



Destination Chicago

GET READY FOR THE JOINT MEETING

PART THREE OF SIX

BEAT THE CLOCK

■ Register Now

Aug. 8 is the Early Registration fee deadline for both Subspecialty Day (Nov. 9-10) and the Joint Meeting of the Academy and the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology (Nov. 10-13).

Missed the Aug. 8 deadline? If you miss the Early Registration deadline, you can still register online before you leave for Chicago. The fees will increase if you wait to register onsite.

Have your materials mailed to you. If you register by Sept. 19, you can have your badge and meeting materials delivered by mail.

The easiest way to register is to visit www.aao.org/2012.

■ Prepare Your Travel Plans

Don't leave plane tickets, car rentals, and hotel reservations until the last minute. Work with the Academy's official travel company (Association Travel Concepts) and official housing company (Expovision) to get the lowest fares and the best rental car discounts as well as to review available hotels and book rooms.

Find contact information for these companies and make reservations online. Go to www.aao.org/2012 and select "Hotels and Travel." Information about ground transportation, such as taxis and shuttle buses, is also available there.



■ **2012 ORBITAL GALA—A FUN NIGHT AT THE FIELD MUSEUM.** On Sunday, Nov. 11, from 6 to 10 p.m., the Academy Foundation invites you to join your friends and colleagues for dinner and cocktails in the company of Sue (above), the Field Museum's iconic 67-million-year-old Tyrannosaurus rex.

Place a bid in the silent auction. Bid for one-of-a-kind items, world-class wines, vacations, and ophthalmic equipment—including a four-night stay at the Grand Wailea on Maui and an Optos OCT SLO system—at this year's auction. (If you want to donate an item to the auction, e-mail kduke@aao.org.)

See the exhibits (not the crowds). Enjoy a panoramic view of evolutionary history as you take a 4-billion-year journey through the Evolving Planet exhibit. Then prepare to be dazzled in the Grainger Hall of Gems, featuring hundreds of gems, such as the famous 5,890-carat Chalmers topaz, plus 150 pieces of jewelry.

Help sustain important programs. The Orbital Gala is a fun way to fund Academy programs that support education, quality-of-care research, and public service.

Buy tickets online. Visit www.fao.org to learn more and purchase tickets.

■ Dining in Chicago—Plan Ahead and Book Early

Chicago is home to many famous restaurants, but it can be difficult to get reservations if you wait too long. Visit www.aao.org/2012 and click "Chicago"

to review lists of recommended restaurants, then click "Open Table" to make a reservation.

Or check out the food trucks scene. Visit www.aao.org/2012 to find a Twitter feed that tracks the trucks.

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AAO • APO
NOVEMBER 10-13

SUBSPECIALTY DAY

■ Seven Subspecialty Day Meetings to Explore

This year's Subspecialty Day features seven meetings.

A pair of two-day meetings.

The Refractive Surgery meeting and the Retina meeting will take place on Friday, Nov. 9, and Saturday, Nov. 10.

Five one-day meetings. The Cornea, Glaucoma, Oculofacial Plastic Surgery, Pediatric Ophthalmology, and Uveitis meetings will take place on Saturday, Nov. 10.

Explore all seven meetings. If you register for one of the Saturday-only meetings, you may attend any Subspecialty Day session that takes place on that day. If you register for a two-day meeting, you also can attend any of Friday's Subspecialty Day sessions.

Explore the exhibit hall. On Saturday, you can enter the exhibit hall by showing your Subspecialty Day badge. (Starting on Sunday, you will need a Joint Meeting badge.)

■ Subspecialty Day Previews: Part One

This month, program directors from the Cornea, Glaucoma, Refractive Surgery, and Uveitis meetings preview some of this year's highlights.

See next month's *EyeNet* to learn what's hot at the Oculofacial Plastic Surgery, Pediatric Ophthalmology, and Retina meetings.

■ CORNEA 2012—Pushing Surgical Boundaries, Professional Development, and Popular Opinion. *Where:* Grand Ballroom S100ab. *When:* Saturday, Nov. 10, from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. *Program directors:* Anthony J. Aldave, MD, Natalie A. Afshari, MD, and Kathryn A. Colby, MD, PhD.

"It is an exciting time to be a cornea specialist, and this year's Cornea Subspecialty Day meeting reflects that," said program director Kathryn A. Colby, MD, PhD. "Over the last 10 years, the field of cornea has seen a revolution in the surgical options available to us. Lamellar surgery now allows more



linking offers an option for prevention of keratoconus progression." These techniques will be the focus of several lively presentations, including a special lecture on the future of cross-linking delivered by this year's Dohlman Lecturer: Theo Seiler, MD, PhD.

Advancements in treatment of various ocular surface diseases from blepharitis and dry eye to malignant conjunctival tumors will also be reviewed.

This year's meeting will feature a new section on professional development that includes tips for getting papers published, the ethics of adopting new surgical techniques, and career development advice from experts in both private practice and academic ophthalmology. "We look forward to a stimulating day and encourage all those interested in cornea and external disease to attend the meeting," said Dr. Colby.

This meeting is organized in conjunction with the Cornea Society.

■ GLAUCOMA 2012—Managing Challenging Glaucoma Problems: Merging Art and Science. *Where:* Lakeside Center E354. *When:* Saturday, Nov. 10, from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. *Program directors:* Wallace L. M. Alward, MD, and Thomas W. Samuelson, MD.

The goal for this year's Glaucoma Subspecialty Day meeting is to deliver "a lot of clinically relevant information for clinicians and build on the science," said program director Wallace L. M. Alward, MD. "We want both general ophthalmologists and specialists to walk away with new tools, so we worked very hard to get the best speakers from all over the world, and the best moderators to engage these speakers in a meaningful conversation."

Indeed, Dr. Alward and program

focused treatment of corneal disease, with reduced complications and improved outcomes. Keratoprosthesis surgery is now commonplace, and collagen cross-

codirector Thomas W. Samuelson, MD, built in plenty of time for audience response and feedback. For the first time, Glaucoma attendees will be able to text in their questions during the discussion periods. And several of the surgical cases will be presented as point/counterpoint discussions to allow for lively debate.

Highlights include the pathophysiology of glaucomatous vision loss, the latest advances in medical and surgical therapy for glaucoma, and surgical devices and complications. In addition, the Glaucoma meeting will explore and debate the role of the new canal-based, minimally invasive procedures in glaucoma management, especially their use in conjunction with cataract surgery.

This meeting is organized in conjunction with the American Glaucoma Society.

■ REFRACTIVE SURGERY 2012—The Era of Lasers and Lenses. *Where:* Hall B; and on Friday only, free papers will be presented in Grand Ballroom S100ab. *When:* Friday, Nov. 9, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., and Saturday, Nov. 10, from 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. *Program directors:* David R. Hardten, MD, and Michael C. Knorz, MD.

Refractive Surgery Subspecialty Day is not one but two days packed full of sessions for comprehensive ophthalmologists as well as for refractive, cataract, and cornea surgeons. Friday is devoted to the cornea, with morning topics such as LASIK and thin corneas, LASIK and dry eye patients, and corneal inlays versus corneal laser for presbyopia correction—all presented in lively point/counterpoint discussions. This will be followed by several videos highlighting various corneal complications. Corneal cross-linking gets its own section this year, as does presbyopia.

On Saturday, the meeting will reflect the growing interest in lens-based options for refractive surgery, highlighting the refractive aspects of lens-based surgery and how this meshes with cornea-based surgery for clinicians who deal with refractive errors.

"The topics of our Subspecialty Day are both responsive to the current trends in our field, as well as indicators of the direction of our practice over the next five years," said program director David R. Hardten, MD. "We will provide practical guidelines with an eye toward the future."

This is the ISRS Annual Meeting.

■ UVEITIS 2012—The Challenges Continue ... But the Future Is Bright.

Where: Lakeside Center E450. **When:** Saturday, Nov. 10, from 7:50 a.m. to 5:20 p.m. **Program directors:** C. Stephen Foster, MD, and Quan Dong Nguyen, MD, MSc.

This meeting's organizers put tremendous effort into selecting an inter-

national faculty of leading experts in ocular inflammation and uveitis. They will give attendees a dynamic mix of information: from practical guidelines they can take back to their practice to discussions of highly complex diagnoses to insight into the latest drugs. Section topics include pediatric uveitis, treatment-resistant uveitis, and infectious uveitis. "We have designed the program so that almost every section features an interactive case presentation accompanied by panel discussion and audience response," said program director C. Stephen Foster, MD. "We will challenge our attendees to work through some interesting cases."

One of the most exciting sections takes place at the end of the day: Potential New Therapies for Uveitis—Pharmacologic Agents in Development. “This talk will vividly illustrate that we are not in the 1950s anymore,” said Dr. Foster. “We are not stuck in first gear with corticosteroids—we have systemic, injectable, immunodulatory drugs that have the potential to change the way we treat uveitis.”

This meeting is organized in conjunction with the American Uveitis Society.

HALL HIGHLIGHTS

■ Set Aside Time to Visit the Academy Resource Center

For the Academy's latest information and resources, visit the Resource Center (Booth 508), where you can:

- Browse and purchase the best in clinical reference, patient education, and practice management/coding products. Ask about the discount for buying products at the Joint Meeting.
- See demonstrations of the ONE Network, Academy Online Community, EyeWiki, EyeSmart, and OjosSanos, the new Spanish-language patient education website.
- Join or pay dues for the Academy, ISRS, and AAOE.
- Get your coding/reimbursement and PQRS/e-prescribing questions answered.
- Find information on advocacy efforts.
- Film a personalized patient education video.
- Use the Resource Router to e-mail information to yourself or to contact Academy departments.

■ Eat Lunch at Bistro AAO

Bistro AAO will provide fresh and healthy lunch options in the exhibit hall. Visit www.bistroaao.com to review the menu options and, starting Aug. 10, buy lunch tickets.

**Go Online to Visit
the Virtual Exhibition**

If you want to learn about the latest equipment, pharmaceuticals, electronic health record systems, and other essential products and services, there is no better place to do it than the world's largest ophthalmic exhibition, which features more than 500 exhibitors. If you want to make the most of the exhibit hall, it is best to do a bit of advance planning.

Before you leave for Chicago, start preparing a list of exhibitors to visit. Starting in late August, you can visit the Virtual Exhibition and search for exhibitors by company name, booth number, product category, and subspecialty. You can review and print an exhibiting company's profile, including business contacts and product categories, as well as its location in the exhibit hall. By logging in, you can use My Expo to create your plan of action for the exhibit hall (see box).

In Chicago, get help at the Exhibitor Locator Booth (3500). Staff at this centrally located booth will help you search the Virtual Exhibition and then map your way using a large-scale exhibit hall floor plan.



USE THE VIRTUAL EXHIBITION TO PLAN AHEAD.

Go to www.aao.org/2012 and click on "Exhibition" in the navigation bar on the left. Starting in late August, you can create a "My Expo" account by entering your e-mail address and choosing a password. Use My Expo to compile a list of companies that you would like to visit. My Expo will then map a route across the exhibit hall that includes all the vendors that you selected.

■ For a Lively Discussion, Visit the Learning Lounge

The Learning Lounge (Booth 107) is a great place to gather for an interactive, informal, small-group learning experience. You can hear presentations and participate in discussions on the hottest topics at the Joint Meeting, and continue the conversation with your colleagues in a comfortable, relaxed setting.

For more information, visit www.aao.org/learninglounge. When using the online Program Search, select “Learning Lounge” from the drop-down “Event Type” menu.