

# Academy Notebook

NEWS • TIPS • RESOURCES

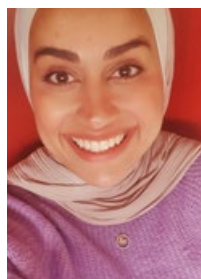
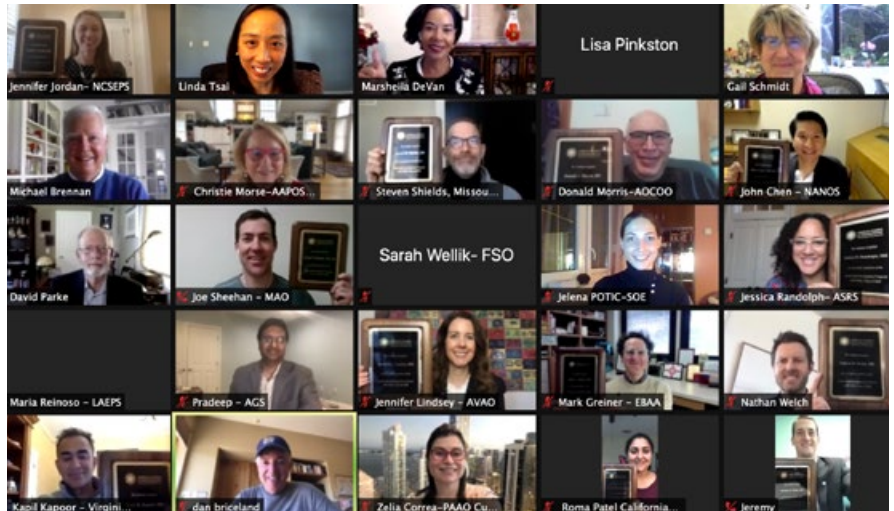
## WHAT'S HAPPENING

### LDP XXII, Class of 2020, Recognized

On Dec. 5, Leadership Development Program (LDP) Director **Linda Tsai, MD**, led the final virtual session for the Academy's LDP XXII, Class of 2020. During the session, Academy CEO **David W. Parke II, MD**, and 2020 President **Anne Coleman, MD, PhD**, discussed challenges and opportunities for the Academy and its partner societies. LDP alum **Christie Morse, MD**, inspired the class by talking about her leadership journey with the Academy and American Association for Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus following her participation in LDP. Four graduates were invited to present their LDP projects, which are meant to benefit the state or subspecialty/specialized interest society that nominated them.

Due to the pandemic, this class wasn't able to meet in person for the last two components of the program. Because of this, the Academy, under Dr. Tsai's leadership, pivoted to hold two virtual sessions to help advance the LDP participants in their leadership journey.

**Class of 2022.** The Academy's LDP XXIII was originally meant to be the Class of 2021. Instead it will be the Class of 2022. Normally, members of



**LDP XXII AND XXIII.** The class members of 2020, LDP XXII (above), hold up their plaques while they are congratulated by Academy leaders. The Academy's class of 2022, LDP XXIII, will include 19 U.S. ophthalmologists and one international ophthalmologist, Dr. Alkilany (left), from Jordan.

the new class would have met for their first session during AAO 2020 and looked forward to a graduation ceremony in conjunction with AAO 2021 in November. However, the Academy decided to defer the start of the program due to the pandemic. Now, LDP XXIII will meet for an orientation session during AAO 2021 in New Orleans, and it is scheduled to conclude with graduation during AAO 2022 in Chicago.

The class has already been selected and consists of 19 ophthalmologists who were nominated by U.S. state and subspecialty societies. It also includes one international ophthalmologist from Jordan, **Mais Alkilany, MD**, who was jointly nominated by the Middle East Africa Council of Ophthalmology and the Jordanian Ophthalmological Society. **Chris Albanis, MD**, has been appointed the role of LDP director, succeeding Dr. Tsai, who completed her term at the end of 2020.

## Big Data: Research Grants Awarded for MDs in Private Practice

In January, the Academy announced grant recipients from two funds: the Knights Templar Eye Foundation (KTEF) Pediatric Ophthalmology Fund and The H. Dunbar Hoskins Jr., MD, Center for Quality Eye Care IRIS Registry Research Fund.

**Two charitable funds that leverage IRIS Registry data.** The KTEF fund supports big data analyses that investigate pediatric eye diseases in order to uncover optimal, real-world approaches to prevention and treatment. The H. Dunbar Hoskins Jr., MD, fund supports clinicians who seek to answer questions that can help improve patient care. Both funds aim to support Academy members in private practice who want to harness the power of the Academy's IRIS Registry to improve their practices and their patients' lives.

**KTEF Pediatric Fund.** The latest grant winners are:



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- **Eric Schneider, MD**, who will identify risk factors for retinopathy of prematurity;
- **Jeffrey J. Tan, MD**, who will work to better understand if starting immunomodulatory therapy in children newly diagnosed with uveitis is effective and can reduce complications; and
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**Apply for the next grants by May 31** at [aao.org/iris-registry/research](http://aao.org/iris-registry/research).

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International contest winners were announced in August 2020.

**Next contest deadlines.** Submit an article at [aao.org/eyewiki](http://aao.org/eyewiki) for the International Ophthalmologists Contest by June 1 or for the U.S. Residents & Fellows Contest by Dec. 1.

## TAKE NOTICE

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Some of you may have been invited to participate in a magazine readership survey conducted by Kantar Media. If you are a fan of *EyeNet*, please participate. Being ranked among the most widely and thoroughly read ophthalmic publications enables the magazine to secure funding for projects that help you in the clinical realm and in your practice.



### Leave a Legacy for Generations to Come

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- Conduct an internal review of the care.
- Determine whether the comments violate the policies of the website where they are posted. If so, ask to have them removed.
- Respond politely: “We appreciate the feedback. We take patient satisfaction seriously. In order to protect our patients’ privacy, we prefer to handle a situation like this offline. Please contact our office.”
- Reach out to the reviewer to respond privately.
- Develop a written social media policy for your practice so that there is a consistent process for responding to reviews.
- Head to OMIC’s Social Media Liability library at [www.omic.com/social-media-liability](http://www.omic.com/social-media-liability) for information and resources that may help you mitigate related exposures.

*OMIC offers professional liability insurance exclusively to Academy members, their employees, and their practices.*

## ACADEMY RESOURCES

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**Explore all the Academy’s MIPS resources.** Visit [aao.org/medicare](http://aao.org/medicare), which is the hub page for a range of ophthalmic-specific MIPS resources. For information on reporting MIPS via the Academy’s IRIS Registry, visit [aao.org/iris-registry](http://aao.org/iris-registry).

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- the rise, fall . . . and rise of private equity and corporatization; and
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By taking an exam, you can test your coding competency, contribute to the financial success of your practice, and receive the national professional recognition you deserve.

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## Financial Fitness Can Contribute to Your Overall Wellness

All month, the Academy will release weekly short informational videos about financial wellness. Planning your financial future can be stressful, and that stress may manifest in physical, emotional, or mental symptoms, and it can detract from a physician's ability to provide quality care to his or her patients. To help Academy members overcome these challenges, video topics will include the basics of managing your finances, action you can take in different phases of your career, growth versus savings, and more.

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- Louisiana, on demand, March 20
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- Washington, virtual, March 11

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AAO 2021 will take place Nov. 12-15 at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center in New Orleans.

In the meantime, the Academy is working to streamline your annual meeting experience and encourage community engagement while supplying the world-class education that you've come to expect from the Academy.

Changes include the following:

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- Ending the meeting at 5:00 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 15—a day earlier than in the past, so that you can get back to your practice sooner.

Look for more news in the coming months at [aao.org/2021](http://aao.org/2021).

## Be Part of AAO 2021

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## International Attendees May Require Visas

If you are traveling to the United States to attend AAO 2021, you may need a visitor visa. There are several steps to apply for and receive a visa, so it is important to start early. To help you obtain travel documents, the Academy offers an online tool that will create a personalized letter of invitation to attend AAO 2021 in New Orleans. Enter your information into the form, then print out or save the letter to your computer.

Find additional information at [aao.org/visa](http://aao.org/visa).

## You Can Still Revisit AAO 2020 Virtual

The live broadcast of AAO 2020 Virtual took place Nov. 13-15, 2020, but if you registered for the meeting you can still view sessions on demand through [aao.org](http://aao.org). Click on "My Online Products" under your name in the upper right corner of your screen, then choose AAO 2020 Virtual in the drop-down menu. These presentations will be available until Oct. 15, and you may continue to claim CME credit until then.

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**For more information**, visit [aao.org/presentercentral](http://aao.org/presentercentral).

## International Attendees May Require Visas

If you are traveling to the United States to attend AAO 2021, you may need a visitor visa. There are several steps to apply for and receive a visa, so it is important to start early. To help you obtain travel documents, the Academy offers an online tool that will create a personalized letter of invitation to attend AAO 2021 in New Orleans. Enter your information into the form, then print out or save the letter to your computer.

**Find additional information** at [aao.org/visa](http://aao.org/visa).

## You Can Still Revisit AAO 2020 Virtual

The live broadcast of AAO 2020 Virtual took place Nov. 13-15, 2020, but if you registered for the meeting you can still view sessions on demand through [aao.org](http://aao.org). Click on "My Online Products" under your name in the upper right corner of your screen, then choose AAO 2020 Virtual in the drop-down menu. These presentations will be available until Oct. 15, and you may continue to claim CME credit until then.

**Learn more** about past meetings at [aao.org/aao-archives](http://aao.org/aao-archives).