

# ICO MATTERS

SPRING 2019 • V18 ISSUE 1

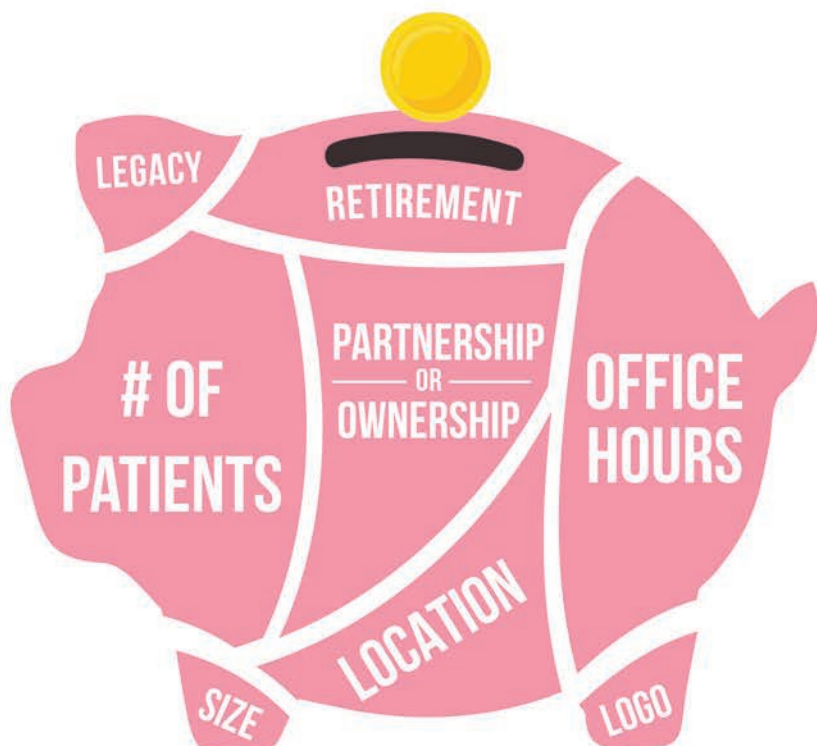


## To Sell or Not to Sell?

The Rise of Private Equity Optometry



ICO Volunteers  
Homecoming Announcement  
President's Spotlight





# 2018 ANNUAL REPORT

**[www.ico.edu/giving/annual-report-2018/](http://www.ico.edu/giving/annual-report-2018/)**





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Private equity is a hot topic, with companies like MyEyeDr., VisionSource, and Acuity acquiring optometry practices nationwide. ICO alumni discuss how they faced buyout opportunities.

### 16 Passion Projects

Instead of donating money alone, these optometrists also give their time to inspiring causes - theatre, photography, children's hospitals, and more.

### 24 NOA Essentials

To celebrate the 50th anniversary of the National Optometric Association (NOA,) we examine the life of one of its founders - C. Clayton Powell, OD '52.

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*ICO Matters* is the alumni magazine of the Illinois College of Optometry. It is published two times per year.

Contact *ICO Matters* at [communications@ico.edu](mailto:communications@ico.edu)

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#### EDITORIAL

**Sr. Director of Enrollment Management Technology**  
Milissa Bartold, MA

**Editor/Senior Manager of Digital Content**  
Lauren Faits

**Senior Graphic Designer/Creative Services Specialist**  
Brian Holloway

**Close Up Photography**  
David Stluka Photography, LLC

#### ADMINISTRATION

**President**  
Mark K. Colip, OD

**Dean of Student Affairs**  
Erik Mothersbaugh, OD

**Senior Director of Alumni Development**  
Connie Scavuzzo, MA

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# Homecoming 2019

ICO HOMECOMING SEPTEMBER 6-7, 2019

REGISTER ONLINE TODAY!

[WWW.ICO.EDU/ALUMNI/HOMECOMING/](http://WWW.ICO.EDU/ALUMNI/HOMECOMING/)

Reunion Classes: 1949, 1954, 1959, 1964, 1969, 1974, 1979, 1984, 1989, 1994, 1999, 2004, 2009, and 2014  
All Alumni and Families are Invited!

## HOTEL INFORMATION

A limited number of rooms are available at our host hotel, Omni Chicago Hotel, 676 N. Michigan Avenue.

Hotel Reservation link: <http://bit.ly/OmniiCO>

Or call the Omni Chicago Hotel directly at 800-843-6664. Identify yourself with the "ICO Homecoming Group" to receive the discounted rate of \$199/night. The room block will be available until August 16, 2019 or until it is full.

## FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact Connie Scavuzzo, Senior Director of Alumni Development, at 312-949-7080 or [alumni@ico.edu](mailto:alumni@ico.edu).

## CONTACT YOUR CLASSMATES

Register for exclusive access to ICO's online alumni directory at [my.ico.edu](http://my.ico.edu).

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6

5:00 – 9:00 p.m.  
**Shuttle to and from host hotel**

6:00 – 8:00 p.m.  
**Mardi Gras Kick-off Party (Family-friendly)**

- includes food stations, bar, selfie station, face painting, henna & tattoo artists, music, masks, and beads



### SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

11:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
**Shuttle to and from host hotel**

#### Campus Tours

11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.  
**50 Year Club Luncheon**  
(by invitation only)

- recognizing 50+ years of service in the profession

1:00 – 2:00 p.m.  
**Telehealth and Emerging Technologies: Part of Optometry's Future**

Ryan P. Ames, O.D., M.B.A.  
- one hour CE, COPE - approved, non-tested

2:00 – 4:00 p.m.  
**Student/Alumni Networking Reception**

- includes refreshments, exhibit booths, and raffle prizes

5:00 – 6:00 p.m.  
**Leadership Circle and Alumni Awards Reception**  
Chagall Ballroom,  
Omni Chicago Hotel

7:00 – 10:00 p.m.  
**Class Reunion Dinner Cruise**  
Spirit of Chicago

- includes cruise on Lake Michigan, dinner, cocktails, dancing  
Navy Pier, Chicago





# President's Spotlight

*Talking Heads is now President's Spotlight! Each issue, Dr. Mark Colip will propose a new topic to members of the ICO family. He will be putting a spotlight on important people at ICO and across the profession of optometry.*

**"Since the appointment of Dr. Yi Pang as Associate Dean for Research, ICO has significantly ramped up its research-based efforts.** At any given time, ICO has multiple ongoing research projects. Current topics include myopia, dry eye, and other important concerns. Please highlight one of your current research projects, briefly explaining what it is, what we hope to learn, and how it will impact our students, patients, and alumni."



Mark Colip, OD '92



**YI PANG, OD, PHD**

*Associate Dean for Research*

"I am currently the Principal Investigator at ICO on an NIH/NEI-funded Myopia Treatment Study. Drs. Megan Allen, Kelly Yin, and Christine Allison are co-investigators, and Elyse Nylin is the research coordinator. We aim to determine the efficacy of daily low-dose atropine (0.01%) for slowing myopia progression over a two-year treatment period in children aged 5 to 13 years with myopia -1.00 to -6.00D at the time of enrollment. The results from this study could help to approve 0.01% atropine for regular clinical usage in the prevention of myopia progression in children. As myopia is on the rise all over the world, with up to 50% of Americans currently affected, this study could dramatically improve the lives of children. We are very excited to see where this work leads."



**JENNIFER S. HARTHAN, OD '06, FAAO**

*Associate Professor; Chief, Cornea Center for Clinical Excellence*

"Several of my multi-center research projects were established under the auspices of the American Academy of Optometry's Fellows Doing Research Special Interest Group. In particular, The SCOPE study (Scleral Lenses in Current Ophthalmic Practice: an Evaluation) group comprises national experts in the clinical fitting of scleral lenses who also have academic research interests. Because scleral lenses have only recently become part of mainstream clinical practice, there are significant gaps in our understanding of practice patterns, fitting philosophies, and the biological effects of these devices. The goals are to spearhead clinical research in scleral lenses, and to engage clinicians and basic scientists on a global scale. The SCOPE group has no funding, but has presented at every Academy, Global Specialty Lens Symposium, and ARVO meeting for the past several years and has published several manuscripts. When one is committed to devoting time, working together, and sharing the burden, results are produced."



**VALERIE KATTOUF, OD '95, FAAO, FCOVD**

*Associate Professor; Chief, Dr. Robert and Lena Lewenson Pediatric and Binocular Vision Center*

"The Pediatric and Binocular Vision Faculty at the Lewenson Center has had great opportunities to participate in clinical research. We have all enrolled patients in NIH-funded PEDIG (Pediatric Eye Disease Investigators Group) studies. Many of our faculty are certified PEDIG investigators. PEDIG studies have addressed a wide range of clinical treatments, including occlusion practices in amblyopia, computer-based treatments for amblyopia, use of over minus lenses to treat intermittent exotropia, and many more. Our Pediatric Center has also joined forces with our Cornea Center for Clinical Excellence in A Clinical Trial of Orthokeratology in Myopia Control. We have been able to offer the treatment of orthokeratology to a diverse group of patients to expand our understanding of myopia control. The clinical patient population at the Illinois Eye Institute is rich with a complexity that lends itself toward developing a solid base of clinical research that benefits the practice of optometry around the world."

## »»» Editor's Note



**Lauren Faits, Editor**

A fourth-year ICO student recently shared an intense story with my department. At her last externship site, she had participated in an eye exam that directly led to the patient being diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. Thanks to early detection, the patient considered their life saved.

Day-to-day, optometrists may not consider themselves heroes. However, to a single patient, you may be a life-saver. Even a basic refraction can help someone succeed in school or be a safer driver. As highly-trained doctors, you know that eye exams can detect systemic problems such as diabetes or

cancer. Believe me; to someone, somewhere, you have been a hero.

The heroics of ICO alumni expand well beyond the practice of optometry. In this issue, we hear how our graduates are uplifting others in many ways:

- The 50th anniversary of the NOA, and the history-making life of one of its founders.
- Passion projects and volunteer opportunities that inspire ICO alumni.
- ODs helping each other face, understand, and adapt to private equity optometry.
- ...and more!

If you have any questions, comments, or story ideas for the next edition of *ICO Matters*, feel free to e-mail [communications@ico.edu](mailto:communications@ico.edu).

## SVOSH Visits Peru

In November 2018, members of ICO's SVOSH traveled to Peru for a mission trip that encompassed the Thanksgiving holiday. The group offered eye care in Lima and Cusco. ICO students conducted refractions, distributed eyeglasses and prescriptions, and wrote cataract referrals. When they were not donating their time and skills, participants visited ancient ruins, met llamas, and tried South American food and fashion. Over 500 photos from this trip are available on ICO's Flickr account, including these favorites:



## Giving Tuesday 2019

Giving Tuesday was once again a success for ICO. Generous donors came together on **November 27, 2018**, to raise funds for the Dr. Robert and Lena Lewenson Pediatric and Binocular Vision Center. Internally, we raised **\$33,016**. Externally, we raised an additional **\$51,650**. Of these totals, **\$33,786** was designated specifically toward the Pediatrics updates. Wow! Thank you to the ICO family members who were so open and caring on Giving Tuesday. We are honored by the dedication of our faculty, staff, and alumni. Your generosity will help us provide exceptional care to vulnerable populations in the Chicago area.



## New Residents: "It's a Match!"

Resident matching for 2019 has come to a close. This summer, we will welcome a new crop of skilled Residents to the Illinois Eye Institute and affiliated sites:

### **ON CAMPUS**

#### **Binocular Vision/Pediatrics**

**Ellen Ong** - UCB

**Elizabeth Ye Zhu** - SUNY

#### **Primary Care/Ocular Disease**

**Madison R. Goodfellow** - ICO

**Greta Gregg** - ICO

**Steven Huynh** - UH

**Jessica Jankiewicz** - SCO

**Sarah Rogers** - ICO

#### **Low Vision/Ocular Disease**

**Dena Colantino** - UMSL

**Christopher Theodore Pereira** - SUNY

#### **Cornea Contact Lens**

**Andy Thanhan Nguyen** - ICO

### **OFF CAMPUS**

#### **Jesse Brown VAMC**

**Allison Kay Guindon** - PCO

**Abigail Schraufnagel** - ICO

**Nhung Tran** - ICO

#### **Associated Eye Care**

**Nicole Harris** - ICO

#### **Vance Thompson Vision**

**Larae Zimprich** - MCPHS

#### **Minneapolis VA**

**Shikha Hitesh Mehta** - NECO

**Ka Zoua Vang** - ICO

#### **Minnesota Eye Consultants**

**Shelby Duffield** - Midwestern

#### **James A. Lovell**

**Alexa Rowe** - ICO

#### **Davis Duehr Dean**

**Joseph Isik** - SUNY

## New Summer Research Program

ICO has developed a Summer Research Program that will be offered, for the first time, to second-year students in 2019. Participants will spend a 10-week period during the summer quarter conducting a research project with the assistance of faculty mentors. Each student will craft a paper or poster presentation to be delivered at a scientific meeting. Ideally, their work will then be published in a journal. The program's first student participants have been chosen. They are **Jena Gilbertson**, **Tracey Huynh**, **Noen Nguyen**, and **Hamza Shah**. Along with College support and resources, including housing, a research scholarship/stipend will be provided to each person. The Summer Research Committee consists of **Drs. Dan Roberts (Chair)**, **Rebecca Zoltoski**, **Tracy Matchinski**, and **Yi Pang**. The group is excited to bring more robust research opportunities to the student body.





## Conference Round-Up

The 2018-19 conference and convention season was a great success for ICO! The College has been well-represented at many events since the previous issue of *ICO Matters*:



### American Academy of Optometry

In November, Academy 2018 was held in San Antonio, Texas. **Dr. Mark Colip** hosted his first ICO Alumni & Friends Reception as president. ICO doctors presented over 35 research posters. **Drs. Christine Allison** and **Kelly Frantz** presented a course entitled, "Advanced Strabismus and Amblyopia Diagnosis and Treatment." **Dr. Stephanie Klemencic** presented a course, "Dilemmas in Herpes Zoster Ophthalmicus." At the AAOF Celebration Luncheon, **Dr. Xiaohua (Elsa) Zhuang** was recognized for her Beta Sigma Kappa Research Fellowship award. Our students participated in the inaugural Essilor Academic Challenge, and look forward to competing in future years. Academy 2019 will be held in Orlando, Florida, in conjunction with the World Congress of Optometry.



### Heart of America

ICO's Primary Care, Ocular Disease, and Cornea Residents presented posters at this year's HOA Congress. **Dr. Kathryn Hohs** was chosen as one of the top five submissions of the meeting and was awarded a \$2,000 grant.



*Dr. Lindsay Sicks (R) with ICO students at GSLS*

### GLOBAL Specialty Lens Symposium

#### Global Specialty Lens Symposium

**Dr. Jennifer Harthan** spoke at GSLS along with several other ICO alumni. The research posters on display included findings on managing phlyctenular keratoconjunctivitis by **Dr. Lindsay Sicks**. Dr. Sicks also won first place in the GSLS photo contest for a picture titled, "Charleux Sign." At the Scleral Lens Education Society reception, Dr. Sicks was awarded Fellowship in the society, an honor already earned by Dr. Harthan.

## Practice Opportunities Symposium

We extend our appreciation to the many alumni who participated in this year's Practice Opportunities Symposium! On **April 5, 2019**, we welcomed ODs from across the profession to network with current ICO students. Each year, this valuable event highlights the many modes of practice across optometry. Returning favorites included **Adam Klemens, OD '05**, **William Grant, OD '89**, **David A. Maze, OD '03**, **Richard S. Kattouf, OD '72**, **DOS** and many more. We were also delighted to see many first-time presenters, including (but not limited to) **Liz Erley, OD '94**, **Rina Sheth, OD '17**, **Damon Mackert, OD '92**, **Nina Watercott, OD '12**, and **Thomas Lenz, OD '06**.

Thank you to our sponsors:



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## New Student Success Center

ICO hopes to give every student access to the resources required to succeed. Over the past several months, a Task Force led by **Beth Karmis**, ICO's Senior Director of Student Development, has been working diligently to tackle any barriers students may face on the path to graduation. November 2018 marked the official launch of a new campus resource called the Student Success Center.

Early identification is the key to addressing many success barriers. To improve ICO's ability to act quickly, we have assembled a group of administrators from Student Affairs and the Academic Program named the Student Success CARE Team. The group meets every other week to identify any potential concerns or barriers to success that students may be experiencing. The team assesses each issue and determines the appropriate course of action. For example, the ICO tutoring program has been folded into the Student Success Center.

One identified challenge is the presence of mental health conditions such as anxiety and depression. Historically, mental health conditions have been poorly understood, under-diagnosed, and even stigmatized in our society. However, there is increasing evidence demonstrating a rise in the prevalence of these conditions, especially among college and graduate students.



ICO began a contract relationship with the company Sankofa Psychological Services to open up a professional counseling center for students on campus. The group operates independently of ICO, so students can take advantage of mental health services while maintaining full patient confidentiality. As the project evolves in the coming months, the Student Success Center plans to create online content, host live workshops, and offer other programming related to promoting student success. We will continue to share new developments as they arise.

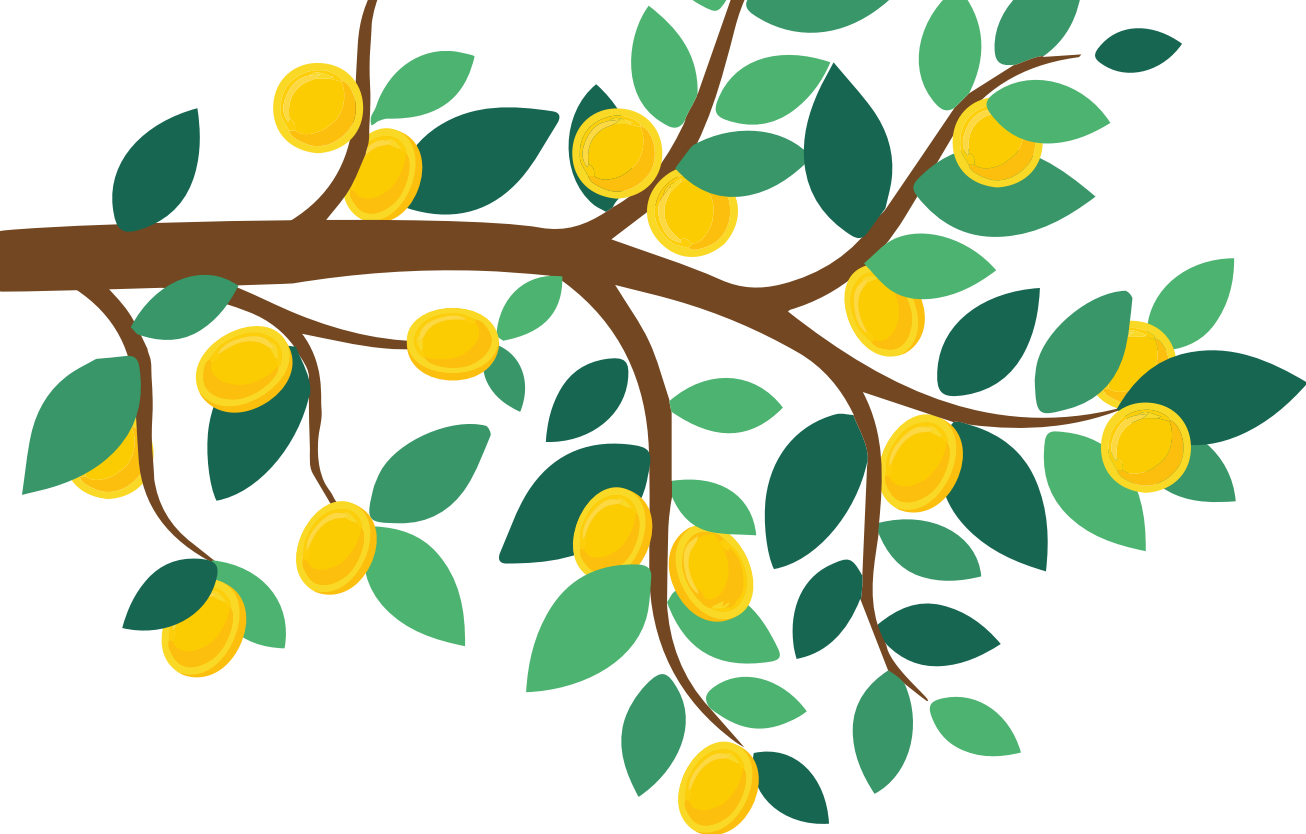
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## Inauguration Weekend

This edition of *ICO Matters* was mailed before a very BIG weekend! The Presidential Inauguration of **Dr. Mark Colip**, the dedication of the Dr. Robert and Lena Lewenson Pediatric and Binocular Vision Center, and Commencement for the Class of 2019 are all scheduled over two tremendous days, May 18-19.

To be a part of these historic events, follow us on social media. We will be live streaming Commencement and the Inauguration on Facebook. Then, enjoy ICO's professional photos on our Flickr page: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/icophotos>

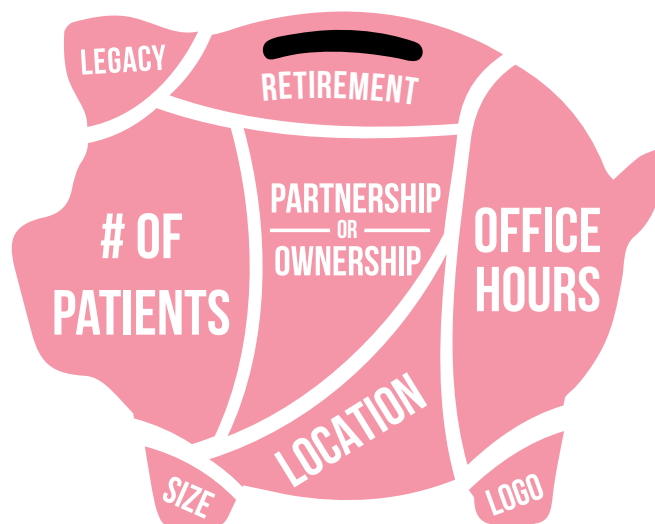




# Consolidation Nation:

## The Rise of Private Equity Optometry

By Lauren Faits





No matter where you look in its history, the profession of optometry has always faced challenges. The number of optometry schools has changed, as has the number of jobs available in the field. Legislation and technology alike have been in constant flux. Optometry has successfully overcome these hurdles and more. Now, a new trend is piquing the curiosity (and concern) of ODs: the rise of private equity optometry. Companies such as MyEyeDr., Clarkson Eyecare, and Acuity are acquiring and consolidating private practices. As each group expands, they gain more buying power. This concept has caused quite a stir in the profession.

In idealized circumstances, “the pitch” of private equity optometry is as follows: a large, consolidated group incorporates well-tested best practices across its entire network. If applied correctly, these changes increase efficiency, profits, and the quality of patient care. Private equity can be a powerful solution for doctors facing competition from big box optical brands.

Unfortunately, the outcomes of acquisition are not always as lustrous as promised. Practice consolidation can result in staff cuts, software updates, or procedural changes that negatively affect hardworking human beings. Handing over the keys to a business can be a difficult personal choice, especially if a practice has been in a doctor’s family for generations. For some, even the most successful private equity deals can later result in feelings of regret.

The future of practice management, thankfully, may not be a total mystery. Consolidation hit dentistry before optometry. According to a 2018 special report by *Review of Optometric Business*, “after some 20 years of consolidation in dentistry, still less than 20 percent of dental practices are affiliated with private equity.” Optometrists may be able to look at this neighboring profession for insight, as well as similar trends in primary care, dermatology, and anesthesiology.

In the face of a buyout offer, every optometrist makes their own, personal choice. **Matthew Weinheimer, OD '14**, was recently highlighted in *Carmel Monthly* magazine thanks to his practice’s decision to stay independent. The doctor he works for is building a brand new facility for Zionsville Eyecare instead of selling to private equity.

One ICO alumnus who recently said “Yes” to private equity is **Vasvi Babu, OD '93**. She currently sits on ICO’s Board of Trustees. You may remember seeing Dr. Babu alongside her husband, **Tom Babu, OD '93**, in the “Made at ICO” video series produced by the College several years ago. Since their video debut, the couple sold their 5-location practice, 20/20 Image Eye Centers, to Acuity.

Acuity was not the first potential buyer to approach the pair. When a private equity firm made offers in 2013 and 2015, Dr. Babu’s family was not ready. Her children were still in high school. The interested company had also been entertaining the idea of a practice name change. Dr. Babu was hesitant. “It just didn’t make sense for us at the time,” she explains. If selling “the largest private practice in Arizona” was going to be on the table, the deal would have to be a perfect fit.

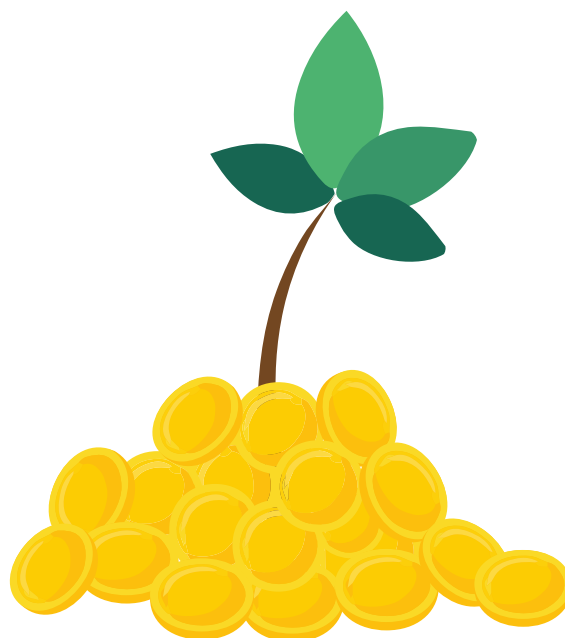
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“It’s always an owner’s decision to sell to private equity... You want to make sure you share many of the same values.”

*Scott Allison, OD '96, MBA*

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Over time, Dr. Babu reflected on her aspirations as a practice owner. She and her husband had “capped out as far as expanding a practice [themselves.]” To open another location would mean more hours of work than her family was willing to commit. Their goal as leaders, all along, was to own a practice that could run without them. However, 20/20 had grown so much that no single doctor could afford to purchase the entire brand.



Acuity approached Dr. Babu hoping to expand into the Western United States. The Babus' kids were older, and neither of the doctors had actively practiced in over 5 years. The timing was right. Acuity offered other key differences, as well. Explains Dr. Babu, "they don't change anything on the front end." Individual practices under Acuity keep their names, but "act as a collective group for buying power as well as the patient experience." Talks lasted for about a year and a half, with the deal finishing in March of 2018. At that point, Dr. Babu elected to be "100% out" of running the practice.

Many of the common fears associated with private equity optometry did not apply to Dr. Babu's specific buyout. 20/20 kept its same staff, down to the bookkeeper. In fact, some of the practice's "star people" found more opportunity after the deal. Says Dr. Babu, "Our General Manager is now the Regional Manager of this entire area. One of our doctors sits on an Advisory Board." While she understands the hesitations many doctors have, Dr. Babu points out that private equity firms want to acquire successful practices. In her opinion, keeping great methods and employees allows Acuity to "get their money's worth." Dr. Babu does concur that a doctor seeking to keep more control may not have made the same decision.



The changes that have occurred at 20/20 have been behind-the-scenes. The practice has incorporated a dispensing system popular on the East coast, and there are talks of a major software upgrade. Though she no longer manages the business, Dr. Babu proudly notes that "our Chandler office is #1 in patient satisfaction and our Scottsdale office is #2" among the entire Acuity network. For her, selling was the right choice. The deal fit her desired lifestyle, and thus far, patient satisfaction remains on-brand.

Dr. Babu is not the only OD in her circle to go the private equity route. A friend of hers in Colorado Springs also sold to Acuity. ICO classmates in Illinois and Ohio are considering it. The trend isn't just for younger graduates, either; Dr. Babu knows an alumnus who graduated in the '70s who is on the same path. "It's definitely on the forefront of a lot of our friends' minds," she says.

Dr. Babu does not see selling as a departure from the profession. "[Optometry] is something that you went to school for when you were 22 years old, so it's always going to be with you. I will continue to go to conferences and service the Board," she says. Changing climate or no, Dr. Babu still recommends optometry as a thriving, comfortable profession. She hopes optometry schools can offer high-caliber classes in business fundamentals. That way, when faced with a deal from a company like Acuity, a doctor can be well-equipped to make the best choice for them.

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According to a 2018 special report  
by *Review of Optometric Business*,  
"after some 20 years of consolidation  
in dentistry, still less than 20  
percent of dental practices are  
affiliated with private equity."

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**Scott Allison, OD '96, MBA**, feels so strongly about private equity that he made it the focus of his career. MyEyeDr. acquired Ossip Optometry, the 36-location practice where Dr. Allison had been Chief Operating Officer. He eventually became Vice President of Professional Services at MyEyeDr.

Above anything else, Dr. Allison stresses that "it's always an owner's decision to sell to private equity." Dr. Greg Ossip had a similar experience to Dr. Babu, in that MyEyeDr. was not the first company to make an offer. Dr. Allison says that MyEyeDr. had "a very similar culture" to Ossip Optometry and was thus the right fit. Says Dr. Allison, "You want to make sure you share many of the same values."

Once acquired by MyEyeDr., Ossip Optometry "retained almost 100% of [its] doctors." The practice's point of sale system and electronic health records changed, but Dr. Allison says, "the focus on the patient has never wavered." By his observation, Ossip Optometry can now see more patients thanks to efficient practice management tools and improvements to business practices.

For Dr. Allison, MyEyeDr. became an opportunity for career growth. "I've always considered myself a lifelong learner," he says. "To have the opportunity to join a large organization like MyEyeDr., where you have over 400 offices and 700 ODs with whom you can share and collaborate ideas and best practices with... that's something very exciting." His experience with private equity has broadened his knowledge of "marketing, accounting, operations, professional services," and he gets to meet "doctors who have a wide range of experiences." While Dr. Allison knows private equity may not be for everyone, for him, it opened a path upward. "You just never feel like you're alone."

For optometrists faced with the opportunity to sell, Dr. Allison has this advice: "Ask yourself, 'Is my team going to be taken care of?' and, 'Will my patients be taken care of?'" Navigating these questions will strengthen your individual point of view. Whether you intend to sell or stay independent, your decision about private equity is highly personal. By staying thoughtful and well-informed, you can be confident in the future you choose.



# TECHNOLOGY

**IllinoisEyeInstitute.org is getting a new look and feel. These updates will highlight the many ways our clinic is staying on the cutting edge! Check it out, and remember that you can refer complex patient cases to the IEI.**



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EYE  
INSTITUTE

**Visit [www.IllinoisEyeInstitute.org](http://www.IllinoisEyeInstitute.org)**



**Myopia Management** - Nearsightedness affects approximately 50% of people in the United States. The IEI is conducting a number of myopia management studies. We already offer our patients an array of treatments to manage myopic progression- reshaping therapy (orthokeratology), multi-focal soft contact lenses, atropine therapy, bifocal glasses, and more.

**EyePrintPro** - Using this unique technology, the IEI can create custom, scleral contact lenses that cover a large portion of the eye. EyePrintPro uses 3D scanning and instrumentation systems. It is an option for managing keratoconus, irregular astigmatism, dry eye, trauma, injuries, and challenging diseases.

**Corneal Cross-linking** - The IEI is one of the only clinics in the region offering this non-invasive procedure for patients with corneal ectasia or keratoconus. Instead of surgery, we use Vitamin B2 drops and UV light to strengthen corneal tissue. This can slow disease progression and help patients effectively wear contact lenses.

**Equipment Updates** - Our clinic uses the Heidelberg OCT2 module, the same Spectralis imaging platform used on the International Space Station (ISS). We are constantly updating our clinical technology to include digital phoropters, ophthalmic lasers, and other pieces that serve student education and patient care.



# Close Up: Todd Lynch, OD '07

**Todd Lynch, OD '07**, has built many parts of his life upon one foundation: an enduring love of basketball. He believes that the teamwork, trust, and sportsmanship intrinsic to the game have made him a better man. Dr. Lynch applies basketball fundamentals to optometry, fatherhood, and his secret (until now) passion: writing. He has completed three books in what will be a six-book fiction series about basketball players, coaches, and fans.

Dr. Lynch co-owns T.S. Advanced Eye Care, Inc., a practice with two Costco locations near Madison, Wisconsin. There, a trio of ICO alumni offer "integrity-driven, empathetic care to a diverse group of people from infancy through adulthood." Dr. Lynch is an active husband and father, carving out time to write between business ownership and children's activities. The stories he authors are about teamwork, growth, courage, and, of course, basketball. We followed Dr. Lynch for a day as he balanced work, family, and his journey to getting his hoop dreams published.



*Interview by: Lauren Faits  
Photos by: David Stluka Photography, LLC*

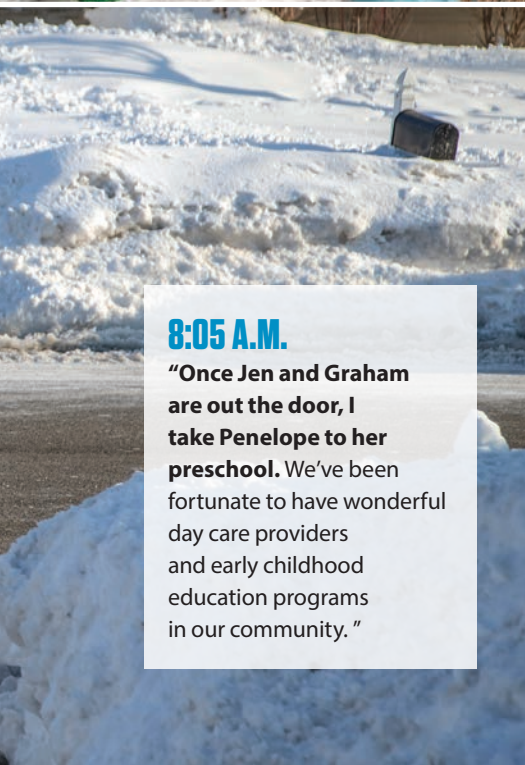


**7:15 A.M.**

**"Mornings are typically busy.** My wife, Jennifer, is a twelve-year educator in our school district. She and our son, Graham, need to leave for school before 7:30 a.m., which means I'm generally getting lunches made, backpacks set aside, snow gear packed, dishes washed, water bottles filled."

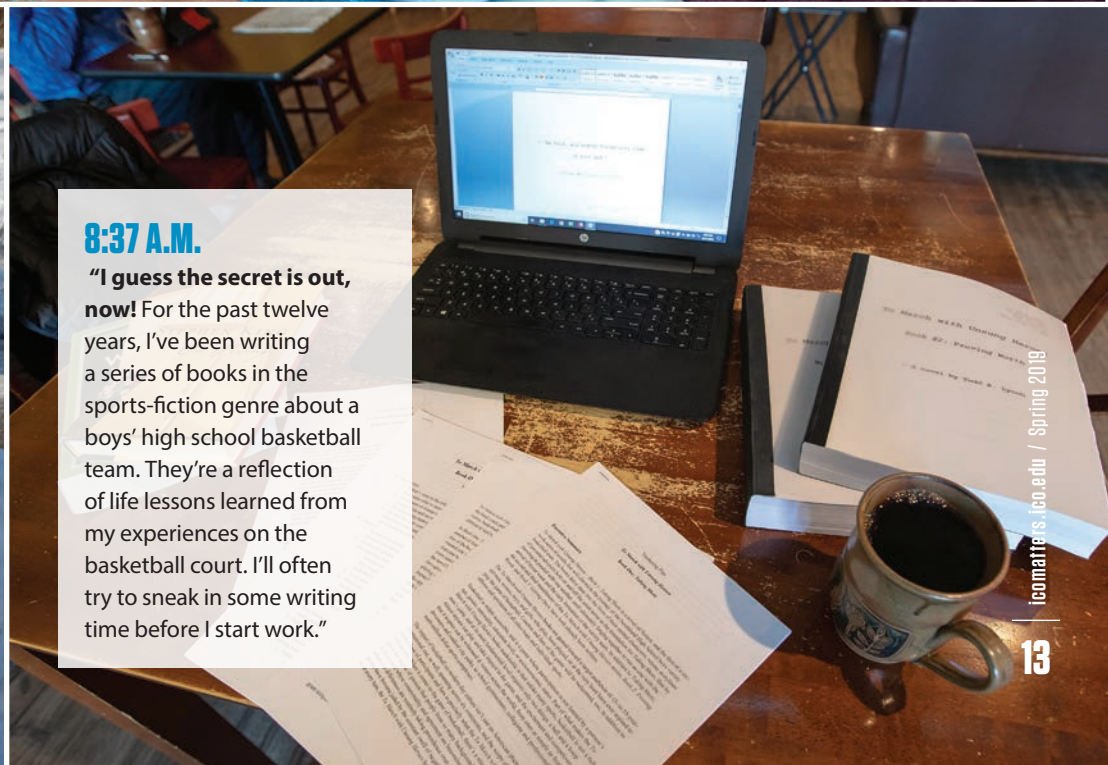






**8:05 A.M.**

**"Once Jen and Graham are out the door, I take Penelope to her preschool. We've been fortunate to have wonderful day care providers and early childhood education programs in our community."**



**8:37 A.M.**

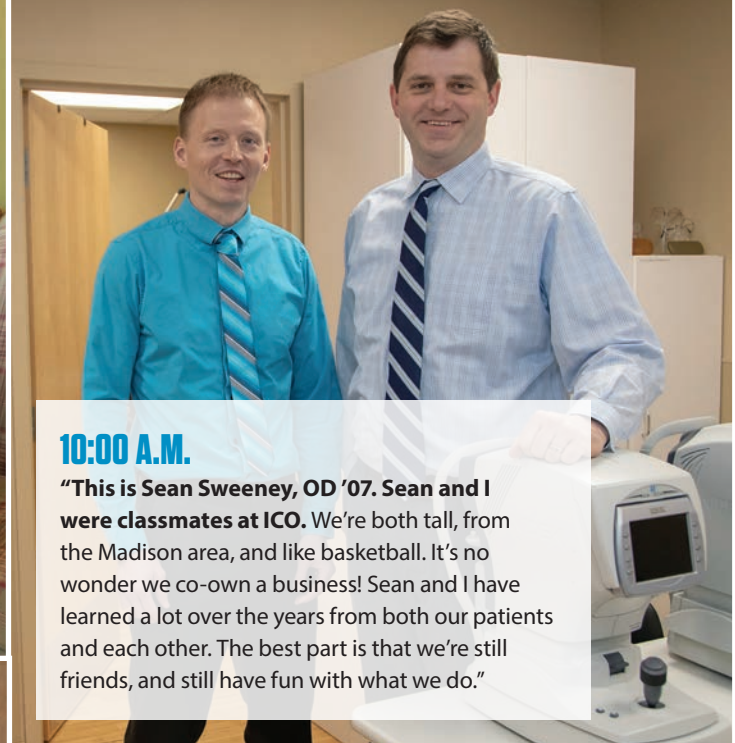
**"I guess the secret is out, now! For the past twelve years, I've been writing a series of books in the sports-fiction genre about a boys' high school basketball team. They're a reflection of life lessons learned from my experiences on the basketball court. I'll often try to sneak in some writing time before I start work."**





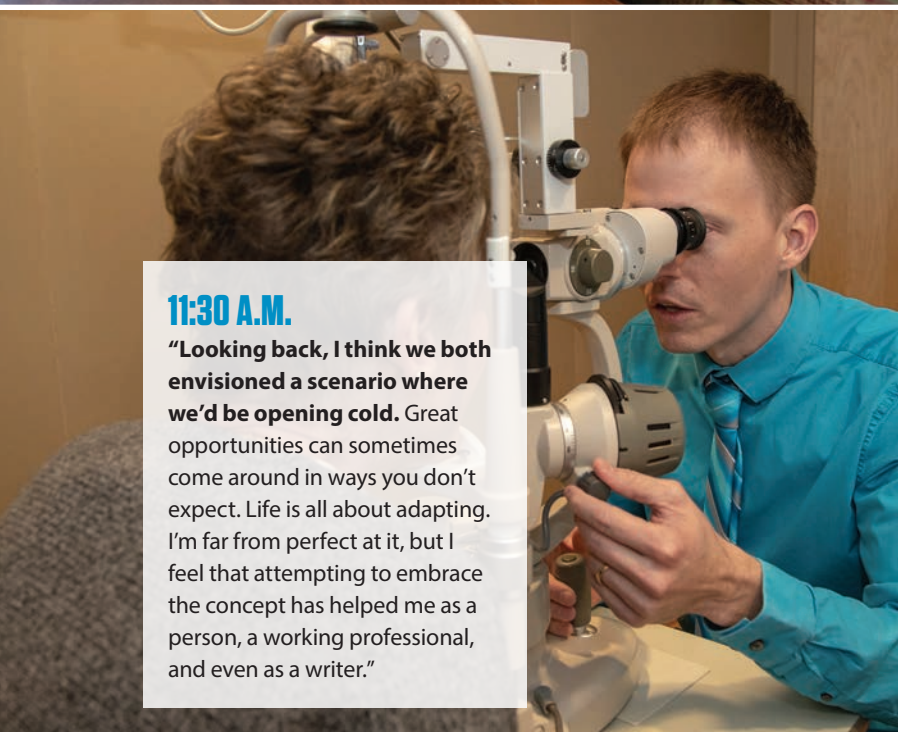
**8:41 A.M.**

**"For the last year and a half, I've been learning what I have to do as far as getting published.** Here, I'm speaking with Joyce Gilmour about submission material. Joyce is a friend to our whole family and a freelance copy editor. She points out some of the big and little things in my writing that I don't always see and has given me stylistic feedback."



**10:00 A.M.**

**"This is Sean Sweeney, OD '07. Sean and I were classmates at ICO.** We're both tall, from the Madison area, and like basketball. It's no wonder we co-own a business! Sean and I have learned a lot over the years from both our patients and each other. The best part is that we're still friends, and still have fun with what we do."



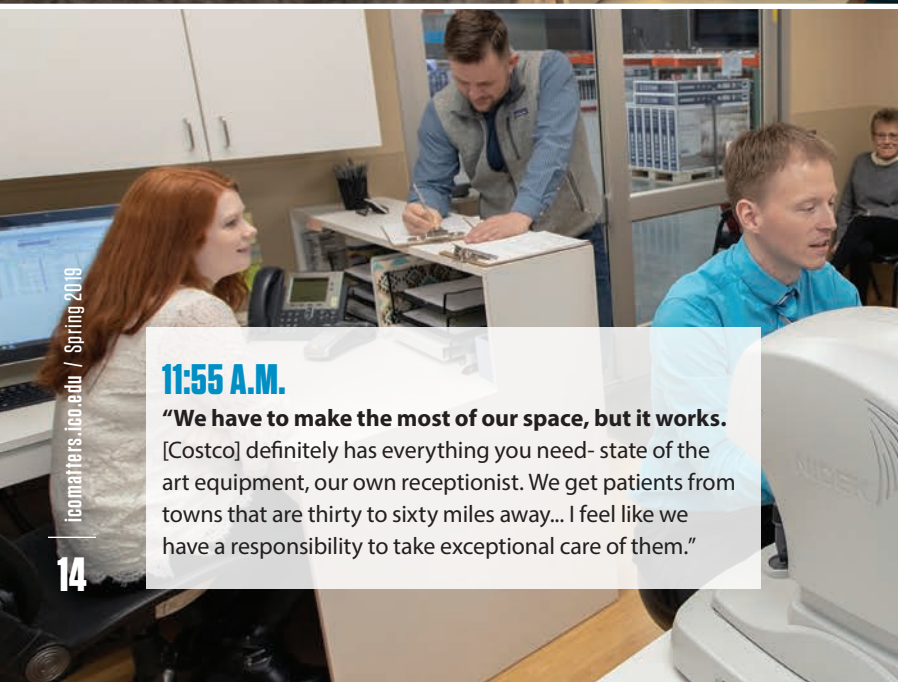
**11:30 A.M.**

**"Looking back, I think we both envisioned a scenario where we'd be opening cold.** Great opportunities can sometimes come around in ways you don't expect. Life is all about adapting. I'm far from perfect at it, but I feel that attempting to embrace the concept has helped me as a person, a working professional, and even as a writer."



**2:02 P.M.**

**"This is Melissa Giesler, OD '18.** One month after Melissa joined us, our Middleton clinic location was destroyed by a flood. It took two weeks for our clinic to reopen... and probably between five and six weeks for us to bounce back to our regular patient volume. We appreciate the work everyone did, particularly on Costco's side, along with the flexibility of Melissa and the rest of our clinical staff."



**11:55 A.M.**

**"We have to make the most of our space, but it works.** [Costco] definitely has everything you need- state of the art equipment, our own receptionist. We get patients from towns that are thirty to sixty miles away... I feel like we have a responsibility to take exceptional care of them."





**5:15 P.M.**

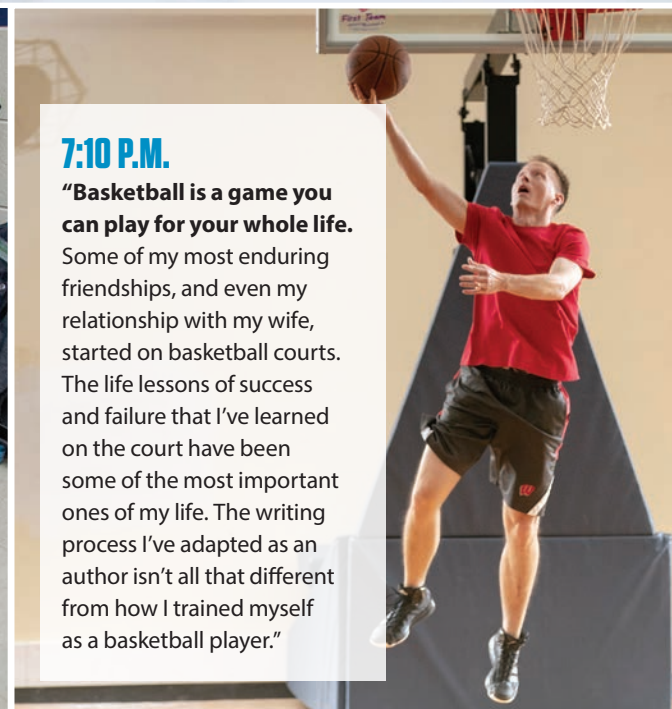
**"We've had ourselves a real winter this year in Wisconsin, with snow, wind, freezing rain, and a polar vortex thrown in for good measure.**

Jen and I try our best to get the kids outside year-round; it's good for your body, your eyes, for your mind. We've learned so much from [our kids,] and they challenge us in every conceivable way. Most importantly, they reward us with the gift of unconditional love."



**6:30 P.M.**

**"Religion classes, soccer, ballet, baseball, basketball, swimming lessons...** we're right in the thick of it. I help out on the days that I can, but Jen deserves a lot of the credit. She is an amazing wife and mother. Penelope deserves credit, too; she's the tagalong for a number of her brother's commitments. Here we're playing a game of Memory while we wait for him to finish wrestling practice. She beat me 11-7!"



**7:10 P.M.**

**"Basketball is a game you can play for your whole life.**

Some of my most enduring friendships, and even my relationship with my wife, started on basketball courts. The life lessons of success and failure that I've learned on the court have been some of the most important ones of my life. The writing process I've adapted as an author isn't all that different from how I trained myself as a basketball player."



**8:00 P.M.**

**"Jen and I have been reading to our kids since they were babies- *Harry Potter*, *Scooby-Doo*, *Dr. Seuss*, *Elephant & Piggie*, *Batman*, and more.** We hope to continue fostering their love for reading throughout each respective stage of their young lives. Our kids read and our kids run. It's a simple formula, but it seems to work."

**11:16 P.M.**

**"I've been burning a lot of midnight oil.** There are days (and nights) when writing these books feels like both the reason for, and bane of, my existence. I'll continue to see this through until it's completed. For years, I've been putting the characters of my story into situations outside their comfort zones, where they need to show courage and fight for what they believe in. As I find myself faced with the ironic challenge of having to heed my own advice, I realize who my writing voice has been talking to all these years."



# VOLUNTEERING: WHEN WE GIVE, WE RECEIVE

BY LAUREN FAITS



Healthcare professions often attract warm, caring people. Doctors positively affect the lives of many patients a day, making optometry a desirable profession for the kind at heart. (Of course, we think ICO optometrists are the kindest of all!)

Some optometrists take generosity to the next level; they want to give even more to humanity. Many ICO alumni donate money or resources to compassionate causes. Others contribute skill and time. The following three graduates feel so strongly about their passion projects that they regularly volunteer.

Why work for free? This trio is happy to share their stories...





## Dominick Maino, OD '78, MEd

**Dominick Maino, OD '78, MEd**, recently retired after over 40 years as an ICO faculty member. While he will be volunteering often in retirement, Dr. Maino's side projects have already been going strong for decades. He makes time for theatre, community building, and political activism. "It's never work," says Dr. Maino. "It gives you an opportunity to say thanks in a very concrete way for everything you've received and everything that matters to you."

One thing that matters to Dr. Maino is family-accessible art. He was ICO's first Pediatrics and Binocular Vision Resident, and his love for children has not faded since. Dr. Maino sits on the Board of Directors as Secretary for the Filament Theatre in Chicago's Portage Park. Calling itself "Where families come to play," Filament Theatre moved into Dr. Maino's neighborhood about seven years ago. Their very first show, *Crossing Six Corners*, caught his attention. He says, "I told them right after that performance, 'When you're ready to bring non-theatre people onto your board, call me first.' They were that good."

Dr. Maino has been volunteering for the Filament for "about six years now, helping them grow and evolve." He attends all meetings, writes and distributes the minutes, chairs and participates in fundraising events, and is a "conduit of communication." Says Dr. Maino, "I make sure people have the information they need to do the best job possible."

The storefront theatre "has grown exponentially." Today, the Filament collaborates at the national level with organizations like the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra. "We went from a small budget to about a couple hundred thousand dollars," says Dr. Maino.

Filament Theatre incorporates sensory experiences into their shows. Dr. Maino recalls a play about the beach, after which attendees could play on a stage covered in



real sand. Another recent project was titled *Forts: Build Your Own Adventure*. Families created various structures, forts, and tunnels made from cardboard boxes, sheets, and furniture. Then, theatre staff would do the cleanup. Dr. Maino appreciates that the Filament creates kids' activities that do not involve digital devices. "They are moving, they are thinking, and they are creating."

Filament Theatre is not the only place in his neighborhood that Dr. Maino values. He is also the Treasurer on the Board of Directors for the Six Corners Association. This organization brings business and community events to Portage Park. Dr. Maino was inspired to volunteer after the economic downturn of 2008. "We had all these empty stores in my neighborhood," he recalls. "I live in this community, and because of that, I want to see the community thrive."

When asked to list some of his favorite places in Portage Park, Dr. Maino replies, "How do I choose?" His appreciative list includes a family restaurant named Shilas, Jeff's Redhots, Community Tavern, Josie's Frozen Yogurt, Fannie's Café, and Chicago's second-ever Culver's. (Ironically, the city's first Culver's was constructed in ICO's neighborhood of Bronzeville.) Dr. Maino reviews budgets, signs checks, and helps "community-minded" businesses like these. By volunteering with the Six Corners Association, Dr. Maino feels he can positively affect large numbers of people- just like he has in optometry.

When volunteering, Dr. Maino always has optometry in mind. A major reason for his political activism is the legislated nature of the profession. He encourages all ODs to "get to know your state legislators, city politicians, and other public servants... that personal contact will make a major difference." Dr. Maino is also an avid photographer, and sometimes donates this talent to optometric conventions and meetings. He often photographs ICO's AOA/AEO receptions, and is the official photographer for the College of Optometrists in Vision Development (COVD) annual meeting. From "powers of observation" to relationship-building, the skills Dr. Maino exercises through volunteering have benefitted him as a doctor.

Retirement will only give Dr. Maino more ability to nurture his neighborhood and express himself creatively. He hopes that his fellow alumni can become inspired and give of their "time, talent, and treasure" as he has. "Even though you're extremely busy with your own life," he says, "perhaps there is that one thing that inspires passion within. Use that passion to benefit others."





## Mallory McLaughlin, OD '16

Whereas Dr. Maino donates his time across many causes, **Mallory McLaughlin, OD '16**, has pointed her energy toward a single organization. She volunteers for the Junior League of Chicago. This national organization focuses on three areas: Health and Wellness, Early Childhood Education, and Human Trafficking. The group is historically significant, having installed the very first women's bathrooms in downtown Chicago for working ladies. Today, Dr. McLaughlin works on the Junior League's Connecting Kids to the Arts committee.

"I think it's really important to give back to the community," says Dr. McLaughlin. The Junior League of Chicago allows her to meet new people and learn the perspectives of others, while serving at-risk women and children. She has been with the organization for two years. Her committee creates art projects and crafts with children in hospitals. They make sand art, Valentines, Thanksgiving decorations, and more. "It's a great way to connect with kids and help give them an escape from their daily treatment," Dr. McLaughlin says. "As we're working with the kids, the parents get a chance to talk to each other and create support groups and network." Though the volunteers do not focus on the children's medical issues, Dr. McLaughlin's experience as an optometrist makes her uniquely qualified for these moments. Outside of Dr. McLaughlin's committee, the Junior League also provides Food Pantry services, educational events, self-defense courses, political advocacy, and much more.

For Dr. McLaughlin, volunteering has given her the gift of empathy. The Junior League of Chicago has shown her worlds very different from her own. The group serves locations from rehabilitation centers to the Ronald McDonald House. Dr. McLaughlin's favorite memory is of two children who became friends after receiving nearly-identical heart transplants. "You really have no idea what they have gone through that has gotten them to where they are."

Dr. McLaughlin encourages everyone to evaluate where they are investing their free hours. Volunteering makes her feel like she is using her time wisely. "When you have more, or you have a lot of things to be grateful for, I think it's very important to share that with other people."





## Sue Mirman, OD '94

Finally, for some ICO alumni, volunteer opportunities have shaped an entire life. **Sue Mirman, OD '94**, practiced optometry for less than 5 years before turning her talents toward nonprofits and philanthropy. Volunteering was always a part of her story, however. When she was young, her family worked through The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to build homes for disabled people. "We really didn't have the money to give at that point," says Dr. Mirman, "but we did have time... I just made sure to keep that in my life."

One of Dr. Mirman's volunteer positions turned into her career. She works in the Jazz Department at Las Vegas Academy of Arts, a public high school with four artistic conservatories- music, visual arts, theatre, and dance. Students, who audition to be admitted, "come from all different backgrounds, culturally and financially." In addition to her salaried role, Dr. Mirman sits on the Advisory Board for the Friends of LVA nonprofit. The group raises funds for the school to help with both student education and public awareness. Not every child at LVA can afford the trips, festivals, and competitions they participate in. Fundraising assures that equal travel opportunities are given to all. "It really is an amazing place," says Dr. Mirman. "I'm honored to be here." Even after they graduate, LVA students keep in touch with Dr. Mirman. "The kids are just awesome," she says. "You definitely feel that you are making a difference."

In addition to her work at LVA, Dr. Mirman also sits on the Executive Board of Win Win Entertainment. This nonprofit organization pairs volunteer entertainers with organizations that care for at-risk youth. Character impersonators, magicians, animal acts, and artists of all kinds offer their talents in five cities. They visit environments, such as hospitals, which require extensive background checks and hiring processes. Win Win helps its actors navigate these steps so that they can work

directly with children in need. For this organization, too, Dr. Mirman raises funds and awareness.

Given where she volunteers, one might imagine that Dr. Mirman is an artist, herself. "It's funny," she says, "I'm a math-science person." Her husband has an Economics degree, and one of her sons is a computer programmer. It was her youngest son who brought art into the family. He has an "affinity towards music" that drew Dr. Mirman to donate her time to art. Her children, now grown up, also enjoy volunteering. As a reward for completing their homework, Dr. Mirman used to take them to animal shelters to walk dogs.

"I had never planned on being a stay-at-home mom or just a philanthropist," Dr. Mirman says when reflecting on her path. "It just turned out that it made more sense for our family." Even though she no longer practices optometry, Dr. Mirman feels empowered by her time at ICO. She believes optometry school gave her "the confidence to know I could be successful in anything I do. With volunteer work, I didn't just give my time and my money... I was the president of several organizations. I served on the board of several organizations. [ICO] gives you that confidence to be able to achieve other things."

To alumni seeking volunteer opportunities of their own, Dr. Mirman says, "When you know your passion, you follow your passion, and find opportunities through the things you already care about... you make connections, and it turns into something from there." You don't always have to seek out the perfect way to volunteer. Sometimes, it finds you.

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Do you donate your time to a unique volunteer opportunity? We'd like to hear about it. You may appear in a future edition of ICO Matters! E-mail your story to [communications@ico.edu](mailto:communications@ico.edu).



# Trending



**September 5**

Optometric Management Magazine spoke to ICO's own **Dr. Michael Chaglasian** about new OCT technology. In the article, Dr. Chaglasian shares how his preferred imaging techniques can help diagnose issues like diabetic retinopathy.



**September 19**

To support diabetes patients in our community, **Maureen Dwyer** spoke on @WVON1690. The Community Health Focus Hour is produced by UChicago Medicine. Maureen's episode was titled, "Diabetes: The Silent Tsunami."



**September 28**

Hooray, #Fall is finally here! The annual #Autumn decorations are out around ICO. What a lovely harvest! :)



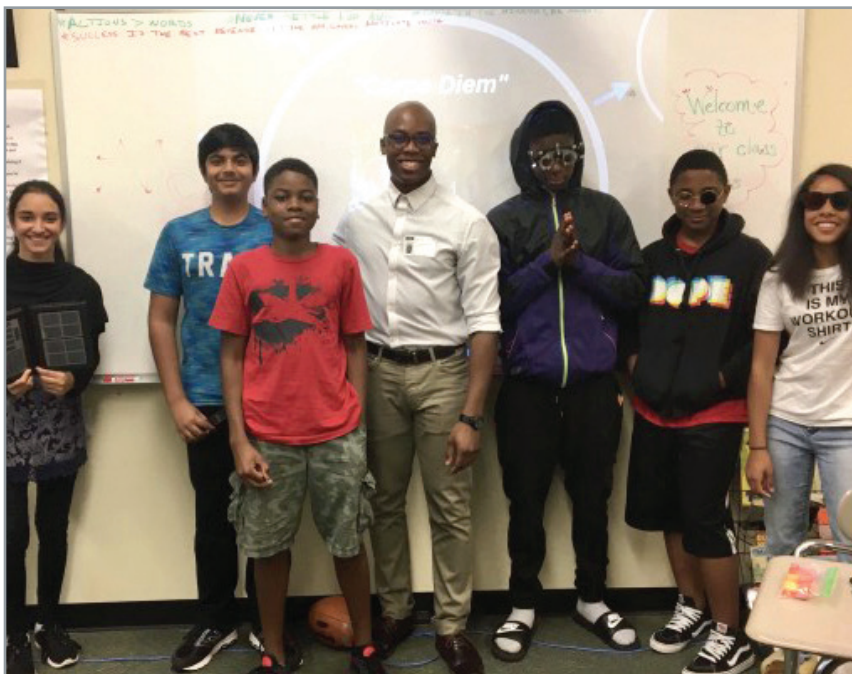
**September 8** - courtesy of @IanYmalay

Nice to have met 2nd yr student **Jeff Villena**, star of @ICO\_Optometry YouTube series A Day in the Life during #ICOHomecoming, I was starstruck 😊 Great to talk with the students about #optometry in @NVlofficial & @Americas\_Best. Thanks to ICO for a great event.



**September 21**

"I hope this perspective encourages others to push for cultural inclusivity in their respective fields, and that the next generation of healthcare workers will be as diverse as the melting pot we live in." - **Lester Efianayi, '21**



**October 3**

ICO alumni shape the very profession of optometry. For example, **Jeff Krall, OD '88**, co-invented Neurolenses- "spectacle lenses that contain contoured prism to relieve headaches, neck and shoulder pain, and eye strain related to the use of digital devices." Read more on Healio.







### October 13

Intramural soccer semifinals and final today! Competition is fierce, but I'm not sure what this sideline says about our collective Vernier acuity... #ICONora #optometrystudent#optometrysthool #optometryjokes#intramurals #soccer



### October 24

The Chicago Cultural Center currently houses an exhibit on the history of ICO's neighborhood. "Bronzeville Echoes" focuses, in particular, on African American contributions to popular music. Check it out by taking the CTA Green Line or CTA's #4 bus directly from campus!



### October 25

Subconjunctival hemorrhage? Iris atrophy? Conjunctival growth? Couldn't pass up this spooky eye cupcake at the local bakery. #ICOJackie #ICOFourthYear #ExternshipJourneys #ClinicCaptures



### October 19 - courtesy of @drkareneng

A group photo of @ICO\_Optometry Board of Trustees. How proud I am of the work we are doing!



### October 30

This fun and informative article from *New York Magazine* on smartphone font sizes features our own **Mallory McLaughlin, OD '16**. It's OK to change the font on your devices if it helps your eyes relax. Just be sure to keep up regular eye exams, too!



### October 30

Congratulations to SVOSH ICO on winning @VOSHintl's annual student video contest. Awesome work! The winning entry got the most votes and a prize from @goodlite.

# Trending



**November 8**

Congratulations to **Sandra Block, OD '81**, new co-chair of the National Center for Children's Vision and Eye Health at Prevent Blindness Advisory Committee. You make ICO proud!!



**November 9**

**Sara Winkler, OD '12**, originally wanted to be a pediatrician. She eventually found optometry- and ICO! We are delighted to see our alumnus profiled in the @WaunakeeTribune.



**December 25**

Warm holiday wishes from the Illinois College of Optometry.



**December 3**

OEP, COVD, and NORA collaborated to hold ICO's First Annual Behavioral Vision Expo. This picture from Vivid Vision features virtual reality equipment. Our students learned how VR can be incorporated into vision therapy.



**December 12**

ICO's student organizations are amazing, but especially around the holidays. NOSA recently volunteered at the Greater Chicago Food Depository, helping to prepare over 5,500 meals in one afternoon. VOSH gave full eye exams and glasses from the Essilor Vision Foundation to local refugees. The ICO spirit of giving is alive and well!



**January 11 - via ICO Student Assoc.**

Location revealed! EyeBall 2019 will take place on **March 23** at Soldier Field.



**January 11**

**Carmen Castellano, OD '82**, is quoted in an American Optometric Association article about contact lens technology. He gives the reader a bit of history, then provides hope for a future full of "[e]asy, simple and effective" contact lens innovations.







**January 15**

Many of our students were drawn to ICO by word of mouth. They were encouraged to apply by a doctor, a mentor... **Ernest Williams, Jr., OD '72**, applied after talking to a friend. He's now about to retire after years of serving his community and inspiring future ODs. Thank you to our vast alumni network for spreading the ICO legacy!



**January 23** - courtesy of Invision Magazine

Vision 2020/USA, Leading Vision and Eye Health Groups Urge U.S. Surgeon General to Issue Call to Action for the Year 2020



**January 24**

ICO faculty member **Dr. Yi Pang** and alumnus **Pam Lowe, OD '88** are part of Essilor's nationwide task force addressing myopia control:



**January 25**

BIG optometry news coming out of Canada, the home of a significant portion of ICO students! Canada accepting the NBEO could open doors for Canadian students attending optometry schools in the U.S., or U.S. students hoping to practice in Canada.



**February 10**

ICO students: as you take your finals, keep in mind some wisdom from classmate **Bri Buckley, '20**. Even the toughest times at ICO can help you better serve your patients. "It's all going to be worth it in the end..."



**February 13**

"Will you be my PAL?"

"Our love will fluoresce!"

Enjoy this year's ICO Valentines, created by **Konstantina Kalas, '19**. Print for your favorite aspiring OD, or share with hashtag #ILoveICO.



## Need Continuing Education credits?

We are expanding our online CE offerings!

Conveniently complete hours of CE by accessing ICO's website whenever it is convenient for YOU.



New online topics coming **Summer 2019**:

- Myopia Control
- Ocular Manifestation of Hypertension
- Concussions
- Specialty Contact Lenses
- Glaucoma Progression
- Sexual Harassment Prevention (now a requirement for Illinois ODs)

[www.ico.edu/alumni/continuing-education/](http://www.ico.edu/alumni/continuing-education/)

If you prefer learning in-person, information about on-campus CE is also available.



# Essentials: C. Clayton Powell, OD '52, MPH, DOS

The National Optometric Association (NOA) celebrates its 50th anniversary this year.

**C. Clayton Powell, OD '52**, co-founded this organization with the late **John L. Howlette, OD '51**. Dr. Powell was a Morehouse College classmate of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and was the only black student in his class at ICO (then called the Chicago College of Optometry). He was extraordinarily active in optometry school, editing the *Eyes Right* newspaper and joining multiple fraternities. It is no wonder that he went on to give African-American optometrists a powerful, organized voice in the profession.

Dr. Powell has served his community in many ways, sitting on multiple boards and sponsoring a scholarship for black ICO students following in his footsteps. In celebration of the NOA's historic milestone, we checked in with Dr. Powell in Atlanta, Georgia. These are his Essentials for everyday living as a doctor, activist, and history-maker.

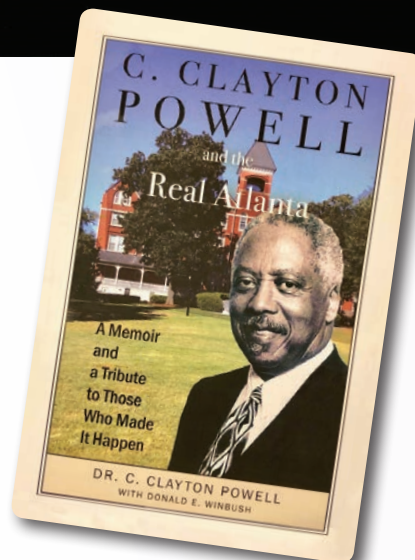


## GREAT SEEING YOU

"When I least expect it, I encounter appreciative former employees or former patients who fondly remind me, 'Dr. Powell, you performed my first eye examination' or 'prescribed my first pair of glasses.' I served generations of some families. It's nice to be associated with such a positive legacy."

## MY STORY

"One of the highlights of my life is chronicling my journey in a book — the soon-to-be-released *C. Clayton Powell and the Real Atlanta, a Memoir and a Tribute to Those Who Made It Happen*. In it, I credit those who most influenced my life."





## HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

"The National Optometric Association (NOA) will host this summer in Atlanta the 50th anniversary of the organization that Dr. John L. Howlette and I co-founded to recruit minority students to the profession. I can't wait to celebrate the inspiration, aspirations, and impact of NOA with others who've carried the torch through the years."



## THE COLOR PURPLE

"Can't say why it's my favorite [color]— perhaps because of its association with my fraternity, Omega Psi Phi, and with peace, devotion, ambition, and independence."

## PEOPLE WATCHER

"One of my simple pleasures is observing quietly as people in public places go about their daily lives — it's an infinite source of fascination."



## OUT FOR A SPIN

"Win or lose, I love the thrill, the suspense, and the jackpot allure of trying my hand at casino *Wheel of Fortune* machines."



## ON A CLEAR DAY

"The comings and goings of massive cruise ships and the prominent domes, columns, and sculptures of Atlantis, the ocean side resort on Paradise Island, Bahamas, are visible most days from the patio of the villa that is my annual mid-summer Caribbean retreat. There, I can also take in breathtaking views of the Atlantic Ocean and be refreshed by cool breezes and mudslide cocktails."

## WHITE TABLECLOTHS

"I am dining in fine fashion if I can bask in ambiance of warmth and elegance, delight in the companionship of my wife, Deborah, and enjoy exquisitely prepared dishes like succulent sea bass and escargot at restaurants such as the Lobster Bar Sea Grille in Atlanta and the famed Café Martinique at Atlantis, Paradise Island, Bahamas."



## MUSIC TO MY EARS

"For my taste, nothing is more enchanting than the mellowness and lyrical enunciations of Nat King Cole singing *The Christmas Song*, or more reverent than John Greenleaf Whittier's prayerful verse *Dear Lord and Father of Mankind* richly harmonized as a hymn. I helped render it decades ago as a tenor with the Morehouse College Glee Club."





# Class Notes

## 1970's

### 1973

**Bruce Portnoy** was published in *The Times of Israel* online newspaper. His article was entitled "A positive legacy in the making, with the help of US legislators."

### 1976

**Justin Gordon** published a book entitled "Postal History of the Holocaust."

## 1980's

### 1980

**Dwight Akerman** announced his retirement after a distinguished 29-year career with Alcon, CIBA Vision, Wesley Jessen, and Novartis Pharma. Since 2013, he has served as Global Head, Professional Affairs and Business Development, and contributed to Alcon's renewed focus on eyecare professional education by strengthening partnerships with key opinion leaders. He serves as Vice Chairman of the Board of Trustees at ICO and is also a Trustee of the World Optometric Foundation.

**Timothy McMahon** was elected President-Elect of the American Academy of Optometry.

### 1981

**Sandra Block** was named Co-Chair of the Prevent Blindness Advisory Committee for the National Center for Children's Vision and Eye Health.

### 1983

**Susan Cotter** was elected Secretary-Treasurer of the American Academy of Optometry.

### 1988

**Jeffrey Krall** is a co-inventor of the new Neurolens technology that uses spectacle lenses with contoured prisms to help alleviate headaches and neck tension.

## 1990's

### 1996

**Stacy Hinkemeyer** and **Nicholas Colatrella** have been named Best in Eye Care in Central Minnesota for the 4th year in a row at their practice, PineCone Vision Center, in Sartell, Minn.

### 1998

**Jennifer Scarlato Tekiele** has been promoted to Chief Executive Officer at the Michigan Eye Institute and Michigan Eye Surgery Center in Flint, Mich.

## 2000's

### 2002

**Linda Bityou** had her first book published, titled "Ancient Wisdom for the Modern World: 29 Timeless Proverbs for Everyday Life." The book is currently available on Amazon.

### 2004

**Kathryn Mulder DeJonge** and her husband welcomed their baby, Pierce Jordan, on Dec. 12, 2018.

### 2005

**Trudy Metcalfe** was elected President of the Newfoundland and Labrador Association of Optometrists in

October 2018. She also takes part in yearly trips to Haiti with Team Broken Earth, a Canadian medical team devoted to providing care after the devastating earthquake of 2010.

### 2006

**Sherman Tung** was named British Columbia's Optometrist of the Year 2018 for his contributions to the profession, service to the community and visual welfare of the public.

## 2010's

### 2012

**Naghmeh Thompson** and her husband welcomed their newest family member, Oliver, in Aug. 2018.

**Sara Winkler** joined May Vision Center in Waunakee, Wis.

### 2014

**Katie Davis** was appointed by the South Carolina Department of Education to serve as an advisor on their Learning Disorders Task Force.

**Hanna (Froehlich) Fylpaa** was selected as the Armed Forces Optometric Society Junior Optometrist of the Year for Public Health Service in Nov. 2018.

**Sarah Shaw** has taken over East Avenue Vision Center, in Lockport, N.Y., following the retirement of **Paul DeLange, OD '75**.

**Channing Wells** is the owner of Wells Vision in Hazlehurst, Miss.

### 2015

**Ann Tobyne** joined the Smart EyeCare Center, with locations in Augusta, Bangor, and Farmingdale, Maine.

## 2016

**Joelle (Jaros) Holland** and **Zac Holland, OD '15**, welcomed their baby, Aria Rai, on Feb. 2, 2019.

## 2017

**Erica Troyer** and her husband welcomed their baby, Lukas James, on Dec. 23, 2018.

## 2018

**Delia Malone** has joined Levin Eye Care Center in Whiting, Ind.

**Michael Gorz** has joined his parents, **John Gorz, OD '84**, and **Sue Gorz, OD '84**, in their practice as the third generation at Lakeshore Vision Center in Algoma, Wis. Michael's grandfather, **Arthur Gorz, OD '46 (NICO)**, began the practice after serving as an optometrist in the Air Force.

## Friends and Family

**Patricia Salazar, OD**, and family welcomed Madison Ann Quigley on Dec. 5, 2018.

**Helena (Daisy) Varkalis** has retired from ICO after 38 years. Daisy will be sincerely missed around the College. Many *ICO Matters* readers will fondly remember Daisy's time at ICO, as her leadership in the Mail Room directly improved hundreds of student and alumni lives. Thankfully, those that have worked with Daisy can stay in touch; her former Mail Room work-study students still gather as an exclusive group on Facebook.

## Mea Culpa

In the Fall 2018 issue of *ICO Matters* it was announced in error that **Bernard C. Tekiele, OD '98**, had been promoted to Chief Executive Officer at the Michigan Eye Institute and Michigan Eye Surgery Center in Flint, Mich. It was his wife, **Jennifer Tekiele, OD '98**, who was promoted.

## Got alumni news? Please share.

### ONLINE:

[icomatters.ico.edu/submit-a-class-note](http://icomatters.ico.edu/submit-a-class-note)

### CONTACT:

Connie M. Scavuzzo, MA

Senior Director of Alumni Development

312-949-7080 • [cscavuzzo@ico.edu](mailto:cscavuzzo@ico.edu)

[alumni@ico.edu](mailto:alumni@ico.edu)



Select Library resources are available to ICO alumni at all times, including:

- Public catalog of books
- ICO Yearbooks

By e-mailing the ICO Library, alumni can access additional resources:

- Full Text Journals such as Review of Optometry, Optometry Times, The Journal of Behavioral Optometry, and many more
- Over 90 databases of e-books, journal articles, and imagery
- Interlibrary loan

Ask us about VisionCite, a journal citation database. Through the ICO Library, alumni can purchase a VisionCite subscription for just \$100 (a savings of \$900!)



[icolibrary@ico.edu](mailto:icolibrary@ico.edu)



312-949-7150



# In Memoriam

## 1940's

### 1948

**John E. Moran** (NICO), Grosse Pointe Woods, Mich., Jan. 26. He served in the U.S. Army during WWII as a part of Company A, 20th Armored Infantry Battalion, 10th Armored Division, known as the "Tiger Division." While at war, he was involved in fierce combat and the liberation of a concentration camp. He practiced optometry into his mid-80s before retiring.

**Paul Edward Todd** (NICO), Central City, Ky., Sept. 11, 2018. He served in the U.S. military. He served as president of the Kentucky Optometric Association, was president and 70-year member of the Central City Lions Club, and was a dedicated member of the Volunteers in Mission program.

### 1949

**Robert E. Collins** (NICO), Brentwood, Tenn., Aug. 20, 2018.

**James B. Hasler** (NICO), Reedsburg, Wis., Oct. 19, 2018. He served in the U.S. Army during WWII and was stationed in the U.S. and Great Britain. He was a former Wisconsin Optometric Association president, creator of the North Central U.S. Optometric Association, and served on the Wisconsin Optometric Examining Board. He was a member of the ICO Alumni Council and Board of Trustees, and in his retirement, researched and co-wrote an extensive history of ICO. Active in his community, he served as chair of the Reedsburg Planning Commission, playing an integral role in its industrial and commercial revitalization efforts in the late 20th century. In his spare time, he entertained as a member of the quartet *3 Docs and a Digger*.

**Theodore Jackson Reynolds III** (NICO), Nicholasville, Ky., Dec. 20, 2018. He was in the U.S. Navy serving in the Pacific theater. He was very involved in civic, educational, and charitable organizations, including the Rotary Club, where he received the prestigious Paul Harris Award.

**Donald L. MacDaniel** (NICO), Connersville, Ind., Feb. 28. He served in the U.S. Army Air Corps and was assigned to the 1,661st Engineer Utility Detachment Unit. He practiced in Connersville, where he served on the Fayette Memorial Hospital Board of Trustees and was active in numerous community organizations.

**Herbert Paul Wechsler** (NICO), Lyndhurst, Ohio, Jan. 29. He served in the U.S. Army infantry as part of the Rainbow Division during WWII in Central Europe.

## 1950's

### 1954

**Richard Rothweiler**, Wichita, Kan., Oct. 8, 2018. He practiced in Hoisington, Kan., until his retirement in 1985.

### 1957

**William K. Riedel**, Williamsville, N.Y., Feb. 26. He was active in the profession for more than 50 years. He served as president of the Western New York Society of Optometrists, was a life member of the New York State Optometric Association, and served as a Deputy Examiner for the New York State Board of Optometric Examiners.

**Vernon M. Roudebush**, Tucson, Ariz., Jan. 26. He was a 2nd lieutenant in the Air Force ROTC and went into service in Marana, Ariz. He practiced in Safford until his retirement in 1990. He was a past president of the Arizona Optometric Association, an honorary lifetime member of Lions Club International, and served as president of the Safford chapter. He also served on the Arizona Parks Board and, as chairman, was instrumental in bringing a Braille map to Kartchner Caverns State Park in Benson, Ariz.

## 1960's

### 1962

**Francis J. Moes**, Green Bay, Wis., Feb. 3. He served in the U.S. Army and was deployed to South Korea and Japan. He founded Moes Vision Center in Green Bay, Wis., where he practiced for 50 years.

### 1965

**H. Charles "Chuck" Lindman**, Deerbrook, Wis., Jan. 22. He was an active member in the Lakeshore Optometric Society and the Wisconsin Optometric Association.

**Gregory J. Oswald**, Raleigh, N.C., Aug. 31, 2018. He served in the U.S. Air Force as an Optometry Officer. He practiced in Youngstown until his retirement in 1993.

### 1967

**Wayne E. Wall**, Green Valley, Ariz., June 1, 2018. He served in the U.S. Army as a helicopter pilot. He practiced in Kiel and Sheboygan, Wis., for 48 years before retiring to Arizona in 2014.



## 1980's

1982

**David P. Bartels**, Amherst, N.Y., Sept. 27, 2018. During his career he founded two practices, became a Fellow in the Orthokeratology Academy of America, and was a member of the Western New York Society of Optometrists.

1989

**Gerald Henderson**, Papillion, Neb., Aug. 25, 2018. He served in the U.S. Army as an officer in the Medical Service Corps for three years. He retired as a major in the U.S. Army Reserve, after 20+ years of service.

## 1990's

1990

**Louis Russell Margitza**, Las Vegas, Nev., Jan. 17. He was an active part of the Las Vegas optometric community for more than 25 years and a member of the Nevada Optometric Association.

## 2010's

2014

**Allyce Reetz**, Clearwater Fla., Dec. 24, 2018. She was highly respected by her colleagues at National Vision, and her patients admired her honesty and compassion. In memory of Dr. Reetz, her ICO classmates have started a giving campaign in her honor. Funds donated will be designated to her name placed on the donor wall in ICO's new Dr. Robert and Lena Lewenson Center for Pediatric and Binocular Vision.

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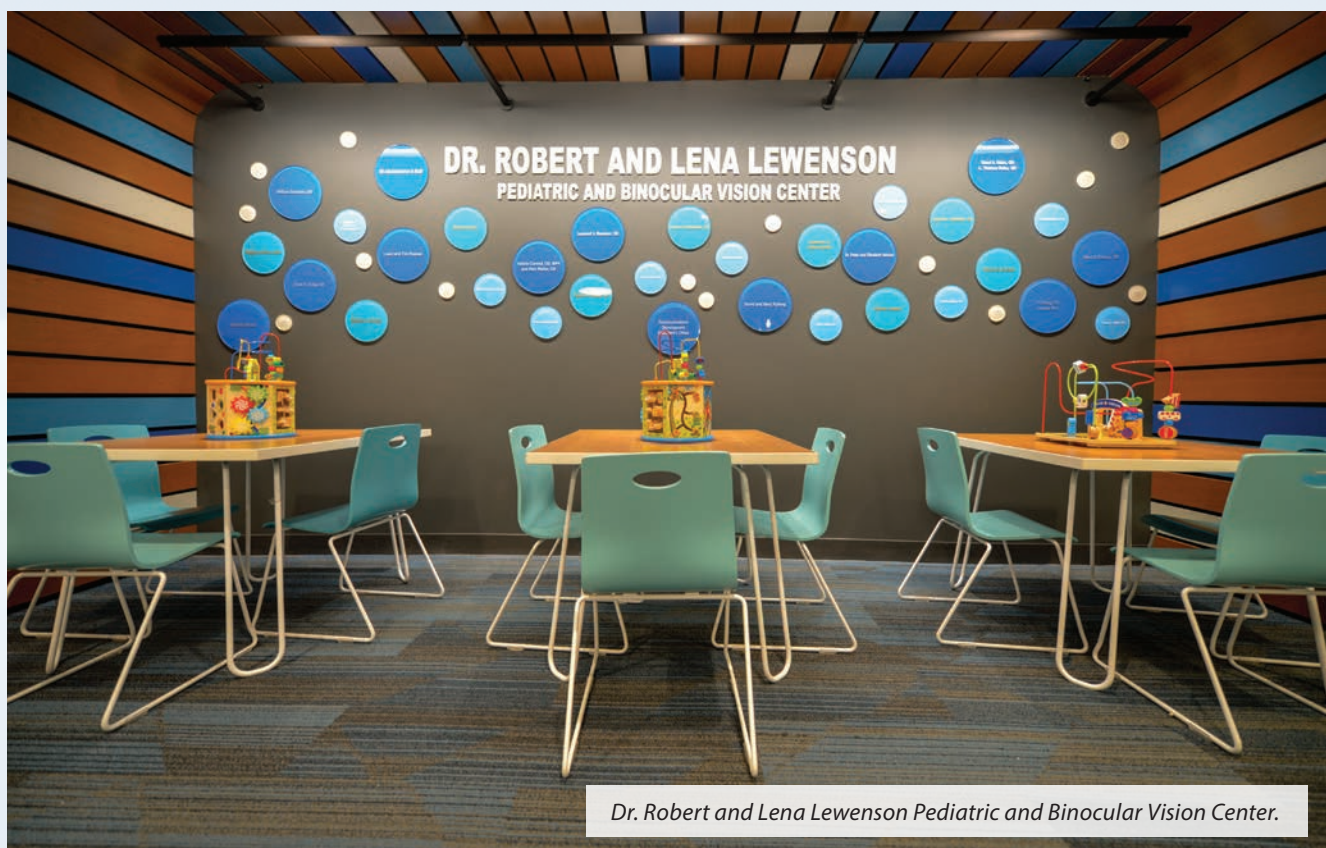
*The following abbreviations denote predecessor names of the Illinois College of Optometry.*

CCO: Chicago College of Optometry

MCO: Monroe College of Optometry

NICO: Northern Illinois College of Optometry

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*Dr. Robert and Lena Lewenson Pediatric and Binocular Vision Center.*



# Vault

Long before *ICO Matters*, other publications circulated around the College- *New Breed*, *Focal Point*, and *After Image*, just to name a few. A student newsletter called *Focus* was particularly memorable. Its content was sometimes satirical and often politically-charged. *Focus* was not afraid to present honest observations about life at ICO. Nothing on-campus today is quite like it.

Depending on the year, ICO students would sometimes draw original cartoons for the publication. We pulled a few examples from the Vault:





# Datebook

COMMENCEMENT  
**MAY 19**

## MAY

**May 4-11**  
Final Exams

**May 15**  
Capstone Program  
*ICO Campus*

**May 18**  
Dedication of the Dr. Robert  
and Lena Lewenson Pediatric &  
Binocular Vision Center  
*ICO Campus*

Presidential Inauguration  
*ICO Campus*

**May 19**  
ICO Commencement  
*Symphony Center*

**May 20**  
First Day of Summer Quarter

**May 25-27**  
Memorial Day Holiday  
Campus/Clinic Closed

## JUNE

**June 1**  
Admissions Open House  
*ICO Campus*

**June 24-28**  
Focus on Your Future Summer  
Program  
*ICO Campus*

**June 21**  
AOA - Optometry's Meeting  
Alumni and Friends Reception  
*St. Louis, Mo.*

## JULY

**July 1-3**  
New Resident Orientation

**July 4-5**  
Independence Day Holiday  
Campus/Clinic Closed

**July 10-14**  
NOA Convention - 50th  
Anniversary  
*Atlanta, Ga.*

**July 27-August 3**  
Summer Quarter Final Exams

## AUGUST

**August 8-11**  
Class of 2023 Orientation

**August 12**  
First Day of Fall Quarter

**August 17**  
ICO Olympics

**August 24**  
Parents' Orientation  
White Coat Ceremony  
*ICO Campus*

**August 31-September 2**  
Labor Day Holiday  
Campus/Clinic Closed

## SEPTEMBER

**September 6-7**  
ICO's Homecoming

**September 13-14**  
Illinois Optometric Association  
Convention  
ICO Exhibit Booth  
*Itasca, Ill.*

## OCTOBER

**October 25**  
AAO - Academy  
Alumni & Friends Reception  
*Orlando, Fla.*

**October 26-November 2**  
Fall Quarter Final Exams

## NOVEMBER

**November 3-4**  
Continuing Education Program  
12 hours, tested  
*ICO Campus*

**November 11**  
First Day of Winter Quarter

**November 28-December 1**  
Thanksgiving Holiday  
Campus/Clinic Closed





# ICO

**Illinois College of Optometry**

3241 S. Michigan Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60616

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## Last Look



*Can you guess where in the world this photo was taken? These misty ruins are located in Machu Picchu, Peru. ICO-Students Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity (SVOSH) went on a mission trip to this country for Thanksgiving 2018.*