FACULTY & STAFF HIGHLIGHTS

The Department of Ophthalmology at Washington University in St. Louis invited Michael S Lee, MD, to serve as a visiting professor on January 17, 2018. Dr. Lee also gave an invited talk to the St. Louis Ophthalmology Society on January 18, 2018.

Sandra Montezuma, MD, proctored the first Argus II surgery at the Memorial Hermann Clinical Innovation & Research Institute in Houston.

PUBLICATIONS


RESIDENCY MATCH RESULTS

The University of Minnesota, Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Neurosciences is pleased to announce this year’s Ophthalmology Residency Match Results.

Incoming Residents: 2019 - 2022

Tayaba Azher
Medical School: St. Louis University

James Kohler
Medical School: University of Minnesota

Erik Kulenkamp
Medical School: University of Chicago

Rusdeep Mundae
Medical School: St. Louis University

Lydia Zhou
Medical School: Chicago Medical School
**MN LIONS EYE BANK NAME CHANGE**

**Minnesota Lions Eye Bank is now Lions Gift of Sight**

As of January 1, the Minnesota Lions Eye Bank is now operating as Lions Gift of Sight! Several compelling reasons brought Executive Director, Raylene Streed, and Department Chair, Erik van Kuijk, MD, PhD, to the name change decision, including the following:

- The eye bank serves a large area that is outside of Minnesota, and a name that is not state-specific will be more readily accepted in these areas.
- Staff have often faced misunderstanding from the public who hear the word “bank” and assume the work is financial.
- As eye banks diversify, their services to surgeons include resources that do not fall under traditional “eye banking.”
- Many eye banks and other tissue recovery organizations around the country are consolidating and expanding across state lines. Having a more versatile name will allow Minnesota Lions Eye Bank/Lions Gift of Sight to compete and grow.

The MD5M Lions Council of Governors, the Minnesota Lions Vision Foundation, and the University of Minnesota have all endorsed the name change. Please join the Lions Gift of Sight staff in celebrating the new name and the new year!

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**SIGHTFIRST GRANT IN UGANDA**

Tu Tran, a medical student at the University of Minnesota, helped the Mbarara Region Referral Hospital Eye Center in Uganda obtain a $320,000 SightFirst research grant by the International Lions for research in Diabetic Retinopathy. The project is titled “Diabetic Retinopathy Screening and Treatment in Southwest Uganda”.

Tu has worked on several different projects in Uganda. Another project, where he is mentored by David Boulware, MD, MPH, and Sandra Montezuma, MD, has also received grant support.

Tu’s achievement will serve as a bridge between the two institutions - Mbarara Region Referral Hospital Eye Center (MURHEC) and the University of Minnesota’s Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Neurosciences, furthering collaborations in research and hopefully leading to the first vitreoretinal camp in Uganda.

One of the goals of this team is to bring about participation of one retina faculty member and one retina fellow from the University of Minnesota’s Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Neurosciences in this vitreoretinal camp by next year. Tu will continue working towards these goals and will continue traveling to Uganda for his research.

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**ACGME ACCREDITATION**

The Review Committee commended the program for its demonstrated substantial compliance with the ACGME’s Program Requirements and/or Institutional Requirements without any new citations.

**Status:** Continued Accreditation

**Maximum Number of Residents:** 15

**Residents per Level:** 5 - 5 - 5

**Effective Date:** 01/04/2018

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**SAVE THE DATE**

**7TH ANNUAL SPRING VISION RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM & POSTER SESSION**

**Friday, April 20, 2018**

McNamara Alumni Center

January Sparrow, PhD  
Anthony Dorn Professor of Ophthalmic Sciences  
Department of Pathology and Cell Biology  
Columbia University

Paul Bernstein, MD, PhD  
Professor of Ophthalmology  
Moran Eye Center, University of Utah

Deborah Ferrington, PhD  
Professor  
Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Neurosciences  
University of Minnesota

Anshul Gupta, MS  
Researcher  
Department of Ophthalmology & Visual Neurosciences  
University of Minnesota

Program details coming soon.

Please RSVP and submit a poster at:  
https://z.umn.edu/2018SVRS