A beautiful, cloudless day greeted 88 golfers that participated in this year’s 2008 BuckEYE Golf Classic. The past two golf outings had good weather, but this year was outstanding. With The Ohio State University Buckeyes’ Football Coach Jim Tressel on hand to support the charity outing, the day was a tremendous success.

The golfers showed up early to stand in line to buy an autographed football and take a photo with Coach Tressel. “With over a hundred footballs we thought for sure we’d have extra, but we sold out without a single to spare,” said Laura Sladoje, Outreach Director for the Havener Eye Institute. “We were thrilled to have Jim Tressel as our special guest this year, and knew it would be a great opportunity to raise money for the residents.”

The BuckEYE Golf Classic started as a way to raise money for the OSU Department of Ophthalmology. Proceeds from the first BuckEYE Golf Classic with Archie Griffin enabled the department to buy the expensive textbooks that are required for the residents.

Last year, the 2007 BuckEYE Golf Classic had OSU Basketball Coach Thad Matta as the special guest. With Coach Matta on board, the department was able to raise enough money to completely update one of the examination rooms in the resident clinic. “The resident clinic’s exam rooms are in critical need of new equipment,” said Dr. Alan Letson, Havener Eye Institute Residency Director. “Without the proceeds from the BuckEYE Golf Classic, it wouldn’t have been possible.”

Ellen Tressel was also on hand to lend her generous support by exhibiting her talent as an excellent golfer. She led a foursome that shot 12 under par and tied for 3rd Place. The 2008 BuckEYE Golf Classic raised over $65,000. “Along with the golfers, we had so many wonderful sponsors this year, Fifth Third Bank, Dick’s Sporting Goods, Daimler Construction*,” said Sladoje, “the support from the community was just amazing.”

“This year’s outing will bring us closer to our goal of purchasing updated equipment for the whole resident clinic,” said Letson. “Outfitting the patient rooms with state-of-art examination and diagnostic equipment is giving these young physicians the tools to succeed. At the Havener Eye Institute, we believe that together we can improve the future of eye care by educating tomorrow’s physicians. The BuckEYE Golf Classic is helping us reach that goal.”

Over the past three years, the Havener Eye Institute’s Annual BuckEYE Golf Classic has raised over $120,000 for endowments and resident education funds.

* For a complete list of our sponsors visit our website: www.eye.osu.edu.
Establishing a Tradition in Ophthalmology

Magnuson Family Donation
$33,000 Education Gift

Jim Magnuson, son of Dr. Robert Magnuson, recently shared, “My father believed deeply in education and loved to attend Ophthalmology Grand Rounds. He even continued to attend long after he retired”. Dr. Magnuson created the Robert Hubbell Magnuson Ophthalmology Education Fund at the Havener Eye Institute before his death. He recognized the need for a meeting room within the department and established the Magnuson Conference Room, which is used for Grand Rounds, resident and medical student education, research conferences, and other departmental activities. Dr. Magnuson’s wife, Elizabeth Tighe Magnuson, passed away on January 11, 2007. Friends of the Magnuson family have contributed over $5,000 in memory of Mrs. Magnuson in addition to a family contribution of $33,000. We appreciate Dr. Magnuson’s generosity and foresight as the conference room is utilized daily for diverse ophthalmology activities.

New Topcon Retinal Camera
Sarah Slack Fund Purchases New Equipment

In the rapidly developing technology of digital cameras, retinal imaging techniques have been advancing quickly towards higher resolution and newer methods. Thanks to the generosity of Muskingum County Community Foundation and the Sarah Slack Retina Research Fund, we have acquired a Topcon TRC-50DX Retinal Camera. John Christoforidis, M.D., a retina physician, said, “This new camera will help to resolve diagnostic dilemmas and direct treatment decisions in patients with a wide array of macular disorders.” The TRC-50DX incorporates new functions, such as autofluorescence, which enhances its versatility without sacrificing Topcon’s unsurpassed quality of image resolution. “Autofluorescence photography is a non-invasive diagnostic tool”, said Christoforidis “It is very helpful in detecting and assessing patients with subtle lesions in a variety of retinal diseases that are not easily seen with other imaging modalities.” This equipment can be used for early detection of unhealthy or damaged retinal pigment epithelial cells (RPE). It can also monitor the effects of new treatments for dry macular degeneration (AMD) and other RPE diseases. The TRC-50DX will aid in research of hereditary retinal diseases.

Muskingum County Community Foundation funded the camera through the Sarah Slack Retina Research Fund in a large part because Sarah Slack was a long-time patient of Dr. Alan Letson, Director of the Retina Division. “I know Sarah would be extremely pleased with the use of her funds for this camera equipment that detects early retinal damage.”

- Alan Letson, M.D.
Retina Division Director
Columbus, OH

Dr. and Mrs. William A. Hobbs $25,000 Donation
Former Resident Shares His Thoughts on Giving Back

As recently attended my 40th medical school reunion, celebrated 39 years of wedded bliss, and completed 33 years of rewarding, litigation-free general ophthalmology practice in Lynchburg, Virginia, I decided it was time to procrastinate no longer before contributing financially to the William H. Havener Eye Institute Fund. I realize that none of us can stand on the sidelines for very long without undermining the full potential of the OSU Department of Ophthalmology. Recognizing familiar Columbus physicians and many of my fellow residents from the early 1970’s on the donor list, reassures me that the current residency program remains strong and the leadership faithful to the core values and mission of the department. It is my hope that my gift to the Havener Fund will assist in the sustainability of ophthalmic education and quality eye care at Ohio State.

Sincerely,
William Hobbs, M.D.

Harry Sage, M.D.
OSU Alumni Tribute

Harry M. Sage, Jr., M.D., age 90, of Upper Arlington, passed away July 7, 2008. He was born December 24, 1917, in Columbus. He was a veteran of the U.S. Navy, having served in WWII. Harry was a graduate of The Ohio State University, where he earned his B.A. Degree in 1939 and his M.D. Degree in 1943 and was a member of Kappa Sigma Fraternity. He was Faculty Emeritus in the OSU Department of Ophthalmology, he was on the staff at Riverside Methodist and University Hospitals and Diplomate of the American Board of Ophthalmology.

“I know Sarah would be extremely pleased with the use of her funds for this camera equipment that detects early retinal damage.”

- Alan Letson, M.D.
Retina Division Director
Columbus, OH

“I am my hope that my gift to the Havener Fund will assist in the sustainability of ophthalmic education and quality eye care at Ohio State.”

- William Hobbs, M.D.
Alumni & Donor
Lynchburg, VA

Development
Welcome New Faculty

Rebecca Kuenen, M.D.

We want to welcome Dr. Rebecca Kuenen, Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology with the Anterior Segment Division. Dr. Kuenen graduated Summa Cum Laude with a B.S. from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh, PA and received her M.D. and completed her residency at Drexel University, College of Medicine in Philadelphia, PA. She continued her education with an internal medicine internship at Lankenau Hospital in Wynnewood, PA and a cornea fellowship here at OSU Havener Eye Institute.

Paul Kurz, M.D.

Dr. Paul Kurz is Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology with the Retina Division. Dr. Kurz graduated Summa Cum Laude with a B.A. in Zoology from Miami University in Oxford, OH and received his M.D. at OSU College of Medicine in Columbus, OH. He completed a transitional internship at Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus, OH and his residency in Ophthalmology at Indiana University Medical Center in Indianapolis, IN. Dr. Kurz accomplished three fellowships including Medical Retina at Duke University in Durham, NC, Uveitis at Oregon Health & Sciences University (OHSU) in Portland, OR and Ophthalmic Genetics at OHSU.

Hall McGee, M.D.

The Anterior Segment Division has a new Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology, Dr. Hall McGee. Dr. McGee graduated Summa Cum Laude with a B.S. in Biology from the University of Richmond in Richmond, VA and received his M.S. in Health Evaluation Sciences and his M.D. at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, VA. He completed an Internal Medicine internship at St. Vincent Medical Center in Portland, OR, and his residency in Ophthalmology, as well as, a Cornea fellowship at Oregon Health & Sciences University in Portland, OR.

Julie Meier, M.D.

Welcome Dr. Julie Meier as an Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology with the Anterior Segment Division. Dr. Meier graduated Summa Cum Laude with a B.A. in Biology from Capital University in Columbus, OH and received her Cum Laude M.D. at OSU College of Medicine. She completed a transitional internship at Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus, OH and began her residency in Ophthalmology at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville, TN. She completed her residency at the Medical College of Wisconsin Affiliated Hospitals in Milwaukee, WI.

Introducing Our New Residents

We want to welcome our newest class of residents.

Lena Chheda, M.D.

Dr. Chheda joins us from Drexel University in Philadelphia, PA where she completed both medical school and an internship.

Alla Kukuyev, M.D.

Dr. Kukuyev completed medical school at Northeastern Ohio Universities Colleges of Medicine and Pharmacy in Rootstown, OH and an internship at Illinois Masonic Medical Center in Chicago, IL.

Kate Olson, M.D.

Dr. Olson received her M.D. at The Ohio State University and completed an internship at Riverside Methodist Hospital in Columbus, OH.

Bill Lawhon, M.D.

Dr. Lawhon is all Buckeye having completed both medical school and internship at The Ohio State University Medical Center.

Vishal Verma, M.D.

Dr. Verma graduated from Washington University School of Medicine in St. Louis, MO and completed an internship at Kettering Medical Center in Dayton, OH.

Patient In Focus

Trenton Tribble

Trenton Tribble, a long-time patient at OSU Havener Eye Institute, has been followed by Dr. Thomas Mauger since he was a small child. Trenton, who is now 18 years old, was born with aniridia which is a hereditary disease where the iris is underdeveloped. Aniridia can also be associated with defects of the retina, optic nerve, lens, and cornea causing decreased vision and nystagmus. Trenton suffers from all of these ocular defects.

Dr. Mauger performed numerous corneal transplants as well as stem cell transplants on Trenton over the years, all which have failed. In April of 2008, Dr. Mauger performed a new type of corneal transplant on Trenton by using an artificial cornea called the K-pro or keratoprosthesis. Development of the Boston K-pro began in the 1960’s and received FDA approval in 1992. The K-pro is made of PMMA (polymethyl methacrylate) and consists of two basic parts. The center button or optic portion and the outer skirt are clamped together on the outer rim of a donor cornea. The entire prosthetic cornea is then sutured to the host cornea like a normal cornea transplant. A soft bandage contact lens is placed, and the patient must use lifelong topical antibiotics. The benefit of the K-pro is that the central portion will always remain clear.

After the surgery, Trenton’s vision improved from hand motion to 20/100. He will soon undergo a K-pro procedure in his other eye. When asked what he was looking forward to the most, his answer was that of a normal teenager. Trenton commented, “I’m just excited to finally be able to drive.”
Ocular Hypertension Treatment Study Comes to a Close

In December 2008, the Ocular Hypertension Treatment Study (OHTS) will officially end. This highly acclaimed clinical trial has been in existence for fifteen years. Dr. Robert Derick was awarded a grant from the National Eye Institute (NEI) to be the Principal Investigator (PI), along with Dr. Paul Weber and Dr. Douglas Baker as co-investigators. In 1999, Dr. Weber assumed the role of PI. The Havener Eye Institute, OSU Department of Ophthalmology is one of only 22 sites nationwide. It is known that people with elevated eye pressure are at risk for developing glaucoma. Prior to the first phase of OHTS, there was conflicting evidence as to whether early medical treatment with eye pressure lowering drops was effective in delaying or preventing the onset of glaucoma. The OHTS study enrolled over 1600 participants with elevated eye pressure, but no evidence of glaucoma. They were randomized into two groups: treatment with eye drops or no treatment. After 5 years it was determined that the individuals in the observation group were developing glaucoma at a much greater rate. This conclusion was indeed an exciting finding, but it also posed another question: is there a penalty or disadvantage of delaying treatment for ocular hypertensive individuals? In 2002, a transition was made from OHTS I to OHTS II to answer this question. The data from OHTS II is currently being collected and analyzed. Results will be available in the coming months.

Participants in the OHTS study have provided a unique and valuable information base concerning the long-term effects of ocular hypertension. This one study has yielded a wealth of information. It is now known that treating ocular hypertension is beneficial in delaying the onset of glaucoma. It identified racial risk factors for African American individuals with elevated eye pressure. The thickness of the clear front of the eye (cornea) was also found to be a risk factor in the development of glaucoma. With all of this information, OHTS Study Group has devised a “5-year Risk Factor Estimator” (http://ohs.wustl.edu/risk/). This Risk Factor Estimator may be useful to clinicians and patients in deciding the frequency of tests and examinations and the potential benefit of starting treatment.

“The OHTS study has already changed the way that physicians in this country and around the world treat people with high pressure” said Weber, “In addition, it will stimulate new research that will lead to earlier diagnosis and better treatment to help prevent glaucoma.” The OHTS clinical trial has been an important and very beneficial study. The Havener Eye Institute is very proud to have been a part of this landmark study.

Retina Studies

RIDE - Alan Letson, M.D. (PI)
This study evaluates the effectiveness of Ranibizumab in subjects with diabetic macular edema secondary to diabetes. Contact Jill Salerno at 614-652-2620.

DRCR - John Christoforidis, M.D. (PI)
This study evaluates the effectiveness of Ranibizumab vs. Triamcinolone vs. sham as an adjunctive therapy with panretinal photocoagulation for patients who have diabetic retinopathy. Contact Kathy McKinney with questions about this study at 614-652-2603 or mckinney.5@osu.edu.

CATT - Frederick Davidorf, M.D. (PI)
This study compares Lucentis® and Avastin® as treatment for subfoveal neovascular AMD. Contact Kathy McKinney with questions about this study at 614-652-2603 or mckinney.5@osu.edu.

CRUISE - John Christoforidis, M.D. (PI)
This study will determine if an injection of Lucentis® (ranibizumab) into the eye to reduce swelling in the retina of patients with macular edema secondary to a central retinal vein occlusion (CRVO). Contact Jill Salerno at 614-652-2620 or salerno.18@osu.edu.

BRAVO - John Christoforidis, M.D. (PI)
This study will determine if an injection of Lucentis® (ranibizumab) into the eye to reduce swelling in the retina of patients with macular edema secondary to a branch retinal vein occlusion (BRVO). Contact Jill Salerno at 614-652-2620 or salerno.18@osu.edu.

Cornea Studies

Corneal crosslinking for keratoconus or estascia - Richard Keates, M.D. (PI)
This study will help determine if crosslinking halts the progression of keratoconus or estascia (after refractive surgery) through the use of vitamin B2 drops and ultraviolet light. Contact Barbara Landolfi at (614) 293-8760.

Rates and risk factors for fungal keratitis among contact lens wearers - Thomas Mauger, M.D. (PI)
This study will determine if there is a link between contact lens wear and eye infections. Contact Barbara Landolfi at 614-293-8760.

Neuro-Ophthalmology Studies

III: Idiopathic Intracranial Hypertension Clinical Study - Steven Katz, M.D. (PI)
This study seeks to identify factors (hormones/proteins) involved in III. Contact Steven Katz, M.D. at 614-293-6892 or page 614-730-6223.

Clinical Trials... Now Recruiting!

From Left: Anne Elbiaadi M.D., Matthew Ohr M.D., Thomas Dingle M.D., Julie Lange M.D., and Kathryn Baker M.D.

Congratulations Graduates

Residents and Fellows

It’s that time of year when we say goodbye to our graduating residents and fellows. We are very proud that they have completed their ophthalmic training and are taking the knowledge and skills that they have developed to patients all over the country. The resident class of 2008 have accepted positions in various states from New York to St. Louis. Kathryn R. Baker, M.D. has joined The Eye Center of Oak Ridge in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. Thomas J. Dingle, M.D. is completing a one-year cornea fellowship at Pepsico Vision Institute in St. Louis, Missouri. Anne Elbiaadi, M.D. has joined the North Shore Eye Group in Huntington, New York.

Julie M. Lange, M.D. is beginning one-year pediatric ophthalmology fellowship in Atlanta, Georgia. Matthew P. Ohr, M.D. is starting a one-year cornea fellowship with Dr. Thomas Mauger, here at the Havener Eye Institute.

Our well-trained graduating fellows will continue to benefit patients all over Ohio. Ryan F. Deasy, M.D. has joined a private practice in Cleveland, Ohio. Carrie A. Lembach, D.O. has joined Arena Eye Surgeons in Columbus, Ohio. Rebecca A. Kuennen, M.D. will be staying on at the Havener Eye Institute as an assistant professor of ophthalmology.

We want to congratulate all of our graduates for their continued commitment to excellence.

For more information on our fellowships and residency program visit www.eye.osu.edu/education.
Website Update
www.eye.osu.edu redesigned
We continue to search for ways to improve our patients’ visit to the Havener Eye Institute. The homepage and overall layout of the site have been upgraded to be more user friendly for our visitors. There are three new icons on the homepage that link directly to “News”, “Calendar” and “Directions”. In addition, we have four photos representing our top news articles. These four images are linked to the section or story they are highlighting.

Eye Run/Walk For Sight
Saturday
November 1, 2008
OSU RPAC
Proceeds benefit the Ophthalmology International Missions

Learn more about our history and mission in the “About Us” section. Investigate our recent clinical trials in the “Research” section. Locate physicians, services, and directions in “Patient Care”. Learn about our residency program and fellowship opportunities in the “Education” section. Discover our many specialized physicians in the “Directory”. Find more information on past donations and opportunities to contribute in the “How to Give” section.

We want to make it easier to navigate through our website and learn about the Havener Eye Institute.

Get Started...
1. Register online at: www.eye.osu.edu
2. Tell your friends & family to pledge their support for you at: www.eye.osu.edu
3. Join us for this fun event November 1st!

For event information contact Barbara Landolfi (614) 293-8760

* Check in 9am at the Recreation & Physical Activity Center (RPAC)
* Runners follow Olentangy Running Trail (5 Mile)
* Walkers take a BuckEYE tour through the heart of OSU campus (1 Mile)
* Collect pledges and earn rewards
* Highest contributor receives an “EyePod” Shuffle

OHIO STATE Buckeye Ophthalmology is a publication of the Havener Eye Institute, Department of Ophthalmology at The Ohio State University. Thomas Mauger, M.D., Chairman; Laura Sladoje, Outreach Director; Christina Stetson, Assistant Editor/Designer. Questions/Comments? Contact the Havener Eye Institute (614) 293-8760 or eye@osu.edu. Visit us online at www.eye.osu.edu.