

SCHOOL OF OPTOMETRY & VISION SCIENCE

GRADUATION CELEBRATION

JUNE
27
2021

UNIVERSITY OF
WATERLOO



SCHOOL OF OPTOMETRY
& VISION SCIENCE

PROGRAM

SUNDAY, JUNE 27 2021, 4:00 p.m.

INTRODUCTION

Dr. Natalie Hutchings
Associate Director, Academics

Dr. Lisa Christian
Associate Director, Clinical Education | Interim Awards Officer

ADDRESSES

Dr. Stan Woo
Director, School of Optometry & Vision Science, University of Waterloo

Dr. Langis Michaud
Director, l'École d'optométrie de l'Université de Montréal

Dr. Robert Lemieux
Dean, Faculty of Science, University of Waterloo

Dr. Michael Nelson
President, Canadian Association of Optometrists

Dr. Paul Chris
Executive Director, FORAC (Federation of the Optometric Regulatory and Licensing Bodies in Canada)

AWARDS

Doctor of Optometry Program

Valedictorian Address
Dr. Cindy Shan

Vision Science Graduate Studies
Presentation of Graduates and Announcement of Awards

UWOSS Awards

Acknowledgements

AWARDS PRESENTATION

The School of Optometry & Vision Science, University of Waterloo, is pleased to announce the following awards and prizes to the graduating class of 2021:

COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRISTS OF ONTARIO GENERAL PROFICIENCY AWARD

is awarded to the student with the highest academic standing.

Dr. Jennifer Verrett

THE J.C. THOMPSON MEMORIAL PRIZE FOR OPTOMETRY was established by the Optometric Alumni Association of the College of Optometry of Ontario in honour of Dean J.C. Thompson. The award is given to the student who ranked highest in the clinical optometry courses. Dean Thompson was the first Dean of the College of Optometry when it was established in 1925 and held the position until 1948. He was highly regarded by all students as their mentor and friend.

Dr. Jennifer Duimering

DR. IRVING BAKER EXCELLENCE IN CLINICAL OPTOMETRY SCHOLARSHIP

has been established by the College of Optometrists of Ontario to recognize Dr. Baker's significant contribution to the public of Ontario through the guidance and development of the profession of optometry. He was the clinic director for the School of Optometry in Toronto and later became the first full time registrat for the College in 1967. He continued in this role until his retirement in 1997 but remained keenly interested in the clinical practice of the profession throughout his career.

Dr. Riley LeBlanc

CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF OPTOMETRISTS AWARD OF MERIT

recognizes professionalism and effective leadership in student organizations.

Dr. Allison Binnie

ONTARIO ASSOCIATION OF OPTOMETRISTS AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN PATIENT MANAGEMENT

is awarded for professionalism and excellence in patient care.

Dr. Kopikaa Easwaran

PRIZE FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IN OCULAR PHARMACOLOGY honours the student who has demonstrated an outstanding performance in Ocular Pharmacology. Initial funding for the prize was initiated by Dan Andrews, MD, of the University of Waterloo Health and Safety Department. One of his patients, who wanted to quit smoking, donated the money for the prize instead of buying cigarettes.

Dr. Emile Jazzar

A.W. COLE AWARD FOR CLINICAL EXCELLENCE was established by the A.W. Cole family in honour of their father. Dr. Cole was an optometrist from Woodstock, Ontario. He was active in both civic government and optometric organizations. As a member of the Ontario Board of Examiners in Optometry, he was involved in the establishment of the Optometry Program at the University of Waterloo. The award is given for outstanding clinical proficiency.

Dr. Bailey Robinet

FYIDOCTORS CLINICAL LEADERSHIP AWARD is awarded annually to a fourth-year student who has demonstrated excellence and leadership in the provision of patient care in the clinic and during externships. Recipients will have expressed shared values with FYi's business model, have excelled in clinical education and have shown potential to be leaders in the profession of optometry.

Dr. Raphaela So

O.S.I. AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN PRACTICE MANAGEMENT is presented by Optometric Services Inc. to a student who has demonstrated competent leadership in the areas of professionalism and communication as well as academic excellence.

Dr. Cindy Shan

ALCON AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN CONTACT LENSES is presented to the top student overall in both academics and clinical skills in contact lenses, achieving academic excellence. This fund is made possible through the generosity of Alcon Canada to acknowledge outstanding optometry students who have excelled in the area of contact lenses throughout the program.

Dr. Christina Chen

ALCON CASE REPORT AWARD is given by Alcon Laboratories, Inc. to the student who submits the best case report from the School of Optometry.

Dr. Lisa Zhang

AAOF AWARD OF EXCELLENCE IN CONTACT LENS PATIENT CARE is provided by The American Academy of Optometry Foundation with support from Johnson & Johnson Vision Care Inc., in recognition of excellence in contact lens patient care.

Dr. Jennifer Duimering

COOPERVISION CONTACT LENS AWARD is presented by CooperVision, Canada, Inc. in recognition of excellence in contact lens care.

Dr. Dana Mikkelsen

GP CONTACT LENS CLINICAL LENS AWARD is presented to a fourth-year student in recognition of outstanding knowledge regarding RGP contact lenses.

Dr. Marian Juce

COVD AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN VISION THERAPY is awarded by the College of Optometrists in Vision Development to the student who has demonstrated strong interest and clinical skills in the area of vision therapy.

Dr. Jennifer Verrett

ESCHENBACH'S LOW VISION STUDENT AWARD is presented by Eschenbach to recognize the skills and achievements of a student who has shown an aptitude and interest in the field of low vision.

Dr. Ann Stewart

WILLIAM FEINBLOOM LOW VISION AWARD was established by Designs for Vision, Inc. in honour of Dr. William Feinbloom. The award is given to the student who has shown excellence in low vision care. Dr. Feinbloom practiced optometry in New York City. He is known internationally for his work in the development of contact lenses and low vision care.

Dr. Melissa Robinson

GOOD-LITE PEDIATRIC OPTOMETRY AWARD is given to a fourth-year student who demonstrated outstanding clinical aptitude and interest in Pediatric and Special Needs Optometry.

Dr. Sophia Capo

DR. STELIOS NIKOLAKAKIS AWARD FOR CLINICAL EXCELLENCE IN VISION THERAPY recognizes Dr. Stelios Nikolakakis for the exceptional care and concern he exhibits towards his patients. It was given for excellence in vision therapy.

Dr. Sydney Carmichael

ALCON AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN OCULAR HEALTH is presented to the top student overall in both academics and clinical skills in ocular health, achieving academic excellence. This fund is made possible through the generosity of Alcon Canada to acknowledge outstanding optometry students who have excelled in the area of ocular health throughout the program.

Dr. Christina Arsenault

DR. JOHN G. FLANAGAN AWARD FOR ACADEMIC AND CLINICAL EXCELLENCE IN GLAUCOMA is presented to a fourth-year optometry student who has excelled academically and has demonstrated excellence in the diagnosis and treatment of patients with glaucoma during their clinical training. This award is made possible through the support of Drs. John G. Flanagan and Kathy Dumbleton, former faculty members at the School of Optometry & Vision Science.

Dr. Alim Karmali

DR. MICHAEL GUTWEIN MEMORIAL AWARD was established by classmates and friends in memory of Michael Gutwein. This award is given to the student who has consistently reminded classmates that the Optometry Program involved more than just academics. Dr. Gutwein was from Kingsville, Ontario and graduated in 1987.

Dr. Emilie Yammine

DR. MARGARET HANSEN DES GROSEILLIERS AWARD is presented by the Canadian Optometric Education Trust Fund (COETF) in recognition of Dr. Margaret Hansen-des Groseilliers' leadership in Optometry at the local, provincial and national level, the latter culminating in her serving as the first female President of the CAO. This award is presented to an optometry student who demonstrates exceptional leadership skills.

Dr. Lisa Zhang

THE VINKO AND IVA JURICIC AWARD FOR PERSEVERANCE is to honour a fourth-year optometry student who has overcome challenges during their optometry studies. It was created by Dr. Ana Juricic (Optometry Class of 1996) and Dr. Zora Juricic (Optometry Class of 2005) to honour the hard work and diligence their parents endured to educate all three of their children, including Dr. Pasko Juricic (Dentistry Class of 1992).

Dr. Raphaela So

RACHEL ANN CECILIA HIGGINS MEMORIAL AWARD was established in memory of Rachel Ann Cecilia Higgins who lost her battle with cancer during her third-year at the School of Optometry. Rachel was an inspiration to many. This award is created to honour individuals who have demonstrated undefeatable courage, strength, perseverance and determination, while confronting the significant challenges in their lives. Dr. Rachel Ann Cecilia Higgins was such a person.

Dr. Raphaela So

DR. KAREN TOMPA NOWY MEMORIAL AWARD has been established to honour Karen for her dedication and compassion as a clinician, educator, daughter and friend. Dr. Tompa Nowy is remembered for her passion toward patient care, her dedication to teaching, her energy and giving spirit. She was committed to providing the best possible care to her patients and ensuring their overall well-being. The recipients of this prestigious award have shown exceptional care and concern for their patients, have advocated for advanced eye care treatments and/or have taken steps to improve the overall health and well-being of their patient(s) during the clinical education portion of the optometry program.

Dr. Bailey Robinet

DISTINGUISHED INSTRUCTOR AWARD

Dr. Andrew Silva

DISTINGUISHED CLINICAL INSTRUCTOR AWARD

Dr. Chandra Engs

DISTINGUISHED LAB INSTRUCTOR AWARD

Dr. Ken Hadley

DISTINGUISHED TEACHING ASSISTANT AWARD

Dr. Amy Chow

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT AWARD

Jenny Oliveira-Kane

GRADUATES IN VISION SCIENCE

MSC

Spring 2021

Hussain Albuhayzah

Amitojdeep Singh Brar

Yara Mohiar

Nijani Nagaarudkumaran

Mona Nasir Zonouzi

Brianna Samson

Fall 2020

Sourya Sengupta

PHD

Spring 2021

Dania Abuleil

Richard Donkor

Fall 2020

Amritha Stalin

GRADUATE AWARDS

W.B. Pearson Medal

Amritha Stalin

Dean of Science Award

Amitojdeep Singh Brar

GRADUATES – DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY SPRING 2021

Ahmed, Sherif Hassanein Mohamed*	Mok, Anthony*
Alam, Sejutie*	LeBlanc, Riley Michael**
Arsenault, Christina Patricia May**	Li, Halina
Askarpoor, Maryam*	Lin, Shini*
Avraham, Shani*	MacDonald, Justin
Benipal, Dilpreet	Morel, Phillippe Albert Edgar Denis**
Binnema, Jacob*	Motomura, Akemi**
Binnie, Allison Rachel*	Nasser, Lana**
Birk, Kiranjot*	Nguyen, Cindy*
Bui, Joseph Trinh An*	Nguyen, Nam*
Capo, Sophia*	O'Reilly, Emily Charmaine*
Carmichael, Sydney Elizabeth**	Parenteau, Taylor**
Chen, Christina**	Pham, Brandon*
Chong, Jessica Wai Yee**	Porter, Maggie*
Churchill-Baird, Emma	Qiao, Joanne**
Cruickshank, Emily Rachel**	Raguthevan, Vaakiny*
Duimering, Jennifer**	Robinet, Bailey Mary Ann**
Easwaran, Kopikaa*	Robinson, Melissa Beth**
Edgar, Amanda Brooke**	Sarabusky, Marie Angela*
Emery, Brittney*	Sayegh, Christina Bishara**
Gaw, Abigail Christina Suy**	Schumacher, Stephanie Maria**
Giesbrecht, Bryce	Shan, Cindy**
Gill, Harjit Singh*	Shrimpton, Phillip Alexander*
Guitard, Danielle Dominique**	Singh, Amandeep*
Ha, Jessica**	So, Raphaela*
Hecht, Alexa*	Stewart, Ann**
Hehl, Frances**	Tabone, Lauren Luisa*
Honey, Charlene Susan*	Taylor, Shayna**
Hong, Angeline**	Tay, Lisa**
Hoy, Victoria Dana*	Thayaparan, Rekha*
Huang, Annie*	Tieu, Kevin*
Jankowski, Nicole Lauren**	Toresdahl, Austin William**
Jazzar, Emile**	Tsui, Vanessa**
Juce, Marian Thea**	Vengadeswaran, Abhi
Karmali, Alim*	Verrett, Jennifer**
Kelly, Alicia**	Viergutz, Olivia Claire**
Kim, Matt	Wensman, Allison**
Kim, Song*	West, Connor
Krall, Ashleigh**	Wilcox, Courtney*
Kwon, Carol Mijung*	Yammine, Emilie*
Lai, Lauren*	Yang, Hang**
Lam, Patrick	Zhang, Lisa*
Mikkelsen, Dana Nicole*	

**Dean's Honours – Minimum Cumulative Average of 85.0%

* Distinction – Minimum Cumulative Average of 80.0%