



Department of Ophthalmology
and Visual Sciences
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE AND PUBLIC HEALTH

GLOBAL OPHTHALMOLOGY

2020 YEAR-END REPORT

ADAPTIVE LEADERSHIP DURING THE COVID PANDEMIC

From the entire team at the University of Wisconsin Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences (DOVS), we wish continued strength, health and wellbeing to our global friends, families, and colleagues affected by COVID-19. In March, we suspended all global faculty and learner exchanges until further notice and continue to creatively adapt our approaches to ensure our shared

DOVS objectives are still realized. Although there is much uncertainty regarding the long-term impact of the pandemic, we remain dedicated to the advancement of our global ophthalmology initiatives. We stand united together with all of our global colleagues during this trying time and eagerly await when we can reunite safely in person once again.

GLOBAL OPHTHALMOLOGY INITIATIVES TEAM



YASMIN BRADFELD, MD
John W. Doolittle Pediatric
Ophthalmology Professor,
Co-Chair of Global
Ophthalmology Initiatives



CAT BURKAT, MD
Professor,
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MARILYN KAY, MD
Associate Professor,
Vice Chair of Education
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HANNAH BAKER, MA
Coordinator of Clinical
Fellowships and Global
Ophthalmology Initiatives



TYLER BOULTER, MD
Resident, Class of 2022



TETYANA SCHNEIDER, PHD
Director of Education and
Faculty Development

GLOBAL IMPACT

THROUGH SUSTAINED PARTNERSHIPS

In February, senior residents Braden Burckhard, MD, and Alana Trotter, MD, accompanied by vitreoretinal surgery fellow Kathleen Schildroth, MD, traveled to Dr. Shroff's Charity Eye Hospital (SCEH), New Delhi, India, for two weeks to learn from their surgical and clinical teams.

The 2020 rotation marked the sixth year DOVS has rotated with SCEH since its establishment in 2015, advancing the personal and professional development of over 25 learners and faculty.

In lieu of suspended travel, DOVS GO Initiatives has collaborated on various virtual expansion efforts including global webinars and access to other educational didactics such as grand rounds and resident journal clubs.



JUNE

Heather Potter, MD, associate professor, and Maxwell Wingelaar, MD, chief resident, presented "Global Ocular Pathology – A Bit of Blood and Thunder," at the SCEH Global Webinar. The webinar was moderated by Arpan Gandhi, MD, head of laboratory services and ophthalmic pathologist at SCEH. Over 100 attendees from more than 10 countries attended the session.

JUNE

Yanjun (Judy) Chen, MD, PhD, associate professor, presented "Neuroimaging-Tips & Tricks," at SCEH virtual grand rounds.

AUGUST

Suma Ganesh, MS, MBBA, DNB, head of pediatric ophthalmology, strabismus and neuro-ophthalmology at SCEH, presented "Pediatric Cataracts," at DOVS virtual grand rounds in partnership with Dr. Yasmin Bradfield's presentation, "Anterior Segment OCT in Pediatric Ophthalmology."

SEPTEMBER

Since September, 27 global learners and faculty have participated in UW resident journal clubs and regularly attended DOVS weekly grand rounds. Predominant participation in these virtual sessions comes from our global colleagues at the University of Santo Tomas (UST), Manila, Philippines. We plan to continue these inclusive virtual invitations well after the pandemic to further expand professional development opportunities to our established partners.

DECEMBER

Dr. Yasmin Bradfield presented "Convergence Spasm," at the University of São Paulo (USP) 2020 Ophthalmology Congress. Since 2018, four DOVS faculty have presented at the USP Ophthalmology Congress. The UW-USP partnership will resume its annual 5-week research and clinical observership Program for one USP senior ophthalmology resident when travel permits. Since 2017, three USP ophthalmology residents have contributed to UW research and clinical observation resulting in publications in nationally and internationally recognized journals.

**4 GLOBAL
PARTNER
AGREEMENTS**

IN 3 COUNTRIES

**BRAZIL, INDIA AND
THE PHILIPPINES**

LOCALIZED IMPACT

By working with our outreach sites in the surrounding region and distinctive populations in our Amish Outreach Clinic, Department of Corrections Clinic, Veterans Hospital, Madison Bi-monthly Community Clinic and Annual World Sight Day - Right to Sight Eye Clinic (RTSEC), physicians experience providing ophthalmology services to diverse, low-income and under-resourced populations, many of which come from varied linguistic, socioeconomic, cultural, and knowledge backgrounds. These patients present distinctive vision needs that require an awareness and skill set that our initiatives work to develop.





SEPTEMBER

GO Initiatives launched a pilot resident global ophthalmology curriculum. This three-year, interactive, multi-delivery format, experiential program aims to prepare residents to practice saving sight in an ever-changing world. The coursework is informed by the ACGME Core Competencies and is in alignment with American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) efforts to create new avenues for academic global ophthalmology. At its core, this integrated approach supports professional and personal learning and growth for ophthalmology residents. If residents complete all modules and fieldwork assignments by the end of training, they receive an official DOVS Global Ophthalmology (GO) Initiatives Certificate of Course Completion to support their professional portfolio.

NOVEMBER

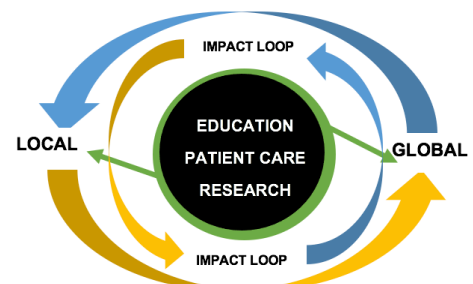
Dr. Yasmin Bradfield and Tyler Boulter, MD, PGY3 ophthalmology resident, partnered with the UW Department of Pediatrics to contribute global pediatric ophthalmology objectives for the Midwest Consortium of Global Child Health. In 2010, The UW Department of Pediatrics established a global health track as a component of their residency program with focus on child global health and advocacy.

OCTOBER

UW Health and Combat Blindness International jointly ran the Annual World Sight Day – Right to Sight Eye Clinic, which is a large free clinic offering basic ophthalmology services to diverse identifying, low income, uninsured patients in the Madison community. For this clinic, the DOVS ophthalmology team included seven residents, 10 clinical faculty volunteers, six medical students, countless technicians and clinical administration. DOVS served 48 community members with eye care services (refraction, dilated diabetic eye exams, routine full eye exams), and issued 32 pairs of spectacles in a 4-hour duration, with assistance from donations from our optical partners.

DECEMBER

The GO Initiatives Committee officially welcomed a resident representative, signifying a commitment to resident feedback and involvement in the future of these initiatives.



GLOBAL RESEARCH

IMPACT PUBLICATIONS

In September, GO Initiatives launched a **Global Research Impact Project** to document the significant accomplishments of our basic and clinical researchers including, but not limited to: general publication impact, foreign lab and publication collaborations, global training impact, foreign scholar mentorship and global industry partnerships that have made a

profound impact on the field of ophthalmology from 1970-2020. This project celebrates the accomplishments of our research community and documents strong metrics for representing our mission of global leadership in saving sight. As a result, 35 researchers submitted over 220 data points for the department to celebrate during its 50th anniversary celebration.

From 1976-2020, DOVS clinical and basic-science researchers were cited over 81,500 times in publications, making a profound effect on the field of ophthalmology within the United States and around the world. Research continues to be an celebrated strength of the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

DOVS remains committed to the advancement of foreign scholars (defined as non-U.S. based trainees) and international post-graduate research fellows throughout the last 50 years. Supported fellows across all specialties have trained our researchers from over 14 countries including the United Kingdom (England and Scotland), Brazil, Philippines, Germany, South Korea, Belgium, China, Spain, France, Portugal, India, Vietnam, Turkey and Canada. From 1990-2019, foreign scholars and research fellows supported over 38 publications in association with DOVS.



From 1991-2016, 17 publications with over 850 citations to-date were published in conjunction with our global drug company partnerships. As a result, 10 drugs have been researched and developed by companies in the U.S., specifically in California, New York and Wisconsin, as well as Canada. U.S.-based global drug company partnerships include Genentech, Pfizer Inc., OpSis Therapeutics, Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Eyetechn, while international partnerships include Bausch + Lomb and Cangene Corporation.

CELEBRATING 50 YEARS VIRTUALLY

The Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences is celebrating its 50th year as a department in the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health in 2020.

We have a rich history of education, patient care and research. To honor this excellence, we have assembled a virtual experience that allows

you to explore and connect with what makes us special. Interested in a virtual walk-through of our global ophthalmology history? Check out the Global Leadership in Saving Sight map on the vr.2020experience.vision website or visit www.opth.wisc.edu/education/global-ophthalmology to review our historical timeline.



Our department has always been committed to sharing the experience, knowledge, and resources of the UW Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences with institutions around the world in the areas of patient care, education and research. This commitment has strengthened our programs over the years by recruiting doctors and learners from all over the world, as well as sending our team across the globe to learn new methods, help those in need and share knowledge.

Since the late 1970s, the department has engaged in various global projects and collaborations around the world including Brazil, China, El Salvador, Guatemala, Haiti, Honduras, India, Iraq, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Myanmar, Paraguay, the Philippines, South Korea and more. We are proud of our global legacy, positive patient outcomes, and local impacts as a result of our continued stewardship of these relationships.

Explore our global impact by taking a spin around the earth.

THANK YOU TO OUR PARTNERS



FOR QUESTIONS ABOUT THESE INITIATIVES, PLEASE CONTACT HANNAH BAKER AT HANNAH.BAKER@WISC.EDU
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