

Contemporary Topics in Optometry

Instructor Biographies



Marshall B.
KETCHUM UNIVERSITY
Southern California College of Optometry
Department of Continuing Education

December 4, 2022

Patrick Yoshinaga, OD, MPH

Associate Professor, MBKU | SCCO
Chief, Low Vision Rehabilitation Service, Ketchum Health • MBKU

Patrick D. Yoshinaga received the Doctor of Optometry degree from the Southern California College of Optometry in 1983. He has enjoyed working in private practice since 1987 and has served as Director of Contact Lens Services at the University of Southern California Doheny Eye Institute. He worked at the Doheny Eye Institute from 1984 to 2000 with special emphasis in the areas of contact lens fitting of post-surgical patients and for the treatment of ocular disease, and low vision rehabilitation. Dr. Yoshinaga is currently Associate Professor at SCCO and teaches in the clinical departments of Primary Care and Low Vision Rehabilitation. He also teaches in geometric optics, ophthalmic optics, and low vision laboratories. Dr. Yoshinaga is the coordinator of the Las Vegas Low Vision Clinic; State of Nevada Bureau of Services to the Blind and Visually Impaired. He has been a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry since 1986.

Rachelle Lin, OD, MS

Assistant Professor, MBKU • SCCO

Dr. Rachelle Lin is a full-time Assistant Professor at the Southern California College of Optometry (SCCO) at Marshall B. Ketchum University (MBKU). She treats patients in the clinical departments of Low Vision Rehabilitation and Acquired Brain Injury at the University Eye Center at Ketchum Health in Anaheim, CA. She also conducts genetic testing for inherited eye conditions. At MBKU, she teaches low vision rehabilitation, genetics, clinical methods, and nutrition. She has lectured internationally, with special interest in traumatic brain injury, vision rehabilitation, genetic testing, and gene therapy. Dr. Lin is an active member of the American Optometric Association and the California Optometric Association (COA), where she currently serves as COA Trustee. She has served as Chair of the COA Low Vision Rehabilitation Section and as President of the Orange County Optometric Society. She is also a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry. Dr. Lin received her Doctor of Optometry and Master of Science in Vision Science degrees from SCCO. She completed her post-graduate residency at the VA Long Beach Healthcare System in low vision, traumatic brain injury, and primary care. She was named 2019 COA Young Optometrist of the Year.

Bitu Asghari, OD

Associate Director of Clinical Education, BostonSight

Dr. Bitu Asghari is the Associate Director of Clinical Education at BostonSight. She also serves as adjunct Clinical Faculty for NECO and MCPHS School of Optometry. Dr. Asghari completed her Doctorate in Optometry from Southern California College of Optometry (SCCO), graduating summa cum laude. Prior to joining BostonSight, she completed her post-doctoral residency in Cornea & Contact Lens and Ocular Disease from the Ohio State University. Dr. Asghari has extensive training in the management of severe ocular surface diseases and irregular corneas using complex scleral lens designs. She is an advocate for education and is committed to excellence in patient care. Dr. Asghari is a frequent lecturer, published author, writer, and researcher with goals of expanding the understanding of complex corneal diseases. She serves on the board of Intrepid Eye Society, is an editorial board member for Eyes On Eyecare, and a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry as well as the Scleral Lens Education Society. Dr. Asghari is the recipient of the Ocular Instruments Award of Excellence, VSP/AOF Practice Excellence Scholarship and has been nominated as a Top Doctor by the National Keratoconus Foundation (NKCF) in 2018, 2021 and 2022. She has had several top-ranking posters and photographs including the Poster Winner at the Heart of America Eye Care Congress in 2017. Most recently, she was awarded the prestigious 2021 Theia Award for Young OD of the Year by Women in Optometry, recognized for her significant influence and contributions to the optometric profession.

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Scott Hauswirth, OD

Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology
Director, Ocular Surface Center
University of Colorado School of Medicine

Dr. Scott Hauswirth is an Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology at the University of Colorado School of Medicine, where he is coordinating Director of the Ocular Surface Center, and a key leader in the development of the collaborative care model within the Department of Ophthalmology. He is a founding member of the Intrepid Eye Society. He graduated from the Southern California College of Optometry with honors and completed his residency in Cornea, Glaucoma, and Surgical Management at Minnesota Eye Consultants in Minneapolis, MN. He went on to practice for seventeen years as a consultative optometrist with Minnesota Eye Consultants, where he led the optometric externship program, mentoring future optometrists in their last year of clinical training. He was also active in numerous research projects, and was instrumental in the development of their dry eye program. He is on the editorial board of five publications including the Journal of Dry Eye Disease, and has authored several journal articles, publications, and texts. He is active in the Academy of Optometry and has twice been an invited lecturer for the Anterior Segment Symposium Section, lecturing on the impacts of drug delivery on ocular surface disease and corneal neuropathic pain in dry eye. He is currently leading research in meibomian gland dysfunction, corneal neuropathic pain, and immunologic pathways of dry eye disease at the University of Colorado, and is medical advisor for Terrapin Ocular and TearRestore, in addition to having multiple consultative roles for various pharmaceutical and medical device companies in the eye care industry. He was selected as one of the Primary Care Optometry News 250 Innovators in Optometry in 2016.

Erin Tomiyama, OD

Assistant Professor
Jarnagin Center for Primary Eye Care and Ocular Disease Service, Ketchum Health • MBKU

Dr. Erin Tomiyama is an Assistant Professor of Optometry at Marshall B. Ketchum University. She is a Southern California native and completed her undergraduate degree at UCLA. She then received her OD degree from the Southern California College of Optometry at Marshall B. Ketchum University. Dr. Tomiyama went on to complete a Cornea and Contact Lens Residency at the University of Houston College of Optometry. During residency, she was introduced to clinical research and decided to pursue a MS, then PhD in Physiological Optics. She has developed a passion for myopia management and is involved in the Contact Lens clinic at the university. Her research areas of interest are myopia, optics, and astigmatic corrections. Dr. Tomiyama is a fellow of the American Academy of Optometry and a two-time Ezell Fellowship recipient.

Joseph Pizzimenti, OD

Professor
University of the Incarnate Word • Rosenberg School of Optometry Joseph Pizzimenti, OD

Dr. Joseph Pizzimenti joined the faculty of RSO in 2016. A long-time clinician and optometric educator, Dr. Pizzimenti is an internationally-recognized speaker and author. He is a Fellow of both the American Academy of Optometry (AAO) and the Optometric Retina Society (ORS), serving as ORS President from 2012-2014. Dr. Pizzimenti has completed funded clinical research in the areas of diabetes, age-related macular degeneration, vitreomacular adhesion, and low vision.