatment of CEP290-associated retinal degeneration. Dr. Pierce’s research program has been funded by the NIH since 1994. He has also received support from the Foundation Fighting Blindness and Research to Prevent Blindness, among other foundations. Dr. Pierce received an Alcon Research Award, an RPB Stein Innovation Award, and the Proctor Medal from ARVO. He served on the National Advisory Eye Council, as Chair of the Pathophysiology of Eye Disease 1 (PED1) study section of the NIH, and was the Chair of the Scientific Advisory Board for the Foundation Fighting Blindness for 10 years.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

SUSAN FORSTER, MD (2015)
LINDA LIPPA, MD (2014)

RPB DAVID F. WEEKS AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING VISION RESEARCH

PAST RECIPIENTS:

MARIA BARTOLOMEO GRANT, MD (2025)
PATRICIA A. D’AMORE, PhD, MBA, FARVO (2024)
DAVID J. CALKINS, PhD (2023)
DONALD ZACK, MD, PhD (2022)
DAVID WILLIAMS, MD, PhD (2021)
CHRISTINE A. CURCIO, PhD (2020)
JAYAKRISHNA AMBATI, MD (2019)
ROBERT MULLINS, PhD (2018)

Award Deadlines

STRAATSMA AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN RESIDENT EDUCATION

DEADLINE:
APRIL 15

EXCELLENCE IN MEDICAL STUDENT EDUCATION AWARD

DEADLINE:
APRIL 15

RPB DAVID F. WEEKS AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING VISION RESEARCH

DEADLINE: JUNE 1

RESIDENT AND FELLOW RESEARCH FORUM

DEADLINE:
SEPTEMBER 15

Resident & Fellow Research Forum Awards

AUPO and Research to Prevent Blindness established the Resident and Fellow Research Forum to acknowledge the importance of research in ophthalmic education. The Forum is intended to encourage the most promising house officers to pursue a career in academic ophthalmology and vision research. Following are the 2026 awardees:



BENTON CHUTER, MD, MS

BENTON CHUTER, MD, MS is a pre-residency glaucoma research fellow at the Hamilton Eye Institute (HEI) of the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. He grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area and pursued his undergraduate and master's degrees at Stanford University, studying biology and mechanical engineering while also racing in the top eight for Stanford's varsity rowing team. After working as a consultant in medical device design, he completed his medical degree at the University of California San Diego. Now at HEI, he brings over a decade of research experience and expertise in engineering, medicine, and AI. Leading a team in Dr. Monica Jablonski's lab, he develops and applies novel deep learning-based tools to assess measures of optic nerve health. Benton is one of the first to use deep learning to quantify the effect of a pharmaceutical agent on optic nerve morphology. Also a proud father, he considers his son to be his greatest invention yet. As an aspiring ophthalmologist, Benton hopes to continue integrating his academic, engineering, and clinical interests to improve and broaden access to ophthalmologic care.



RAHUL DHODAPKAR, MD

RAHUL DHODAPKAR, MD is a dedicated resident physician in ophthalmology at the University of Southern California with expertise in complex computational modeling of molecular genetics and diagnostic imaging data. As a former core software engineer at MongoDB (a leading database technology), I also have expertise in the management and manipulation of large datasets. My previous work includes developing new approaches for the analysis of single-cell data based on large language models with a focus on cross-species applications (e.g. determining the applicability of insights derived in non-human model systems to human vision) as well as perturbation prediction (e.g. predicting the effect of a new drug or genetic manipulation in a never-before-seen context in silico). I have also authored work applying state-of-the-art computer vision techniques to perform automated quality control of OCTA images. Aligned with my goal of becoming a physician-scientist in our field, I remain focused on developing new techniques for the application of artificial intelligence to improve both the clinical practice of ophthalmology and the basic science that drives our understanding of ophthalmic pathology. I am excited to present our work on automated measurement of strabismus using computer vision techniques at the research forum this year.



BLAKE HAUSER, MD, PhD

BLAKE HAUSER, MD, PhD is currently a PGY-2 resident in ophthalmology at Mass Eye and Ear. She graduated from the Health Sciences and Technology track at Harvard Medical School while also earning a PhD in Biophysics through the Harvard/MIT MD-PhD program. Her doctoral work focused on protein engineering and structural virology, and this was funded by an NIH F30 grant award. She has a longstanding research interest in understanding the molecular basis of human disease, which she first pursued as a Morehead-Cain Scholar at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and later as a Churchill Scholar at the University of Cambridge. Blake has published over 70 peer-reviewed papers and earned multiple awards including the Dr. John D. and Gretchen H. Bullock Ophthalmology Award and the Soma Weiss Award for Excellence in Research from Harvard Medical School. Currently, she works with Elizabeth Rossin, MD, PhD, on leveraging analysis of protein structures to obtain increased insight into the genetic basis of inherited retinal diseases, in parallel with her clinical training in ophthalmology. She aspires to a career as an academic surgeon-scientist, helping to preserve patients' vision while simultaneously advancing scientific understanding of vision-threatening processes.



VINCENT (RUNZHE) XU

VINCENT (RUNZHE) XU is a second-year MD/PhD student at UT Southwestern. He grew up in Nanjing, China, and attended UCLA for college, where he graduated summa cum laude with BSc in Biochemistry and Neuroscience. During and after his undergraduate studies, he conducted neuroscience research under the mentorship of HHMI Investigator Dr. Larry Zipursky. His work elucidated novel roles of vision in regulating mammalian visual cortex development by leveraging high-throughput single-cell sequencing and spatial transcriptomics. His research has led to multiple publications in high-impact journals, including *Cell*, *Nature*, and *Cancer Cell*, as well as a first-author publication in *PNAS*. With a growing interest in vision science and the emerging field of cancer neuroscience, he subsequently joined the UT Southwestern MSTP program and began research under the mentorship of Dr. William J. Harbour to investigate the biological underpinnings of intraocular tumorigenesis. His recent work focuses on dissecting the molecular heterogeneity of human retinoblastoma and identifying conserved transcriptional programs associated with tumor malignancy and treatment response by integrating high-throughput omics and bioinformatics. Vincent plans to pursue residency training in ophthalmology and aspires to become a physician-scientist who bridges clinical care and laboratory research to develop new treatments for sight-threatening diseases.

Notes



EDUCATING THE EDUCATORS

Educating the Educators Program

Wednesday, February 4

6:30 AM – 5:00 PM	Registration Open	Indigo West Foyer
6:45 AM – 8:00 AM	EE Breakfast	Indigo West Foyer & Terrace
7:00 AM – 7:55 AM	EE Book Club – Pavlina Kemp, MD Please join us for a discussion of the book, "Drive: The Surprising Truth About What Motivates Us" by Daniel Pink, to start off Educating the Educators Day with camaraderie and stimulating conversation.	Indigo H
8:00 AM – 8:05 AM	Welcome and Announcements – Jennifer Lindsey, MD, MBA	Indigo BCFG
8:05 AM – 9:05 AM	EE Keynote: Match to the Future – Fasika Woreta, MD, MPH - Moderator Maya Hammoud, MD, MBA is a nationally recognized leader in residency selection and reform who played a central role in OBGYN's innovative redesign of the residency application and match process. Drawing on her experience and lessons learned, the session will explore how these changes could inform the future of the ophthalmology residency match.	Indigo BCFG
8:05 AM – 8:10 AM	Introduction – <i>Fasika Woreta, MD, MPH</i>	
8:10 AM – 8:35 AM	Transforming the Residency Application: Insights from OBGYN's Innovative Approach – <i>Maya Hammoud, MD, MBA</i>	
8:35 AM – 8:45 AM	Ophthalmology's Past, Present, and Future Residency Match – <i>Jeff Pettey, MD, MBA</i>	
8:45 AM – 9:05 AM	Audience Q&A	
9:05 AM – 10:00 AM	Actionable Wellness: Be the Change You Want to See in Your Department – Robert Swan, MD - Moderator	Indigo BCFG
9:05 AM – 9:08 AM	Introduction – <i>Robert Swan, MD</i>	
9:08 AM – 9:16 AM	Second Victim Support – <i>Clifford Kim, MD</i>	
9:16 AM – 9:24 AM	Wow, the EMR Can Do That for Me?! – <i>Evan Silverstein, MD</i>	
9:24 AM – 9:32 AM	Turning the Ship versus Steering the Skiff: Navigating Wellness in Academic Departments – <i>Griffin Jardine, MD</i>	
9:32 AM – 9:40 AM	Supporting DMSEs After Match Day – <i>Chris Alabiad, MD</i>	
9:40 AM – 9:48 AM	Stronger Together: Wellness in Fellowship and Residency – <i>Jennifer LaRosa, MBA</i>	
9:48 AM – 10:00 AM	Audience Q&A	
10:00 AM – 10:30 AM	EE Poster Presentation Session 1 (see p. 13) – <i>Jonathan Lu, MD, Christina Prescott, MD, PhD, Madeline Yung, MD</i> - Moderators	Indigo West Foyer
10:00 AM – 10:30 AM	Refreshment Break	Indigo West Foyer
10:30 AM – 11:10 AM	Guidance with Gurus Session 1 (see p. 12) – <i>Jamie Rosenberg, MD</i> - Moderator Are you looking for guidance from a guru? Would you like to have an exchange with an expert? Join these small group discussion opportunities with knowledgeable facilitators and varied topics chosen by attendees. Multiple sessions will run concurrently. They are designed to be intimate to allow small group discussions with topic specialists.	Indigo D
11:15 AM – 11:55 AM	Guidance with Gurus Session 2 (see p. 12) – <i>Jamie Rosenberg, MD</i> - Moderator	Indigo H
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Lunch	Indigo West Foyer & Terrace
1:00 PM – 1:40 PM	Organization Reports – Jennifer Lindsey, MD, MBA - Moderator	Indigo BCFG
1:00 PM – 1:02 PM	Welcome and Introduction – <i>Jennifer Lindsey, MD, MBA</i>	
1:02 PM – 1:07 PM	SF Match – <i>Dennis Thomatos</i>	
1:07 PM – 1:11 PM	AAO Committee for Resident Education – <i>Robert Swan, MD</i>	
1:11 PM – 1:15 PM	Organization of Program Director Associations – <i>Robert Swan, MD</i>	
1:15 PM – 1:19 PM	YO Committee – <i>Evan Silverstein, MD</i>	
1:19 PM – 1:23 PM	AAO State Affairs – <i>Victoria Tseng, MD, PhD</i>	
1:23 PM – 1:27 PM	OphthPAC – <i>Jeffrey Henderer, MD</i>	
1:27 PM – 1:31 PM	Association of Veterans Affairs Ophthalmologists – <i>Jigna Joshi, MD</i>	

Educating the Educators Program

Wednesday, February 4 (continued)

1:31 PM – 1:35 PM	AUPO SCOR – <i>Grace Sun, MD</i>	
1:35 PM – 1:40 PM	Audience Q&A	
1:40 PM – 1:45 PM	2026 AUPO Program Director Council Educational Grant	Indigo BCFG
1:40 PM – 1:42 PM	Introduction and Award Presentation – <i>Jennifer Lindsey, MD, MBA</i>	
1:42 PM – 1:45 PM	Mental Health During Ophthalmology Residency (the MENTHOL Study) – <i>Ariane Kaplan, MD</i>	
1:45 PM – 2:45 PM	Free Paper Session and AUPO Consortium of Ophthalmic Researchers in Education (CORE) Update – <i>Saras Ramanthan, MD</i> - Moderator	Indigo BCFG
1:45 PM – 1:48 PM	Introduction – <i>Saras Ramanthan, MD</i>	
1:48 PM – 1:55 PM	Enhancing Ophthalmology Residency Application Review with Automated Data Extraction – <i>Eric Lai, MD</i>	
1:55 PM – 1:58 PM	Audience Q&A	
1:58 PM – 2:05 PM	Handheld Non-mydriatic Fundus Camera for Inpatient Ophthalmology and Neurology Consultations – <i>Daniel Adamkiewicz, MD</i>	
2:05 PM – 2:08 PM	Audience Q&A	
2:08 PM – 2:15 PM	Research and Clinical Productivity Across US Ophthalmology Subspecialties – <i>Avery Zhou, MD</i>	
2:15 PM – 2:18 PM	Audience Q&A	
2:18 PM – 2:25 PM	Complications of Resident-Performed Microinvasive Glaucoma Surgery: A Retrospective Review – <i>Joshua Van Swol, MD</i>	
2:25 PM – 2:28 PM	Audience Q&A	
2:28 PM – 2:35 PM	Surgical Curriculum for Ophthalmology Residents (SCOR) Faculty Self-Assessment in Clinician Educator Milestones – <i>Emily Mei, BS</i>	
2:35 PM – 2:38 PM	Audience Q&A	
2:38 PM – 2:45 PM	Consortium of Ophthalmic Researchers (CORE) Update – <i>Saras Ramanathan, MD</i>	
2:45 PM – 3:15 PM	EE Poster Presentation Session 2 (see p. 13) – <i>Saras Ramanthan, MD, Jayanth Sridhar, MD, Robert Swan, MD</i> - Moderators	Indigo West Foyer
2:45 PM – 3:15 PM	Refreshment Break	Indigo West Foyer & Terrace
3:15 PM – 4:15 PM	Leveraging AI for Medical Educators: A Case-based Practical Workshop (Bring Your Laptop!) – <i>Nisha Chadha, MD, Adam Jacobson, MD, Janice Law, MD, Rukhsana Mirza, MD</i> - Panelists	Indigo BCFG
3:15 PM – 3:30 PM	Overview of AI Applications in Medical Education	
3:30 PM – 3:50 PM	Prompt Engineering Practice with Medical Education Cases	
3:50 PM – 4:10 PM	Group Discussion	
4:10 PM – 4:15 PM	Wrap Up	
4:15 PM – 5:00 PM	Rip Off and Duplicate (R&D) This! – <i>Jeffrey Goshe, MD</i> - Moderator Rip Off and Duplicate (R&D) This! features easily adaptable, ready-to-use tools and strategies from Program Directors, Directors of Medical Student Education, and Program Coordinators that attendees can bring back to their own programs.	Indigo BCFG
4:15 PM – 4:20 PM	Introduction – <i>Jeffrey Goshe, MD</i>	
4:20 PM – 4:28 PM	Letters of Concern/Remediation – <i>Arthi Venkat, MD</i>	
4:28 PM – 4:36 PM	Master Calendar Pearls – <i>Regina Akhmadullina, MA</i>	
4:36 PM – 4:44 PM	Evaluations – <i>Daniel Moore, MD</i>	
4:44 PM – 4:52 PM	AI for Program Administration – <i>Leanne Conway, MEd</i>	
4:52 PM – 5:00 PM	Audience Q&A	
5:00 PM – 5:45 PM	New Program Director Reception (by invitation)	Indigo 206
5:30 PM – 6:30 PM	Educating the Educators Reception	Indigo Terrace

Guidance with Gurus

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

MODERATOR: JAMIE ROSENBERG, MD

SIGN UP FOR
GUIDANCE
WITH GURUS



Are you looking for guidance from a guru? Would you like to have an exchange with an expert? Join these small group discussion opportunities with knowledgeable facilitators and varied topics chosen by attendees. Multiple sessions will run concurrently. They are designed to be intimate to allow small group discussions with topic specialists.

SESSION 1

INDIGO D

10:30 AM – 11:10 AM

Table 1	How to Help Your Resident Handle Chronic Medical/Psychiatric Needs – <i>Lora Glass, MD</i>
Table 2	Supporting Resident and Faculty Well-being – <i>Daniel Tu, MD, PhD</i>
Table 3	Expanding Resident Surgical Volume within a Faculty Practice – <i>Kyle Godfrey, MD</i>
Table 4	Partnering with Your VA – <i>Rachel Lieberman, MD</i>
Table 5	Counseling the Struggling Medical Students (Not Open to Students) – <i>Aruoriwo Oboh-Weilke, MD</i>
Table 6	Resident Remediation: From OKAP Scores to Professionalism Courses – <i>Harsha Reddy, MD, Isha Cheela, DO</i>
Table 7	Navigating Inclusion of All Individuals in Your Department and Residency Program – <i>Ankoor Shah, MD, PhD</i>
Table 8	Creative Solutions for Achieving Call Coverage at Multiple Campuses – <i>Evan Jake Waxman, MD, PhD</i>
Table 9	Signals: What the First Year of Data Tells Us (Not Open to Students) – <i>Ryan Diel, MD</i>
Table 10	So You Want to Build a (New) Wet Lab – <i>Travis Rumery, DO</i>
Table 11	What Does a Vice Chair of Education Do and Why Does My Department Need One – <i>Daniel Knoch, MD, David Pillath, MD</i>
Table 12	Promoting Resident Research in Small-to-Medium Sized Programs – <i>Ahmed Sallam, MD, PhD</i>
Table 13	Recruitment - How to Best Showcase Your Program From Start to Finish – <i>Ambar Faridi, MD</i>
Table 14	Establishing and Sustaining Global Ophthalmology Programs – <i>Tetyana Schneider, PhD, EdD</i>
Table 15	Building Leadership Skills and Professional Identity for Residents – <i>Misha Syed, MD, MEHP</i>
Table 16	Starting and Refining a Night Float System – <i>Matthew Wieder, MD</i>
Table 17	How to Succeed as an Applicant in the Ophthalmology Match (Students Encouraged to Attend) – <i>Moran Roni Levin, MD, Angeline Nguyen, MD</i>

SESSION 2

INDIGO H

11:15 AM – 11:55 AM

Table 1	Fostering Departmental Resilience and Well Being for Faculty and Residents – <i>Robert Swan, MD</i>
Table 2	Resident Remediation: From OKAP Scores to Professionalism Concerns – <i>Peter MacIntosh, MD</i>
Table 3	Vice Chair for Education: Pearls and Pitfalls – <i>Sachin Kedar, MBBS, MD</i>
Table 4	Surgical Wet Lab: Optimizing Curriculum and Improving Funding – <i>Victoria Addis, MD</i>
Table 5	How to Train and Recruit Residents for Rural Ophthalmology – <i>Annie Wishna, MD</i>
Table 6	UME to GME Transition: Supporting PGY1 Ophthalmology Residents in Integrated Programs – <i>Sankara Mahesh, MD, FRCS(G)</i>
Table 7	Advising Medical Students for Step 2: Study Time, Scheduling, and Unexpected Outcomes (Not Open to Students) – <i>Lorri Wilson, MD</i>
Table 8	Upholding Residency Standards: When and How to Use a Carrot vs Stick – <i>David Goldman, MD</i>
Table 9	Specific Issues in a Non-employed, Non Full-time Academic Ophthalmology Department – <i>Jonathan Rubenstein, MD</i>
Table 10	Best Practices for Advising Both Strong and Weak Applicants (Not Open to Students) – <i>Ariane Kaplan, MD, Lindsay De Andrade, MD</i>
Table 11	Visiting Students 101: Application Timeline and Selection, Schedule Structure, and More (Not Open to Students) – <i>Jennifer Larson, MD</i>
Table 12	Managing the Generation Gap between Teacher and Learner – <i>Reecha Bahl, MD</i>
Table 13	Academic Success as a Faculty Member: Making Personality Changes to Help Advance Your Career – <i>Prithvi Sankar, MD</i>
Table 14	Resident Clinic: Pros and Cons – <i>Clara Colon, MD, Garcia-Moliner, MD</i>
Table 15	Creating a Culture of Belonging in Your Residency Program – <i>Anna Momont, MD</i>
Table 16	How to Succeed as a Resident (Students Encouraged to Attend) – <i>Pavlina Kemp, MD</i>

Visit EE Posters

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

VIEW
POSTERS AND
ABSTRACTS



SESSION 1
INDIGO WEST FOYER
10:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Monitor 1

Moderator: *Jonathan Lu, MD*

- The NYEE-Orbis Oculoplastic Surgery Online Curriculum – *Harsha Reddy, MD*
- Collaborative Development of an Evidence-Based Interventional Glaucoma Curriculum for Residents – *Roya Garakani, DO*
- Proposal to Integrate Ophthalmology Residency and Pediatric Ophthalmology Fellowship Training – *David Rogers, MD*

Monitor 2

Moderator: *Madeline Yung, MD*

- “I’ll Do Better Next Year”: Do OKAP Scores Change Over the Course of Residency? – *Keva Li, BS*
- Pilot Evaluation of ChatGPT-5–Generated OKAP-Style Questions – *Daniel Kim, BS*
- A Faculty Development Yardstick: Gauging Individual and Curriculum Competency – *Leah Reznick, MD*

Monitor 3

Moderator: *Christina Prescott, MD, PhD*

- Finally, the Perfect Poster: Maladaptive Perfectionism in Ophthalmology – *Garrett Oberst, MD*
- Processing and Perspective Taking (P&P) Support Model for Resident Well-Being – *Alec Bernard, MD, MSCR*
- Evaluating Ergonomics Education in United States Ophthalmology Residency Programs – *Iden Amiri, BS*

SESSION 2
INDIGO WEST FOYER
2:45 PM – 3:15 PM

Monitor 1

Moderator: *Saras Ramanathan, MD*

- Quantitative Analysis of Instrument Motion Paths in Cataract Surgery Across a Resident’s Training – *David Mikhail, MD, MSc*
- PhacoTrainer: AI-enabled Cataract Surgical Performance Metrics Correlated with Surgical Experience – *Sophia Wang, MD, MS*
- Laser-assisted Cataract Surgery in Resident Training – *Mena Kozman, MD*

Monitor 2

Moderator: *Robert Swan, MD*

- Using a 3D-Printed Model in Resident Teaching of PRP with Binocular Indirect Ophthalmoscopy – *Lauren Dimalanta, BS*
- Two Low-Cost Model Eyes for Teaching Scleral Buckle Surgery to Residents – *Tahira Scholle, MD*
- A Scenario Based Model Evaluating Spend in Ophthalmology Residency Applications – *Meghana Kalavar, MD*

Monitor 3

Moderator: *Jayanth Sridhar, MD*

- Parental Leave in US Ophthalmology Residencies: A National Review of Publicly Available Policies – *Nitin Rangu, BA*
- Demographic Trends in the Retina Fellowship Match – *Zainab Rustam, MBBS*
- Integrating Pre-Residency Research Fellows: A Framework for Implementation and Lessons Learned – *Radwan Ajlan, MBBCh*

Breakfast with Colleagues

SIGN UP FOR
BREAKFAST
WITH
COLLEAGUES



SESSION 1
INDIGO 204

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

6:45 AM – 7:45 AM

Moderators: *David DiLoreto, MD, PhD* and *Sonal Tuli, MD, MEd*

Table 1 Advancing Ophthalmology's Relevance in the Academic Medical Center – *Paul Sternberg, MD*

Table 2 Faculty Compensation Models – *Sonal Tuli, MD, Med*

Table 3 Advancing Your Academic Career and Understanding Steps to Promotion – *Sophie Bakri, MD*, *Shahzad Mian, MD*

Table 4 Ways to Improve Philanthropy in Academic Ophthalmology Departments – *Naresh Mandava, MD*

Table 5 Improving Advocacy for the Specialty of Ophthalmology in Your Department – *Steven Feldon, MD*

Table 6 Artificial Intelligence in Ophthalmology – *Michael Chiang, MD*, *R.V. Paul Chan, MD, MSc, MBA*

Table 7 Faculty Recruitment and Retention – *David DiLoreto, MD, PhD*, *J. Martin Heur, MD, PhD*

Table 8 Building a Welcoming Environment for Patients, Faculty, Trainees, and Staff – *Fasika Woreta, MD, MPH*, *Misha Faustina, MD*

Table 9 Developing Translational Science and Developing Clinician Scientists – *William Brunkin, BS, PhD*, *Patricia D'Amore, PhD, MBA*

Table 10 Innovating Ways to Inspire Faculty to Teach – *Sankara Mahesh, MD, FRCS(G)*, *Arthi Venkat, MD, MS*

Table 11 Delivering Feedback to Residents and Managing Remediation – *Evan Jake Waxman, MD, PhD*, *Susan Culican, MD, PhD*

Table 12 Tips for New Program Directors – *Thomas Hwang, MD*, *Casey Beal, MD*

Table 13 Guiding Students Through the SF Match Process and Preference Signaling – *R. Michael Siatkowski, MD, MBA*, *Robert Swan, MD*

Table 14 Pathways to Leadership – *James Tsai, MD, MBA*, *Jayne Weiss, MD*

SESSION 2
INDIGO D

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

6:45 AM – 7:45 AM

Moderators: *David DiLoreto, MD, PhD* and *Sonal Tuli, MD, MEd*

Table 1 Onboarding of Faculty: Introduction to Current Culture and Setting Expectations – *Andreas Lauer, MD*, *Kimberly Crowder, MD*

Table 2 How the Changing Landscape of Ophthalmology in the Community Affects Academic Centers – *Charles Bouchard, MD, MA*, *Darrell WuDunn, MD, PhD*

Table 3 Engaging Medical Student Interest in Ophthalmology – *O'Rese Knight, MD*, *Ankoor Shah, MD, PhD*

Table 4 Fostering High Performance and Resident Wellness – *Natalie Kerr, MD*, *Jonathan Hu, MD*

Table 5 Mentoring and Development for Early and Mid-Career Faculty – *Anne Coleman, MD, PhD*

Table 6 Guiding Students Through the SF Match Process and Preference Signalling – *Jamie Rosenberg, MD*, *Neeti Parikh, MD*

Table 7 Artificial Intelligence in Ophthalmology – *Jeff Henderer, MD*, *Rukhsana Mirza, MD*

Table 8 Maximizing the Visiting Student Experience – *Janice Law, MD*, *Lauren Jeang, MD*

Table 9 Leading Ophthalmology Ancillary Divisions (VAs, Peds, Satellites) – *Silvia Orengo-Nania, MD*

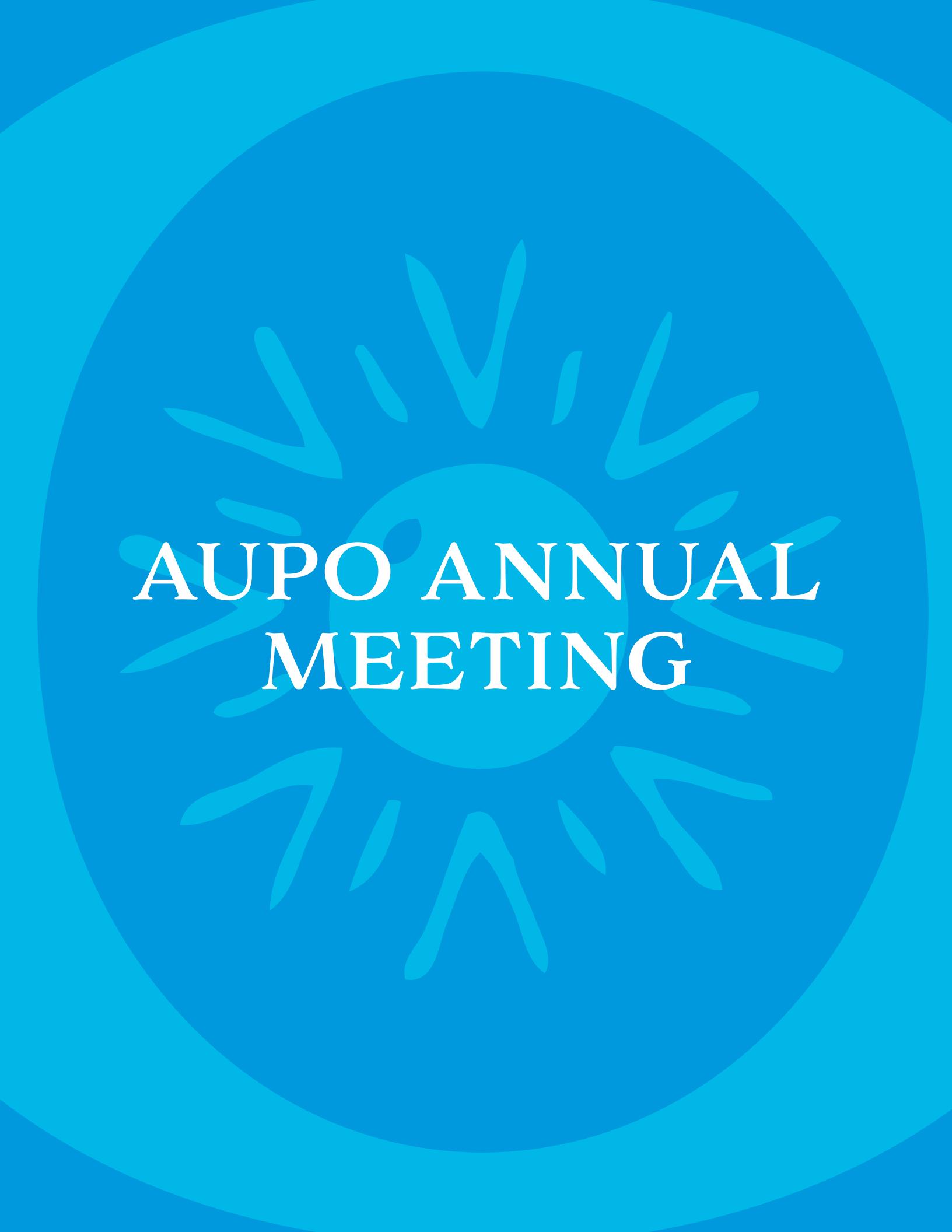
Table 10 Faculty Compensation Models – *Bennie Jeng, MD, MS*, *Roy Chuck, MD, PhD*

Table 11 Challenges of Smaller Ophthalmology Departments – *Kevin Merkley, MD, MBA*, *Paul Phillips, MD*

Table 12 Increasing Scholarly Activity for Faculty and Trainees – *Steven Friesler, PhD*, *Curtis Brandt, PhD*

Table 13 Tips for Students Interested in Ophthalmology – *Chris Alabiad, MD*, *Prithvi Sankar, MD*

Table 14 Promoting Basic Science in Ophthalmology Departments – *Jacque Duncan, MD*, *Leslie Hyman, PhD*



AUPO ANNUAL MEETING

AUPO Annual Meeting Guests & Speakers

LYNN ANDERSON, PhD

Chief Executive Officer
International Joint Commission
on Allied Health Personnel in
Ophthalmology
Saint Paul, MN

SHELLIE BARDGETT, MPH

Associate Executive Director
Review Committee,
Ophthalmology
Accreditation Council for
Graduate Medical Education
Chicago, IL

MICHAEL CHIANG, MD

Director
National Eye Institute
Bethesda, MD

SUSAN CULICAN, MD, PhD

Senior Associate Dean of
Graduate Medical Education
(GME)
University of Minnesota
Saint Louis, MO

STEVEN FELDON, MD, MBA

Past Executive Vice President
Association of University
Professors of Ophthalmology
Sierra Madre, CA

LAURA GREEN, MD, FACS

Assistant Dean of Students, Vice
Chair for Faculty Development
George Washington School of
Medicine and Health Sciences
Regional Medical Campus at Sinai
Hospital of Baltimore
Baltimore, MD

BRIAN HOFLAND, PhD

President
Research to Prevent Blindness
New York, NY

DAN IGNASZEWSKI

Executive Director
Alliance for Vision Research
Rockville, MD

DENISE JESS

Executive Director
Wisconsin Council of the Blind &
Visually Impaired
Madison, WI

DAMIEN JOSEPH

Central Application Service
Manager
San Francisco Matching Program
San Francisco, CA

JIGNA JOSHI, MD

Assistant Professor
Loyola University Stritch School of
Medicine
Chicago, IL

AARON LEE, MD, MSCI

Arthur W. Stickle Distinguished
Professor and Chair of the
Hardesty Department of
Ophthalmology and Visual
Sciences
Washington University in Saint
Louis
Saint Louis, MO

ANDREW LEE, MD

Herb and Jean Lyman Centennial
Chair of Ophthalmology,
Neurology, and Neurosurgery
Blanton Eye Institute, Houston
Methodist Hospital
Houston, TX

KATHRYN PETERS, PMP

Program Manager, OKAP
American Academy of
Ophthalmology
San Francisco, CA

ERIC PIERCE, MD, PhD

Chatlos Professor of
Ophthalmology, Director of Ocular
Genomics Institute
Massachusetts Eye and Ear
Institute, Harvard Medical School
Boston, MA

MICHAEL REPKA, MD, MBA

David L. Guyton, MD and
Feduniak Family Professor
of Ophthalmology and Chief,
Pediatric Ophthalmology and
Strabismus Service
Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns
Hopkins University
Baltimore, MD

TIM STROK

Consulting Manager
Sullivan Cotter
Saline, MI

DENNIS THOMATOS

Manager
San Francisco Matching Program
San Francisco, CA

JENNIFER THORNE, MD, PhD

Chair, Board of Managers
AUPO Fellowship Compliance
Committee
Baltimore, MD

BRYAN WINN, MD

Clinical Professor of
Ophthalmology and Michal
Vilensky Endowed Chair for
Research in Ophthalmology
University of California, San
Francisco
San Francisco, CA

Exhibitors*

A NU REALITY

ABBVIE

ALCON

ASCRS

AUPO CONNECT

AUPO SCOR

BAUSCH + LOMB

CARL ZEISS MEDITEC

GLAUKOS

HAAG-STREIT

HELPMESEE

**LIONS WORLD VISION
INSTITUTE**

OCULUS SURGICAL

PHELCOM TECHNOLOGIES

PRISM VISION GROUP

SF MATCH

THEA PHARMA

THERAMED EQUIPMENT

AUPO Annual Meeting Program

Tuesday, February 3

3:00 PM – 5:30 PM	Registration Open	Indigo West Foyer
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Wednesday, February 4

6:30 AM – 5:00 PM	Registration Open	Indigo West Foyer
12:45 PM – 3:50 PM	New Chair Boot Camp	Indigo H
12:45 PM – 1:00 PM	Welcome and Introductions – <i>Kimberly Crowder, MD, R. Michael Siatkowski, MD, MBA</i>	
	SURVIVING IN YOUR SYSTEM – <i>Kimberly Crowder, MD</i> - Moderator	
1:00 PM – 1:15 PM	Medical School and Health System Structures – <i>Paul Sternberg, MD</i>	
1:15 PM – 1:30 PM	Understanding Funds Flow and Getting What You Deserve – <i>Kimberly Crowder, MD</i>	
1:30 PM – 1:45 PM	Keeping Ophthalmology Relevant in the Medical School and Health System – <i>R.V. Paul Chan, MD, MSc, MBA</i>	
1:45 PM – 2:00 PM	Recruiting and Managing Research Faculty – <i>Terri Young, MD, MBA</i>	
2:00 PM – 2:15 PM	Panel Discussion	
2:15 PM – 2:30 PM	Break	
	THRIVING IN YOUR SYSTEM – <i>R. Michael Siatkowski, MD, MBA</i> - Moderator	
2:30 PM – 2:45 PM	Managing Up with Deans and CEOs – <i>Kathryn Colby, MD, PhD</i>	
2:45 PM – 3:00 PM	Philanthropy Pearls – <i>Nicholas Volpe, MD</i>	
3:00 PM – 3:15 PM	Exceling at Difficult Conversations – <i>Bennie Jeng, MD, MS</i>	
3:15 PM – 3:30 PM	Personal Wellness When Drinking from a Fire Hose – <i>Jacque Duncan, MD</i>	
3:30 PM – 3:45 PM	Panel Discussion	
3:45 PM – 3:50 PM	Conclusion and Adjourn to Chair Chat Roundtables	
4:00 PM – 5:30 PM	Chair Chat Roundtable Discussions – <i>David DiLoreto, MD, PhD, Sondi Tull, MD, MEd</i> - Moderators	Indigo H
	A dedicated space for Chairs to Chat about relevant topics of the day. We hope to foster collaborative discussions, provide opportunities to share insights, and learn from one another. Attendees will rotate tables at 4:45 PM.	
	Table 1: Advancing Ophthalmology's Relevance in the Academic Medical Center – <i>Jane Edmond, MD</i>	
	Table 2: Faculty Compensation Models – <i>Nicholas Volpe, MD</i>	
	Table 3: Ways to Improve Philanthropy in an Academic Ophthalmology Department – <i>Kathryn Colby, MD, PhD</i>	
	Table 4: Recruiting and Retaining Faculty – <i>Naresh Mandava, MD</i>	
	Table 5: Promoting Less Popular Subspecialties in Ophthalmology – <i>Terri Young, MD, MBA</i>	
	Table 6: Strategic Planning & Learning from Other Institutions – <i>Kimberly Crowder, MD</i>	
	Table 7: Advancing Ophthalmology's Relevance in the Academic Medical Center – <i>Paul Sternberg, MD</i>	
	Table 8: Faculty Compensation Models – <i>Steven Feldon, MD</i>	
	Table 9: Strategic Planning & Learning from Other Institutions – <i>Michael Repka, MD, MBA</i>	
	Table 10: Addressing the Changing Federal Funding Landscape at Your Institution – <i>James Tsai, MD, MBA</i>	
5:00 PM – 5:45 PM	New Program Director Member Reception	Indigo 206
5:00 PM – 6:00 PM	Research Director Member Reception	Aqua Patio
5:30 PM – 6:30 PM	Chair Member Reception	Aqua Terrace

Thursday, February 5

6:30 AM – 4:30 PM	Registration Open	Indigo West Foyer
6:30 AM – 7:45 AM	Breakfast in Exhibit Hall	Indigo AE

**SIGN UP
FOR CHAIR
CHAT**



AUPO Annual Meeting Program

Thursday, February 5 (continued)

7:00 AM – 7:45 AM	Directors of Medical Student Education Member Breakfast Tables	Indigo Terrace & Foyer
8:00 AM – 8:15 AM	Welcome and Updates – Paul Sternberg, Jr, MD, Terri Young, MD, MBA	Indigo BCFG
8:15 AM – 9:45 AM	President's Symposium: Advocacy - Sustaining the Quadripartite Mission in Academic Ophthalmology and Vision Science This symposium will highlight advocacy from all sides - research, patient care, learner development, and patient and community engagement. Distinguished leaders in ophthalmology and vision science will share insights on implementation, training, and patient advocacy, addressing the current changes and headwinds and providing a call-to-action message.	Indigo BCFG
8:15 AM – 8:18 AM	Introduction – <i>Terri Young, MD, MBA</i>	
8:18 AM – 8:33 AM	Advocacy on Behalf of Ophthalmology: Mission of the Academy – <i>Michael Repka, MD, MBA</i>	
8:33 AM – 8:48 AM	Advocacy and Graduate Medical Education - Why It Must Be Part of Our Skill Set – <i>Laura Green, MD, FACS</i>	
8:48 AM – 9:03 AM	State of NIH: Implications of Policy on Vision Research Funding – <i>Dan Ignaszewski</i>	
9:03 AM – 9:18 AM	The Role of Vision Rehabilitation Services in the Eye Care Continuum of Care – <i>Denise Jess</i>	
9:18 AM – 9:45 AM	Audience Q&A	
9:45 AM – 10:15 AM	Refreshment Break and Exhibits	Indigo AE
10:20 AM – 10:40 AM	AUPO/AAO Straatsma Award for Excellence in Resident Education	Indigo BCFG
10:20 AM – 10:25 AM	Introduction – <i>Paul Sternberg, MD</i>	
10:25 AM – 10:40 AM	Mentorship, Mastery, and Meaning: Reframing the Goals of Graduate Medical Education – <i>Jennifer Lindsey, MD, MBA</i>	
10:40 AM – 11:00 AM	AUPO/AAO Excellence in Medical Student Education Award	Indigo BCFG
10:40 AM – 10:45 AM	Introduction – <i>Paul Sternberg, MD</i>	
10:45 AM – 11:00 AM	Innovation, Collaboration, and Leadership: Leveraging our Strengths to Advance Ophthalmology's Presence in Undergraduate Medical Education – <i>Nisha Chadha, MD</i>	
11:00 AM – 11:05 AM	AAO Commitment to Advocacy Award Presentation – Jennifer Lindsey, MD, MBA, AAO Associate Secretary for State Affairs	Indigo BCFG
11:10 AM – 11:25 AM	Best of the Journal of Academic Ophthalmology (JAO) – Saras Ramanathan, MD	Indigo BCFG
11:30 AM – 11:55 AM	Chair Member Business Meeting – Paul Sternberg, MD and Terri Young, MD, MBA	Indigo BCFG
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Lunch in Exhibit Hall	Indigo AE
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM	Research Director Quick Exchange: Getting to Know You	Indigo 206
1:00 PM – 1:30 PM	Introduction of President, President-Elect, and New Members – <i>Deborah Ferrington, MEd, PhD</i>	
1:30 PM – 2:30 PM	Small Group Discussion Roles of Research Directors – <i>Steven Fliesler, PhD</i> Recruitment and Mentorship of Clinician Scientists – <i>Machelle Pardue, PhD</i> Strengthening Research Director Membership and Participation in AUPO – <i>Maureen McCall, PhD</i> Research Director Challenges in Small Departments of Ophthalmology – <i>Manuela Bartoli, PhD</i>	
1:00 PM – 2:30 PM	Review Committee (RC) for Ophthalmology: Update and Dialogue – Thomas Hwang, MD - Moderator Shellie Bardgett, MPH, Grace Sun, MD, Amanda Tan, MA	Indigo BCFG
1:15 PM – 2:30 PM	From Small to Big: Program Growth Strategies for Departments – Ramesh Ayyala, MD, Monica Ertel, MD - Moderators	Indigo H
1:15 PM – 1:18 PM	Introduction – <i>Ramesh Ayyala, MD, Monica Ertel, MD, PhD</i>	
1:18 PM – 1:28 PM	Why Should Academic Departments Grow? – <i>Ramesh Ayyala, MD</i>	
1:28 PM – 1:38 PM	Incorporation of Ophthalmic Hospitalists – <i>Peter Netland, MD, PhD</i>	
1:38 PM – 1:48 PM	Growth of Research Programs – <i>Douglas Rhee, MD</i>	
1:48 PM – 1:58 PM	Incorporation of Community Faculty (e.g. On Call/ED Coverage, Resident Teaching) – <i>Mandi Conway, MD, FACS</i>	

AUPO Annual Meeting Program

Thursday, February 5 (continued)

1:58 PM – 2:08 PM	Low Vision Coverage – <i>Denise Jess</i>	
2:08 PM – 2:18 PM	Retinopathy of Prematurity Coverage – <i>R.V. Paul Chan, MD, MSc, MBA</i>	
2:18 PM – 2:30 PM	Panel Session	
1:15 PM – 2:30 PM	INTREPID Maps Session – <i>Ore-Ofe Adesina, MD, Rukhsana Mirza, MD, Terri Young, MD, MBA</i> - Moderators	Indigo 202B
2:30 PM – 3:00 PM	Refreshment Break and Exhibits	Indigo AE
3:00 PM – 4:30 PM	Ophthalmology Medical Education Paper Session – <i>Ariane Kaplan, MD</i> - Moderator	Indigo BCFG
3:00 PM – 3:03 PM	Introduction – <i>Ariane Kaplan, MD</i>	
3:03 PM – 3:12 PM	Effect of EyeSketch on Memory Retention Versus Text-Based Learning in Ophthalmology Learners – <i>Deanna Dang, MD</i>	
3:12 PM – 3:21 PM	Impact of Preference Signaling on Application Volume in Surgical Specialties: 2025 Match Analysis – <i>Gina Zhu, BS</i>	
3:21 PM – 3:27 PM	Audience Q&A	
3:27 PM – 3:36 PM	Analysis of Trends in Medical Student Ophthalmology Away Rotations: Pre- and Post-Pandemic Cycles – <i>Lauren Dimalanta, BS</i>	
3:36 PM – 3:45 PM	Gap Year Impact on Application Strength in Ophthalmology Residency Match – <i>Heavenly Zheng, BA</i>	
3:45 PM – 3:51 PM	Audience Q&A	
3:51 PM – 4:00 PM	Use of Artificial Intelligence and Adherence to Authorship Criteria Among Medical Students – <i>Eric Wan, MPH, MBA</i>	
4:00 PM – 4:09 PM	Integrating Patient Perspectives into Education: Enhancing Awareness of Social Determinants of Health and Empathy Development – <i>Mura Abdul-Nabi, HBSc</i>	
4:09 PM – 4:18 PM	Piloting a Quality Improvement Research Curriculum in a Student-Run Ophthalmology Clinic – <i>Akhila Boda, BS</i>	
4:18 PM – 4:24 PM	Audience Q&A	
4:24 PM – 4:27 PM	Paper Award Presentation	
4:27 PM – 4:30 PM	Concluding Remarks	
3:00 PM – 4:30 PM	Research Director Roundtable: Updates on Current NIH Changes and Their Impact on Research	Aqua 300
3:00 PM – 3:05 PM	Introduction – <i>Maureen McCall, PhD</i>	
3:05 PM – 3:20 PM	State of NIH: Implications of Policy on Vision Research – <i>Dan Ignaszewski</i>	
3:20 PM – 3:25 PM	Audience Q&A	
3:25 PM – 4:00 PM	Small Group Discussion to Brainstorm Solutions – <i>William Brunkin, PhD, Patricia D'Amore, PhD, MBA, Machelle Pardue, PhD, Jesse Schallek, PhD</i>	
4:00 PM – 4:30 PM	Sharing Summaries from Each Group	
3:00 PM – 5:00 PM	ALDP Session	Indigo 204
5:00 PM – 6:00 PM	ALDP/INTREPID Reception	Indigo Terrace
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	AUPO Welcome Reception	Promenade Plaza

Friday, February 6

6:30 AM – 4:15 PM	Registration Open	Indigo West Foyer
6:30 AM – 7:45 AM	Breakfast in Exhibit Hall	Indigo AE
6:45 AM – 7:45 AM	Breakfast with Colleagues Networking Roundtables Session 1 (see p. 14) – <i>David DiLoreto, MD, PhD, Sonal Tuli, MD, MEd</i> - Moderators	Indigo 204
7:55 AM – 8:00 AM	Welcome – <i>Terri Young, MD, MBA</i>	Indigo BCFG

AUPO Annual Meeting Program

Friday, February 6 (continued)

8:00 AM – 9:30 AM	Challenges for Tomorrow's Clinical Eye Care Team – <i>Robert Swan, MD, Sonal Tuli, MD, MEd</i> -Moderators	Indigo BCFG
8:00 AM – 8:05 AM	Introduction – <i>Robert Swan, MD</i>	
8:05 AM – 8:15 AM	Who/What Will Constitute the Clinical Workforce? – <i>Jane Edmond, MD</i>	
8:15 AM – 8:25 AM	How Will the Eye Care Team Evolve? – <i>Lynn Anderson, PhD</i>	
8:25 AM – 8:35 AM	Should We Involve Other Physician Extenders in Ophthalmology? – <i>Evan Jake Waxman, MD, PhD</i>	
8:35 AM – 8:45 AM	How Do We Handle the Unique Challenges of Health Equity? – <i>Victoria Tseng, MD, PhD</i>	
8:45 AM – 8:55 AM	Meeting Future Neuro-ophthalmology Demand Using the 3-Ts: Time, Triage, Technology – <i>Andrew Lee, MD</i>	
8:55 AM – 9:05 AM	Funding Ocular Pathology in Academic Departments – <i>Matthew Wilson, MD, FACS</i>	
9:05 AM – 9:15 AM	How Do We Face the Unique Challenges of AI, Technology, and Precision Medicine? – <i>Michael Chiang, MD</i>	
9:15 AM – 9:30 AM	Audience Q&A	
8:00 AM – 9:30 AM	Research Director Grand Rounds: Important Topics in a Changing World - Addressing Changes at NIH	Aqua 300
8:00 AM – 8:05 AM	Introduction – <i>Curtis Brandt, PhD, Steven Fliesler, PhD</i>	
8:05 AM – 8:30 AM	Overcoming Deficits in Individual NIH Funding: How We Can Diversify Our Research Funding Portfolios – <i>Monica Jablonski, PhD</i>	
8:30 AM – 8:55 AM	Promoting Inclusion within Research – <i>Linda Zangwill, PhD</i>	
8:55 AM – 9:20 AM	Responding to Increased Competition for Funding – <i>Vladimir Kefalov, PhD</i>	
9:20 AM – 9:30 AM	Summary and Final Questions/Comments – <i>Steven Fliesler, PhD</i>	
9:30 AM – 10:00 AM	Refreshment Break and Exhibits	Indigo AE
10:05 AM – 10:30 AM	RPB David F. Weeks Award for Outstanding Vision Research	Indigo BCFG
10:05 AM – 10:10 AM	Introduction and Presentation of Award – <i>Jacque Duncan, MD</i>	
10:10 AM – 10:30 AM	Precision Medicine for Inherited Retinal Degenerations – <i>Eric Pierce, MD, PhD</i>	
10:30 AM – 11:30 AM	AUPO/RPB Resident and Fellow Research Forum – <i>William Harbour, MD</i> - Moderator	Indigo BCFG
10:30 AM – 10:32 AM	Introduction – <i>William Harbour, MD</i>	
10:32 AM – 10:40 AM	Use of Deep Learning to Assess the Effect of Pregabalin on Optic Nerve Health – <i>Benton Chuter, MD, MS</i> - Moderator	
10:40 AM – 10:43 AM	Discussion – <i>Linda Zangwill, PhD</i>	
10:43 AM – 10:45 AM	Audience Q&A	
10:45 AM – 10:53 AM	StrabScan: Interpretable Biometrics-Based Machine Learning for Automated Quantification of Horizontal Manifest Deviations in Pediatric Strabismus – <i>Rahul Dhodapkar, MD</i>	
10:53 AM – 10:56 AM	Discussion – <i>Jane Edmond, MD</i>	
10:56 AM – 10:58 AM	Audience Q&A	
10:58 AM – 11:06 AM	Leveraging Structure-Based Network Analysis to Identify Putative Causative Variants of Inherited Retinal Disease – <i>Blake Hauser, MD, PhD</i>	
11:06 AM – 11:09 AM	Discussion – <i>Vladimir Kefalov, PhD</i>	
11:09 AM – 11:11 AM	Audience Q&A	
11:11 AM – 11:19 AM	Single-Cell Transcriptomic Landscape of Retinoblastoma Reveals Novel States Associated with Clinical Behavior – <i>Vincent Runzhe Xu, BS</i>	
11:19 AM – 11:22 AM	Discussion – <i>Joseph Brzezinski, PhD</i>	
11:22 AM – 11:24 AM	Audience Q&A	
11:24 AM – 11:30 AM	Conclusions – <i>William Harbour, MD</i>	
11:30 AM – 12:10 PM	Organization Reports	Indigo BCFG
11:30 AM – 11:36 AM	American Board of Ophthalmology – <i>Bennie Jeng, MD, MS</i>	
11:36 AM – 11:42 AM	National Eye Institute – <i>Michael Chiang, MD</i>	

AUPO Annual Meeting Program

Friday, February 6 (continued)

11:42 AM – 11:48 AM	Research to Prevent Blindness – <i>Brian Hofland, PhD</i>	
11:48 AM – 11:54 AM	Alliance for Vision Research – <i>Dan Ignaszewski</i>	
11:54 AM – 12:00 PM	American Academy of Ophthalmology – <i>Stephen McLeod, MD</i>	
12:00 PM – 12:05 PM	SF Match – <i>Dennis Thomatos</i>	
12:05 PM – 12:10 PM	AUPO Fellowship Compliance Committee – <i>Jennifer Thorne, MD</i>	
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Lunch on Own and Exhibits Open	Indigo AE
12:30 PM – 2:00 PM	Research Director Member Lunch	Aqua Terrace
1:00 PM – 2:15 PM	Application Potpourri – Daniel Knoch, MD, Moran Roni Levin, MD - Moderators <i>Anna Momont, MD, Jessica Randolph, MD, Prithvi Sankar, MD, Anjali Tannan, MD</i> - Panelists This interactive session will present common and often challenging cases regarding students applying into ophthalmology. Due to the numerous changes in the application process including pass/fail grading, away electives, the SF Match system, preference signaling, virtual interviews, among others, we will be presenting cases and then asking questions from the panel along with an audience poll. Please come prepared to participate!	Indigo BCFG
2:30 PM – 3:30 PM	Directors of Medical Student Education Member Business Meeting – <i>Ariane Kaplan, MD</i> - Moderator Annual DMSE business meeting. Discussion of challenges and opportunities in the field of medical student ophthalmology education.	Indigo BCFG
3:15 PM – 3:45 PM	Refreshment Break and Exhibits	Indigo AE
3:45 PM – 4:45 PM	DMSE Member Happy Hour	Aqua Patio
3:45 PM – 5:00 PM	Partnerships and Collaboration with Key Affiliated Entities – <i>Andreas Lauer, MD, Victoria Tseng, MD, PhD</i> - Moderators	Indigo BCFG
3:45 PM – 3:57 PM	Veterans Administration – <i>Bryan Winn, MD</i>	
3:57 PM – 4:09 PM	Children's Hospitals – <i>Bennie Jeng, MD, MS</i>	
4:09 PM – 4:21 PM	Municipal Hospitals – <i>J. Martin Heur, MD, PhD</i>	
4:21 PM – 4:33 PM	Research Institutes – <i>Deborah Ferrington, MEd, PhD</i>	
4:33 PM – 4:45 PM	Federal Agencies – <i>Aaron Lee, MD</i>	
4:45 PM – 5:00 PM	Panel Session	
5:30 PM – 6:30 PM	Women Professors of Ophthalmology (WPO) Reception	Aqua Terrace
6:30 PM – 11:00 PM	Closing Reception and Banquet	Indigo Terrace & BCFG

Saturday, February 7

6:45 AM – 11:00 AM	Registration Open	Indigo West Foyer
6:45 AM – 7:45 AM	Breakfast with Colleagues Networking Roundtables Session 2 (see p. 14) – <i>David DiLoreto, MD, PhD, Sonal Tuli, MD, MEd</i> - Moderators	Indigo D
6:45 AM – 8:00 AM	Breakfast	Indigo West Foyer & Terrace
8:00 AM – 9:30 AM	Mentoring, Inspiring, and Supporting Future Leaders in Academic Ophthalmology – <i>Deborah Ferrington, MEd, PhD, Frederick Fraunfelder, MD, MBA</i> - Moderators	Indigo BCFG
8:00 AM – 8:03 AM	Introduction – <i>Deborah Ferrington, MEd, PhD, Frederick Fraunfelder, MD, MBA</i>	
8:03 AM – 8:15 AM	What Will Be the Portfolio of Work for Future Academic Leaders – <i>Peter Netland, MD, PhD</i>	
8:15 AM – 8:27 AM	Mentoring and Inspiring Educators – <i>Nisha Chadha, MD</i>	
8:27 AM – 8:39 AM	Mentoring and Inspiring Researchers – <i>Machelle Pardue, PhD</i>	
8:39 AM – 8:51 AM	What Future Leaders in Academic Ophthalmology Should Know About the National Eye Institute – <i>Michael Chiang, MD</i>	
8:51 AM – 9:03 AM	Institutional Support – <i>Nicholas Volpe, MD</i>	
9:03 AM – 9:15 AM	Philanthropic Support – <i>Naresh Mandava, MD</i>	
9:15 AM – 9:30 AM	Panel Session	

AUPO Annual Meeting Program

Saturday, February 7 (continued)

9:30 AM – 10:45 AM	Sullivan Cotter Compensation Survey Presentation – Steven Feldon, MD - Moderator	Indigo BCFG
9:30 AM – 9:35 AM	Introduction – <i>Steven Feldon, MD</i>	
9:35 AM – 10:20 AM	Sullivan Cotter Compensation Survey Presentation – <i>Tim Strok</i>	
10:20 AM – 10:45 AM	Audience Q&A	
9:40 AM – 11:10 AM	Research Director Best Practices: Dealing with Challenging Managerial Problems	Indigo H
9:40 AM – 9:45 AM	Introduction – <i>Patricia D'Amore, PhD, MBA</i>	
9:45 AM – 10:00 AM	Mentoring Early Career and Mid-Career Faculty – <i>Joshua Dunaief, MD, PhD</i>	
10:00 AM – 10:10 AM	Audience Q&A	
10:10 AM – 10:25 AM	Mentoring Retiring Faculty and How to Help with Their Transition – <i>Mahnaz Shahidi, PhD</i>	
10:25 AM – 10:35 AM	Audience Q&A	
10:35 AM – 10:50 AM	Handling Non-compliance Issues with Research Regulations and Providing Ideas on Oversight to Prevent Non-Compliance – <i>Visvanathan Ramamurthy, PhD</i>	
10:50 AM – 11:00 AM	Audience Q&A	
11:00 AM – 11:10 AM	Research Director Business – <i>Deborah Ferrington, MEd, PhD, Steven Fliesler, PhD</i>	



ADMINISTRATOR PROGRAM

Administrator Program

Tuesday, February 3

3:00 PM – 5:30 PM	Registration Open	Indigo West Foyer
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Wednesday, February 4

6:30 AM – 5:00 PM	Registration Open	Indigo West Foyer
1:00 PM – 5:00 PM	Administrator Boot Camp	Indigo D
1:00 PM – 1:10 PM	Introduction – <i>Abigail Strickland, MBA</i>	
	ADMINISTRATION AND DEPARTMENT OPERATIONS	
1:10 PM – 1:20 PM	Ophthalmology 101 – <i>Jennifer Harter, BS</i>	
1:20 PM – 1:30 PM	Faculty Recruitment and Retention – <i>Jenny Hamlin, MHA</i>	
1:30 PM – 2:00 PM	New Leader, New Lens: Reflections from 1st Year – <i>Jessica Karls-Ruplinger, JD</i>	
	CLINICAL OPERATIONS	
2:00 PM – 2:20 PM	Staffing Models and Template Optimization – <i>Jonathan Mazzone, BA</i>	
2:20 PM – 2:30 PM	Audience Q&A	
2:30 PM – 2:40 PM	Break	
	FINANCIAL OPERATIONS	
2:40 PM – 3:20 PM	Expenses: Who is Paying for What? Where Does the Money Come From? – <i>Sam Crain, MBA, David Tosatti, MHA</i>	
3:20 PM – 3:30 PM	Audience Q&A	
	RESEARCH OPERATIONS	
3:30 PM – 3:50 PM	Research: Current State and Opportunities – <i>Trashon Fearington, BS</i>	
3:50 PM – 4:00PM	Audience Q&A	
	AUPO COMPENSATION SURVEY	
4:00 PM – 4:30 PM	AUPO Compensation Survey: Intro, Benefits, Uses – <i>Juan Trujillo, MBA, Brandon Creswell, MBA</i>	
4:30 PM – 4:55 PM	Audience Q&A	
4:55 PM – 5:00 PM	Wrap-Up – <i>Abigail Strickland, MBA</i>	
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM	Administrator Member Welcome Reception	Elevation Room

Thursday, February 5

6:30 AM – 4:30 PM	Registration Open	Indigo West Foyer
6:30 AM – 7:45 AM	Breakfast in Exhibit Hall	Indigo AE
7:00 PM – 7:45 PM	Breakfast with the Administrator's Council	Indigo West Foyer & Terrace
8:00 AM – 8:15 AM	Welcome and Updates (see p. 18)	Indigo BCFG
8:15 AM – 9:45 AM	President's Symposium: Advocacy - Sustaining the Quadripartite Mission in Academic Ophthalmology and Vision Science (see p. 18)	Indigo BCFG
9:45 AM – 10:15 AM	Refreshment Break and Exhibits	Indigo AE
10:15 AM – 10:25 AM	Welcome and Updates – <i>Garyl Geist, BA, Macc</i>	Indigo H
10:25 AM – 10:55 AM	My Backyard: University of California, Los Angeles – <i>Trashon Fearington, BS, Kendal Thomas</i>	Indigo H
10:55 AM – 11:25 AM	Implementing Virtual Care into Your Practice – <i>Natalie Townsend, OD</i>	Indigo H
11:25 AM – 12:25 PM	Administrator Council Roundtables	Indigo 204
	Table 1: Optical Shops	
	Table 2: Faculty Recruitment & Retention	
	Table 3: Co-Management, Consults	

Administrator Program

Thursday, February 5 (continued)

Table 4: Optometrists and APPs	
Table 5: GPO Biosimilars	
Table 6: Culture & Employee Engagement	
Table 7: Professional Development for Administrators: Using AI	
12:40 PM – 1:45 PM New Administrator Member Lunch or Lunch on Your Own and Exhibits	
2:00 PM – 5:30 PM Administrator Outing	Offsite
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM AUPO Welcome Reception	Promenade Plaza

Friday, February 6

6:30 AM – 4:15 PM	Registration Open	Indigo West Foyer
6:30 AM – 7:45 AM Breakfast in Exhibit Hall		Indigo AE
6:45 AM – 7:45 AM Breakfast with Colleagues Networking Roundtables Session 1 (see p. 14)		Indigo 204
7:55 AM – 8:00 AM Welcome (see p. 19)		Indigo BCFG
8:00 AM – 9:30 AM Challenges for Tomorrow's Clinical Eye Care Team (see p. 20)		Indigo BCFG
9:30 AM – 10:00 AM Refreshment Break and Exhibits		Indigo AE
10:00 AM – 10:30 AM Billing: Reducing Denials – Juan Arias, MBA, Riley Thomas, MBA		Indigo H
10:30 AM – 11:00 AM How to Handle the Authorization Workload – Denise Rettig, MHA, MBA		Indigo H
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM John Meade Lecture: Light, Cognition, and Longevity - The Eye's Preeminent Role in Optimizing Health – Patricia Turner, MD		Indigo H
12:00 PM – 12:10 PM Break		
12:10 PM – 1:30 PM Listserv Live Lunch – Michele Premo, MBA, Juan Trujillo, MBA - Moderators		Indigo 204
1:30 PM – 2:00 PM Bench to Bedside – Craig Kishaba, MBA, FACMPE - Moderator Robert Weinreb, MD		Indigo H
2:00 PM – 3:00 PM From Risk to Resilience: A Systems Approach to Mitigating Ophthalmology Practice Exposures – Jeannette Domask		Indigo H
3:00 PM – 3:10 PM Break		
3:10 PM – 4:30 PM AUPO Compensation Survey: Practical Uses		Indigo H
3:10 PM – 3:30 PM – Brandon Creswell, MBA		
3:30 PM – 3:50 PM – Juan Trujillo, MBA		
3:50 PM – 4:10 PM – Abigail Strickland, MBA		
4:10 PM – 4:30 PM – Audience Q&A		
4:30 PM – 4:40 PM Wrap-Up –Abigail Strickland, MBA - Moderator		Indigo H
6:30 PM – 11:00 PM Closing Reception and Banquet		Indigo Terrace & BCFG

Saturday, February 7

6:45 AM – 11:00 AM	Registration Open	Indigo West Foyer
6:45 AM – 7:45 AM Breakfast with Colleagues Networking Roundtables Session 2 (see p. 14)		Indigo D
6:45 AM – 8:00 AM Breakfast		Indigo West Foyer & Terrace
8:00 AM – 9:30 AM Mentoring, Inspiring, and Supporting Future Leaders in Academic Ophthalmology (see p. 21)		Indigo BCFG
9:30 AM – 10:45 AM Sullivan Cotter Compensation Survey Presentation – (see p. 22)		Indigo BCFG



COORDINATOR PROGRAM

Coordinator Program

Thursday, February 5

6:30 AM – 4:30 PM	Registration Open	Indigo West Foyer
6:30 AM – 7:45 AM	Breakfast in Exhibit Hall	Indigo AE
7:00 AM – 7:45 AM	All Coordinator Welcome Breakfast	Indigo West Foyer & Terrace
8:00 AM – 8:15 AM	Welcome and Updates (see p. 18)	Indigo BCFG
8:15 AM – 9:45 AM	President's Symposium: Advocacy - Sustaining the Quadripartite Mission in Academic Ophthalmology and Vision Science (see p. 18)	Indigo BCFG
9:45 AM – 10:15 AM	Refreshment Break and Exhibits	Indigo AE
10:15 AM – 11:15 AM	Welcome and Coordinator Ice Breaker – <i>Renee Young</i> - Moderator	Indigo D
11:15 PM – 12:00 PM	Coordinator Best Practices: Managing the Academic Year – <i>Briana Soto Uribe, BS, C-TAGME</i> - Moderator <i>Jessica Benton, MSM, Olivia Milner, Madison Seward, MS, C-TAGME</i> - Panelists	Indigo D
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Lunch in Exhibit Hall	Indigo AE
1:15 PM – 2:30 PM	From Small to Big - Program Growth Strategies for Departments (see pp. 18-19)	Indigo H
2:30 PM – 3:00 PM	Refreshment Break and Exhibits	Indigo AE
3:00 PM – 4:00 PM	Elevate Your Impact: Tips and Strategies for Every Coordinator – <i>Renee Young</i> - Moderator <i>Joshua Butrick, C-TAGME, Tetyana Schneider, PhD, EdD, Yuki Young, BS</i> - Panelists	Indigo D
4:00 PM – 5:00 PM	Coordinator Breakout Sessions: Time Served – <i>Mallory Mack, COA</i> - Moderator <i>Joshua Butrick, C-TAGME, Madison Seward, MS, C-TAGME</i>	Indigo D
6:00 PM – 7:00 PM	AUPO Welcome Reception	Promenade Plaza

Friday, February 6

6:30 AM – 4:15 PM	Registration Open	Indigo West Foyer
6:30 AM – 7:45 AM	Breakfast in Exhibit Hall	Indigo AE
6:45 AM – 7:45 AM	Breakfast with Colleagues Networking Roundtables Session 1 (see p. 14)	Indigo 204
7:55 AM – 8:00 AM	Welcome (see p. 19)	Indigo BCFG
8:00 AM – 9:30 AM	Challenges for Tomorrow's Clinical Eye Care Team (see p. 20)	Indigo BCFG
9:30 AM – 10:00 AM	Refreshment Break and Exhibits	Indigo AE
10:00 AM – 11:00 AM	Coordinator Wellness Workshop – <i>Meghan Johnson</i> - Moderator <i>Griffin Jardine, MD</i>	Indigo D
11:00 AM – 12:00 PM	A Seat at the Table: PC/PD Panel – <i>Mallory Mack, COA</i> - Moderator <i>Laura Gwyn, AAS, C-TAGME, Ariane Kaplan, MD</i>	Indigo D
12:00 PM – 1:00 PM	Lunch on Own and Exhibits Open	Indigo AE
1:00 PM – 2:00 PM	Site Pearls and ACGME Updates – <i>Renee Young</i> - Moderator <i>Shellie Bardgett, MPH, Grace Sun, MD, Amanda Tan, MA</i>	Indigo D
2:00 PM – 3:15 PM	Updates from SF Match, OKAP, and AUPO FCC – <i>Susan Minnieweather</i> - Moderator <i>Craig Carey, Damien Joseph, Kathryn Peters, PMP</i>	Indigo D
3:15 PM – 3:45 PM	Refreshment Break and Exhibits	Indigo AE
3:45 PM – 4:15 PM	Recruitment & Signaling – <i>Myduyen Ngo, BA</i> - Moderator <i>Shari Kinnebrew, BS</i>	Indigo D
4:15 PM – 5:00 PM	Holistic Application Review – <i>Laura Gwyn, AAS, C-TAGME</i> - Moderator <i>Tetyana Schneider, PhD, EdD</i>	Indigo D
6:30 PM – 11:00 PM	Closing Reception and Banquet	Indigo Terrace & BCFG

Saturday, February 7

6:45 AM – 11:00 AM	Registration Open	Indigo West Foyer
6:45 AM – 7:45 AM	Breakfast with Colleagues Networking Roundtables Session 2 (see p. 14)	Indigo D
6:45 AM – 8:00 AM	Breakfast	Indigo West Foyer & Terrace
8:00 AM – 9:30 AM	Mentoring, Inspiring, and Supporting Future Leaders in Academic Ophthalmology (see p. 21)	Indigo BCFG
9:30 AM – 10:45 AM	Sullivan Cotter Compensation Survey Presentation (see p. 22)	Indigo BCFG

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*AS OF 12/2025

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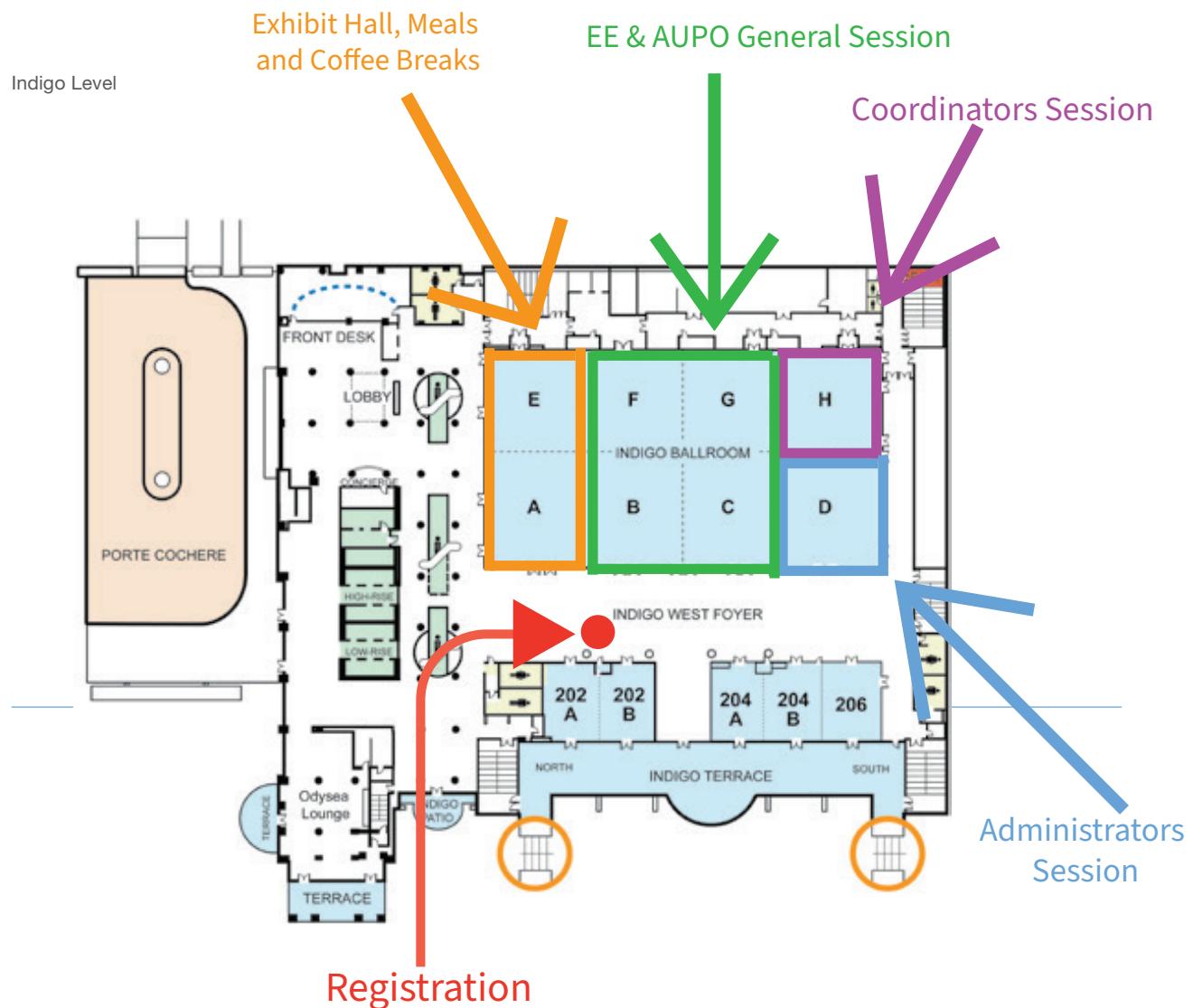
Hotel Map

Hilton San Diego Bayfront



Hotel Map

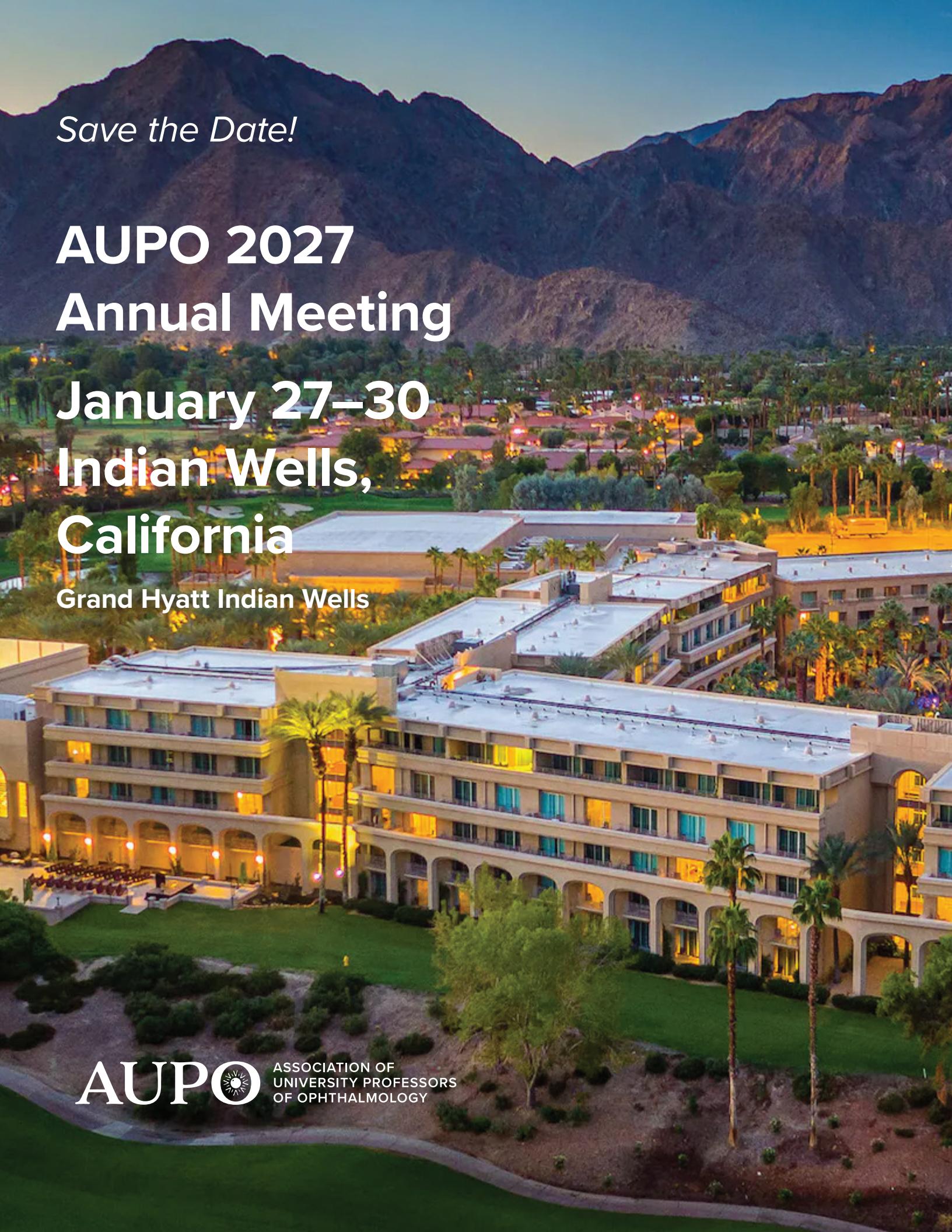
AUPO Locations



Notes

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Save the Date!

AUPO 2027

Annual Meeting

January 27–30

Indian Wells, California

Grand Hyatt Indian Wells



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