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EYE

Stein Eye Institute UCLA

Stein and Doheny Eye Institute Sign Historic Affiliation Agreement

Two prestigious institutes—borne from families whose histories are woven into the very fabric of our city—have now converged in an historic affiliation.

UCLA's Stein Eye Institute and the Doheny Eye Institute have signed a long-term affiliation agreement to create the nation's preeminent centers for ophthalmic patient care, vision research, and education. Each organization will preserve its identity and mission, while combining clinical and teaching operations that will expand patient access throughout greater Los Angeles. Under the terms of the agreement, Doheny physicians and scientists will be UCLA Department of Ophthalmology faculty members.

The affiliation will utilize each organization's strengths to establish novel research leading to impactful discoveries, to develop innovative eye care therapies, and to educate world leaders in ophthalmology and vision science. It also aligns strengths that have factored into world recognition for Stein Eye and Doheny—both organizations are consistently in the top-10 of the *U.S. News & World Report* Best Hospital Rankings for ophthalmology.

Stein Eye Institute

Stein Eye's alliance with Doheny may make us the nation's, if not the world's, largest academic affiliation.

A Shared Vision

"The Stein/Doheny affiliation makes sense," says **Bartly J. Mondino, MD**, director of the Stein Eye Institute and chairman of the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology. "We share identical missions, and we have a long history of cordial, mutually beneficial relations, including joint educational conferences and training courses. Our locations support convenient collaboration, and this is a great opportunity for research and discovery. And, perhaps most significantly, together we will have a synergistic effect."

Until this affiliation, the Doheny Eye Institute had been associated with the University of Southern California. In early 2013, Doheny carefully considered proposals from distinguished universities and institutions across the country and selected UCLA's Stein Eye Institute as its new academic partner. "Six top universities approached us wanting to affiliate," says **Marissa Goldberg**, Doheny chief operating officer, chief financial officer, and board member. "By selecting UCLA and the Stein Eye Institute, we gain complementary clinical, research, and educational strengths and the opportunity to better serve patients."

David T. Feinberg, MD, MBA, associate vice chancellor and president, UCLA Health System, adds, "This affiliation is a rare and unique opportunity to strengthen relationships with our distinguished colleagues at Doheny, many of whom have long collaborated with us to serve the greater Los Angeles community. We are honored now to be working more closely with them."

The Doheny Eye Institute, established in 1947, is a top-ranked nonprofit organization, which is dedicated to the conservation, improvement, and restoration of human eyesight. Stein Eye shares this purpose, and both institutes have the same high standards for education, patient care, and research. "A strong motivation for securing this agreement with UCLA and the Stein Eye Institute is the similarity of our mission and values," affirms Ms. Goldberg.

"East meets west with this affiliation," says Dr. Mondino, attesting to the complementary locations of each Institute and the broad imprint the partnership will have on the region. "Stein Eye's alliance with Doheny may make us the nation's, if not the world's, largest academic eye affiliation. Together, we can have a tremendous and positive impact on our community, nation, and beyond—extending our efforts in vision science and technology, nationally and internationally."

This view is shared by prominent academic ophthalmology leaders from around the world who have commented that the Stein Eye/Doheny partnership is the 'affiliation of the century.'

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Through this partnership, we can have a tremendous and positive impact on our community, nation, and beyond, extending our efforts in vision science and technology, nationally and internationally.

Doheny Eye Institute

IN THIS ISSUE

SteinEye

Letter from the Chair

You might notice a theme in this issue of *EYE* newsletter: the Stein Eye Institute is growing.

First and foremost, I am pleased to share the news that the Stein Eye Institute and Doheny Eye Institute have signed an affiliation agreement. With both organizations being acknowledged leaders in ophthalmology, this affiliation provides the opportunity for significant advancement in vision science research and eye care. Under terms of the agreement, Doheny physicians will be UCLA Department of Ophthalmology faculty members. I hope you will join me in welcoming our new colleagues on board!

An incredible outpouring of community support has lead to our doubling the size of the Stein Eye Center–Santa Monica. The facility, which opened its doors in August 2013, was met with an immediate and enthusiastic response, and it quickly became apparent that more space would be needed. In addition to expansion of the facilities and doubling of the number of exam rooms, we have brought on board additional providers, including a pediatric ophthalmologist to care for our youngest patients.

As we look forward to the opening of the Edie & Lew Wasserman Building in November, a broad renovation of the Jules Stein Building will soon begin. The infrastructure of the facility will be modernized, and the interior space will be reconfigured to accommodate increased vision science research.

Stein Eye's growth speaks to a reputation gained from world-renowned clinicians and scientists—individuals who are committed to broadening understanding of eye disease and eye health, with the ultimate goal of preserving and restoring sight.

Our transformation continues!

Sincerely,

Bartly J. Mondino, MD
Director, Stein Eye Institute
Chairman,
UCLA Department of Ophthalmology

The Stein Eye Center-Santa Monica is conveniently located on Wilshire Boulevard, between 18th Street and 19th Street.

Stein Eye Center-Santa Monica Doubles in Size to Meet Patient Demand

Would patients avail themselves of the Stein Eye Institute's world-renowned comprehensive and subspecialty eye care if it was housed at a convenient neighborhood location? The answer is a resounding *YES*.

The Stein Eye Center-Santa Monica—which opened its doors a little more than a year ago—has expanded its facilities, doubling in size to meet patient demand. "Immediately upon opening, the Center was bursting at the seams, and it became clear that the practice was outgrowing the available space," explains the Center's Medical Director **Colin A. McCannel, MD,** associate professor of clinical ophthalmology at the Stein Eye Institute. "Through a stroke of luck, space opened next door that allowed the Center to easily and conveniently expand its current footprint."

The Center's physical growth facilitated the doubling of the number of exam rooms—from six to 12—and the addition of a third diagnostic laboratory. "With its new expanded capacity," notes Dr. McCannel, "the Center can be more responsive to patient appointment requests and better accommodate referrals from local medical and primary-care providers."

Of special significance, the increase in the number of exam rooms has allowed the addition of a vital subspecialty—pediatric ophthalmology—so now the Stein Eye Center-Santa Monica can serve the needs of the community's youngest patients. "**Monica Khitri, MD**, is an excellent pediatric ophthalmologist, and we are very excited to welcome her to the Stein Eye family," says Stein Eye Institute Director and Chairman of the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology **Bartly J. Mondino, MD**. "Following Dr. Khitri's residency training at the Stein Eye Institute, she completed a prestigious fellowship in pediatric ophthalmology at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, and she brings valuable expertise to the Center."

A second comprehensive ophthalmologist, **Tania Onclinx, MD**, who completed her fellowship in ophthalmology at the Stein Eye Institute, and a second optometrist, **Melissa Willey, OD,** round out the new staffing, broadening the number of patients the Stein Eye Center-Santa Monica can serve. Further, the expanded space opened up the opportunity for additional services, such as an optical shop for spectacles and contact lenses, which is run by Dan Deutsch, a longtime optical service provider at the Stein Eye Institute in Westwood.

A full-service center, the Stein Eye Center-Santa Monica administers both routine vision care services and specialty care. It is staffed by UCLA experts in comprehensive ophthalmology, retinal and corneal disorders, glaucoma, neuro-ophthalmology, pediatric ophthalmology, and laser refractive surgery. The testing facilities offer a wide range of examinations, including visual field, corneal mapping (corneal topography), intraocular lens measurement, as well as retinal imaging modalities like fluorescein angiography.

Summing up the impact of the expansion, Dr. McCannel proudly notes, "It appears that patients are extremely appreciative that—within their local community—they can receive premiere clinical care and services from trusted Stein Eye ophthalmologists. I am pleased that patients can have their ophthalmology needs met, and the majority of any testing they may require, in Santa Monica."

> With its new expanded capacity, the Center can be more responsive to patient appointment requests and better accommodate referrals from local medical and primary-care providers.

A Proven Model

"When we were first deliberating developing the Stein Eye Center–Santa Monica," says Dr. Mondino, "it was with the requirement that the Center provide the same level of outstanding care that made the Stein Eye Institute in Westwood one of the top eye care facilities in the world."

Given the immediate and sustainable success of the Santa Monica center, consideration is being given to the Stein Eye Institute's expansion into other outlying communities. "The Stein Eye Center–Santa Monica has been nothing but successful," confirms Dr. Mondino.

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Jules Stein Building Renovation to Begin Soon

Don't put your hard hat away just yet.

With construction of the Edie & Lew Wasserman Building nearing completion, the next and final phase in the physical transformation of the Stein Eye Institute's vision science campus will soon begin: The Jules Stein Building is on line to undergo a seismic upgrade and a major renovation and reconfiguration of space.

A Need to Grow

Four independent reviews of the Stein Eye Institute in 1995, 1998, 2003, and 2009 identified a critical need for expansion. The conclusion reached was that lack of available space—including operating rooms—limited clinical and research growth at the Institute.

"We realized that we were at a critical juncture in defining the future of the Stein Eye Institute," explains **Bartly J. Mondino, MD**, director of the Stein Eye Institute and chairman of the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology. "To remain a premier center for eye care, education, and research, we recognized that the Institute needed to grow to accommodate new faculty and continued establishment of novel programs."

The overall answer to the Stein Eye Institute's space limitations was the construction of the Edie & Lew Wasserman Building, which is expected to open its doors in November 2014. The six-story, 100,000 square foot structure will dedicate three floors and 56,000 square feet to new Stein Eye outpatient surgical areas and to clinical-practice space. The new building will also enable expansion of the Stein Eye's Orbital and Ophthalmic Plastic Surgery Division and Cataract and Refractive Surgery Center. "Consolidating these high-volume, clinical services to the new building will provide patients with convenient 'one-stop shopping' for examination, testing, and surgery," says Dr. Mondino, adding, "And as it will no longer house these services, the Jules Stein Building can now be reconfigured to meet our 21st Century needs in research and education."

Optimizing Physical Space

When it opened its doors in 1966, the Jules Stein Building was a shining example of neo-classical design and construction, and for more than twenty years, the five-story structure represented the Stein Eye Institute in its entirety. Now at the heart of the Stein Eye complex, the 108,000 square foot Jules Stein Building is the Institute's primary site of research, education, and administration.

Today the Jules Stein Building is nearly 50 years old, and its internal plumbing, cooling, heating, and electrical systems are in need of modernization. As such, the facility will undergo a seismic upgrade and be made ADA compliant to meet accessibility guidelines, which were not in effect when the building was initially constructed. But perhaps more compelling, the renovation will include a reconfiguration of the building's interior space to further grow Stein Eye's recognized expertise in vision science research.

B-level

To facilitate new research, laboratory space on the B-level—the main entrance off of Stein Plaza—will be renovated and expanded. "With additional room," explains Dr. Mondino, "we can support more researchers and more studies. Younger faculty—mentored by senior vision scientists—can be brought on board to train and learn, maintaining fluidity of Institute programs and ensuring both the continuation and further development of these programs upon the retirement of older faculty."

A-level

When the Jules Stein Building operating rooms were constructed on the A-level more than 30 years ago, inpatient surgery was the rule. Over time, however, outpatient surgery has become the preferred model for surgical care. With the Edie & Lew Wasserman Building housing the Institute's state-of-the-art outpatient surgery centers, space on the A-level will be reassigned for core equipment and new, flexible and individual laboratories. The Vision Genetics Center and Vision Proteomics Center for the structural modeling of visual proteins—also located on the A-level—will be expanded to further cement the Stein Eye Institute's expertise in these arenas.

1st floor

University of Ophthalmology Associates (UOA)—where comprehensive ophthalmologists, residents, and fellows practice—will remain on the 1st floor of the Jules Stein Building, and UOA will continue to serve as a hub for patient referrals to the Institute's many subspecialty services. Educational activities of the Institute will be concentrated in the Jules Stein Building and will utilize the library, microsurgery laboratory, Academic Programs office, and conference rooms on the B-level, A-level, and 1st floor.

2nd and 3rd floors

On the building's 2nd floor, the Glaucoma Division will acquire additional examination rooms. As the administrative center of the Stein Eye Institute, the Jules Stein Building will house billing, human resources, and development. The offices of the director, chief administrative officer, chief financial officer, and facilities manager will be situated along with the administrative offices on the 2nd and 3rd floors.

The 3rd floor of the Jules Stein Building will remain the site of faculty offices, many of which are occupied by vision scientists whose laboratories are not equipped with office space. The Epidemiology/Data Coordinating Center will also be located on the building's 3rd floor.

Open and Light-Filled

As a dynamic visual accompaniment to the renovation, a beautiful light-filled inner atrium will be created in the Jules Stein Building that stretches up from the B-level laboratories to the 1st floor UOA patient care area. Windows will also be added in the laboratories, offering the scientists abundant natural light in which to conduct their experimental studies.

Finally, the entrance to the Jules Stein Building will be modified so that the Plaza-level entryways to the Jules Stein Building, Doris Stein Building, and Edie & Lew Wasserman Building thematically blend, tying together the three structures that now represent the Stein Eye Institute's vision science campus. It is anticipated that the Jules Stein Building renovation will take two years to fully complete.

Stein and Doheny Eye Institute Affiliation

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Two Storied Histories Converge

Jules Stein was a practicing ophthalmologist with a profound love of music. While chief resident at Cook County Hospital in Chicago, Illinois, Dr. Stein began booking dance bands for weddings and bar mitzvahs, and in 1924, he founded Music Corporation of America (MCA). The move to Hollywood came in 1937, and Dr. Stein became the agent to such talents as Jack Benny, Ingrid Bergman, Eddie Cantor, Joan Crawford, Bette Davis, Greta Garbo, and Frank Sinatra. By the mid-1940s, it was estimated that half of the movie industry's stars were represented by MCA. The company continued to grow, and in 1962, MCA took over Universal Pictures and become an industry leader in film and television production. With his dedication to the preservation of vision and the prevention of blindness unwavering, Dr. Stein and his wife **Doris Stein** founded the Jules Stein Eye Institute at UCLA in 1966.

Jules and Doris Stein

It was 1892 and Los Angeles had a population of 50,000 when **Edward L. Doheny** discovered oil near the area of what is now Dodger Stadium. A petroleum boom was unleashed, and the region was producing one-quarter of the world's total supply by 1923. The Upton Sinclair 1927 novel *Oil!* is loosely based on Mr. Doheny's life, as is the 2007 film, *There Will Be Blood*. The prominent oilman died in 1935, leaving his second wife, **Carrie Estelle Doheny**, a widow. In 1944, on her 69th birthday, Mrs. Doheny suffered a sudden and permanent loss of vision in her left eye and her right eye soon began to show signs of glaucoma. Facing the possibility of total blindness, and suddenly aware of the precious and delicate nature of sight, Mrs. Doheny created and funded the organization that ultimately grew to be the Doheny Eye Institute.

Carrie Estelle Doheny

We are transfixed by the movie stars they brought into our lives, and we drive the streets that bear their names. Stein and Doheny: two families that helped put Los Angeles on the map. Though they made their success through vastly different accomplishments, through their beneficence, both created eye institutions that value excellence and have one goal: to preserve and restore eye sight. Now affiliated, the Stein Eye Institute and Doheny Eye Institute have the opportunity to make an even greater difference in the lives of so many.

Stein Eye and Doheny share identical missions. This is a great opportunity for collaboration, research, and discovery. And together, we will have a synergistic effect.

Community Outreach

Stein Eye Faculty Member Mobilizing Efforts to Improve Pediatric Eye Care Worldwide

To further advance the field of pediatric ophthalmology, **Sherwin J. Isenberg, MD,** Laraine and David Gerber Professor of Pediatric Ophthalmology, and his colleagues recently founded the International Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus Council (IPOSC). The mission of the IPOSC is to preserve, restore, and enhance vision in children and binocularity in children and adults throughout the world.

"My colleagues and I at the American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus (AAPOS) felt that expanding the field of pediatric ophthalmology globally was crucial to improving the vision health of all children," explains Dr. Isenberg, current vice president of the AAPOS and its incoming president, effective July 2014. "It was from this belief that the genesis for developing the IPOSC began."

To fulfill its mission, the IPOSC will promote programs and research to reduce childhood blindness; encourage the development of institutions and trained practitioners; improve the education of practitioners and the public; and facilitate collaboration with international foundations and nongovernmental organizations (NGOs) to further and enhance eye care.

Reflecting on the IPOSC's intended goals, **Bartly J. Mondino, MD,** director of the Stein Eye Institute and chairman of the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology, notes, "Dr. Isenberg is devoted to advancing pediatric ophthalmology. His creation of the IPOSC holds real-world possibility for significant improvement of sight in countless children and adults worldwide."

To have a global impact, the Council counts nearly 50 regional, national, or multinational societies as members, whose disciplines include pediatric ophthalmology, strabismus, genetics, and orthoptics—highly trained technicians who work with eye disorders such as strabismus—among others. "The IPOSC is truly global," Dr. Isenberg emphasizes. "Every member of the leadership is from a different country, and IPOSC member societies are from every part of the world."

The IPOSC inaugural meeting was held in Singapore in July 2013, and over 850 health care professionals from around the world were in attendance at the educational symposia. "We had an unbelievable response from our member societies," says Dr. Isenberg. "They welcome creation of the IPOSC and how it will coalesce increased support for pediatric ophthalmology." The Council held its second meeting at the American Academy of Ophthalmology's annual conference in New Orleans this past November and has two meetings planned for 2014.

To cover the broad scope of its mission, the IPOSC is composed of seven committees, each with a specific purpose:

- **Training Committee:** Supports education in pediatric ophthalmology in developing countries by establishing and publicizing fellowships around the world;
- **Vision Screening Committee:** Provides vision examinations to schoolchildren in different regions;
- **Research Committee:** Works with NGOs and governmental organizations, such as UNICEF, to obtain research funding;
- **Ethics Committee:** Ensures worldwide ethical treatment of pediatric patients;
- **Childhood Vision Impairment Committee:** Conducts research on how to reverse childhood visual impairment;
- **Communication Committee:** Keeps Council members informed of recent developments, provides mentoring for pediatric ophthalmologists in developing areas, institutes a website for pediatric ophthalmology; and
- **Advocacy/Outreach Committee:** Supports the activities of organizations to bring more focus and funding to pediatric ophthalmology, especially from worldwide sources.

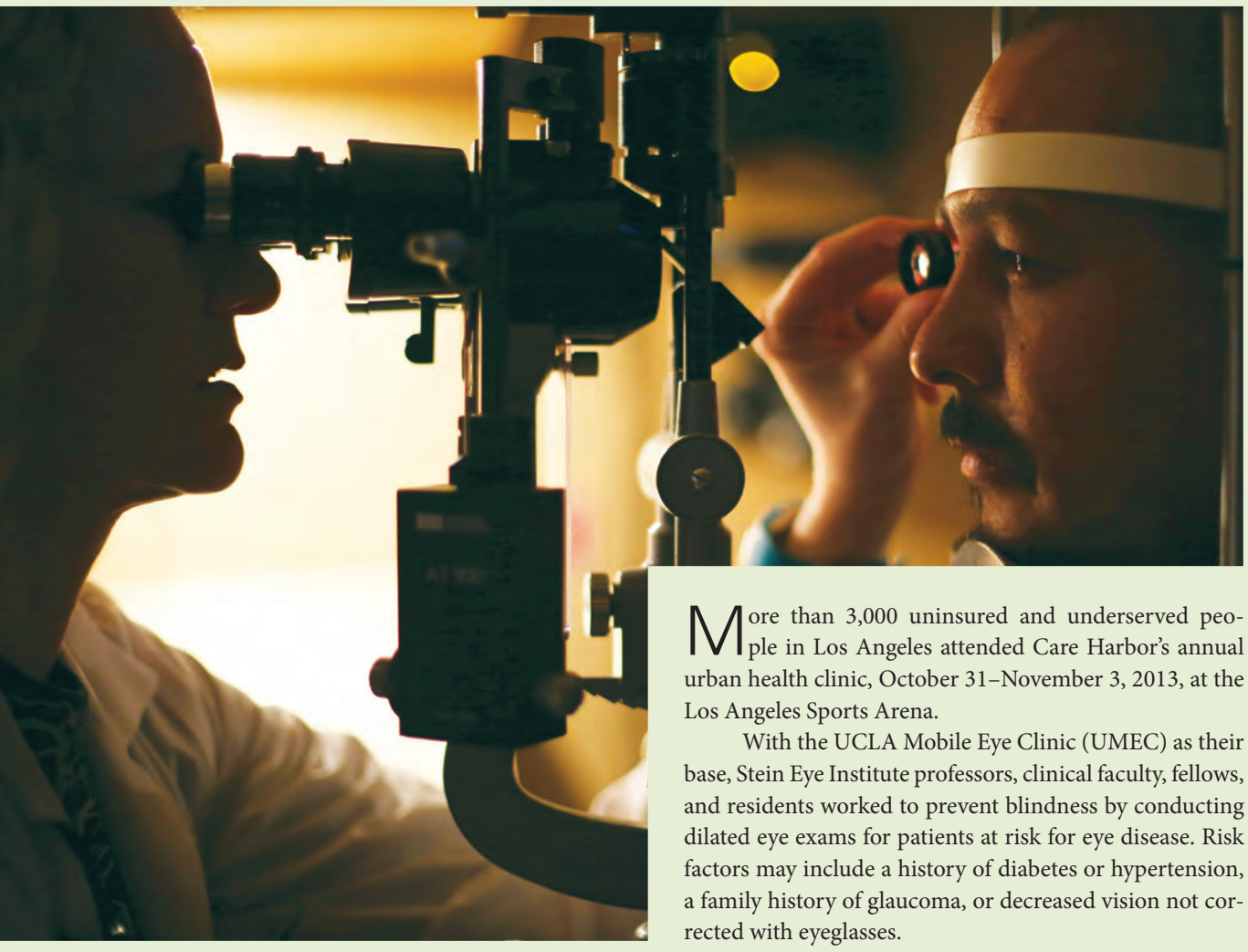
Dr. Isenberg credits Professor of Ophthalmology Emeritus and Founding Director of the Stein Eye Institute **Bradley R. Straatsma, MD, JD**, with guiding him through the process of developing the infrastructure of the Council. "Dr. Straatsma is deeply involved in international ophthalmology and widely recognized for his leadership role. He provided invaluable advice on how to bring a project of this scope to fruition."

Reflecting on the Council's path ahead, Dr. Isenberg concludes, "With the commitment of our member societies and the involvement of our advisory board—which is made up of expert senior pediatric ophthalmologists and strabismus specialists from each continent, along with NGOs who share a similar mission—we can help children and adults throughout the world see more clearly."

Sherwin J. Isenberg, MD

The creation of the IPOSC holds real-world possibility for significant improvement of sight in countless children and adults worldwide.

Stein Eye Provides Vision Services at L.A. Free Clinic



More than 3,000 uninsured and underserved people in Los Angeles attended Care Harbor's annual urban health clinic, October 31–November 3, 2013, at the Los Angeles Sports Arena.

With the UCLA Mobile Eye Clinic (UMEC) as their base, Stein Eye Institute professors, clinical faculty, fellows, and residents worked to prevent blindness by conducting dilated eye exams for patients at risk for eye disease. Risk factors may include a history of diabetes or hypertension, a family history of glaucoma, or decreased vision not corrected with eyeglasses.

The Care Harbor Free Clinic provides a wide range of services for people who lack the means to get medical, dental, or eye care on a regular basis. **Anne L. Coleman, MD, PhD**, Fran and Ray Stark Professor of Ophthalmology and director of the UMEC, notes, "Everyone hopes that such clinics will not be necessary in the future, but the reality for underserved individuals is that their current health care needs will remain unmet without our help. This is one of those opportunities where we can leverage our professional expertise and join forces to make a huge difference in the lives of others."

It's not uncommon for patients who are seen at the Care Harbor clinic to require referral for emergency care. Stein Eye resident **Christian Sanfilippo, MD**, examined a man in his early 20s who was poked in the eye while playing basketball the previous day. "He had been having some intermittent blurry vision ever since. I examined him, and he had a horseshoe tear in his retina and needed laser retinopexy to prevent the tear from possibly progressing to a detachment. We sent him to Harbor-UCLA Medical Center where they performed the laser that day, and I understand he is doing well."

When asked about the Stein Eye Institute's commitment to volunteer outreach, **Faye Oelrich**, program manager for the UMEC, comments, "The Stein Eye community is wonderful. This was our fourth year with the event, and many of our doctors have participated year after year. While many patients were grateful for their eye exams, the 'thank you' that meant the most was, 'Thank you for caring about me.'"

Faculty Focus

Steven Nusinowitz, PhD

Associate Professor of Ophthalmology
Co-Director of the Visual Physiology Laboratory
Director of the Live Imaging and Functional Evaluation (LIFE) Core
Member of the Stein Eye Institute

Born and raised in the historic Kensington Market area of Toronto, Ontario, Canada, Dr. Nusinowitz attended Toronto's York University where he earned a BA and MA in psychology and a PhD in experimental psychology. He relocated to the United States in 1993 to conduct his postdoctoral fellowship at the Retina Foundation of the Southwest in Dallas, Texas, and joined the Stein Eye Institute in 1995.

Displaying a warm sense of humor and easy-going manner, Dr. Nusinowitz took time from his schedule to talk about his personal connection to vision science research.

When did you first discover an interest in science?

I discovered my interest in science very early, probably in the sixth or seventh grade. Physics and mathematics were of special interest, and I remember having built a "secret" chemistry lab in the basement of my parent's restaurant, which was very popular establishment with local business and political types. I would be down there almost every day after school. My mother was not happy with the odors that permeated up through the floorboards into the main dining room.

Why did you decide to pursue a career in research?

I have always been interested in the experimental method as a way of discovering how things are connected. After I completed my undergraduate degree, I explored some business interests, partnering in an art gallery in the Royal York Hotel, the largest hotel in Toronto at the time. That ended when an investor from Japan decided he wanted the business and made us the proverbial offer that we couldn't refuse. Although the business did very well, my interests were still in science, so I went back to graduate school to pursue research.

What attracted you specifically to the field of vision science?

My first interest in vision derived from my early interests in art, magic, and visual illusions. As a naïve neophyte, I was curious how one of the most sophisticated sensory systems could be so easily manipulated and fooled. Those interests were shaped and focused in graduate school where I pursued numerous studies of visual perception—particularly the perceptual constancies—and form and motion perception. I was very lucky to have worked with a student of James Gibson who was the premiere perceptual psychologist and psychophysicist of the time. My PhD focused on discovering the stimulus invariants that could account for shape, form, and color constancies in three-dimensional scenes.

How did you come to the Stein Eye Institute?

I joined the Retina Foundation of the Southwest as a postdoctoral fellow, and I was recruited to Stein Eye when that fellowship ended. The invitation came as a complete surprise. I was on my way home to Toronto when the call came asking whether I would be interested in coming to UCLA. The rest is history.

What is your research regarding?

My current research is focused on understanding the cellular contributions to noninvasive measures of visual function and on defining the sites and mechanisms of disease action in inherited retinal diseases, such as retinitis pigmentosa and age-related macular degeneration. Like many Stein Eye researchers, we are working towards a better understanding of the pathophysiology of eye disease with the goal of developing interventions that may ultimately provide relief for those who suffer from these debilitating diseases.

What do you consider your most important professional achievement?

Regarding my research, that's a value judgment that is best made by the research community. Otherwise, without doubt, it was meeting my wife Deborah in 1995. She was working at the Stein Eye Institute when I came on board, and getting her to date me, put up with me, and marry me certainly counts as my greatest professional achievement—or at least that's what she would say!

What do you enjoy most about your profession?

I particularly enjoy working with patients, especially study patients, with whom I spend a great deal of time describing relevant research findings. They seem to appreciate the efforts that I make. I also enjoy teaching medical students and the research and clinical fellows that have come from abroad to learn what we do in my laboratories. It's rewarding to know that others are utilizing techniques I have developed and that I have fostered research interests in my students.

What do you do when you're not working?

We're currently remodeling our home, and that has been absorbing much of my free time Otherwise, I'm tinkering with my cars or working on various home projects. Deborah and I also do a fair bit of travelling and enjoy being outdoors, especially at the lake. I have an extended family in Canada whom we visit regularly. Toronto is a great city, and it's always fun to get back to my roots.

Alumni Annual Reception

Stein Eye Institute alumni renewed acquaintances and reconnected with classmates at the UCLA Department of Ophthalmology Annual Alumni Reception in New Orleans on November 17, 2013.

The Association thanks its members for supporting this reception and other important alumni efforts with payment of their 2013–2014 dues. For membership information, contact alumni@jsei.ucla.edu. To see more photos, visit our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/JSEIAlumni.

Incoming resident Joseph Christenbury (far right) greets Stein Eye faculty members Drs. Bradley R. Straatsma and Robert Alan Goldberg.

Faculty member Dr. Stacy L. Pineles (left) reconnects with alumni residents Drs. Sylvia Yoo and Louis Savar.

Dr. Lincoln L. Manzi, Jr. (left) and William R. Kilpatrick (right), who both completed their ophthalmology residency at Harbor-UCLA Medical Center, catch up with Stein Eye faculty member Dr. Sherwin J. Isenberg.

Left to right: Drs. Kevin M. Miller, Mark F. Torres (fellowship alumus) Anthony J. Aldave, Matthew J. Swanic (fellowship alumus), and Robert Alan Goldberg.

Institute News

Faculty Honors, Awards, and Recognition

Anthony J. Aldave, MD, was awarded the gold medal for contributions to the field of ophthalmology by the Intraocular Implant and Refractive Society on September 8, 2013, in New Delhi, India. On September 19, 2013, Dr. Aldave delivered the Roger F. Meyer, MD, Lectureship in Cornea at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

In Memoriam
Samuel Goetz, OD

An optometrist for 50 years, **Samuel Goetz, OD**, 85, passed away from pancreatic cancer on October 24, 2013, at his Los Angeles home.

Dr. Goetz received his bachelor's degree from UCLA in 1955, and after graduating from and teaching at the Los Angeles (now Southern California) College of Optometry, he established a private practice. Dr. Goetz bonded strongly with UCLA as an alumnus. He was a moving force behind the establishment of a Holocaust Studies Chair at UCLA, and his son graduated from the UCLA School of Medicine and attended a Stein Eye-affiliated residency program. Reflecting on his longtime colleague, **Barry A. Weissman, OD, PhD**, Stein Eye Institute Professor of Ophthalmology Emeritus, notes, "Sam was a strong supporter of the campaign to fund an Optometric Clinician/Scientist Chair at Stein Eye and was a loyal attendee of our Grand Rounds. It was always gratifying to have his participation and his wise and gentle counsel." Dr. Goetz is survived by his wife, Gertrude; his son, Joseph; his daughter, Genie; and nine grandchildren.

Clinical Focus

New Clinical Trials Offer Great Promise

In line with its mission to find new treatments for eye diseases, the Stein Eye Institute recently launched two transformative clinical trials to evaluate the Calhoun Vision Light Adjustable Lens and the HumanOptics Artificial Iris. **Kevin M. Miller, MD**, Kolokotrones Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology and chief of the Comprehensive Ophthalmology Division, is leading both research studies.

The Calhoun Vision light adjustable lens (LAL) is a groundbreaking technology to treat cataracts, as it is the world's only post-implantation power adjustable lens. Explaining its potential, Dr. Miller says, "The LAL will allow cataract surgeons to achieve refractive outcomes previously possible only through keratorefractive surgery. It has the capacity to greatly improve uncorrected vision."

The HumanOptics AG artificial iris is a custom-painted silicone device that is matched to a photograph of the iris in the patient's fellow eye. Its function is to limit the amount of light entering the eye—like a natural iris—reducing symptoms of light and glare sensitivity for patients with iris defects.

In considering the singular uniqueness of the Calhoun Vision light adjustable lens and the HumanOptics AG artificial iris, Dr. Miller notes, "These devices will change the ophthalmic landscape forever once they are approved by the FDA." For information, contact Dr. Miller's office at (310) 206-9951 or email millerpatients@jsei.ucla.edu.

"The LAL will allow cataract surgeons to achieve refractive outcomes previously possible only through keratorefractive surgery. It has the capacity to greatly improve uncorrected vision."

Education

Medical Residents in Southern California Benefit from Comprehensive Cataract Surgery Training Program

Recognizing the Stein Eye Institute's close proximity to the three largest manufacturers of cataract surgery equipment in the United States and the unique opportunity this presented, **Kevin M. Miller, MD**, Kolokotrones Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology and chief of the Comprehensive Ophthalmology Division, began the Southern California Cataract Surgery Training Program in 2011.

Ronald J. Smith, MD, MPH, associate clinical professor of ophthalmology at UCLA (background), instructs a Southern California ophthalmology resident in iris-suturing techniques.

The program, which is rotated between Alcon, Abbott Medical Optics Inc. (AMO), and the Bausch + Lomb facilities, offers basic and advanced cataract surgery courses to students from Southern California's six ophthalmology residency programs: UCLA, USC, UCI, UCSD, Loma Linda University, and the Naval Medical Center. Two courses are offered each a year—a basic course in the autumn and an advanced course in the spring. Dr. Miller, who is the program's director, notes, "If a resident were to go to every course during the three years of their residency, they would attend a basic and an advanced course at each facility. Nowhere else in the world can this be done!" Further adding to the program's value, each course has both a didactic and laboratory component, so residents can immediately practice what they learn under the guidance of seasoned ophthalmologists.

The program gradually evolved from a phacoemulsification course taught in the Institute's Microsurgery Laboratory, and it has experienced continual growth ever since. In 2008, Dr. Miller began teaching the course to UCLA residents at AMO and Alcon, and in 2010, he and **Roger F. Steinert, MD,** director of the Gavin Herbert Eye Institute at UC Irvine, jointly taught the course to both UCLA and UCI residents at Bausch + Lomb. In 2011, Dr. Miller invited residents from USC to attend the course, and this event proved so successful that he invited ophthalmology residents from all the other Southern California residency programs to participate.

The high attendance of each course speaks to both the program's success and its popularity. Dr. Miller notes, "Anywhere from 45 to 60 residents turn out for each of our courses, and there are usually 20 to 30 faculty members in attendance. Resident attendance at these courses is actually now required by several residency programs." The next course will be Saturday, April 12, 2014. For information, contact Dr. Miller's office at: (310) 206-9951 or email: kmiller@ucla.edu.

19th Annual Vision Science Conference

The annual Stein Eye Institute Vision Science Conference was October 24–26, 2013, at the UCLA Lake Arrowhead Conference Center. Sponsored by a National Institutes of Health training grant, the retreat showcases research by graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and faculty. More than 80 basic scientists, clinical researchers, and invited guests participated in scientific discussions, learning activities, and enjoyable social events.

Three guest speakers discussed topics of significant interest to the attendees. **Phil Kellman, PhD,** professor, Department of Psychology, UCLA, presented the lecture "From Fragments to Objects: Visual Object Formation Across Gaps in Space and Time." **Robert Marc, PhD,** director of research, Moran Eye Center, University of Utah, spoke about "Building Retinal Connectomes," and **Marti Arvin, JD**, compliance officer, UCLA Health System and David Geffen School of Medicine, offered a thought-provoking lecture on the ethical dilemmas with data collection, creation, and use, which considered who has the rights to the data, how much control a subject should have over additional use, and what are the researcher's obligations when research creates additional information about a subject.

Awards were presented at the retreat for best oral presentation and best poster:

Best Oral Presentation

FIRST PLACE:
Shanta Sarfare, PhD (Travis Lab)
Long-term protection by complement regulatory protein CRRY in a mouse model of lipofuscin-mediated retinal degeneration

SECOND PLACE:
Jun Deng (Sun Lab)
Mechanism of trophic factor-mediated photoreceptor survival

Best Poster

FIRST PLACE:
Hua Mei, PhD (Deng Lab)

SECOND PLACE:
Julian Esteve-Rudd, PhD (Williams Lab)

JSEI Affiliates Hosts Holiday Volunteer Recognition Luncheon

Cherie Hubbell, chair of the JSEI Affiliates, hosted the Affiliates 14th annual holiday luncheon on Monday, December 2, 2013, at the Hotel Bel Air to honor the JSEI Affiliates advisory board members, program volunteers, and special guests.

"The strength of the JSEI Affiliates programs depends on our dedicated volunteers whom we honor at this special annual recognition event," Ms. Hubbell remarked. "The JSEI Affiliates accomplished new levels in each of our community outreach programs this year—results that would not have been possible without the commitment of our advisory board and dedication of our volunteers." Ms. Hubbell also presented an award to Judy Smith, the JSEI Affiliates' outgoing volunteer coordinator, who in her almost five years of service, significantly increased volunteer support.

Educating children about one of their most precious assets—their eyes—the Affiliates offer the Vision In-School program and Preschool Vision Screenings free of charge to elementary schools and preschools in the community. The Affiliates also support several patient programs, including the Make Surgery Bearable and Shared Vision programs.

Since its inception, Make Surgery Bearable has provided thousands of Dr. Teddy bears to pediatric surgery patients at the Stein Eye Institute, while Shared Vision has collected over 20,000 pairs of donated eyeglasses to be refurbished and distributed to adults and children who could not afford them otherwise.

If you would like more information about joining or volunteering with the JSEI Affiliates, please email: affiliates@jsei.ucla.edu.

JSEI Affiliates Board President Cherie Hubbell presents Judy Smith (left) with an award in recognition of valued service as a volunteer coordinator.

Stein Eye vision science volunteers enjoy the afternoon's festivities (standing left to right): Dr. Roxana Radu and Shannon Eddington; (seated left to right): Dr. Ned Van Eps, Dr. Nathaniel Roybal, and Samer Habib.

Stein Eye Director Dr. Bartly J. Mondino welcomes JSEI Affiliates Board President Cherie Hubbell and Stein Eye Trustee Gerald Oppenheimer.

New Children's Book Helps Make Eye Surgery Bearable

Coming to the hospital for surgery can be intimidating for anyone; for a child unsure of what's happening, it can be downright frightening. The Stein Eye Institute hopes to make the experience much easier for young patients and their families with its new children's book, *Making Eye Surgery Bearable*.

Making Eye Surgery Bearable is the result of a collaborative effort between the Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus Division and the JSEI Affiliates, a broad-based volunteer network that supports the Institute's faculty, staff, and programs. The goal was to provide parents with a resource to prepare young children for their upcoming surgical procedures.

Over 600 children undergo eye surgery at the Stein Eye Institute each year. Many pediatric eye surgeries address strabismus, a visual problem in which the eyes are not aligned properly. Although surgery to treat strabismus is performed on both children and adults, many patients are younger than 10 years of age.

"Good preparation can help patients feel less anxious about having surgical treatment," says **Joseph L. Demer, MD, PhD**, chief of the Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus Division. "Children cope much better if they have an idea of what's going to happen and why it's necessary, but explaining this to children, particularly young children, can be challenging for parents."

Making Eye Surgery Bearable tells the story of Jacob—a young boy who needs surgery to correct a problem with his eye. The simple text and big colorful illustrations highlight Jacob's experiences as he and his family prepare for his surgery. Young patients and their families familiarize themselves with the physical surroundings and procedural components of surgery as they follow Jacob from registration to the playroom, where he receives a plush teddy bear called Dr. Teddy, MD, to the preparation area, operating room, recovery room, and finally back home.

Gloria Jurisic, who serves on the JSEI Affiliates Board and chaired the committee to create the book, explains, "We wanted to take the mystery out of what happens when a child comes to the Stein Eye Institute for surgery. The key was to tailor information to a young child's level of understanding. The text and illustrations were created to appeal to children in preschool and early primary school grades. By following the book's protagonist, Jacob, the young patient gets a preview of what he or she will encounter on the day of surgery, so that they can know what to expect."

Established in 1990, the JSEI Affiliates has developed a wide range of community outreach, vision education, and patient services initiatives to support the Stein Eye Institute's programs. One such initiative provides a Dr. Teddy, MD, teddy bear to every child undergoing eye surgery at the Institute. Sponsored by friends and donors, the plush teddy bears have comforted thousands of pediatric surgery patients over the years.

Dr. Demer believes that *Making Eye Surgery Bearable* is a valuable addition to the Institute's pediatric eye surgery program. "Providing young children who are facing eye surgery with age-appropriate information and a realistic expectation of what will happen can make them less anxious and more comfortable on the day of surgery," he says.

Making Eye Surgery Bearable is included in the packet of information that is given to the parents of all young children scheduled for eye surgery at the Stein Eye Institute. To help underwrite the book or to sponsor a Dr. Teddy, MD, teddy bear, contact the JSEI Affiliates at 310-825-4148 or email affiliates@jsei.ucla.edu.

Making Eye Surgery Bearable was written by JSEI Affiliates Advisory Board Members: Maude Feil, Cherie Hubbell, Gloria Jurisic, and Marcia Lloyd; cover and interior illustrations by Kathy Kamel; book design and layout by Alyce Woodward. The book is underwritten by the generous support of Marti and Tony Oppenheimer and the JSEI Affiliates.

Providing young children with age-appropriate information and a realistic expectation of what will happen can make them less anxious and more comfortable on the day of surgery.

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Build a Legacy that Moves Vision Science Forward

The Stein Eye Institute is dedicated to advancing innovative and groundbreaking research, delivering cutting-edge patient care, and providing the education necessary to diagnose and treat eye disease.

A simple, flexible way to build your legacy and express what matters to you is to include the Stein Eye Institute in your estate plans. Such bequests can be of any size and made with a variety of assets.

If you have included the Stein Eye Institute in your estate plans (or intend to), please let us know.

The Stein Eye Institute would like to make sure your wishes are understood and that your bequest will be used as you intend.

- **We can provide you with sample bequest language, if desired.**
- **We would like to acknowledge your gift and have an opportunity to thank you.**
- **We handle all gift and bequest communications with the utmost confidentiality.**

Through your support, you too, can have an impact on the preservation of sight and the prevention of blindness.

If you would like to learn more about building a legacy at the Stein Eye Institute, please visit UCLA's Planned Giving website at: www.legacy.ucla.edu

Or contact us at:

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