FACULTY & STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

Deborah Ferrington, PhD, presented “Evidence for mitochondrial dysfunction in AMD pathology” on February 6 at the Angiogenesis, Exudative and Degeneration Meeting in Miami, Florida.

Michael Lee, MD, Sandra Montezuma, MD, Joshua Olson, MD, Lori van der Merwe, Erik van Kuijk, MD, PhD, attended the Association of University Professors of Ophthalmology (AUPO) 50th Anniversary Annual Meeting in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, January 28-30, 2016.

Sandra Montezuma, MD, presented on ARGUS II to MN Lions at the District 5M-2 meeting in Mankato, MN on February 13.

KNOBLOCH VISITING PROFESSOR

Brian P. Brooks, MD, PhD, (pictured, right), chief of Ophthalmic Genetics & Visual Function Branch at the National Eye Institute (NEI), National Institutes of Health (NIH) will serve as the 2016 Knobloch Visiting Professor, March 18-19.

Brooks graduated summa cum laude in biochemistry from the University of Maryland and with honors in both MD and PhD degrees from the University of Pennsylvania. Following medical school, he completed his ophthalmology residency at the University of Michigan, where he was chief resident. In 2002, Dr. Brooks became an NEI employee and trained in medical genetics at the National Human Genome Research Institute, NIH. He is one of a few physicians board certified both in ophthalmology and clinical genetics.

Dr. Brooks has a strong clinical and research interest in inherited eye diseases, particularly those affecting children. Currently at the NEI, he is conducting research on understanding the genetics of a potentially blinding eye malformation called coloboma. Recently, Brooks and his laboratory team have identified several genes related to the developmental process of optic fissure closure, which causes coloboma.

Please see page two for a full schedule of events and information on how to RSVP.

PUBLICATIONS


UPCOMING EVENT - SAVE THE DATE

2016 Knobloch Visiting Professor Schedule
Brian P. Brooks, MD, PhD
March 18-19, 2016

Friday, March 18
McCannel Conference Room
420 Delaware St. SE - PWB 9-939
Minneapolis, MN 55455

2:00 pm Real Life Case Presentations
Resident Exchange with Dr. Brooks
Case Presentations

3:30 pm Cases and Questions in Ophthalmic Genetics
Brian P. Brooks, MD, PhD

In conjunction with the MN Academy of Ophthalmology
Town & Country Club
300 N. Mississippi River Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55104

6:00 pm Social Hour & Dinner

8:00 pm How Ophthalmic Genetics Can (and will) Make a Difference in Your Patient’s Lives
Brian P. Brooks, MD, PhD

Saturday, March 19
McNamara Alumni Center
A.I. Johnson Great Room
200 SE Oak St.
Minneapolis, MN 55414

8:00 am Welcome and Retina Service Updates
Erik van Kuijk, MD, PhD

8:15-8:45 am Historic Overview
J. Douglas Cameron, MD, MBA

8:45-9:15 am Endangered Species
Herb Cantrill, MD

9:15-10:30 am Case Presentations
Retina Specialists

10:30 am Break

11:00 am Knobloch Visiting Professor Lecture
Dr. Knobloch and the Third Age of Ophthalmic Genetics
Brian P. Brooks, MD, PhD

12:00 pm Adjourn

RSVP/Questions: Lori van der Merwe: vanderme@umn.edu

UPCOMING EVENT - SAVE THE DATE

Visionary Awards Dinner
DINING IN THE DARK
Benefitting The Foundation Fighting Blindness

Tuesday, May 24, 2016
Reception, 5:30-7:00 pm
Dinner & Awards, 7:00-9:00 pm

Hilton Minneapolis
1001 Marquette Avenue
Minneapolis, MN 55403

Honoring: The Department Of Ophthalmology & Visual Neurosciences, University Of Minnesota

Dinner Chair: Julie Anderson
Honorary Chair: Mark Valenziano

We invite you to participate in a unique dining experience, the 5th Annual Twin Cities Visionary Awards Dinner, Dining in the Dark. Join us as we present the Visionary Award to the University of Minnesota Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Neurosciences. Dr. Erik van Kuijk, professor and chair, will accept the Visionary Award, recognizing the department’s outstanding contributions in retinal disease research and its support.

For tickets and sponsorship information, contact Lori Quinn at (847) 680-0100 or LQuinn@FightBlindness.org

Pictured, Minnesota Lions Vision Foundation Chair Dave Moen signing the first check for the Minnesota Lions Eye Surgery Center. WAITING ON CHUCK FOR MORE INFO.