

20 Years of Optometry at Waterloo – A Celebration –

Not since the official dedication of the new University of Waterloo School of Optometry building in 1974 has such excitement been witnessed among Faculty, students and graduated practitioners.

On one short weekend last May, Optometry honoured its own with its traditional Annual Waterloo Convocation ceremonies, a host of 20th Anniversary celebrations, the conferring of Professor Emeritus status on the School's first Director and the awarding of a special Waterloo "OD, Ad Eundem Gradum" degree to pre-Waterloo graduates of the College of Optometry of Ontario.

E. J. Fisher's Heritage to Optometric Education

Dr. B. Ralph Chou, Professor at the School of Optometry and Associate Editor (Waterloo) of the *CJO * RCO* prepared the following report on one aspect of the ceremonies to honour Professor Emeritus Dr. Fisher.

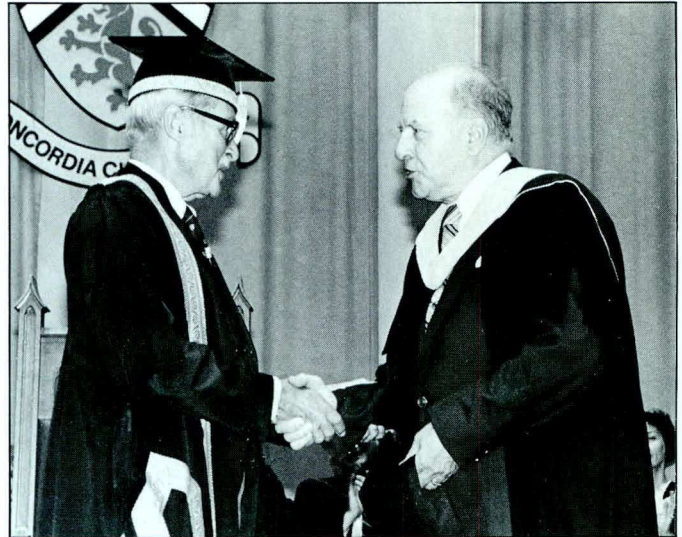
"To mark the twenty-year long affiliation of the School of Optometry with the University of Waterloo, as well as the role of Dr. Edward J. (Ted) Fisher in making this a reality, a Continuing Education Program, entitled, 'E. J. Fisher's Heritage to Optometric Education' was presented to 110 optometrists who participated in the School's 20th Anniversary programme. The speakers were past or present members of the School's Faculty, several of whom had been Dr. Fisher's students.

"Dr. T. D. Williams spoke on *Computer-Assisted Assessment of Fundus and Visual Field Data*. His research has demonstrated that retinal arterioles do not become more tortuous with age or with the development of hypertension. Other studies have included age-related changes in the Goldmann isopters of normal populations, and the relationship between the shape of the optic disc and that of the blind spot.

"*The Living Optics of the Eye* was the subject of Dr. J. G. Sivak's lecture. The anatomical and physiological factors which contribute to the refractive functions of the cornea and crystalline lens were discussed. Presbyopia and cataract were shown to be relatively early and late manifestations respectively of aging of the lens.

"Dr. W. M. Lyle discussed *Beta Adrenergic Blocking Drugs for the Treatment of Chronic Open-Angle Glaucoma*. The pharmacological actions and clinical advantages of betaxolol, catechol, levobenobol, metipranolol and timolol were compared. Dr. Lyle also described the side effects which these drugs can produce with long-term use.

"The day also featured a mid-day break in the form of a stand-up buffet luncheon which, by enabling an easy fraternization among attendees, typified the friendly mood of the whole weekend.



J. P. R. Wadsworth, Chancellor of the University of Waterloo, invests Dr. Fisher as Professor Emeritus of Optometry, the School's first, to the standing applause of the 1987 graduating class in Optometry.

"After the luncheon, 'Professor Emeritus' Fisher showed a number of slides to accompany a lecture on the beginnings of optometrical education in Ontario. He pointed out that, as early as 1893, Lionel Laurance had conducted training courses in Canada, but had returned to England in 1898 to open the School of Optics near the British Museum in London. Dr. Fisher also traced the establishment of a variety of educational courses provided in the years 1900 to 1919 through Lionel G. Amsden Sr., W. J. Harvey, W. G. Maybee and the Toronto Technical School, right up to the purchase of the building at 139 St. George Street in Toronto and the opening, in 1925, of the College of Optometry of Ontario by the (then) Board of Examiners under the Chairmanship of Ralph Aylesworth of Trenton, Ontario. The College appointed its first Dean, J. C. Thompson, in 1926. Dean Thompson died April 4, 1948. As the 'only full-time teacher' at the time, Dr. Fisher related how he had 'fallen' into the position of Dean virtually by default, a position he held until the integration of the College into the University of Waterloo in 1967.

"Dr. W. R. Bobier discussed how various techniques of photorefractive error could be used to assess refractive error more rapidly and accommodative ability in infants and young children. His studies showed that, even with hyperopia of over +3.50D, infants between six months and two years of age were able to accommodate for targets between 20 and 140cm from the eye. Accommodative difficulty was found in one child with +7.00D of hyperopia; a partial correction of +5.00D relieved the problem.

"New developments in aniseikonia were discussed by Dr. A. Remole. He described the techniques and instruments used in the Aniseikonia Clinic at the School of Optometry to diagnose and measure aniseikonia, and reviewed the formulae needed to calculate the necessary lens specifications. The role of ocular movements in aniseikonia, and its influence on binocular fixation performance are two new concepts which make clinical evaluation and correction of aniseikonia important.

"Dr. J. V. Lovasik presented a wide variety of high technology techniques which supplement conventional optometric diagnostic procedures. He described A- and B-Scan ultrasonography, infrared pupillometers, electroretinography, visually evoked potentials, electrooculography and other procedures which, only a few years ago, were used exclusively by physicians or applied researchers. That these tests are now being used in optometric care is evidence of the profession's progress as a health discipline.

"The politics of health care and the evolution of Optometry as a health discipline was addressed by Dr. M. J. Samek of the Optometric Institute in Toronto. His talk on *The Role of Therapeutics in Optometric Practice* also gave the audience a glimpse of one possible future development in Canadian Optometry. The controversy surrounding optometric use of therapeutic drugs was discussed in terms of how the patient, practitioner and health care system might be affected.

"Other presentations during the day included *Contact Lens Solutions* by Dr. M. G. Callender, *Accommodative Amplitude*

in Childhood by Dr. M. E. Woodruff, *Some Current Hard Lens Topics* by Dr. B. D. Garnett and *What is Low Vision?* by Dr. G. C. S. Woo.

"Optometry in 1987 is a very different profession from that which Dr. Fisher entered in 1934. Many of the changes came during his leadership, first as Dean of the College of Optometry of Ontario and then as Director of School of Optometry, University of Waterloo. The picture of present and future Optometry which was provided in this lecture program was a fitting tribute to one of the great leaders of our profession."

To the Same Level

Doctor of Optometry, Ad Eundem Gradum. The decision by the University of Waterloo to award these specially designated OD's to pre-Waterloo graduates of the College of Optometry of Ontario is unique in the annals of Optometric education in Canada.

Some 283 practitioners, 98 of whom attended the convocation, applied and were accepted as candidates for the special investiture.

On behalf of those receiving the designation, Dr. George C. Woo (Class of '64) and Dr. Irving Baker (Class of '43) were formally invested as a part of the ceremony. Dr. Jacob G. Sivak, the current Director of the School of Optometry, University of Waterloo, then conferred the degree on the remaining attendees as a group.

Ad Eundem Gradum means "To the Same Level" and the OD degrees thus conferred accord all who received it the same rights and privileges as those who have received their OD's from the University of Waterloo following the School's establishment there in 1967.

In his convocation address to the Class of '87, Dr. Sivak summed up the cumulative impact that Optometry and the Waterloo School have had on one another: "Clearly," he said, "the interdependence of the School and the profession is such that their combined accomplishments are far greater than their individual capabilities. All of this is meant to explain why I don't look upon your graduation as farewell. I am confident that most, if not all, of you will continue your Association with the School in one form or another. The School and the profession have to rely on each other for support now, and in the future, as they have in the past. By working together, we can ensure the future growth and development of Optometry."

***All photographs courtesy of the School of Optometry, University of Waterloo.*

Awards and Prizes, 1987

The School of Optometry, University of Waterloo, is pleased to announce the following awards and prizes to the graduating class of 1987.

The General Proficiency Medal Awarded by the College of Optometrists of Ontario

Andrew J. Palmer

The Canadian Contact Lens Society Prize

Andrew J. Palmer

The J. C. Thompson Memorial Prize for Optometry

Charline A. Gauthier



Dr. and Mrs. Fisher at the post-Convocation banquet held in their honour at Bingeman Park, Kitchener on 29 May 1987 as part of the School's 20th Anniversary celebration.



The four Directors of the School of Optometry at the main entrance to the building. Left to right: Dr. J. G. Sivak (present Director), Dr. W. S. Long (1981-1984), Dr. M. E. Woodruff (1975-1981), and Dr. E. J. Fisher (1967-1975).

C.A.O. Award of Merit

Barry A. Burns

O.A.O. Award for Excellence in Patient Management

Robert K. Macyszyn

The E.F. Attridge Prize for Highest Achievement in Pathology

Gary S. Butterworth

The T.T. Beattie Award for Orthoptics and Visual Training

Jill A. McKechnie

A. W. Cole Award for Clinical Excellence

Andrew J. Palmer

The Leopold Lacourciere Award for General Proficiency Awarded by the Ontario Association of Optometrists, District #3

Beverly A. Dodge

Barnes-Hind Student Recognition Award

Wendy V. Hatch

Bausch and Lomb Optical Soflens Division Outstanding Achievement Awards

First Prize *Charline A. Gauthier*

Second Prize *Barry A. Burns*

Raymond A. Limber

Central Optical Award for Excellence in Special Studies

Andrew J. Palmer

Nurudin Ahmedbhai

Harry A. Bohnsack

CIBA Vision Care Award for Clinical Excellence

Harry A. Bohnsack

Essilor Award for Academic and Clinical Excellence in Optics

Charline A. Gauthier

William Feinbloom Low Vision Award

Andrew J. Palmer

The Percy Hermant General Proficiency Prizes

First Prize *Andrew J. Palmer*

Second Prize *Mary Lou Barry*

The K-W Optical Company Limited Awards

First Prize *Nurudin Ahmedbhai*

Second Prize *Malini Varshney*

Prize for Academic Excellence in Ocular Pharmacology

Mary Lou Barry

Dean of Science Honours List

Mary Lou Barry Leah R. Fraser

David P. Bobor Charline A. Gauthier

Harry A. Bohnsack Robert K. Macyszyn

Gary S. Butterworth Andrew J. Palmer

Beverly A. Dodge

Graduates — Doctor of Optometry

Allaire, Peter J.	Sturgeon Falls, Ontario
Ahmedbhai, Nurudin	Waterloo, Ontario
Barry, Mary Lou	Chatham, New Brunswick
Bergeron, Nicole	Toronto, Ontario
Bobor, David P.	Hamilton, Ontario
Bochnak, Karen M.	Hamilton, Ontario
Bohnsack, Harry A.	Keswick, New Brunswick
Brodie, Tracy L.	St. Agatha, Ontario
Burns, Barry A.	Louisdale, Nova Scotia
Butterworth, Gary S.	Winnipeg, Manitoba
Chau, Shanda K.	Calgary, Alberta
Clements, Patrick M.	Oromocto, New Brunswick
Cousineau, Thomas R.	Fort Frances, Ontario
Dodge, Beverly A.	New Liskeard, Ontario
During, Erika F.	Wingham, Ontario
Fitzsimmons, Mark J.	Oshawa, Ontario
Fraser, Leah R.	Weston, Ontario
Fujimoto, Fern N.	Rainier, Alberta
Gauthier, Charline A.	Wetaskiwin, Alberta
Germain, Mark J.	South Porcupine, Ontario
Gutwein, Michael W.	Kingsville, Ontario
Harding, James C.	Burnaby, British Columbia
Hargrave, James C.	Ottawa, Ontario
Hatch, Wendy V.	Willowdale, Ontario
Isok, Ellen M.	Chalk River, Ontario
Kettner, Calvin B.	Williams Lake, British Columbia
Koutsogiannopoulos, Fontini	Smithville, Ontario
Laplane, Louis J.	Calgary, Alberta
Limber, Raymond A.	Comox, British Columbia
Lukey, Lori P.	Trossachs, Saskatchewan
Lunsky, Eric S.	Toronto, Ontario
Machan, Carolyn M.	Waterloo, Ontario
Macyszyn, Robert K.	Winnipeg, Manitoba
Mann, Bruce	Peace River, Alberta
McGaffey, Kenneth W.	Windsor, Ontario
McIlveen, Linda M.	Hamilton, Ontario
McKay, Katherine L.	Kakabeka Falls, Ontario
McKechnie, Jill A.	Calgary, Alberta
Merali, Sameen	Markham, Ontario
Monetta, Angela M.	Oakville, Ontario
Palmer, Andrew J.	Hamilton, Ontario
Paulin, Marie F.	Lameque, New Brunswick
Palovic, Zrinka	Kitchener, Ontario
Persram, Karen I.	Scarborough, Ontario
Pitre, Liane	Chomedey Laval, Quebec
Roy, Kevin A.	Coniston, Ontario
Sharpe, Robert E.	London, Ontario
Skrapits, Linda M.	Waterloo, Ontario
St. George, Andre L.	Sturgeon Falls, Ontario
Steffler, Paula L.	Waterloo, Ontario
Tansley, Michael M.	St. Thomas, Ontario
Varshney, Malini	Mississauga, Ontario
Winer, Earl	Willowdale, Ontario
Wong, Caroline K.	Sudbury, Ontario