

## Meeting a new record at the 2009 AAO in Orlando

BY ETTY BITTON, OD, MSc, FAAO and L. GINA SORBARA, OD, MSc, FAAO, DIP C&CL



PHOTO COURTESY OF DR. ETTY BITTON

Montreal optometrist and long time attendees of the AAO, Dr. Fadi Maroun and Dr. Brian Goldberg are surrounded by new graduates from Montreal attending their first AAO meeting.

### École d'optométrie, Université de Montréal

This year's annual meeting of the American Academy of Optometry (AAO) held in Orlando, Florida attracted over 4,500 attendees... achieving a new record attendance! Like all the AAO meetings, numerous lectures, workshops, symposia, scientific presentations allowed for attendees to be updated on the latest clinical and scientific information in the eyecare field. The exhibit hall revealed the latest technological advancements and the latest books to update

our libraries. Becoming Fellow of the AAO is a big accomplishment, and one that 164 graduates completed this year, representing well over a dozen countries. Six Canadians were amongst the new fellows, including **Dr. Peter Karwatsky** and **Dr. Valerie Lefebvre** from Quebec. Congratulations to all the new fellows!

The École d'optométrie, Université de Montréal also had a very successful participation at this year's conference, with big honors going to **Dr. Maurice Ptitto**, professor and Research Chair at the school. Invited speaker for the Monroe J. Hirsch Research Symposium,



Dr. Maurice Ptito delivering the Monroe J. Hirsch Research Symposium lecture entitled "Brain plasticity: Lessons from the visual system".

Dr Ptito updated the attendees on part of his research dealing with brain plasticity entitled "Brain plasticity: Lessons from the visual system".

**Dr. Langis Michaud** participated in a grand rounds lecture on cornea and contact lenses during the continuing education portion of the meeting entitled "A Unique Case of Corneal Warpage Secondary to Continuous Wear of a Silicone Hydrogel Lens". Several other faculty, clinical faculty, optometry and post-graduate students presented during the scientific paper and poster sessions. (*Table 1*)

Participation was also a new record at this year's meeting, with over fifty attendees from Quebec! Many were first time attendees and they found the experience truly rewarding and extremely valuable, not only for clinical excellence amongst the speakers but also for the valuable networking possibilities that the meeting offers. **Nicolas Tea** (optometry student) and **Walter Wittich** (PhD student), both presenters, were honored with a Student Travel Fellowship to attend the meeting. **Dr. Nathalie Trottier** (contact lens resident) was also awarded a Residency Travel Grant to attend the meeting. **Dr. Jean-Marie Hanssens** (PhD student) received the Carl Zeiss Vision Student Travel Fellowship to attend the next two AAO meetings.

Next year's meeting promises to be just as educational and full of clinically relevant information. It is to be held in San Francisco at the Moscone Center West on



Dr. Mark Eger, president of the AAO honors Dr. Jacob Sivak with the prestigious Charles Prentice Medal.

November 17-20, 2010! For more information, check out the AAO's website at [www.aaopt.org](http://www.aaopt.org) or on its new Facebook page. See you there!

### School of Optometry at the University of Waterloo

The School of Optometry at the University of Waterloo was very proud to see **Dr. Jake Sivak** honoured by the AAO this year with the receipt of the prestigious Charles F. Prentice Medal. The title of the lecture given by the awardee was, "Serendipity in Scientific Research: Examples from Basic and Applied Ocular Lens Research." This fascinating talk brought the audience through the many years of research guided by Dr. Sivak and performed by himself in many areas around the world and by his impressive list of graduate students. (*See photo*)

**Dr. Kristine Dalton** was the recipient of the Sheldon Wechler Contact Lens Residency Award after completing her residency at UW under the supervision of **Dr. L. Sorbara**, in the area of fitting keratoconus patients with large diameter contact lenses.

Finally, the Vistakon Ezell Fellowship Award was presented to Vidhyapriya (Priya) Sreenivasan, for her PhD graduate work in ocular-motor parameters in myopic children, under the supervision of **Drs. Bobier and Irving**.

**Dr. Thomas Freddo** gave two well received continuing education lectures, “The Clinical Significance of Conjunctival Lumps, Bumps and Spots” and “A Systemic Disease Approach to the Red Eye: Arthropathy vs Arthritis”. **Dr. Lyndon Jones** participated in a round table presentation/discussion

on, “Solution induced corneal staining – clinically relevant or not?”, with other well known speakers.

Many of our faculty representing our School of Optometry and Centre for Contact Lens Research, undergraduate and graduate students participated in paper and poster presentations that are listed in *Table 2*.

**TABLE 1: École d’optométrie, Université de Montréal participation in the 2009 Annual AAO Meeting, Orlando, Florida**

FACULTY	AUTHOR	TITLE OF PRESENTATION
	Michaud L, Beaulieu M, Gravel K	Clinical performance of senofilcon A lenses compared with Omafilcon A to reduce induced ocular dryness (poster)
	Michaud L, Fortin M, Tessier E	Visual impact of “Freshlook ColorBlends” corneal lenses (poster)
	Michaud L, Magnan ME, Lavoie C	Comparative results of monovision vs multifocal fitting on a presbyopic population using Purevision and Purevision multifocal lenses (poster)
	Michaud L	Cornea and Contact Lens Grand Rounds A Unique Case of Corneal Warpage Secondary to Continuous Wear of a Silicone Hydrogel Lens (lecture)
	Karwatsky P	Chalazion-Induced Hyperopia (poster)
	Lovasik JV, Kergoat H, Gauthier C, Dion I	Regulation of choroidal blood flow fails during cold stimulation (poster)
	Kergoat H, Lovasik JV, Boutin T, Kergoat MJ, Racine N, Parent M	Retinal and macular vessels in the healthy aging eye (paper)
	Marinier JA, Fraser A	Exudative ARMD patients successfully treated with anti_VEGF medications : A new clinical challenge for low vision optometrists (poster)
	Ptito M	Brain plasticity: Lessons from the visual system (Monroe J. Hirsch Research Symposium, invited speaker)
<b>STUDENTS</b>		
<b>Optometry students</b>		
	Gemme C, St-Jean A, Bitton E, Jones D	Institutional and gender differences in student indebtedness attending Canadian optometry schools (poster)
	Tea N, Argaw A, Duff G, Ptito M, Bouchard J-F	The endocannabinoid system modulates the development of the optic nerve (paper)
<b>Graduate Students</b>		
	Hanssens JM, Moulin M, Allard R, Faubert J	Does aging influence postural reactivity generated by stimulated ophthalmic lenses distortions? (poster)
	Wittich W, Dubuc S, Watanabe DH, Overbury O	Item difficulty of the Montreal cognitive assessment in patients with visual impairment (paper)

**TABLE 2: School of Optometry at the University of Waterloo participation in the 2009 Annual AAO Meeting, Orlando, Florida**

AAO 2009 ORLANDO	AUTHORS	TYPE
Charles F. Prentice Medal Lecture Awardee: Serendipity in Scientific Research: Examples from Basic and Applied Ocular Lens Research	Sivak J	Award Lecture
Sheldon Wechler Contact Lens Residency Award	Dalton, Kristine	Award
Vistakon Ezell Fellow	Sreenivasan, Vidhyapriya (Priya)	Award
Clinical Significance of Conjunctival Lumps, Bumps and Spots	Freddo T	CE
A Systemic Disease Approach to the Red Eye: Arthropathy vs. Arthritis	Freddo T	CE
Solution induced corneal staining - clinically relevant or not?	Jones L, Young G, Morgan P, Papas E, Nichols J	CE
Patient and practitioner compliance with silicone hydrogel and daily disposable lens replacement in USA and Canada	Dumbleton K, Richter D, Woods C, Jones L, Fonn D	Paper
The role of compliance with replacement frequency of silicone hydrogel lenses on subjective comfort and vision	Dumbleton K, Woods C, Jones L, Fonn D	Paper
Distribution of overnight central corneal swelling with high powered silicone hydrogel lenses	Moezzi A, Fonn D, Varikooty J, Richter D	Paper
Visual field loss, attention and mobility	Leat SJ, Mittelstaedt A, Machan CM, Hrynychak PK, Irving EL	Paper
Prescribing for hyperopia and the presence of symptoms in children in a University-based optometry clinic	Leat SJ, Mittelstaedt A, Machan CM, Hrynychak PK, Irving EL	Paper
The Impact Of Rub & No-Rub Care Products On Protein Removal And Localization	Luensmann D, Miriam H, Liu L, Sheardown S, Jones LW	Paper
Patient and practitioner compliance with silicone hydrogel and daily disposable lens replacement in USA and Canada	Dumbleton K, Richter D, Woods C, Jones L, Fonn D	Paper
The role of compliance with replacement frequency of silicone hydrogel lenses on subjective comfort and vision	Dumbleton K, Woods C, Jones L, Fonn D	Paper
Bacterial adhesion to lactoferrin-coated conventional and silicone hydrogel contact lens materials	Subbaraman LN, Jones L, Borazjani R, Zhao Z, Zhu H, Willcox MDP	Paper
Utility of a contact lens case pulsator to aid lysozyme removal from etafilcon A hydrogel lenses soaked in a no rub MPS regimen	Jones L, Joyce E, Heynen M	Paper
Smoking cessation referrals by optometrists: A pilot study assessing practices and opportunities	Spafford MM, Kennedy RD, Schultz A, Iley M	Paper
The Transient Nature of Solution-Induced Corneal Staining	Peterson R, Gorbett M, Woods C, Fonn D	Paper
Rose Bengal Staining Differentiates Sjogren's Syndrome from Keratoconjunctivitis Sicca	Caffery B, Simpson T, Wang XS, Bookman A, Slomovic A, McComb J	Paper

## AAO 2009 ORLANDO

## AUTHORS

## TYPE

Repeatability of pachymetry measures by the RTVue-100 spectral domain optical coherence tomographer	Keech A, Simpson TL, Flanagan J, Jones L	Poster
What went wrong? The limit of tolerance to spectacle prescription error	Hrynchak P, Irving EL	Poster
Institutional and Gender Differences in Student Indebtedness Attending Canadian Optometry Schools	Gemme C, St-Jean A, Bitton E, Jones DA	Poster
The optimum color vision test battery in predicting VDT color identification	Ramaswamy S, Hovis JK	Poster
Monochromatic aberrations & progressive addition lens satisfaction in healthy presbyopes	Peer J, Chou R, Hutchings N	Poster
In vitro wettability of surface modified and non-surface modified silicone hydrogel contact lens materials	Subbaraman LN, Jones L	Poster
Optimising fluorescein observations of solution induced corneal staining	Peterson R, Schneider S, Woods C, Jones L, Fonn D	Poster
Impact of protein, lipid and lens polymer on neutralization times of hydrogen peroxide care regimens	Ngo W, Heynen M, Joyce E, Jones L	Poster
Tear film deposition on silicone hydrogel contact lenses disinfected with hydrogen peroxide and rub or enhanced no-rub care regimens	Jones L, Heynen M, Joyce E, Lorentz H, Dumbleton K, Varikooty J, Woods C	Poster
Grading Bulbar Redness using Cross-calibrated Clinical Grading Scales	Schulze M, Hutchings N, Simpson T	Poster
Comparative assessment of visual experience with freeform traditional progressive addition lenses	Chou BR, Hutchings N, Peer J, Buttle A, Despres M, D'Silva S, Smith M	Poster
Metrics of the average cornea: anterior segment imaging using the Visante optical coherence tomographer	Maram J, Sorbara L, Simpson T, Fonn D	Poster
Anterior Segment Optical Coherence Tomography: Non-contact high and ultra high resolution imaging of contact lens edge profiles	Maram J, Sorbara L, Simpson T, Bizheva K	Poster
Hyper-reflective cells observed by confocal microscopy with staining caused by different lens-solution combinations	Schneider S, Woods C, Fonn D	Poster
Discrimination thresholds of the central cornea in lens and non lens wearers	Basuthkar Sundar Rao S, Simpson T	Poster