

Jules Stein Eye Institute



Research
Key to the 21st Century

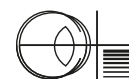
2002-2003

Highlights of the Year



JULES STEIN EYE INSTITUTE

DEPARTMENT OF OPHTHALMOLOGY / UCLA SCHOOL OF MEDICINE



Dear Friends,

I am pleased to share these highlights of the 2002–2003 academic year, which serve to strengthen our commitment to preserve sight and prevent blindness. This year we received several important gifts that will benefit the research, patient care and teaching programs of the Jules Stein Eye Institute. A major gift from the Gerald Oppenheimer Family Foundation will establish a research center for the prevention of eye disease. The center will study genetic and environmental factors that may cause eye diseases, as well as pharmacologic and natural agents that may help patients avoid them.



We are proud to present three new faculty members who will contribute greatly to our clinical care and basic science activities. As part of the Institute's Research and Alumni Day and Postgraduate Seminar, the careers of five JSEI faculty were celebrated, including the considerable contributions of Bradley R. Straatsma, MD, JD, Founding Director of the Jules Stein Eye Institute and Founding Chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology.

During the year, several of our faculty and residents were awarded special honors. The prestigious Friedenwald Award went to Joseph L. Demer, MD, PhD, for his groundbreaking research on the structure and function of the muscular tissues of the eyes. The founder and patron of the Jules Stein Eye Institute and the foremost benefactor in the history of vision science—Dr Jules Stein—was inducted into The Ophthalmology Hall of Fame. Our outstanding EyeSTAR trainees earned several, prestigious awards. Important research grants, led by senior faculty, were renewed by the National Institutes of Health, and new grants were awarded to young investigators.

We are appreciative of these opportunities afforded to faculty and students and share the belief that we will contribute to a future full of promise.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bartly J. Mondino".

Bartly J. Mondino, MD

*Bradley R. Straatsma Professor of Ophthalmology
Director, Jules Stein Eye Institute
Chairman, Department of Ophthalmology,
David Geffen School of Medicine, UCLA*

BRADLEY R. STRAATSMA, MD, JD

*Professor Emeritus of Ophthalmology (active)
Founding Chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology
Founding Director of the Jules Stein Eye Institute
Member of the Jules Stein Eye Institute*

Dr Bradley R. Straatsma was invited to join UCLA as Chief of the Division of Urology in 1959. Over the following 35 years of his leadership, UCLA ophthalmology progressed to one of the world's great centers of eye research, education and patient care. Dr Straatsma brought to the combined responsibility of Chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology and Director of the Jules Stein Eye Institute a rare vision of what a top academic ophthalmology department should encompass and a dream of how a progressive, integrated program could serve to prevent blindness and preserve sight.

Along with his celebrated tenure at UCLA, Dr Straatsma has led some of the world's most prestigious ophthalmic organizations. He has served as President of the American Academy of Ophthalmology, President of the Pan-American Association of Ophthalmology, President of the Academia Ophthalmologica Internationalis, Chairman of the American Board of Ophthalmology, and Editor-in-Chief of the American Journal of Ophthalmology. In addition to his leadership roles, Dr Straatsma has maintained a lifelong commitment to vision science research. His areas of interest include oncological investigations, research on diabetic retinopathy and cataract, and clinicopathologic studies of peripheral retinal disease. The results of his work have been reported in over 500 scientific publications and in presentation of major lectures throughout the world.

Acknowledgements of his achievements are myriad. Most recently, Dr Straatsma received the 2002 Jules François Golden Medal from the International Council of Ophthalmology, whose mission is the promotion of ophthalmic education and awareness of eye care among international leaders; and The 2002 Award of Merit in Retina Research, bestowed by the Retina Research Foundation to recognize outstanding vision scientists whose work contributes to knowledge about the retina and retinal diseases.

After stepping down as director and chair in 1994, Dr Straatsma has continued to participate in research, clinical care, and ophthalmic education on a local and global scale. In July 2002, he became Professor Emeritus of Ophthalmology (active). The faculty, staff and students of the Jules Stein Eye Institute express their gratitude for his commitment to excellence.



Honors

Each year, as part of their ongoing academic pursuits, faculty members achieve notable recognition derived from their accomplishments and contributions. They give invited lectures around the world; they actively participate in prestigious professional and community organizations; and they serve as editors and writers for a wide range of scientific journals. In some cases special honors are bestowed. This year several faculty members earned notable awards, including one for groundbreaking research that will reshape the treatment of strabismus. The Institute's EyeSTAR trainees received academic kudos. Dr Jules Stein, founder and guiding spirit of the Jules Stein Eye Institute, was honored posthumously by induction into The Ophthalmology Hall of Fame.

ARVO'S FRIEDENWALD AWARD

David and Laraine Gerber Professor of Ophthalmology and Professor of Neurology **Joseph L. Demer, MD, PhD**, received the prestigious Friedenwald Award from the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) for his groundbreaking research on the structure and function of the muscular tissues of the eyes. This research involved a detailed investigation of the properties of the extraocular muscle pulleys, which regulate eye movement and alignment. Normal pulleys help to avoid strabismus, a condition that affects both children and adults. Strabismus has a variety of causes and manifests in many ways. Two common symptoms are crossed eyes and double vision. Many forms of strabismus are complex, and treatment options often include surgical intervention. Dr Demer began his research in 1990 with funding from the National Eye Institute. Utilizing a two-prong approach—magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) and laboratory research—he made several discoveries that have fundamentally altered concepts of eye muscle anatomy. The award was bestowed at the Seventy-Fifth Annual Vision Research Conference. At the ceremony, Dr Demer was introduced by his mentor and past Friedenwald Award recipient Gunter K. von Noorden, MD.



Dr Demer won the Friedenwald Award for his groundbreaking research into the muscular tissues of the eye.

*A Special Recognition Award went to **Debora B. Farber, PhD, DPhhc**, from the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) for her service to that prestigious organization.*

JULES STEIN INDUCTED INTO THE OPHTHALMOLOGY HALL OF FAME

The American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery (ASCRS), with the support of Novartis Ophthalmics company, inducted **Jules Stein, MD**, into The Ophthalmology Hall of Fame in April of this year. Dr Stein founded the UCLA Jules Stein Eye Institute in the 1960s, and contributed greatly to its rise as a celebrated center for patient care, eye research, and teaching. Dr Stein also founded Research to Prevent Blindness, the world's leading voluntary organization supporting eye research, which has donated millions of dollars to this effort. And he led the campaign to establish the National Eye Institute as one of the National Institutes of Health. His pioneering philanthropy was made possible by an outstanding career in show business as the founder of Music Corporation of America (MCA)—now Universal Studios—combined with a background as a board-certified ophthalmologist.

DR BRADLEY R. STRAATSMAN HONORED

The 2003 Award of Merit in Retina Research was bestowed on **Bradley R. Straatsma, MD, JD**, for his outstanding achievement in the field. In addition to a preeminent career as Chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology at UCLA and Founding Director of the Jules Stein Eye Institute, Dr Straatsma pursued multifaceted research endeavors. His lifelong work in vision science includes oncological investigations sponsored by the National Eye Institute Collaborative Ocular Melanoma Study, participation in studies on diabetic retinopathy and cataract, as well as clinicopathologic studies of peripheral retinal disease. The results of his work have been reported in 475 scientific publications. The award was given in conjunction with Dr Straatsma's presentation of the Charles L. Schepens Lecture.

At the 2002 annual meeting of the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO), Dr Straatsma was honored with the Distinguished Service Award on behalf of the American Journal of Ophthalmology (AJO). From 1994 to 2002, Dr Straatsma served as Editor-in-Chief of the journal.

A PRESTIGIOUS PROFESSORSHIP AT THE UNIVERSITY OF IOWA

Dean Bok, PhD, Dolly Green Professor of Ophthalmology and Professor of Neurobiology, held the 2003 Helen C. Levitt Visiting Professorship at the University of Iowa during his sabbatical from UCLA. Dr Bok collaborated with colleagues in basic science research involving cell and molecular biology of the retina. He is studying the interactions between retinal photoreceptors and the retinal pigment epithelium (RPE) and how those processes are affected by inherited mutations that cause retinitis pigmentosa and age-related macular degeneration. During his professorship, he also participated in the education of medical students, residents and fellows.

THE DAVID FRIENDLY MEMORIAL AWARD

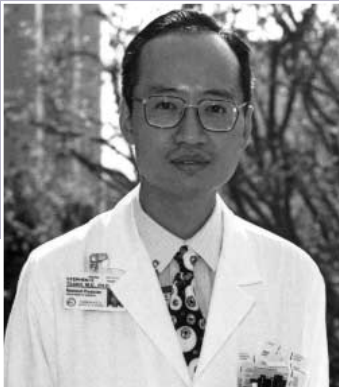
Sherwin J. Isenberg, MD, Grace and Walter Lantz Professor of Pediatric Ophthalmology and Vice Chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology, received the 2003 David Friendly Memorial Award from the Costenbader Society, which is the oldest pediatric ophthalmology society in the world. Each year, it selects someone who has made major contributions to ophthalmology, children, and society. The award memorializes Dr David Friendly who served as chairman of ophthalmology at the Childrens National Medical Center in Washington, D.C.



Vision scientist Dr Dean Bok held the 2003 Helen C. Levitt Visiting Professorship at the University of Iowa during his sabbatical from UCLA.

*Graduating resident **Alisa Kim, MD**, was honored with an Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) Travel Award for young investigators.*

EYESTAR TRAINEES WIN MULTIPLE AWARDS



EyeSTAR trainee Dr Stephen Tsang received several awards for his research in molecular genetics.

In his fourth year of study, EyeSTAR trainee **Stephen H. Tsang, MD, PhD**, received several awards for his cutting edge research into the molecular genetics of retinal degeneration. He was honored with a Career Development Award (2002–2005) from The Foundation Fighting Blindness; the 2003 Association of University Professor in Ophthalmology—Research to Prevent Blindness Resident Award; and the 2003 Nesburn Award from the Los Angeles Society of Ophthalmology. He has also been appointed to the Fight for Sight Awards Selection Committee.

Vinit B. Mahajan, MD, PhD, the Institute's newest EyeSTAR trainee, has won the prestigious Giannini Family Foundation Fellowship to help support his research into the molecular mechanisms of ocular albinism. The goal of the fellowship program is to facilitate innovative medical research opportunities in the basic sciences and applied fields.

Established in 1997, the Institute's EyeSTAR Program is geared to physicians committed to academic careers in ophthalmology—physicians who are as comfortable at the laboratory bench as in the examining or operating rooms. Trainees complete the ophthalmology residency program in conjunction with vision science research leading to a doctorate or a post-doctoral fellowship.

TOP HONORS FOR THE INSTITUTE

Jules Stein Eye Institute is annually acknowledged as a center of excellence in national and international forums. For the 14th consecutive year, *U.S. News & World Report*, in its 2003 survey of "America's Best Hospitals," ranked the Institute among the top five ophthalmic centers in the country and number one in the West.



*The American Academy of Ophthalmology recognized three faculty members for service to the academy. Senior Honor Awards were bestowed on **Anthony Arnold, MD**, and **Sherwin J. Isenberg, MD**; an Achievement Award was given to **John D. McCann, MD, PhD**; and the Secretariat Award went to **Anne L. Coleman, MD, PhD**.*

Research

During the academic year, the Institute received major awards from three voluntary, philanthropic organizations: Research to Prevent Blindness, the world's largest voluntary organization supporting eye research; The Foundation Fighting Blindness; and the Joyce J. Cammilleri Family Fund. Large grants from the National Institutes of Health were awarded: In support of basic science research, an important National Eye Institute grant was renewed and a new research project was funded; and a grant renewal from the National Institute on Deafness and Communicative Diseases will support ongoing interdisciplinary research. The Institute is participating in multi-center clinical trials to evaluate drug therapies for the "wet" form of age-related macular degeneration and diabetic macular edema. And a unique contract with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control was executed.

Having several departments within the David Geffen School of Medicine at UCLA from which to choose, the Joyce J. Cammilleri Family Fund decided to support the ongoing research of JSEI outstanding basic and clinical scientists.

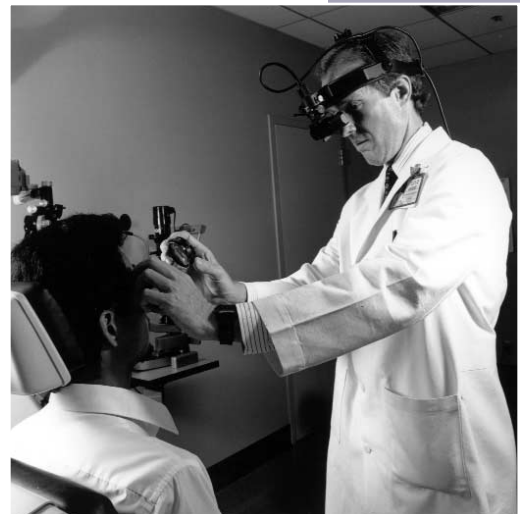
RESEARCH TO PREVENT BLINDNESS (RPB) AWARDS

Gary N. Holland, MD, David May II Professor of Ophthalmology and Chief of the Cornea-External Ocular Disease & Uveitis Division, received the prestigious RPB Physician-Scientist Award. Dr Holland will use it to support his research on ocular toxoplasmosis, a common parasitic infection of the retina that can lead to vision loss. Dr Holland has been working with researchers at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and at the Federal University of São Paulo to study the disease in southern Brazil where the rate of infection is particularly high. Findings from this research will have implications for prevention and treatment worldwide.

The UCLA Department of Ophthalmology was awarded an unrestricted grant under the direction of its chairman, **Bartly J. Mondino, MD**, Bradley R. Straatsma Professor of Ophthalmology. Dr Mondino plans to use the grant to support pilot research projects and meet the special needs of faculty conducting ongoing research.

A generous matching grant was made by RPB to support the purchase of a Thermo-Finnigan LCQ Deca-XP mass spectrometer system for the Vision Science Division. The spectrometer system will be of particular value to **Gabriel H. Travis, MD**, Charles Kenneth Feldman Professor of Ophthalmology, and his research team, providing valuable information about how certain proteins function to assist the eye in maintaining light sensitivity. This highly sophisticated equipment will play a key role in understanding the cause of Stargardt's disease, a form of macular degeneration.

Since its founding in 1960 by Dr Jules Stein, Research to Prevent Blindness has channeled hundreds of millions of dollars to medical institutions for research into the causes, treatment, and prevention of blinding eye diseases.



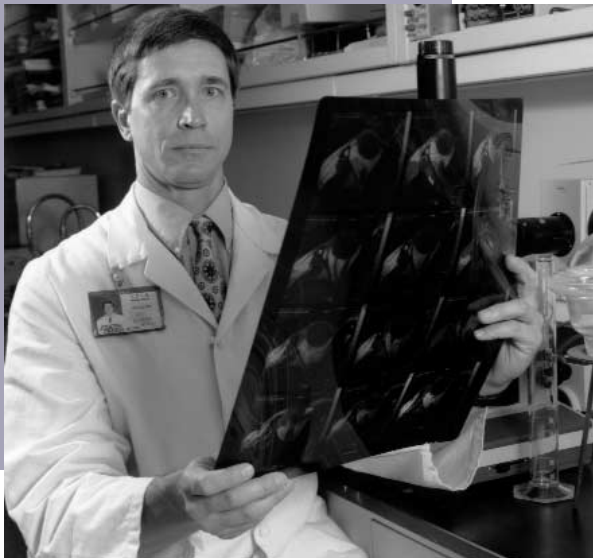
Dr Gary Holland received the Physician-Scientist Award from Research to Prevent Blindness

MOLECULAR GENETIC STUDIES OF RETINAL DEGENERATION

Debora B. Farber, PhD, DPhc, Karl Kirchgessner Professor of Ophthalmology and Co-Chief of the Vision Science Division, and EyeSTAR Trainee **Stephen H. Tsang, MD, PhD**, received a grant from The Foundation Fighting Blindness to conduct studies on three different genetically engineered mouse models of retinitis pigmentosa: 1) A gene involved in the regulation of β -PDE has been deleted from the mouse genome. (β -PDE is a gene that when mutated, causes autosomal recessive retinitis pigmentosa.) This procedure has created a new mouse model that also shows signs of retinal degeneration. Investigations are being conducted with the resulting animal. 2) A mutation in the β -PDE gene that causes congenital stationary night blindness in humans has been introduced into the mouse genome. Studies of these animals will allow researchers to understand why this mutation leads to a stationary rather than a progressive disorder. 3) A mutation in the γ -PDE gene that may help to explain photoreceptor adaptation has been introduced into the mouse genome. Investigations are being conducted with the resulting animal. These separate studies will provide the basis for further research into retinal degenerative disease and will bring vision scientists closer to finding ways to prevent or cure these untreatable eye conditions.

NEW TESTS OF VESTIBULAR FUNCTION

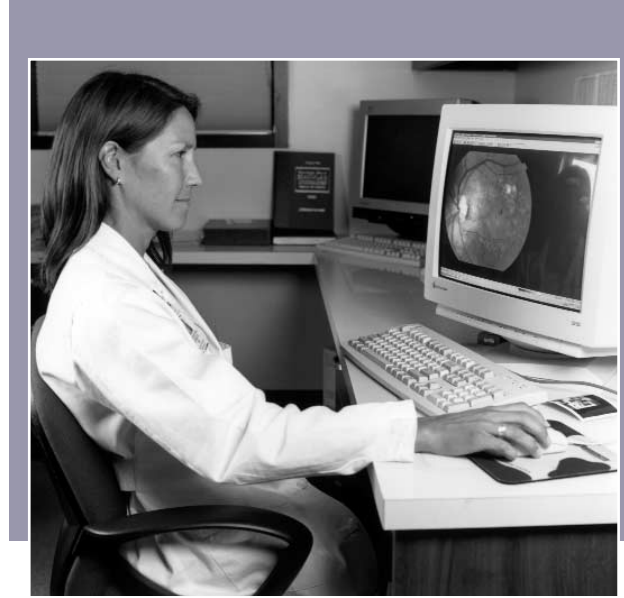
An important research project under the direction of **Joseph L. Demer, MD, PhD**, Laraine and David Gerber Professor of Ophthalmology and Professor of Neurology, has been renewed through a grant from the National Institute on Deafness and Communicative Diseases. This multidisciplinary research studies eye-head coordination, in particular the role of reflex eye movements arising from the inner ear. These reflexes are necessary for clear vision and to avoid dizziness. The focus of the research is to use reflex eye movements during head motion to develop new tests of the function of the balance organs in the human inner ear. This will improve the diagnosis and management of the many patients who experience dizziness and dysequilibrium.



Under a renewed grant, Dr Joseph Demer is developing new approaches to the evaluation of human vestibular function in patients who experience dizziness and dysequilibrium.

NEW DRUG THERAPIES FOR DIABETIC MACULAR EDEMA AND “WET” AGE-RELATED MACULAR DEGENERATION

Jules Stein Eye Institute is participating in national, multi-center, clinical trials investigating new treatments for patients with either diabetic retinopathy or the exudative or “wet” form of age-related macular degeneration (AMD). In the wet form of AMD, abnormal blood vessels grow beneath the retina (neovascularization), and may leak fluid or bleed, often causing permanent vision loss. Leakage from damaged capillaries may lead to macular edema in patients with diabetic retinopathy, which also may cause permanent vision loss. New drugs have recently been developed that show promise in preventing or restricting the growth or breakdown of these abnormal blood vessels. The drugs are now being studied in clinical trials to evaluate their effectiveness. This year two new studies have begun at the Institute. One is targeting “wet” AMD. It involves intravitreal injections of a naturally occurring substance called pigment epithelium derived factor (PEDF). Staff ophthalmologist **Anurag Gupta, MD**, is directing the study, sponsored by Gen Vec Inc. Another study is evaluating a drug that blocks the receptor for a substance called vascular endothelial growth factor (VEGF), which plays a key role in diabetic patients who have macular edema and in patients with “wet” AMD. Sponsored by EyeTech Pharmaceuticals, this study is directed by **Christine R. Gonzales, MD**, Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology.



Dr Christine Gonzales is directing a clinical trial to evaluate new drug therapies for diabetic patients with macular edema.

MOUSE MODELS OF HUMAN HEREDITARY EYE DISEASE

The National Eye Institute has renewed an ongoing, highly productive grant administered through Harbor—UCLA Medical Center with **John R. Heckenlively, MD**, Vernon O. Underwood Family Professor of Ophthalmology, as Principal Investigator. The project is focused on finding new mouse models of ocular disease that are clinically relevant to human eye diseases, mapping and identifying the causative genes, and phenotyping the disorders. It is a collaborative effort with mammalian geneticists at the Jackson Laboratory, in Bar Harbor, Maine, who specialize in mouse genetics research. There is high homology between the human and mouse genomes, consequently findings in mice normally have a very high likelihood of having validity in humans. Mouse models of inherited ocular disease allow for rapid genetic analysis, pathophysiologic characterization, and lead to an accelerated understanding of disease processes. Models are important because human eye tissues are seldom available for studies. To date, this project has discovered 96 mouse models of ocular diseases, and mapped 52 of them to mouse chromosomes.

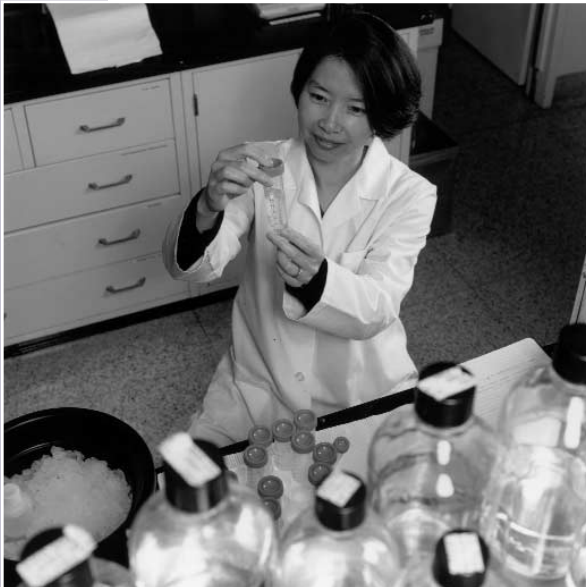
SEROLOGIC TESTING OF PATIENTS WITH TOXOPLASMOVIS

Severe toxoplasmosis can cause damage to the brain, eyes or other organ. A recent outbreak of the disease in a Brazilian city has resulted in a high rate of eye infections, and is suspected to be related to drinking unfiltered water from a municipal reservoir. Parasites have been isolated from the water supply and the strain has been identified by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control. Specimens from Brazilians affected by the outbreak are being transported to the Jules Stein Eye Institute, where **Gary N. Holland, MD**, David May II Professor of Ophthalmology and Chief of the Cornea-External Ocular Eye Disease & Uveitis Division, is overseeing a study to determine if the victims of the outbreak are infected with the same strain identified in the water. A newly developed blood test can, for the first time, identify the strain of the disease with which an individual has been infected. Previously, this has not been possible because parasites can rarely be isolated after infection. If the link between water and toxoplasmosis is established, strategies to improve drinking water in some settings will become a priority for preventing infection.

GENE THERAPY RESEARCH FOR USHER 1B SYNDROME

Xian-Jie Yang, PhD, Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology in the Vision Science Division, has received a grant from the National Eye Institute to conduct gene therapy research for Usher 1B syndrome. Dr Yang will conduct this research in collaboration with **David S. Williams, PhD**, Professor of Pharmacology and Neurosciences at the University of California, San Diego. This hereditary form of retinitis pigmentosa (RP)

causes deafness at birth and retinal degeneration in the second decade of life. The goal of this research is to test the potential of a gene delivery and expression vehicle called lentivirus to rescue abnormal retinal cells in a mouse model. Mutations of the human gene MYO7A, the same gene mutated in the mouse model, have been found in patients with Usher 1B syndrome. Research in this area may eventually lead to a successful gene therapy for this devastating eye disease.



Vision scientist Dr Xian-Jie Yang is conducting gene therapy research into Usher 1B, which causes deafness at birth and retinal degeneration in the second decade of life.

Education

Academic education is multifaceted, ranging from teaching medical students, residents and fellows to leading national conferences. In the course of their educational duties, faculty members mentor, counsel, lecture and demonstrate. They are responsible for hundreds of clinical and scientific publications each year, and entrusted with developing and sharing new approaches to science and medicine that will ultimately result in improved patient care. This year the Institute achieved a number of noteworthy milestones. We are proud to introduce three new full-time faculty members. Graduating residents have distinguished themselves with clinical fellowship appointments around the country. A unique international workshop was conducted for ophthalmologists, offering new insights into a rare disease, and special honors highlighted the Institute's most prestigious annual conferences. One of the Institute's highly regarded fellowship programs received accreditation from the Academy of Cosmetic Surgery.

NEW FACULTY

Anthony J. Aldave, MD, was recruited to the full-time faculty as Assistant Professor in the Cornea-External Ocular Disease & Uveitis Division, effective July 1, 2002. In addition to patient care, research and teaching activities, Dr Aldave will direct the cornea fellowship program and the UCLA Donor Eye Program. Dr Aldave received his medical degree from the University of Texas. He completed his residency in ophthalmology at Wills Eye Hospital and a fellowship in corneal disease at Francis I. Proctor Foundation, University of California, San Francisco. His clinical and research interests include corneal dystrophies and degenerations, as well as surgical alternatives to corneal transplantation and ocular surface reconstruction.

Christine R. Gonzales, MD, joined the full-time faculty as Assistant Professor in the Retina Division, effective July 1, 2002. Dr Gonzales received her medical degree from the University of California, San Francisco; and completed her residency at Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, University of Miami. After a two-year fellowship in vitreoretinal diseases and surgery at the Jules Stein Eye Institute, Dr Gonzales accepted a position as a staff physician, continuing her work in patient care and research. Her areas of interest include pediatric retinal diseases, diabetic retinopathy, and age-related macular degeneration. She is currently conducting clinical studies to evaluate new drug treatments for the exudative or "wet" form of age-related macular degeneration and diabetic retinopathy. She is also co-director of the vitreoretinal diseases fellowship program.

Natik Piri, PhD, was appointed Assistant Professor in the Glaucoma Division, effective March 1, 2003. Dr Piri received his doctorate in molecular biology from the Institute of Biorganic Chemistry, U.S.S.R. Academy of Sciences in Moscow. He began postdoctoral studies at the Jules Stein Eye Institute in 1991, working in the laboratory of Debora B. Farber, PhD, DPhhc, Karl Kirchgessner Professor of Ophthalmology and Co-Chief of the Vision Science Division. He was honored as a Distinguished Postdoctoral Fellow in Neuroscience by the UCLA Brain Research Institute in 1994. The following year he joined the Institute as an Assistant Research Ophthalmologist. Dr Piri's research is aimed at understanding the molecular mechanisms leading to retinal ganglion cell death in glaucoma.

Five of the Institute's seven graduating ophthalmology residents have been recruited to clinical fellowships, including prestigious appointments at Bascom Palmer Eye Institute and the Proctor Foundation of the University of California, San Francisco.



Dr Natik Piri



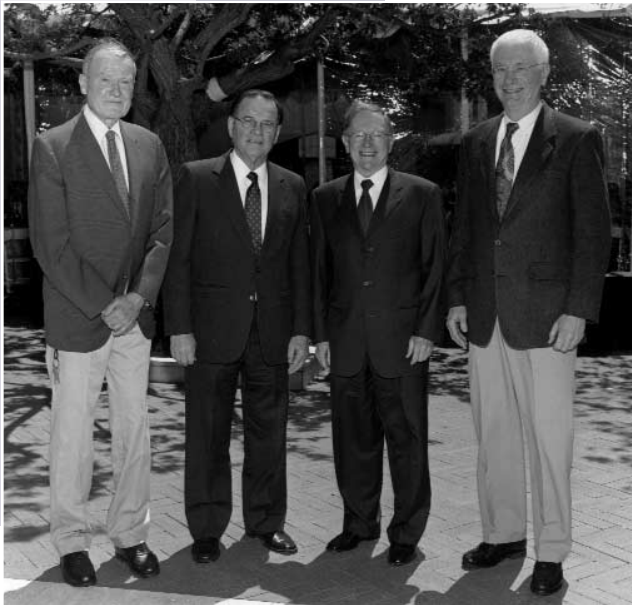
Dr Anthony Aldave



Dr Christine Gonzales

NEW ACCREDITATION FOR ORBITAL AND OPHTHALMIC PLASTIC SURGERY FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

The Institute's fellowship program in orbital and ophthalmic plastic surgery was accredited by the American Academy of Cosmetic Surgery in 2002. The highly regarded fellowship at the Institute is one of only two ophthalmology programs accredited by the Academy, which evaluates the quality of the faculty and the teaching program, as well as quality and safety of patient care activities. Fellows graduating from the UCLA program can now be double-boarded in ophthalmology and cosmetic surgery. The fellowship program is under the direction of **Robert Alan Goldberg, MD**, Professor of Ophthalmology and Chief of the Orbital and Ophthalmic Plastic Surgery Division; **John D. McCann, MD**, Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology; and **Norman Shorr, MD**, Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology.



Honorees at this year's Annual Postgraduate Seminar are (from left) Drs. Robert Foos, Norman Byer, Bradley Straatsma, and Allan Kreiger.

SPECIAL CONFERENCES

A first-of-its kind workshop on birdshot retinochoroidopathy was sponsored by the Ocular Inflammatory Disease Center, under the direction of faculty members **Ralph D. Levinson, MD**, and **Gary N. Holland, MD**, Chief of the Cornea-External Ocular Disease & Uveitis Division. The workshop was held in conjunction with the International Uveitis Study Group, an elite group of authorities on inflammatory eye disease from numerous countries around the world. Birdshot retinochoroidopathy is a disease of the retina and underlying structures in the back of the eye that can slowly lead to deterioration of vision and loss of both color discrimination and the ability to distinguish contrast. Its cause is unknown, but it has a strong association with a particular gene. The workshop was organized to stimulate collaboration and an interdisciplinary approach to the disease. Investigators from Australia, Brazil, France, Italy, the Netherlands, and the United States participated.

The Annual Postgraduate Seminar and Jules Stein Lecture celebrated the extraordinary careers of four retina specialists whose collective legacy has shaped the field and the Jules Stein Eye Institute: **Norman E. Byer, MD**, Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology and volunteer faculty member;

Robert Y. Foos, MD, Professor Emeritus of Pathology and Laboratory Medicine; **Allan E. Kreiger, MD**, Professor of Ophthalmology and former Chief of the Retina Division; and **Bradley R. Straatsma, MD**, Professor Emeritus of Ophthalmology and Founding Director of the Jules Stein Eye Institute.

This year's Annual Research and Alumni Day and Annual Post-ARVO Seminar marked the first Thomas H. Pettit MD Lecture, given by **J. Bronwyn Bateman, MD**, Professor and Chair of the Department of Ophthalmology at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, and a JSEI Faculty alumnus. Also presented was the first Bradley R. Straatsma MD Lecture, given by **Paul G. Fitzgerald, PhD**, Professor of Cell Biology-Human Anatomy at the University of California, Davis, School of Medicine. These named lectureships honor two of the Institute's distinguished faculty members.

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING

Several volunteer faculty members were acknowledged, by peer review, for their contributions to the teaching programs of the Institute. **George B. Primbs, MD**, Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology, received the Irvine Prize for faculty excellence. Senior Honor Awards for outstanding service over the last 25 years went to volunteer faculty members **Samuel Masket, MD**, and **Sydney J. Weiss, MD**. JSEI third-year residents presented **C. Richard Hulquist, MD**, Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology, with the 2003 Volunteer Teaching Award.

PRESTIGIOUS NAMED LECTURES

This year, Bradley R. Straatsma Professor of Ophthalmology and Institute Director **Bartly J. Mondino, MD**, gave several named lectures:

- ▶ 1st Martin and Doris Lynn Lecture at the Shiley Eye Center, University of California at San Diego, in San Diego, California, on January 13, 2003
- ▶ Thorpe Lecture at the Pittsburgh Ophthalmology Society in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, on March 21, 2003
- ▶ Raymond C. Cook, M.D., Distinguished Visiting Professor at the Harvey and Bernice Jones Eye Institute, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences, in Little Rock, Arkansas, on May 23, 2003

The Leonard Apt Lectureship, established by the American Academy of Pediatrics in 2000, was perpetuated by an endowment from Jeanne A. Rappaport, Dr Apt's sister. The lectureship recognizes Dr Apt's lifelong dedication to teaching and his outstanding contributions to the fields of pediatrics and ophthalmology.



JSEI Director Dr Bartly J. Mondino

Philanthropy

Private philanthropy is the cornerstone of the Institute's recognized position as an international leader in ophthalmology. Generous gifts from individuals, corporations and foundations provide the extra measure of support that enables the Institute to consistently record noteworthy achievements in research, education and patient care. This year, the Institute was fortunate to receive two important gifts from the Oppenheimer Family. Other gifts will specifically and immediately benefit the teaching and patient care activities of the Institute, as well as the long-term needs of the vision science program.

GERALD OPPENHEIMER FAMILY FOUNDATION CENTER FOR THE PREVENTION OF EYE DISEASE

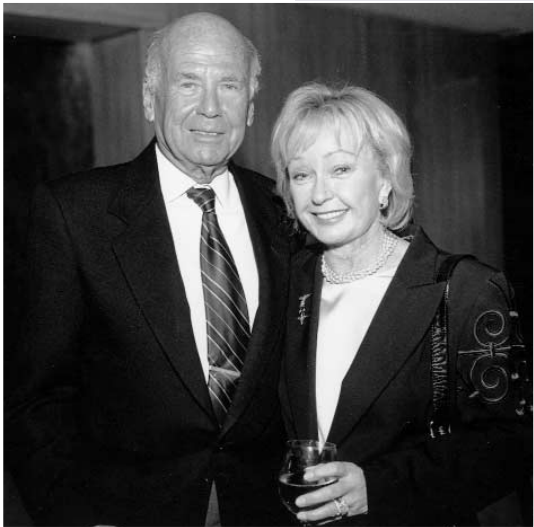
Established with a generous pledge, the Gerald Oppenheimer Family Foundation Center for the Prevention of Eye Disease will investigate ways to treat eye problems before they happen. Center researchers will study genetic and environmental factors that may cause eye diseases, as well as pharmacologic and natural agents that may help patients avoid eye diseases.

For **Gerald H. Oppenheimer**, the center represents a continuation of an important family legacy in the vision sciences—his stepfather was Dr Jules Stein. The Jules Stein Eye Institute has been the centerpiece of his family's philanthropic interests since it was established in the 1960s. Gerald Oppenheimer accepted a consultative appointment with the JSEI Board of Trustees in 1984 and became a trustee in 1992.

As President of the Oppenheimer Family Foundation, he has assumed a leadership role in shaping and supporting the future of medical research both at UCLA and JSEI. In 1990, he established the Stein/Oppenheimer Awards, which have provided over 115 UCLA biomedical researchers with crucial funding for their projects. The new Oppenheimer center will complement an expanding array of research facilities in many other fields at the university that are applying rigorous scientific methods to study novel, unconventional approaches to health care.

SARNOFF PHILANTHROPIC FUND

Through the generous support of the **Albert A. Sarnoff Philanthropic Fund**, the audio-visual education project of the Cataract Center was funded for a second year in 2002. This project helps residents, fellows, and visiting faculty maximize their educational instruction with high quality videos of surgeries and other procedures for the treatment of cataracts. The fund was used to purchase the necessary audio-visual equipment and support the salary of a student in the UCLA Department of Theatre, Film and Television to work on the project. Without the Fund's generosity, the goals of this video project would have been difficult to realize. It is hoped that all of the Institute's operating rooms will eventually be equipped with the latest audiovisual equipment, along with the necessary technical support so that any faculty member can create professional video presentations.



Gerald and Gail Oppenheimer

*To facilitate collaborative research and educational programs within the Institute's active ophthalmology and optometry services, a campaign for an Optometric Chair was launched by JSEI Director **Bartly J. Mondino, MD.***

DRABKIN FAMILY FOUNDATION

Robert Drabkin, President of the Drabkin Family Foundation, made gifts benefiting glaucoma and retinal research at the Jules Stein Eye Institute. Mr Drabkin regularly organizes collaborative symposia on topics in vision science that bring leading research scientists together to discuss breakthroughs in their specialties. Most recently, Mr Drabkin organized two symposia, one for glaucoma research in 2001, and another for retinal research in 2002. Additionally, he made another gift to benefit JSEI faculty whose research falls within the scope of the symposia and merits support. The Drabkin Family Foundation is a “Partner” in the campaign to support the programs and faculty made possible by the new Edie and Lew Wasserman Eye Research Center, due to break ground in 2005.



Robert Drabkin

LEONARD APT FELLOWSHIP

Leonard Apt, MD, Professor Emeritus of Ophthalmology and Founding Chief of the Division of Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus, has established the Leonard Apt Endowed Fellowship. Dr Apt is one of the founders of the field of pediatric ophthalmology, being the first physician to become board certified in both disciplines. While serving as a Special Fellow at the National Institutes of Health (NIH), he designed and completed the first organized fellowship in pediatric ophthalmology and later established, at UCLA, the first full-time division of pediatric ophthalmology at a medical school in the United States. The Leonard Apt Endowed Fellowship will be available in perpetuity and awarded to exceptional clinical fellows in pediatric ophthalmology and strabismus at the Jules Stein Eye Institute.

HOLLYWOOD CANTEEN FOUNDATION

A timely donation by the Hollywood Canteen Foundation (a philanthropic organization originally spearheaded by Jules and Doris Stein, Bette Davis, and John Garfield), is leading to enhanced services for veterans in the Veterans Administration Greater Los Angeles Healthcare System (GLAHS). Improvements in preventive ophthalmology, which require screenings for glaucoma and diabetic retinopathy, necessitate a substantial increase in patient visits, as well as monitoring and tracking patients who are evaluated at this level of care. Additionally, the GLAHS provides subspecialty care and functions as a tertiary care center for a wide referral network. These responsibilities require the coordinated effort of JSEI faculty, residents and fellows, as well as volunteer faculty members who all provide care to veterans. Seeking to address this need, the Hollywood Canteen Foundation has made an initial gift for administrative support to assist physicians, track patients, and coordinate referrals.



Taken in 1942: Jules Stein (standing), Al Ybana (left), Bette Davis and John Garfield discuss plans for the Hollywood Canteen.

OPPENHEIMER BROTHERS CHAIR



H. Tony Oppenheimer (right) is shown with brother Reed. They along with brothers Eric and Hal (not shown) make up the executive board for the Oppenheimer Brothers Foundation.

The newly endowed Oppenheimer Brothers Chair will provide support for the research and educational activities of an exceptional basic scientist who will foster advances in vision science and promote achievements in the field of ophthalmology. This generous gift was made by the **Oppenheimer Brothers Foundation**, which is itself relatively new, established in 1998 by the four sons of the Brigadier General H.L. Oppenheimer, son of Doris Stein. H. Tony Oppenheimer is the president of the foundation. He and his brothers, Reed, Eric and Hal, make up the executive board. Their wives share the responsibility as members of the foundation's advisory board and their 11 children comprise a junior board. The planned dissolution of the Jules and Doris Stein Foundation in 1997 created the Oppenheimer Brothers Foundation along with three other family foundations. They all follow a tradition of giving to the Institute and the community that was instilled by their patriarch, Dr Jules Stein. The Oppenheimer Brothers Chair is the first major contribution to the vision sciences by this successor foundation.

ESTATE AND TRUST OF EMILY G. PLUMB

A generous gift from the **Estate and Trust of Emily G. Plumb** will benefit the Institute's vision science program. Emily, and her husband, Rollo, were both Bruins, having graduated from UCLA's Vermont Avenue campus in 1927. The income from this trust will have a tremendous impact on innovative initiatives in the vision sciences, allowing moneys to be directed to the most promising basic science and clinical investigations and educational endeavors to further research for the prevention and cure of blindness. This gift is a significant milestone in philanthropy at the Institute and a wonderful legacy for the Plumbs.

JSEI VISIONARIES

Last year, the Jules Stein Eye Institute launched a membership campaign for a new support group of major donors: JSEI Visionaries. Membership includes recognition at an exclusive annual JSEI Visionaries event; a private tour of the Institute's research facilities; invitations to informative, small-group activities, such as presentations by our renowned faculty; invitations to other special events; and recognition in the Institute's prestigious *EYE* magazine. However, the greatest benefit of membership is satisfaction. JSEI Visionaries play a key role in the success of one of the world's preeminent vision research institutions. Membership is currently available and begins at \$1,000/year. Annual gifts will be used in two ways: as seed money for promising new initiatives in the developmental stages of research; and to meet specific needs of larger-scale research projects. Several of the groundbreaking initiatives at the Institute have been made possible by such funding.