

Bill Bobier

Bill Bobier graduated from the School of Optometry & Vision Science in 1978 whereupon he entered private optometric practice in Sarnia Ontario. He then pursued graduate study in vision science where he completed a M.Sc. 1982 (Physiological Optics, University of Waterloo) then a Ph.D. (Experimental Psychology, University of Cambridge) in 1987. Throughout his studies, he received numerous awards, including receiving one of the first grants from the Canadian Optometric Education Trust Fund.

Bill joined the faculty at the School of Optometry & Vision Science in 1987 as a clinical lecturer. He quickly moved through the ranks becoming a full Professor and taught a range of subjects, most recently including, Clinical Techniques, Fundamentals of Visual Optics and Strabismus and Aniseikonia. He has also taught Paediatric Optometry and was a clinical supervisor throughout his career in the School's Paediatric Optometry Clinic. In addition, he has taught graduate courses and has provided continuing education to the profession, including presenting the 20th Dr. Clair Bobier Lecture in 2009.

Bill's dedication to the advancement of the School and to education and research is clear. He has committed himself by serving on almost every committee at the School from hiring, to tenure and promotion, admissions, continuing education and has been a student advisor. During his tenure he also served as Associate Director from 1999–2002 and was then Director of the School from 2002–2005.

A common thread in Bill's research and teaching was to gain a better understanding of *correctable vision disorders*. His research touches on the nature, impact, and correction of these vision disorders in infants and children as well as the application of novel technologies and use of public health units in the screening for such disorders in pre-school children. His research can be summed up into three core areas, Refractive Error and Oculomotor measures in children and Infants, Studies in sustained viewing and Amblyopia.

Throughout his robust career he has had consistent funding through agencies such as COETF and the Natural Science and Engineering Council of Canada. With such support he has published or accepted research in 67 referred journals, has published 10 articles in refereed conference proceedings (Technical Digests), contributed to 7 different books and websites, produced 21 industrial reports and has had submitted and published 90 Refereed Conference Abstracts. He has supervised and co-supervised 24 MSc and PhD students.

Dr. Bobier has also been active across campus, building the Schools presence with colleagues by sitting on many faculty and university committees including the University Senate from 1996-2002 and again from 2010 – 2014. He has served on multiple Dean and Director Nominating, graduate studies and undergraduate student committees and has participated in strategic planning as part of the UW Faculty of Science.

Within the profession, Bill has represented the School many more committees, including the Council of College of Optometrists of Ontario serving on the Appraisal Committee from 1988-1993 and the Quality Assurance Committee 1993-1999. He also provided input into the Strategic Planning processes for both the College and the Ontario Association of Optometrists. Bill was a member of the Council of Ontario Universities Clinical Education Committee from April 2006 – February 2007 and has been a member of the Eye Health Council of Ontario (ECHO) since 2011.

Bill has also shared his expertise by taking on editorial duties for a variety of organizations including the Canadian Language and Literacy Research Network and Guidelines to Clinical Procedures while regularly reviewing articles in professional Journals such as the Canadian Journal of Ophthalmology, Optometry & vision Science and Ophthalmic and Physiological Optics. He has also reviewed a number of successful research grants.

In addition to being a member of the provincial and national associations as well as the British College of Optometrists, Dr. Bobier is also a current member of the Board of Directors, Hoogram, Sick Children's Hospital in Toronto and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry and the Cambridge Philosophical Society.

Bill has been a Fellow of the Cambridge Commonwealth Society (1982-1987) and a member of the Vision Science Society (2017), the Canadian Society for Neuroscience (2016), the Association for Research & Vision in Ophthalmology (1990- 2013) and has served on the Technical Advisory Board of Shaw Lens Inc. (2013 – 2015).

As a second generation professor at the School of Optometry & Vision Science, Bill brings something unique to the program. Not only has he excelled professionally, but he has also been the School's in house historian, bringing us stories from the early years of the program at the College of Optometry of Ontario and connecting them to who we are today. This institutional memory is priceless and the leadership contributions he has made have helped the program grow. In 2017, Bill became professor emeritus in January 2017, however with the renewal of his grant, continues his current research. It means we will still have him around for a few more years!