



Honoring the career legacy of Robert L. Stamper, MD

On November 4, 2023, the Department of Ophthalmology hosted a faculty and alumni reception at the Wayne and Gladys Valley Center for Vision during the American Academy of Ophthalmology meeting. This was attended by 150 guests, including university ophthalmology chairs, Dr. Michael Chiang, the Director of the National Eye Institute (NEI), NEI program officers, and leaders from Research to Prevent Blindness.

A focal point of the event was dedicated to celebrating the retirement of a true visionary in the field — **Dr. Robert L. Stamper**. The evening was filled with warmth and appreciation and afforded colleagues, staff, residents, and fellows a meaningful opportunity to share personal stories and express gratitude for Dr. Stamper's remarkable contributions to the field of Ophthalmology.

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Dear Colleagues,

It is a privilege to connect with you through the *Vision* magazine. We have exciting updates to share as our department grows and thrives, thanks to your generous support.

We continue advancing our research, clinical care, and education initiatives. Last spring, our basic research labs successfully relocated to the UCSF Mission Bay campus, enhancing opportunities for collaboration and community. We welcomed new faculty in Neuro-Ophthalmology, Pediatric Ophthalmology, Cornea, Retina, and Ophthalmic Plastic Surgery. We are searching for additional faculty to strengthen our Pediatric Ophthalmology, Glaucoma, and Basic Science divisions.

We have also launched a campaign to support a new UCSF vision research initiative.

None of these ambitious goals would be possible without support from dedicated donors like you. With your help, we will continue making advances to improve our patients' lives, ensuring a brighter tomorrow.

Thank you for your partnership in our vision community. I look forward to working together to improve the well being of our patients.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jacquie Duncan".

Jacquie Duncan, MD

Theresa M. and Wayne M. Caygill, MD,
Distinguished Professor and Chair of Ophthalmology

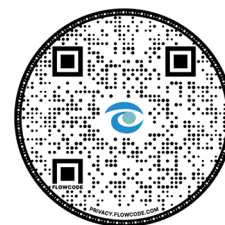
Your VISION to the future of Ophthalmology

VISION is produced by All May See, a 501(c)(3) public charity. Its mission is to raise funds for UCSF Ophthalmology and Francis I. Proctor Foundation. This makes possible breakthroughs in vision research, state-of-the-art patient care, educational opportunities for residents and fellows, and community service.

QR codes at your service

QR codes are circle barcodes that allow readers to quickly access additional content online. Just scan the code with the camera app on your smartphone or tablet and click the link that appears on screen.

This one links to All May See's home page. Enjoy!



[AllMaySee.org](https://www.AllMaySee.org)

Honoring Dr. Robert Stamper (cont.)

Dr. Stamper, a glaucoma specialist, dedicated an impressive 52 years to protecting and restoring countless patients' vision. His focus on early diagnosis and treatment to prevent vision loss from glaucoma has left an indelible mark on the field. Since retiring, he continues to teach and conduct research at UCSF, demonstrating his passion for advancing eye care.

Dr. Stamper attended SUNY Downstate Medical Center, and held positions at Washington University in St. Louis and California Pacific Medical Center (CPMC). In 1998, he joined UCSF Ophthalmology, serving as Director of the Glaucoma Clinic and holding the Fortisure Foundation Distinguished Professorship.

His impact as an educator is remarkable, having mentored over 70 fellows and 200 residents, publishing nearly 125 peer-reviewed research papers and two Glaucoma textbooks, to shape the next generation of glaucoma specialists. His legacy embodies compassionate care and visionary leadership.

Dr. Stamper established the *Robert L. Stamper, MD, Endowed Visiting Lectureship in Glaucoma* at UCSF, raising \$270,000 to create the program. The inaugural lecture was held on January 30, 2025. Jeffrey Liebmann, MD, Shirlee and Bernard Brown Professor of Ophthalmology, Vice Chair, and glaucoma researcher at Columbia with over 650 peer-reviewed papers, delivered the first lecture to specialists, fellows, and residents. 🧐

NEXT PAGE: Photos from the gathering >



From left to right: Birger Stamperdahl (Son-in-law), Leif Stamperdahl (grandson), Juliet Stamperdahl (daughter), Alison Grace Levy (Daughter), Robert Stamper, MD, Naomi Stamper (wife), Marjorie Stamper-Kurn (daughter), Dan Stamper-Kurn (son-in-law), Gabriel Stamper-Kurn (grandson), Yaniv Sapir (nephew)

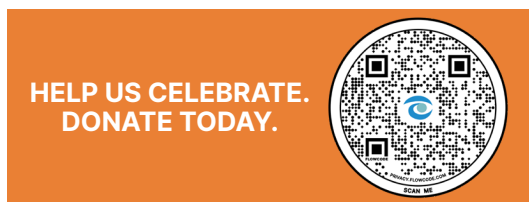
Honoring Dr. Robert Stamper (cont.)



Yvonne Ou, MD; Ruth Williams, MD; and Robert Stamper, MD



David Hwang, MD, FACS; Nisha Acharya, MD, MS; and Robert Kim, MD



AAO Reception at the Wayne and Gladys Valley Center for Vision



Stephanie Chen, MD; Jacque Duncan, MD; and Tiffany Chen, MD



Jimmy Le, ScD; Ying Han, MD, PhD;
and Don Everett, MA



Julie Chen, MD; Robert Stamper, MD; and Tina Rutar, MD



Robert Stamper, MD Retirement Dinner at Stem Kitchen + Garden, San Francisco, CA

Seed funding to breakthroughs:

Vision Research Secures \$6.3M NIH Grant



Xin Duan, PhD, working in his lab.


In 2019, a peer-reviewed faculty award of \$60,000 from the All May See Foundation enabled groundbreaking research led by Principal Investigator Xin Duan, PhD, at UCSF Ophthalmology.

The funds allowed Dr. Duan's lab to acquire critical equipment, which has been essential in advancing their work to understand how eye neurons communicate with brain neurons. This exploration is key to studying both normal development and neurodegenerative conditions, with the goal of achieving high-precision insights.

Graduate student **Nicole Tsai, PhD**, along with postdoctoral fellow **Shaobo Zhang, PhD**,

generated crucial preliminary data that laid the foundation for future funding. Their research was instrumental in securing a U01 network grant from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), officially awarded in August 2024. This federal grant will provide \$6.3 million over the next three years to support UCSF Ophthalmology's ongoing research.

"We are incredibly grateful for the early support from All May See Foundation, which catalyzed this long-term scientific endeavor," says Dr. Duan. "That initial seed funding empowered us to explore new ideas, leading to this major breakthrough in vision science."

The work being done in Dr. Duan's lab promises to transform our understanding of eye-brain communication in both health and disease. 

Featured talk: UCSF Ophthalmology hosts inaugural McLeod Leadership Lecture


On June 6, 2024, the UCSF Department of Ophthalmology proudly hosted the inaugural Dr. Stephen McLeod Endowed Leadership Lecture in Ophthalmology, featuring esteemed University of California President and ophthalmologist, **Michael V. Drake, MD**. The event, held at the William G. and Ruth R. Hoffman Auditorium, drew a wide audience eager to explore leadership in academic medicine and healthcare.

Endowed through a generous gift from UCSF alumnus Dr. David Chang and wife Victoria, the lectureship honors Dr. Stephen D. McLeod, former chair and current CEO of the American Academy of Ophthalmology.



Michael V. Drake, MD, and Jacque Duncan, MD

Dr. Drake's lecture offered valuable insights, drawing from his experiences as both a physician and university president. He reflected on personal values in leadership and shared memorable stories from his ophthalmology practice, including a patient profile highlighting the privilege of caring for others. His engaging Q&A session, moderated by **Jacque Duncan, MD**, Chair, Department of Ophthalmology, fostered a deeper understanding of leadership in healthcare.

The McLeod Leadership Lecture, to be held annually, provided an opportunity for attendees to learn from a renowned figure in academia, inspiring new perspectives on leadership and underscoring the importance of continued learning in medicine. 

URGENT NEED:

**Fund new
UCSF vision
research
initiative —
\$10M for
top scientists'
eye care
advancements**



DONATE NOW



Ivan, Harry, and Maris Meyerson

From patients to partners: a vision for change

One family's eye care journey
inspires a legacy of giving

Maris and Ivan Meyerson have been generous donors to the All May See Foundation (AMS) for many years, inspired by a deeply personal connection to the organization. Their journey with AMS began when their 8-year-old son was diagnosed with uveitis and referred to the Proctor Foundation for treatment. They recall how the care provided by the doctors, fellows, and residents at UCSF's teaching hospital was invaluable in preserving their son's sight. "Seamless integration and referrals with other departments, at the Department of Ophthalmology — for glaucoma surgery and pediatric rheumatology for Remicade infusions — was crucial to the preservation of his sight," Maris shared.

This positive experience solidified their commitment to AMS, and Maris served on the foundation's board,

Inspired by their son's successful treatment and mother's glaucoma diagnosis, the Meyerson family creates a UCSF endowment to advance vision research.

adding she was “always impressed by their dedication and professionalism.”

Their personal experiences with eye health didn’t stop there. Maris, who was considered a “glaucoma suspect” for years, was eventually diagnosed with normal tension glaucoma. Through this journey, she learned how crucial education is in ophthalmology. “Telling friends of my case has taught me how much education is needed in basic ophthalmology and eye anatomy,” Maris explains.

The Meyerson’s dedication to advancing glaucoma research is evident in their endowment. “Our experience with the disease’s complexities and our hopes that UCSF will establish best practices,

saving more sight,” they say, underscores their commitment to ensuring more effective treatments and education about glaucoma. **Ying Han, MD, PhD**, Medical Director for Ophthalmology, and glaucoma specialist, has been appointed the Maris & Ivan Meyerson Endowed Chair for Glaucoma Research.

The Meyerson’s hope their contributions will continue to support research, patient care, and education initiatives that improve the lives of those with vision impairments. Their story is a testament to the impact that passionate donors can have on the advancement of eye care and research, driving forward the mission of All May See Foundation to prevent blindness and preserve sight for all. 🧐

Valley Center for Vision — Koret Vision Clinics — treats the most complex glaucoma cases

The UCSF Glaucoma Clinic provides specialized care for patients with glaucoma, an eye condition that damages the optic nerve through increased eye pressure, potentially causing vision loss. The clinic excels in treating complex cases, including patients with unsuccessful surgeries, single-eye vision, and advanced damage. Ophthalmologists treat all glaucoma types with expertise in surgical valve implantation and innovative nonpenetrating surgery options. 🧐



Patient completes visual field test.

Vision restored:

A decade-long journey with UCSF

Early struggles

At 21, **Lucius DiPhillips** was diagnosed with advanced keratoconus, a progressive eye disease that causes the cornea to thin and bulge into a cone shape. Initially, he managed with rigid gas-permeable contact lenses, but by age 35, even these specialized lenses could no longer provide adequate correction. An outside doctor, seeing few remaining options, recommended a corneal transplant. Unwilling to rush into surgery, Lucius' wife spent months researching alternatives until she discovered **Stephen McLeod, MD**, a renowned corneal specialist at UCSF and former Chair of Ophthalmology.

Breakthrough treatment

In April 2013, their persistence paid off when Dr. McLeod offered an innovative alternative to transplant surgery. He referred Lucius to UCSF's PROSE Clinic (Prosthetic Replacement of the Ocular Surface Ecosystem). The clinic specializes in custom-fitted PROSE devices, revolutionary prosthetics that create a new optical surface over the damaged cornea. These devices not only restore vision but also protect the eye and provide comfort for patients with complex corneal conditions.

Ongoing care


Over the next decade, Lucius maintained a close relationship with his UCSF care team. Dr. McLeod treated him for episodes of corneal swelling in February 2015 and again in May 2021, managing these complications medically, to avoid surgery. In October 2020,



Lucius DiPhillips

Lucius began working with **James Li, OD** at the PROSE Clinic, who fine-tuned his treatment plan. By September 2023, Dr. Li had fitted him with new, more advanced PROSE devices that provided even better visual acuity and comfort.

New lease on life


The transformation in Lucius' quality of life has been remarkable. After being unable to drive throughout the pandemic due to vision limitations, he has now regained this crucial independence. "Every time I put in my PROSE devices," Lucius shares, "I'm reminded of the profound impact UCSF has had on my quality of life while coping with my keratoconus." Through the combination of cutting-edge technology and expert medical care, UCSF has not only preserved Lucius' vision but also restored his confidence and hope for the future, demonstrating the life-changing potential of innovative medical solutions. 

Restoring vision and hope

How the UCSF PROSE Clinic supports patients with Keratoconus

Prosthetic replacement of the ocular surface ecosystem (PROSE) is an innovative treatment that restores vision, promotes healing, reduces symptoms, and enhances quality of life for patients with complex corneal diseases when conventional treatments fail. The UCSF PROSE Clinic is one of only two PROSE providers in the western United States and among fewer than 20 worldwide. These devices, manufactured by the Boston Foundation for Sight, are fitted exclusively at leading medical centers with expertise in complex corneal conditions.

PROSE benefits patients with dry eye syndrome, keratoconus, Stevens-Johnson syndrome, chronic ocular graft-versus-host disease, Sjögren's syndrome, pellucid marginal degeneration, ocular trauma, and complications from LASIK or cornea transplants. Nearly 75% of recipients experience improved vision and continue using the devices five years after starting treatment.

Made of gas-permeable plastic, the transparent, nickel-sized domes fit under the eyelids and rest on the sclera, forming a protective vault over the cornea. Filled with sterile saline during insertion, they bathe the ocular surface in oxygen-rich artificial tears, shielding it from environmental and blink-related trauma. PROSE devices are custom-designed to match each patient's unique eye shape and treatment goals, ensuring a personalized and effective approach to care. 

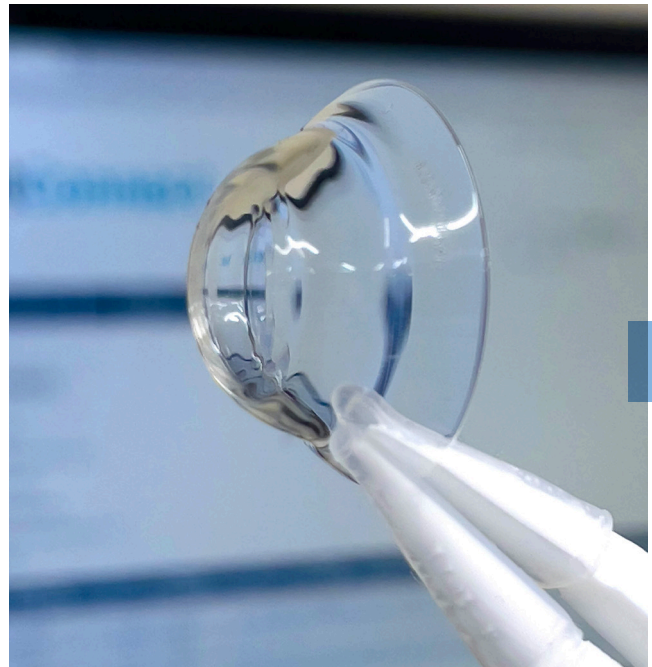


Image of scleral lens



Eye with late stage keratoconus

PEDIATRIC INNOVATION

New spray makes eye exams easier for kids

Julius Oatts, MD, and Manaasa Indaram, MD, are studying the Eyenovia MydCombi®, a new eye dilation device in pediatric patients.

What is the device?

The FDA-approved MydCombi® device sprays a tiny amount (8 µL) of dilating eye drops using new technology.

What does it do?


MydCombi® uses Microdose Array Print (MAP) technology to create a spray or mist of very small droplets of medication which can be administered rapidly. This has the advantage of delivering a smaller amount of medication, which could potentially result in fewer side effects and less discomfort during administration. It also may help avoid a blink preventing medication from entering the eye.

Who is it designed for?

MydCombi® is designed for pupillary dilation, which is typically performed as part of a comprehensive eye examination. There have been several studies which showed good pupillary dilation following MydCombi® administration.

How does it improve care?

Eye drop administration can be uncomfortable, challenging, or unpleasant, especially for children.

Based on our study comparing MydCombi® to standard dilating eye drops in children, the vast majority of children have preferred the administration of MydCombi® to standard eye drops. Dr. Indaram and her team will be looking at the clinical data from the study to determine if there is equal efficacy with regards to pupillary dilation. 



Dr. Indaram demonstrates proper use of MydCombi® device, delivering eye medication quickly and comfortably for young patients.

PATIENT FOCUS

Saving young sight: A story of early intervention and advocacy

A young patient's journey

Nine-year-old **Kimberlie Martinez** developed cataracts early in childhood due to an undiagnosed genetic syndrome. Her mother, **Bella Martinez**, noticed Kimberlie struggling with her vision, frequently holding objects very close to see. After a trip to a local optometrist, she was immediately referred to **Alejandra de Alba Campomanes, MD, MPH**, who specializes in pediatric cataract surgery at UCSF Ophthalmology.

At age five, Kimberlie underwent cataract surgery with lens implantation in both eyes. Later that same year, she required eye muscle surgery to address strabismus — a common additional procedure. Her treatment also included vision rehabilitation for amblyopia, or “lazy eye.”

Thanks to Bella’s vigilance and Dr. de Alba Campomanes’ dedicated care, Kimberlie’s vision has improved to 20/25, and she is excelling in school and daily life. Deeply inspired by her daughter’s journey, Bella became an advocate for children with special needs at Kimberlie’s school helping other families navigate similar challenges.

Comprehensive care and support

UCSF’s pediatric ophthalmology team partners closely with families to provide comprehensive care — from surgery to



Kimberlie Martinez

long-term vision rehabilitation, including contact lenses, glasses, and daily patching.

Kimberlie’s remarkable progress is a testament to the power of early detection, personalized care, and her family’s persistence and support. 🧐

IMPORTANT RESEARCH

More than meets the eye

Metformin studied to prevent age-related macular degeneration

Initial reduction

Age-related macular degeneration (AMD)

is a leading cause of vision loss in individuals over 60. While treatments often focus on managing symptoms, research pioneered by **Jay Stewart, MD**, at UCSF explores using the diabetes drug metformin to prevent or slow AMD progression.

The research behind Metformin and AMD

Metformin, commonly used to control blood sugar in diabetes, has shown potential protective effects for AMD. In 2020, a study of 3,120 diabetic patients aged 60 and above, Dr. Stewart's team found those taking metformin were less likely to develop AMD. "We hypothesized metformin could benefit retinal pigment epithelial cells — cells that malfunction in AMD," Dr. Stewart explains. Initial lab tests suggested metformin's protective effects when these epithelial cells were exposed to light stress, prompting further research.

In 2016, the team launched a randomized clinical trial with advanced dry AMD (geographic atrophy) patients. Despite challenges in recruitment, the trial provided valuable insights but did not find metformin significantly slowed geographic atrophy. Concurrently, a retrospective review of UCSF patients confirmed that those on metformin had a lower rate of AMD development, supporting its potential protective role.

Next steps in research

Encouraged by these findings, Dr. Stewart and his team, Drs. Keenan, Arnold, Lietman, Porco, and Acharya, have proposed a new NIH-funded trial comparing metformin with a placebo in patients with intermediate AMD.

The impact of this research on ophthalmology could be profound. "If metformin proves effective, it would be a cost-efficient treatment option for AMD, encouraging the repurposing of other existing drugs for eye diseases," says Dr. Stewart.

The role of philanthropy

Support from organizations like All May See Foundation has been crucial, funding initial unfunded clinical trials. "Their resources laid the groundwork for our larger studies," says Dr. Stewart. This research could transform AMD treatment for millions at risk globally. 



Dr. Jay Stewart investigates metformin's potential to slow macular degeneration.



ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Dan Schwartz, MD— Innovator and Leader in Ophthalmology

Since joining the Department of Ophthalmology in 1990, Dr. Dan Schwartz has dedicated himself to advancing ophthalmology through innovation and mentorship. Currently, he serves as Director of the Retina Division at the San Francisco VA Medical Center.

Dr. Schwartz's greatest impact in the field of ophthalmology is his groundbreaking work co-inventing the Light Adjustable Lens™ (LAL™) with Caltech collaborators Drs. Robert Grubbs (1942-2021) and Julia Kornfield. This lens has been implanted in over 150,000 eyes and allows for non-invasive vision adjustments after cataract surgery, helping patients achieve 20/20 vision without glasses. Dr. Schwartz also invented OCT angiography with Drs. Scott Fraser and Jeff Fingler, which enables non-invasive imaging of retinal and choroidal vasculature. Used internationally, this technology has transformed the diagnosis and treatment of macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, and other retinal diseases.

Dr. Schwartz was inspired to become an ophthalmologist by his father, Ariah Schwartz, MD, who founded the UCSF Retina Division and was a pioneering retinal surgeon. Mentorship from famed UCSF endocrinologist, Dr. John Baxter, further fueled his desire to advance clinical care.

Currently, Dr. Schwartz focuses on cutting-edge therapies for macular degeneration and diabetic retinopathy through a collaboration with anti-VEGF therapy inventor, Dr. Napoleone Ferrara (UCSD). He is also working on two exciting retina projects with his nephew, UCSF ophthalmologist, Dr. Frank Brodie.

Dr. Schwartz accredits his successes to collaborations with top scientists and engineers. He encourages ophthalmologists to listen closely to patients to tackle unmet needs where current treatments fall short, offering fertile ground for innovation.

Dr. Schwartz expresses gratitude for support from the John Pritzker Family Foundation, the Hellman Foundation, Drs. Kramer, Hoyt, McLeod, Duncan, the culture of independence at UCSF as well as generous support from All May See Foundation, Kathleen Rydar and Deborah Chesky. "None of these pursuits would have been possible without their encouragement and funding," he says. Through his work, Dr. Schwartz exemplifies how passion, mentorship, and collaboration can transform patient care and the field of ophthalmology.👁️

Community news

Our faculty in the spotlight

UCSF eye care program seeks support to provide care for the unhoused

Since 2017, the **UCSF Ophthalmology Shelter Clinic** has been providing essential eye care services at San Francisco's homeless shelters, supported by The California Endowment and the All May See Foundation. The monthly shelter clinic is staffed by medical students and residents under the supervision of UCSF faculty.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic interrupting services, the clinic successfully resumed its optometry and comprehensive screening model in November 2023. The clinic serves residents of the Division Circle Navigation Center, offering comprehensive eye exams, treatment for acute conditions, and preventive education. Patients receive prescription glasses free of charge through partnerships with Zenni Optical and Project Homeless Connect. Those requiring advanced specialty or surgical care are referred to Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital (ZSFG).

Specialized, portable ophthalmic equipment is critical for the clinic's operations, enabling accurate diagnoses and treatments otherwise inaccessible to our patients. The team is seeking funding to acquire this essential equipment to sustain the clinic's operations, ensuring everyone served has the opportunity for better vision and an improved quality of life.

Support these efforts by visiting allmaysee.org/donate. 



Ophthalmologists treat patients at UCSF Ophthalmology Shelter Clinic.


Augie Fund: Celebrating 11 Years of transforming children's vision

The Augie Fund at All May See Foundation marks its 11th anniversary of providing essential vision care to children at UCSF. The fund was established in 2013, when the family of then-five-year-old Augie Wintroub-Hansen set out to find a solution for a very common challenge — keeping a young child in glasses and ensuring that all families can afford to pay for their children's vision needs. Since then, the fund has distributed over 3,500 pairs of glasses and contact lenses to Bay Area children in need. The program managed by **Alejandra de Alba Campomanes, MD, MPH**, continues to make eyewear more affordable, reducing costs to under \$100, compared to the typical \$250–500.

This year, we aim to raise **\$66,625** to help lift our total giving to over \$500,000, expanding services like mobile vision clinics and 3D-printed contact lenses for reconstructive surgeries. Your support ensures children receive the vision care they need to thrive in today's digital learning environment. Make a difference by donating today at allmaysee.org/donate. 



ACCESS breaks barriers to vital eye care in San Francisco

The ACCESS (Alleviating Costs for Critical Eye Specialty Services) program, managed by **Madeline Yung, MD**, and **Tyson Kim, MD, PhD**, has provided sight-saving treatments, not otherwise covered by insurance, to over 100 patients in the past three years. It serves those with vision or life-threatening conditions, including keratoconus, corneal infections and scarring, ocular surface cancers, and limbal stem cell deficiency, by providing advanced treatments like scleral lenses, serum tears, and compounded eye drops. The program collaborated with ZSFG's Department of Care Coordination to identify and treat eligible patients, and initially focused on underserved patients at ZSFG. ACCESS is now expanding to include underserved patients at UCSF Health. To learn more about the program and support our efforts, visit allmaysee.org. 

Additions+++

Staff: Talia Zankman



The All May See Foundation welcomes Ms. Talia Zankman as our new Donor Relations Specialist. She focuses on building meaningful connections with donors who support vision research and

eye care advancement, ensuring our mission continues to thrive. She also plans events and submits grant proposals.

Talia brings valuable experience from her public health background at Northeastern University and her work at Family Health Centers of San Diego, where she helped underserved populations access essential healthcare services. Her personal connection to UCSF Ophthalmology — through her brother's early diagnosis with Retinitis Pigmentosa — drives her passionate commitment to advancing vision care and research.

Talia often greets patients waiting for their appointments. Look for her on your next visit to the Wayne and Gladys Valley Center for Vision. 🧐

Board: Isabella Phan, MD



Dr. Isabella Phan, current President of the Frederick C. Cordes Eye Society, brings extensive expertise in corneal disease and a passionate commitment to vision care to the All May See Board.

After completing her medical education at UCSF, she completed her residency and fellowship in Corneal and External Disease at UCSF and an additional fellowship in Ocular Oncology at Casey Eye Institute at Oregon Health and Sciences University.

Currently an Assistant Physician in Chief with Kaiser Permanente San Francisco, Dr. Phan combines patient care with resident and fellow teaching. A Bay Area native, her dedication to accessible eye care was shaped by a transformative experience with a patient who, after postponing cataract surgery, finally saw his grandchildren's faces clearly. This moment deepened her understanding of how restored vision impacts entire families.

Her clinical expertise and commitment to expanding quality eye care access make her a valuable addition to the All May See Board. 🧐

BRUNO'S JOURNEY

Triumph thanks to medical partnership and personal resilience



Bruno Viscovi

In early 2022, Bruno Viscovi arrived at his ophthalmologist's office with the hope that cataract surgery would restore his failing vision.

Vision and health challenges

Bruno had led an active and fulfilling life as a beloved local restaurateur. But when his vision began failing and he could no longer return to his active lifestyle, he sought the help of his Kaiser eye doctors to address his cataracts. Despite undergoing May 2022 cataract surgery with Kaiser ophthalmologist and UCSF graduate **Janet Hwang, MD**, Bruno had developed an additional problem preventing his visual recovery: corneal swelling due to a hereditary disease of his corneal cells. Due to the partnership between UCSF and Kaiser Ophthalmology at that time, he was referred to UCSF's **David Hwang, MD**, Director of the Cornea Service.

Meanwhile, Bruno's health had deteriorated. Testing revealed advanced bladder cancer, requiring complex surgery and weeks-long hospitalization at Kaiser. After he had finally


regained some of his strength, Bruno's care was transferred to UCSF.

Journey through crisis

Dr. David Hwang performed Bruno's left eye corneal transplant in April 2023, restoring vision in that eye. In January 2024, he performed a right eye operation that combined both cataract surgery and corneal transplantation. During that operation, Bruno's heart rate unexpectedly dropped to fewer than 30 beats per minute, requiring immediate action by the UCSF anesthesiologist to sustain his failing heart while Dr. Hwang rapidly completed the delicate operation. Dr. Hwang then coordinated with UCSF and Kaiser physicians to emergently transfer Bruno to Kaiser so that he could receive a life-saving cardiac pacemaker.

Vision and health restored

By June 2024, Bruno had recovered from his arduous medical journey. He is cancer free, possesses new bilateral corneas and artificial lens implants which restored his vision, and a pacemaker that returned his vitality. Today, he is able to take walks in his neighborhood, read the newspaper, and enjoy life's small details with his family and friends.

Bruno credits his personal resilience, the support of his loving wife Rae, and the collaborative and comprehensive care by his medical teams for saving his vision — and his life. 

Alcatraz Swim for Sight 2024



Deborah Chesky, John de Benedetti, Jacque Duncan, MD, Robert Savoie, Riggins Scheumann, Ron Hirson, Noah Hirson and Lorie Hirson

For over a decade, the Hirson family has led the Alcatraz Swim for Sight, a fundraiser challenging participants to swim across the San Francisco Bay from Alcatraz to Aquatic Park, raising vital funds for vision research.

Their efforts have generated over \$1,000,000 to advance the field. After completing the tenth swim in 2022, Ron and Lorie Hirson passed the torch to their sons, 17 year old Noah and 14 year old Ari, who organized the 11th swim in 2023. That event drew 48 swimmers and raised over **\$154,000** for the UCSF Department of Ophthalmology.

Inspired by their mother's experience living with Retinitis Pigmentosa (RP), a condition causing vision loss, Noah and Ari have embraced this leadership role with a


passion and commitment to continue supporting innovative vision research.

In 2024, Noah and Ari had another successful swim, registering 47 swimmers and raising **nearly \$200,000**. These funds will directly support UCSF's groundbreaking efforts to develop cures for blindness.

The Alcatraz Swim for Sight remains a beacon of hope for the visually impaired worldwide. With Noah and Ari's leadership, this vital cause continues to thrive, inspiring the next generation in the fight against blindness.

Save the date! The next Alcatraz Swim for Sight is on **Sunday, October 5, 2025**.

Join this extraordinary event and help advance the quest to end blindness.

Visit alcatrazswimforsight.org for registration details. 

Alcatraz Swim for Sight 2024 (cont.)



Noah Hirson, Lorie Hirson and Ron Hirson



Swimmers depart the pier to head to Alcatraz Island



Evan Auchard and John de Benedetti



Sunrise at Aquatic Park



Ryan Bauer crosses the finish line

New Research Awards

At the April 2024 meeting, the Board of Directors of All May See approved \$223,000 in research awards for the following projects:

1 Transscleral evaluation and treatment of retinal and vitreoretinal traction

Principal Investigator:

Frank Brodie, MD, MBA

Retinal Detachment (RD) is a significant cause of vision loss among working-age individuals. Currently, there are no non-invasive treatment options and the surgical procedures are technically challenging. This project aims to develop innovative optical methods for imaging and precision laser therapy, providing a non-invasive approach to treat RD.👁️



2 Pathophysiological consequences of AQP4 redistribution in the light damaged retina

Principal Investigator:

Alex Smith, PhD

Exposure of the eyes to direct sunlight or bright artificial light sources can cause photodamage to the retina, potentially leading to permanent blind spots from light toxicity (solar and laser). This project seeks to determine the mechanism behind the redistribution of aquaporin-4 (AQP4) following light damage to the retina. His lab will also investigate whether this redistribution is protective or detrimental. This research will enhance understanding of how the retina responds to damage and will help evaluate whether treatments designed to prevent aquaporin-4 redistribution could be an effective therapeutic strategy.👁️



Please consider:
Selecting "Opportunities Fund for Research" under "Designation" on the All May See donations page to support these vital projects.

3 Expanding SOURCE database: Adding safety-net hospital populations

Principal Investigator:

Jay Stewart, MD



The Sight Outcomes Research Collaborative (SOURCE) Consortium is a multicenter database that collects information on eye care recipients from 17 academic institutions across the United States. It provides a unique opportunity to address relevant clinical questions in ophthalmology. Although UCSF contributes to this database, it lacks data from underserved populations. This project aims to achieve two main objectives (1) to add Zuckerberg San Francisco General Hospital (ZSFG) as a new member site of the SOURCE Consortium, thereby enriching the database with eye health information from a traditionally underrepresented population in clinical research and (2) to support UCSF's on-going membership in the SOURCE database. 🧐

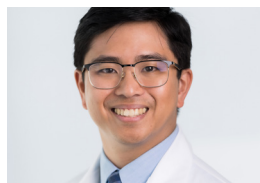
4 Neural activity's role in transplanted retinal cell integration

Principal Investigator:

Yvonne Ou, MD,
and Bryce Bajar, MD, PhD



Glaucoma is the leading cause of irreversible blindness worldwide.



Continued next column

One promising method to treat this condition involves transplanting connections between the retina and the brain. This project will investigate how neural activity contributes to the formation of connections between the transplanted retinal ganglion cells and the host retina. Findings could help establish a foundation for cell transplantation treatments aimed at reversing blindness caused by glaucoma. 🧐

5 Determining genetic factors contributing to glaucomatous neurodegeneration

Principal Investigator:

Sai Nair, PhD



Primary open-angle glaucoma (POAG) is a leading cause of irreversible blindness. By 2050, people affected in the US will increase from 2.7 million to approximately 7.3 million. This alarming trend highlights the urgent need for new treatments to reduce POAG risk and progression. However, understanding of the underlying mechanisms of POAG etiology remains limited. Our goal is to functionally validate glaucoma-related genes and to uncover the pathogenic mechanisms involved. This project will specifically investigate the role of genes expressed in retinal ganglion cells — primary nerve cells impacted in glaucoma. 🧐

Two-Year Update on All May See funded research awards

All May See provides annual grants to UCSF Ophthalmology and Francis I. Proctor Foundation researchers exploring innovative solutions for vision disorders. In 2022, \$200,000 funded these projects:

**Project Title:**

Effect of resolvins on Tumor Necrosis Factor (TNF) Alpha induced intraocular inflammation

Principal Investigator: Frank Brodie, MD, MBA

Findings: Severe ocular inflammation, known as uveitis, can lead to vision loss and blindness. However, current treatments often have serious side effects, including cataracts, glaucoma, immune suppression, and an increased risk of infection. Our research focuses on resolvins, which are naturally occurring lipids that effectively reduce inflammation. With support from All May See, we demonstrated the potential of resolvins to counteract inflammation driven by TNF- α in a rodent model, resulting in a significant decrease in uveitis. These findings pave the way for a new class of immune-modulating therapies for patients with uveitis. We are in the process of finalizing a manuscript to share our results and are developing a therapeutic approach to bring this promising solution to patients. 👁

**Project Title:**

Antibiotic Resistance In Eye Surgeries (ARIES)

Principal Investigator:

Thuy Doan, MD, PhD, and Ying Han, MD, PhD

Findings: The ARIES study, funded by the All May See Foundation, was the first randomized controlled trial to investigate the effects of topical antibiotics on systemic antimicrobial resistance (AMR) in eye surgery. A total of 108 cataract patients were enrolled at UCSF, and the study compared outcomes among three groups: one group received a topical antibiotic, moxifloxacin, four times daily, another group once daily, and the third group received no topical antibiotics. The results demonstrated no increase in fluoroquinolone resistance and no significant differences in microbiome diversity among the treatment groups. This suggests that short-term antibiotic use in eye surgeries does not contribute to AMR. The funding also enabled the completion of the full processing of all samples, despite delays caused by the pandemic. 👁

**Project Title:**

Generating mice with a tagged type 1 collagen allele

Principal Investigator:

Douglas Gould, PhD

Findings: The All May See Foundation has been supporting the development of a new mouse model with fluorescently tagged *COL1A2*, which will enable targeted visualization and analysis of Type I collagen—a key protein in tissue biology. Mutations in the *COL1A1* and *COL1A2* genes are associated with conditions such as osteogenesis imperfecta, tissue fibrosis, cancer, and glaucoma, all of which present significant clinical challenges. This innovative mouse strain will allow researchers to study collagen production and degradation in vivo, offering valuable insights into tissue health across multiple organs and disease contexts.

The award is being used to generate the mouse strain described above that has *COL1A2* tagged. This simple but powerful tool will allow for unprecedented characterization of spatial, temporal, biochemical and biophysical parameters of the extracellular matrix (ECM) that are currently impossible to achieve. If successful, we will have developed a transformative tool that will provide significant insights into a fundamental aspect of tissue biology, applicable to every organ of the body in both developmental and in pathological settings.👁



Project Title: Intracanalicular steroid implant for postoperative management following corneal collagen cross-linking in pediatric and developmentally delayed patients

Principal Investigator:

Maanasa Indaram, MD

Findings: The All May See Foundation funded a study to improve the treatment of keratoconus, a vision-threatening, progressive disease of the cornea, in pediatric and developmentally disabled patients. Corneal collagen cross-linking, FDA-approved in 2016, slows keratoconus progression in this population and can be performed under general anesthesia for these patients who are unable to tolerate the procedure in the clinic. However, the month-long steroid eye drop regimen remains challenging for them and their caregivers.


With the Foundation's support, researchers are evaluating Dextenza (Ocular Therapeutix, Inc.), a sustained-release steroid insert placed in the eyelid, as an alternative to eye drops, aiming to improve outcomes. Funding has enabled the purchase of Dextenza implants, support for a clinical research coordinator, and publications advancing care and accessibility for keratoconus treatment in these vulnerable populations.👁



Project Title: Collagen modifiersome in connective tissue disorders

Principal Investigators:

Yoshi Ishikawa, PhD


Findings: Our research examines the roles of LH3 and FKBP22 proteins in collagen production and their impact on collagen IV in connective tissue, focusing on blood vessels in the eye and brain, with relevance to Gould syndrome. We found collagen IV production is significantly impaired in LH3-deficient cells and identified novel pathogenic LH3 variants linked to Gould syndrome. We also discovered FKBP22 binds different collagen types, with electrical charges along the collagen molecule playing a critical role. Mutations in FKBP22 are linked to Ehlers-Danlos syndrome. This work has led to two publications, several presentations, and further funding applications, advancing treatment development. 



Project Title: A 'triple threat' therapeutic approach for Stargardt inherited macular degeneration

Principal Investigators:

Aparna Lakkaraju, PhD

Findings: Age-related macular degeneration (AMD) and Stargardt disease destroy central vision in millions of people worldwide and lack effective therapies. We discovered a powerful trigger that drives multiple pathological features in these diseases and identified an FDA-approved drug that blocks it. Our studies show that this drug protects mitochondria and restores vision in preclinical models of macular degeneration. These studies have resulted in funding from the NIH and private foundations and a manuscript detailing our discoveries will be submitted soon. We are actively working towards translating this novel therapeutic approach to treat patients with these devastating diseases. 




Project Title:

Ocular Surface Ion Transport in Dry Eye Disease

Principal Investigators:

Neel Pasricha, MD

Findings: The goal of our research is to discover new drugs that can increase tear production to treat dry eye disease. We used ocular surface electrophysiology, which involves measuring electrical changes in the tear film on the eye's surface to study ion transport-movement of sodium, chloride, and potassium across membranes. This research has resulted in two peer-reviewed publications and two patents for potential new drugs aimed at addressing dry eye disease. The first drug is a calcium-sensing receptor (CaSR) inhibitor, and the second drug is a lysophosphatidic acid receptor (LPA) modulator. We have secured additional funding from NIH/NEI to advance development of the calcium-sensing receptor inhibitor, highlighting this research's potential. 

ALUMNI HAPPENINGS

Frederick C. Cordes Eye Society – Alumni Society of the Department of Ophthalmology, UCSF

AAO 2024 Faculty Alumni Event

In October 2024, during the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) Annual Meeting in Chicago, UCSF held its annual Faculty and Alumni Reception at Sunda New Asian restaurant. Nearly 100 attendees, including UCSF faculty, alumni, and global ophthalmology professionals gathered to celebrate UCSF's latest achievements in eye health. The event was hosted by the Frederick C. Cordes Eye Society, UCSF Department of Ophthalmology, Francis I. Proctor Foundation, H. Bruce Ostler Association of Proctor Fellows, and the All May See Foundation, underscoring UCSF's ongoing impact in vision science and patient care. 📺



Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) 2024 Faculty Alumni Reception

At ARVO 2024 in Seattle (May 5-9), teams from UCSF Ophthalmology and Proctor Foundation presented their groundbreaking research. Numerous talks and posters explored key topics including macular degeneration, glaucoma, pediatric ophthalmology, and artificial intelligence applications in eye care. Faculty and alumni connected at a networking reception held at the Metropolitan Grill on May 7. 📺

December Course Reception and Cordes Program


During the 2024 UCSF December Course, UCSF alumni gathered at the Mission Bay Conference Center. The program featured experts in various ophthalmology subspecialties. The Cordes Society elected new officers: Katherine Niemeyer, MD, President; John Nesemann, MD, Vice President; and Maanasa Indaram, MD, Secretary-Treasurer. The event was followed by a social hour at Mission Rock Resort. 📺

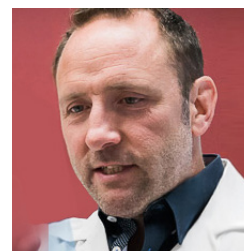


Faculty News for 2024


Our faculty in the spotlight

UCSF opens the world's first Gould Syndrome Center

We are excited to announce the opening of the Center of Excellence for Gould Syndrome, led by **Doug Gould, PhD**, and pediatric ophthalmologist **Alejandra de Alba Campomanes, MD, MPH**. This first of its kind center helps families affected by this rare genetic disorder and represents the culmination of Dr. Gould's extensive research on mutations in the *COL4A1* and *COL4A2* genes. The purpose of the clinic is to improve patient care and advance research to better understand the disease. Dr. Gould is a Professor of Ophthalmology and Anatomy, the Vice Chair for Research in Ophthalmology, and has affiliations with the Institute for Human Genetics, Bakar Aging Research Institute, and Cardiovascular Research Institute. 



TeamSTEPPS: Improving patient care through collaboration — led by David Hwang, MD

In an ongoing effort to elevate patient care, **Dr. David Hwang**, Professor of Ophthalmology and an American Hospital Association TeamSTEPPS Master Trainer in health care teamwork and communication, spearheaded two 1.5 hour-long sessions in August 2024 for over 100 ophthalmology faculty and staff. Interactive, role-playing scenarios enabled participants to practice teamwork and communication skills shown to improve the patient experience, enhance care quality, and reduce medical errors. As the first department at UCSF to institute such training on a department-wide basis, this initiative exemplifies the Department of Ophthalmology's leadership in continuous improvement and innovation in healthcare delivery. 




Peer review in Ophthalmology: Training the next generation of vision scientists

Matilda Chan, MD, PhD, has been leading an innovative program she developed, entitled: Peer Review in Ophthalmology: A Collaborative Approach to Training the Next Generation of Reviewers.




Representing the Council of Vision Editors, her work on this program was recently featured in *Investigative Ophthalmology & Visual Science (IOVS)*. 

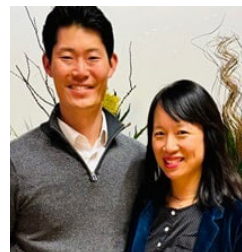
Dr. de Alba Campomanes receives UCSF Exceptional Physician Award

Dr. de Alba Campomanes received the prestigious UCSF Exceptional Physician Award for the year 2023-2024! She is a pediatric ophthalmologist, Professor of Ophthalmology, she is the previous vice chair of diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) for the Department of Ophthalmology. This award recognizes her tireless efforts to improve healthcare outcomes, advance medical knowledge, and foster an inclusive and equitable environment for all. 



ARVO Foundation names 2024 winners of Dr. David L. Epstein Award

The ARVO Foundation has named UCSF's **Yvonne Ou, MD**, and **Tyson Kim, MD, PhD**, the 2024 recipients of the Dr. David L. Epstein Award, which includes a \$100,000 grant to support their collaborative research on glaucoma. Their project, "Intravital Imaging of Microglia Dynamics During Synapse Disassembly in Glaucoma," aims to better understand the role of microglia in the disease, utilizing advanced imaging techniques to observe microglia in living eyes. Dr. Kim also emphasized the mentorship legacy of Dr. David Epstein, whose guidance shaped Dr. Ou's career and continues to inspire his own. 




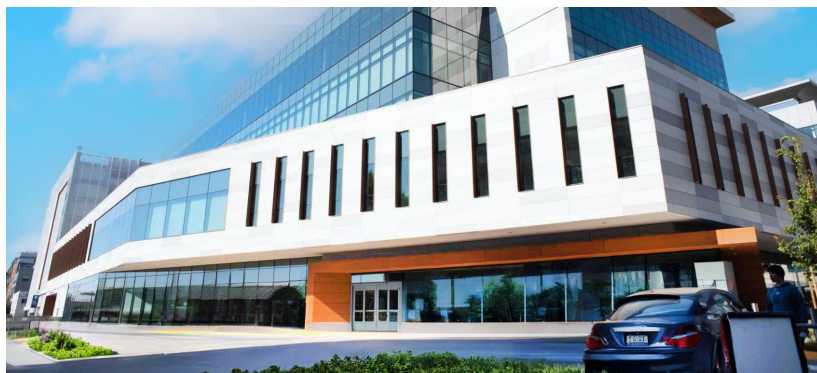
UCSF Health opens comprehensive care facility at Mission Bay

UCSF Health's Bayfront Medical Building, a state-of-the-art 181,000-square-foot facility, opened August 27, 2024, at 520 Illinois Street, next to the Wayne and Gladys Valley Center for Vision. Expanding access to care, it offers primary, specialty, and urgent care services, along with outpatient surgery.

Home to more than 130 physicians, Bayfront will handle 131,000 patient visits annually. The facility features 14 outpatient operating rooms, radiology, physical therapy, and a pharmacy. It also serves as the primary site for adult ambulatory ophthalmic surgeries, with four dedicated operating rooms — which will integrate with clinical appointments at the Valley Center for Vision.

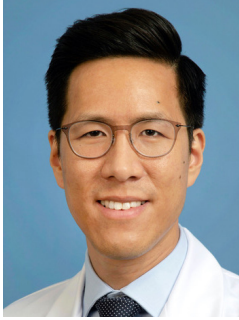
Designed for patient comfort, the building includes natural lighting, local art, lactation rooms, a café, a nine-floor parking garage and easy public transit access.

Bayfront reflects UCSF Health's commitment to compassionate care, research, and innovation. 



More details on these and other stories available at <https://allmaysee.org/newsroom/>. 

New UCSF Ophthalmology Faculty




Simon Fung, MD, MA(Oxon), FRCOphth
Associate Professor

Dr. Simon Fung joined UCSF in July 2024 as an Associate Professor specializing in corneal diseases in children and adults.

Dr. Fung pursued his undergraduate studies in physiological sciences at Oxford University. He completed his MD at Oxford Medical School and residency and fellowship at Moorfields Eye Hospital in London, where he concentrated on the cornea. Dr. Fung completed his second fellowship at the Hospital for Sick Children, specializing in pediatric corneal diseases.

Dr. Fung's research focuses on enhancing precision and accuracy in anterior segment surgeries. He uses cutting-edge imaging techniques, such as anterior segment optical coherence tomography, to improve the understanding and treatment of corneal conditions.

Dr. Fung was born in Hong Kong, China and he brings over 15 years of clinical experience to UCSF. 



Luciano Custo Greig, MD, PhD
Assistant Professor

Dr. Luciano Custo Greig joined UCSF in September 2024 as an Assistant Professor specializing in vitreoretinal surgery.

He pursued his undergraduate studies at Yale, followed by the medical scientist training program at Harvard, where he completed an MD and a PhD in Developmental and Regenerative Biology. Dr. Greig then moved to California for ophthalmology residency at Stanford and vitreoretinal surgery fellowship at the University of Southern California.

His laboratory at UCSF investigates how gene regulatory networks direct neural progenitors to generate diverse classes and subtypes of retinal neurons during development.

Dr. Greig is originally from Buenos Aires, Argentina. He is the brother of one of our ophthalmology residents, **Eugenia Custo Greig, MD**, who is in her final year of training. 



Nickisa Hodgson, MD, MAS
Associate Professor

Dr. Nickisa Hodgson joined UCSF in August 2024 as an Associate Professor specializing in oculofacial and orbital surgery.

She pursued her undergraduate studies at University of California, San Diego, and continued to complete both her MD and Ophthalmology residency at the UC San Diego Medical School. Dr. Hodgson then moved to Maryland for a fellowship in Oculoplastic and Reconstructive surgery at Johns Hopkins University.

Dr. Hodgson is an active clinical researcher. She has published numerous peer-reviewed articles in prominent journals including the *New England Journal of Medicine*, *JAMA Ophthalmology*, *Orbit*, and *Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery*. Her clinical research focus includes thyroid eye disease, ophthalmic medical education, artificial intelligence, and disparities in orbital disease.

Dr. Hodgson was born in Mountain View, California, and now lives in the East Bay with her husband and two daughters.👁️

New UCSF Optometrists



Siavash Assar, OD

Dr. Siavash Assar joined UCSF in 2024 as an optometrist specializing in comprehensive eye care. After earning a bioengineering degree from UC San Diego and his Doctor of Optometry from Herbert Wertheim School of Optometry & Vision Science at UC Berkeley, he completed his residency in ocular disease and low vision at Jesse Brown VA Medical Center in Chicago.

Dr. Assar's expertise in managing complex ocular conditions and low vision rehabilitation helps patients maintain their independence and quality of life. Before joining UCSF, he served as an assistant clinical professor at UC Berkeley and practiced at Palo Alto Medical Foundation, where he gained extensive experience in patient care. At UCSF, Dr. Assar is delivering neuro-optometry and ocular oncology subspecialty care. He was born in Dover, New Hampshire and grew up in San Jose, California. When not at work, he enjoys playing volleyball, being active, and spending time outdoors.👁️

NEXT PAGE: More new Optometrists >

New UCSF Optometrists (cont.)



Olivia Bass, OD

Dr. Olivia Bass joined UCSF in 2023 as an optometrist specializing in comprehensive eye care. After earning her Doctor of Optometry from New England College of Optometry, she completed a residency in pediatric optometry at BronxCare Health System. She is a fellow of the American Academy of Optometry.

As a pediatric optometrist, Dr. Bass particularly enjoys working with infants, children, and patients with special needs. Her expertise includes treating strabismus and fitting specialized contact lenses to treat pediatric eye disorders. Dr. Bass was raised in Miami, Florida and later did her optometric training in the Northeast. In her free time, she enjoys spending time outdoors, reading, and searching for the perfect bagel. 🥯



Madi Brown, OD

Dr. Madi Brown joined UCSF in August 2023 as an optometrist who specializes in pediatrics. After earning her Doctor of Optometry from Herbert Wertheim School of Optometry & Vision Science at UC Berkeley, she completed her residency in pediatric and primary care optometry at the same institution.

Dr. Brown treats patients of all ages, and frequently treats conditions like amblyopia and strabismus. She serves as an investigator in the Pediatric Eye Disease Investigator Group, conducting research on childhood eye disorders. Dr. Brown is originally from a small town in Minnesota and has called the Bay Area home since 2018. In her free time, she is a running and biking enthusiast who loves the outdoors. 🥶



Tiffany Chen, OD, MS


Dr. Tiffany Chen joined UCSF in 2024 as an optometrist who provides comprehensive eye care. After earning her Doctor of Optometry and Master of Science in Vision Science degrees from the State University of New York (SUNY) College of Optometry, she completed her residency in ocular disease and primary care at UCSF.

Dr. Chen also manages eye condition such as dry eyes, cataracts, glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy and macular degeneration. She has a special interest in treating corneal and anterior segment disorders. She was born in Taiwan and raised in Los Angeles, California. In her free time, she enjoys playing tennis, golf, traveling, and spending time with her loved ones. 🥶



Tiffany La, OD


Dr. Tiffany La joined UCSF in July 2023 as an optometrist specializing in pediatric comprehensive eye care. After earning her Doctor of Optometry from Herbert Wertheim School of Optometry & Vision Science at UC Berkeley, she completed a residency in pediatric optometry at the Illinois College of Optometry.

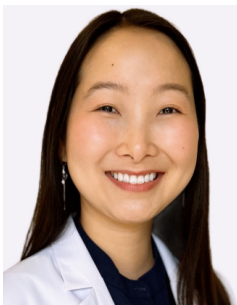
She provides comprehensive care for children of all ages, with expertise in treating binocular vision disorders and managing progressive myopia. Dr. La was born in Pasadena, Texas and grew up in Las Vegas, Nevada. When not at work, she loves spending time with husband and two young sons. Dr. La enjoys going to her local library and exploring museums and parks with her family. 



Kresta Ria A. Tabaranza, OD


Dr. Kresta Tabaranza joined UCSF in September 2023 as an optometrist specializing in comprehensive eye care. After earning her biology degree from Point Loma Nazarene University and Doctor of Optometry from Herbert Wertheim School of Optometry & Vision Science at UC Berkeley, she completed her residency at Veterans Affairs San Diego Health System.

Dr. Tabaranza is Filipino American but was born in Saudi Arabia while her parents were working overseas. As a child, she migrated with her entire family to the San Francisco Bay area. She is the youngest of four siblings, an aunt to nine nieces and nephews, and was recently married at the end of 2023. In her free time, she enjoys spending time with loved ones and singing karaoke. 

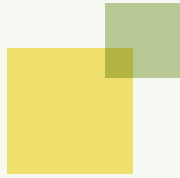


Jennifer Tran, OD

Dr. Jennifer Tran joined UCSF in July 2023 as an optometrist specializing in comprehensive eye care. She earned a chemistry degree from the University of Toronto before completing her Doctor of Optometry at the Herbert Wertheim School of Optometry & Vision Science at UC Berkeley and residency at Bascom Palmer Eye Institute in Miami, Florida.

Dr. Tran provides comprehensive eye care to patients of all ages to diagnose and manage eye and vision disorders. She has experience in diabetic eye exams, dry eye treatment, ocular emergency visits, glaucoma, and macular degeneration. She was born and raised in Toronto, Canada and in her free time, Dr. Tran enjoys trying new restaurants, reading, and traveling with her fiancé. 

Support our Doctors. Donate today at allmaysee.org/donate




K. Bruce Friedman



K. Bruce Friedman, passed away in September 2024 at the age of 94. He was deeply grateful for the care and research of Dr. Yvonne Ou and supported her efforts to save and restore sight through the All May See Foundation (AMSF).

Born in Buffalo, NY, Bruce received degrees from Harvard College and Yale Law School. After serving in the U.S. Army, Bruce practiced law for nearly 60 years in San Francisco, specializing in trusts and estates and related tax planning. He was a retired partner of Friedman McCubbin Law Group, LLP with AMSF Board member Donald J. McCubbin. He was preceded in death by Lois, his wife of 34 years.

Bruce served as a volunteer leader of numerous Bay Area philanthropic causes related to education, community, world affairs, economy, and law. He was an avid reader of history, politics and economics, and a strong supporter of proper grammar and syntax.

He requested that friends wishing to make contributions in his memory support the continuing work of All May See Foundation, 490 Illinois Street, UCSF Box 0352, 3rd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94143. 



In memoriam

Ruth Rubin Hoffman



Ruth Hoffman, whose legacy lives on in the William G. and Ruth R. Hoffman Auditorium at UCSF's Wayne and Gladys Valley Center for Vision, was a transformative supporter of the Future of Vision campaign. Her contribution created a state-of-the-art educational theater that serves faculty, residents, guest speakers, and the public, advancing understanding of eye research and care.

Living to 102, Ruth's remarkable journey began with her 1941 graduation from the University of Chicago, followed by a cross-country bicycle adventure to California. During WWII, she worked as a "Rosie the Riveter" and taught pre-school at the Richmond Shipyards, later serving with the International Red Cross. She spent many years as a Contra Costa County probation officer.

Ruth was preceded in death by her husband Bill, Golden Grain's former Vice President, who received care from UCSF's Dr. Allan Flach. The auditorium stands as a tribute not only to Ruth and Bill but also honors her friendship with brothers Dr. O'Neil S. Dillon and Eugene S. Dillon, the latter of whom was her student starting at age four in the Shipyard. 🧐

Alexander R. Irvine, MD



Dr. Alexander Irvine, who passed away on September 14, 2024, at age 86 in Santa Rosa, California, leaves behind an extraordinary legacy in ophthalmology. A Harvard Medical School graduate, he completed his residency at UCSF, followed by fellowships in corneal disease and retina.

At UCSF's Department of Ophthalmology, Dr. Irvine rose to Professor and Vice Chair, leading the Retina Division while combining expertise in vitreoretinal surgery with profound dedication to his patients.

Dr. Irvine's greatest impact was through teaching. His humility and commitment to resident education led UCSF to name its annual Residents' Day in his honor. He trained countless ophthalmologists who became leaders nationwide and internationally.

He is survived by his wife, Dr. Chauncy Irvine, children Matthew and Mary, and granddaughters Alexandra and Kathryn. Donations in his memory may be made to All May See Foundation. 🧐

In memorium (cont.)


Shiu Y. Kwok, MD, PhD, JD



Dr. Shiu Y. Kwok, a beloved ophthalmologist, and mentor who served San Francisco's diverse community for four decades, passed away in September, 2024.

His medical journey began at Albert Einstein College of Medicine, followed by an internship at Bronx Veterans Administration Medical Center, residency at UCSF Medical Center, and fellowship training at LAC/USC Medical Center. He was known for his exceptional patient care and broad intellect.

Dr. Kwok's impact extended beyond medicine. His fluency in English, Cantonese, and Mandarin enabled him to serve a wide spectrum of patients with compassion and dedication. In addition to his medical career, he earned both a PhD and a JD, demonstrating his commitment to excellence.


To honor him and his memory, donations to establish the Shiu Y. Kwok, MD, PhD Endowed Professorship at UCSF Ophthalmology can be made through the All May See Foundation (allmaysee.org/donate). This endowment will support future research and education. 

Sanford Robertson



Sanford Richard "Sandy" Robertson, who passed away in Dallas at 93, was a transformative figure in All May See Foundation's history. With his late wife Jeanne, he launched the Director's Council through a pivotal dinner at their home, establishing the philanthropic foundation for The Future of Vision campaign and the Wayne and Gladys Valley Center for Vision.

Born in Winnetka, IL, Sandy built his career in California after serving as a Navy officer. His vision for Silicon Valley's potential led him to establish successful investment firms, culminating in Francisco Partners with Dipanjan Deb and David Stanton.

A University of Michigan graduate, Sandy credited his Navy experience as fundamental to his business success. He is survived by his wife, Nancy Cain Marcus Robertson, and three daughters from his first marriage. Both Sandy and Jeanne were deeply appreciative of the care provided by Dr. Yvonne Ou and the late Dr. Jorge Alvarado. 

From the President of All May See

A Year of Visionary Impact


As we reflect on 2024, I am inspired by the remarkable strides we've made together at the All May See Foundation. Your support has fueled innovation, discovery, and compassion in our mission to restore and preserve sight for all.

We honored visionaries who shaped ophthalmology.

Dr. Robert Stamper's dedication to glaucoma care and education, **Bill and Ruth Hoffman's** generosity in creating the William G. and Ruth R. Hoffman Auditorium, and the lasting legacies of **Dr. Shiu Y. Kwok** and **Dr. Alexander Irvine** remind us of the transformative power of vision science, compassionate care, and philanthropy. We will also greatly miss **K. Bruce Friedman** and **Sanford Richard "Sandy" Robertson** who championed our efforts.

With all of their inspiration, we advanced groundbreaking research, expanded care to underserved communities through initiatives like ACCESS and Shelter Clinics, and saw one of our seed funding gifts leveraged to secure over \$6 million from the National Institutes of Health (NIH). These achievements demonstrate the profound impact of your generosity.

We hope you enjoy this edition of *Vision* magazine, filled with stories of innovation, perseverance, and the enduring spirit of our community. Every milestone reflects our shared commitment to a world where all may see.

As we enter 2025, I look forward to building on these successes together and continuing to bring hope and sight to those in need. 

With my warmest personal regards,



Deborah J. Chesky, LMSW, MBA, CFRE

President, All May See Foundation



Vision

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2. Restricted Gifts

If you would like to specify how your donation is used, please select 'Other' in the designation space to donate to any of the following programs and initiatives:

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- Named endowments
- Equipment

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Ask if your employer has a matching gift program and how you can participate. You will receive acknowledgement for the total combined gift.

If you need assistance, please contact us at **415.476.4016** or at **allmaysee@ucsf.edu**.

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