

Optimum VA



The Official Newsletter of the
National Association of Veterans Affairs Optometrists
Spring 2012

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Optimum VA Newsletter is a quarterly publication distributed in January, April, July and October.

Deadline for submissions are 12/31, 3/31, 6/30, and 9/30 respectively.

Please e-mail any submissions to our newsletter editor, Dawn N. Tomasini at dawn.tomasini@va.gov

President's Column

Brian Kawasaki, O.D., M.B.A.

Brian S. Kawasaki, O.D., M.B.A.

PRESIDENT



Dear NAVAO Members,

The NAVAO Board would like to thank all of our members who have joined or renewed for 2012. Your continued membership support is vital to the strength of our organization. We ask that you please encourage other optometrists at your facility who have not yet joined or renewed for 2012 to do so as soon as possible.

As a reminder, NAVAO strongly encourages all eligible candidates to register for the next Advanced Competence in Medical Optometry (ACMO) exam on **Friday, June 1, 2012**. Please visit the NBEO website at www.optometry.org for details and read our ACMO FAQ sheet, which is posted to the members area of the NAVAO website and also included in this issue of the newsletter for your reference. The exam fee is \$780; however, please note that there is a special reduced fee of **\$480** for current residents who sit for the test during the year in which they complete their residency. Residency coordinators may therefore want to encourage current residents to take the ACMO exam now. We recommend that you register early to have a better chance of reserving a spot at your desired testing site. **The deadline to register for the ACMO exam is May 7, 2012.**

Please note that the American Board of Certification in Medical Optometry (ABCMO) requires passage of ACMO for those applying via Career Path #1 and, **in 2013, passage of ACMO will become mandatory for all applications for ABCMO board certification in the specialty of medical optometry.** Please visit the ABCMO website at www.abcmo.org for more information about their board certification process.

In the last issue of our newsletter we discussed the American Optometric Association's decision to cease publication of *Optometry: Journal of the American Optometric Association* after June 2012. We were disappointed to hear about this decision and given the potential implications not only for VA optometry, but the profession in general, we sent a letter to the AOA citing our concerns. Many thanks to our members who contacted NAVAO and wrote to the AOA to voice their opinion about the discontinuation of the journal. I received a response letter from Dr. Dori Carlson, AOA President, explaining the circumstances behind the AOA's decision, including problems with the publishing contract and loss of advertisers in the journal. She did indicate that a Journal Project Team has been appointed to explore future options. Dr. Carlson acknowledged that our profession needs a journal that is peer-reviewed, acknowledged by PubMed, and supported by the profession through the submission of articles.

NAVAO will soon be conducting an online general member survey regarding important aspects of our organization. Your feedback is important. An email will be sent to all members with the link to the survey and the link will also be posted to the News page of the members area of our website. Please take a few minutes to complete the survey and share your thoughts about NAVAO with us. Thank you!

Finally, please mark your calendars for our 2012 annual NAVAO meeting which will be held the evening of Thursday, October 25, in conjunction with the American Academy of Optometry Meeting in Phoenix, AZ. More details about our annual meeting and registration will be available as the date gets closer.

Thanks again for your continued support of our organization and VA Optometry!

Sincerely,
Brian

From the Editor

Dawn N. Tomasini, O.D., F.A.A.O.



Spring is known as the season of new beginnings. So in this spring edition of Optimum VA, we have decided to highlight what is new in the world of optometry.

Much of this issue is dedicated to getting to know the new optometry schools. Soon there will be 22 schools of optometry in North America. Three of these new schools; located in Texas, California and Arizona, are in the pre-accreditation stage. They have opened their doors but have yet to graduate any students. The other two schools in Virginia and Massachusetts are scheduled to open in 2012 and 2014. As VA optometrists across the nation, we are likely to be introduced to some of the students from these new schools as fourth year externs.

We also posted a release from the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO) introducing a new residency matching system to replace the familiar ORMS by next year's residency match.

What is new to this edition is a list of international optometric journals. With the recent loss of the Journal of the American Optometric Association, the newsletter committee decided to compile a list of optometric journals not only to be used as resources, but to help VA optometrists find a place where they can still publish. We welcome members to add any inadvertent omissions to this list.

Updates from the NAVAO Board

David G. Storer, O.D.

VICE-PRESIDENT



The NAVAO Executive Committee is deeply appreciative to each of you in the membership who have renewed your NAVAO membership. Our Membership Director, Dr. Kathy Wang, and her entire Committee have worked long hours to make this year's membership drive a success. Each member of the Executive Committee is proud of all of the dedicated professionals on the Membership Committee and their individual commitment to the NAVAO mission. As I mentioned in last quarter's newsletter, a vibrant membership provides NAVAO leadership a more significant voice at Headquarters, as well as with other arenas of professional interest, where NAVAO serves as a critical voice for VA optometrists. We continue to demonstrate that a strong membership allows our President, Dr. Brian Kawasaki, supported by the NAVAO Executive Committee, to speak with a unified voice for VA optometry in forums where NAVAO interests are represented.

One parting thought on membership -- our long-term goal remains 100% NAVAO membership by VA optometrists and we will continue to make every effort to convince VA optometrists who are not presently active NAVAO members that we truly do represent all of VA optometry's interests in many areas that impact our profession.

I would like to again personally thank the NAVAO membership for your unwavering support for the Executive Committee. The summer months ahead, represent a period of intense planning for everyone on the Executive Committee, for the upcoming fall events at this year's Academy meeting. We look forward to seeing each of you at our annual meeting and dinner.

Janel L. Chou, O.D.

SECRETARY



Hello members and welcome to spring! It seems we skipped over winter! There has been a flurry of events announced each month during the monthly service call so please continue to check out our website for the minutes to the meetings. There are many links within those notes that are wonderful reference tools for policy and procedures for staff as well as the veterans. We are looking forward to the expansion of teleretinal services as well as a centralized location for manufacturer guideline links to SOP's (standard operating procedures) that have been announced on the call. There have

been many announcements, recently, for your residents as well including the new person class codes that need to be integrated and the opening of registration for the ACOMO. I wanted to extend a "Great Job!" to all sites for filling all the residency positions. Residencies, especially through the VA, provide such an important tool in optometric education.

We are currently working on ways to improve our website and services to our members. One of our goals this year is to be able to edit the *minutes* section of our website to make it available to our members sooner by not having to go through an intermediary. If you have any further suggestions or need me to send you the conference call minutes before they can be posted, please do not hesitate to contact me at janel.chou@va.gov.

Makesha Sink, O.D.

TREASURER



Spring is in the air!! Not only is the pollen floating over our heads but tax time is too. Don't forget that your NAVAIO dues could be counted as a tax deduction (professional organization) for some of you! I hope all of you are well and we appreciate your renewed commitment to NAVAIO and support as we welcome new members, residents, and returning members through our membership drive. The finance committee is in the process of digitalizing our old financial records this year and hope to continue this process in the future for the organization. We welcome any new ideas that you may have to grow our organization and ways to serve our membership better. Please let us know if you have any questions, suggestions or comments.

Gay K. Tokumaru, O.D.

IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT



NO UPDATES AT THIS TIME

Katherine L. Wang, O.D.

MEMBERSHIP DIRECTOR



NO UPDATES AT THIS TIME

Minna Huang, O.D.

MEMBER-AT-LARGE (Director of Events)



NO UPDATES AT THIS TIME

Getting to Know the NEW Optometry Schools

With three new optometry schools already open and two more scheduled to open in the next few years, the NVAO Newsletter Committee wanted to profile these new schools so that all VA optometrists can become more familiar with them. Some of us may soon be seeing students from these schools as fourth year optometry externs.

Western University of Health Science, College of Optometry Pomona, California

Western University of Health Sciences in Pomona, California, was founded in 1977, as an independent, non-profit university. It is located 35 miles east of Los Angeles and consists of nine graduate health professions colleges, including: Osteopathic Medicine, Allied Health, Pharmacy, Graduate Nursing, Veterinary Medicine, Dental Medicine, Optometry, Podiatric Medicine, and Graduate Biomedical Sciences.

The College of Optometry began in the fall of 2009 with an inaugural class of 78 students. Their second class which started in fall of 2010 consists of 86 students.

The curriculum at Western U emphasizes early entry into patient care. It provides for direct hands-on patient care in every semester beginning in the first year and continuing through to full time clinical rotations in the fourth year.

Interprofessional education in collaboration with other health disciplines is a part of Western University's College of Optometry curriculum. First year optometry students are enrolled in classes along with medical, dental and podiatric students. This interprofessional integration also carries over to the clinical environment with the development of an interprofessional clinical service in the on-campus facility.

The WesternU College of Optometry has incorporated an emphasis on neuro-optometry into its mission. Its program includes neuro-optometric rehabilitation, vision therapy, low vision rehabilitation and care of vulnerable populations such as those with developmental disabilities, brain injury or stroke. Hands-on training in on campus clinical programs as well as community based rehabilitation hospitals are part of the curriculum

For more information about Western University College of Optometry, please visit their website at:

<http://www.westernu.edu/optometry-about>

The University of the Incarnate Word Rosenberg School of Optometry San Antonio, Texas

The University of the Incarnate Word, established in 1881, is the largest Catholic university in Texas with total enrollment reaching over 8,400. Health professions programs include the Rosenberg School of Optometry, the School of Nursing, Feik School of Pharmacy, and the School of Physical Therapy.

The mission of the University of the Incarnate Word Rosenberg School of Optometry is to educate and prepare future leaders in optometry through excellence in education, patient care, and vision research. Class sizes range from 65-70 students.

The 4-year professional program culminates in the Doctor of Optometry (O.D.) degree. The prescribed curriculum is based in the medical model and integrates classroom experience with patient contact, providing early exposure to clinical training captured through Community Outreach Programs, rotations through their clinics and externships in clinical sites both nationally and internationally. Each fourth-year student is required to complete externship training during two of their final three semesters. These assignments are based on personal preference and guidelines to provide experience in both institutional and private settings. The Rosenberg School of Optometry presently has externship affiliations with Veterans Administrations facilities in Amarillo, TX, Minneapolis, MN, Salem, VA, San Antonio, TX, Wichita, KS, Peoria, IL, Viera, FL, Parma, OH, Gainesville, FL, Fresno, CA, and Kerrville, TX.

For more information, please visit the Rosenberg School of Optometry website: <http://optometry.uiw.edu>

Midwestern University of Arizona College of Optometry Glendale, Arizona

The Arizona College of Optometry (AZCOPT) was founded in 2008 on the Glendale Campus of Midwestern University. The College offers a four-year Doctor of Optometry (O.D.) degree with an average class size of 50 optometry students.

In the current Class of 2015, 12% of students are Arizona residents and the remainder represent 20 additional states. The ratio of males to females is 51 to 49%, and the mean class age is 26.

The College offers a four-year curriculum taught by 18 faculty members that includes academic coursework in the basic sciences, the behavioral sciences, and the clinical sciences; preclinical simulation studies; and community clinical rotations. Third- and fourth-year students provide community patient care in conjunction with AZCOPT faculty at the Midwestern University Eye Institute.

The Midwestern University Eye Institute opened in October 2010. It offers comprehensive eye care and a retail center for glasses and contact lenses. The Institute features 61 exam rooms and offers specialty services in low vision, sports vision, pediatric vision care, specialty contact lenses, prosthetics, and electrodiagnostics.

Christina M. Sorenson, O.D., F.A.A.O., Assistant Dean for Clinical Education (csoren@midwestern.edu), coordinates fourth-year student rotations. Tiffany-Anne Salem (tsalem@midwestern.edu) helps facilitate affiliation agreements.

For more information, please visit the Midwestern University website: <http://www.midwestern.edu>

**Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences
Worcester, Massachusetts
(Scheduled to open fall 2012)**

Announced in July 2011, Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences (MCPHS) plans to launch a School of Optometry with Dr. Lesley Walls to head the school. The first class is scheduled to begin attending in Fall 2012. The school will be located at the College's Lincoln Square Living and Learning Center, which the College purchased in 2010. Capital improvements for the School of Optometry include an on-site optometry clinic, research space, administrative offices, faculty/staff offices, and an optical dispensary. The facility also currently houses 200 students. The ACOE has granted the classification of Preliminary Approval pending a full evaluation visit in 2013 for their Professional Optometric Degree Program

**Appalachian College of Optometry
Grundy, Virginia
(Scheduled to open fall 2014)**

The Appalachian College of Optometry, located in the Buchanan Information Park in Grundy, VA, will be a private institution joining the Appalachian College of Pharmacy and the Appalachian School of Law. The optometry school hopes to admit its first class of students in the fall of 2014 with a class size of approximately 48. Its founding President will be Dr. Brian Looney of Grundy, VA. Once opened, it is hoped that the school will provide a \$4 million economic benefit to the surrounding county, and will eventually provide 600 jobs in the area. The Appalachian College of Optometry's founding members are the Buchanan County Administrator, three County supervisors, two pharmacists from the School of Pharmacy, and the President of the Southwest Virginia Community College.

ASCO Announces NEW Optometry Residency Match

The following is a copy of a press release from the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry from ASCO President Dr. Kevin Alexander and Executive Director Marty Wall on April 24, 2012.

ROCKVILLE, MD, April 24, 2012 – The Board of Directors of the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO) is pleased to announce it has established ORMatch, the new Optometry Residency Match. ORMatch replaces the Optometry Residency Matching Service (ORMS), which was administered for over 30 years by Dr. Charles Haine. “ASCO commends Dr. Haine for decades of exemplary service and dedication in administering ORMS. We are excited that ASCO will now have the opportunity to work directly with the residency community, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and the profession in designing and administering a Residency Match that will further promote the development of residency education in our profession”, stated Kevin Alexander, O.D., Ph.D., ASCO President.

ASCO has entered into an agreement with the National Matching Services, Inc. (NMS) for the design and administration of ORMatch. Founded in 1985, after developing sophisticated matching algorithms and software for the placement of physicians into residencies in the United States, NMS administers matching programs for many professions in the U.S. including pharmacy, psychology, dentistry, and osteopathic medicine. It works closely with most universities that train health care professionals in the U.S., as well as hundreds of VA programs, hospitals, training sites, and thousands of applicants across the country every year. “We are confident that ORMatch will function in the best interest of all optometric stakeholders and we look forward to administering this valuable service for you,” stated Jonah Peranson, Vice President, National Matching Services, Inc.

ORMatch will be a new Match program and will operate within the ASCO structure. NMS will design and administer the program with policy guidance and oversight by the new ASCO ORMatch Committee comprised of three ASCO representatives, three Department of Veterans Affairs representatives, and a Chair. Paige Pence, ASCO Director of Student Affairs, will be the project director and will work with the ORMatch Committee and NMS. The design phase of ORMatch will run from May-August, 2012. The launch will be no later than October 1, 2012 with the Match occurring in early March. A specific timetable will be developed by the ORMatch Committee.

Optometric Journals

With the loss of the Journal of the American Optometric Association, there will be a large void in the realm of optometric publications. Many Veterans Affairs optometrists may be looking for other optometric journals in which to publish. The NAVAO Newsletter Committee has compiled the following list of journals as possible resources and new territory to explore for international publishing. **Please note: This list of publications is not all inclusive and the NAVAO Newsletter Committee welcomes any information on additional journals that are available as an optometric resource and for publishing. Please contact our Newsletter Editor, Dr. Dawn Tomasini, at dawn.tomasini@navao.org. Thank you!**

The World Council of Optometry lists three journals as Internationally Ranked Institute for Scientific Information (ISI) Listed Optometry Journals

1. ***Clinical and Experimental Optometry*** is the official journal of Optometrists Association Australia, the New Zealand Association of Optometrists, and the Hong Kong Society of Professional Optometrists. It is a peer reviewed journal listed by ISI and abstracted by PubMed, Web of Science, Scopus, Science Citation Index and Current Contents. It publishes original research papers and reviews in clinical optometry and vision science. Debate and discussion of controversial scientific and clinical issues is encouraged and letters to the Editor and short communications expressing points of view on matters within the Journal's areas of interest are welcome. The Journal is published six times annually.

2. ***Ophthalmic and Physiological Optics***, Journal of the College of Optometrists, UK.

It was first published in 1925 and is a leading international interdisciplinary journal that addresses basic and applied questions pertinent to contemporary research in vision science and optometry. OPO publishes original research papers, technical notes, reviews and letters and will interest researchers, educators and clinicians concerned with the development, use and restoration of vision. OPO is published six times a year and is available to College Members only.

3. ***Journal of Optometry and Vision Science***, the Journal of the American Academy of Optometry has served primary eye care practitioners for more than 75 years. It is an authoritative source for current developments in optometry, physiological optics, and vision science. This frequently cited monthly scientific journal promotes vital interdisciplinary exchange among optometrists and vision scientists worldwide.

Other publications include:

- ***The Journal of Optometry***, the scientific, peer-reviewed publication of the Spanish General Council of Optometry
 - The J Optom welcomes the submission of original manuscripts and reviews describing clinical and experimental research in the field of Optometry, Ophthalmic Optics, Ocular Surface and Basic and Applied Visual Science in general; research on Instruments and Techniques, Reports of Clinical Cases, and clinically relevant laboratory investigations are also welcomed. The journal will be published every 3 months and is accessible for free on the Internet at www.journalofoptometry.org. The J Optom publishes Full-Length Original Articles, Scientific Letters, Critical Reviews, Editorials, Letters to Editor and other Authors. Manuscripts must be submitted in English language irrespective of the native language of the authors. Within each issue, all abstracts will be translated into Spanish by the Editorial Office. Periodically, selected articles from each issue will be also translated into Spanish in order to spread the scientific knowledge and to expand the readership of the journal.

- ***Journal of Clinical Optometry***

An international, peer-reviewed, open access journal focusing on clinical optometry. All aspects of patient care are addressed within the journal as well as the practice of optometry including economic and business analyses. Basic and clinical research papers are published that cover all aspects of optics, refraction and its application to the theory and practice of optometry.

This journal is a member of and subscribes to the principles of the [Committee on Publication Ethics](#) (COPE).

- ***Clinical and Refractive Optometry***

A Canadian journal established in 1988 under the title of *Practical Optometry*. It is published bi-monthly by the Canadian Society of Clinical and Refractive Optometry, a professional optometric society dedicated to advocating for and providing convenient and affordable, COPE approved continuing education services to members in print, online and through live-meetings. It is available internationally by paid subscription.

- ***Optometry in Practice*** is the College of Optometrist's Continuing Education and Training journal published four times a year and containing a range of peer review articles. Its principal aims are: To provide continuing education for optometrists and dispensing opticians in practice and therefore both primary and review papers are accepted; To provide continuing professional development through articles on a range of subjects that are relevant for optometrists wishing to keep up-to-date and that go

beyond the GOC's core competencies (as published on the General Optical Council's website); To provide support for practitioners who wish to write for an academic journal. Both review papers and primary research papers are published. All papers are peer-reviewed, but the process is different for the two types of papers.

- ***Review of Optometry***

A publication covering all topics of eye care. *Review of Optometry* works on assignment only, but will review unsolicited submissions. It is a publication of Jobson Medical Information, LLC, and the Jobson Professional Publishing Group.

- ***Optometry and Vision Development***

A quarterly publication by the College of Optometrists in Vision Development (COVD) started in 2006. Issues of the journal are available for download by the public. The COVD is a non-profit, international membership association which provides board certification for eye doctors and vision therapists who offer behavioral and developmental eye care, vision therapy and visual rehabilitation.

- ***Journal of Behavioral Optometry***

A bimonthly peer-reviewed publication sponsored by the Optometric Extension Program Foundation devoted to publications based in clinically relevant behavioral, functional and developmental aspects of the visual system.

- ***Military Medicine***

The monthly International Journal of the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States (AMSUS). It began in 1892 as *The Military Surgeon*. Articles published include peer-reviewed scientific papers, case reports and editorials. The objective of the Journal is to promote awareness of Federal medicine by providing a forum for responsible discussion of common ideas and problems relevant to Federal healthcare.

Congratulations VA Authors!

February 2012

Clinical & Refractive Optometry

Jordan W, Fujimoto L, Vejabul P, Chong T, Matson M. Spontaneous malignant glaucoma in a phakic patient. *Clinical & Refractive Optometry* January/February 2012; 23(1): 22-31.

(Dr. Jordan completed his residency at the VA Southern Nevada Healthcare System and Drs. Fujimoto, Vejabul, Chong, and Matson are Staff Optometrists at the VA Southern Nevada Healthcare System)

Review of Optometry

"Pain Management in the Optometric Practice"

By Steven Ferrucci, O.D., and Marc Bloomenstein, O.D.

(Dr. Ferrucci is Chief of Optometry and the Residency Coordinator at the VA Sepulveda Ambulatory Care Center in California)

"The Heart of the Problem"

By Jeff Cohen, O.D., and Susannah Marcus-Freeman, O.D.

(Dr. Cohen completed his residency at the Gainesville - Malcolm Randall VAMC and Dr. Marcus-Freeman is the Residency Coordinator at the Gainesville - Malcolm Randall VAMC)

Please let the NVAO Newsletter Committee know if we have missed any recently published VA authors since the last edition of our last newsletter. Please contact our Newsletter Editor, Dr. Dawn Tomasini, at dawn.tomasini@navao.org and we will be sure to make the announcement in our next newsletter. Thank you!

2012 Continuing Education

APRIL 2012

[West Florida Optometric Association Board Certif. Prep Course. Sandestin Hill Beach Resort. April 20-22](#)

[2012 Annual Spring Convention Arkansas Optometric Assoc. Little Rock, AR. April 26-29](#)

[Kansas Optometric Association Annual Convention & Seminar. Topeka, KS. April 26-28](#)

[American Academy of Optometry New Jersey Chapter. South Carolina. April 25-29](#)

[Kentucky 2012 Spring Congress; Louisville, KY. April 26-29](#)

[Indiana Optometric Association Annual Convention. Indianapolis, IN. April 27-29](#)

MAY 2012

[Montana Optometric Association 2012 Annual Educational Conference. Helena, MT. May 2-5](#)

[MWCO Annual Congress. Las Vegas, NV May 3-5](#)

[Eastern States Optometric Congress. White Plains, NY. May 5-6](#)

[Eye To Eye. Santa Monica, CA. May 6](#)

[ARVO 2012. Fort Lauderdale, Florida. May 6-10](#)

[Michigan Optometric Association Annual Meeting & Spring Seminar. Grand Rapids, MI. May 9-10](#)

[Golf Fish & Earn CE; Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. May 11-12](#)

[Non-Indian Health Service Optometrists CE Program. Fullerton, CA. May 14-17](#)

[2012 Mid Year Meeting. Glade Springs, WV. May 17-20](#)

[16th Annual Clinical Eye Care Conference. Davie Florida May 18-20](#)

[Arizona Optometric Association 2012 Spring Congress. Tucson, AZ May 18-20](#)

[CE in Italy. May 20-22](#)

JUNE 2012

[American Board of Optometry Review Course. Nashville, TN June 2-3](#)

[Everything Retina. Houston, TX. June 2-3](#)

[Northwest Residents Conference. Pacific University, Oregon. June 4](#)

2012 VPI Research Conference. Pacific University, Oregon. June 6-7

MCO Summer CE. Big Rapids VA, Michigan. June 6-7

GOA 2012 Annual Meeting. Palm Coast, Florida. June 7-10

NCSOS Annual Spring Congress. Myrtle Beach, SC. June 7-10

Utah Optometric Association Annual Convention. Midway, UT. June 7-10

Tropical CE. Scotland St. Andrews Golf 2012. Scotland. June 7-17

OAL 2012 Annual Convention. Lafayette, Louisiana. June 8-10

19th Annual Ocular Disease Update. Branson, Missouri. June 8-10

Annual Conference 2012 Alaska Optometric Association. Seward, Alaska. June 14-17

2012 VOA Annual Conference. Williamsburg Lodge, VA. June 22-24

Maui 2012 A Meeting of Clinical Excellence. June 21-24

AOA Optometry's Meeting. Chicago, Illinois. June 27- July 1

July 2012

Tropical CE. Atlantis Paradise Island, Bahamas July 1-8

CE in Belize. July 2-6

Therapeutic Pharmaceutical Agents Certification/Board Review. Fort Lauderdale, FL July 8-18

Indiana Optometric Association Summer Seminar. Carmel, IN. July 11

2012 Colorado Vision Summit. Steamboat Springs, CO. July 12-15

FOA 2012 Annual Convention. Miami, Florida. July 12-15

National Optometric Association Annual Convention. Toronto, Canada. July 18-22

Puerto Rico 2012. San Juan, Puerto Rico. July 19-22

[2012 Victoria Conference. Inn at Laurel Point, Canada. July 19 -22](#)

[Iowa Optometric Meeting. Okoboji, Iowa. July 20-22](#)

[Northern Rockies Optometric Conference. Jackson Hole, Wyoming. July 19-21](#)

[26th Annual Tahoe Seminar. Incline Village, NV. July 27-July 29](#)

[National Glaucoma Symposium 2012. Cape Cod, Brewster, MA. July 28-30](#)

[OEI Annual Summer Conference. Columbus, OH. July 27-29](#)

August 2012

[Southwest Florida Optometric Association Educational Retreat. Sanibel Island, FL. Aug. 3-5](#)

[SCOPA Annual Meeting. Myrtle Beach, SC. Aug 23 -26](#)

NAVAO Committees

The **Executive Committee** is responsible for the management of the business of the NAVAIO and advises the President on all policy matters of the Association. The Executive Committee consists of the President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer, and Immediate Past President.

Executive Committee Members:

- Brian S. Kawasaki, O.D., M.B.A. (President and Chair)
- David G. Storer, O.D. (Vice-President)
- Janel L. Chou, O.D. (Secretary)
- Makesha Sink, O.D. (Treasurer)
- Gay K. Tokumaru, O.D. (Immediate Past President)

The **Finance Committee** monitors funds and assists the Treasurer in the collection and disbursements of funds. The committee also projects future financial demands and sources for the Association.

Finance Committee Members:

- Makesha Sink, O.D. (Treasurer and Chair)
- Weon Jun, O.D.
- Michael McGovern, O.D.
- Glenn Saxon, O.D.

The **Membership Committee** recommends means for membership retention and growth and monitors pertinent data about the membership.

Membership Committee Members:

- Katherine L. Wang, O.D. (Membership Director and Chair)
- Janel L. Chou, O.D. (Executive Committee Liaison)
- Rachel Caywood, O.D.
- Meghan Elkins, O.D.
- Joy A Kerns, O.D.
- Rebecca Kline, O.D.
- Susie L. Lim, O.D.
- Amber Louprasong, O.D.
- David N. Lynne, O.D.
- Margaret Mannion, O.D.

The **Events Committee** is responsible for planning and overseeing all NAVAIO functions, including the annual NAVAIO Business Meeting, Reception, and Dinner.

Events Committee Members:

- Minna Huang, O.D. (Director of Events and Chair)
- David G. Storer, O.D. (Executive Committee Liaison)
- Katherine L. Wang, O.D.
- Nancy Wong, O.D., Ph.D.

The **Newsletter Committee** is responsible for maintaining a formal communications link with the membership and assists the Newsletter Editor with publishing the quarterly NAVAIO Newsletter.

Newsletter Committee:

- Dawn N. Tomasini, O.D. (Newsletter Editor and Chair)
- Brian S. Kawasaki, O.D., M.B.A. (Executive Committee Liaison)
- Paul Gruosso, O.D.
- Phillip K. Haiman, O.D.

- Michelle Chen Lynch, O.D.
- Joseph A. Pruitt, O.D.
- Melissa M. Walters, O.D.

The **Technology Committee** is responsible for communicating with the membership via online technology. The Committee will maintain the NAVA O website, make suggestions for its improvement or enhancement, and conduct events requiring technological support as directed by the Executive Committee.

- Kevin Mercado, O.D. (Director of Technology and Chair)
- Brian S. Kawasaki, O.D., M.B.A. (Executive Committee Liaison)
- Jason Powell, O.D.
- Danielle Weiler, O.D.
- Brett Zwolensky, O.D.

Member News

There are currently no member announcements.

Please email your announcements to our Newsletter Editor, Dr. Dawn Tomasini, at dawn.tomasini@navao.org.