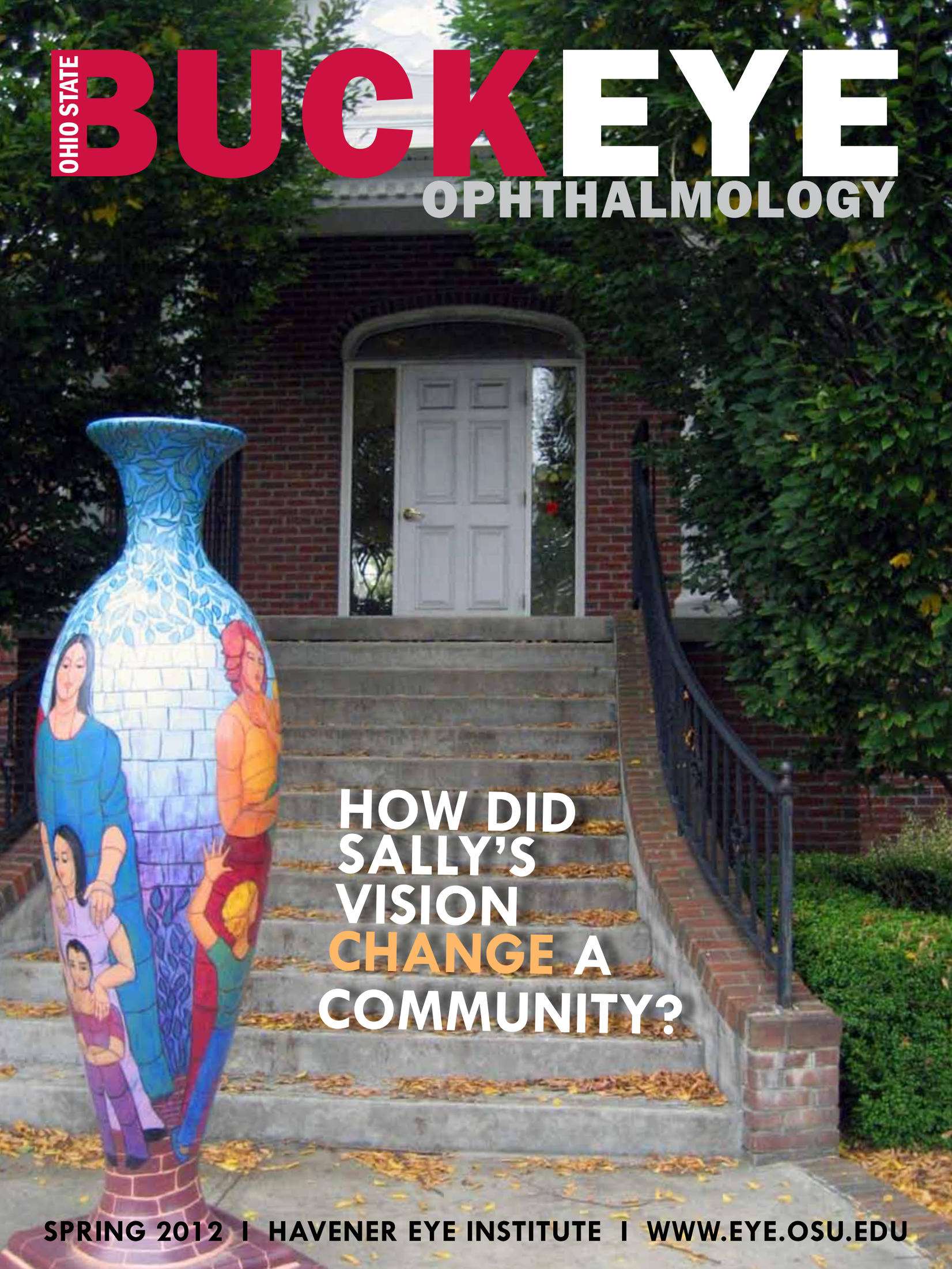

OHIO STATE BUCKEYE OPHTHALMOLOGY

HOW DID SALLY'S VISION CHANGE A COMMUNITY?

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OHIO STATE BUCKEYE OPHTHALMOLOGY

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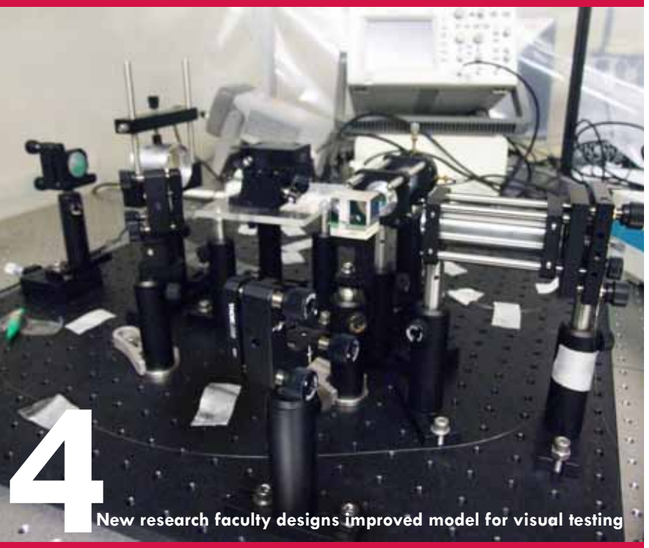

4 New research faculty designs improved model for visual testing

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OHIO STATE Wexner Medical Center

"They didn't just give me my vision back, they gave me my life back. I play the organ at church and had to stop when my vision went. Now I'm back every Sunday. I am so grateful to Dr. Christoforidis and all of the staff at the Havener Eye Institute."

Helen Holmgren
Havener Eye Institute Patient

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AMD PATIENT FUNDS RESEARCH

RUBY L. GRILL LEAVES A LASTING GIFT TO HELP FIGHT BLINDING EYE DISEASE

When former Air Force Secretary Ruby Grill found out that she was losing her vision to age-related macular degeneration (AMD), she was upset, but she was not going to let it hold her back. That kind of determination was the story of her life.

Born in 1927, and raised in Dayton, Ohio, Ruby was always an independent, intelligent person. She never married or drove a car, but she managed to get around with minimal reliance on others.

"She never wanted to be a burden to anyone," said her lifelong friend and co-worker Cathy Bowman. "When folks did small favors for her, she rewarded them with a box of Esther Price candy."

She was a dedicated civil service employee with a long career as a secretary at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base *(pictured above)* for over 40 years. She loved the City of Dayton and the Air Force, and was very proud of her country.

"She seldom watched TV, always listened to radio broadcast to stay current with events," said Cathy. "She was a wonderful listener and companion to those she cared about. She had a keen sense of humor and had great stories of past and current times, as she was always aware of the most recent news."

When she was diagnosed with AMD, Ruby was somewhat dispirited and upset about her continued weakening vision, but she was very impressed with Chairman, Thomas Mauger, MD and his genuine concern for patients.

In her will, Ms. Grill left several hundred thousand dollars to The OSU Havener Eye Institute to be used for eye disease research and treatment, macular degeneration in particular. She wanted to do her part to ensure that the disease that stole her vision would not affect another person.

"She had kind, blue eyes," said Cathy. "She hated the fact that she was losing her vision, it really upset her. I'm sure her donation to OSU was in hopes of research to help make someone else's life better."

HOW DID SALLY'S VISION CHANGE A COMMUNITY?

When Sarah Slack passed away in 2004, she left instructions in her will for the bulk of her estate to fund research in Age-Related Macular Degeneration (AMD), a condition that had severely impacted her vision. What she didn't know was how big of an impact it would make on her community and all of central Ohio.

Sarah (Sally) Slack was born in 1917 in Zanesville, Ohio. She attended Lash High School and Muskingum College. When she graduated in 1939, she took a few extra classes at The Ohio State University, so she could become a teacher.

Sally taught at McKinley, McIntire, and Lincoln Elementary Schools in the Zanesville City School system. She also taught special reading education for students in the Zanesville City Schools and St. Thomas Elementary.

Many teachers decorate their classrooms to help engage their students, but Sally was like a walking classroom. Her colorful sweaters were a sight to be seen; matched only by her vibrant personality and generosity of spirit.

Sally was always giving, even if it was just a piece of fruit or candy that she happened to have on her at the time. Giving was a way of life for her.

When she started having trouble with her vision, she went to see Alan Letson, MD, a Zanesville native who practiced ophthalmology in Columbus.

"When I met Sally," said Dr. Letson, "she was upset about the vision she was losing from AMD. We used to have long talks about the lack of treatment available for dry AMD. She was determined to change all of that."

When Sally passed away at the age of 87, the majority of her estate was left to the direction of the Muskingum County Community Foundation to help fund research in macular degeneration.

Located in the Putnam Historic District of Zanesville, the Muskingum County Community Foundation is in its 27th year of operation with millions of dollars of assets to manage for the benefit of Muskingum County and the greater central Ohio area.

David Mitzel, Executive Director at the Muskingum County Community Foundation, met Sally when he was visiting his aunt in an assisted care facility.

"Sally was a character and a good character. She was a school teacher. She was used to dealing with young children. She was young at heart," said Mitzel.

Sally loved animals, so David would bring his dog into the dining room for her. David was glad to bring a smile to her face because Sally had spent her life bringing happiness to everyone else.

It seems that Sally wasn't finished. The gift Muskingum County Community Foundation received to establish the Sarah E. Slack Prevention of Blindness Fund was about $900,000. This fund will support research to find a cure for the leading causes of blindness, especially macular degeneration.


Sally's hometown of Zanesville is known for having the world's only Y-shaped bridge

In macular degeneration, the light-sensing cells of the macula mysteriously malfunction and may over time cease to work. AMD gradually destroys sharp, central vision. Central vision is needed for seeing objects clearly and for common daily tasks such as reading and driving.

"When Sally visited me, she discussed in detail, what she wanted her money to support," said Dr. Letson. "I wanted to be a good steward for her and her money. When I look at what we have done here at Ohio State and where we are today compared to six years ago, it's pretty dramatic. A lot of it is due to Sally and the Muskingum County Community Foundation recognizing our potential research endeavors and helping us improve the lives of many Ohioans."

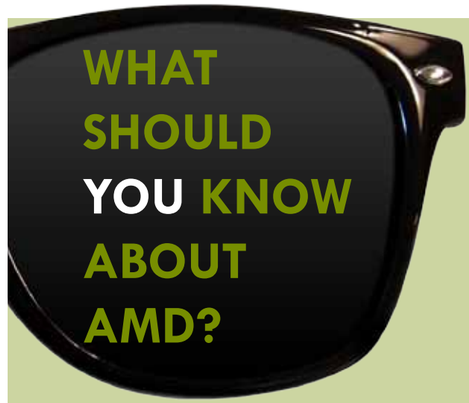
Initially, Sally's donation helped acquire state-of-the-art retinal imaging, including high-resolution retinal cameras, fundus autofluorescence capability and spectral Domain OCT—all tools needed in several subsequent National Institutes of Health sponsored AMD clinical trials.

In addition, Sally's donation has helped fund research to help develop a better drug delivery method for AMD medication using microscopic particles known as nanobubbles.

AMD medication requires a high concentration to get to the retina for proper treatment, but current methods allow it to quickly disperse after it is injected. This makes more injections necessary, and each additional injection multiplies a patient's risk of adverse reactions.

The new, drug-loaded nanobubbles will allow medication to accumulate in the retina for a longer period of time, until activated selectively using ultrasound. The biodegradable nanobubbles keep the medication from dispersing before reaching the target area, reducing the number of injections needed.

"I feel very good about what we have accomplished with Sally's bequest," said Dr. Letson. "We have followed her specific goals and directions to put her money to use in the realm of macular degeneration research. Each success magnifies the impact of Sally's donation not only in Muskingum County, but throughout Central Ohio. We are very grateful for Sally Slack's forward thinking and generosity in improving the future for all patients with AMD."



WHAT SHOULD YOU KNOW ABOUT AMD?

QUICK FACTS

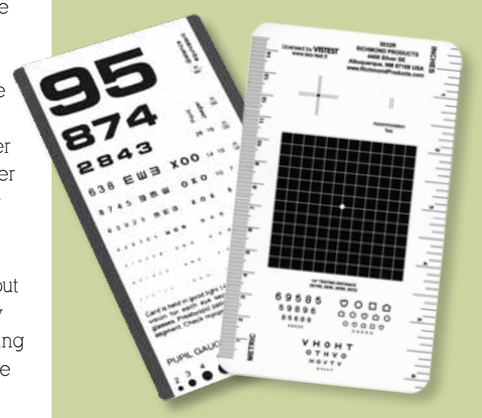
- As many as 11 million people in the U.S. have some form of AMD
- AMD can affect one or both eyes
- AMD can progress slowly or rapidly
- Dry and wet AMD are not painful

SIGNS OF AMD

- **Early:** There are no symptoms or vision loss at this stage.
- **Intermediate:** Some people may need additional light or magnification for tasks such as reading. They may have difficulty transitioning from daylight to indoor lighting.
- **Advanced:** A blurry spot, distortion, or sudden loss of central vision may develop over several days to weeks.

GAME PLAN

- Get regular eye exams
- Ask your eye doctor for an amsler grid
- Educate yourself on the signs of AMD



WHAT'S NEXT IN OPTICS?

GUOQIANG LI, PHD, OUR NEWEST FACULTY MEMBER, BRINGS HIS CUTTING EDGE RESEARCH TO OSU

Meet our newest faculty researcher, Guoqiang Li, PhD, whose fresh ideas and passion for pushing the scientific envelope are changing the visual world.

Dr. Li received his PhD from the Shanghai Institute of Optics and Fine Mechanics, and then completed a fellowship in the Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering at the University of California, San Diego.

After graduation, he worked on developing a scanning laser polarimeter for the diagnosis of glaucoma. A scanning polarimeter uses polarized light to measure the thickness of the retinal nerve fiber layer (the light sensitive tissue that lines the back of the eye).

When he had a commercially available concurrent prototype scanning polarimeter, he began focusing on adaptive optics.

"One of my early projects was to develop adaptive eyeglasses," said Dr. Li. "The idea is to overcome the disadvantages of the current bifocal and trifocal eyeglasses."

In 2008, Dr. Li's work with adaptive eyeglasses was published and had such an impact that he has been interviewed by more than 250 media sources; including print, radio, and TV.

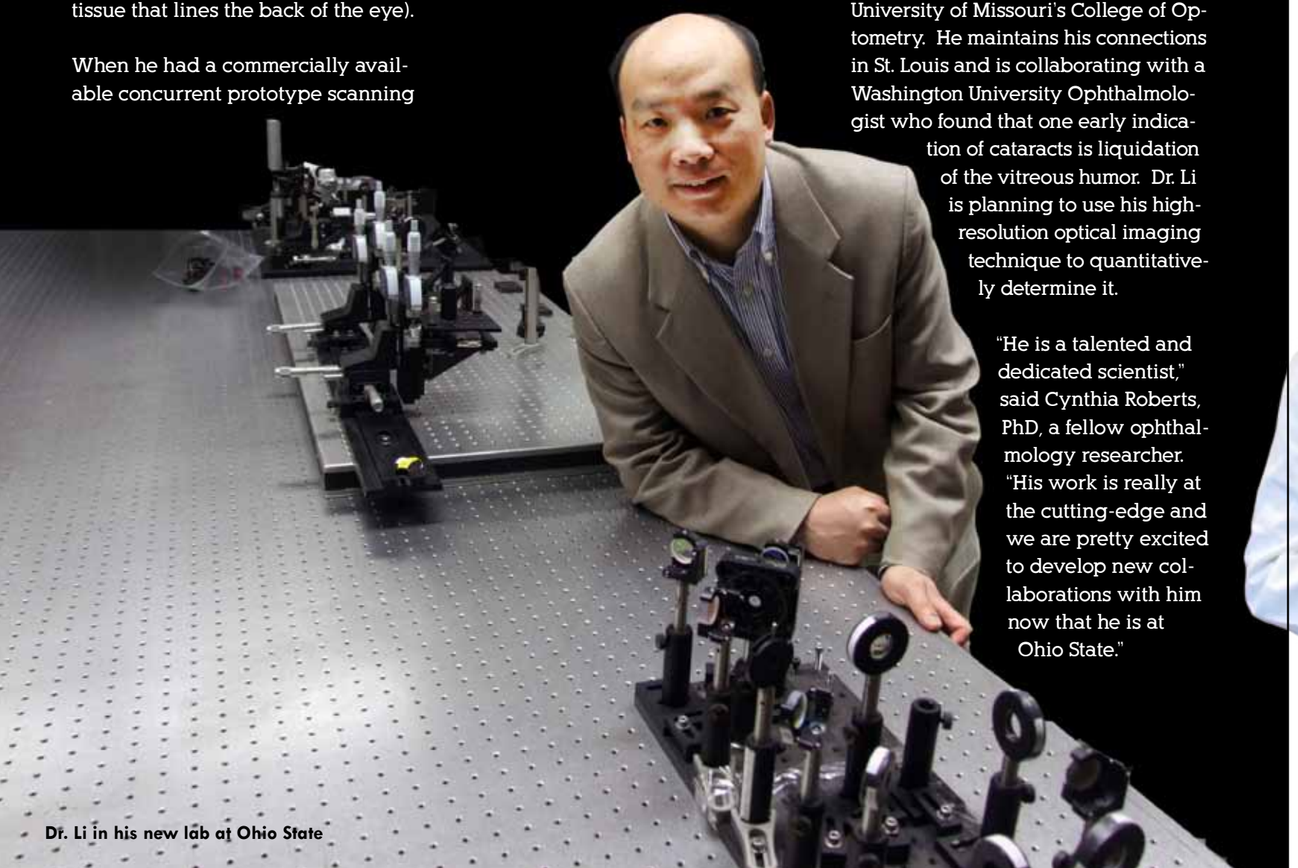
Dr. Li has since started a new project trying to improve the quality of ocular imaging of the eye.

"We are working on improving the resolution of confocal and OCT imaging by correcting the aberration of the eye using adaptive optics. This will help capture very fine detail of the different parts of the eye; including the cornea, anterior segment, the retina, and eventually the vitreous humor."

"Right now we have built an OCT system with better resolution than what is commercially available, so that we can see more detailed features for different layers of the retina for better diagnosis from a cellular level."

Before coming to Ohio State, Dr. Li was on faculty at the University of Arizona's College of Optical Sciences and the University of Missouri's College of Optometry. He maintains his connections in St. Louis and is collaborating with a Washington University Ophthalmologist who found that one early indication of cataracts is liquidation of the vitreous humor. Dr. Li is planning to use his high-resolution optical imaging technique to quantitatively determine it.

"He is a talented and dedicated scientist," said Cynthia Roberts, PhD, a fellow ophthalmology researcher. "His work is really at the cutting-edge and we are pretty excited to develop new collaborations with him now that he is at Ohio State."



Dr. Li in his new lab at Ohio State

MAKING CONNECTIONS

FACULTY UTILIZES KL2 GRANT TO DISCOVER HOW RETINAL SCARS FORM

When the light-sensitive layer from inside the back of the eye detaches, a "black curtain descends" and patients are left almost instantly blind. Even after visiting a retina specialist to fix the retinal detachment (RD), the patient's trouble may be far from over.

Proliferative vitreoretinopathy (PVR) is the most common complication after a repaired RD. PVR is scar tissue that develops within the eye. It occurs in 5-10% of RD patients.

Vision loss may also persist if the macula is affected by the RD.

Colleen Cebulla, MD, PhD, an OSU retina specialist, is trying to find out why these scars form and what can be done to prevent them. She is also studying ways to protect the damaged retina. Dr. Cebulla was awarded a National Institutes of Health funded KL2 Grant through The OSU Center for Clinical & Translational Science. She chose to develop animal models to study which proteins are important for RD and PVR. When they are identified, they can potentially be targeted for clinical therapy.

Proteins are the machinery of cells and tissue. They provide structural support, defense against germs, and a host of other functions. Utilizing proteomics (the large-scale study of proteins, particularly their structures and functions), Dr. Cebulla is trying to find the protein or proteins that initiate scarring.

"I first developed a mouse model and used iTRAQ labels to individually label all the different samples," said Dr. Cebulla. "That way, we could look at which proteins are increased or decreased in the retina during early PVR versus late PVR, compared to normal retina."

iTRAQ (Isobaric Tags for Relative and Absolute Quantitation of protein) is a mass spectrometry technique used to quantify proteins from different sources in a single experiment. For proteomic studies, the tissue is isolated, then the protein is isolated from that tissue. Once the proteins are isolated, they are divided into smaller fragments that are labeled with iTRAQ tags, so that each different condition has a different tag. This way, the relative amounts of specific proteins from each different iTRAQ group can be determined.

"In my group of early PVR, I can see that I numerous proteins are increased compared to the control retina," said Dr. Cebulla.

In collaboration with Andy Fischer, PhD in OSU Neuroscience, Dr. Cebulla has also developed a chicken retinal detachment model that has many more similarities to humans and has a larger eye than a mouse eye.

"The human retina has a lot of cone photo receptors and that's what helps us see color vision," said Dr. Cebulla. "It is especially important for our central vision. Other animals do not have that."

"Right now, there is no pharmacologic treatment for PVR or the vision loss from detachment of the macula," said Dr. Cebulla. "This animal model will allow us to study potential therapies for PVR or protective treatments for photoreceptors. This research is helping us to make critical connections in the lab that may ultimately translate into patient care and that's a connection I wouldn't miss for the world."

Hans Bredemeyer, MD

AN AMAZING JOURNEY:

GRATEFUL ALUMNI SHARES GOOD FORTUNE

"Decisive experiences? Yes, I have had several," said Hans Bredemeyer, MD. "For instance, when I buried myself in the trash dump of the Russian prisoner of war camp in Czechoslovakia where I had been held captive for two years following the end of World War II.

"It was after the evening count. The dump lay next to a camp barracks' wall which was lined with barbed wire. There was a guard, but when he wasn't looking, I used the barbed wire to climb onto the roof of the barracks while carrying my boots around my neck. I jumped from the roof, over the barbed wire, into the neighboring potato field. I lay flat on my belly until I was sure nobody was shooting at me. Then, I slowly crawled away.

"I stole a bicycle in the next village and for the next three nights I pedaled south to Germany, spending the daylight hours sleeping in forests—hidden under leaves. Sometime during the third night, I crossed into Austria, and eight weeks later I was once again in Germany. That was the beginning of the rest of my life.

"After my return to Germany, I studied medicine and while in medical school I decided to become an ophthalmologist. In those years there were very few training slots for medical graduates; I was quite lucky to be offered a residency in pathology at Hamburg University which I accepted with the intent of switching to ophthalmology whenever the possibility would present itself.

"While in Hamburg, I happened to read about residency positions in US hospitals that paid $100/month, a royal salary compared to the unpaid residencies in Germany during those first post-war years. I sent out several applications and was accepted for a residency in pathology in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

"I arrived there in 1954 with my wife Antonie "Toni," whom I had met at medical school. Although I enjoyed working in pathology, I still wanted to be an ophthalmologist. Once in Oklahoma, I continued to write letters to various universities across the United States trying for a residency slot in ophthalmology.

> "That was the beginning of the rest of my life."

"Happily, The Ohio State University accepted me and my wife, and I relocated to Ohio with our newly born daughter in 1955. I became one of Dr. Havener's first residents after he took over as chairman.

"My status as an active resident in the program didn't last long, however. Just months after arriving in Columbus, I was diagnosed with pulmonary tuberculosis and spent half of a year quarantined at OSU Hospital.

"Dr. Havener, knowing that I was in a difficult situation, reacted compassionately. During a grand rounds meeting he informed the attending ophthalmologists of my predicament, and together they promised to be there for me if I needed help, financially and otherwise. He visited me as often as he was allowed during my quarantine, and after my discharge he took me back into the program. I will always remember the kindness and help that Dr. Havener and my colleagues showed my family and me during that time.

"The end of my residency coincided with the expiration of the exchange visitor visa which had allowed me to study in the US. I was required to return to Germany for two years before re-entering the United States on a permanent immigration visa in 1960.

"I returned to Ohio and became an Assistant Professor at OSU. I worked full-time in the Department for seven years, specializing in strabismus.

"In 1967, I joined the private practice of Dr. Martin Cook in Springfield, Ohio. I still wanted to continue the work I was doing with students and residents at OSU, so I continued my association with the Department on a part-time basis until my retirement in 1988.

"It was very satisfying and rewarding to take part in the training of future ophthalmologists during my many years at OSU.

"When I learned that the Eye Department was looking to acquire an EYESi surgical simulator I thought it was an ideal opportunity to, once again, contribute to the training of future generations of outstanding ophthalmologists."

We are honored that Dr. Bredemeyer chose to share his fascinating life with us. He began in Germany, detoured to Czechoslovakia, and finally found his true calling at The Ohio State University. We are also grateful for Dr. Bredemeyer's generous donation towards the purchase of the EYESi surgical simulator for our residents. We are proud of our alumni and especially those who choose to pay forward like Hans Bredemeyer.

FELLOWSHIP FOCUS

We have four outstanding fellows this year. Three will complete their training in June and take what they've learned to their new practices.

Lena Chheda, MD, our cornea and external disease fellow, also completed her residency training at the Havener Eye institute. She has not yet made a commitment to a practice after graduation, but has been looking in the Chicago area.

"Fellowship at OSU has been a wonderful learning experience for me," said Dr. Chheda. "What distinguishes this program from others is our faculty. They are role models that support, care, and challenge you every step of the way."

Atif Collins, MD, a former University Hospitals of Cleveland ophthalmology resident, has been continuing his training here at OSU studying oculoplastics and neuro-ophthalmology. After his fellowship training, he will join Case Western Reserve University's Department of Ophthalmology in Cleveland, Ohio.

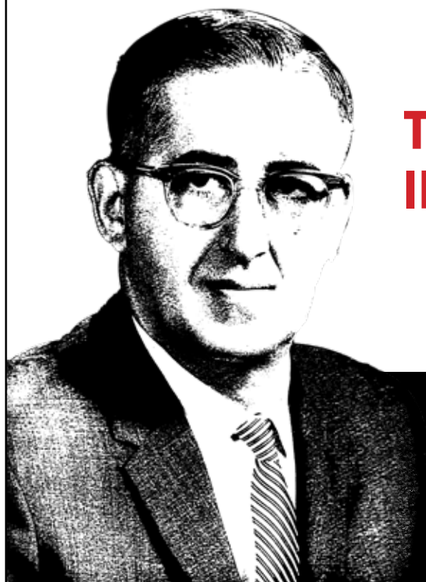
Cedric Pratt, DO spent both his residency and his two-year vitreorential retina fellowship at the Havener Eye Institute.

Ahmad Tarabishy, MD, Cedric Pratt, DO, Atif Collins, MD, and Lena Chheda, MD

When he graduates, he will be moving to Arkansas to practice at the Magie-Mabrey Eye Clinic in Little Rock.

"When you think about a good training program," said Dr. Pratt, "you consider things like surgical volume, pathology and experience. Having spent almost five years at the Havener Eye institute, I've benefited from all of these as well as having the privilege of gaining a family with mentors, colleagues, and friends."

Ahmed Tarabishy, MD joined us from The Cleveland Clinic where he completed his residency. In June, he will complete the first half of his two-year vitreoretinal fellowship.



THE JACOB M. MOSES, MD INAUGURAL LECTURESHIP

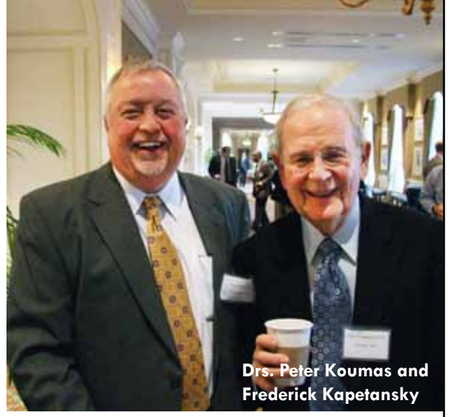
"Biomechanics of the Eyelids & Cheek"

Special Guest - Clinton D. McCord, Jr, MD

Join us for a complimentary CME & dinner event on Thursday, April 19, 2012 at OSU Eye & Ear Institute, located at 915 Olentangy River Road in the 3rd floor conference room. There will be 1.5 hours of CME available.

RSVP AT (614) 293-8760 OR EMAIL CHRISTINA.STETSON@OSUMC.EDU.


Drs. Quan Nguyen, Michael Wells, Alan Letson, Diana Do, and Benjamin Frankfort


Drs. Peter Koumas and Frederick Kapetansky

POST GRADUATE SYMPOSIUM: DIABETES 2012


Drs. Nicholas Rogers, James McHale, and J. Garret Mouser


Diabetes 2012 Conference

This March marked the 55th Annual Postgraduate Symposium in Ophthalmology. The course directors for "Diabetes 2012," Alan Letson, MD and Michael Wells, MD, welcomed speakers that are both world-renown and experts in the field of diabetes, including:

Lloyd Aiello, MD - Harvard, Joslin Diabetes Center
Diana Do, MD - The Wilmer Eye Institute at Johns Hopkins
Sander Dubovy, MD - Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, Miami University
Steven Feldon, MD, MBA - University of Rochester, Flaum Eye Institute
Seema Garg, MD, PhD - University of N. Carolina, Kittner Eye Center
Quan Nguyen, MD - The Wilmer Eye Institute at Johns Hopkins
Benjamin J. Frankfort, MD, PhD - Baylor, Cullen Eye Institute
Dara Schuster, MD - OSU Department of Endocrinology
Jennifer Sun, MD - Harvard, Joslin Diabetes Center

The attending ophthalmologists and optometrists from across Ohio and surrounding states were thrilled with the line-up of fantastic speakers. The lecturers covered everything from current therapy to new developments to upcoming clinical trials that promise to transform the field over the next couple of years.

Drs. Bryan Costin, Leonard Quick, Atif Collins, Leah Vaccarella, Palak Wall, Irene Tung, and Dominic Buzzacco

ORLANDO ALUMNI RECEPTION

During the 2011 American Academy of Ophthalmology, the Havener Eye Institute held its annual Alumni Reception at the historic Peabody Hotel in Orlando, Florida. As always, the Alumni Reception provided an opportunity for faculty and residents to share the exciting new developments in ophthalmic research and reconnect with alumni and their families.

COLLINS LEGACY IN OPHTHALMOLOGY

Elmer Collins, MD attended The Ohio State University Medical School, graduating in 1955. While interning at OSU, he met two important people. The first was William Havener, MD, Ohio State's newest ophthalmologist at the time, who asked him to become a resident. The second was his wife, Mary, of nearly 60 years.

"His favorite joke was telling people that he met me in the morgue" said Mary. "All of us nursing students used to have to go see an autopsy and the eye residents used to have to enucleate eyes for practice. I just happened to go to the one he was in."

Elmer and Mary were married in 1955, and he began in ophthalmology as one of Dr. Havener's first residents. In his final year, Elmer was elected Chief Resident.

He served two years in US Navy in Portsmouth, NH before returning to Columbus to start his practice. For over 30 years, he saw patients, taught residents, served a term as president of the Medical Bureau, and was on the board of the Academy of Medicine.

Elmer and Mary still live near Columbus and are the proud parents of five children: Steve, Judy, John, Chris, and Sue. Little did Elmer know that his oldest son Steve would become the next link in the Collins Ophthalmology Legacy.

Steve Collins, MD always knew he wanted to be a doctor. Medicine ran in the family. Besides his father, the ophthalmologist, his uncle was a general practitioner in a small town in Oregon and had a very "old fashioned" practice which included every aspect of medicine.

Steve attended The Ohio State Medical School, but was not certain in which field to specialize. He thought about going into Neurology, but preferred a field where "things could be fixed."

"I had qualms about going into ophthalmology and was a little nervous about it," said Steve. "Dr. Havener told me that ophthalmology was very intuitive. He said if you were driving down the road and a ball rolls out into the road, your first instinct is to immediately slow down because you sense there is a child chasing after the ball. The same applies to ophthalmology. He told me that they trained residents to be prepared for all types of situations. If you are trained to anticipate mistakes, then you are able to avoid them."

With this encouragement, Steve started his residency in the Department of Ophthalmology at OSu.

He joined his father in practice as a comprehensive ophthalmologist for about a year and a half; and then headed south to start a solo practice in Valley, Alabama, where he was the only ophthalmologist in a 20 mile radius.

Today, Steve lives in LaGrange, Georgia, which is a border town between Georgia and Alabama. He says it's interesting living in one time zone and practicing in another. He has held many leadership positions in Alabama medical societies. He still uses Dr. Havener's analogies and the lessons he learned.

Elmer and Steve are two alumni who carry on the proud tradition of their alma mater, OSU Havener Eye Institute and, continue the legacy of excellence in eye care.


Elmer Collins, MD


Steve Collins, MD

CHICAGO 2012
AAO ALUMNI RECEPTION

JOIN US NOVEMBER 10, 2012 FROM 5:30 TO 7:30PM FOR A SPECIAL CHOCOLATE & WINE TASTING AT FANNIE MAY CHOCOLATES, 343 NORTH MICHIGAN AVENUE. RSVP EARLY TO CHRISTINA STETSON AT (614) 293-8760.

NEW FACULTY

Dr. John Melnyk has joined The Ohio State University, Department of Ophthalmology as a Clinical Assistant Professor. He received his Bachelor of Science degree from Niagara University in 1976, and earned a PhD in Biology, specializing in Microbiology from St. Bonaventure University in 1986. He graduated from the New England College of Optometry in 1991.

Dr. Melnyk has practiced Optometry in Rochester, New York and Phoenix, specializing in Primary Care and Anterior Segment since 1991. Dr. Melnyk taught Microbiology, Physiology, and Biochemistry at Keuka College in upstate New York from 1986 to 1989. He also taught Microbiology and Physiology at the New England College of Optometry from 1989 to 1991, and most recently taught Methods in Optometry at Midwestern University in Glendale, Arizona.

Dr Melnyk has been married to his wife Dr. Bernadette Melnyk for 20 years. They have three daughters, Megan, Angela, and Kaylin.

Dr. Melnyk will be available for appointments at OSU Care Point East (614) 293-8116.

Please welcome **Dr. Marc Criden** back to the Ohio State University Department of Ophthalmology. Dr. Criden spent the last four years at the University of Texas Medical School at Houston in the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science, where he was the Division Director of both Neuro-Ophthalmology and Oculoplastics and Reconstructive Surgery.

He completed his undergraduate education at Tufts University and obtained his medical degree at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia. This was followed by his residency at Case Western Reserve University. He completed two years of fellowship training in Oculoplastic, Reconstructive Surgery, and Neuro-Ophthalmology under Dr. Steven Katz here at Ohio State.

Dr. Criden has strong interests in ocular and facial trauma, oncology, and reconstructive surgery. His research interests also include intra-cranial hypertension, giant cell arteritis, and orbital tumors. Following the devastating earthquake in Haiti, Dr. Criden has made multiple trips to the island to offer medical relief and surgical care to those affected by this tragic event. He is also a member of the China Eye Project for artificial vision and the NORDIC trial for intracranial hypertension.

Dr. Criden is available for appointments at the OSU Eye & Ear Institute, call (614) 293-6892.

Arthur McMurray with Susie Chang, MD

ALONG FOR THE RIDE

It's 3pm when Arthur McMurray leaves the house to go to a doctor's appointment. Twenty hours later he arrives at the OSU Havener Eye Institute in Dublin, Ohio. That's because Arthur lives in Indianapolis, Indiana and drives 175 miles to participate in a clinical trial. He cannot drive at night, so he stops halfway to stay overnight.

Ironically, the study that he participates in is called RIDE, but when he was enrolled in Indianapolis five years ago, he did not know what a long ride it would be.

"I first heard about the study when I had a cataract removed from my right eye," said Arthur. "I had never been in a clinical trial before. I just hoped it would help me and other people."

> **"...I really admire Arthur's dedication and am humbled by the faith he puts in our care."**
> **-Susie Chang, MD**

RIDE is a clinical trial that evaluates the use of Lucentis in patients with diabetes. Lucentis is an anti-VEGF medication that decreases the abnormal growth of blood vessels in the eye; a common complication of diabetes.

When the Indianapolis study site closed, Arthur had the opportunity to discontinue, but chose to commute to the Columbus site instead. It's a long drive, but Arthur isn't fazed. After a lifetime of driving semi-trucks, he's used to the road. He says that it is worth it because of the expertise and care he receives here.

"He could have dropped out of the study," said Alan Letson, MD, the RIDE Principal Investigator. "The fact that he is willing to drive 175 miles each way and stay overnight sometimes, makes him a very extraordinary patient."

Arthur is one of the many patients who participate in ophthalmology clinical trials because they feel that they are getting the best care and helping out others at the same time.

"I think it's great," said Arthur. "I think they are helping me and I think that it helps a lot of other people. If someone asked me, I would recommend a study, especially with the doctors and people over here that are all so nice and are so good at their jobs."

"We appreciate all our patients," said Dr. Susie Chang, MD, "but, I really admire Arthur's dedication and am humbled by the faith he puts in our care."

ANDREW SURGICAL SKILLS LAB OPENS

It was with pride that we welcomed the Andrew family members, OSU faculty, residents, and staff who gathered to celebrate the grand opening of the James M. Andrew Surgical Skills Lab in December 2011.

Dr. Andrew was a dedicated teacher and surgeon. The Andrew Lab embodies his dedication to training ophthalmology residents and will carry his legacy into the future. We want to thank everyone who helped to make this extraordinary training facility possible.

HAVENER HOSTS EYECARE CLINIC

THE COLUMBUS PHYSICIANS FREE CLINIC PARTNERS WITH OSU TO PROVIDE CARE

For over a year, volunteers from The OSU Havener Eye Institute as well as community physicians have been helping to provide eye care to underprivileged Central Ohioans. The project was spearheaded by the Department Chairman, Thomas Mauger, MD and Columbus Physicians Free Clinic's Katie Clark.

"I have helped at the Physicians Free Clinic off and on over the past 20 years," said Dr. Mauger. "There is a tremendous need for basic eye services there for people who have absolutely no means to pay for them. As an extension of that, I saw the need for more advanced eye care for the severe problems that we were seeing."

When Dr. Mauger first started working at the Columbus Physicians Free Clinic, they did not have any eye exam equipment. Over the years, they had been trying to get a lane of eye equipment, but everything that they had had to be donated.

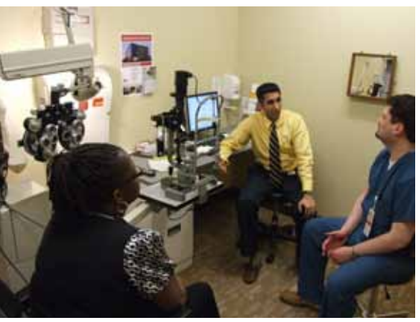
"One day Dr. Mauger showed up at the clinic, on a Monday evening, and said he wanted to donate the eye equipment," said Katie. "We found a room that was long and narrow and had the equipment installed. It was wonderful."

The eye exam room is a permanent fixture at the Columbus Free Clinic, but the demand quickly outgrew the space.

"I asked the staff, residents, and faculty if they were willing to pitch in to help," said Dr. Mauger. "I was overwhelmed and gratified by the positive response. Although, knowing these people, I was not surprised."

"It is my hope," continued Dr. Mauger, "that we are able to effectively rehabilitate the vision of many of these patients so that they will be able to get back into the work force and contribute to their families' well-being."

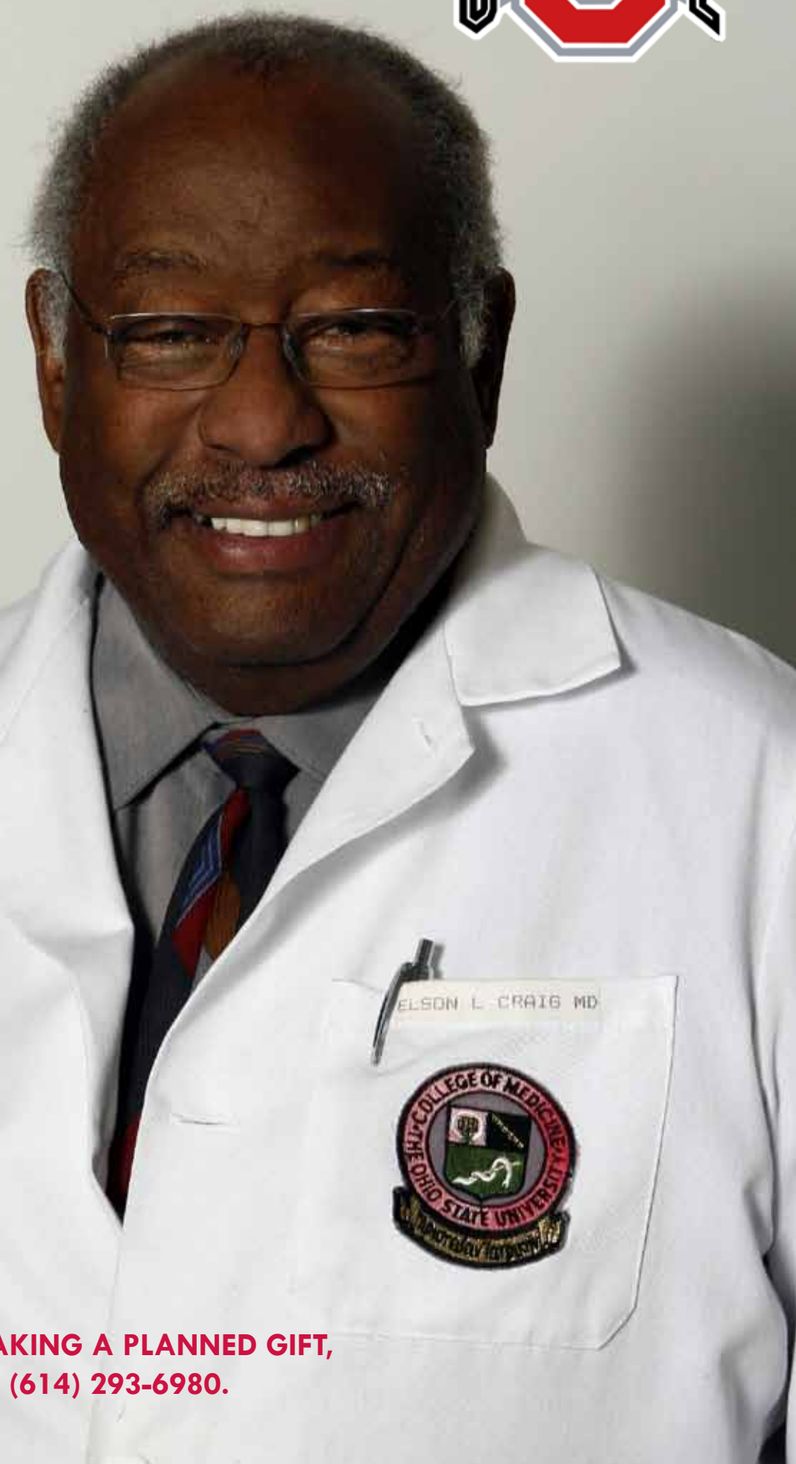
Volunteer physicians, technicians, and staff are always needed. To volunteer, contact Denise Doneski at Denise.Doneski@osumc.edu.



Elson Craig, MD had plans to make a difference with his life. It wasn't easy growing up on the East side of Columbus, but he was hardworking and determined. He was voted "Most Likely to Succeed" by his high school graduating class and they were right.

He received his undergraduate, graduate, and medical degrees at OSU where he also completed his residency. He was named chief resident and asked to remain on faculty. Over the next 40 years, he cared for countless patients, educated residents and medical students, and conducted eye disease research that continues to change the way we care for patients.

He wanted to make sure that his work would go on long after he was gone, so he made a planned gift to the Havener Eye Institute to further pathology research. His plan was to make a difference, and with his planned gift he continues to make a difference.



IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN MAKING A PLANNED GIFT, CONTACT BOB LAFOLLETTE AT (614) 293-6980.

Wexner Medical Center

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