OSU alumni and legend, Archie Griffin, raises money for resident education
Paula Everette

“I completely lost my eyesight in my left eye and was told I would never regain it. I went to see Dr. Fleming, Dr. Jain, and Dr. Cloud, who, through surgery, were able to restore my eyesight and give me back my life! I am forever thankful!”
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ON A MISSION
GEOFF TABIN, MD

Mountains have never daunted Dr. Geoff Tabin. He is one of only four people in the world to have climbed the highest peaks on all seven continents. It was during one particular expedition that Dr. Tabin discovered his highest challenge yet: conquering the worldwide epidemic of curable blindness.

To meet this challenge, he joined Sanduk Ruit, MD, a Nepalese ophthalmologist, in founding the Himalayan Cataract Project (HCP). HCP has provided cataract surgery to rural, impoverished cataract patients for less than $20, trained numerous local doctors, and has helped hundreds of thousands of patients.

Dr. Tabin had always wanted to work in a developing country. As a general doctor, he was able to make contributions to individual patients, but it always frustrated him that the big issues, poverty, poor water supply, infectious diseases, were things on which an individual doctor can have little impact.

During a climbing expedition on Mt. Everest, Dr. Tabin, witnessed a cataract surgery performed on a woman who had been needlessly blind for three years. After the surgery, the woman “just blossomed back to life.” He then realized the power of cataract surgery, of restoring vision, to transform lives. He knew then that he wanted to become an ophthalmologist.

“It was just the most unbelievable mind-blowing miracle,” remembers Dr. Tabin. “From totally blind, then you do a surgery, and they are restored to life.”

After training at Brown University and a corneal surgery fellowship in Melbourne, Australia, he traveled to Nepal where he met Dr. Sanduk Ruit. Dr.
Ruit was a Nepali eye surgeon who pioneered an inexpensive, small-incision cataract surgery that could be practiced in the most remote, impoverished countries.

"Worldwide, there are 18 million people that cannot see the shadow of a hand moving in front of their face," explained Dr. Tabin. "In Nepal, about 80% of the blindness is due to cataracts, which is completely treatable."

Together, Dr. Tabin and Dr. Ruit founded the Himalayan Cataract Project (HPC) which operates a unique skills-transfer program for ophthalmic teams. HPC also holds high-volume, remote region cataract surgery camps providing training to dozens of local doctors while providing surgery to thousands of rural patients. Dissatisfied with the prohibitively high cost of intraocular lenses (IOL), a necessity for modern cataract surgery, HCP also opened a factory in Nepal to produce high quality IOLs for a fraction of the cost. Instead of over $200 per IOL, they could produce them for less than $5 each.

In 2010, National Geographic featured Dr. Tabin on their cover as “Adventurer of the Year” both for his philanthropic efforts, as well as his extreme sports and mountain climbing achievements. This past June, the book “Second Suns,” written by “Three Cups of Tea” author David Oliver Relin, was published highlighting the extraordinary efforts of Drs. Tabin and Ruit.

Since the inception of HCP in 1994, more than 100 doctors have been trained in modern cataract surgery and more than 100 ophthalmic assistants and nurses have been trained.

“Our program is not really about me going over and doing cataract surgery,” said Dr. Tabin, “but about empowering local citizens. It’s creating infrastructures, as well as training the doctors, but also training nurses, technicians, assistants, and creating a system.”

When they started, the amount of cataract surgeries being done in Nepal was miniscule—about 15,000 cataract surgeries per year in the whole country and most of it was low-quality. By 2009, the Nepali doctors were performing over 200,000 cataract surgeries a year.

“My whole life I’ve enjoyed trying new things and pushing myself,” said Dr. Tabin. “Our society is kind of built around risk aversion, but it’s impossible to really throw yourself at something fully if you are not willing to fail. We started out just teaching one doctor at a time to do good cataract surgery. It’s been a little bit of luck and a little bit of serendipity.”

To Dr. Tabin, ending blindness and restoring lives is the highest calling imaginable—and the climb of a lifetime.

Worldwide there are over 39 million people who are blind, most live in the developing world. 80% of this blindness is completely avoidable.

To Dr. Tabin, ending blindness and restoring lives is the highest calling imaginable—and the climb of a lifetime.
Lisa’s New Perspective

Despite her many eye problems over the years, Lisa feels lucky to be able to see life from a different perspective.

Lisa Gerlach was born with a rare congenital cataract which had to be removed while she was an infant. After that, she had one cornea transplant, and then another. Each failed, leaving Lisa half-blind in her left eye. Although she underwent several other surgeries during her childhood, her vision never improved.

Living with vision in only one eye was difficult, but Lisa was determined not to be held back by her disability. She participated in many activities, including sports during high school. When she was 17, she was hit in the head while playing basketball and began “seeing color, like tie-dye” out of her left eye.

Lisa was rushed to the hospital, where doctors found that she had detached her retina (the light-sensitive layer of her eye) and had to have surgery to reattach it. The surgery was a success, but soon after she developed yet another severe eye problem—acute glaucoma (increased pressure inside the eye causing vision loss). Unlike most glaucoma, which is nearly symptomless until significant vision loss has occurred, acute glaucoma can be extremely painful.

“I had never had headaches like that in my life. My head hurt so bad, I couldn’t stand it. I remember one year I woke up Christmas morning and didn’t want to open my presents. I didn’t even care.”

Over the years, Lisa has had several laser surgeries for glaucoma, which helped with the headaches, but nothing could save her diminishing vision. As time passed, her headaches continued to get worse. After the birth of her son, she knew that something was wrong with her left eye. She was admitted to the OSU Emergency Room and Steven Katz, MD was called to operate. Exactly one month to the day from her son’s birth, at six o’clock at night, she had to have her left eye removed.

“That day, I had a headache so bad that I thought I was going crazy. They had to remove my eye. Dr. Katz and his team were amazing through the whole thing. I was a new mom. I missed my son. I was freaking out. I was a mess. Dr. Katz and Dr. Shelly Jain, my glaucoma specialist, explained everything that was going on so I understood. I was so scared, but their understanding and patience gave me peace of mind and got me through it.”

After her eye was removed, Lisa had to adapt to life with only one eye. Her depth perception was altered and she had to re-learn many simple tasks, like pouring a cup of coffee or reaching for objects. This, however, was nothing compared to the agonizing eight weeks that she had to wait to get a prosthetic eye.

“People can be very cruel. You try not to let it bother you, but you just get so self-conscious. I went into my shell and never wanted to go out again. Then, I got my prosthetic eye and people don’t even notice anymore. Now, I can say, I know what it feels like to be a whole new person.”

Lisa was impressed with Dr. Jain and Dr. Katz, and the staff. The “level of perfection” and care that they took in making her feel comfortable and normal still resonates with her today. Lisa slowly began to regain her confidence. A former 911 dispatcher, her newfound courage enabled her to apply for and secure the job of her dreams working at Medflight, dispatching medical helicopters. Now, despite all of her troubles, Lisa says she has it good.

“I hope people read about me and are inspired. I don’t want anyone going through life feeling like I felt—ashamed. This isn’t something to hold you back.”
Marc Criden, MD
1967-2013

Marc Criden, MD, an assistant professor at the Havener Eye Institute, passed away from cancer on July 30, 2013. A neuro-ophtalmology and oculoplastics specialist, Dr. Criden was a caring, knowledgeable physician and a talented surgeon.

Dr. Criden completed his undergraduate training at Tufts University in Medford, MA, medical school at Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, PA, and an ophthalmology residency at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, OH. His dual neuro-ophtalmology and oculoplastics fellowship was completed at the Havener Eye Institute under the direction of Steven Katz, MD.

“I got to know Marc after he completed his residency in ophthamology and he came to Columbus, Ohio to train with me for two years as a Fellow,” said Dr. Katz. “We invited Marc over for dinner one Sunday night and he soon became a fixture at the Katz household. It wasn’t long before the lines were blurred and although Marc was a Fellow, he was also part son, part brother, part friend.”

Dr. Criden went on to the University of Texas at Houston as the Division Director of both Neuro-Ophthalmology and Oculoplastics & Reconstructive Surgery. While in Texas, he met and married Natasha. After spending four years in Texas, Dr. Criden returned to the Havener Eye Institute to work again with Dr. Katz.

Never one to stand on the sidelines while people were in need, Dr. Criden made two mission trips to Haiti after the major earthquake that devastated the already impoverish area. Together with Dr. Katz, they offered medical relief and surgical care to adults and children affected by the tragic event.

“I called Marc to ask if he would come to Haiti with me for 5 days to operate on children with orbital tumors,” said Dr. Katz. “I told him that it would be 103 degrees, no water, no air conditioning…without hesitation, he said “I’m in.”

Dr. Criden managed a busy practice, teaching, and research. He was very interested in ocular and facial trauma, oncology, and reconstructive surgery. In research, he was interested in intracranial hypertension, giant cell arteritis, and orbital tumors. He was a member of the NORDIC trial for intracranial hypertension and was also involved in the China Eye Project, an international collaboration developing artificial vision.

“If I had to choose words to describe Marc,” reflected Dr. Katz, “they would include compassionate, empathetic, dedicated and generous. He was generous with his time. It has been said that you can tell a lot about a man by how he treats those who can do nothing for him. Marc chose to take care of patients with trauma and tumors, difficult reconstructions, late nights, weekends—he was always on call. Often a population of patients without insurance, under appreciated and under reimbursed…patients in crisis.”

When his own life was in crisis, Dr. Criden faced his condition bravely. From the time of his diagnosis with cancer in May of 2012 until the day he made the decision to admit himself to hospice, he never complained. Facing his own mortality, he carried himself with tremendous grace and dignity.

Dr. Criden’s legacy will live on within his beautiful wife Natasha and 18 month old daughter Scarlett, in the hearts of his family and friends, in the patients whose lives he touched, and anyone lucky to have known him.

The Marc Criden, MD Lectureship Fund is being established in memory of his tireless dedication to education. To donate, send a check, payable to the OSU Department of Ophthalmology, to Ophthalmology Outreach, 915 Olentangy River Rd, Suite 5000, Columbus, OH 43212.
Welcome Matthew Ohr, MD

Dr. Ohr specializes in diagnosis and management of medical and surgical diseases of the retina and vitreous. This includes retinal detachment surgery, age-related macular degeneration (AMD), retinal vascular occlusive disease, and diabetic retinopathy. He also manages medical and surgical diseases of the cornea and specializes in surgical repair of dislocated lenses.

“My number one focus is the patient,” said Dr. Ohr. “I am committed to providing my patients with the best possible outcomes. Part of that is making sure that they understand the disease and the treatments being offered to them. I really encourage my patients to discuss with me any questions that they may have, so they can be as comfortable as possible during the procedure.”

Dr. Ohr received his undergraduate degree from Capital University, and then attended Medical School at Wright State University School of Medicine. He completed his ophthalmology residency at the Havener Eye Institute, where he was elected Chief Resident. He is dual fellowship trained, having completed a cornea fellowship at the Havener Eye Institute and a retina fellowship at the Cleveland Clinic, Cole Eye Institute.

After spending several years on faculty at the Cleveland Clinic, where he received a Teaching Award Recognition in 2010, he decided to return to Ohio State.

“Ohio State Medical Center really is an amazing place,” said Dr. Ohr. “The amount of resources that are available to physicians is vast. The ability to collaborate with specialists across so many disciplines is incredible. It allows for unprecedented research, as well as improving patient outcomes. So, I was excited to come back here.”

2014 MAKLEY-CRAIG RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM

915 Olentangy River Rd, Suite 3000, Columbus, OH
Saturday, February 8, 2014 • 8am-1pm

Join us for the 4th Annual Makley-Craig Research Symposium. The symposium serves as a tribute to Torrence Makley, MD (left) and Elson Craig, MD (right) and their untiring commitment to education.
Fleming Appointed to Counsel on Women

Gloria Fleming, MD, a glaucoma specialist at the Havener Eye Institute, has been chosen to serve on the President and Provost’s Council on Women (PPCW).

After a thorough selection process and dozens of candidates, Ophthalmology’s Gloria Fleming, MD has been selected to serve on OSU’s President and Provost’s Council on Women (PPCW).

Charged with advocating to the president and provost for the advancement of all women at The Ohio State University, the PPCW also provides leadership for the development of policies and practices that positively affect the working environment for women employed at the University.

“I am honored to serve on this distinguished committee with like-minded women, all of whom are dedicated to creating an inclusive environment for women, that both recognizes and celebrates their talents,” said Dr. Fleming.

Dr. Fleming’s three-year term will start in August 2013 and will require attending monthly full council meetings and sub-committee meetings throughout the year.

“This is a hardworking committee,” said Dr. Fleming. “They do great work and I look forward to joining their mission!”

New Residents

Danielle Coury, MD  
Undergraduate: University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Medical School: University of Tennessee Health Science Center  
Transitional: Riverside Methodist Hospital

Nhu-Y Dao, MD  
Undergraduate: University of Cincinnati  
Medical School: The Ohio State University  
Transitional: Riverside Methodist Hospital

Krysta Goslin, MD  
Undergraduate: Aquinas College  
Medical School: Michigan State University  
Transitional: Grand Rapids Medical Education Partners

Naina Gupta, MD  
Undergraduate: University of Pennsylvania  
Medical School: Case Western Reserve University  
Transitional: Riverside Methodist Hospital

Dimos Mantopoulos, MD  
Medical School: Athens Medical School  
Transitional: Metropolitan Hospital Center

Craig Miller, MD  
Undergraduate: Muskingum College  
Medical School: The Ohio State University  
Transitional: Mount Carmel West Hospital
Buckeye legend Archie Griffin, together with Presenting Sponsors Fifth Third Bank and Abercrombie & Fitch, helped to raise over $50,000 for ophthalmology resident education at the 2013 BuckEYE Golf Classic.

**LEFT:** Archie helps OSU students Audrey and Megan practice their Heisman pose. **RIGHT:** Archie with Presenting Sponsor Fifth Third Bank’s Matt Mazza
The morning of the outing was cool and crisp; a pleasant surprise from the typical hot, muggy day in June. The perfect golfing weather greeted the over 80 charity golf participants who attended the 2013 BuckEYE Golf Classic to show their support of the Ophthalmology Residency Program. Held at the famed OSU Scarlet Golf Course with the legendary Archie Griffin as special guest, the event was destined to be a success. The two-time Heisman trophy winner spent the morning swinging a pen and signing autographs for participants and the afternoon swinging a club and appreciating the good company and beautiful course.

“I enjoy spending time with alumni and supporting the efforts of The Ohio State University in any way I can,” said Archie.

The BuckEYE Golf Classic was started as a way to raise money for the Ophthalmology Residency program. Now, eight years later the outing has raised nearly $350,000. It has enabled the Department to purchase textbooks, research materials, exam room equipment, and a state of the art surgical simulator for both cataract and retinal surgery.

“The golf outing is always a lot of fun,” said Chief Resident Sarah Escott, MD, “but, I also appreciate all of the good that it does for the program. I am excited to be able to ‘Pay it Forward’ after graduation and come back to the outing to support those who come after me.”

Not only was it a successful year for fundraising, but it was a banner year for sponsors as well with Abercrombie & Fitch (Presenting), Fifth Third Bank (Presenting), OSU Wexner Medical Center (Classic), Huntington Bank (Classic), Arlington Optical, Carl Zeiss, Dick’s Sporting Goods, Haag Streit, Heine, Jack Siebert Jewelers, Optics Inc, and Uniprint among the community-minded sponsors.

“Our support of this event,” said Todd Corley, Senior Vice President, Diversity & Inclusion at Abercrombie & Fitch, “reflects the confidence we have in the medical center to provide quality care and stay on the cutting edge of research for the benefit of its patients.”

"TOP: Archie with sponsors and volunteer photographers Dr. Ann Koval and Jeff Wakefield  MIDDLE: Archie with Classic Sponsor OSUWMC’s Kevin Shively, Kent Hess, Randy Allen, and John Ballard  BOTTOM: Longtime colleague and friend of the Department, Dr. Don Lewis makes an incredible long putt"
Donald Lewis, MD
Donor & Friend

Don grew up with four brothers in New Lexington, OH, son of a coal miner/stationary steam engineer/politician/entrepreneur. His father was “anything he wanted to be,” even though he had dropped out of school at age 13 to support his family.

Don’s father especially wanted to make sure that his boys had the opportunity to attend college. Don’s older brother, and boyhood hero, suggested that Don study optometry. Don followed his advice. He also signed up for advanced ROTC, where he was promised an assignment as an optometry officer on active duty in the Air Force, but it was not to be. There were no openings, so instead he performed “an interesting variety” of administrative jobs.

“When I got out of the service I considered going to graduate school and Dad said, ‘If you are going to go back to college, why don’t you be a medical doctor?’ I thought, ‘That’s not a bad idea, let’s do that.’ So as an optometrist, I was never in practice. I worked for one quarter for a former classmate in Portsmouth, then went to medical school.”

Don attended OSU Medical School. Riverside Hospital had just opened and Don interned with Dr. Oscar Rosnell, MD who encouraged him to apply for a residency at the Mayo Clinic.

“When he asked me if I had applied to the Mayo Clinic, I said, ‘No, I’d never get in there.’ Dr. Rosnell persisted and ended up making me fly up to the Mayo Clinic to accompany a patient. The Chairman interviewed me and two weeks later, I had an appointment. It was just a stroke of good luck.”

At the time he finished his training, there were very few subspecialists and ocular implant lenses were in their infancy. Dr. Lewis was one of the early ones willing to adopt them. At that time, without a clear formula many ophthalmologists had to approximate the strength of lens to implant after cataract surgery.

“If someone was nearsighted that would indicate a weak lens. If they were farsighted that would indicate a stronger lens. That’s how new it was. It was mostly guesswork.”

Dr. Lewis was a regular lecturer at Grand Rounds, especially for refraction, due to his optometric background. At that time, the lecturer would bring a patient with a unique condition to Grand Rounds. Each doctor would take turns examining the patient and discuss the case together.

“Well, there was no reasonable way to bring a refraction patient in. All I could bring in were records of interesting patients. Now, the format of Grand Rounds has changed and when someone presents a case, the patient is not there. So, in a sense I was ahead of my time.”

Being trained at the Mayo Clinic, Don always felt that William Havener, MD, OSU Department of Ophthalmology Chairman at the time, afforded him a great deal of respect.

“Truth is that Bill treated me better than I deserved, maybe because I was a referring doctor. There are very few people that I have felt were a genius. Bill was a genius, in the sense that he stuck with a problem longer than anyone else. I referred all of my retinal detachments to Bill and he was clever enough not to embellish his letters. You could get a letter with three lines from Bill that said exactly what you needed. He was an excellent communicator.”

Don retired in 2010 after 44 years in ophthalmology, but still loves learning. In fact, most Thursdays, he can still be found in the front row at the Ophthalmology Grand Rounds listening to the interesting cases that the residents present.

“Currently, the residency program is appreciably better than it was when I was just getting out of medical school. They get a good variety of difficult cases. So, I think that the residents coming out now are better equipped than I was when I finished my residency.”

Further demonstrating his support for the residency program, Dr. Lewis attended this year’s golf outing, where his skillful long putt was the hit of the outing.

“It really was a good long putt. The slope was curved up and out above the hole and the ball just followed the line perfectly. It’s one of the two good putts I’ve made in my life. It was a good day. I got Archie’s signature on a football and it was really a lot more fun than I expected.”

With a history that mirrored the unusual, curved surface of a golf green, Dr. Lewis feels that his life, like his amazing long putt, followed a varied, but perfect path.

“I keep this book on my counter called “I Could Never Be So Lucky Again.” That’s truly the story of my life. I got into ophthalmology at a time when tremendous changes took place and was able to feel that I was part of some of the changes.”
Peering through the windowed door of the operating room at Ohio State, a young temporary orderly witnessed his first eye surgery. He also got a glimpse into his future. David Stinchcomb was filling in for vacationing orderlies for a summer job between semesters when he saw William Havener, MD perform retinal surgery—using tiny, deft movements that would restore the patient’s vision. He did not know it then, but he had found his calling.

David was originally from Worthington, OH. At age four, he had developed accommodative esotropia, a condition where the eyes cross because they are trying too hard to see clearly. He was taken to Ohio State to see Dr. Albert Frost, the first chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology. Dr. Frost gave him glasses to correct his vision, which uncrossed his eyes, and set him on the path to medicine.

Growing up he knew that he wanted to be a doctor, even though no one in his family was in medicine. He was still an undergraduate at Miami University when he saw Dr. Havener operating on a retina. He counts it as a turning point in his life. Later, as a freshman at the OSU Medical School, he had the opportunity to attend a one hour ophthalmology introduction lecture by Dr. Havener. “Dr. Havener was just a natural-born teacher and when he started talking it just flowed so easily and clearly. He wasn’t a dynamic, blow-them-away kind of speaker. He was very soft and it made you listen to each word.”

At that time, recent graduates from medical school were automatically enlisted in the military for two years. So, following medical school, Dr. Stinchcomb joined the Native American Division of the Public Health Service (PHS). “I did general medicine. I was not an ophthalmologist, but they needed someone to go out and check the school kids for trachoma, a low-grade infection under the eyelid. So, I volunteered. I got a copy of Dr. Havener’s book, Ocular Pharmacology and read it while I was there—before I even started my eye residency.”

After two years in the PHS, Dr. Stinchcomb applied to Ohio State, but residencies were “booked up 2-3 years in advance” due to the Vietnam War. Instead, he completed his residency at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Upon graduation, he did a six-month mission in India, practicing ophthalmology, before finally settling in Albuquerque, NM in 1970. He started a solo comprehensive ophthalmology practice where he remained for 36 years. “All I ever wanted to do was medicine. I thank Ohio State University for giving me the opportunity. One way I can show my gratitude is by giving back to the Havener Eye Institute and I am happy to do it.”

Dr. and Mrs. Stinchcomb’s donations to the Department reached over $10,000 this past Spring. They will be inducted as the newest Havener Legacy members at the end of the year.
New Glaucoma Research

A collaborative glaucoma study is being conducted in collaboration with the Ophthalmology and Biomedical Engineering Departments. The project is funded in part by grants from Prevent Blindness Ohio and Fight for Sight, awarded to second-year medical student, Jillian Chong and her mentor and study Principal Investigator, Shelly Jain, MD.

Glaucoma is the leading cause of irreversible blindness in the world and affects over 2 million people in the US. Glaucoma is treated by lowering pressure inside the eye, known as intraocular pressure (IOP). Treatment frequently involves daily eye drops that are administered to lower pressure. If the IOP still remains high, surgery may be recommended. Thus, accurate IOP measurement is a critical step in providing quality care.

The “gold standard” for measuring IOP is with a Goldmann applanation tonometer. The surface of the eye is numbed and the a small, delicate tip is placed on to the cornea (the clear front of the eye) which measures the pressure inside of the eye. This technique relies on the assumption that the cornea is identical in all people. However, numerous studies have demonstrated that the cornea’s thickness, curvature, and biomechanical properties (the “hardness” or “softness”) vary between people. These differences can potentially influence IOP measurement.

Recently, it has been suggested that prostaglandin analog glaucoma eye drops (PGAs), may cause changes to the cornea. Laboratory studies have shown that the cornea can soften with the use of PGAs. Although not dangerous to the eye, this softening may result in falsely low Goldmann IOP readings. Since eye pressure management is the key to preserving eye health in patients with glaucoma, this potential inaccuracy cannot be ignored.

Researchers at Ohio State are working to identify changes to the eye caused by PGAs in a clinical setting and to understand the effect of these changes on measurements of IOP.

“It is our hope that this study will alert clinicians to a potential cause of inaccurate eye pressure measurements that have been overlooked in the past,” said Dr. Jain. “Greater physician awareness, coupled with wider adoption of more-accurate commercially available measurement techniques, may help to preserve vision for millions worldwide.”

Pelotonia13
Biking the Extra Mile

Colleen Cebulla, MD, PhD, an OSU ocular cancer physician and researcher, is willing to do just about anything to help her patients. This includes joining Pelotonia, a grassroots bike tour dedicated to ending cancer, along with her husband, Ted Donley, and cancer survivor, James Benedict.

As a basic researcher, clinical trials investigator, and a physician, Dr. Cebulla is a model of translational medicine. She is dedicated to fast-tracking breakthroughs from their basic research lab to the patient clinic.

Currently, the treatment for patients with metastatic ocular melanoma (eye cancer) is very limited. However, a very promising cancer drug recently became available. OSU’s Ocular Melanoma Group, including Drs. Thomas Olencki (Oncology), Frederick Davidorf, Mohamed Abdel-Rahman, and Cebulla are working to start a local clinical trial with this new drug. Pelotonia grants and private donations could provide the funding needed to fund clinical trials and basic research that will help patients with eye cancer.

With this goal in mind, Dr. Cebulla jumped on a bike and joined the race to end cancer. With 100% of the money raised going to cancer research, she says, “We all win.”
2013 Resident Research & Graduation Day

With topics ranging from Steven-Johnson syndrome to uveal melanoma to keratoprosthesis, the research projects presented at the 33rd Annual Ophthalmology Research Symposium displayed the wide range of interests and experiences of the residents at OSU Havener Eye Institute. Attendees included family members of the residents and faculty from OSU Havener Eye Institute and Nationwide Children’s Hospital. The afternoon included both the research presentations at the Havener Eye Institute, and a graduation and awards ceremony that followed at the Blackwell hotel to honor current and graduating residents.

Many of the resident presentations utilized bench research (studies done in a controlled laboratory setting using nonhuman subjects) to find new ideas in the field of ophthalmology. Elaine Binkley, MD took first place for her presentation on the “Effect of posterior segment elements on microglial cell polarization.” Rachel Reem, MD took second place for her presentation on staphylococcus in the workplace and Ellen Miller, MD followed in third place for her pediatric intracranial hypertension project. The Research and Graduation Day, as many of the residents called it, was a great way to close their time together.

“I am always amazed by the impressive projects and the quality of the presentations given by my colleagues on Research Day,” said Megan Chambers, MD, a second-year resident. “I am inspired that the resident I am working next to in clinic has put a lot of effort outside of patient care into research that contributes to the overall advancement in the field of ophthalmology.”

Congratulations to our graduating residents (pictured above left to right). Honey Herce, MD, will complete a pediatric ophthalmology fellowship at Baylor. Sireesha Clark, MD, is headed to Wooster to practice at the Wooster Eye Center. Kristen Burwick, MD, is headed to North Platte, Nebraska, to practice comprehensive ophthalmology at Eye Surgeons of Nebraska. Billy Terrell, MD will be staying at the Ohio State University for a retina fellowship. Rachel Reem, MD, is headed to Nationwide Children’s Hospital for a pediatric ophthalmology fellowship. Jennifer Jaworski, MD, will complete a cornea fellowship at the University of Minnesota.
Havener Eye Institute’s 57th Annual Postgraduate Symposium in Ophthalmology

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