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Chairman's Overview

"I am speaking to you at what I know is an increasingly challenging time," the queen said on April 5. "A disruption that has brought grief to some, financial difficulties to many, and enormous changes to the daily lives of us all. I want to thank those who work selflessly outside the home in support of us all. The attributes of self-discipline, quiet good human resolve and a fellow feeling characterize this country. Pride in who we are is not part of our past. It defines our present and future."

With the Queen's statement in mind, as we continue to make weekly adjustments in our programs, I am pleased to report several important gains and losses for this "Spring of Recovery" Newsletter. During this COVID era, we spearheaded a weekly zoom videoconference with all Chairs and Program Directors in Chicago and I initiated a similar program for Loyola/HVA faculty, residents and staff. Until the impact of COVID, Loyola University Health System (Loyola, Gottlieb and McNeal Hospitals) was on track to meet our \$70M budget until COVID and lead Trinity-Health nationally. Our clinical infrastructure recently benefitted from the addition of 2 clinical scribes and the acquisition of a Zeiss microscope with real time OCT, 2 new Centurion phaco machines, and possibly the Zeiss Forum Imaging software all of which should provide our faculty and residents with the clinical benefits of high-quality resources. **Meenakshi Chaku, MD** has assumed a leadership role in our very active Tele-ophthalmology program. We have also recruited corneal and glaucoma fellows to join our faculty.

Our biggest loss will be **Susanne Tidow, MD** who will retire after 17 years of service to the department at the end of this academic year.

We continue to remain dedicated to collaboration and mentorship in the core missions of academic health care: high quality compassionate patient care, innovative education technology, basic science and translational research and Community and Global Service. Our administrative Directors and Vice Chairs (listed below) continue to provide the necessary leadership for continued growth and our research productivity remains strong.

This year we also celebrate the promotion of **David Yoo, MD** (Oculoplastics) to Professor and **Megan Hunter, OD** to Associate Professor. **James McDonnell, MD** and **Charles Bouchard, MD** continue to be listed as *2020 Top Doctors* in Chicago Magazine. Finally, we thank the financial support of our grateful patients **Sharon** and **Dave Robinson**, **Nelson Noguchi** the parents of one of our residents, **Jonathan Noguchi**, and **Ron and Diane Tyrpin** (Perritt Charitable Foundation) who continue to provide critical and substantial funding for our Research and Education programs. Please join us for one of our upcoming CME programs.

- Vice Chair, Department: **James, McDonnell, MD**
- Vice Chair, Education: **Anuradha Khanna, MD**
- Residency Program Director: **William Park, MD**
- Research Director: **Evan Stubbs, PhD**
- Section Chief, HVA: **Jay Perlman, MD, PhD**
- Chief Operating Officer, HVA: **Jhansi Raju, MD**

During this challenging time, we are reminded of our priorities, our values and our community. Loyola Ophthalmology has trained over 200 ophthalmologists, employed generations of staff and served increasingly thousands of Chicagoland patients. Our community is what kept us strong and what will power our survival beyond COVID-19.



Charles Bouchard, MD
John P. Mulcahy Professor & Chairman

Clinical Update

The Loyola Clinical Program has made recent upgrades in personnel, equipment and facilities. The department is in the process of onboarding new cornea and glaucoma faculty members. In addition, the surgical program has upgraded to a new Zeiss operating microscope with real-time, intraoperative OCT and 2 Alcon Centurion phacoemulsification machines. Loyola Ophthalmology has established clinical and surgical services at the Loyola Palos South Campus.

Similarly, the Hines VA has charged forward with enhancements. The Cataract and Retina services upgraded to the latest Bausch + Lomb Stellaris Elite phacoemulsification systems. The Glaucoma service expanded its MIGS offering to include Kahook Dual Blade, iStent Inject, Trabectome and Micropulse procedures. A new surgical retina specialist will join the faculty in June, in addition to the new cornea and glaucoma doctors with dual Loyola-Hines VA appointments.



2019 Orbital Dissection Wet Lab including residents from 3 departments: Otolaryngology, Neurosurgery and Ophthalmology

Residency / Education Update

The residency program has evolved in the last year. We are expanding our sub-specialty faculty. Additionally, this July begins the **Loyola Ophthalmology Joint Residency Program** with MacNeal Hospital's Transition Year Program. The medical students who match with our program will complete their **PGY1** year as Transition Year Residents at nearby MacNeal Hospital. This will allow the new residents 3 months of training at Loyola/Hines Ophthalmology before they begin their Ophthalmology residency with us. We are very excited for this opportunity!

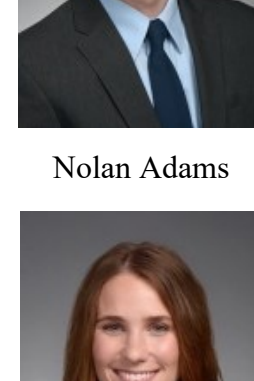
We welcome the next set of Ophthalmology residents:

Class of 2023: **Nolan Adams** (Loyola U); **Connor Baharozian** (Boston U); **Sarah Griffin** (Loyola U); and **Vishwaradh Reddy** (Texas TechU).

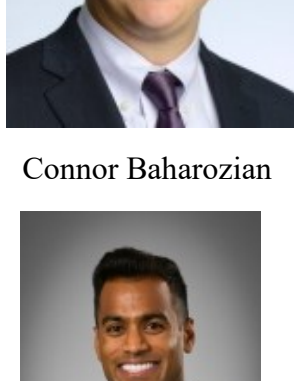
Class of 2024: **Meredith Furst** (U of Texas SOM, San Antonio); **Briggs Hoyt** (Creighton U SOM); **Nileema Patel** (St. Louis U SOM); and **Elisabeth Sledz** (U of New Mexico SOM).

True to our strengths, despite the COVID19-inspired reduced clinical and surgical experiences, the senior residents already have performed three times the minimum number of cataract surgeries. Their other experiences have been similarly excellent. Three of the four residents will be entering fellowships: **Neel Vaidya** (Chief Resident) – cornea at Chicago Cornea Consultants; **Michael Henry** – glaucoma at the Univ of Illinois; and **Jonathan Noguchi** – oculoplastics at the Univ of Calgary, Canada.

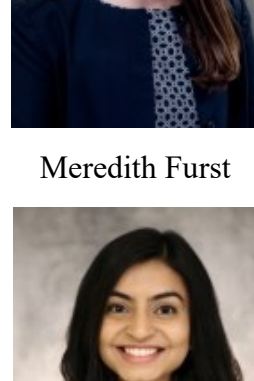
Virtual education continues to grow, especially in the current social distancing environment. **Dr. Charles Bouchard's** collaborative nature has united the six Chicago Ophthalmology residency programs. The group has initiated a centralized didactic calendar and made all virtual educational sessions available, via Zoom or WebEx, to all 70+ Chicago residents and fellows. Now, Ophthalmology-interested medical students and other residencies, such as the U of Iowa, U of Wisconsin and Vanderbilt U have been welcomed into the consortium. An example of how social distancing has inspired togetherness.



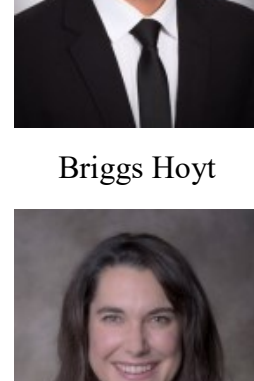
Nolan Adams



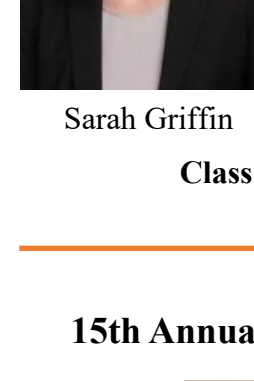
Connor Baharozian



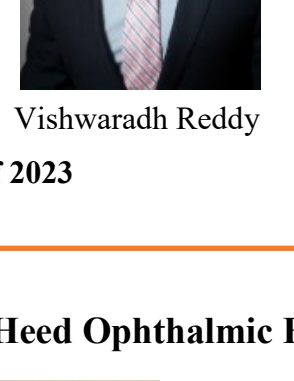
Meredith Furst



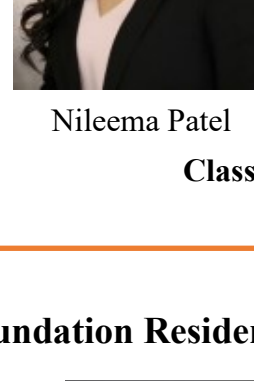
Briggs Hoyt



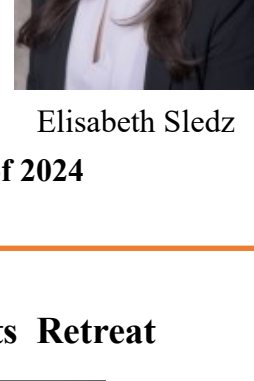
Sarah Griffin



Vishwaradh Reddy



Nileema Patel



Elisabeth Sledz

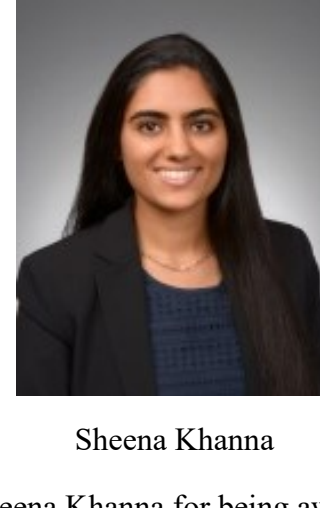
Class of 2023

Class of 2024

15th Annual Heed Ophthalmic Foundation Residents Retreat



Erica Smith



Sheena Khanna

Congratulations to First Year Residents Erica Smith and Sheena Khanna for being awarded to the 15th Annual Heed Ophthalmic Foundation Residents Retreat in October, 2020!

Department Research Update

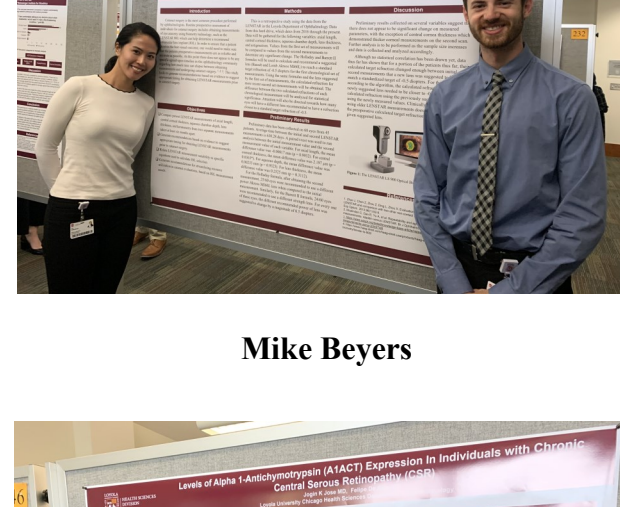
The research-intensive faculty within the Department of Ophthalmology are actively engaged at developing, evaluating, and advancing new and exciting next generation educational and therapeutic strategies for the improved management of their vision-challenged patients. Ophthalmic subspecialties currently being advanced by our ophthalmology research faculty are highlighted below and include cataract, cornea/refractive, glaucoma, neuro-ophthalmology, oculoplastics, optometry/low vision, pediatrics, retinovascular, and uveitis.

Newly Sponsored Research Programs

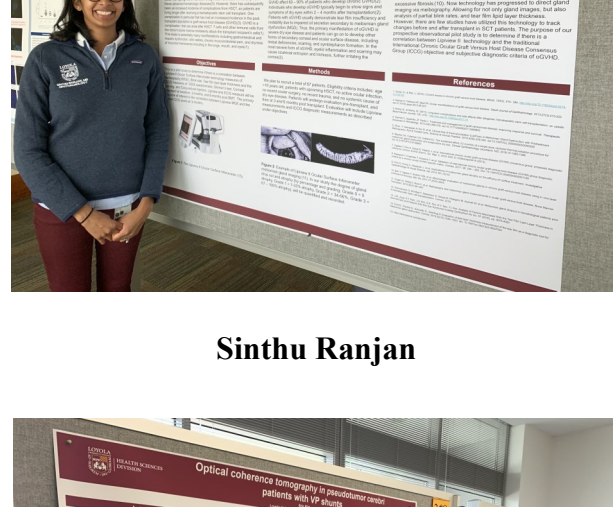
Consistent with ACGME educational recommendations, all Ophthalmology residents entering our program are required to actively participate in the advancement of faculty-mentored basic/clinical research programs. In association with our research faculty, many of our residents, medical, and graduate students enjoy their first taste of independent funding through the generosity of the Illinois Society for the Prevention of Blindness (ISPB). We are both excited and proud to provide a listing of the 2019-2020 ISPB-sponsored research programs currently being conducted by Ophthalmology residents and faculty. We offer a hardy Congratulations to the following successful applicants! Job well done, now get to work...

- **Beyer M., Park W, Yoo D.** *LENSTAR Measurement Variation Over Time: Implications For Preoperative Assessment*
- **Ranjan S and Vasaiwala R.** *Longitudinal Evaluation of Meibomian Glands in Stem Cell Transplant Patients Through Meibography*
- **Alvarez C, Kumar S, Bouchard C.** *Corneal Hysteresis and Systemic Biomarkers: A Novel Approach to the Diagnosis of Obstructive Sleep Apnea*
- **Santa Maria J, Kaja S, Iqbal O.** *Effect of aspirin on VEGF expression and barrier function in retinal pigment epithelium cells*
- **Himes C and Kaja S.** *Subconjunctival Chemotherapeutic Delivery by Fibrin Sealant in the Treatment of Retinoblastoma*
- **Naraini H and Kaja S.** *Effects of Astrocyte-Derived Exosomes on Neuronal Survival in a Model for Exfoliation Glaucoma*

Class of 2021 St. Albert's Day Presentation



Mike Beyers



Sinthu Ranjan



Jogin Jose



Eric Kim

Ongoing Sponsored Research Programs

Previously sponsored research programs that are currently on-going by Department of Ophthalmology research faculty include:

- **Stubbs Jr. E.** *Mitochondrial-Targeted Antioxidant-Encapsulating Nanoparticles as a Promising Therapeutic Strategy in Regulating Outflow Resistance* (2017-2021) Department of Veterans Affairs (BLR&D BX003938)
- **Kaja S.** *Lysyl Oxidase-Like 1 (Loxl1) Dysregulation Promotes Reactive Astrocytosis by Altering Calcium Signaling in Optic Nerve Head Astrocytes* (2018-209; NCE) The Glaucoma Foundation
- **De Bustros P, Zillox M, Bouchard C.** *Changes in the ocular surface microbiome in patients with Stevens-Johnson Syndrome (SJS) and other severe ocular surface diseases in the acute and chronic setting* (2018-2019, NCE) Illinois Society for the Prevention of Blindness
- **Sink J, Vasaiwala R, Bouchard C.** *Diagnostic Accuracy of Ocular Surface and Adnexal Findings Via Remote Encounters with Smartphone Images* (2018-2019, NCE) Illinois Society for the Prevention of Blindness
- **Vaidya N and Yoo D.** *Effect of Eyelid Malposition Surgery on Subjective and Objective Measures of Meibomian Gland Disease and Dry Eye* (2018-2019, NCE) Illinois Society for the Prevention of Blindness
- **Shah N and Shah M.** *Verification of Established CSF Multiplex PCR testing for use with ocular fluid samples* (2018-2019,

Loyola University Sponsored Research Programs

The Department of Ophthalmology is equally proud to announce the successful Medical Student grant awardees:

- **Wang A and Yoo D.** Identifying the effects of surgical eyelid repair on tear film function 2020-STAR Program
- **Brahmbhatt P and Bouchard C.** Lipid layer thickness, incomplete blink rate, and other parameters of dry eye disease in patients with lax eyelid syndrome 2020-Richard A. Perritt M.D. Charitable Foundation
- **Pomeranets Y and Vasaiwala R.** Longitudinal Evaluation of Meibomian Glands in Stem Cell Transplant Patients Through Meibography 2020-Richard A. Perritt M.D. Charitable Foundation
- **Solinski M and Rajji V.** Screening, Severity, and Treatment for Ocular Sarcoidosis 2020- Richard A. Perritt M.D. Charitable Foundation
- **De Bustros P and Bouchard C.** Changes in the ocular surface microbiome (OSM) in patients with Stevens-Johnson syndrome (SJS) and other severe ocular surface diseases (OSD) in the acute and chronic setting 2019-STAR Program
- **Sink J and Bouchard C.** Diagnostic Accuracy of Red Eye Pathology Via Remote Encounters with Smartphone Photos 2019-STAR Program

Department/CME Event Update

GLAUCOMA-CATARACT SURGICAL SUMMIT

VIRTUAL

Date: Saturday, September 26, 2020

Guest Speakers:

Davinder S. Grover, MD, MPH: Glaucoma Specialist, Glaucoma Associates of Texas, Dallas, TX

Zaina Al-Mohtaseb, MD: Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology, Baylor College of Medicine; and Staff Ophthalmologist, MD Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, TX

Virtual Resident Wet Lab : Requires advance registration to participate

Contact: Darlene DeMent: ddement@lumc.edu or call 708-216-4161

3rd Annual Loyola Surgical Summit GLAUCOMA AND CATARACT

SEPTEMBER 26, 2020

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
Davinder S. Grover, MD, MPH
Glaucoma Specialist
Glaucoma Associates of Texas
Dallas, TX



HOSTED BY
Charles Bouchard, MD
Chairman
Anuradha Khanna, MD
Vice-Chair of Education
COURSE DIRECTORS
Meenakshi Chaku, MD
Glaucoma
Roshni Vasaiwala, MD
Cataract

KEYNOTE SPEAKER
ZAINA AL-MOHTASEB, MD
Assistant Professor
Associate Resident Director
Baylor University
Houston, TX

