# THE FUTURE OF

ISSUE 2021

University of California, San Francisco | Department of Ophthalmology | Francis I. Proctor Foundation | That Man May See

## A Dream Realized Inside UCSF Ophthalmology's New Home

#### **Making It Official**

After nearly a decade – from the initial plans to bring the Department of Ophthalmology and the Francis I. Proctor Foundation together on the Mission Bay Campus to the recent completion of the new core facility – the Wayne and Gladys Valley Center for Vision is making an impact.

The Center, which, along with research, teaching, surgical, and administration facilites, houses the world-class Koret and Proctor Foundation clinics, began to see patients in the new Mission Bay location in October 2020. Due to COVID-19, stringent safety guidelines were implemented and the official virtual Opening Celebration was delayed until February 18, 2021.

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#### FOCAL POINT

#### Dear Friends,

Thank you to the many UCSF leaders, donors, That Man May See board, staff, and friends who gathered virtually on February 18, 2021 to celebrate the opening of our new Wayne and Gladys Valley Center for Vision.

We are profoundly grateful to the Wayne and Gladys Valley Foundation, the Koret Foundation, and our loyal donors who allowed construction of this state-of-the-art facility.

The Center sets a new standard for vision care and research. It brings together the remarkable work of clinician educators and scientists who advance treatment for patient care, research, and education aimed at overcoming visual impairment and blindness, here and around the world.

We also express our deep appreciation to the board and staff of That Man May See, the public charitable organization that supports UCSF Ophthalmology, which led our Future of Vision campaign, resulting in unprecedented philanthropic support.

Thank you all for your generosity and we look forward to welcoming you to the Wayne and Gladys Valley Center for Vision soon.

Sincerely,

**Stephen D. McLeod, MD** Theresa M. and Wayne M. Caygill, MD, Distinguished Professor and Chair

#### Continued from page 1

"Our new center provides the platform for continually advancing ophthalmology, further transforming the field, empowering UCSF leaders, researchers, clinicians, residents, fellows, and students to tackle enormous challenges ahead through innovation and collaboration that Mission Bay colleagues inspire," said Kathleen Rydar, President Emerita of That Man May See.

UCSF Chancellor Sam Hawgood, MBBS,

acknowledged the Wayne and Gladys Valley Foundation "for its generosity and foresight in the creation of this building, which will help to advance the groundbreaking work of all those who call it home. Your tireless commitment to improving vision treatments and care for all those in our communities is nothing short of inspiring."

Dr. Hawgood went on to recognize Department Chair Stephen McLeod, MD, for "his remarkable leadership of the Department of Ophthalmology, as well as all of the faculty and staff, whose work every single day impacts the lives of our patients and their families. They embody our commitment, redefining possible with their passion and dedication to improving vision and eye health for all. [...] I would like to thank the many leaders on our faculty, staff, and the UCSF Capital Projects team for their important role in the planning, design, and construction of this building and the dedicated team at That Man May See for their partnership and commitment to this project. Each of you has helped to make possible this transformational facility which holds tremendous promise for discovery and for healing countless patients in our care."

Additional recognition goes to the contributions of UCSF Events Director Mary Hoffman; UCSF Events Manager Liz Purdy; Vice President of the UCSF Foundation and UCSF Vice Chancellor of University Development and Alumni Relations Jennifer Arnett; and the Board of Directors of That Man May See.



The Wayne and Gladys Valley Center for Vision; an exam room; the Joan and David Traitel Lounge; the Tom and Yvonne Mazzocco Surgical Laboratory.

#### **Under One Roof**

For many years, UCSF eye care programs were in multiple locations throughout San Francisco. Now research scientists and physicians across a wide spectrum of vision- and eye-related disciplines have been brought together at UCSF's Mission Bay campus with many more to follow. This will facilitate coordinated patient care and extend the boundaries of scientific discovery.

"The Wayne and Gladys Valley Center for Vision supports instrumental collaboration between some of the \*\* The cutting-edge research that will be accomplished here and the care our experts provide will impact the quality of life for countless individuals of all ages for years to come...??

Deborah Chesky, That Man May See President

most brilliant minds combating visual disease today and delivers on our commitment to transforming lives," said Dr. McLeod.

The new home for UCSF Ophthalmology owes its creation to the commitment and generosity of patients, physicians, and donors, and will bring hope to those impacted by vision complications around the world.

"The transcendent beauty of true philanthropy," said University of California President **Michael Drake, MD**, "is that your contributions will be a gift to people far and wide for generations to come – people you will never know, but whose lives will be better because of you."

#### **The Patient Experience**

Access to renowned ophthalmologists, surgeons, optometrists, and scientists has been expanded to facilitate more of the community through 80 patient care rooms and over 45,000 square feet of clinic space. The Wayne and Gladys Valley Center for Vision has been designed with visually impaired visitors' needs in mind, providing a welcoming and inclusive experience for all who come through its doors. Function, equity, and comfort were all carefully incorporated by the architects.

Set to welcome more than 160,000 patient visits a year, the Wayne and Gladys Valley Center will offer eye care ranging from routine to complex and multidisciplinary specialty care services. This includes advanced cataract and corneal surgery, complex glaucoma, ocular inflammatory disease, orbital disease and eye tumors, challenging retinal disorders, and neuroophthalmological conditions facilitated by the latest therapeutic and diagnostic equipment.

"The cutting-edge research that will be accomplished here and the care our experts provide will impact the quality of life for countless individuals of all ages for years to come," said Mrs. Chesky. "Our faculty members and alumni are truly poised to save sight and to save lives." <sup>(2)</sup> On February 18, 2021, so many helped us celebrate the opening of The Center. Thank you.

This special virtual event featured remarks by University of California President Michael Drake, MD; UCSF Chancellor and Arthur and Toni Rembe **Rock Distinguished Professor Sam** Hawgood, MBBS; Dean of the School of Medicine and Vice Chancellor of Medical Affairs Talmadge E. King, Jr., MD; Chair of UCSF Ophthalmology Department and Theresa M. and Wayne M. Caygill, MD, Distinguished Professor and Chair Stephen D. McLeod, MD; That Man May See President Deborah Chesky, President Emerita Kathleen Rydar, and Chair of the Board John de Benedetti. It also included a tour of the Valley Center, led by Dr. McLeod.

Special guests at the live event which followed the virtual opening celebration, included Dr. Michael Drake, Chancellor Sam Hawgood, Dr. Talmadge King, Michael Desler, Dr. Stephen McLeod, Ruth Hoffman, Ron Conway, Dr. David and Victoria Chang, Don and Judy McCubbin, John de Benedetti and Nina Srejovic, Tom and Johanna Baruch, Lily Huang, John Stock, John Rohal, Pat and Phil Jelley; Drs. Tom and Chihori Lietman; Kathleen Rydar; and Deborah Chesky.

View the Opening Celebration online: https://www.thatmanmaysee.org/valleyopening

Schedule your next appointment at the Wayne and Gladys Valley Center for Vision today.

Call 415.353.2800 Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

## **Pediatric Pals**



Recently, while young Mackenzie Fredeen was waiting for treatment, she met another toddler, Akira Pierre, going through a very similar experience.

We first met Mackenzie last year, when her parents generously requested charitable gifts to That Man May See for vision research at University of California, San Francisco in lieu of first birthday presents for their daughter. Mackenzie was diagnosed with retinoblastoma (eye cancer) at just three-and-a-half-months old.

Fortunately, she found compassionate care at UCSF through specialist **Armin Afshar**, **MD**, **MBA** and his colleague, nurse **Leanne Parsons**, **MS**. Pediatric ophthalmology at UCSF strives to make small patients, courageously facing monumental challenges, feel like family while they are in treatment. "The combination of leading-edge expertise and humanitarian patient care for these child warriors is what





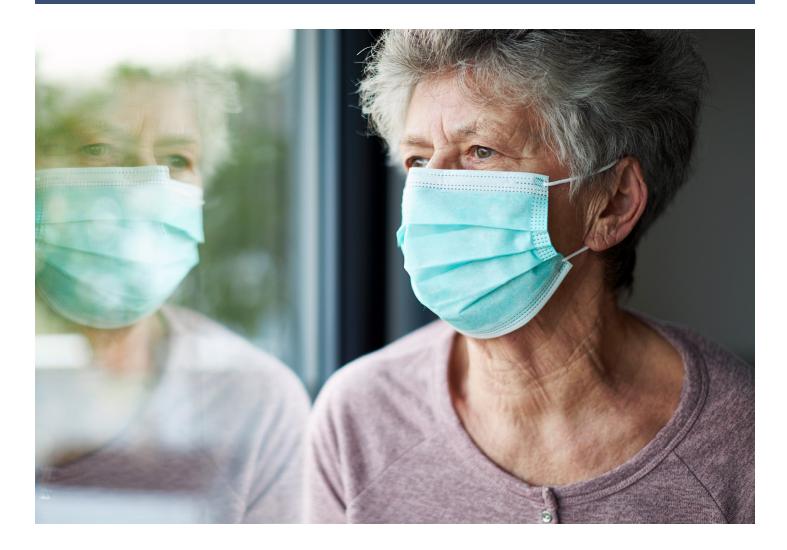
Akira (left) and Mackenzie (right): pals and patients.

makes Dr. Afshar's team so successful. We are forever grateful," according to Jordanna Howard, Mackenzie's mother.

As only children can, Mackenzie and Akira made an instant connection. At the time, Akira was bravely undergoing treatment in ocular oncology – and the two girls immediately bonded, holding hands and playing together. Mackenzie and Akira have both since been deemed cancer-free. Their parents are grateful to Dr. Afshar for his unmatched care. Mackenzie and Akira found joy and hope in one another, and inspire all of us here at That Man May See.  $\textcircled{\circlet}$ 

Learn how you can support UCSF's vision research by visiting thatmanmaysee.org/donate

## Helping Homebound Seniors



The UCSF Care at Home Program offers comprehensive primary and palliative care to homebound adults living in San Francisco. A variety of medical and allied services are offered, but a need has been identified for home-based eye care.

According to the United States Census Bureau, the US older population grew rapidly for most of the 20th century, from 3.1 million in 1900 to 35 million in 2000. The United States will experience further expansion of the older population for many decades to come, fueled by the baby boom cohort that began turning 65 years old in 2011. Health and other services are needed for this growing elderly population.

As a result of COVID-19 lockdowns or the fear of seeking healthcare during a global pandemic, many individuals have avoided medical visits, including eye exams.

The problem is even worse for homebound seniors, as in-home eye care is not widely available. Neglecting visual exams could result in undetected eye conditions or even blindness.

The risk of developing cataracts, age-related macular degeneration, and glaucoma – leading

causes of visual impairment in the United States – increases with age. Timely detection and management of these conditions may improve health outcomes and quality of life.

Visual impairments may lead to other issues, such as depression, falls, and injuries that may result in the need for hospitalization.

In collaboration with UCSF Geriatric Medicine, the Division of Optometry, led by **Taras Litvin**, **PhD**, **OD**, initiated an optometry at-home program to conduct visual exams. The focus is on those patients most at-risk of eye disease or falls.  $\textcircled{\column}$  Visual impairments may lead to other issues, such as depression, falls, and injuries that may result in the need for hospitalization.

Phlianthropic support is needed to help cover the costs of visits and portable eye exam equipment. To support this new program, visit thatmanmaysee.org/donate.



Help us imagine a world in which **all may see.** 

Please donate today.

By Phone **415.476.4016** 

Online thatmanmaysee.org/donate

## More Than Meets the Eye

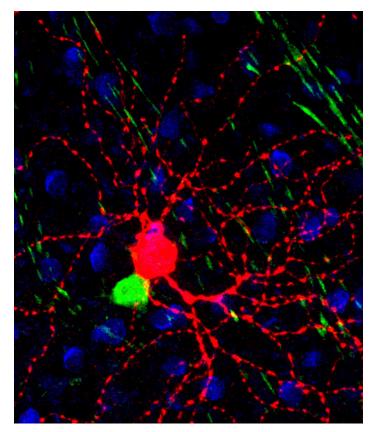
#### **Early Detection of Cognitive Diseases**

Principal investigator (PI), **Xin Duan, PhD**, and his team, which includes both co-PI **Erik Ullian, PhD**, and **Kongyan Wu**, **PhD**, seek to address a vital problem in neurodegeneration: how can nervedamaging diseases be identified earlier to prevent more extensive damage?

Conceptually, Dr. Duan's team aims to use the retina to establish a way to identify early signs of disease. Instead of simply focusing on the cell biology of degenerating neurons, this team of leading-edge investigators propose to investigate the problem by taking a larger view of the neural circuits within the eye and its component parts.

"There is increasing evidence that the visual system is involved in most neurogenerative diseases and thus could provide a novel early diagnostic inroad to common diseases such as Alzheimer's and frontotemporal degeneration (FTD)/amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS)," Dr. Ullian contributed. "Furthermore, we can map circuit function with unprecedented precision in the visual system, so it will undoubtedly give us greater insight into specific mechanisms of neuronal and circuit dysfunction in these diseases."

Visual circuits – the neural networks that give us sight – offer great advantages for analyzing general neural circuits as they are highly accessible with well-characterized synaptic contacts and functional properties. Moreover, the retina and the visual pathways have recently been shown to be easily observable clinically.



Microscopic image of ganglion cells in a mouse retina, a valuable research tool.

Dr. Duan reasons that neural circuit studies represent a major advancement in the analysis of neurodegeneration-related changes.

Dr. Duan's studies in visual circuits will shed light on other neural circuits across the central nervous system and may lead to early detection of Alzheimer's disease in patients. They are investigating potential synergies in neurodegenerative disease research, including both glaucoma and Alzheimer's. Dr. Duan and his team aim to establish a way to detect disease onset, evaluate its progression, and establish a platform to discover dysfunctional neural circuits – with the ultimate goal of preventing neurodegeneration and restoring circuit functions. To

## An Eye for the Arts

Ellie Stokes faced a uniquely challenging time during the COVID-19 pandemic lockdowns, but found artistic creativity to be the perfect outlet.



Digital illustration by Sean Choate, depicting Ellie's experience.

In May 2020, Ellie was diagnosed by her doctor, neuro–ophthalmologist **Nailyn Rasool, MD**, with a rare form of double vision due to an artery compressing her sixth cranial nerve.

One treatment for her double vision was using prism glasses. These glasses are specialized, refracting light before it enters the eyes so that the light falls in the same spot on both retinas, creating a single image.

Since being prescribed prism glasses, Ellie has done very well. "I just love Dr. Rasool," she said. "She's been so wonderful and the whole staff at UCSF are incredibly supportive and welcoming."

Ellie, a songwriter, has been working on an album that reflects on her experience and, as part of her inspiration, commissioned her friend

## …the whole staff at UCSF are incredibly supportive and welcoming."

Sean Choate to create the above illustration. "That's what it felt like, two eyes under the glasses lens," Ellie said.

Ellie is looking forward to releasing her album, possibly by the end of this year. <sup>(2)</sup>

## Fading Senses Turned Her into a Fighter

Although nearly both blind and deaf, Rebecca Alexander is an inspiration to us all. She is an author, psychotherapist, group fitness instructor, disability rights advocate, and extreme athlete.

A patient of UCSF ophthalmologist, **Jacque Duncan**, **MD**, Rebecca was born with Usher syndrome type 3A, a rare genetic disorder which has caused progressive loss of both her sight and hearing since she was a teenager. Despite these unfathomable challenges, Rebecca maintains her drive for life, rising above and beyond every challenge she faces.

In 1996, young Rebecca was selected to be an Olympic torchbearer in the nationwide relay prior to the Atlanta Games because of her ability to face adversity with grace and courage. Since then, her extraordinary accomplishments have included summiting Mt. Kilimanjaro, participating in the 600-mile San Francisco to Los Angeles AIDS Lifecycle ride, swimming from Alcatraz to shore in the San Francisco Bay for That Man May See's Swim for Sight, skydiving, bungee jumping, and regularly competing in events for extreme athletes.

Sharing her story to help others face their own challenges, Rebecca presented for TEDx Cape May What's the Story? She has been widely featured on such shows as The Today Show, NBC Nightly News, Morning Joe, The Dr. Oz Show, ABC News, NBC News, and PBS Radio. She has also been featured in The New York Times, The Boston Globe, The Boston Herald, The New York Post, USA Today, Huffington Post, Fitness, Shape, Women's Health, Marie Claire, and Cosmopolitan.



Rebecca Alexander was born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area. She currently resides in New York City where she has a thriving private psychotherapy practice. Her brother is NBC Chief White House correspondent Peter Alexander.

Her book, Not Fade Away: A Memoir of Senses Lost and Found, tells the 42-year-old author's story of courage and motivation from starting to lose sight and hearing as a child, to a shattering fall from a window at 18, to her triumph over these physical, psychological, and philosophical obstacles. Her inspiring story is now the subject of a forthcoming Netflix feature film from Annapurna Pictures, produced by John Krasinski and David O. Russell.

Over the years, Rebecca has won a number of awards, including a Helen Keller Achievement Award from the American Foundation for the Blind, the Foundation Fighting Blindness Hope and Spirit Award, and the Future Visions Foundation's Luminary Award to name a few. T

## New Postdoctoral Laboratory Scientists



Chia-Hsiang Chang, PhD Joubert syndrome PhD National Yang-Ming University (Cerebellar development) Birthplace Taiwan Mentor Dr. Nachury



#### Thushara Thamban, PhD

Macular degeneration PhD Centre for DNA Fingerprinting & Diagnostics, Hyderabad (Genomic imprinting) Birthplace India Mentor Dr. Lakkaraju



Renuka Chaphalkar, PhD Macular degeneration PhD University of North Texas Health Science Center (Visual sciences) Birthplace India Mentor Dr. Lakkaraju





Martina de Majo, PhD Molecular mechanisms of neurodegeneration PhD King's College London (Clinical neuroscience) Birthplace Italy Mentor Dr. Ullian





Rakesh Nanjappa, PhD Visual pathway PhD SUNY College of Optometry (Visuomotor behavior & physiology) Birthplace India Mentor Dr. Horton





Priti Roy, PhD Refractive errors PhD Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur (Developmental biology) Birthplace India Mentor Dr. Nair



#### Fei Wang, PhD Retina-Brain connection PhD Chinese Academy of Sciences (Retinal neural circuits) Birthplace China Mentor Dr. Duan

Xiaowei Wang, PhD Small vessel disease PhD University of Rochester (Neurophysiology) Birthplace China

Mentor Dr. Gould

Kongyan Wu, PhD Glaucoma PhD Chinese Academy of Sciences (Retina circuits, neurodevelopment, neurodegeneration) Birthplace China Mentor Dr. Duan

Shaobo Zhang, PhD Glaucoma PhD National University of Singapore (Mechanobiology, In-vivo imaging) Birthplace China Mentor Dr. Duan

## Life Under Pandemic Drives Eye Injuries



UCSF Ophthalmology residents are on the front line at Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital and Trauma Center, where the evolving COVID pandemic and attendant social upheaval present new health challenges. During these tough times, residents are working to preserve and save sight for the city's most vulnerable people.



#### **Children Injured by Sanitizer**

Resident Lawrence Chan, MD, reports incidents of young children experiencing eye injuries from splashed or squirted hand sanitizers. Available everywhere to reduce COVID transmission, the alcohol base of these cleaners is toxic to the eye. Irritation, painful burns, or even ulcers on the cornea can result from direct contact.

Fortunately, corneal tissue can regenerate from superficial burns, allowing the eye to regain clear sight. Dr. Chan recommends keeping dispensers away from children's eye level and watching out for automatic dispensers in public places. Adults, especially health care workers who must use sanitizer very frequently, must also be careful to avoid touching the eyes after sanitizing their hands.



#### **Anti-Asian Attacks**

Hate-fueled attacks on Asian Americans have escalated nationally during the pandemic. The eye is particularly vulnerable to damage. This year, resident **Lauren Hennein**, **MD**, along with Dr. Chan, have treated Asian Americans struck in the face or fired on with a gun.

"We must all voice support for our Asian American neighbors," says **Alejandra de Alba Campomanes, MD**, Department Vice Chair for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. "This institution believes that the best defense against hate, intolerance, and ignorance is care, compassion, and empathy." **©** 

## UCSF Ophthalmology's Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Statement

UCSF Ophthalmology condemns all forms of discrimination, harassment, and violence directed at the Asian American and Pacific Islander community.

The best defense against hate, intolerance, and ignorance is a counter offense of care, compassion, and empathy.

We believe all persons deserve to be treated with dignity and respect regardless of race, age, sexual identity, or ability.

Now is the time to continue to voice our support for one another, particularly our Asian American community members.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Task Force

#### A New Look for Vision

You may have noticed a few changes with this issue of *Vision*. The page size has been reduced to something easier to hold (or print from the digital edition), and we've adopted a larger, more readable typeface. We hope that this enhances your reading experience.

## Advancing through Mentorship

Three mentoring tracks showcase the strengths and priorities of UCSF's vision scientists.

### Track 1

Epidemiology Randomized Clinical Trials Global Health

## Track 2

Basic and Translational Vision Discovery Sciences

## Track 3

Bioengineering and Innovation

#### Just Getting Started: \$2.5 Million for Mentorships

UCSF Ophthalmology's outstanding vision and clinician scientists have a tremendous track record of developing leading-edge research programs that attract hypercompetitive grants from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). This sustained funding enables new discoveries.

The UCSF-Proctor Clinician Vision Scholars K12 Program is a \$2.5 million, five-year grant from the National Eye Institute (NEI), one of 27 institutes and centers that comprise the US National Institutes of Health. This grant provides institutional funding to train as many as ten young faculty members to achieve this same level of success. Co-led by **Yvonne Ou**, **MD**, and **Tom Lietman**, **MD** – both NEI grant awardees – the program builds on existing strengths and collaborations in clinical and translational sciences, bioengineering, and career development in the UCSF Proctor Foundation and Department of Ophthalmology.

New patient-serving faculty members with a passion for research can undertake a one-year intensive mentorship, each supported by a primary mentor and a faculty advisory committee. Immersion in rigorous state-of-the-art vision research is supplemented with guidance for crafting important and novel questions while developing techniques to answer them, aspects of leadership, the value of multidisciplinary and collaborative approaches, and writing effective grant proposals.

This mentorship opportunity makes UCSF Ophthalmology an even more attractive place for top clinical research candidates to launch their faculty careers. As younger vision scientists develop and take charge of significant new research programs, the future of vision grows brighter – at UCSF and around the world.



Cathy Sun, MD, investigates diabetic retinopathy.

#### **Reducing Sight Loss from Diabetes**

**Cathy Sun, MD**, the first scholar to benefit from an NEI K12 mentorship, has been awarded an NIH grant for independent research of diabetic retinopathy.

Joining UCSF Ophthalmology's faculty in 2019, Dr. Sun's grant will allow her to investigate the rising global health threat of Type 2 diabetes, where blurred vision is often the first noticeable symptom. Advanced diabetic eye disease, called proliferative diabetic retinopathy, can result in permanent sight loss.

Dr. Sun and her team develop and test novel methods and tools for analyzing large

databases of de-identified electronic health care records of patients treated for this condition. The team's findings and insights can be used to adjust treatment protocols, halting the disorder before it advances and reducing sight loss. They expect to improve strategies for electronic records investigations that can be used to improve outcomes for other damaging eye conditions as well.

Dr. Sun earned her medical degree and completed a residency in ophthalmology at UCSF. She completed a fellowship in glaucoma at Bascom Palmer Eye Institute and received a merit award fellowship from the prestigious Heed Ophthalmic Foundation. <sup></sup>



## Patient Perspective

Becky Bliss is a grateful patient of **Julie Schallhorn, MD, MS**, whose care was the inspiration for writing this poem.

## **So Grateful**, a poem by Becky Bliss

Doctor's orders: "It's imperative." she said, "and follow them to a T. That is, of course, if you possess a real desire to see."

"For three days," she said, "You must lay supine." But three days on your back can be a long time.

So as I lay staring at the ceiling with nary a blink, I find what I do a whole lot of is ...think.

To think these thoughts could be anything but good Surely would make me seem dense,

Because, quite honestly, my humble gratitude Is nothing short of immense.

Four months ago, my outlook on life was bleak and quite sad;I could barely see at all; my vision was very bad.

## I can't even imagine how rewarding it would be Knowing you have the ability to make someone see.

## And seeing I do at this time, albeit only out of one eye. The complete and utter joy I feel I just cannot deny. **??**

"So Grateful" by Becky Bliss

I'd walk through my life literally in a blur;How much more of this, I thought, could I really endure?

God's intent, I don't think, was for me to live out my days Sadly, trudging through life in a disorienting haze.

It was time I decided no one could do it but me: Time to move forward, for I so wanted to see.

So I found who I believe to be angels here on Earth; I wonder if they realize the magnitude of their worth?

I can't even imagine how rewarding it would be Knowing you have the ability to make someone see.

And seeing I do at this time, albeit only out of one eye. The complete and utter joy I feel I just cannot deny. And to the families of my donors ...my sincere thanks For your precious gift has allowed me to see.

I hope you can take comfort and solace knowing A part of your loved one lives on in me.

Taking things for granted, I suppose, is perhaps the nature of man;But taking things for granted is now so very far from my plan.

And those of you dealing with life's adversities, you I have always awed;The way you accept and conquer life's challenges, I most sincerely applaud.

It's a gift we should cherish it, you know ...this thing we call life; Meant to be happy and joyous, void of angst, sadness, and strife.

Life is so full of blessings, some big and some small; Today I, for one, am so grateful for all! **②** 

## **Faculty News**

**Dr. Seth Blumberg, MD**, joins UCSF's Francis I. Proctor Foundation as a computational epidemiologist. He provides patient care to hospitalized patients at UCSF Medical Center as an internist specializing in infectious disease.

**Fellowships:** New York University (infectious diseases), Proctor Foundation (forecasting trachoma control), National Institutes of Health (research and policy for infectious disease dynamics) **Residency:** St. Mary's Medical Center, San Francisco **MD, PhD:** University of Michigan, Ann Arbor (PhD in Biophysics)

How did Hodgkin's disease shape your career? I was a classic "Caltech nerd," pursuing math and physics, when I was diagnosed with cancer. Fortunately, my treatment was effective, and I got a second chance at life. Becoming a clinician and medical researcher became my

#### How do your skills strengthen the Proctor Foundation's capacity to improve public health and protect sight?

way of giving back.

My training and experience in mathematical modeling, infectious disease dynamics, and biophysics complements rich existing knowledge and skills. An interdisciplinary approach allows our research team to tackle complex public health questions to address ongoing spread of preventable diseases, including blindness caused by trachoma.

## How is Proctor providing leadership on the threat of antimicrobial-resistant infections?

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) funds our investigation of antimicrobial resistance in the United States. Ironically, the antibiotics we use to treat serious infections can also increase the risk of deadly infections from resistant bacteria. Our research aims to figure out how to treat infections without unintended consequences. We hope to build on this research and study patterns of resistance in low- and middle-income nations.

#### How has COVID-19 altered your research?

In June 2020, the CDC reached out to Proctor, requesting that we immediately begin analyzing COVID data from US hospitals to help decrease transmission and improve outcomes. To reduce the rapid spread inside California prisons, I volunteered as an epidemiological modeler with AMEND, a university-based prison health consortium.

What did you gain in your RAPIDD Fellowship at the National Institutes of Health Fogarty Center? RAPIDD stands for Research and Policy for Infectious Disease Dynamics. I collaborated with outstanding leaders who advanced the field of mathematical modeling of epidemiologic data to understand, forecast, and mitigate the transmission potential of emerging diseases. This methodology helps guide governmental and international health policy – to manage novel disease threats and save lives. <sup>(2)</sup>

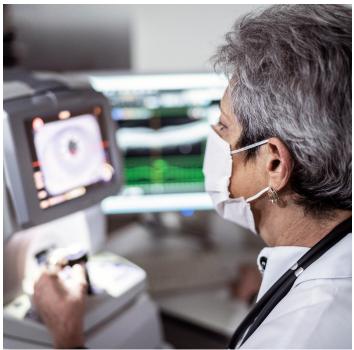
## That Man May See Turns 50



Thank you for your incredible support and steadfast loyalty that continues to inspire the hope that, one day, all may see.

Half a century ago, UCSF clinician scientists **Samuel Kimura, MD**, and **Michael Hogan, MD**, founded That Man May See with the hope of one day restoring sight to the blind and eliminating eye disease. They recognized that private philanthropy could play a significant role in providing researchers with the resources needed to get their ideas from theory to reality.

That Man May See was designed to bring clinicians and laboratory scientists together to work to study specific eye diseases at a time when few such institutions existed in the world.



Since 1971, That Man May See has kept true to the mission of Drs. Kimura and Hogan, helping to raise funds for research that has led to pioneering breakthroughs in areas such as glaucoma, retinoblastoma, cataract surgery, trachoma, and more – all while supporting the next generation of leaders in ophthalmology.

We are so grateful to celebrate this huge achievement of fifty years of service with the faculty, donors, and patients around the world. It has been our honor to play a role in transforming so many lives.  $\textcircled{\columnation}$ 

**VISION** is produced by **That Man May See**, a 501(c)3 public charity. Its mission is to raise funds for the dedicated faculty of UCSF Ophthalmology to make possible breakthroughs in vision research, state-of-the-art patient care, educational opportunities for residents and fellows, and community service.

UCSF Box 0352, 490 Illinois Street, Floor 3, San Francisco, CA 94143 | tmms@vision.ucsf.edu

#### **HOW TO REACH US**

**UCSF Department of Ophthalmology** 490 Illinois Street, Floor 5 San Francisco, CA 94143 ophthalmology.ucsf.edu

**UCSF Francis I. Proctor Foundation** 490 Illinois Street, Floor 2 San Francisco, CA 94143 proctor.ucsf.edu

**Comprehensive Eye Center** 415.353.2800 Routine eye care, acute care, eye disease referrals

**Eyeglasses and Contact Lenses** 415.476.3100

Cataract Care 415.353.2800

Cornea Care 415.514.8200

**Glaucoma Care** 415.514.6920

Neuro-Ophthalmology 415.476.7176

Ocular Oncology Care 415.514.8722

Ocular Plastic Surgery 415.353.2800

Pediatric Ophthalmology 415.353.2800

Proctor Medical Group 415.476.1442

Retinal Care 415.353.2800

Vision Correction Surgery Center 415.353.2020 Individualized surgery, including LASIK and PRK

## Young Optometrist of the Year



Proctor Optometrist, **Sarah Lopez, OD, FAAO**, was named 2021 Young Optometrist of the Year.

The California Optometric Association (COA) has named UCSF's Dr. Sarah Lopez as recipient of a COA 2021 Young Optometrist of the Year Award. This honor recognizes "young doctors' contributions to the profession of optometry, local community, and sharing knowledge through published research."

For the past six years, Dr. Lopez has been an optometrist and clinical instructor with the Francis I. Proctor Foundation. She also serves as the president of the San Francisco Optometric Society.

"Her kindness to patients and patience in teaching really set the tone throughout Proctor," said **Tom Lietman, MD**, the Director of the Proctor Foundation. "Sarah is key to all of our clinical activities, from patient care, to teaching, to research. She makes Proctor run." **©** 

## Alumni Highlight

When **Douglas R. Anderson, MD, FARVO,** started his residency in ophthalmology at the University of California, San Francisco, in 1965, he didn't know then that the research he would begin at UCSF would become a lifelong passion and quest for discovery.

Counting many of UCSF Ophthalmology's internationally-recognized faculty as his mentors, Dr. Anderson was particularly inspired by **Robert N. Shaffer, MD**, in glaucoma, and **David O. Harrington, MD, FACS**, in visual fields, a topic about which Dr. Anderson would write a series of books later in his career.

During his residency at UCSF, and funded by an NIH grant awarded to **William F. Hoyt, MD**, Dr. Anderson was given special permission to work one day a week to study optic nerve anatomy by electron microscopy, an advanced new technology at the time. Through this research, Dr. Anderson published several papers on the optic nerve and optic disc, shedding light on the microscopic anatomy of these structures. This pivotal research became relevant to Dr. Anderson's subspecialty in glaucoma later in his career.

Dr. Anderson went on to a fellowship in glaucoma at Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary in Boston, where he learned that, in those days, East and West Coast approaches to glaucoma were varied. Ultimately, Dr. Anderson landed at Bascom Palmer Eye Institute in Miami, where he acted as teacher, clinician, and scientist in both the clinic and the laboratory for the next 47 years.



Dr. Douglas Anderson in his early years of practice (left) and today (right).

In his laboratory, Dr. Anderson made a novel discovery that high ocular pressure caused blockage of axonal transport in the optic nerve axons at the optic disc, and that this resulted from disturbance of blood flow. Along with his colleagues, he later found that individuals differed in how well the small blood vessels of the optic nerve were regulated to correct for the challenge of elevated ocular pressure. Back in the laboratory he studied in cell culture the compensatory reaction of vascular cells ("pericytes") to chemical changes that simulate inadequate blood flow.

Dr. Anderson fondly remembers his time at UCSF. His mentors were leading-edge investigators and clinicians who inspired scientific curiosity and diligent clinical care, while also providing a friendly, family environment, regularly inviting residents to their homes. His residency classmates continue to be lifelong friends. One of Dr. Anderson's many career legacies is that he became this type of mentor as well to several generations of new ophthalmologists. <sup>•</sup>

## In Memoriam

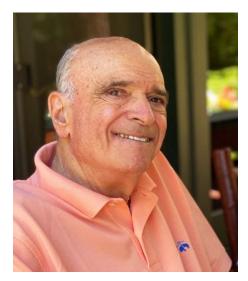


#### Bruce E. Crocker – An Advocate for Vision

In February 2021, That Man May See lost a long-time friend and advocate. Bruce E. Crocker served on our Board of Directors from 2002 to 2011, then on our Honorary Board until his death. In spite of his own health concerns, he was a devoted philanthropist, not only to That Man May See, but to the University of Montana Foundation and his beloved Fallen Leaf Lake near Lake Tahoe.

A native Pennsylvanian, Bruce grew up on the east coast, but eventually found his way west, where he found his calling as a venture capitalist, subsequently becoming a general partner in the leading Israeli firm of Pitango Venture Capital.

Bruce is survived by his wife Suzanne; son Patrick (Erin); daughter Katie Storey (John); grandchildren; and sister Marilyn Crocker Cleveland of Berkeley.

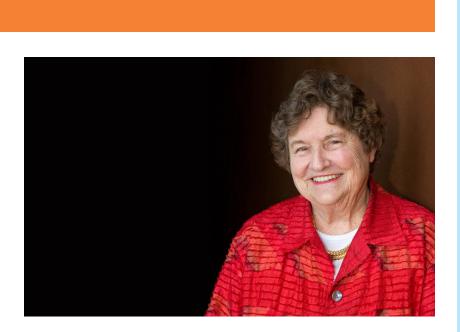


#### **David Traitel – A Leader for Two Decades**

Following eye surgery with UCSF Ophthalmology alumnus, **Richard McDonald, MD,** Dave Traitel joined the board of That Man May See and served as a leader for nearly two decades. He and his wife, Joan, were avid supporters of vision research.

During the Future of Vision campaign, the Traitels made a significant contribution, which is now honored by the Joan and David Traitel Lounge patient waiting area at the entrance to the third-floor clinic in the new Wayne and Gladys Center for Vision at Mission Bay.

Among his entrepreneurial business ventures, Dave purchased and was chairman and CEO of Nutro Products, Inc. – a high-end pet food company that he expanded throughout the United States, Europe, and Asia. In addition to his wife, Joan, he is survived by his children: Dee Anne (Michael) and David (Lori); grandchildren Shelby, David (Ali), and Marisa; and one great-grandchild.



#### Nancy Mettier – A Guiding Light

If ever there were a guardian angel looking after the work of That Man May See, it was Paula Pearce Mettier, known to her friends as Nancy. "Angel" and "sweetheart" are words the staff used to describe her passion for saving and restoring vision. It came to her naturally, after falling in love "at first sight" with her husband of 68 years, **Stacy Mettier, MD**, one of the founding board members, 50 years ago, of That Man May See, the support foundation for vision science at UCSF.

Nancy's laugh and clever quips could be heard across the room at every celebratory event, whether for the Frederick C. Cordes (alumni) Eye Society, That Man May See, or a faculty get-together. She hosted luncheons at the Town and Country Club to introduce others to the cause, and contributed generously to the Future of Vision capital construction campaign. Nancy is survived by her daughters, Laurie Hills and Lynn Wolter (Jon); granddaughter Stacy Hills; grandsons Roy Hills, Ted Wolter (Jennie), and Hal Wolter (Anne-Marie); as well as three great-grandsons.  $\textcircled{$ 

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That Man May See Turns 50 ...my dream has been to establish a research center where the exchange of basic and clinical knowledge work to solve some of the problems uncovered in clinical medicine.

Michael J. Hogan, MD Founder

Continued on page 19

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# Annual Report



Opening of the new Wayne and Gladys Valley Center for Vision at Mission Bay

2 That Man May See Celebrates its 50th Anniversary

> UCSF Department of Ophthalmology continues to rank in top 10 nationally and Best in Northern California

Important breakthroughs to save and restore sight

## Dear Friends of That Man May See,

This year we have much to celebrate! On November 9, 2020, the new Wayne and Gladys Valley Center for Vision at Mission Bay began welcoming patients.

This is a place where our outstanding team conduct ground-breaking discoveries and patient care to save and restore sight now and for future generations.

Due to COVID-19 restrictions, an in-person celebration was not permitted and a virtual opening of the new Center was held in February 2021.

We are so excited about the transformative impact our new world-class facility and state-of-the-art equipment will make. Once again in 2021, UCSF Ophthalmology was ranked the Best in Northern California and among the top 10 vision care centers in the nation.

August 5, 2021, commemorated That Man May See's 50th anniversary. We will hold an in-person event when that is possible.

We are so proud to summarize our achievements of this past year. Thank you for your generosity. Your gifts support outstanding patient care, advance research toward cures, and enrich teaching of the vision care leaders of tomorrow.

Our hope is to establish UCSF's Department of Ophthalmology as the premier institution for vision research in the world and to end blindness during our lifetime.

Thank you for your partnership in our hope that, one day, all may see.

With gratitude,



John de Benedetti Chair, Board of Directors That Man May See

## In Gratitude for Generous Gifts

Thank you for generous gifts and new pledges for the UCSF Department of Ophthalmology and the Francis I. Proctor Foundation made during the past fiscal year, July 1, 2020, to June 30, 2021. Gifts at every level make a difference.

#### Founder's Circle (\$10,000,000+)

Wayne and Gladys Valley Foundation

## Distinguished Contributors (\$1,000,000+)

Estate of Helen E. Ammen Koret Foundation Estate of Dr. and Mrs. Stacy R. Mettier Jr. Bernie Newcomb and Gerry Marshall

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### FUNDRAISING REVIEW That Man May See Generated Funds

SOURCES OF FUNDS	Direct to TMMS	Via Other UCSF Entities*	Total	%
Donations from Individuals, Including bequests and trusts	\$5,404,099	\$5,925	\$5,410,024	31%
Donations from Corporations and Foundations	\$536,076	\$11,460,000	\$11,996,076	68%
Earnings on Deposited Funds**	\$152,151		\$152,151	1%
TOTAL REVENUE	\$6,092,326	\$11,465,925	\$17,558,251	100%

APPLICATION OF FUNDS	Actual	%
Research, Education, Patient Care, and Community Services	\$16,712,753	95%
Fundraising	\$507,935	3%
Management and Administration	\$337,563	2%
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$17,558,251	100%

