

Opinion

BY RICHARD P. MILLS, MD, MPH

Please Allow Me to Introduce Myself

Don't turn that page! Yes, you have come to the Opinion column, where in the past you've found Tom Weingeist's viewpoint. As you may know, Tom is now president of the Academy. If you care to hear from him, you needn't look far: See Outlook (next page), where he discusses

his agenda for the coming year. Tom plans to devote himself wholeheartedly to his presidential duties and, accordingly, has stepped aside to allow a new medical editor to take the helm at *EyeNet Magazine*. I am fortunate to be his successor, and I realize that he has left big shoes to fill.

Nonetheless, I consider myself up to the task thanks to several important qualifications.

I have done a good deal of medical editing. For example, I was chief medical editor of *EyeNet Audio* during its brief but spectacular run and currently serve as the ophthalmology representative in charge of content on the Medem Website. I am a member of the editorial board of the *Journal of Glaucoma*, and for many years, I have been an active referee for the other major peer-reviewed ophthalmic publications, including *Ophthalmology*.

Around the Academy, I've held many positions. Many of you may remember back to 1995 when I served as Academy president. I was Public Information Committee chair (1984 to 1989), secretary for Public and Professional Information (1990 to 1993) and delegate to the AMA (1997 to 2001). Currently,

I am chair of the Bylaws and Rules Committee (since 1997) and chair of the EyeCare America–National Eye Care Project within the Academy's Foundation (since 2000).

I am not viewed as partial to a particular program or subspecialty. After residency, I entered the private practice of comprehensive ophthalmology for 11 years. I became a card-carrying neuro-ophthalmologist and glaucoma specialist, and more recently, I earned a Master of Public Health degree. Because of my diverse clinical experience, I feel strongly that *EyeNet* must continue to address a broad spectrum of subspecialty and professional issues to ensure that you, the reader, receive the latest information on all clinical fronts.

I am enthusiastic about *EyeNet*. Not only will I do my best to write Opinion columns that make your own opinions resonate, but I will also direct the *EyeNet* team to keep you up to date with clinical and practice management pearls. Clinical relevance will be our watchword, and *EyeNet* will reward your trust.

During Tom's tenure, the magazine transformed from the *Argus/Ophthalmology World News* tabloid to the standard-sized *EyeNet* you are reading

now. Echoing the change of physical format, the content moved from a largely socioeconomic and Academy-related publication to a magazine delivering quick and immediately useful clinical information for your practice. While *EyeNet* finished puberty under Tom's direction, like many young adults, the magazine has room for further improvement. Although I bring many of my own ideas about how to do this, I would like to hear from you. Nothing makes *EyeNet* more vital than input from readers. Let us know how *EyeNet* can be improved. Write me at: Richard P. Mills, MD, MPH, *EyeNet Magazine*, AAO, 655 Beach Street, San Francisco, CA 94109, or email me at rpm@uky.edu.



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