EDITORIAL

Thank You, Dr Hoppe! The Past and the Future

Aurora Denial, OD, FAAO



wo weeks ago, I assumed the responsibilities of editor of *Optometric Education*. In preparation for this new role, I spent the past year working with and learning from Dr. Elizabeth Hoppe.

Dr. Hoppe became the editor of *Optometric Education* in 2001. Although she has had many accomplishments as editor, one of her most

significant was to broaden the number of contributors to the journal. Among the innovative ideas she introduced were two new features, the opinion-based "Think Tank" and the personal essay "My Best Day in Optometry." With Dr. Barry Kran, she developed and promoted "Teaching Case Reports," a format that combines a case report with significant educational guidelines. The goal of the teaching case report is to capture that teachable moment that often occurs in the clinical setting. In addition to offering educators the opportunity to have their teaching methodology peer-reviewed, this new format offers all clinicians the opportunity to contribute to the educational literature.

While supporting and advancing the mission of the journal, Dr. Hoppe was also an avid contributor to the journal. During her tenure as editor, she wrote eight articles for the journal, and over the course of her career, she contributed 13 articles. In 2007, she was the recipient of the Dr. Lester Janoff Award for Excellence in Writing. I look forward to future contributions to the journal from Dr Hoppe.

Working with Dr. Hoppe over the past year was a great learning experience. When interacting with authors, she had an amazing ability to detect and highlight positive qualities while providing the important critical feedback needed to produce high-quality educational manuscripts. Her ability to provide this feedback in a relaxed, supportive environment is a characteristic I will strive to attain and continue. In addition to learning about the skills needed to be an effective editor, I found working with her was always fun.

I would like to thank Dr. Hoppe for all her hard work and patience over the past year, as well as the time, energy, and leadership she has contributed to the journal. She has had an enormous impact on the optometric educational literature base, which ultimately has impacted the profession.

In addition to working with Dr. Hoppe over this past year, I have met several significant goals. In an effort to reach out to faculty to provide information about the journal and to receive feedback on how the journal can support and advance education, I completed a series of visits to several optometric institutions. I plan to continue these outreach efforts until I have visited all of the schools and colleges of optometry.

I am also happy to report distribution of the link to the journal has been expanded to include the executive directors of the 50 state societies, 30 optometric international institutions, Veteran's Administration hospitals and several other organizations, such as World Council of Optometry. The journal was highlighted with an informational poster at the American Academy of Optometry annual meeting in 2009, and we will be participating in the World Council of Optometric Education Meeting in September.

The development of theme issues is a way of guiding and focusing information on important topics. Future themes will focus on the challenging student, implementation of critical thinking, and the importance of scholarship.

This issue of the journal explores several important topics. Dr. Rebecca Kammer and coauthors report on the process of developing competencies and consensus in low vision education. This paper also illuminates the changes in the delivery of low vision rehabilitation and the impact of the changes on optometric education.

Dr. Shilpa Register explores the changing gender trends in optometry and their impact on the profession. She discusses lessons we can learn from other professions and how these trends affect optometric education.

Dr. Trinh Khuu and I offer a teaching case report on vernal keratoconjunctivitis. This report combines an interesting case with specific educational guidelines.

Finally, we are able to move forward because of the past. The Association of Schools and College of Optometry's Resolution (page 85) to Dr. Hoppe expresses appreciation and good wishes. A collage of Dr. Hoppe's contributions to the journal is displayed on page 86.



RESOLUTION

Elizabeth Hoppe, OD, MPH, DrPH

- Whereas, Dr. Elizabeth Hoppe, Founding Dean at the College of Optometry at Western University for Health Sciences, former Associate Dean of Academic Affairs at the New England College of Optometry, and former faculty member at the Southern California College of Optometry, has worked passionately and tirelessly to advance the profession of optometry through optometric education; and
- Whereas, Dr. Hoppe has supported the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry in numerous capacities, including service as chair of a Critical Issues Seminar on Defining Entry Level Competencies, which led to the development of a Model for Entry Level Determination; and
- Whereas, Dr. Hoppe has served ASCO on the Financial Affairs Committee, the Academic Affairs Committee, the Evidence-Based Health Care Task Force, as Board Liaison to the Optometric Informatics Special Interest Group, and as a presenter and mentor at the Summer Institute for Faculty Development; and
- Whereas, Dr. Hoppe served with distinction for 5 years as Editor of *Optometric Education*, the journal of the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry, during which time she advanced the mission of the journal while upholding the highest editorial standards; and
- Whereas, During her tenure as Editor, Dr. Hoppe introduced innovative new columns and departments to engage readers, spark interaction and create an environment conducive to open exchange among optometric educators on timely and important topics; and
- Whereas, Dr. Hoppe was a recipient of the Dr. Lester Janoff Award for Writing Excellence in 2007 and has selflessly mentored authors in pursuit of editorial excellence; and, therefore, be it
- **Resolved**, That the Board of Directors of the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry expresses its earnest and deeply felt appreciation to Dr. Hoppe for her commitment to optometric education and her tireless efforts on behalf of ASCO and the ASCO journal, *Optometric Education*; and, therefore, be it further
- **Resolved**, That the ASCO Board of Directors extends its warmest best wishes to Dr. Hoppe for her continued personal and professional success.

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Instilling Ethics and Professionalism in **Today's Optometry** Students

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the Journal of the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry

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