On September 24, 2008, the State University of New York College of Optometry adopted our five-year strategic plan, A Shared Vision. As we now enter the final year of the plan, it is appropriate to reflect on the past four years, assess the impact of our efforts and begin development of our vision for the years ahead. As a result, this Annual Report highlights the major impact that our efforts have had on the students, faculty and patients who make up our College community. We look not only upon the past year, but examine the past five years to highlight trends, challenges and, most critically, our progress toward achieving our goals.

You will see that much has changed over the past five years. In spite of national and statewide economic and social tumult, the College has made meaningful progress, embracing educational reform, expanding eye care services to the people of New York and strengthening our intellectual impact through expanded basic science and clinical research programs.

We have invested in our students and our community. Major renovations have been completed or are underway, and we have focused on enhancing the students’ experience while at the College and their success after graduation through the establishment of the Career Development Center. Our students are among the most outstanding in the country, and their success remains evident with what may be the strongest performance nationally on the National Board Examinations.

A Shared Vision represents an ambitious and highly successful period for the College. We have made significant progress in fulfilling many of our goals, and we are extremely proud of our students, faculty and staff for their exceptional efforts.

Yet even as we celebrate our successes, we must renew our commitment to excellence and strive to achieve an even greater impact as we develop the next five-year plan for the College.

I hope you enjoy reading about how far we have come, and I invite all members of the extended SUNY Optometry family to contribute to the dialogue as we plan for the future of our College.

David A. Heath, OD, EdM
President
The College had a major turning point as it adopted its five-year strategic plan—*A Shared Vision*—and inaugurated a new president—Dr. David A. Heath—in September 2008. Despite challenges, such as cuts to the school’s State funding, the College continued to achieve major milestones in education, patient care and research.

2008

The Reader’s Digest Partners for Sight Foundation gives a first-time grant to support the Homebound Program’s expansion into Queens.

After signing an agreement with China’s Wenzhou Medical College, the College receives a grant from the Lavelle Fund for the Blind to establish a low vision rehabilitation center—the first of its kind in the region.

A successful patient referral service starts at the University Eye Center for those who need care beyond their provider.

A Shared Vision, the College’s five-year strategic plan, is approved.

EDUCATION

PATIENT CARE

RESEARCH

GIVING

2009

SUNY’s 60th year was marked by action. The College stood behind a January letter from the College Council to Governor Paterson responding to the State budget crisis with a strong plea to allow SUNY campuses to retain essential funds for education and research.

SUNY Chancellor Nancy Zimpher, newly appointed in February, upheld the pace by kicking off a statewide tour of 64 campuses, including the College, as the first step in developing a new University-wide strategic plan.

The SUNY Eye Institute meets for the first time, bringing together eye and vision researchers from the College and the four SUNY medical schools.

The University Optometric Center is renamed the University Eye Center. A complete rebranding of the College follows, including a new logo.

The patient referral service exceeds 3,000 visits for the year, accomplishing its five-year goal in only 18 months.

The Vision and the Promise, the College’s major gifts campaign, kicks off with the goal of raising $10 M.
2010

It was a year of positive change as Governor Paterson introduced the Public Higher Education Empowerment and Innovation Act, calling for reform to enhance SUNY’s and CUNY’s strategic management of tuition and development of non-State revenue.

Chancellor Zimpher’s strategic plan, The Power of SUNY, also launched to harness SUNY’s potential to revitalize New York’s economy and better its communities.

2011

In this year, the 40th anniversary of the College’s founding, Governor Cuomo signed legislation that introduced a five-year rational tuition plan for SUNY, standardizing tuition increases and ending an era of problematic tuition spikes.

With this significant advantage in place, SUNY continued to fuel economic and social success in New York. To keep New Yorkers abreast of its progress in doing so, Chancellor Zimpher released the first SUNY Report Card, tracking achievements and shortcomings.
**2012**

SUNY was developing new, productive methodologies to work in tandem with its strategic plan, and this year marked the beginning of one such important change: the overhaul of its resource allocation methodology to benefit mission fulfillment and campus planning.

The College itself drew closer to the final year of its own five-year strategic plan, taking a step back as it did so to recognize and celebrate the impact of its accomplishments.

**COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION: FIVE YEARS OF MAJOR DEVELOPMENTS**

The leadership of the College has changed significantly in the past five years, bringing in exciting new ideas and having major impacts on individual departments.

*New to the College

*New to position

*In same position

*Dr. Bloomfield and Viswanathan begin January 1, 2013.*
GOAL
To enroll highly qualified students for the professional program

THE BEST OF TOMORROW’S TALENT TODAY
The New Summer Academic Program

The College currently attracts the most exceptional student talent in its history, and we continue to plan to do so in the future. During summer 2012, more than 30 highly qualified students from colleges across the country were invited to learn about the field of optometry at the College, with the hope that they’d each be part of an incoming class.

After these students completed the program’s classes and exams, they earned two graduate credits and access to mentors and resources that will be of great assistance as they work toward optometry school.

We hope to work with them again in the near future.

THE COLLEGE HAS SUCCESSFULLY MET OR EXCEEDED ITS GOALS FOR RECRUITING STUDENTS OF THE HIGHEST STANDARD.

LEGEND
- SUNY Opt Students
- National Average

GPAs of Incoming Students

Students newly admitted to the College consistently have higher GPAs than students accepted to optometry schools across the nation.

Optometry Admission Test (OAT) Scores of Incoming Students

Students newly admitted to the College consistently have OAT scores that surpass the national average.

National Board of Examiners in Optometry (NBEO) Scores of Enrolled Students

Students at the College generally score higher than the national average on the NBEO.

*Through 2007, Part I was named “Basic Sciences.” In 2009 it was restructured and renamed “Applied Basic Sciences.” It was not given to first-time takers in 2008. In 2011, for the first time, questions with multiple correct answers were included in the examination.
GOAL
To provide students, residents and alumni with the services to succeed in their careers

EDUCATION
The First Annual Career Symposium
As the first step in the development of the College’s Career Development Center, the first annual Career Symposium was held on February 12, 2012. More than 200 students, residents and young alumni were in attendance to be proactive in their exploration of future options.

At the Symposium, students heard from keynote speaker Peter Shaw-McMinn, OD, national consultant and assistant professor at the Southern California College of Optometry. Students were presented with a variety of career options ranging from private practice, VA hospitals and research to positions in industry, academic and community centers. They attended seminars in career planning, private practice management and personal development, all of which were conducted by industry leaders.

The unique event was written about in the American Optometric Association News.

Of the event, keynote speaker Dr. Shaw-McMinn says, “This Career Symposium is unique. To my knowledge, no optometry school or college offers this experience to their students. It gives the SUNY students a competitive advantage over students in other schools.”

STUDENTS PLAN SUCCESSFUL FUTURES IN OPTOMETRY
The Next Step in Student Career Development
New Director of Career Development and Minority Enrichment
Francisco A. Lucio, JD, has been named Director of Career Development and Minority Enrichment at the College.

In this important new position, he will help students identify career options through highly personalized services that are quite uncommon at most American colleges of optometry. He will also recruit and select underrepresented minority students for the College’s CSTEP internship and summer academic programs.

Mr. Lucio is a member of the National Association of Medical Minority Educators where he serves as National Legislative Affairs Chair. He is the former Program Director at the Manhattan-Staten Island Area Health Education Center where he oversaw nine health career programs for more than 200 underserved students a year.

The Career Development Center will anticipate key trends and tailor counseling, programs and activities to help the current and future optometric workforce.”

—— Francisco Lucio, JD, Director of Career Development

GOAL
To increase cultural sensitivity in all College operations

REACHING MORE STUDENTS BY BEING SOCIAL
The Increasing Diversity by Engaging All (IDEA) Project
In an effort to add to its highly successful student pool, the College is reaching out to underrepresented minorities through social media. This initiative, IDEA, is funded by a $3,500 mini-grant from the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry and the Optometric Center of New York, the College’s Foundation.

IDEA will engage students through blogs, videos, discussion forums and more to portray the profession of optometry as an exciting and viable career path. It will also provide students with resources, tips and life management skills to become competitive applicants for an optometry program.

The mini-grant is generously supported by Luxottica Retail and The Vision Care Institute, LLC.

“IDEA is a mission-driven initiative with the purpose of exciting potential students about the dynamic and fulfilling universe of eye care.”

—— Guilherme Albieri, Director of Admissions and Marketing

PROJECTED INCREASE IN DEMAND FOR OPTOMETRISTS BY 2018
— US Department of Labor

24%

To increase cultural sensitivity in all College operations
**GOAL**

To provide an environment that develops critical thinking and lifelong learning skills

**EDUCATION**

**STUDENTS SET TO MAKE THEIR MARK**

**Commencement 2012**

On Sunday, June 3, 70 graduates received Doctor of Optometry degrees at the College’s 38th Commencement in the Hudson Theater. In addition, one PhD and five OD-MS degrees were awarded.

Dr. David Heath, College President, presided over the ceremonies and congratulated the graduates on choosing a career path that will call upon their knowledge, skills and compassion and will bring them not only professional satisfaction, but great personal satisfaction as well.

**EXPANDING AN INTERNATIONAL PARTNERSHIP**

**Center Sets a Standard of Care in China**

The College recently received a three-year $421,160 grant renewal from the Lavelle Fund for the Blind to expand the Center of Excellence in Low Vision and Vision Rehabilitation at the Wenzhou Medical College in China.

The College established this Center in 2008 with an initial three-year grant from the Lavelle Fund. It will now expand to impact new patient populations. The grant will also fund a training program at the medical college for faculty and staff from other locations throughout China.

“With the generous support of the Lavelle Fund, we look forward to continuing our efforts to develop a self-sustaining model for vision rehabilitation services in China,” says Dr. David Heath, College President.
**GOAL**

To attract highly qualified students for the professional program

**EDUCATION**

**Scholarship Endowments Are Growing**

Scholarship endowments from individuals, foundations and professional associations have continued to increase, helping to offset a decrease in State support and increase in tuition, and creating an attractive opportunity for current and prospective students.

Named scholarship endowments are an important means of long-term support for the College, allowing students to benefit from the earnings generated by the growth of the principal of the endowment.

*Direct expenses include tuition, fees, books and equipment. Source: ASCO*

**Student Scholarships Awarded**

Scholarship support has grown to $274,050, a 22.9% increase since ’08-’09.

A scholarship endowment can be made through a single tax-deductible gift, a pledged gift paid over five years or an irrevocable pledge made in a will. For more information, contact Ann Warwick, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, at 212.938.5460 or awarwick@sunyopt.edu.

**Current Named Scholarship Endowments**

(through June 30, 2012)

- Alumni Scholarships
- Alumni Memorial Scholarship
- Scott Tasker Folsom Scholarship
- Dennis and Lesley Gehr Scholarship*
- Dr. Alden N. Hoffner Scholarship, sponsored by the New York State Optometric Association
- Dr. Sanford and Claire Levy Scholarships
- Dr. Nathan and Laura Millman Scholarship
- New Jersey Chapter of the American Academy of Optometry Scholarship
- Optometric Center of New York Board and Incentive Scholarships
- Barbara Saltzman Scholarship*
- Adolph and Ruth Schnurmacher Foundation Scholarships
- Charles and Mildred Schnurmacher Foundation Scholarships
- Harold M. Spigelman Scholarship*
- Dr. Jerome Weiss Scholarship
- Jeff White Memorial Scholarship

*These scholarships were created in ’11-’12.

**The debt of students graduating from the College is among the lowest of optometry programs nationwide.**

**Legends**

- SUNY Opt Students
- National Average

**Direct Expenses**

- **In-State Students**
  - ’05 - ’06: 60,000
  - ’06 - ’07: 82,500
  - ’07 - ’08: 105,000
  - ’08 - ’09: 127,500
  - ’09 - ’10: 150,000

- **Out-of-State Students**
  - ’05 - ’06: 90,000
  - ’06 - ’07: 180,000
  - ’07 - ’08: 270,000
  - ’08 - ’09: 360,000
  - ’09 - ’10: 450,000

**Average Indebtedness of Graduating Students**

- ’05 - ’06: 0
- ’06 - ’07: 9,000
- ’07 - ’08: 18,000
- ’08 - ’09: 27,000
- ’09 - ’10: 36,000
- ’10 - ’11: 45,000
- ’11 - ’12: 54,000

*Most U.S. citizens are eligible to establish New York State residency and receive in-state SUNY tuition for years 2, 3 and 4.
GOAL
To provide clinical care that is contemporary, efficient, ethical and of the highest quality

Referral Center Patient Encounters at the University Eye Center (UEC)

The UEC has more than surpassed its goal of increasing yearly referral visits to 3,000 by 2013.

Total Patient Encounters at the University Eye Center (UEC)

The UEC continues to attract a growing number of patients.

CARE FOR EVERYONE IN THE COMMUNITY

The Indigent Patient Program

The College’s Indigent Patient Program, which provides vision care to New York City’s underserved, received a $25,000 grant from the Allene Reuss Memorial Trust in July 2011.

This is the fifth year that the Trust has supported this community funding.

“We are very grateful to the Trust for its ongoing generous support of this program, which ensures that needy patients will have access to quality primary eye care and specialized services that will help them live productive lives,” says Dr. Richard Soden, Vice President for Clinical Affairs.
GOAL
To provide clinical programs that attract a large, diverse patient population to support clinical education and enhance the visual welfare of the community

MAKING THE MOST OF LOW VISION
The Rededication of the Dr. William Feinbloom Low Vision Unit

On Wednesday, February 15, the College rededicated the Dr. William Feinbloom Low Vision Unit. This unit helps individuals with reduced central or peripheral vision to improve daily activities such as reading, writing and watching television.

The rededication event was attended by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Feinbloom, his son and daughter-in-law, family, friends, College administrators, staff and students. A small reception was held after the ceremony in the Alumni Commons on the 18th floor of the College.

The low vision unit will continue to offer its comprehensive service, which carefully assesses each patient’s current visual status, identifies goals and visual needs and designs an individualized rehabilitation plan to meet these needs.

GOAL
To provide residency education that will train individuals to develop advanced clinical competencies to meet current and future healthcare needs

BRONX-LEBANON HOSPITAL CENTER RESIDENCY
A Look at the Newest Residency Program

The newest residency program available to the College’s postdoctoral students is at the Bronx-Lebanon Hospital Center (BLHC). The two new positions offer the opportunity to gain experience in patient care, optometric education and leadership while working with the hospital’s diverse patient base in the underserved South and Central Bronx communities.

Residents work in both hospital and community-based clinical settings. They have the opportunity to provide primary eye care to patients of all ages, comanage patients with complex ocular diseases, utilize advanced equipment and technology and observe surgical procedures.

Residents also benefit from daily lectures provided by ophthalmology attendings at the BLHC, as well as weekly seminars consisting of case conferences, fluorescein conferences and journal club meetings.

IMPROVING VISION TO BUILD BETTER ATHLETES
The New Sports Vision Center Opens at the University Eye Center

The Sports Vision Center offers vision testing and training for professional and amateur athletes to achieve maximum sports performance.

According to Dr. Arnold Sherman, Director of the Center, “Vision is the signal that directs muscles of the body to respond. Sports performance success depends upon speed and accuracy of eye movements, dynamic visual acuity, precise eye-hand/body coordination, depth perception and stereopsis. These skills allow the athlete to know where and when to act and react.”

In addition to individual training for children and adults, the Center will offer workshops for sports trainers and coaches that demonstrate vision training and vision calisthenics techniques for sport success. The Center’s staff will also conduct vision screenings for area sports teams and will include tests that are sports-specific.

Residency Programs, Applicants and Positions

15 residency programs for the 2012-2013 year
30-40% of students apply for residencies
33 residency positions available and filled
GOAL
To promote public health

BRINGING VISION HELP HOME
The Homebound Program Reaches Out

With the demand for elder vision care increasing, the doctors of the Homebound Program provide more than 200 annual visits to patients’ homes throughout Manhattan and Queens. This program is especially helpful and rewarding for those who cannot leave their homes due to frailty, illness or other issues.

Patients, like Connie Rizzo, MD, PhD (pictured above), are connected to a compassionate and highly comprehensive eye exam that assesses them for medical conditions such as glaucoma, as well as for eyeglasses. Hear Connie's story at sunyopt.edu/news/post/eyes_on_new_york_gala. 2012

We are grateful to the supporters of the Homebound Program: Reader’s Digest Partners for Sight Foundation (which renewed support with a $30,000 grant in December 2011), the Arthur & Phyllis Milton Foundation (which renewed support with a $3,000 grant in January and June 2012 for the Manhattan program) and Transitions Optical, Inc. (which awarded a $5,000 grant in June 2012).

CARING FOR THE COMMUNITY
Support Groups for Vision Issues

The University Eye Center hosts monthly support groups that are free and open to anyone with low vision, visual impairment or injury from brain trauma and stroke, as well as their loved ones. These groups have increased in popularity.

When the group for survivors of traumatic brain injury and stroke started in 2002, it had 10 to 15 participants; attendance has since doubled to an average of 25 to 30.

The group for loved ones is the only one in the tristate area, and other specific groups—including LGBT, writing and art therapy groups—run as well.

Iris Rosen, LCSW-R, Director of Social Work, has facilitated the survivors group since 2002, and she says participants realize they are not alone when they meet others who have had the same experience.

Learn about these groups by visiting sunyopt.edu/uec and clicking Events Calendar.

Family Members of Homebound Patients Share Their Appreciation

“He was very professional, came with equipment and took his time. My mother has a problem with light because of her stroke. [The doctor] saw that, he got it and went beyond what was necessary in order to help her.”

— Son of Ernestina, 75

 “[The doctor] was so thorough, professional and pleasant. This is such a special service.”

— Daughter of Janet, 88

Support Group Members Share Their Experience

“Iris [group facilitator] gives her heart to every person.”

— Bridget DeMercurio, participant in survivors group

“No one passes judgment. Your family might not understand your feelings, but we know others in the group will.”

— Joyce Flora, participant in caregivers group

Public Service
The University Eye Center has an ever-expanding presence in the community through an increasing number of outreach programs and groups.

The University Eye Center (UEC) unveiled a new design of its website and newsletter over the past year, making it easier for patients to find the information and inspiration they need to make vision health a priority in their lives.

Among its many features, the new website features bold success stories from patients who were treated at the UEC; a schedule of support groups, programs and vision screenings; and vital information on eye health. The website’s revamped look was also applied to the College’s website.

The UEC’s newsletter, Vision, is also a resource for patients looking for easily accessible information. Each issue features an inside look at the UEC, including a moving patient story, an interview with a UEC doctor, eye health advice and more.
GOAL
To develop and maintain the most productive basic and clinical research programs among schools and colleges of optometry

ADVANCING RESEARCH

Kathryn Richdale, OD, PhD

Dr. Kathryn Richdale, Assistant Professor and Interim Director of the Clinical Vision Research Center (CVRC), has been appointed to the Dr. Alden N. Haffner Innovation Chair, the College’s first endowed chair. Named for the College’s founding President and endowed by Richard Feinbloom, the Chair will provide supplemental support for a maximum of five years or until tenure is earned.

In her current role within the CVRC, Dr. Richdale will work on increasing clinical trials that involve partnerships with industry and private entities. As she points out, this type of collaboration is highly effective and productive since studies can be conducted at multiple sites, engaging a larger number of participants. She believes that such research will be very successful at the College, considering the diversity of its patients, expertise of its clinicians and range of its resources and equipment. These will all be helpful factors in helping sponsors recognize the value of working with the College.

Her experience has made her an excellent candidate to accomplish this goal at the CVRC. One of her main areas of interest—contact lenses—has largely involved work with industry sources on projects to determine safety, design and more. She also researches presbyopia, the age-related loss of focusing ability. Her experience is decorated by several honors, including an American Optometric Foundation Ezell Fellowship and a National Institutes of Health K23 training grant.

With regard to her own career goals, Dr. Richdale wants to continue collaborating with partners at other schools to answer questions about contact lenses, such as whether kids can safely wear them. Related to this, she’d like to advance the primary care contact lens clinic at the University Eye Center to address the needs of average contact lens wearers. Finally, she wants to grow the graduate programs at the College by emphasizing the career benefits of a research degree.

DISCOVERY THROUGH COLLABORATION

The SUNY Eye Institute and VisioNYC

The College is committed to being a nexus for progressive vision research. One way it has accomplished this is by working with research collaborators outside of the College on a statewide, citywide, national and international level.

The SUNY Eye Institute (SEI), of which the College is a founding member, first met in November 2009. It is a statewide collaboration of more than 60 researchers and clinician scientists across the SUNY system, including the College and the departments of ophthalmology at the SUNY medical schools at the University of Buffalo, Upstate Medical Center, Downstate Medical Center and Stony Brook University. An important aspect of SEI’s dialogue is determining how resources and expertise can be pooled among the institutions to develop collaborative grant proposals and advance basic and applied clinical research and training. Annual meetings feature talks on the vision research interests at each campus, as well as smaller working groups on specific research topics.

The College also hosts the annual VisioNYC conferences. Mutually supported by vision research training grants at Columbia, NYU and Cornell, the conferences bring together scholars from around the world to discuss the latest in vision research three times a year. In the past year, speakers from a multitude of prestigious institutions—including the National Eye Institute, MIT and the Salk Institute—presented on a rich variety of topics in two general topic areas: visual system neuroscience and cell and molecular biology of the visual system.
To provide resources to attract and retain outstanding research faculty

The Next Generation of Research

New Incoming Faculty Members

An outstanding new leadership team has been formed after a national search conducted diligently by Dr. David Troilo, Vice President and Dean for Academic Affairs. This team, which will take research at the College in many exciting directions, will fully be in place in January 2013.

Stewart Bloomfield, PhD, New Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research
Dr. Stewart Bloomfield has more than 30 years of experience in graduate education and internationally recognized research in retinal neurophysiology. Among other grants, the National Institutes of Health (NIH), through the National Eye Institute, has funded his research on retinal amacrine cell function since 1988.

Suresh Viswanathan, BSc Optom, MS, PhD, New Chair, Department of Biological and Vision Sciences
Dr. Suresh Viswanathan’s research examines the events contributing to neuronal cell death in experimentally induced glaucoma. He has extensive teaching experience in biomedical and vision sciences, and he has overseen and directed the curriculum, summer research program and T35 training grant at Indiana University.

Tracy Nguyen, OD, PhD, Clinical Research Faculty
Dr. Tracy Nguyen's PhD work led her to conduct clinical research on retinal dystrophies, which she plans to continue at the College. She is a two-time Ezell Fellow and is currently funded by an NIH K08 clinical scientist development award.

Alexandra Benavente-Perez, MCOptom, MS, PhD, Clinical Research Faculty
Dr. Alexandra Benavente-Perez is now an Assistant Clinical Professor at the College. She will continue her research on experimental models of myopia and develop new research projects on ocular hemodynamics, as well as be a significant part of the College’s clinical research effort.

3 new labs have been built to accommodate new faculty and their research

The College Has Retained Distinguished Faculty Members Across a Variety of Disciplines

Faculty Members by Department (not including adjuncts)*

- OD: 89
- OD, MS: 21
- MLS: 15
- PhD: 11
- Other: 2

Faculty Dedicated to University Eye Center Service (not including adjuncts)*

- University Eye Center: 33
- Biological & Vision Sciences: 24
- Clinical Education: 21

Faculty Degrees*

<table>
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<th>Faculty Members by Department (not including adjuncts)*</th>
<th>Faculty Dedicated to University Eye Center Service (not including adjuncts)*</th>
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<td>University Eye Center</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biological &amp; Vision Sciences</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinical Education</td>
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*As of October 10, 2012. Includes certain pending hires. Does not include adjuncts.
**GOAL**

To establish a Clinical Vision Research Center

**RESEARCH**

**MAKING SENSE OF VISUAL DYSFUNCTION**

Preethi Thiagarajan, BS Optom, MS, FAAO, PhD Student

Preethi Thiagarajan is currently in the final year of the College’s PhD program, a program she pursued and chose purely for the chance to work with the man whose work she admires, Dr. Kenneth Ciuffreda. She concentrates on the remediation of visual dysfunction caused by traumatic brain injuries, so it was a given that her mentor would be Dr. Ciuffreda, who is the only one in the U.S. researching binocular vision rehab for such injuries. She calls him her “driving force.”

Preethi is a recent recipient of the Ezell Fellowship, one of the highest honors for graduate students in vision research awarded by the American Optometric Foundation.

Her work in visual rehabilitation at the College is funded by the U.S. Army. Since that grant has been renewed for another year, she will continue at the College as a post-doc working alongside Dr. Ciuffreda.

Myopic as a child, Preethi pursued optometry because of vision’s relation to the brain. She started as an optometrist in India and then completed her masters at the University of Waterloo. Once her work at the College is complete, she’d like to focus on the brain imaging aspects of vision rehabilitation due to traumatic brain injury, such as functional MRI.

**A PLATFORM FOR MAJOR RESEARCH**

The Clinical Vision Research Center

The establishment of the Clinical Vision Research Center (CVRC) is a major step forward for clinical research at the College, both increasing its ability to participate as a site in national studies and setting it apart from other optometric institutions with diversified research specialties.

In the upcoming year, the CVRC will be a site in two major nationwide studies. One study will attempt to understand the influence of contact lens material on the safety and comfort of patients of a wide range of ages and ethnicities. The other, focusing on kids ages 6 to 13 who wear contact lenses and have no major health or eye problems, will investigate kids’ opinions on their lenses, such as ease with insertion and removal.

With the CVRC in place, the College has an improved structure to coordinate similar research in the future, especially advantageous when partnering with industry sponsors on large-scale, national studies with the potential for significant impact. The CVRC’s physical space within the University Eye Center is also beneficial: Its high visibility to patients allows more opportunity to promote participation in studies, and its exam lanes allow for standardized research, which adds to the CVRC’s appeal as a site for national studies.

Unlike many other optometric institutions, the CVRC does not focus research on one area but expands its interests to multiple areas, including traumatic brain injury, convergence insufficiency in kids, glaucoma, blood pressure and more.

With such a center and philosophy, the future of research at the College is extremely promising and exciting.

**LEGEND**

- **PhD Total Enrollment**
- **PhD Entering Students**
- **OD-MS Total Enrollment**
- **OD-MS Entering Students**

- ***25 full-time and three part-time (Post OD)**
- **** Five students from Class of ’16 and two from Class of ’15

**Enrollment in graduate degree programs has been on the rise.**

**Total PhD Enrollment**

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<th>Year</th>
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**Total OD-MS Enrollment**

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GOAL
To raise funds to support current and future projects across education, patient care and research efforts

MAJOR GIFTS ON THE RISE
The Vision and the Promise Campaign
The Vision and the Promise, the College’s major gifts campaign, has begun its fourth year. Since its start, the campaign has achieved several milestones, including the largest gift in the Optometric Center of New York’s history—$2 million in scholarship support from Trustee Dr. William C. Folsom, Jr.—and an outstanding level of support from faculty and staff that stands above comparable institutions.

This year the campaign has grown to include even more opportunities for significant contributions. With the completion of many newly renovated facilities at the College, including the Center for Student Life and Learning, essential parts of the College can now be named.

For a donation that will benefit the College’s students and faculty, several facilities can be named, including the University Eye Center, the Center for Student Life and Learning or individual parts of the Center such as the Student Commons, fitness center, methods lab, seminar room and more. Individual lockers in the highly trafficked area of the Center can also be named.

To explore these and other naming opportunities within the College, contact Ann Warwick, Vice President for Institutional Advancement, at 212.938.5600 or awarwick@sunyopt.edu.

Total Amount Raised in The Vision and the Promise Campaign (through 9/4/12)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Gifts in Millions</th>
<th>Cash</th>
<th>Irrevocable Pledges</th>
<th>Verbal Pledges</th>
<th>Stocks</th>
<th>In-Kind Giving</th>
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$6,651,063

Alumni Giving

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<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
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A NIGHT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE
Eyes on New York Gala 2012

More than 325 people attended the Eyes on New York Gala on March 23 at Cipriani 42nd Street to benefit the Optometric Center of New York (OCNY), the campus-related foundation of the College. The annual fundraiser supports vision care for the homebound elderly and indigent, as well as scholarships and vision research.

The event paid tribute to two prominent leaders: Dave Brown, President, Johnson and Johnson Vision Care; and Harold Wilshinsky, Chief Executive Officer, KAP Planning, Ltd., and an OCNY Trustee.
Capital improvements at the College are critical in fulfilling the education, patient care and research goals of the College’s five-year strategic plan.

- Renovated first-floor lecture halls will create space to accomplish the College’s goal of expanding class size to 100 students by fall 2014 and to provide updated instructional technology.
- Refurbished research labs on the 16th and 17th floors will be essential in attracting and retaining highly qualified students and faculty in the future.
- The Center for Student Life and Learning will not only be an environment for advanced education and student activity, it will also provide multipurpose space for various events and gatherings for the College community, as well as outside groups who will pay a usage fee to the College.
- A renovated main lobby will include a new and redesigned patient intake area that will be a next step in providing high-quality care.
- Ongoing critical infrastructure maintenance and repair projects will preserve the building and maintain health and safety.

Under the leadership of Dr. David Heath, College President, and Vice President for Administration and Finance David Bowers, capital improvements will continue into the 2013 to 2018 work cycle to ensure that facilities meet the growing needs of students, faculty, staff and patients.

Capital Improvements

**SUNY College of Optometry 2008-13 Capital Projects**

- **In Design:**
  - Rehab 1st Floor Lecture Halls
  - Design Complete - To Be Bid:
    - Lobby Renovations

- **Under Construction:**
  - Center for Student Life and Learning
  - Rehab Research Floors 16 & 17
  - Rehab Electrical Systems

- **Projects in Beneficial Occupancy:**
  - Elevators
  - Upgrade Fire Alarm System
  - Building Entry Improvements
  - HVAC Controls & Balancing
  - Rehab 2nd Floor Lecture Hall

**Beneficial Occupancy**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>2011-12 Budget</th>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<td>Lobby Renovations</td>
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<td>Center for Student Life and Learning</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rehab Research Floors 16 &amp; 17</td>
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<td>Rehab Electrical Systems</td>
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<td>Elevators</td>
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<td>Upgrade Fire Alarm System</td>
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<td>Building Entry Improvements</td>
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<tr>
<td>HVAC Controls &amp; Balancing</td>
<td>$1,749,898</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rehab 2nd Floor Lecture Hall</td>
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</table>

**Total Budget**

- $2,193,000
- $3,510,000
- $9,776,146
- $2,578,625
- $8,448,458
- $1,749,898
- $2,359,725
- $133,172
- $3,436,000
- $70,000

**Sources of Funds**

- State Appropriation – Core Budget
- Appropriation based on Tuition, Fees
- Appropriation based on Clinic Pledge, Pooled Offset
- Campus Generated Revenues in excess of state appropriation
- Research Foundation
- Prior approved-budget

**Expenditures**

- Payroll (regular)
- Payroll (temp)
- Other Than Payroll
- Total

**2011-12**

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<td>Research Foundation</td>
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**2010-11**

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<td>Total</td>
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</table>

**Research Foundation**

**Sources of Funds**

- Sponsored Programs – Direct
- Indirect Cost Recovery

**Expenditures**

- Sponsored Programs – Direct
- Indirect Cost Recovery

**2011-12**

<table>
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**2010-11**

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