



# Destination New Orleans

GET READY FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING PART THREE OF SIX

## BEAT THE CLOCK

### Register Now—Many Fees Increase After Aug. 7

- Aug. 7 is the Early Registration fee deadline for the following events:
- Seven Subspecialty Day meetings (Nov. 15-16)
  - Two AAOE half-day coding meetings (Nov. 16)
  - The Annual Meeting (Nov. 16-19)

**Missed the Aug. 7 deadline?** You can still register, but there will be an increase in many registration fees. Register by Oct. 2 to have your badge and meeting materials mailed to your office or home. From Oct. 3 to Oct. 23, you can still register online but will have to pick up your badge and materials onsite. Fees will increase further if you wait to register onsite.

**How to register.** Go to [www.aao.org/2013](http://www.aao.org/2013).

### Academy Plus—How to Save \$100 on the Course Pass

Academy Plus is a course pass that provides access to all Academy and AAOE instruction courses. Buy it when you register for the Annual Meeting.

If you buy the pass by Aug. 7, it costs \$175; from Aug. 8 to Oct. 23 it costs \$225. The onsite fee is \$275. For Members-in-Training, the pass costs \$100 whenever it is purchased.

Please note: The pass does not provide access to certain events. You need separate tickets for Breakfast With the Experts roundtables, Skills Transfer

### CREATE AND SAVE YOUR PERSONALIZED SCHEDULE.

*“In order to avoid that feeling of being overwhelmed with opportunities, it is critical to plan your trip before you go,” said Maria Aaron, MD, the Annual Meeting’s Associate Secretary for Special Projects. “My advice: Use the Academy’s online Program Search to help you prepare so that your Annual Meeting experience is organized and educationally rewarding.”*

**Go online.** Start planning your schedule at [www.aao.org/programsearch](http://www.aao.org/programsearch). The search fields allow you to look up event information, including abstracts, by presenter, topic, keyword, event number (e.g., “Sym10”), event type (e.g., “Symposia”) or special interest (e.g., “Young Ophthalmologist”). Use the calendar function to keep track of the events you plan to attend.

In October, you also will be able to find this event information through the Mobile Meeting Guide at [www.aao.org/mobile](http://www.aao.org/mobile).



labs, and other ticketed special events. You also need to register separately for the Subspecialty Day meetings and for the two AAOE half-day coding meetings: Conquering ICD-10-CM for Ophthalmology and Coding Camp.

For more information about pricing and what is included in the pass, visit [www.aao.org/pass](http://www.aao.org/pass).

### Make Your Travel Plans

Don’t leave your hotel reservation until the last minute. Work with the Academy’s official housing company (Expovision) to review available hotels and book rooms.

For more information about hotels and travel, visit [www.aao.org/hotels](http://www.aao.org/hotels).

### Book Your Airport Shuttle

Airport Shuttle is a company providing shared-ride shuttles from the airport to hotels and the Morial Convention Center. It offers a discounted price of \$35 per person for a round trip (\$20 one way) if you make your reservation online at [www.aao.org/airport\\_shuttle](http://www.aao.org/airport_shuttle). Make your reservation at least 24 hours before your flight arrives in New Orleans.

To change an existing reservation, call 1-866-596-2699.

## PROGRAM

### ■ Subspecialty Day Insiders Preview the Cornea and Glaucoma Meetings

This month, program directors for the Cornea and Glaucoma meetings share their tips on what's hot at Subspecialty Day.

See September's *EyeNet* for previews of the Pediatric Ophthalmology and Retina meetings; see July's *EyeNet* to learn about the Neuro-Ophthalmology, Oculofacial Plastic Surgery, and Refractive Surgery meetings.

### ■ CORNEA 2013: Through the Looking Glass—Where We Are, Where We're Headed.

*Program directors: Kathryn A. Colby MD, PhD, William Barry Lee, MD, and Elmer Y. Tu, MD.*

*When: Saturday, Nov. 16 (8 a.m.-5:30 p.m.).*

What does the future hold for the field of cornea? That's the question this year's meeting will attempt to answer through a series of didactic lectures, case presentations, and panel discussions. "We have seen tremendous advances over the last two decades in the surgical management of diseases of the corneal endothelium," said Dr. Colby. "Selective endothelial replacement is now the standard of care for Fuchs corneal dystrophy. One can only imagine what future developments will occur—perhaps it will be possible to grow and then transplant a patient's own endothelial cells, or maybe even treat this disease without surgery." The session on Fuchs dystrophy will feature a keynote lecture by Gerrit Melles, MD, an innovator in the field of endothelial transplantation.

This year's meeting also will feature a session on collagen cross-linking. "Although widely accepted as a safe and effective treatment to halt the progression of keratoconus, cross-linking is still con-

troversial," said Dr. Colby. "What is the optimal way to perform this procedure?" Recognized experts in the field will debate the merits of epithelium-off versus epithelium-on cross-linking in the "Hot Topics" session.

"A highlight of the afternoon sessions will be Claes Dohlman's keynote address on keratoprosthesis," said Dr. Colby. "The day will finish with a new format called 'Cornea Grand Rounds,' in which speakers will present their most challenging cases, followed by an interactive panel discussion."

*The Cornea meeting is organized in conjunction with the Cornea Society.*

### ■ GLAUCOMA 2013: The Future Is Now! #Glaucoma2013

*Program directors: David S. Friedman, MD, MPH, PhD, and Thomas W. Samuelson, MD.*

*When: Saturday, Nov. 16 (8 a.m.-5 p.m.).*

"This year's program is predicated on the revolutionary and disruptive changes that are currently happening in this specialty, and this is reflected in the meeting's title," said Dr. Samuelson.

The meeting will start with a dynamic diagnostic session centered around case presentations.

This will be followed by a point-counterpoint session on the subject of medicines, laser trabeculoplasty, and clinical management pearls. A section dealing with particularly challenging glaucoma management problems will then take place, featuring case presentations and a brief didactic summary of the topic, followed by a dynamic panel discussion.

The morning ends with the American Glaucoma Society (AGS) Subspecialty Day Lecture, presented by Joseph Caprioli, MD.

The afternoon will feature some rapid-paced surgical presentations. "One of the areas of emphasis will be the role of the native lens and glau-

coma management—specifically, the expanding opportunities to combine both cataract surgery and glaucoma surgery in a much safer, microinvasive fashion," said Dr. Samuelson. "Particular attention will be paid to individualizing glaucoma surgery by utilizing the expanding array of surgical interventions, ranging from MIGS [microinvasive glaucoma surgery] technology to more traditional measures such as trabeculectomy and aqueous drainage devices. Finally, continuing with the native lens and glaucoma management theme, the day's final session will feature the management of the narrow angle and angle-closure glaucoma. This is an underappreciated and underestimated population of glaucoma patients that require unique management quite different than open-angle glaucoma. Overall, attendees should anticipate a dynamic and rapid-paced day covering many of the hot topics in glaucoma management. Topics that we have been anticipating for years are now suddenly upon us."

*The Glaucoma meeting is organized in conjunction with the American Glaucoma Society.*

### ■ Saturday Features Two Coding Meetings

The AAOE is augmenting its regular Annual Meeting program with two intensive half-day meetings that require separate registration.

- **Conquering ICD-10-CM for Ophthalmology on Saturday, Nov. 16 (8-11 a.m.).** Designed for ophthalmologists and their teams, this course will explain the nuances of ICD-10-CM in order to assure practices an easy transition. "We've eliminated the superfluous information and have streamlined the steps to make sure practices are paid correctly with the first claim submission," said Rajiv R. Rathod, MD, MBA, Young Ophthalmologist liaison for Academy/AAOE ICD-10 education. Physicians will learn what can't be delegated, and members of staff will learn what they must know and do. The *ICD-10-CM for Ophthalmology* book is included in the registration fee.
- **Coding Camp on Saturday, Nov.**



**AGS LECTURE.** On Saturday at midday, Dr. Caprioli presents *Regional Rates of Field Loss in Glaucoma: Differential Effects of Trabeculectomy.*

16 (12:30-3:30 p.m.). Don't give your practice a pay cut by coding incorrectly. This annual event, which is often sold out, focuses on areas of documentation and claim submission that can cure costly coding errors.

**Register early.** Benefit from the Early Registration fee if you register by Aug. 7. Find out more about these two meetings and the AAOE's Annual Meeting program at [www.aao.org/aaoe2013](http://www.aao.org/aaoe2013).

**Learning Lounge—Drop in to Hear a Talk, Have a Chat**

The Learning Lounge provides an interactive, small-group learning experience. "It is an informal setting," explained Baxter F. McLendon, MD, FACS, who has experienced the Learning Lounge as both a presenter and a participant. "It feels more like a group of friends sitting around talking about a topic everyone is interested in, rather than a lecture."

Be a part of the discussion. Find a

**HALL HIGHLIGHTS**

**New Exhibition Hours**

There are new Exhibition hours in 2013.

From Saturday, Nov. 16, through Monday, Nov. 18, you can visit exhibitors from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; on Tuesday, Nov. 19, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

On Saturday, you can access the exhibition using either a Subspecialty Day badge or an Annual Meeting badge. From Sunday to Tuesday, you will need an Annual Meeting badge.

**The Rest Stops—Reconnect, Refuel, Relax, and Recharge**

While in the Exhibit Hall, you can take a break at the two Rest Stops (Booth 153, Hall D, and Booth 5447, Hall I1).

These are places where you can:

- Access free Wi-Fi
- Use a computer provided to download course handouts and view the Virtual Exhibition
- Troubleshoot technology-related problems with knowledgeable IT staff at the Tech Bar

schedule of this year's presentations at [www.aao.org/learninglounge](http://www.aao.org/learninglounge).

**Labs for Residents**

Skills Transfer labs provide residents with invaluable exposure to procedures in a relaxed environment. "The Academy does a great job of providing double-headed teaching microscopes and state-of-the-art equipment to facilitate the skills transfer," said Thomas W. Samuelson, MD, who serves on the Academy's Skills Transfer Advisory Committee.

Residents are encouraged to use the online Program Search to see which labs would be most useful to them. The following seven labs are expected to be particularly popular among residents.

**Resident-only labs.** Only residents are allowed to purchase tickets for these three labs.

- Glaucoma Surgical Lab for Oph-

thalmology Residents (Lab124b)

- Laser Refractive Surgery Lab for Ophthalmology Residents (Lab141b)
- Phacoemulsification and Advanced Techniques Lab for Ophthalmology Residents (Lab120c)

**Recommended for residents.** The Skills Transfer Advisory Committee strongly recommends that residents consider purchasing tickets for these four labs.

- Glaucoma Laser Therapy: Innovations and Advice From the Experts (Lab105a)
- Microsurgical Suturing Techniques (Lab144a)
- Basic Oculoplastic Surgery (Lab100)
- Surgical Anatomy of the Eyelids: Cadaver Demonstration (Lab143)

Find additional information using the online Program Search tool, [www.aao.org/programsearch](http://www.aao.org/programsearch), or visit [www.aao.org/skills](http://www.aao.org/skills).

**EXPLORE NEW ORLEANS AND BEYOND.** During the Annual Meeting, the Academy has organized 15 tours, ranging from "Sacred and Mysterious: Churches and Cemeteries" to "That Deep South Cuisine: Creole Cooking Class." (Find out more at [www.aao.org/tourprogram](http://www.aao.org/tourprogram).)

**Make it a vacation.** If you extend your stay beyond the Annual Meeting, the moderate climate in November allows for plenty of outdoor activities. Shop the many historic districts, enjoy a round of golf, and tour one of the nearby bayous. And with more than 1,300 restaurants to choose from, you'll relish trying the city's Cajun, Creole, and French signature dishes. (Find out more at [www.neworleanscvb.com/aa/](http://www.neworleanscvb.com/aa/).)



- Recharge your mobile device at designated stations
- Catch up with colleagues
- Enjoy a complimentary seated massage provided by a certified massage therapist

**Exhibitor Locator Booth**

Need help navigating the world's largest ophthalmic exhibition? When on the exhibition floor, visit the Exhibitor Locator (Booth 3105, Hall G). Friendly staff members can help you search the Virtual Exhibition and then map your way using a large-scale floor plan.

**Extreme Vision: Science Fiction or Truth**

It is sometimes reported that a major medical breakthrough was inspired by science fiction. This cliché prompted the Museum of Vision to look deeper into such claims: What ophthalmic innovations have antecedents in science fiction, and how far back in history does the story go?

Visit this year's Museum of Vision exhibit (Booth 3147, Hall G) to explore the convergence of ophthalmology with science fiction, fantasy, myth, and legend.