

DECEMBER
2017

EYE ON ALUMNI

The official newsletter of the Northeastern State University Oklahoma College of Optometry



NORTHEASTERN
STATE UNIVERSITY

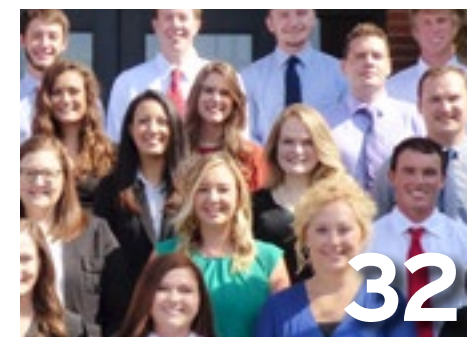


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The official newsletter of the Northeastern State University Oklahoma College of Optometry



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Hello and Happy Holidays!

Another busy year for NSUOCO is winding down! Looking back at the year, there are many highlights, including the graduation of the Class of 2017, Optometry's Meeting in Washington D.C., several continuing education events, faculty/staff gatherings, entrance of the Class of 2021, several new faculty members, the retirement of Dr. Salmon, numerous student events and so much more.

We wish you the very best as you start off your 2018 year. May it be filled with many joyous occasions!

With love,

Your NSUOCO Family

SHARE YOUR NEWS!

We would love to feature your news in the "Eye on Alumni" newsletter. Contact Brooke Johnson at johns283@nsuok.edu with story ideas or alumni news items.

Upcoming Events

Continuing Education Events

January 4-7, 2018: Advanced Procedures

NSUOCO

February 17, 2018: 5 State Student Symposium

NSU University Center

June 2-4, 2018: 25th Annual Ocular Disease Update

Big Cedar Lodge in Branson, MO



OAOP

April 5-7, 2018: OAOP Vision Summit

Embassy Suites in Norman

September 20-22, 2018: OAOP Fall Conference

Tulsa



AOA and AOSA

June 20-24, 2018: Optometry's Meeting 2018

Colorado Convention Center in Denver, CO



Did You Know?

The information provided below is based on questions frequently asked.

1.

You can **request transcripts** from the NSU Registrar. Using this link, follow the instructions on the page: <https://offices.nsuok.edu/registrar/TranscriptRequest.aspx>. The transcript request form can be emailed, mailed, or faxed to the Registrar's office. A signature on the form is required. Transcripts can either be mailed or picked up in person. If you have questions regarding this process, contact the Registrar's office at registrar@nsuok.edu or 918-444-2208.

2.

We provide **degree verifications**. If you need this service, your hiring employer can contact Alaka Back at backam@nsuok.edu or 918-444-4008. Forms can be faxed to 918-458-2104.

3.

We **post job openings and practices for sale** on our website. If you are needing to hire an optometrist or are hoping to sell your practice, visit the following link: <https://optometry.nsuok.edu/PracticeOpportunities.aspx>. Once there, click on the green link titled "this form" and fill out the form accordingly. After it is submitted, we will add the posting to our "Practice Opportunities" page on our website.

4.

NSUOCO now has a **Facebook page!** Follow us on Facebook: NSU Oklahoma College of Optometry or <https://www.facebook.com/nsuoco/>.

5.

The Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (**ASCO**) website is a great resource for potential optometry students. If you have student workers in your practice, encourage them to check out their website at <https://optometriceducation.org/>. Each year, there are several virtual fairs, and NSUOCO participates in chat rooms for each fair. If your students have questions regarding admissions requirements or program details, they can contact Brooke Johnson, Optometry Program Representative, at johns283@nsuok.edu or 918-444-4036.

Don't Miss This Year's Ocular Disease Update!

Do not miss this year's 25th Annual Ocular Disease Update, June 2-4, featuring Dr. Nathan Lighthizer, Dr. Richard Castillo, and back by popular demand, Dr. Jason Ellen. The Ocular Disease Update will be held at Branson's premier family resort, Big Cedar Lodge. This year's schedule will allow for 15 total hours of continuing education, with the conference hours being from 4-7 on Saturday and 8-2 on Sunday and Monday. Lodging at Big Cedar Lodge fills up very quickly. If you are interested in attending, please secure your hotel arrangements as soon as possible!

Please check our website for further details and updates, or contact Callie McAtee at **918-316-3602** or mcateec@nsuok.edu for information.

We look forward to seeing you!!

optometry.nsuok.edu/ContinuingEducation/ScheduleofEvents/OcularDiseaseUpdate/OcularDiseaseUpdate2018





5-State Symposium

Don't miss the upcoming 5-State Symposium on February 17, 2018! The all-day event begins at 7:30 a.m. with a provided breakfast. The first presentation starts at 8:00 a.m.

The NSUOCO Optometric Student Association (OSA) began organizing and hosting the 5-State Symposium continuing education event in Tahlequah, Oklahoma 18 years ago. The American Optometric Student Association (AOSA) has assumed organization responsibilities for the 5-State Symposium exhibit hall, which is full of optometry-related vendors, information and prizes.

This event is used as the primary fundraiser for school organizations. All proceeds from the event go to both the OSA and AOSA to assist in student expenses, travel grants and activities. A portion of the proceeds are used to allow students to attend Optometry's Meeting, which provides the students a great experience to learn and hear from successful optometrists and corporations on national optometric issues and other helpful insights.

Each presentation this year will be 50 minutes in length, with the exception of the Student Grand Rounds and the Resident Speaker's Clinical Case presentations. Lunch will also be provided to all attendees, and the exhibit hall will be open and available during breaks. Speakers for this year's Symposium include:

Dr. David Simpson:
"Driving with Vision Loss"

Dr. Selina McGee:
"TheraTears"

Dr. Spencer Johnson:
"ABCs of Omega 3's"

Dr. Megan Ford-Kirkpatrick:
"Binocular Vision"

NSUOCO Residents:
ER/Ocular Disease Case Presentation

- » Dr. Nicholas Green
- » Dr. Erelida Gene
- » Dr. Pamela Martin
- » Dr. Elizabeth Ledezma

Grand Rounds

The 5-State Symposium's concluding presentation will be the Student Grand Rounds, which will be conducted in a rapid-fire format, in which clinical case studies will be presented in 20-30 minute increments.

For more information about the event, including pricing, CE hours and lodging information, check out the following link:

optometry.nsuok.edu/ContinuingEducation/ScheduleofEvents/5StateSymposium

Alumni News



Christopher Wolfe O.D., F.A.A.O.

Dr. Christopher Wolfe graduated Summa Cum Laude in 2008 from NSUOCO. As a student, he served as president of the American Optometric Student Association, representing more than 6,000 members. Dr. Wolfe continues to lead by example, making many contributions that led to his AOA nomination for 2017 Optometrist of the Year. He is a member of the American Optometric Association, the Nebraska Optometric Association, the co-founder of KMK Board Certification Review Services, provides lectures across the country at optometry schools, and participates in Optometry Giving Sight. Dr. Wolfe works alongside his father in their practice

Exclusively Eyecare in Nebraska. He is also a provider for the InfantSee® program. Thank you, Dr. Wolfe, for your continued service and commitment to the optometric profession!



C. Kelly Olson, O.D., M.B.A., FAAO

Nominated for the AOA's 2017 Optometrist of the Year award, Dr. Kelly Olson received his bachelor's degree at Southern Utah University. He then went on to earn an O.D. degree from Southern California College of Optometry; he was an Optometry Resident at Northeastern State University from 2012-2014 where he also received his Master of Business Administration.

Dr. Olson is currently a Major in the United States Army. He is the director of the Residency Program and Director of Optometry at Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC), at Fort Sam Houston, Texas. Prior to being assigned to BAMC, Dr. Olson

served at Evans Army Hospital, Fort Carson, Colorado; and at Irwin Army Hospital, Fort Riley, Kansas. He also completed a combat tour in Iraq in 2005 - 2006. He holds a number of military honors and distinctions, including the Meritorious Service Medal. Thank you for your service, Dr. Olson!



Jason Rhynes, O.D.

Dr. Jason K. Rhynes has roots that run deep in Durant and southern Oklahoma. He is a 2002 NSUOCO Alumnus and served as his class president all four years of optometry school. Upon graduation, he was awarded best overall graduating student and was presented an award for demonstrating excellence in patient care. Dr. Rhynes was in the first group of doctors to be Board Certified as a Diplomat of the American Board of Optometry in 2011. In 2016, he was named Optometric Physician of the Year and currently serves on the Medical Advisory Committee for OHCA. In 2017, he is among the outstanding optometrists nominated for the 2017 Optometrist of the Year through the American Optometric Association. Thank you, Dr. Rhynes, for your work

in serving Oklahoma and advancing the optometry profession!

Alumni News



Jason Rogers, O.D.

Dr. Jason Rogers is a 1995 graduate of Northeastern State University Oklahoma College of Optometry. He was a President of the Kansas Optometric Association and is a member of the Contact Lens Section of the AOA, the Heart of America Contact Lens Society and a board member of the Eye Care Council. He is also American Board of Optometry Certified. In 2004, he received the Distinguished Service Award from the Kansas Optometric Association. In 2005, he received the Outstanding Young Optometrist Award. Dr. Rogers was recently nominated for AOA's 2017 Optometrist of the Year award. Thank you, Dr. Rogers, for all your years of service to optometry.



Jeffrey Gamble, O.D.

Dr. Jeff Gamble is among the outstanding Optometrists nominated for AOA's 2017 Optometrist of the Year award. Dr. Gamble is a native of Columbia, Missouri and graduated from NSUOCO in 2002. Dr. Gamble has been practicing as a second generation optometrist aside his father, Dr. James Gamble, for over 13 years. He enjoys serving his profession and his patients through active leadership in the Missouri Optometric Association. Thank you for all you do for the optometric profession!



Nolan Riley Jr., O.D.

After graduating from Northeastern State University Oklahoma College of Optometry in 2006, Dr. Riley joined the team at The Vision Center of West Texas. He holds the highest level of licensure to practice optometry granted by the Texas Optometry Board. He currently is the only Developmental Optometrist serving the panhandle, West Texas and Eastern New Mexico, treating patients with vision therapy for learning conditions. Dr. Riley is a nominee for the 2017 AOA Young Optometrist of the Year award. Congratulations and thank you for all your service in the optometry profession.

SHARE YOUR NEWS!

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Optic Cup Update

NSUOCO's Optometric Student Association hosted its 30th annual Optic Cup golf tournament Sept. 8th at Cherokee Springs Golf Course in Tahlequah. More than 48 participants enjoyed the tournament. Many of the participants attended the weekend's continuing education events as well.

Golfers paid a \$90 registration fee for green fees, a cart, beverages, lunch, a T-shirt and prizes. Hole sponsorships were also available. The tournament began at 8:00 a.m. and was played in a four-person scramble format.

Winners of the tournament left with cash prizes, and competition winners were awarded prize items such as lob wedges, Pro V1 golf balls, gift cards, and free rounds of golf. The first-place team consisted of Cameron Sikes ('17), Oren Sikes, Kyle Sikes, and Grant Sikes. Second place went to Bryce Geiger ('17), Seth Geiger ('17), Blake Rhodes and Michael Geiger ('90). Connor Galentine (OSIV), Erin Shriver, Mike Bryson and Peter Shriver won third place in the tournament. There were many competition winners at this year's Optic Cup.

Jordan Mayhew, fourth-year NSUOCO student and coordinator of the tournament, said, "The Optic Cup was a smashing success this year. I heard nothing but positive feedback from everyone. The weather was absolutely perfect that Saturday, and I hope everyone had a great time."

All funds raised through the tournament will assist students in attending the Optometry's Meeting that is to be held in Denver 2018.

Be watching for more details about the upcoming 31st annual Optic Cup golf tournament in 2018. Feel free to email Brad Daniel (daniel04@nsuok.edu) with questions or for more information. Thank you to all who participated!





Last year's participants lined up awaiting the start of the race. Even a cold, dreary morning couldn't stop them from coming!

Dr. Preston Smith 5K Memorial Run

For several years, NSUOCO has hosted its annual Dr. Preston Smith 5K Memorial Run in remembrance of Preston Smith, a fourth-year student who passed away in an automobile accident in 2011.

Preston was born in Joplin, Missouri in 1985 and graduated from Baxter Springs High School in Kansas in 2004 as Valedictorian of his class. He attended Missouri Southern State University and graduated Summa Cum Laude in May of 2008 with a biology major and chemistry minor. While at NSUOCO, he served as president of the Fellowship of Christian Optometrists and Practice Management clubs.

The 5K run is held in April each year and is open to all. The race is a friendly competition to run or walk. All proceeds go toward a scholarship in his name, awarded to an NSUOCO student who is going above and beyond academically, clinically, and spiritually.

If you have questions about this event, feel free to contact Colton Cheek at cheek@nsuok.edu. Be watching for more information about the upcoming 5K in April 2018. Come out, have fun, and help us celebrate the life of Preston Smith, someone who was and is still very dear to all of our hearts here at NSUOCO!



Nix Foundation Donation Benefits Vision Therapy

NSUOCO Assistant Professor Dr. Sarah Krein states, “Having this Vivid Vision unit here at NSUOCO means our patients have access to the latest and most advanced amblyopia treatment system available.”

Thanks to a generous donation from the Nix Foundation, the NSUOCO Vision Therapy program received a cutting-edge, virtual-reality system, Vivid Vision, this summer. This hardware aids in the correction of amblyopia (lazy eye), strabismus (misalignment of eye) disorders, and accommodation

(focusing) disorders. According to NSU Foundation Director, Peggy Glenn, “The Nix Foundation’s continued passion for helping children and adults in northeastern Oklahoma with vision issues is greatly appreciated and will have a positive impact on the type of vision care available at the Oklahoma College of Optometry.”

The Nix Foundation is a charitable organization founded by the Nix family. Their interest in eye care and ocular health comes from the visual impairments caused by improperly administered eye drops after the birth of Mildred Jordan Nix and her twin, Callie Jordan Stinson, in 1910. The organization focuses on gifting resources to areas in health care, research, treatment, training and education scholarships to the communities in which they serve.

Expressing her excitement for the possibilities this equipment offers, NSUOCO Assistant Professor Dr. Sarah Krein states, “Having this Vivid Vision unit here at NSUOCO means our patients have access to the latest and most advanced

amblyopia treatment system available. This equipment is providing a fun, virtual, interactive activity for patients, and it allows the doctors to have better control over the patient’s experience during therapy. This technology is so beneficial, even adult patients with amblyopia are showing visual improvements after working with the Vivid Vision.”

“The Nix Foundation donation means the vision therapy doctors—Dr. Sarah Krein, Dr. Emily Bruce, and Dr. Alissa Proctor—are able to offer the latest and greatest therapy to their vision therapy patients.” NSUOCO is excited to see this equipment continue to enhance the quality of its Vision Therapy program.



New Look for Vision Therapy

Vision Therapy at the NSUOCO clinic has a new look! Changes include:

- » Opened up the space and gave a bright, fresh look with bright blues, greens and yellows
- » Added a soft, sound dampening foam floor covering
- » Welcomed the addition of the brand new Vivid Vision equipment

According to Dr. Sarah Krein, Vision Therapy professor, "We have reorganized our space, and the room looks very different. The paint and flooring make it so friendly and inviting. There is a renewed enthusiasm from both our patients and clinicians. A huge thank you to everyone who had a hand in the update. I had a lot of great help putting this clinic space together." We are excited for the advancements being made in this program!

There is a renewed enthusiasm from both our patients and clinicians.

- Dr. Sarah Krein, Vision Therapy professor



Faculty, staff, and students wore World Sight Day shirts both from this year and past years' fundraising events on October 5 to bring awareness to the cause. The 2017 shirt color is yellow.

World Sight Day

Each year, NSUOCO holds fundraisers to help raise money and awareness for World Sight Day. World Sight Day is an annual day of awareness held on the second Thursday of October, this year falling on October 12. This day is dedicated to global attention on preventable blindness and vision impairment.

Celebrating this cause a week early to accommodate the Academy meeting in

Chicago, NSUOCO students, faculty, staff and community members participated in several fundraisers during the week of October 2-6. Kick-starting the week was the annual Bake Sale, displaying a tempting spread of sweet treats, all donations from the NSUOCO family.

T-Shirts were sold before the festivities began. All wore shirts purchased either this year or from previous years on Thursday,

October 5. Later that evening was the week's fun and most challenging event: Dinner in the Dark.

During Dinner in the Dark, participants are blindfolded and then escorted to their seats in a dark room to eat their meal. Following the meal is a modified version of Braille Bingo, omitting Braille characters and using shapes and domino numbers instead. To increase the fun, generous local businesses donated products to be used as Bingo and door prizes, including gift certificates to El Molcajete, Buffalo Wild Wings, and Presley's Burgers and a pair of Silver Dollar City tickets.

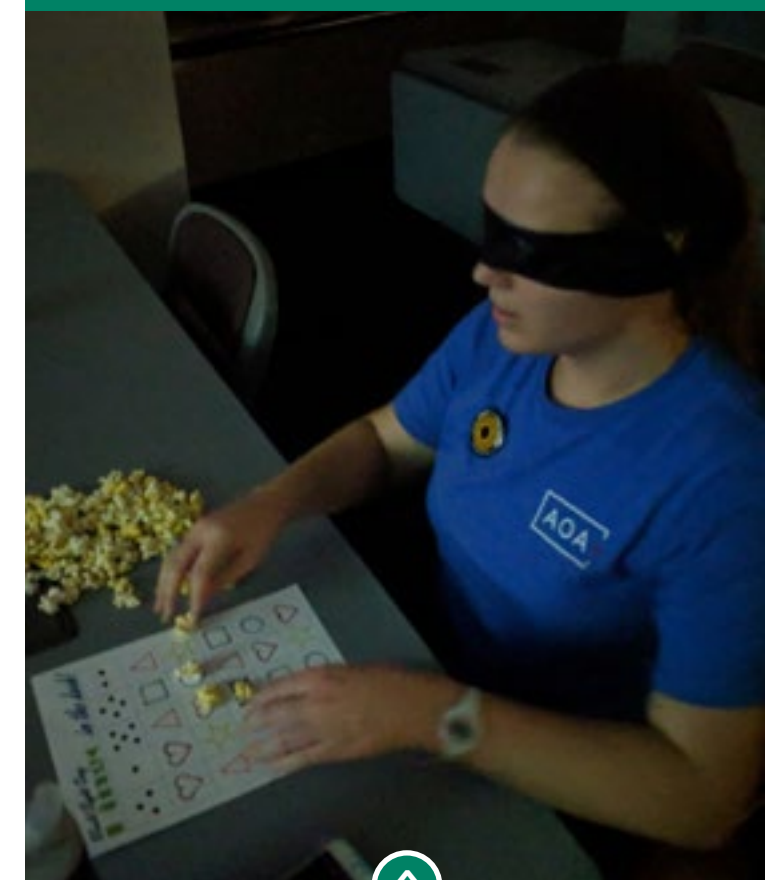
A total of \$576.68 was raised and donated to the organization Our Children's Vision, an initiative to help children who are living without access to the eye care and glasses they need.

We plan to host similar events again next year, and anyone is welcome to attend Dinner in the Dark. If that is not possible, you can donate directly to the World Sight Day fund by visiting the World Sight Day website at <http://www.givingsight.org/giving/world-sight-day-challenge.html>. This year we had 42 students and 12 non-optometry participants.

For more information about next year's Dinner in the Dark event, contact Sahab Astani at astani@nsuok.edu.



Participants first fixed their plates and were then blindfolded and escorted to their seats to eat and play Braille Bingo.



Bingo cards are composed of shapes and domino numbers; popcorn makes for a tasty marker.

SVOSH Team Travels to Roatán, Honduras



This summer, the NSUOCO SVOSH (Student Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity) chapter travelled to Roatán, Honduras to provide optometric services. The 'OCO chapter has been serving Roatán since 2009, going there every summer since 2011, usually in late July or early August. They are also currently working to add a second trip, possibly in December 2018.

SVOSH is a student chapter of VOSH International, and each chapter continually provides a specific location(s) with optometric services. Though NSUOCO's specific site is Roatán, SVOSH members

are encouraged to join any other SVOSH or VOSH clinic trips to other locations (vosh.org). Members are also encouraged to participate in other service events, such as the Special Olympics, Bedlam clinic, and the Hispanic Health Fair. Currently, the NSUOCO SVOSH chapter has 51 members. There are 22 North American SVOSH Chapters and 24 other global chapters, totaling an estimated 2,000 SVOSH members internationally.

This past summer, a team of 19 travelled to Roatán, including 17 current NSUOCO students, faculty member Dr. Alissa Proctor (SVOSH advisor) and Dr. Phillip Ford, an

NSUOCO alumnus ('15). Dr. Jamie Dunn (2010 NSUOCO alumnus) also planned to be part of the team but had last minute travel difficulties that would not permit her to attend.

Eye care is provided over four days (Monday through Thursday). In 2017, during the first three days, the clinic was located at a church in Coxen Hole. There, stations for specific parts of the exam were performed, and patients traveled from one station to the next until they completed a comprehensive exam. Lastly, the best-fit prescription, plano sunglasses, and necessary eye drops were dispensed to each patient. On the last day, Thursday, the team traveled to the community of Oak Ridge to care for the residents there. This community is on the other side of the island where there is less tourism and more poverty, so residents often are unable to travel to Coxen Hole for care.

Throughout the year, a variety of fundraisers are hosted to help support the upcoming trip, including fall and summer garage sales, a cornhole board raffle at the 5-State Symposium (scheduled on February 17, 2018 for this upcoming year), lapel pin sales at the White Coat Ceremony, luncheon presentations each semester, and new this year, a T-shirt sale. The McCabe endowment continues to support optometric mission trips at NSUOCO as well as other corporate contributions.

Donations from various companies, family members, and friends are also accepted.

If you are interested in supporting the NSUOCO SVOSH chapter, monetary donations are greatly appreciated. They also accept donated glasses (prescription, reading, or sunglasses, as well as frames and uncut lenses), quality items for the garage sales, and optometric equipment, like tonopens, trial lens kits and much more. Most importantly, though, they ask for support of their mission.

As current NSUOCO SVOSH President, Rachel Gilliland, says, "Having people support and appreciate the work that we are doing means a lot! We love seeing all of the people that come to our fundraising events...and sharing stories and pictures from our latest trip." If you want to get involved but are not sure the best way, please do not hesitate to contact SVOSH.

For more information, feel free to contact SVOSH at nsuco@svoshinternational.org or contact faculty advisor Dr. Alissa Proctor at proctor1@nsuok.edu. SVOSH NSUOCO would love to have you join one of the trips! Also, follow SVOSH NSUOCO on Facebook and Instagram ([nsuoco_svosh](https://www.facebook.com/nsuoco_svosh)) to stay connected and see all upcoming events. Finally, check out the NSUOCO website for pictures and past trip videos at optometry.nsuok.edu/CurrentStudents/ServiceLearning. Thank you for your support!

Faculty News



NSUOCO Faculty 2017-2018

First Row - Emily Bruce, April Parker, Saunya Burkhart, Kippi Wyatt, Dean Douglas Penisten, Andrew Young, Heidi Thoden, Tara Brown
 Second Row - Earlena McKee, Latricia Pack, Neal Whittle, Jessica White, Jonathan Janzen, Jenna Lighthizer, Matthew Krein, Alissa Proctor
 Third Row - Nathan Lighthizer, Bret Seamons, Alan McKee, John Lindsay, Jonathan Hatley, Sarah Krein, Joseph Shetler
 Fourth Row - Richard Castillo, David Simpson, Spencer Johnson, Ryan Fenska, Brent Roberts, Jari Frazier, Bryan Young
 Not Pictured - Leland Carr, Jeff Miller

NSUOCO Faculty

Dr. Tara Brown

Assistant Professor /
 Director of Residencies

Dr. Emily Bruce

Assistant Professor

Dr. Saunya Burkhart

Clinical Assistant
 Professor

Dr. Leland Carr

Assistant Dean of
 Development / Professor

Dr. Richard Castillo

Ophthalmologist /
 Assistant Dean for
 Surgical Training and
 Education

Faculty News

Dr. Wesley DeRosier

Professor

Dr. Ryan Fenska

Clinical Assistant
 Professor / Clinical
 Administrator

Dr. Jari Frazier

Assistant Professor

Dr. Jonathan Hatley

Assistant Professor

Dr. Jonathan Janzen

Assistant Professor

Dr. Spencer Johnson

Associate Professor

Dr. Matthew Krein

Assistant Professor

Dr. Sarah Krein

Assistant Professor

Dr. Jenna Lighthizer

Associate Professor

Dr. Nathan Lighthizer

Associate Professor
 / Assistant Dean for
 Clinical Care Services /
 Director of Continuing
 Education

Dr. John Lindsay

Clinical Assistant
 Professor

Dr. Alan McKee

Professor

Dr. Earlena McKee

Professor

Dr. Jeffrey Miller

Professor

Dr. Latricia Pack

Professor

Dr. April Parker

Clinical Assistant
 Professor

Dr. Douglas Penisten

Dean of College /
 Professor

Dr. Alissa Proctor

Associate Professor

Dr. Brent Roberts

Clinical Assistant
 Professor

Dr. Bret Seamons

Clinical Assistant
 Professor

Dr. Joseph Shetler

Assistant Professor /
 Clinic Chief

Dr. David Simpson

Assistant Professor

Dr. Nicole Stout

Clinical Assistant
 Professor

Dr. Heidi Thoden

Clinical Associate
 Professor

Dr. Jessica White

Clinical Assistant
 Professor

Dr. Neal Whittle

Assistant Professor

Dr. Kippi Wyatt

Associate Dean

Dr. Andrew Young

Clinical Assistant
 Professor

Dr. Bryan Young

Clinical Assistant
 Professor

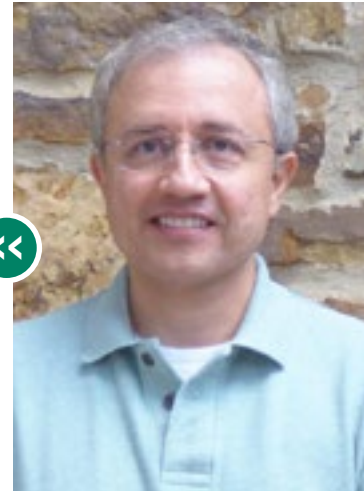


Dr. Neal Whittle

In July, Dr. Neal Whittle attended the Summer Institute for Faculty Development (SIFD) in St. Louis, MO. The SIFD is put on by the Association of Schools and Colleges in Optometry (ASCO) every two years. The goals of the SIFD include: "To provide participants with an opportunity to gain the necessary knowledge and skills to enhance their success in an optometric academic environment as lifelong productive faculty, thus contributing to increased retention of faculty in the schools and colleges of optometry."

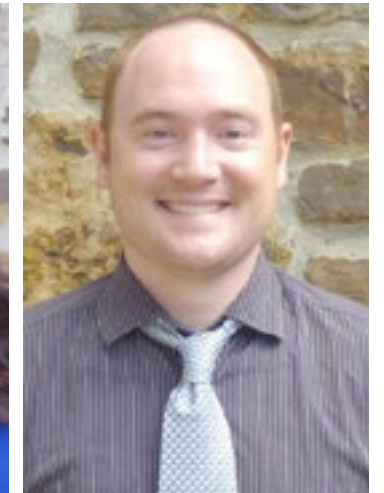
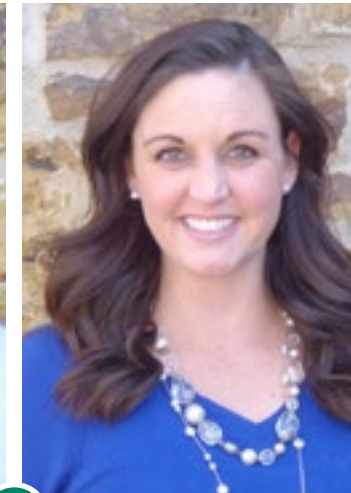
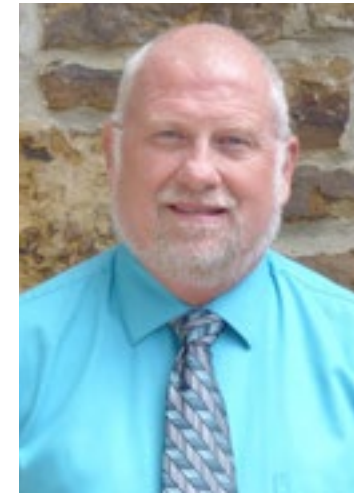
Richard E. Castillo

This summer, Richard E. Castillo, OD, DO, NSUOCO ophthalmologist, assistant Dean and Chief of Surgical Services, participated in a conference call with members of the National Board of Examiners in Optometry to move forward the implementation of a national examination covering laser and surgical procedures for optometrists. Approximately 6 states now allow several thousand optometrists to perform laser and/or surgical procedures nationally. He also travelled to Salus University in Pennsylvania along with the NSUOCO Advanced Procedures team to lecture and hold workshops over lasers, surgery, and other advanced optometric procedures. In addition, during the AOA Optometry's Meeting in Washington D.C., he met with fellow members of the AOA's Surgical Curriculum Project Team to review and present the committee's recommendations.



Dr. Alan McKee and Dr. Latricia Pack

Dr. Alan McKee and Dr. Latricia Pack attended the Association of Optometric Contact Lens Educators (AOCLE) Annual Workshop at the University of Missouri - St. Louis College of Optometry from June 1-June 3, 2017. The emphasis of the workshop was scleral contact lens education. Two contact lens educators from each of the 25 schools/colleges of optometry in the United States, Canada, and Puerto Rico were invited to attend the workshop.



Dr. Joseph Shetler, Dr. Matthew Krein, Dr. Sarah Krein, and Dr. Nathan Lighthizer

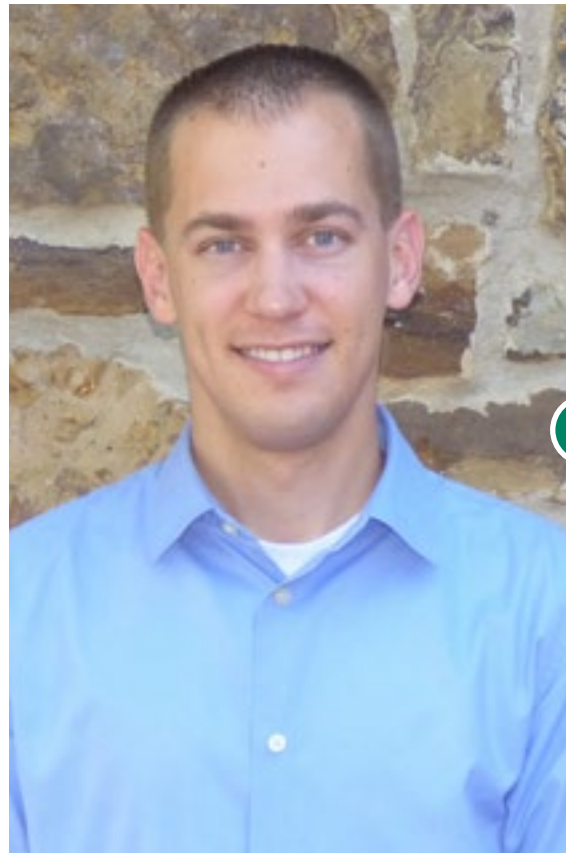
Dr. Joseph Shetler, Dr. Matthew Krein, Dr. Sarah Krein, and Dr. Nathan Lighthizer presented at the Primary Care Update Continuing Education Meeting in Tahlequah on September 9 and 10. Topics included advanced therapeutic procedures, pediatric therapeutic prescribing, interpreting diagnostic equipment and judicious prescribing.

Nathan Lighthizer O.D., F.A.A.O.

Dr. Nathan Lighthizer, O.D., F.A.A.O., is a graduate of Pacific University College of Optometry. Upon graduation, he completed a residency in Family Practice Optometry with an emphasis in Ocular Disease through Northeastern State University Oklahoma College of Optometry. Dr. Lighthizer has since joined the faculty at the Oklahoma College of Optometry and serves as the Chief of Specialty Care Clinics and the Chief of Electrodiagnostics Clinic. He also serves as the Director of Continuing Education as well as the Clinic Director at the Oklahoma College of Optometry. Dr. Lighthizer lectures nationally and internationally on numerous topics, most notably advanced ophthalmic procedures, electrodiagnostics, and ocular disease. Congratulations, Dr. Lighthizer, on your AOA 2017 Young Optometrist of the Year nomination!



New Faculty



Dr. Jonathan Janzen

A recent 2017 NSUOCO graduate, Dr. Jonathan Janzen, has joined the faculty team as an Assistant Professor, teaching all the research courses and Vision Science II lab, helping students with research design and analysis, and overseeing students in clinic for adult and pediatric primary eye care and walk-in acute care. Dr. Janzen received his undergraduate degree in Chemistry from Northeastern State University in 2012. After having a positive experience as a student here, Dr. Janzen was eager to join the team: "I loved how the doctors treated the students with respect. They were always very helpful and eager to teach. I have known for awhile that I would like to teach, and I wanted to stay in the Tahlequah area, so this was a perfect fit!" Dr. Janzen enjoys the collaboration of interesting cases with other faculty members and working with and teaching students. In his spare time, he likes being with his family, drinking coffee, having bonfires, star gazing, and thinking about space travel.



New Faculty



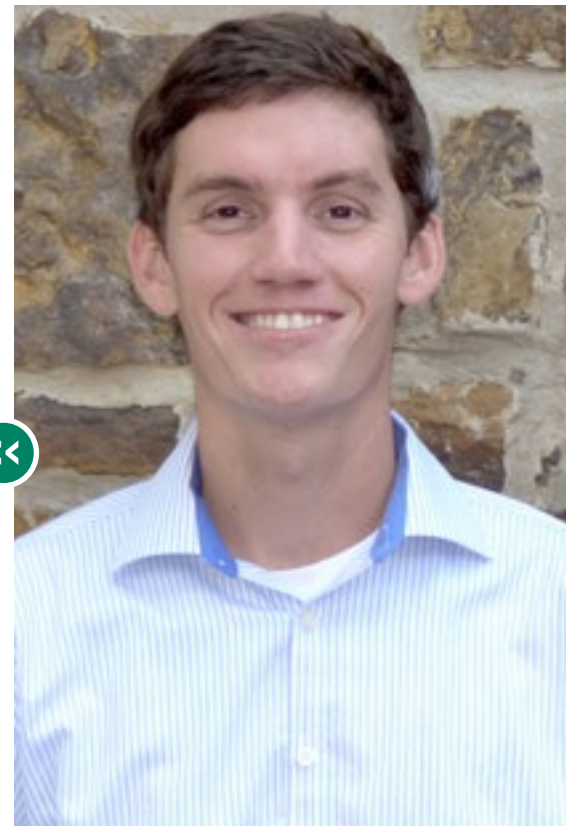
Dr. Jessica White

Dr. Jessica White is new to the NSUOCO faculty team. Dr. White works as a Clinical Assistant Professor in our Salina Clinic. She received her bachelor's degree in cellular biology from Northeastern State University in 2012 and is one of our recent 2017 optometry graduates. Enjoying her time as a student here, she was excited to continue to be part of the NSUOCO family: "My favorite part of my job at NSUOCO is how unique of an opportunity it is. I am able to work in an educational setting as well as see patients of my own." In her spare time, Dr. White enjoys spending time with her family and barrel racing.



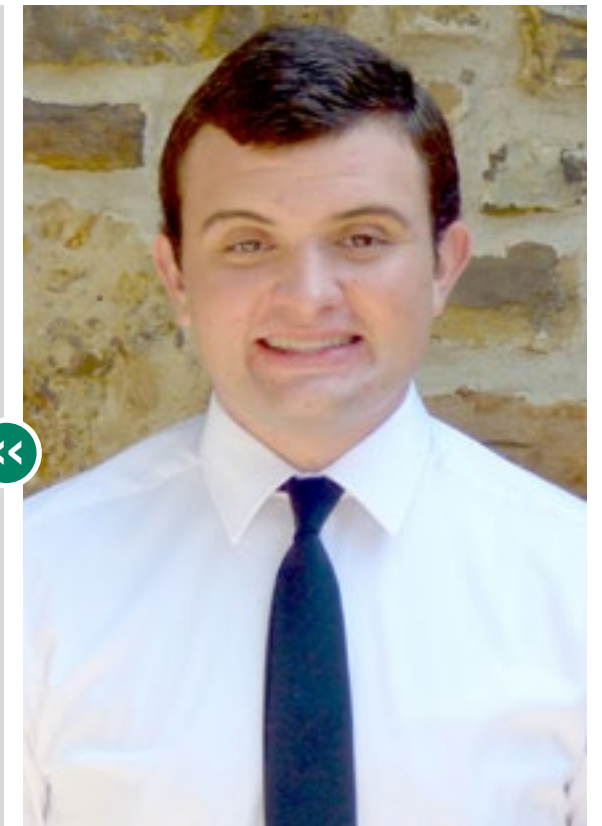
Dr. Brent Roberts

Dr. Brent Roberts is a new addition to the NSUOCO faculty as Clinical Assistant Professor. His duties include seeing patients and overseeing students in the rural eye clinics. After receiving his bachelor's degree in chemistry from Northeastern State University, Dr. Roberts attended and later graduated from NSUOCO in 2017. When asked why he chose to continue his optometric journey with us, he responded, "It has felt like being with family since I got here. I can't imagine anything more rewarding than taking care of the sight and ocular health of the citizens of Cherokee Nation while also getting to teach and interact with the brightest students of the field." In his spare time, he enjoys spending time with his family and fiancé, Hannah, as well as their two dogs, Sugar and Duke, and one cat, Milo. You might also find him on the tennis courts or ultimate Frisbee field. Welcome, Dr. Roberts!



Dr. Andrew Young

Dr. Andrew Young joined the NSUOCO faculty this year after graduating from NSUOCO in May 2017, working as a Clinical Assistant Professor at the Sam Hider Community Health Center in Jay, Oklahoma. Excited to continue his journey with us, Young states, "NSUOCO offers the unique opportunity to both serve the Cherokee people and train future optometry graduates." Welcome, Dr. Young!



Student News



White Coat Ceremony

On November 3, NSUOCO held its 13th annual White Coat Ceremony for the current second year class in the Webb Auditorium on the NSU Tahlequah campus. The White Coat Ceremony is held in recognition of the students' progressing in their four-year optometric education from classroom to clinic. The presentation of the clinical coat officially welcomes the students into their clinical education, which they will begin in January.

The coats, which are embroidered with each student's name, were presented to the students by two faculty members, Dr. Jonathan Hatley and Dr. David Simpson. Approximately 250 friends, family members, and faculty members attended the ceremony.

The following second-year students were recognized at the ceremony:

Sahab Astani	Aaron Dale Johnson	Madison M. Rhodes
Christian Bussey	Kathryn Elizabeth Kubiak	Maria Jessica Rivera
Frank E. Button	Wamika Kumar	Lauren P. Rowland
William Colton Cheek	Sawyer Lee	Morgan Schaller
Bibin Cherian	Emily J. McBee	Ryan Tyler Swindell
Jeffrey Brock Cherry	Elizabeth McCrackin	Lisa Tomasu
William Ebke	Kristen Nichole Moore	Jesse James Wald
Nigenda Nyla Griffin	Arika Lynne Nelson	
Neil Hecker	Roshan Patel	
Brock William Helfrich	Haley Ruth Rasp	

Student News



Welcome, Class of 2021!

Alexopoulos, Lykourgos (Lukas); Fort Worth, TX	Gray, John; Miami, OK
Atchley, Payton; Duncan, OK	Gurley, Derek; Ada, OK
Bellamy, Jacob; Anadarko, OK	Kellogg, Trenton; Fairland, OK
Black, Hayden; Henryetta, OK	Loughlin, Christine; Tulsa, OK
Burnett, Bailey; Russellville, AR	Oh, Joshua; Moore, OK
Claunch, Tyler; Wagoner, OK	O'Neal (Goodknight), Tarah; Princeton, MO
Cloud, Payden; Ponca City, OK	Pantoja, Joana; Oklahoma City, OK
Coburn, James (Alex); Muskogee, OK	Sanders, Hannah; Morrison, OK
Comingdeer Fields, Tara; Kansas, OK	Schmidt, Brody; Broken Arrow, OK
Cook, Kayla; Guthrie, OK	Sparacino, Ann Marie; Salina, KS
Flaig, Kristina; Central High, OK	Warlick, Paige; Muskogee, OK
Fleming, Jordan; Vinita, OK	Weber, Brianna; Derby, KS
Friday, Camille; Lamar, MO	Weise, Karli; Jansen, NE
Goss (Morin), Chelsey; Lawton, OK	Zachry, Curtis; Texarkana, TX

Ocular Nutrition Club

Coming soon to NSUOCO is a new student organization, the Ocular Nutrition Club - an affiliate of the Ocular Wellness and Nutrition Society. This new student organization will promote nutrition and healthy lifestyle choices and help students incorporate these practices into patient care and education. We're hoping to begin holding meetings and events in the Spring of 2018. We will be bringing in guest speakers, such as dietitians and OD's with experience in nutrition and tips on patient education.

Student News



Optometric Oath

Every year the incoming class recites the following Optometric Oath, signifying their dedication to the profession and their future patients.

With full deliberation I freely and solemnly pledge that:

I will practice the art of science of optometry faithfully and conscientiously, and to the fullest scope of my competence.

I will uphold and honorably promote by example and action the highest standards, ethics and ideals of my chosen profession and the honor of the degree, Doctor of Optometry, which has been granted to me.

I will provide professional care for those who seek my services, with concern, with compassion and with due regard for their human rights and dignity.

I will place the treatment of those who seek my care above personal gain and strive to see that none shall lack for proper care.

I will hold as privileged and inviolable all information entrusted to me in confidence by my patients.

I will advise my patients fully and honestly of all which may serve to restore, maintain or enhance their vision and general health.

I will strive continuously to broaden my knowledge and skills so that my patients may benefit from all new and efficacious means to enhance the care of human vision.

I will share information cordially and unselfishly with my fellow optometrists and other professionals for the benefit of patients and the advancement of human knowledge and welfare.

I will do my utmost to serve my community, my country and mankind as a citizen as well as an optometrist.

I hereby commit myself to be steadfast in the performance of this solemn oath and obligation.

We have great confidence in these individuals and look forward to seeing where they take the profession in the future!

Student News

Surgery Club

New to NSUOCO this past fall, the Surgery Club is a student organization established to provide optometry students with an opportunity to gain additional knowledge in the areas of Optometric office-based surgery and advanced procedures, Optometric lasers, and Optometric office-based anesthesia. In addition, Surgery Club will also provide students with the opportunity to interface with surgical faculty and staff. Events can range from lunch-and-learn meetings and presentations, guest lectures and case presentations to wet labs. Additional activities can include investigating surgical technology, meeting with industry representatives, and discussing credentialing and certification issues at the state and national (eg., NBEO) level. The faculty advisor is Dr. Richard Castillo and the current student president is Seth Laster (OSIII).



NSUOCO Optometry Students with Dean Emeritus George Foster, OD at the NSUOCU Surgery Club inaugural meeting. This is the first such organization anywhere in the United States.

We Need Your Updated Contact Information!

In order to better maintain our records, please consider updating your contact information using the following Google form: <https://goo.gl/misHrU>. Thank you!

