

A PUBLICATION FOR OPS MEMBERS

OPS*news*



Vol 39 No. 3 2009 Third Quarter

OPS*news* goes digital with this issue



See story p 11

Inside this issue:

Presidents Niche	2
William Anderson appointed new editor	3
Thank you to Tim Bennett and Carla Peetros for job well done	3
Paul Montague Honored by JCAPHO	4
Scientific Exhibit Committee call for photographs	4
Spotlight on the OPS: Scientific Exhibit Committee	5
2009 ASCRS Exhibit	6
J of Biocommunication Publishes Images from OPS members	7
OPS Image Bank	7
Reasons to share Email address	7
Board of Education News	8
Board of Certification News	9
Job Openings	10
Volunteer Opportunity	10
Boston Meeting Recap	12

The President's Niche

"Then you better start swimmin' or you'll sink like a stone, For the times, they are a – changin'." Bob Dylan had it right when he wrote those lyrics in 1962, and like most classics, the message is timeless and applies now. Change seems to be the universal theme for 2009, and with those changes come new challenges and new approaches. This new electronic format for our OPS newsletter is a perfect example.

The Board of Directors spent a significant amount of time considering all aspects of changing our newsletter from a printed version. Not everyone was ready to move away from print, but there are compelling reasons to do so. The BOD considered what makes a newsletter valuable to members, and came up with several important points: the material within the newsletter should be current and timely, delivery of that information should be reliable, and for the fiscal health of the Society, the newsletter should be cost effective. Using electronic communication as a means of delivering the newsletter addresses these points.

We are delighted you responded to the email distributed on the electronic memberlist that directed you to the OPS website to find this new format. Review of our membership information found that slightly less than 30% of our members have not yet shared

their email addresses with the Central Office. Those "non-electronic" individuals received a postcard, alerting them to the changes. We strongly recommend that all members, if they have not already done so, consider sharing their email address so that they can have the benefits of current information that is easily accessible. Some members may be worried about giving out their address and cluttering up their inbox. Let me assure you that the OPS does NOT release electronic email addresses to vendors or outside groups, and we send out an average of less than three emails a month to our members.

In the future, you will receive an email to let you know that a new edition of the newsletter is posted on the website. And while you are there, we hope you will take some time to get acquainted with the entire site and all the great OPS information to be found there.

The profile of the OPS continues to be raised in the ophthalmic community. Our outstanding Journal, under the leadership of Chris Barry, continues to maintain a high standard of excellence as evidenced by the recent edition dedicated to digital color photography. Congratulations to Chris, to Larry Hubbard, the guest editor, and to the talented authors who contributed. Watch for an exciting new JOP supplement dedicated to OCT technology later



this year.

And there is more good news about our Journal: I am happy to report that the circulation of the JOP has increased globally as the Ophthalmic Imaging Association (OIA) of the United Kingdom has arranged to purchase this year's Spring and Fall editions for all of their members.

Also, read the post in this edition from the Journal of Bio-communication Managing Editor, Joe Ogrodnick, about their latest issue featuring outstanding images produced by OPS members. It's wonderful to have other groups seek out and appreciate beautiful ophthalmic images.

"The times they are a changin'," and we are striving to keep the OPS vibrant and flexible as each new challenge comes along. Please let us know your opinions as we make this transition from a printed to an electronic newsletter.

All the best,

Paula

William Anderson, CRA, FOPS Named OPS Newsletter Editor

William M. Anderson, CRA, FOPS, has accepted the challenge of editing the OPS newsletter in its new electronic format. He is currently a Director-at-Large for the Society, and has served in the past as OPS Vice President and educational program chair.

Bill brings previous newsletter experience to the job, and coupled with his marked enthusiasm and excellent work ethic, promises to provide great leadership as this publication evolves into the electronic communication venue.

The Board of Directors truly appreciates Bill's willingness to serve in this capacity. If you are interested in writing for the newsletter, or have items that should be included for our members' review, Bill is your man! He can be contacted at William.Anderson@UTSouthwestern.edu.



Kudos to Tim and Carla

The OPS wishes to sincerely thank out-going Newsletter Content Editor Tim Bennett, CRA, OCT-C, FOPS and Layout Editor, Carla Peetros, CRA both of whom have filled these positions for the past four years.

Tim managed and coordinated newsletter submissions, pro-

serving on the Board of Directors, he will now have time to direct his numerous talents to other projects – and also be able to see his family occasionally.

Carla provided her considerable artistic talents to the newsletter layout and super-

vised the production of the printed publication. Her skills provided a visually attractive newsletter that was easy to read, and served as an excellent example for other publications.

For their hours of dedication and hard work, we thank these two outstanding OPS volunteers, and wish them the best as they move on to new pursuits. Don't stray too far away, though, guys, it's certain we'll be asking for your help again, after some well deserved rest. ■

Feeling gratitude and not
expressing it is like wrapping a
present and not giving it"

William Arthur Ward

viding his excellent writing and editing skills while also serving as OPS President! An Herculean effort! While currently still



Photo by Alan Frohlichstein



***Paul Montague
honored by
JCAHPO***

Paul Montague, CRA, FOPS, was recently given the JCAHPO Commissioner Statesmanship Award for his 30+ years of service and devotion to the fields of Ophthalmology and Ophthalmic Photography.

Paul is currently Manager of Research and Development projects, of Computer Services, and of Diagnostic Photography for the Department of Ophthalmology, University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics. He is also the Director of the Photograph Reading Center for the Collaborative Ocular Melanoma Study, (COMS).

A member of the OPS for over 30 years, Paul has served in many capacities, including multiple terms as President,



Vice President, and Treasurer. He was elected a Fellow in 1986, and has served continuously on the OPS Board of Directors since the early 1980's. He has been an integral component of the Annual Educational Program for over 25 years, lending his expertise to all aspects of those meetings from writing the registration software to managing AV, and most everything in between. He continues to

continue on p7

***Call for
Photographs***

The Scientific Exhibit Committee is accepting submissions for the 2009 Photo Contest through 14 August, 2009. Winning images will be displayed at the 2009 Annual Meeting of the American Academy of Ophthalmology in San Francisco, 23-27 October, 2009.

Film Submissions are no longer accepted for stereo division. Stereo images are now accepted in digital format only. Please read the submission guidelines carefully for digital image size, file format, and labeling requirements.

Cost for the Return of Undisplayed prints will no longer be covered by the OPS. Please read the submission guidelines carefully for details about print return options

ENTRY FEE: None

ELIGIBILITY: Only current, dues-paid OPS members may submit images. Images that have been displayed in previous OPS exhibits are not eligible for entry.

SUBMISSION: All members are encouraged to enter both Print and Stereo divisions. However, the same image, or images that appear similar, may not be entered in both divisions. Failure to comply will result in rejection of the submissions.

See the OPS Website for complete details.■

***Guess What Happened on the Way to the
OPS Annual Educational Program?***

At the eleventh hour, the Academy changed our hotel assignment!

The program was ready to go to print, but with the new hotel assignment, many items had to be changed. Therefore OPS members will receive their programs one week later than expected

This change will not affect your ability to use the AAO Housing Office, but it does place the OPS meeting closer to the AAO convention center and to the JCAHPO meeting

as well. All good things!

Our hotel for the Annual meeting, October 23-27, 2009 will be the

**Parc 55 Union Square Hotel
55 Cyril Magnon Street,
Market at Fifth
San Francisco, California**

Outstanding curriculum, beautiful remodeled hotel, close location to Academy action,

This OPS meeting is not to be missed!■

Spotlight on the OPS: Scientific Exhibit Committee

If you have had the opportunity to view the OPS Scientific Exhibit on display in the exhibit hall at the American Academy of Ophthalmology annual meeting, concurrent with the OPS annual education program, you have, no doubt, been impressed by the spectacular display of images. If you have not had the opportunity to see the exhibit first hand as an OPS member you have seen the exhibit winners in the Journal of Ophthalmic Photography (JOP).

What you may be less aware of is the effort that goes into the production of this exhibit. Since 1973, when Lee Allen, FOPS and Johnny Justice Jr., CRA, FOPS produced the first OPS Scientific Exhibit, the committee has been responsible for the design of the exhibit structure (now in its fourth generation); producing the exhibit entry call; structuring the exhibit rules; overseeing the exhibit judging for both the stereo and print divisions; mounting the winning entries; coordination of the shipping of the exhibit, mounted prints, and stereo monitors to the AAO meeting site; and assuring that the exhibit is assembled and finished before the exhibit hall opens. In addition, volunteers and members of the committee must host the exhibit during the Academy meeting. Afterwards, the exhibit must be dismantled, packed and shipped, with the winners be-

ing scanned for publication in the JOP, before being returned to the authors.

In 1994, for the 25th anniversary of the OPS held in San Francisco, a special historic display was added to the exhibit, which included the camera used by Doctors Novotny and Alvis to perform the first human fluorescein angiogram.

The core membership of the SEC is comprised of 10 to 12 members, many of whom have been active on the committee for 10 or more years. Last year was the inauguration of the Csaba L. Martonyi Award. This new award celebrates the highest caliber in imaging given by our Society. Another recent evolution in the exhibit was the move from film based stereo image entries and display to a digital only format. This change begins with this year's stereo exhibit submissions. As our profession and technology evolve, the SEC has made strides to keep the pace.

In 2001, a subcommittee of the SEC partnered with ASCRS to produce an exhibit for the ASOA / ASCRS annual meeting. It has been this group that has facilitated the entry call and judging for the exhibit, with ASCRS providing the mounting, shipping, and exhibit structure support.

It is through this extraordinary dedication and effort that the OPS consistently has such powerful venues to display our talents to the ophthalmic community.

If you are interested in joining the Scientific Exhibit Committee, please contact Jay Rostvold at: jarmayo@yahoo.com.

The exhibit call for entries has already been sent to OPS members. If you need another copy, please check the OPS web site at: www.opsweb.org, or contact Barbara McCalley at the central office. ■

— Alan Frohlichstein, BFA, BS, CRA, FOPS



Photo by Alan Frohlichstein



1887 West Ranch Road
 Nixa, MO 65714-8262
 USA Tel: 800-403-1677
 International Tel: 01-417-725-0181
 Email: ops@opsweb.org

Executive Director
 Barbara McCalley

Newsletter Editor
 William Anderson, CRA, FOPS
 william.anderson@utsouthwestern.edu

Advertising Editor
 Barbara McCalley

Contributing Reporters:
 Paula Morris, CRA, FOPS; Peter Hay, CRA, FOPS, Jay Rostvold, Alan Frohlichstein CRA, FOPS, Robert Cavicchi, CRA, FOPS, Stephanie Attebery, CRA, COA

President: OPS
 Paula Morris, CRA, FOPS
 Paula.morris@hsc.utah.edu

Chair: Board of Certification
 Beth Ann Benetz, CRA, FOPS
 boc@opsweb.org

Chair: Board of Education
 Kirsten G. Locke, CRA
 boe@opsweb.org

Advertising Rates
 Job Opportunity Text Only \$75
 Commercial Ads \$100

Newsletter deadlines
 Fourth Quarter 2009 Sep 11, 2009
 First Quarter 2010 Dec 31, 2009
 Second Quarter 2010 Mar 13, 2010
 Third Quarter 2010 Jun 12, 2010

OPS Website
www.opsweb.org

2009 ASCRS/OPS Exhibit on Display in San Francisco

Ophthalmic images were displayed at the ASCRS/ASOA Meeting in San Francisco, April 3rd through the 8th. The images were from around the world including the countries of Australia, Canada, India, Malaysia, Mexico, Spain, Singapore and the USA.

The ASCRS competition is open to OPS members and non-OPS members. I am happy to say that the "Eye Imaging Experts" carried much of the show, but due to low number of entries from OPS members, the non members are gaining on us. Watch for next year's call for photos for the annual ASCRS meeting to be held in Boston April 9th through the 14th. 2010. We will be

sending a special call for photos to OPS members this year to encourage your involvement.

Congratulations to Mark Clark CRA, Wake Forest University Eye Center, Winston-Salem, NC for his "Best of Show" image "Retinal Detachment"!

ASCRS has been a financial supporter of the OPS during the years of our involvement of the ASCRS/OPS Photographic Exhibit. I'm looking forward to seeing your best images for the Boston meeting. ■

Jay Rostvold
 OPS Scientific Exhibit Chair

Photo by Jay Rostvold



Journal of Biocommunication Publishes Winning Images from OPS Members

Recently, the Journal of Biocommunication contacted JOP Editor Chris Barry to inquire if they could publish some outstanding ophthalmic images from OPS members. Several avenues of access were discussed, and the result is that the latest edition of JBC features winning images from a previous OPS Scientific Exhibit.

We are delighted to share with you this post from Joe Ogradnick, Managing Editor of the Journal of Biocommunication :

"The issue of the Journal of Biocommunication featuring images from the 2007 OPS Professional Exhibit has been launched. Gary Schnitz, Chair of the JBC Management Board and myself invite OPS members to have a look at this issue. We also wish to thank the photographers who agreed to participate and share their images with the JBC membership.

Go to: <http://www.jbiocommunication.org>
The access codes are case-sensitive:
User Name: jbc351
Password: online

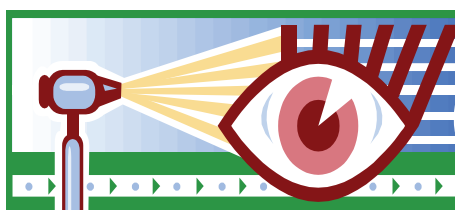
We hope this will be a first of many future collaborations with the Journal of Biocommunication.

OPS Image Bank

The OPS is developing a web based image bank for OPS publications and marketing. We are currently accepting images to be added to the image bank. When images are used, the photographer will receive credit. At present, the image bank has access to images displayed as part of the OPS Scientific Exhibit. We would like to expand the available selections. Access is available by password only, and is not open to public distribution. Please do not submit any images which would be subject to copyright infringement.

If you wish to submit images, please send them in tiff or jpeg format via CD or DVD.

Images may be sent to:
Alan Frohlichstein
Retinal Angiography Services
5633 Crain Street
Morton Grove, Illinois 60053
e-mail questions to Alan at:
alanfroh@gmail.com



Montague Honored

From p 4

share his knowledge of photography and computer technology as an educator in both OPS and AAO courses.

Once a photographer, always a photographer, Paul is one of the official photographers for the University of Iowa Football and Baseball teams.■

Top 10 reasons to Share your Email Address with the OPS (Imagine David Letterman's voice as you read this list)

10. Sharing your email address shows you are current and hip – over 65% of OPS members have already done so
9. Email is not affected by rain, snow, sleet or dark of night
8. You don't have to give an email server a Christmas gift
7. Emails from the OPS are limited to only one or two a month and won't overload your in-box
6. No one has to tear the place up looking for stamps, or deal with changing postal rates
5. The dog won't start barking when your mail is delivered
4. Easy access to your mail all day long – you don't have to wait until you get home to check
3. The OPS does NOT sell the email address list to ANYONE
2. "Reply" posts give new meaning to the phrase "Return to Sender"

And #1

It is absolutely, positively the quickest way to get current information and important reminders from our Society!

Won't you contact the Central office today and add your email address to our member directory?

BOARD OF EDUCATION NEWS

Volunteer at the OPS Annual Meeting....Make New Friends....Have Fun...and Give back to your Society all at the same time!

The OPS provides great opportunities for both new and veteran photographers to get to know others in our field and support our education program! There are a variety of ways you can be involved at our annual program in San Francisco.

Room monitors are needed for every class that is taught. In exchange for performing some classroom duties such as overseeing attendance and course materials you receive credit for the class you are monitoring at no charge. Sign up now! Training is provided at the Annual Meeting. If you are interested or have any questions,

Contact: Laura Savage, BOE Volunteer Committee Chairperson
Email: ops.roommonitor@tds.net.

A.V. Equipment Assistants are needed for setting up data projectors and to troubleshoot computers for speakers. Please consider volunteering some of your time at the annual meeting by contributing a couple hours to help with the A.V. equipment logistics. It is a great opportunity to make new friends while giving a big boost to the program!

Contact: Hoang Nguyen, phone: 303-984-0189,
E-mail: opsav_email@yahoo.com

Workshop Instructors are needed for every workshop subject: TD and SD OCT; FA, Beginner Fundus Photography and Advanced Stereo Photography, Slit Lamp and Gonio photography and SLO imaging. The more workshop instructors that we have, the more one-on-one time for our students to learn! This is a terrific way to contribute to the OPS, to network and to work on your training skills.

Contact: Mike Kelly (for OCT workshops) 919-684-3139
Stephanie Attebery (all other workshops) 206-499-4705

Registration assistance is needed to help hand out the pre-registration packets on Friday. Assistance is also needed on Thursday to help set up registration. If you are available to help at either time, please

Contact Barbara McCalley by phone 800-403-167
Email: ops@opsweb.org.

Don't miss out on these wonderful opportunities to get to know new people, build a network of contacts in the field and get involved with our organization! We hope to hear from you soon!■

2009 Educational Program Information

Program and Registration information will be arriving in your mailbox soon. Access the OPS Web Site to see the whole program. In addition to the popular courses offered each year to help those preparing for certification, you will also find a host of NEW and EXCITING COURSES:

FOCUS ON OCT:

OCT for Neuro-ophthalmology
OCT of the Optic Nerve
OCT-Multispecialty
Comparative Stereo IMG:
OCT and FA
Peripheral Retinal Mapping with OCT
Clinical Apps of Anterior Segment OCT

FOCUS ON PATIENT CARE:

Just to Get You By- Directing patients in another language
"I Can't Hear You in the Dark"- Communicating with Deaf or Hard of Hearing patients

DIGITAL LAB

Adobe CS3 - now with a workshop!
Surgical Video - now with a workshop!
Photo Editing with Bridge

OTHERS:

What Studies are Out There?
Overview of Different Study Shooting Protocols■

Deadlines for CRA and OCT-C Testing Dates

Salt Lake City, UT

July 3, 2009 Portfolio Submission Deadline
July 31, 2009 Exam Application Deadline
August 15, 2009 CRA and OCT-C Examination

San Francisco, CA
OPS Annual Education Program

September 11, 2009 Portfolio Submission Deadline
October 9, 2009 Exam Application Deadline
October 24, 2009 CRA Written
October 24, 2009 OCT-C Examination

Information on CRA Exams or OCT Exams

For a current list of CRAs & OCT-Cs and renewal dates for certifications, go to: <http://www.opsweb.org/Certif/certifieds.html>

Questions about CRA or OCT-C certifications? CRA@opsweb.org or OCT@opsweb.org

2009 Recertification Time is Running Out

For those individuals who certified or recertified in 2006 this is the third and last year your current certification remains valid. The 2009 recertification requirements are different this year. You have received a postcard reminder which **REQUIRES** you to visit the OPS-BOC website and **DOWNLOAD** your **2009 RECERTIFICATION APPLICATION** and **2009 RECERTIFICATION INSTRUCTIONS**. No application will be mailed to you this year. You must print the 2009 recertification pdf and mail with the appropriate documents.

The website link for recertification documents:

<http://www.opsweb.org/Certif/Recert.html>

For additional information, contact the chairman of the recertification section:

Peter B. Hay, BA,CRA,FOPS
Retina Vitreous Surgeons of CNY
3107 East Genesee Street
Syracuse, NY 13224
Email: Recert@opsweb.org

Board of Certification Announces NEW Certification Fees

The OPS BOC has approved a new fee structure to reflect increased costs to administer the examinations. The new fees can be found in the current program guides available on the OPS website <http://www.opsweb.org/Certif/Certif.html>. In addition to the examination fee, there is a materials fee that will be applied for each examination and a test center fee when the examination is conducted at an OPS approved test center.

Materials Fee: The materials fee covers test booklet production, scoring and reporting. This fee is in addition to the Examination Fees. The Materials Fee is a pass-through fee from the testing company contracted to perform these services for the OPS BOC.

Test Center Fee: The test center fee is a seat fee for examination when candidates sign up to take the written examination at testing centers. This fee is in addition to the examination and materials fee above. The test center fee is a pass-through fee from the testing company contracted to perform these services for the OPS BOC. ■

JOB OPENINGS

Charlotte Eye Ear Nose and Throat is currently seeking a strong Ophthalmic professional with experience working with diagnostic testing equipment to work within our Ophthalmic Imaging Department. Our facility also utilizes the resources of a strong research company for the opportunity to be involved with many ground breaking clinical studies.

Our current opening requires:

- A special patient-focused individual with strong people skills as well as the ability to work in a team environment.
- Utilizing our photo optical equipment and EMR, this individual will work closely with our patients to gather ophthalmic diagnostic information to prepare our patients for their office visit.
- The ideal staff member will have prior working experience obtaining digital fundus images, fluorescein angiography, A scans, VFs and OCTs.

CEENTA encourages staff talent development and offers multiple opportunities to train or further grow to encourage internal promotion including offering over 35 hours of free continuing education opportunities this year!

- Prior ophthalmic diagnostic testing experience is a must. Associate's degree (A. A.) or equivalent from two-year college or technical school; or one year related experience and/or training; or equivalent combination of education and experience.

• Certifications as a COA or COT or CRA is preferred
Position is Full time Monday through Friday and offers benefits including medical and dental benefits, STD, LTD and 401- K
The position requires traveling to several of our regional offices and occasional Saturday work

Apply on line at <https://home.eease.com/recruit/?id=29439> or fax your resume to 704-295-3415

Volunteer Opportunity !

WE WANT and NEED YOUR HELP Rural Eyeglasses Projects has need for volunteers in Nicaragua and Mexico planned for this fall 2009 and winter 2010. REP is a registered 501c.3 non-profit organization.

September 14-24, 2009 to the Wauwaushon School, a model agro-forestal middle school in the Pearl Lagoon region of eastern Nicaragua. Places for 6 volunteers who wish to help produce video and still photography for web design and content for the school.

- Help train people to do basic eye exams and distribute eyeglasses.
 - Help set up a photo & digital curriculum for the school.
- Cost to you is one round trip ticket to Managua, Nicaragua, and \$500 ground expenses for food lodging and transport.

The Fadcanic Foundation, a Nicaraguan organization that REP works with in the Caribbean region of the country,

Work from Home

Reporters needed for growing newsletter. If you enjoy writing and would like to help your society with articles about members, events or any element of the OPS, feel free to submit articles to the newsletter editor. It's your society and it will only become better with your help.

runs the school. Come live in the jungle and change someone else's life as well as your own.

Donations of digital cameras, video and laptop computers, as well as monofocal eyeglasses are most welcome whether you come or not.

February 25-March 4, 2010 El Castillo, Nicaragua

On the Road Rural Eyeglasses Project. REP expands its projects in southern Nicaragua with a one-week trip down the Rio San Juan to the small community of El Castillo and the villages along the river.

Space for 6 technician/photographers who will help set up and train local volunteers to operate an ongoing basic eye clinic.

Cost to you is one round trip ticket to San Carlos, Nicaragua, and \$500 ground expenses for food lodging and transport.

More details in pdf downloads are at our websites, www.ruraleyeglasses.org and www.jmceyephoto.com.

National Instrument Service Corporation

Nationwide Sales and Service of Ophthalmic, Medical and Optical Instruments.



45A GAZZA BLVD
FARMINGDALE, NY 11735
Phone: (631) 694-9408 Fax: (631) 694-9410
Email: info@niscorp.us Web site: www.niscorp.us



Lead by our President, **Igor Gaufman** and our professional staff, NISCorp continues to specialize in **SALES & SERVICE**, refurbishment, updates and conversions of ophthalmic instruments including:

SLIT LAMPS	All Makes & Models including:
PHOROPTERS	BAUSCH & LOMB
LENSOMETERS	HAAG STREIT
KERATOMETERS	OLYMPUS
POWER SUPPLIES	TOPCON
OPHTHALMOSCOPES	NIKON
APPLANATION TONOMETER	KOWA
FUNDUS CAMERAS & ALL ACCESSORIES	ZEISS



THANK YOU OPS!

EyeSupply acknowledges OPS members for helping it remain a leading distributor of ophthalmic supplies since 1989.

Let EyeSupply USA be your one-stop source for all your ophthalmic supplies.

- Angiography Supplies
- Medical Office Supplies
- Pharmaceuticals
- Bulbs & Batteries
- Med/Surg Supplies
- And More...

Catalog Available

800-521-5257

Or order online at

www.eyesupplyusa.com

OPSnews goes Digital

We are all aware the current economic slowdown has increased the need to cut costs, the *OPSnews* newsletter is going digital with this issue. This will reduce our printing and mailing costs and save trees by not printing the bulk of the newsletters on paper. This newsletter is still a valuable means for getting information about OPS events, upcoming conferences and meetings, BOE news and BOC certifications, testing dates and sites to the OPS members and we hope to be able to keep the members updated in a timely manner by going digital.

The exact look of the digital-only newsletter is still being created and may change as the "kinks" continue to be worked out. If you have not given the Central Office your email address, please do so, or you will be receiving the paper version by "snail mail". The OPS goal is 100% electronic newsletter.

We hope the digital version of the *OPSnews* will still be as, if

not more, useful to you and any members you share it with in the future. The *OPSnews* welcomes articles and photographs from members and welcomes suggestions for items in future editions. Contact William Anderson, newsletter editor, if you would like to write an article or would like to see additional information included in the newsletter. ■

bers. They speak independently and are not affiliated with any one group.

What is OPTIMAL NOT?

OPTIMAL is not an OPS project. While the OPS believes this to be a valuable resource for the field of Ophthalmic Diagnostic Imaging, the OPS has no administrative or financial responsibility for OPTIMAL.

Who can subscribe? Anyone with an interest in Ophthalmic Diagnostic Imaging is welcome to join OPTIMAL. The list of users is comprised of Ophthalmic Photographers, Physicians, Ophthalmic Technicians, Hardware and Software Engineers, Equipment Manufacturers, and individuals from just about every other corner of the profession. Do I have to be an OPS member to join? Although we would like everyone interested in Diagnostic Imaging to become a member of the Ophthalmic Photographers' Society, OPS membership is not a requirement for joining OPTIMAL. ■

OPTIMAL

What is OPTIMAL?

OPTIMAL is a web-based message board that is dedicated to ophthalmic imaging. OPTIMAL members can post questions or comments to hundreds of other members with a common interest in ophthalmic diagnostic imaging. Formed by Joe Warnicki in 1994, OPTIMAL has become one of the most valuable resources for ophthalmic photographers. OPTIMAL is an independent forum whose content is guided by its mem-

Boston Mid-Year meeting a wonderful educational experience

Even though I have been here at UT Southwestern for 22 years, I am still second on the list in seniority to William Anderson's 26 years. Bill has always had first dibs on going to the OPS meeting held during Academy. That has always left the mid-year meeting for me. I hate to tell him, but I think I get the better end of the deal. I just got back from another fantastic mid-year meeting in Boston and Bill asked me to share a few thoughts about the meeting.



Students looking through 3-D glasses at a stereo lecture

At first I was a little worried that the current economic conditions would either prevent a meeting from being held or that my institution would not be willing to send me this year. Luckily, through the hard work of the BOE in the trying times and the generosity of UTSW, it all worked out. As I usually do, I arrived into Boston a few days early and did my sight seeing. Boston has so much to see, but I hit the highlights like the sights along the Freedom Trail, USS Constitution, Fenway Park and maybe a few local breweries. Boston is

such an easy place to get around I never took a cab or a bus just the subway system. My \$15.00 Charlie Card got me everywhere I wanted to go.

Friday morning I was coming back from grabbing a bagel at 6 a.m. and ran into Bob Cavicchi and Jim Strong in the lobby. I bummed a ride over to the Joslin Diabetes Center where the meeting was being held. The Joslin Center is a historic place where much of what is known about diabetes and treatment was pioneered. I knew that meetings were hard work but I got to witness firsthand all of the hard work that Bob and Jim along with a few other vol-

unteers put into this meeting. There were no caterers, no projection people and no janitorial staff. This group did it all and managed to keep a smile going the whole time.

There were a lot of great talks by various doctors from the surrounding institutions like Harvard, Massachusetts Eye and Ear, and Joslin. We heard the usual outstanding talks from Richard Hackel, Ditte Hess, and of



Dr. Robert Dunphy, OD speaking at mid-year meeting

course, always my favorite, Denise Cunningham, who could make a talk about anything interesting. The special treat though was hearing some of the newer members of the OPS like Sarah Moyer and Leslie Bull give such great talks. I am confident now that the future of ophthalmic imaging and the OPS is in good hands. Rumor has it that next year's meeting will be in Denver. If you have never been to a mid-year you should definitely go.■

-Darrel Conger, CRA
-Photo's by Bob Cavicchi, CRA, FOPS



Ethan Priel, FOPS speaks on Multimodal Imaging