

JACQUELINE C. WESTCOTT

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Education

- Doctor of Optometry** - *Fort Lauderdale, FL* *Aug. 2010 - May 2014*
- Nova Southeastern University College of Optometry
 - Passed NBEO Part I, Part II & TMOD, Part III and ISE
- Bachelor of Science in Visual Sciences** - *Fort Lauderdale, FL* *Aug. 2010 - May 2013*
- Nova Southeastern University College of Optometry
- Mini MBA Certificate** - *Fort Lauderdale, FL* *May 2013*
- Nova Southeastern University Huizenga Business School
- Bachelor of Science - Interdisciplinary Studies: Biochemistry & Molecular Biology** - *Gainesville, FL* *Aug. 2006 - May 2010*
- University of Florida College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
- Minor in Business Administration** - *Gainesville, FL* *Aug. 2006 - May 2010*
- University of Florida Warrington College of Business Administration

Fellowships

- Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry (FAAO)** *October 2015*
- Fellowship status achieved from clinical candidacy
- Applicant for Fellow of the College of Optometrists in Vision Development (FCOVD)** *In Process*
- Fellowship status achieved from clinical candidacy
- Applicant for Fellow of the Contact Lens Society of America (FCLSA)** *In Process*
- Fellowship status achieved from clinical candidacy
- Applicant for Fellow of the Scleral Lens Society** *In Process*
- Fellowship status achieved from clinical candidacy

Residency

- Residency in Ocular Disease** – *New York, NY* *July 2014 - July 2015*
- SUNY College of Optometry
**Fully Accredited by ACOE*
- Provided training and education necessary to deliver advanced ophthalmic care that meets the visual needs of a diverse population of patients having ocular disease (Hispanic, African American, European/Russian, Haitian, Caucasian, Asian)
 - Providing a full range of ophthalmic patient care services with emphasis in the differential diagnosis and treatment of ocular disease and visual pathway dysfunction.
 - Provided eye care in a hospital setting, co-manage refractive surgery patients and observe ocular surgical procedures: *WoodHull Hospital, Brooklyn, NY*
 - Acted as a member of a multi-disciplinary health care team and be responsible for appropriate utilization of facility resources and personnel.
 - Training was accomplished through direct patient care, overseeing third and fourth year students, seminars, grand rounds, and independent study.
 - Educational program within residency was administered in the form of case conferences and college sponsored program which includes workshops at SUNY Optometry and joint Grand Rounds with residents in other college affiliated programs/VA Hospitals throughout the year.
 - Teaching experience was gained within the clinic direct by delivering both minor and major presentations to other residents and selected faculty, as well as present seminars to the third and/or fourth year students.
 - Research experience was gained by working directly with the program supervisor and ocular disease faculty, conducting one's own publishable research, and actively participating as co-investigator/co-author for an on-going project or case study towards a paper of "publishable quality"
- Specialty Clinics/Rotations with Emphasis of Disease and Treatment*
- Anterior Segment Disease / Specialty Fit Contact Lens
 - Examine and treat patients in need of contact lenses for a variety of ocular conditions including:
 - Degenerative process (keratoconus, keratoglobus, pellucid marginal degeneration), post-operative conditions following surgery such as corneal transplant, refractive surgery, ocular trauma, pediatric aphakia, high myopia/ hyperopia/ astigmatism, corneal refractive therapy

(orthokeratology), cosmetic lenses due to scarring, prosthetic lenses for non-seeing eyes or after enucleation, patients who have been previous unsuccessful contact lens wearers

- Cataract
 - Including pre-operative, surgical, and post-operative management or co-management
 - Nuclear Sclerosis, cortical, subcapsular, senile cataract etc
- Cornea
 - Diagnosis and treatment for patients with challenging conditions affecting the anterior portion of the eye
 - Trauma/abrasions, keratoconjunctivitis, EBMD, Fuch's Dystrophy, Ocular Herpes (HSV, HZV), keratoconus, pellucids marginal degeneration, pterygium, DES/SJS
- Dry Eye
 - Diagnosis and management of ocular surface disease
 - Aqueous Deficient, Meibomian Gland Dysfunction, Inflammatory, SJS
 - Diagnostic Tests: Schirmer Test, Phenol Red, Lissamine Green, InflammADry
- Glaucoma
 - Complete diagnostic and treatment services for patients with glaucoma.
 - Managed care with imaging (VF/photos/OCT), medications (drops/orals), appropriate surgical consults for LPI, SLT/ALT, trabeculectomy etc
- Hereditary Eye Disease
 - Diagnosis and management of patients with hereditary retinal and optic nerve diseases.
 - Retinitis Pigmentosa, Leber's Congenital Amaurosis, Lebers Congenital optic neuropathy, Stargardts, Rod Cone / Cone dystrophies, Usher disease, etc
 - Diagnostic Tests: Ultrawide field Autofluorescence, VEP/ERG when indicated
- Imaging/Electro-diagnostics
 - VEP, ERG, and EOG testing and interpretation with the latest diagnostic equipment.
- Neuro-Ocular Disease
 - Management of conditions affecting the optic nerves, muscle, and visual pathway alongside a neuro-ophthalmologist
 - Traumatic / Post-neurosurgical cases, optic neuropathies, orbital mass/tumor, cranial nerve palsies, autoimmune conditions (Multiple sclerosis, Grave's, myasthenia gravis etc)
 - Diagnostic Tests (ordered and interpretation): vascular studies, CT/MRI, Color Doppler flow imaging, fluorescein angiography
- Oculoplastics
 - Diagnostic and treatment services for conditions affecting the lids and orbit.
 - Basal cell carcinoma, squamous cell carcinoma, actinic keratosis, malignant melanoma, nevi, papillomas, chalazion, epiphora, dermatochalasis, pterygium/pinguecula etc
- Primary care
 - Clinic provided opportunity to advance in all aspects of Primary Care rendered to a diverse patient population; diagnose, treat and manage a wide variety of visual system problems, including ocular diseases, and ocular manifestations of systemic diseases.
 - A broad based patient population and age range, with sufficient numbers of encounters to supply a wide variety of conditions
- Retina
 - Diagnostic and treatment services for conditions of the vitreous and retina.
 - Age related macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, macular hole/pucker/epiretinal membrane, ocular malignancies, degenerative myopia, retinal detachment/tears/-schisis, systemic conditions etc
- Woodhull Hospital (*6 months of Residency program*)
 - Experience of inner city acute care hospital setting
 - Provided primary eye care and disease management to both ambulatory clinic patients and in-patients, ranging in age from new-borns to the elderly; direct interaction between all aspects of medical and mental health care with interaction of medical providers from other disciplines.
 - Patient flow was high volume daily and a very diverse population, most non-English speaking
 - Majority of patients have multiple medical problems (ocular and systemic)
 - Rotation yielded heavy emphasis on ocular diseases such as glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy and ocular trauma; exposure to surgical co-management including pre- and post-operative care of cataract extraction, pterygium excision, and laser peripheral iridotomy.
 - Worked with retina specialist once a week (60+ patients) as well as observe retinal laser treatments and fluorescein angiographies.
- Observations

- Pediatrics - opted to shadow in the pediatric clinic for 2 months on day off; discussed patients care, diagnosis, and treatment/management options with attending optometrist
- TLC Laser Eye Centers – observe corneal procedures, pre/post op care and business aspect of center.

Clinical Rotations

- NSU The Eye Institute – Primary Care - North Miami Beach, FL** *Feb. - May 2014*
- Administered eye exams to a largely diverse community presenting with an array of ocular conditions requiring extensive co-management.
 - Gained experience in contact lenses, pediatrics, low vision service.
 - Provided journal reviews, lectures and PowerPoint presentations.
- NSU The Eye Institute – Lighthouse of Broward Low Vision Clinic - Fort Lauderdale, FL** *Feb. - May 2014*
- Administered comprehensive eye exams including specific prescriptions as needed, assistance in obtaining devices when possible, and referral for follow-up training by Lighthouse of Broward professional staff.
 - Diverse patient population in specialized needs, requiring rehabilitation, and collaborative healthcare solutions that enhance the independence, productivity, and dignity of children and adults who are blind or visually impaired.
- NSU The Eye Institute – Pediatric Optometry and Vision Therapy Service - Davie, FL** *Dec. - Feb. 2014*
- Rotation encompassed clinical and didactic training in binocular vision, learning disabilities, and pediatric optometry; worked with faculty doctors to develop skills in evaluation, assessment and treatment of pediatric and binocular vision anomalies.
 - Managed infants, toddlers, and patients with visual efficiency (accommodative, binocular, and oculo-motor) deficits, which required secondary level intervention. Also, patients with strabismus, amblyopia, visually related traumatic brain injury deficits, and those with learning disorders were evaluated.
 - Application of principles including orthoptics, pleoptics, visual therapy, and perceptual therapy.
 - Participated in community screenings of children and adults for vision deficits in medical setting and follow-up in their secondary eye care.
 - Rotation enhanced with case analysis, journal reviews, and seminars related to evaluation and management of pediatric patients.
- NSU The Eye Institute – Contact Lens Service - Davie, FL** *Oct. -Dec. 2013*
- Rotation that provided preparation to be highly effective in contact lens care with a broad knowledge base of the complete range of contact lens implications and uses.
 - CL examinations: comprehensive, follow up, and fits.
 - Pursued scholarly activities such as journal review in field of cornea and contact lens, presentations to peers, papers, external surgical centers for observation of refractive surgical procedures and/or pre and post-op evaluations, and Industry “Lunch & Learns” weekly.
 - Practiced management education afforded via the “house officer” position in which one participates in CL ordering and check in, reviewing CL and medical supply inventories, assigning patients to fellow clinicians, confirming appointments and fielding incoming phone calls, and examining patients.
 - Other skills perfected include corneal topography with interpretation, GP lens design, verification and modification, dry eye testing with Zone Quick (Phenol Red) and Lissamine Green.
 - Evaluations occurred weekly and one had to undergo an entrance and exit exam to assess competency.
- Braverman Eye Center – Multidisciplinary / Disease Rotation (OD/MD) - Hallandale Beach, FL** *Aug. - Oct. 2013*
- An Eye Center that provides primary, secondary, and tertiary ophthalmic care for patients.
 - Externs underwent training and education in clinical diagnosis, treatment, and management of eye diseases first hand.
 - Participated in preop and postop care for cataracts, glaucoma and refractive surgery, as well as observation of various surgeries.
 - Weekly lectures were given on topics of anterior segment, posterior segment, pre/post op care, neurology etc.
 - Shadowed (general practice and surgical/operating room) ophthalmologists specializing in areas of neuro-ophthalmology, cataracts, glaucoma, oculoplastics, cornea, and retina
- South Florida Vision – Private Practice, Multi-Office Primary Care - Fort Lauderdale, FL** *May - Aug. 2013*
- Private practice, multi-office primary optometric care
 - Emphasis on primary care, treatment, contacts, & ophthalmic optics.
 - Gained experience by participating in direct patient care, honing chair and diagnostic skills, developing patient examination, assessment, and treatment/management plan
 - Consulted with attending doctor as needed
- NSU Advanced Care Diabetic and Macular Degeneration Service - Davie, FL** *Dec. - Feb. 2013*
- Performed direct care on patients referred within the community and across the United States for specialty care in diabetic and macular disease.
- The Eye Care Institute at KIDs in Distress - Fort Lauderdale, FL** *Aug. - Dec. 2012*

- Eye Care Institute at KID, supported by the NSU College of Optometry, provides comprehensive eye care using state-of-the-art technology.
- The institute offers services including cornea and contact lens care, pediatric and binocular vision, low vision rehabilitation, neuro-optometric vision, and is a center for advanced care and special testing for ocular diseases like glaucoma, diabetes, and macular disease.
- This site allows one to gain more tailored experience in pediatrics and binocular vision while management in primary care.

NSU The Eye Institute – Primary Care - Davie, FL

May - Aug. 2012

- Administered eye exams to a largely diverse community presenting with an array of ocular conditions requiring extensive co-management while working closely with the Doctors and Residents staffed at Nova.

Employment

Visionary Eye Center - Jupiter, FL

September 2019- Present

- Owner and CEO of Visionary Eye Center(s) as well as servicing provider. Optometrist & Medical care, Retail & Optical, Aesthetics Division. Servicing patients spanning all ages including pediatrics, offering comprehensive exam, contact lens fits, binocular/ sports/ vision therapy vision as well as ocular health related disease (glaucoma etc)

Jupiter Rehabilitation and Healthcare Center (SightRite) - Jupiter, FL

July 2018 - Present

- Bedside based comprehensive examination with refraction, measurement and glasses fitting as well as triaging all eye related diseases, treatment and management

Advanced Vision Care - Jupiter, FL

July 2015 - Present

- Part time optometrist; primary care office seeing patients spanning all ages including pediatrics, offering comprehensive exam, contact lens fits (monovision, spherical, torics, multifocal etc), basic binocular vision therapy and follow up care.

T. Campen MD and Associates (Stanton & My Eye Lab Optical) - Jupiter, FL and various SoFl locations

July 2015 - Present

- Part time optometrist; primary care office seeing patients spanning all ages including pediatrics, offering comprehensive exam and contact lens fits

Florida Eye Group - Jupiter, FL

Aug 2015 - Sept 2016

- Part time optometrist within ophthalmology practice partaking in all levels of medical based care. Instituted contact lens practice with wide scope from routine soft lens to speciality fits.

Eyeland Inc. - New York, NY

Aug. 2014 - June 2015

- Part time optometrist; primary care office seeing patients spanning all ages including pediatrics, offering comprehensive exam, contact lens fits (monovision, spherical, torics, multifocal etc), basic binocular vision therapy and follow up care.

SUNY College of Optometry - New York, NY

July 2014 - Present

- Assistant Clinical Instructor (*see Residency*)

DECOModels, Inc - Miami, FL

June 2011 - Present

- *Model:* Bookings for print, editorial, lifestyle, fitness, and fit work
- Fashion shows – runway and direct booking

POSCHE MODELS International - Fort Lauderdale, FL; Miami, FL

June 2012 - Present

- *Model:* Bookings for print, editorial, lifestyle, fitness, and fit work
- Fashion shows – runway and direct booking

VASHON MODELS, Inc. - Miami, FL

Mar 2013 - Present

- *Model:* Bookings for print, editorial, lifestyle, fitness, and fit work
- Fashion shows – runway and direct booking

McKnight Brain Institute Lab Manager - Gainesville, FL

May - July 2010

- Managed a lab that did research in two primary areas under direction of Collin Sumners PhD.
 - The role of angiotensin II in the brain in the neural control of blood pressure and neurogenic hypertension.
 - Cerebroprotective actions of components of the renin angiotensin system.

Optometric Clinical Skills

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| ● Retinoscopy | ● Binocular Indirect Ophthalmoscopy |
| ● Lensometry | ● Slit Lamp |
| ● Tonometry (TAP, Perkins, ICare, AccuPen etc) | ● Dilated and Undilated 90D /60D DFE |
| ● Gonioscopy | ● Blood Pressure |

Use and Interpretation of:

- Autorefractor (MARCO, TOPCON)
- Contrast Sensitivity Test (Pelli-Robinson and sine-wave gratings)
- Feinbloom and EDTRS VA chart (Low Vision)
- Visual Fields
 - Humphrey Analyzer
 - Full field 120 point screening test
 - Central 24-2 SS/SF
 - Central 30-2
 - Central 10-2
 - OCTOPUS Haag-Streit
 - G - Physiological glaucoma test
 - M - Physiological macular test 5° / 12° / 30°
- Spectral Domain OCT (Cirrus/ Optovue)
- The Heidelberg Retinal Tomographer 3 (HRT 3)
- Visual Evoked Potential (VEP)
- Electroretinogram (ERG)
 - Diopsy
- Pachymetry
- A and B scan Ultrasonography
- Fluorescein Angiography
- Digital Anterior and Posterior Photography
- Ultrasound Biomicroscopy (UBM)
- Laser Interferometry / Potential acuity meter (PAM)
- Brightness Acuity Test (BAT)
- Corneal Topography (Orbscan)
- Optical Biometry IOL Master
- GDx (Glaucoma Diagnosis) VCC (Variable Corneal Compensation)
- Specular Endothelial Micrography

Licenses

- New York: TUV008117
- Florida: OPC 4912

Certifications

- Orthokeratology (CRT)
- CPR (Adult and child)
- Certification to Prescribe Oral Ocular Medications in state of FL

Languages

- English
- Experience in Spanish directed optometric examinations

Electronic Medical Records / Computer Software

- Officemate EMR
- NextGen EMR
- Quadramed EMR
- Allscripts EMR
- Crystal PM EMR
- Practice Director EMR
- Medflow EMR

Honors / Awards

Delta Epsilon Iota Academic Honor Society – Graduate Level

- Invitation only Honor Society based on academic excellence in graduate program at NOVA Southeastern University

National Society of Collegiate Scholars

- Invitation only Society based on academic excellence among peers at the collegic level

Dean's List: Fall 2006, GPA 4.0 - University of Florida

- Maintained a GPA average of 4.0 for semester

Bright Futures Academic Scholar: complete tuition funding

- An academic scholarship granted to students whose SAT/ACT scores met said requirements
- Scores were in top percentile, for which I received 100% tuition coverage towards a Florida University of my choosing

Golden Key National Honor Society

- Academic Honor Society by invitation only and applies to the top 15% of college and university sophomores, juniors and seniors, as well as top-performing graduate students in all fields of study, based solely on their academic achievements

Bronze Congressional Award Medal (2002)

- The Congressional Award is the United States Congress' award for young Americans
- Each level involves setting goals in four program areas: Volunteer Public Service, Personal Development, Physical Fitness, and Expedition/Exploration
- Honored for achieving your own challenging goals after registering for the program.
- Bronze Medal Requirements:
 - Voluntary service -100 hours
 - Personal development - 50 hours (taught myself to play guitar)
 - Physical Fitness -50 hours (participated in team sports – swimming, softball, basketball, volleyball)
 - Expedition/Exploration -1 night / 2 days (camping expedition)

Academic Presentations / Posters / Papers

Bass, S., Westcott, J., Jerome, S. Oct 2016. OCT in a Myelinated Retinal Nerve Fiber Syndrome With Reduced Vision. Optometry and Vision Science VOL. 93, NO. 10, PP. 00Y00

Oct 2016

- **ABSTRACT: Purpose.** The prognosis of success with vision therapy in refractive “amblyopia” associated with the syndrome of myelinated nerve fibers (MRNF), optic disc hypoplasia, and myopia is reported to be poorer than that of anisomyopic amblyopia without these features. The reason for the poorer prognosis has not been well understood. The purpose of this study was to perform spectral domain (SD) ocular coherence tomography (OCT) to determine if there is a structural etiology that may explain the poorer prognosis. **Case Reports:** Case 1 was a 12-year-old male patient with anisometropic “amblyopia” in the right eye, MRNF denser superiorly, a hypoplastic disc, and a myopic fundus with a flat intact macula. The OCT demonstrated an attenuated photoreceptor integrity line (PIL) in the macula. Case 2 was a 10-year-old male patient with a constant left esotropia, MRNF denser superiorly, a hypoplastic disc, and a myopic fundus with a flat intact macula. The OCT demonstrated an absent PIL. Case 3 was a 58-year-old female patient with a history of diabetic retinopathy OU, long-standing reduced vision in the right eye, MRNF denser superiorly, optic nerve hypoplasia, and a myopic fundus with an intact macula. The OCT demonstrated an absent PIL in the macula. **Conclusions:** This series identifies three patients with this syndrome of MRNF, optic nerve hypoplasia, and anisomyopia in one eye with reduced vision and reports OCT findings using SD-OCT systems. All three patients demonstrated an absence or attenuation of the photoreceptor integrity line (PIL) in the macula in the affected eye. To our knowledge, there is no known association between this syndrome and abnormality of the PIL reported in the literature. Patients with this syndrome may have a guarded prognosis in the success of vision therapy. **Key words:** myelinated nerve fibers, optic disc hypoplasia, myopia, OCT, anisomyopia, anisometropia, amblyopia

“Clinical Findings and Management of Pseudophakic Cystoid Macular Edema (Irvine-Gass Syndrome) with Uncontrolled Advanced Primary Open Angle Glaucoma”

May 2015

- **ABSTRACT:** Pseudophakic Cystoid Macular edema (Irvine-gass syndrome) is a rare complication that can occur status post cataract extraction, with potential to have irreversible reduction patient with visual acuity who are afflicted. This case report outlines diagnosis, treatment and management for this condition in conjunction with comorbidity of advanced primary open angle glaucoma.

Key words: Pseudophakic cystoid macular edema, Irvine-Gass syndrome, non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, advanced primary open angle glaucoma, latanoprost

“Clinical Findings, Management, and Implications of Familial/ Early Onset Drusen of the Cuticular Classification”

June 2015

- **ABSTRACT:** Early onset drusen is an umbrella term representing three different clinical subtypes: large colloid drusen (LCD), malattia leventinese (ML), and cuticular drusen (CD). These subtypes have an earlier age of onset, a stronger familial component, and some genetic factors that play a prominent role in their development compared to the general sporadic AMD population. These conditions affect the retina, presenting with straightforward diagnostic profile, based on patient demographics, symptoms, and clinical findings via biomicroscopy, fundus photography, Spectral-Domain optical coherence tomography (SD-OCT), and fluorescein angiography. Unfortunately, many optometric practitioners are unfamiliar with the notable findings between each type, and thus, how to appropriately diagnose and manage said conditions. This case report reviews testing, and interpretation, diagnosis, and management of cuticular drusen, while discussing clinical findings and treatment options as they relate to the case presented.

Key Words: Familial autosomal dominant drusen, basilar laminar drusen, early onset drusen, age related macular degeneration, large colloid drusen, malattia leventinese, cuticular drusen

“Effects of Ocular Supplementation”

March 2015

- Cope approved continuing education 1-hour credit lecture that was researched, prepared, and delivered at SUNY College of Optometry to local optometrists, residents, and students
- Topics: primary eye care and nutrition, glycemic index, vitamin D, omega 3 and 6, Vitamin A, antioxidants, genetics
 - Lecture was re-vamped and delivered as a 2-hour course to 3 and 4th year optometry students at SUNY College of Optometry covering how to address

nutrition in regards to patient education and planning.

“Retinochoroditis Secondary to Active Toxoplasmosis: A Case Report” (Poster)

November 2014

- *ABSTRACT:* Toxoplasmosis presents with a straightforward diagnostic profile based on patient demographics, symptoms, and clinical findings. This case report reviews the presentation, treatment and management of patients with toxoplasmosis, discussing common and rare clinical findings. Presented at American Academy of Optometry annual meeting in Denver, CO.

“Syndrome of Myelinated Retinal Nerve Fiber, Optic Nerve Head Hypoplasia, & High Myopia with Amblyopia: A Novel Case Series Redefining Prognostic Factors”

November 2014

- 20 minute lecture researched, prepared, and delivered at SUNY College of Optometry to residents as part of the Friday educational programs offered to all residents. The presentation covered background of the syndrome, its pathophysiology, current theories as to why patients have a poor visual prognosis post-therapy, review of 3 cases, and the key clinical findings and clinical implications

“Partial Oculocutaneous Albinism: Foveal Hypoplasia”

January 2014

- Case presentation and overview on albinism, ocular and oculocutaneous. Description, pathophysiology, differentials, case diagnosis, management, and treatment of patient encounter reviewed.

“Unknown Keratocone: Obscuration of KC secondary to Flat Fitting RGP”

November 2013

- Case presentation and overview of Keratoconus, interpretation of topography, background and pathophysiology, differentials, diagnosis, management and treatment of patient encounter.

“Idiopathic Juxtafoveal Retinal Telangiectasia”

March 2012

- Case presentation and overview of IJRT: description, pathophysiology, differentials, case diagnosis, management, and treatment of 2 patient encounters reviewed.

“Swimming, the New Contact Sport: Are You Protected?”

April 2012

Field Research, Analysis & Poster:

- A presentation designed to educate swim team members on the potential damage their sport could have on their eyes and sense of vision. The project's objective was to increase awareness about potential hazardous conditions as it pertains to UV damage and contact lens wear in the Nova Southeastern University Sharks Swimming and Diving Team by 40% or more on February 23, 2012 by comparing results from surveys given before and after a brief educational presentation. Swimming poses many problems to the health of the eye, the main issues being contact lenses (they are not designed for swimming, not protective against microbes or chemicals, and chlorine is absorbed into them), corneal edema, corneal erosions, and UV related damage (cataracts, pingueculae, pterygiums, cancers, and macular degeneration). By providing the information to the swim team, we were able to increase their awareness and consciousness of their daily habits pertaining to preventative and protective care for their eyes.

“Effects of Time since Fire and Elevation on Soil and Plant Nutrients in Florida Scrub.”

February 2009

Interdisciplinary Studies - University of Florida College of Liberal Arts and Sciences

Field Research, study/analysis, published paper, poster & presentation at 2 symposiums

University of Florida Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium 2009

South-eastern Ecology and Evolution Conference

- *ABSTRACT:* Fire may have different effects on the relative availability of nitrogen (N) and phosphorus (P) because N volatilization occurs at lower temperatures than P volatilization, and fire-mediated changes in soil nutrient availability may affect foliar nutrient concentrations. We assessed the short-term effects of fire on soil and plant nutrients and ^{15}N isotopic signatures in a palmetto flatwoods ecosystem in central Florida. Fire caused a short-term increase in extractable ammonium (NH_4^+) and phosphate (PO_4^{3-}). The increase in PO_4^{3-} was greater than the increase in NH_4^+ , resulting in a decrease in the soil extractable N:P ratio shortly after fire. Similarly, foliar %P of the palmetto *Serenoa repens* (W. Bartram) Small increased more than foliar %N, resulting in a decrease in foliar N:P ratios shortly after fire. Soil ^{15}N and the difference between foliar and soil ^{15}N did not vary with time since fire; however, foliar ^{15}N of *S. repens* decreased after fire. Foliar %N of *Quercus geminata* Small and ericaceous shrubs was positively correlated with soil extractable inorganic N, while foliar %P of *S. repens* was positively correlated with soil extractable PO_4^{3-} . Variation in foliar ^{15}N after fire and the positive relationship between soil and foliar nutrients suggest that both increased soil nutrient availability and reallocation of nutrients from below- to aboveground can be important for plant nutrient status after fire in palmetto flatwoods.

Volunteer Activities / Community Service

Run for the Pies - Jupiter, FL

November 2015

- Charity Run to raise funds/ food for Thanksgiving Holiday

Special Olympics – Miami, FL

April 2014

- Performed free eye care to Florida's Special Olympics Athletes,
- Participated in screening SLE, NCT, VA, Retinoscopy etc

Covenant House Florida 4th Annual 5K on A1A - Fort Lauderdale, FL

May 2013

Optometric Legislative Day - Tallahassee, FL

April 2013

Inaugural Merrill Lynch Bull Run 5k - Fort Lauderdale, FL

Nov 2012

Special Olympics "Opening Eyes" - Orlando, FL

April 2012

- Performed free eye care to Florida's Special Olympics Athletes, serving 467 patients. Distributed glasses, sunglasses, sports goggles and medications

Yoga for the Blind Volunteer - Fort Lauderdale, FL

July & Aug. 2012

- Assisted visually impaired patient in getting into and maintaining correct yoga poses.

Dr. Marciano's Literature Walk - West Palm Beach, FL

Aug. 2010

- Distributed flyers to support Dr. Marciano for an influential legislative position

Shands Medical Plaza Eye Center - Gainesville, FL

May - July 2009

- Volunteer work included charting, billing, phone assistance, patient intake/discharge, assisting staff, and office up keep. If not needed in front, was able to shadow doctors and follow through with patient care; gained insight into Optometry and Ophthalmology

Associations

Post Grad Career

- Ocular Nutrition Society (ONS)
- College of Optometrists in Vision Development (COVD)
- Women In Optometry
- American Optometric Association (AOA)
- Palm Beach County Optometric Association
- Florida Optometric Association

Nova Southeastern University – College of Optometry

- Florida Optometric Student Association (FOSA)
- Nova Optometric Practice Management Association (NOPMA)
- American Student Optometric Association (ASOA)
- Nova Optometric Student Association for Ocular Disease (OSAOD)
- Student Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity (SVOSH)
- Ocular Nutrition Society (ONS)
- Nova Southeastern University Masters Swim Team (2012 – present)

University of Florida

- American Medical Student Organization (AMSA)
- American Medical Student Organization (AMSA) - Women committee
- American Premedical Women's Association (APWA)
- Student Global Aid's Campaign (SGAC)
- Pre-optometry pupil club (POP)
- Golden Key National Honour Society
- National Society of Collegiate Scholars

References

Dr. Amir Cukierman

- *Position:* Owner of Advance Vision Care
- *Relationship:* Employee
- *Contact Information:*
 - (w) 954.850.1454
 - Email: eyemer2@yahoo.com

Dr. Scott Richter

- *Position:* Attending Physician at SUNY State College of Optometry, University Eye Center
- *Relationship:* Professor/Attending / Clinical Attending in Ocular Disease
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 - (w) 212.938.5864
 - Email: srichter@sunyopt.edu

Dr. Sherry Bass

- *Position:* Attending Physician at SUNY State College of Optometry, University Eye Center
- *Relationship:* Professor/Attending / Residency Supervisor in Ocular Disease
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Dr. Joe Pizzmenti

- *Position:* Attending Physician at NOVA Southeastern College of Optometry, Eye Care Institute
- *Relationship:* Professor/Attending ; Primary care and Diabetic and Macular Degeneration Service
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Dr. Diana Shechtman

- *Position:* Attending Physician at NOVA Southeastern College of Optometry, Eye Care Institute
- *Relationship:* Professor/Attending ; Primary care and Diabetic and Macular Degeneration Service
- *Contact Information:*
 - (w) 954.262.1827