Harris Elected SLOS President

Dr. Alexander Harris, Jr. was installed as the first African-American president of the St. Louis Optometric Society on June 10, 1997 at a banquet held at the Ritz Carlton Hotel. Dr. Harris is a 1986 graduate of UM-St. Louis School of Optometry. He is currently Chief of Externships and the Minority Affairs Advisor. Dr. Harris also maintains a private practice in St. Louis.

Other optometrists installed by Dr. Robert Koetting during the ceremony include Dr. Larry Davis (assistant professor of optometry), Dr. Douglas Huff, Dr. Deborah Kerber (’92), Dr. Larry Ernst (’90) and Dr. Craig Sorce (’92). Dr. Raymond Fada, Jr. is the past president and also a ’89 alumnus of the School of Optometry.

The St. Louis Optometric Society is sure to benefit from such leadership.

1997 Honors Banquet

The University of Missouri-St. Louis School of Optometry held an Honors Convocation for the 1997 graduates on May 18, 1997 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel at Union Station. Congratulations and good luck to all the new graduates!

Doctor of Optometry
Thomas William Altenbernd
Tad Dean Baker
Marda Jo Barnfield
Martha Catharine Beebe
Jerri Lynn Birsinger
Tonya Kay Bourn
Charles E. Bruce
Thang Q. Bui
Stephanie Elise Cannick
Jennifer Ann Ciak
Bradley Steven Cook
James K. Cutler
James Benjamin Elledge
Amy Michelle Fitzgerald
Dallas Dustin Fitzgerald
Mary Teresa Franey
Christina Jo Garrett
Paul Raymond Gooch
Jeffrey Ronald Grimes
Rachel Lea Hare
David Lawrence Hoffman
James Douglas Hollmann
James Matthew Kirks
Todd Barry LaPoint
Mark Adam Manary
Barry Robert Moss
Mansur Nurdel
Evan Alan Phillips
Stacy DeShawn Scripsick Phillips
Mary Beth Rhomberg
Sharon M. Saum
Christine Camille Siebert
Suzanne Renee Smith
Teresa Luann Stice
Richard Craig Wilson
Jennifer Lynn Wise

Interim Dean Ralph P. Garzia presents Mary Beth Rhomberg with the Dean’s Award and the Clinical Optometry Award.

Master of Science in Physiological Optics
• Lawrence Kent Harrington, O.D. (’88)

Master of Science in Gerontology
• Lisa Chabot, O.D. (’93)

Residency Programs of the University of Missouri-St. Louis
Combined Residency in Optometric Gerontology and M.S. in Gerontology
• Larry G. Brown, II, O.D. (’95)

Family Practice Residency
• Kristi Kessler-Williams, O.D. (’96)

Contact Lens Residency
• Rosanne Mezzano, O.D. (’96)

Kansas City Veterans Administration Medical Center
Ocular Disease and Low Vision Rehabilitation Residency
• Cherié Ann Johnson, O.D.

Hospital Based Residency
• Martha Sue Smith, O.D.

Residency in Low Vision Rehabilitation
• Kathy J. Keehne, O.D.
A Note From the Interim Dean

As you can see from this EyeWire the School of Optometry continues to move forward, with new initiatives and partnerships.

The distinguished speaker endowment series will bring Dr. Harry Quigley, a foremost scholar and clinician on glaucoma to the UM-St. Louis campus.

The faculty, students and administration of the School of Optometry continue to develop fruitful relationships with the Missouri Optometric Association.

We have expanded our fund raising activities for student scholarships by establishing the A.M. Skeffington Memorial Scholarship. This scholarship joins the Robert A. Koetting Scholarship in School of Optometry’s named scholarship program.

The School has just finalized its first vision service agreement with the employees and families of a local community. The agreement calls for the School of Optometry to provide comprehensive vision examinations and a full range of services for participating individuals. We are excited about this development in our clinical program.

This issue is mostly about the new graduates of the School of Optometry. This is a talented group of optometrists, with many accomplishments. We are proud of all of them. We welcome them into the School of Optometry alumni community.

Ralph P. Garzia, O.D.

Endowment Series of Distinguished Speakers

The School of Optometry is pleased to announce the annual Endowment Series of Distinguished Speakers beginning with the September 21, 1997 presentation of Harry Quigley, M.D., the Edward Maumenee Professor of Ophthalmology at Johns Hopkins University (see below).

The Endowment Series is a unique opportunity offered on the UM-St. Louis campus to the optometrists and ophthalmologists of the region. Eyecare professionals will benefit from the extensive knowledge of the distinguished speakers featuring nationally known researchers, clinicians and professors.

Proceeds from the Endowment Series lectures will be contributed to the School of Optometry Endowment Fund.

For more information on the lecture series, please call Bobbette Ceasar at (314) 516-5604 or Lis Ellerbusch at (314) 516-5615 in the Continuing Education department.

The School of Optometry Endowment Series of Distinguished Speakers presents:

“The Optic Nerve in Glaucoma”

Harry Quigley, M.D.
The Distinguished Edward Maumenee Professor of Ophthalmology of Johns Hopkins University

Sunday, September 21, 1997
J.C. Penney Building, UM-St. Louis

(School Briefs continued on page 5)
Missouri Optometric Association Report
by Zoe Lyle, Executive Director of the MOA

On Wednesday, May 14, 1997 House Bill 335, The Managed Care Bill was agreed to and passed. Included in this bill is language allowing for direct access to a specialist for a higher co-pay and strong anti-discrimination language.

THIS BILL STATES:
A health carrier shall not discriminate between health care professionals when selecting such professionals for enrollment in the network or when referring enrollees for health care services to be provided by such health care professional who is acting within the scope of his professional license.

Except for good cause a health carrier shall be prohibited from discriminating between eye care providers when selecting among providers of health services for enrollment in the network, and when referring enrollees for health services provided within the scope of those professional licenses. For the purposes of this section, an eye care provider may be either an optometrist licensed pursuant to Chapter 336, RSMo, or a physician who specializes in ophthalmologic medicine, licensed pursuant to Chapter 334, RSMo.

Also, on Tuesday, May 27, 1997 the MOA was pleased that Dr. Ralph Garzia and Dr. Gerald Franzel accompanied Executive Director Zoe Lyle on a series of meetings with Missouri Executive Branch leaders. Meetings were held with the Director of Department of Insurance, Deputy of Division of Medical Services and the Director of the Department of Health.

A.M. Skeffington Scholarship Fund

The University of Missouri-St. Louis School of Optometry has established the A.M. Skeffington Scholarship Fund to be awarded annually in increments of $2100 to students enrolled in the School of Optometry. Each year the committee will select a recipient(s) who best personifies the clinical and academic principles promulgated by Dr. Skeffington.

The fund is named after the eminent optometrist, Dr. Arthur Martin Skeffington who dedicated his life to the betterment of optometry. He developed the theory that vision is a learned skill, and with proper training, people could see more efficiently. Skeffington and the Optometric Extension Program transformed optometry from a business of fitting glasses in a jewelry store to a profession dedicated to the patient.

He was able to integrate the knowledge of his profession with that of other disciplines, examine the vast collection of knowledge in a new light, and ultimately revolutionize concepts of clinical care.

Robert L. Mobley, O.D., full-time member of the clinical faculty at UM-St. Louis, initiated the concept of the annual Skeffington Scholarship. A plaque, donated by the St. Louis Optometric Society, will feature the recipients’ names and will be proudly displayed in the School of Optometry.

The A.M. Skeffington Scholarship joins the Robert A. Koetting Scholarship in the School of Optometry’s fund raising program. Donations to either fund may be sent to Michele Pattison, UM-St. Louis, School of Optometry, 8001 Natural Bridge Road, St. Louis, MO 63121-4499.

School Briefs

Dr. Kent Harrington (’88) and his wife, Gina, are the proud parents of Katherine Jane. She weighed 9 lb. 6 oz. and was 21 inches long. Katherine joins her big brothers, James (6) and Nathan (2).

Congratulations are also in order to Dr. Harrington for completing a Master of Science degree in Physiological Optics from UM-St. Louis School of Optometry, 1997.

Dr. Tom Borsky (’88) is practicing optometry in Grass Valley, CA and residing in Nevada City, CA with his wife Sabina, his son James (9) and his daughter Alexis (2). Dr. Borsky enjoys mountain biking and snow skiing whenever his busy schedule allows. (See e-mail address p. 6).

Dr. Mark (’91) and Laura Moore and their oldest son, Devin, are pleased to announce the birth of Kyle Logan Moore. He was born April 11, 1997, weighed 8 lbs. 6 oz and was 18 inches long. Devin is very proud of his new baby brother.

Dr. Larry Brown (’86) and his wife are proud to announce the arrival of their first born child, Dorothy Alice. She was born on April 9, 1997, was 20 1/2 inches long and weighed 7 lbs. 3 oz. Congratulations and good luck!

Faculty Personals

Dr. Vinita Henry and her husband, Sam, are the proud parents of a 7 lb. 9 oz. baby girl named Elizabeth Allee Henry. She was born on March 19, 1997 and is welcomed by her big sisters Amanda and Emily. Congratulations to the whole family!

Drs. Bruce and Mary Morgan are pleased to announce the birth of their first child, Anna Christine. She weighed in at 6 lbs. 11 oz. and was born on April 30, 1997. Good luck with your beautiful new daughter.


Dr. Gary Bachman was elected President of the St. Louis Porshe Club.
Calendar Events

**July 8**
St. Louis Optometric Society Meeting
Clayton Holiday Inn

**July 18-20**
1987 10-Year Class Reunion
Base Hotel-Frontenac Hilton
For more info, call Bobbette Ceasar at (314) 516-5604.

**September 21**
“The Optic Nerve in Glaucoma” featuring Dr. Harry Quigley, M.D.
JC Penney Bldg. (north campus)
For info. call Bobbette (314) 516-5604

**October 9**
Alumni and friends reception held in conjunction with the MOA Convention in Kansas City, MO. For more info, call Bobbette Ceasar at (314) 516-5604.

**October 9-12**
MOA Convention
Kansas City, Missouri

Alumni e-mail addresses:

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haugenod@pageplus.com

Steve Rice, O.D. (*’87)
srrice@dialus.com

Tom Borksby, O.D. (*’88)
eyetoeye@gv.net

Visit our web site at:
http://www.umsl.edu/divisions/optometry/optometry.html

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And the Award Goes To . . .

The School of Optometry wishes to thank its award sponsors for the 1997 Honors Convocation, and congratulate the new graduates on their accomplishments.

Charles E. Bruce  James D. Hollmann  James M. Kirks  Mary Beth Rhomberg  James D. Hollmann

The M. Earl McClellan Memorial Award and the William R. Jackson Memorial Scholarships
Sponsored by the Missouri Optometric Foundation
Awarded to three graduating students who best exemplify independent professional optometry. Three students are selected by peer vote by members of the graduating class. The nominees are personally interviewed and the recipients are chosen by the Missouri Optometric Foundation Board of Directors.

Christina J. Garrett

The Alcon Contact Lens Award
sponsored by Alcon Laboratories, Inc.
Awarded to the graduate who has demonstrated clinical excellence in the field of contact lenses and contact lens research while at the same time maintaining above average academic achievement.

Richard C. Wilson

The Contact Lens Achievement Award
Sponsored by Sunsoft Corporation
Awarded to the graduate who is recognized as an outstanding contact lens clinician.

James D. Hollmann

The Wesley Jessen Contact Lens Achievement Award
Sponsored by Wesley Jessen
Awarded to an honor graduate who has demonstrated exceptional expertise and scholarship in contact lenses.

James M. Kirks

The Vision Service Plan Scholarship
Sponsored by Vision Service Plan
Awarded to two 4th year students who have demonstrated excellence in primary eye care, are in the top half of their class and have a commitment to enter the independent practice of optometry.

Suzanne R. Smith

The Vistakon Award of Excellence in Contact Lens Patient Care
Sponsored by Vistakon
Awarded to the graduate who provided outstanding clinical contact lens patient care as indicted by knowledge of subject matter and demonstrated clinical skills in managing contact lens patients.

Christine C. Siebert

The Bernell Clinical Optometry Award
Sponsored by Bernell Corporation
Awarded to the graduate who has demonstrated excellence in vision training and orthoptics.

James M. Kirks

The Charles C. Matlock Memorial Award
Sponsored by the Charles C. Matlock Family
Awarded to the graduate who has achieved distinction in the area of pediatric optometry.
And the Award Goes To . . .  
(Continued from page 3)

The Contact Lens Clinical Award  
Sponsored by Paragon Optical, Inc.  
Awarded to the graduates who have demonstrated clinical excellence in the field of contact lenses.

Paul R. Gooch  
James K. Cutler

The Silor Award for Excellence in Ophthalmic Optics  
Sponsored by Silor Optical, Inc.  
Awarded to the graduate who has demonstrated academic and technical excellence in the field of ophthalmic optics and ophthalmic dispensing.

David L. Hoffman  
Mary Beth Rhomberg

The Marchon Eyewear Practice Management Award  
Sponsored by Marchon Eyewear  
Awarded to a graduate who demonstrated the most outstanding clinical and dispensing skills in practice management.

Suzanne R. Smith

The Corning Low Vision Award  
Sponsored by Corning Medical Optics  
Awarded to the graduate who has demonstrated interest and exceptional clinical proficiency in the area of low vision.

Sharon M. Saum

The William Feinbloom Low Vision Award  
Sponsored by Designs for Vision, Inc.  
Awarded to the graduate who has demonstrated excellence in both the didactic and the clinical aspects of low vision care.

Marda J. Barnfield

The Silver Medal Award  
Sponsored by Beta Sigma Kappa  
Awarded to a graduate for outstanding scholarship.

The Practice Initiation Award  
Sponsored by Bausch and Lomb  
Awarded to the graduate who has submitted an outstanding paper dealing with the establishment of a practice.

The Clinical Optometry Award  
Sponsored by Ozarks Optical Laboratories, Inc.  
Awarded to the graduate whose clinical skill and professional demeanor have been judged outstanding.

The Clinical Binocular Vision/Vision Therapy Award  
Sponsored by the School of Optometry  
Awarded to a graduate in recognition of clinical performance in the area of binocular vision/vision therapy.

The Dean’s Award  
Sponsored by the Missouri Optometric Foundation and the School of Optometry (Funded by the William R. Jackson Memorial)  
Awarded to a graduate exhibiting outstanding scholarship.

Student Marshal  
A graduate selected by the faculty, based on high academic standing, outstanding character, and involvement in University and/or professional activities.