Expansion Continues for UNC Eye with Addition of Three New Faculty

The past year has brought on the addition of three new faculty members to UNC Eye, expanding the services we are capable of providing to our patients. All three new faculty members bring extensive experience in both patient care and research, and a unique set of skills to better serve the patients of UNC Eye. Richard M. Davis, MD, former Professor and Chair of Ophthalmology at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine, joins UNC Eye as a Professor of Ophthalmology, and expands the size of our Anterior Segment & Refractive Surgery service. David A. Chesnutt, MD, Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology is an alumnus of the UNC School of Medicine and the UNC Eye Residency Program. He joins our department as a Neuro-Ophthalmologist, with a special interest in thyroid eye disease. Sai H. Chavala, MD, Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology joins our department with a dual appointment to both the Vitreoretinal Service and the research division of UNC Eye. For full biographical information on all three of the physicians, please turn to Page 3.
Chairman’s Corner

When I started my career in ophthalmology almost four decades ago, there were no intraocular lens implants, no laser treatments for diabetic retinopathy, no treatment for macular degeneration, no surgeries to remove blood from the vitreous cavity, and no CT scans or MRIs. We can hardly imagine what it would be like to care for our patients today without these innovations. How did we get here? Research!

The United States has the most robust research environment in the world and the research is centered in the academic health centers such as UNC. At UNC Eye we are proud of the many types of research that we are doing to make the future even better for the care of patients.

Clinical trials are an important final testing ground for ideas that were conceived years before. We are involved in a number of clinical trials where we collaborate with other academic and private centers around the country to test therapies and arrive at the best strategies to save vision. Recently two of our national trials reported important results. The Diabetic Retinopathy Network announced that we had learned standard use of laser photocoagulation was superior to injection of steroids into the eye, a recent popular technique. In the SCORE study, by contrast, injections of steroids improved the visual outcome of patients with central retinal vein occlusions.

We are currently involved in three studies to prevent and treat age-related macular degeneration (AMD). The AREDS2 study seeks to reduce the number of patients who develop advanced macular degeneration, while the CATT study focuses on arriving at the best treatment strategy for wet AMD. We are about to start another study with GlaxoSmithKline in which we will use eye drops to try to improve the outcomes in AMD.

The laboratory is an important place to develop the ideas that later are tested in the clinical area. Dr. Terete Borras works to lower eye pressure in glaucoma using gene transfer therapy. She has shown that certain genes become more active when the pressure in the eye rises leading to further pressure increases. Two years ago, this work was recognized as the best paper published in glaucoma in the world. Dr. Hartnett focuses on abnormal blood vessel growth in the eye, studying both wet AMD and retinopathy of prematurity which is a devastating eye disease affecting infants. Her work is strongly supported by the National Eye Institute (NEI) which recently awarded almost $500,000 in supplemental funds for equipment for her laboratory. We are fortunate to have recruited Dr. Sai Chavala who is studying ways in which the retina may learn to regenerate itself after injury. This long range project will require years to develop but has tremendous promise for the future.

Drs. Seema Garg and Richard Davis are developing telemedicine techniques to screen for diabetic damage to the eye directly to patients in the office of their primary care provider, by taking photographs which are sent over the internet to UNC Eye. Dr. Davis’ work has actually used telemedicine to teach patients on how to take better care of themselves through televised training sessions and has significant impact on their diabetic control.

The spirit of inquiry is strong in our residents and medical students. Our residents presented research done at UNC in scientific poster sessions at the annual North Carolina Society/South Carolina Ophthalmology Meeting. Residents Graham Lyles mentored by Dr. Ken Cohen and Neda Esmaili mentored by Dr. Amy Fowler won 1st and 3rd place prizes respectively in this competition. In the laboratories, UNC medical student Jessica Watson, supported by the prestigious Doris Duke Student Fellowship, is working on surgical treatments of central retinal vein occlusion. While being mentored by Dr. Maurice Landers, Ms. Watson will hopefully provide more insight into this medical condition and possible treatments.

Future decades of research will offer our patients increased options and improved results and will continue to be a vital part of our commitment to leading, teaching, and caring.

–Travis A. Meredith, MD
For the past ten years Dr. Richard M. Davis served as Professor and Chair of Ophthalmology at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine, and Ophthalmology Residency Education Director for Palmetto Health Richland Memorial Hospital, Columbia, SC. Fortunately for the Kittner Eye Center and the UNC research community, the Davis family, including wife Elizabeth Mayer-Davis, PhD, had a unique opportunity to relocate to Chapel Hill. Dr. Davis’s appointment as Professor of Ophthalmology expands the size of the Cornea / Anterior Segment / Refractive Surgery Service to three surgeons. In addition to his clinical and surgical appointment to ophthalmology he has a dual appointment to the North Carolina Translational and Clinical Sciences Institute (NC TraCS) at UNC. In that capacity he will serve as research navigator to facilitate research for UNC and community scientists. In addition, he will continue his own research including NIH funded community translation research in the area of diabetes education.

Originally from Chicago IL, Dr. Davis received his BA degree in Zoology from Indiana University and attended medical school at the Feinberg School of Medicine at Northwestern University. During his residency program at the University of Chicago, he became interested in research and practice of corneal disease, which led to his fellowship in cornea, external diseases, and refractive surgery at the University of Oklahoma. Dr. Davis returns to North Carolina having served on the ophthalmology faculty at Bowman Gray School of Medicine, Winston-Salem, North Carolina from 1993 to 1999. “I’ve wanted to return to North Carolina for a number of years, and was thrilled when all the puzzle pieces fell together bringing us to Chapel Hill,” said Dr. Davis.

Dr. Davis’s professional accomplishments are numerous, having served on over fifty national and international boards and committees, and has over one hundred book chapters and publications. This breadth of knowledge and experience will enrich the training of the ophthalmology residents and enhance the continued growth of the department. Dr. Davis’s specialties include laser vision correction, cornea and external disease, cataract surgery, and comprehensive ophthalmology.

Dr. Davis lives in Chapel Hill with his wife along with the youngest two of five children. His wife, Elizabeth Mayer-Davis, PhD is a nationally recognized educator and Professor of Nutrition at UNC. She is the national chairperson for the SEARCH for Diabetes in Youth Study and Principal Investigator for the Carolina site.

David A. Chesnutt, MD, brings a unique combination of skills to the UNC Department of Ophthalmology, and the Department is delighted to welcome him to the fold. Dr. Chesnutt is a native North Carolinian who grew up in the small rural Eastern North Carolina town of Turkey. “My family always encouraged me to do my best and to respect others. Regardless of what task was at hand, a strong work ethic and a positive approach were at the forefront. I am very thankful for the support and encouragement that my family has always given me.”

After completing his medical school and ophthalmology residency at UNC and a fellowship in neuro-ophthalmology at the Duke University Eye Center, Dr. Chesnutt joined the Duke faculty. In this position, Dr. Chesnutt treated adult patients with double vision and other eye movement problems and actively contributed to the surgical and clinical training of the residents at Duke and treated patients at the Durham Veterans Administration Hospital.

Dr. Chesnutt received additional training in oculoplastic and orbital surgery at the Medical University of South Carolina at Charleston. He practiced in his hometown area for a little over 2 years prior to joining the UNC faculty. “I returned to my hometown because the area is vastly underserved in all aspects of medical care, including ophthalmology. I hope to continue working closely with doctors in my hometown now that I am on the UNC faculty. The UNC mission is to serve the people of our State,” says Chesnutt. “I enjoy speaking across the state and providing continuing medical education for our doctors. I am dedicated to improving the health of our citizens, and as a native of North Carolina and an alumnus of the Department of Ophthalmology, I am grateful and excited to have the opportunity to do so.”

At UNC Dr. Chesnutt continues to treat adult patients with double vision and acquired eye movement problems and has a special interest in thyroid eye disease, or TED. His current research focus involves developing a new classification system for patients with TED which hopefully will allow clinicians to identify high risk patients earlier so as to hopefully improve treatment outcomes. “I feel very fortunate to have a number of mentors in the Medical School and in the School of Public Health to guide me and collaborate with me in this ongoing project.”
New faculty — Sai H. Chavala, MD

After completing a fellowship in vitreoretinal surgery at Duke University Eye Center, Sai H. Chavala, MD was appointed Assistant Professor at the Kittner Eye Center and UNC Department of Ophthalmology. He has a dual appointment to both the Vitreoretinal Service and the research division of the Ophthalmology Department at UNC. Dr. Chavala brings a rare set of skills and education to the Department. In addition to being fellowship trained in clinical and surgical treatment of diseases of the retina, he completed a formal two-year post-doctoral research fellowship, studying stem cells and angiogenesis. Said Dr. Chavala, “My passion for discovering cures for retinal disease through research is a natural compliment to my ability to manage, both clinically and surgically, some of those same diseases.”

Dr. Chavala’s research fellowship was completed at Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Cornell University, with mentors Shahin Rafii, MD and Thomas C. Lee, MD. This followed his ophthalmology residency at Cole Eye Institute, Cleveland Clinic Foundation in 2005, and medical school at the University of Missouri-Kansas City in 2001. Currently, his area of research is studying serum biomarkers and vascular progenitor cells for age-related macular degeneration. Previous work in angiogenesis yielded two patents for techniques used to treat macular degeneration. His extensive efforts have already yielded a book chapter, entitled “Hereditary/congenital chorioretinal disorders” in Retinal Imaging, as well as thirty three publications and presentations. UNC has awarded him a Clinical Translational Science Award (K12 Scholars Program) so he can devote 75% of his time to research. The remainder of his time will be spent seeing patients at the Ambulatory Care Center at UNC or one of the Ophthalmology satellite clinics.

Dr. Chavala recently completed missionary work in southern India restoring vision for the underprivileged. He and his wife enjoy traveling and hiking together.
Images of Sight

New Technology Enhances Patient Care and Physician Training

The smallest of details in the eye provide ophthalmologists with vital information for better diagnosis and treatment. UNC Eye now has valuable new diagnostic, assessment, and communications tools that support patient care services. Some of the instruments enlarge an image of the retina almost 150 times providing microscopic detail for the ophthalmologist to examine. Others provide detail not otherwise visible on the eye examination.

UNC Eye began using advanced software in 2008 that for the first time brings together images and data produced by different instruments. The iViews Imaging System allows UNC Eye physicians to quickly display a patient’s many different images, including views taken at earlier appointments. Previously, physicians primarily had used printouts from each instrument, which meant having to refer to many separate sheets of paper.

Ophthalmology professor Maurice Landers, MD, has been among the earliest adopters of iViews. “The iViews system gives us an important capability. It connects easily to essentially any image-generating equipment in ophthalmology departments,” he says. In addition, Odette Houghton, MD, assistant professor of ophthalmology and a vitreoretinal specialist, appreciates the value of conveniently viewing “large, high-resolution images that can be...”

continued on page 6
He was inspired by UNC’s mission as a public university to care for affluent and indigent patients alike. “I’ve seen their dedication to patients, regardless of their ability to pay,” Chace says. “I decided to pick up some of that slack. We’d get that equipment in there so they can take care of patients.

“They train the doctors who will go out into the world and take care of people. That’s why I like working especially with UNC. They want to do so much.”

The OCT Cirrus, the digital fundus camera – which images the inner lining of the eye – and its camera back were funded through the generosity of the North Carolina Lions Foundation.

Funds for the OCT Visante were provided by Bruce Barron, MD, the Hettinger Foundation, Karen Meredith, and Travis Meredith, MD.

**Patients benefit from new imaging instruments**

Patients and their doctors can benefit from UNC Eye’s new, leading-edge instruments that provide amazingly detailed, 3-D images of the eye. The instruments use an advanced technology called optical coherence tomography (OCT). OCT images are important in patient care and for clinical trials. The new OCT Visante and OCT Cirrus instruments help clarify the disease process and the results of treatment. To store and manage the images, new camera equipment has been purchased. The OCT Visante allows for cross-sectional imaging of the anterior part of the eye. The availability of the Visante has improved preoperative planning and postoperative management of new corneal transplant procedures. Importantly, the Visante has improved surgical teaching of the residents by allowing the residents to view and analyze operative incisions and accuracy of intraocular lens placement.

**Images above represent retinal changes due to diabetic edema and macular degeneration.**

Our new iViews software fits in well with the department’s implementation of a state-of-the-art electronic medical records (EMR) system, which converts a patient’s paper chart into computerized records. Having a patient’s records together and immediately accessible helps give physicians the information they need for critical decision-making. “It also helps save patients time because it improves efficiency and workflow, making information available to the many different people who care for each patient,” says ophthalmology professor Maurice Landers, MD, who has led our EMR efforts.

UNC Eye is a leader in adopting electronic medical records, used by fewer than 20% of US physicians. Our EMR implementation has been accomplished with the kind support of the Lincoln Healthcare Foundation.
Back around 1982, Carolina sophomore and new hospital volunteer Jon Brisley happened to be assigned to Kenneth Cohen’s cornea clinic. One day, Brisley remembers, “A gentleman, a patient of his, came in. He was thanking Dr. Cohen, and he had tears in his eyes. Dr. Cohen had done corneal transplants on both eyes, and he said he had seen his granddaughter’s face for the first time. I realized there was the potential to do wonderful things for people, and that’s where I wanted to be.”

After completing his residency in 1992, the Greensboro native migrated north to Roanoke, Virginia. He helped found Vistar, now among the largest private practices in the state, with 15 ophthalmologists and two optometrists. He relishes his role as managing partner. “You have to realize people are not just employees. They’re people who are trying to strike a balance between work and maintaining a pleasant home life, which is sometimes tough.

“The other challenge, more business-oriented, is dealing with competition, whether it’s another group or, in our situation now, a large not-for-profit hospital. That has opened a whole new world of challenges.”

With his wife Amy, also a Carolina graduate, he gives back to their community through church work. Brisley has utilized his skills on a mission to Ecuador and there are plans for more mission work in the future. For several years, their family also has helped a family of nine refugees from Burundi, Africa.

Brisley’s memories of his residency include the young woman who walked into the emergency department with a butcher knife protruding from right below her brow. “In the OR, they had to literally hammer it out. I think it had penetrated the orbit,” he recalls. “A surgeon could not have placed this thing better. She had no neurological deficit, no brain damage. But it was the strangest looking x-ray you’ve ever seen.

“I enjoyed my time at Carolina. You learn the value of teamwork, the value of working hard, and also that hard work pays off. More importantly, the attendings stressed that the patients come first. That’s a lesson you don’t forget.”

The Brisley’s keep close contact with Carolina, supporting UNC Eye as well as sponsoring scholarships in the medical school and Ram’s Club. “I’m very grateful for the time and effort that other people put into my education,” he says. “I wouldn’t be here without them.”

Where are they now — John Brisley, MD

Periodically, Kenneth B. Simons, MD, toasts the unknown person who recommended him to the Medical College of Wisconsin. That was 21 years ago, and today Simons is senior associate dean for academic affairs, in charge of 800 students. He loves it.

Originally from Boston, Simons completed his residency at UNC in 1984, and then went to Jules Stein Eye Institute at UCLA for a two-year fellowship. He was at the University of Arizona in Tucson for three years before finding a home in Wisconsin.

“I wouldn’t be where I am were it not for Carolina and the people I met and worked with. There was just a great team of people. You can’t do it by yourself. I learned that at Carolina. We learned everybody was important, and the goal was to take care of patients in the best possible way.”

Among Carolina memories is his first cataract surgery, which he felt had gone very well. “The next day, Dr. Eifrig took me to task like you cannot believe in front of all the other residents.” Later, he asked Eifrig about it. “He said, ‘You did a good job, absolutely terrific. But I didn’t want any of y’all getting a big head, so I needed to bring you down a peg or two and teach you reality.’ Dr. Eifrig was one of the truly great mentors in my life.”

He enjoys his administrative role immensely and holds a holistic view of students. Far more than grades and board scores, “They’re human beings with dreams and desires. I have a chance to make a difference in their lives. And I have a vested interest, because these are the people who are going to be taking care of me. I want them to be the best they can be.”

Simons is as enthusiastic about ophthalmology, on which he devotes 40 percent of his time. “We all went into this because we wanted to take care of people. It still excites me.”

About Carolina, he says, “I miss the people, the camaraderie. NC Memorial Hospital is a great hospital. I miss the weather. You’d always get that week in February when you’d hit 70 degrees, and you knew that spring was just around the corner. It is a nice place to raise a family. And there’s something vibrant about a college community that you just don’t get anywhere else.”

Where are they now — Kenneth Simons, MD
Dr. Matej Polomsky joins the Kittner Eye Center and the UNC Department of Ophthalmology after completing an Internship year in the Department of Internal Medicine at the Georgetown University Hospital in Washington, D.C. Originally from Slovakia, Dr. Polomsky received his Bachelor of Arts & Sciences in Biology and Psychology from Northwestern University. Following the completion of his undergraduate studies, he went on to receive his medical education from New York Medical College in May, 2008.

Dr. Hart Moss joins the Kittner Eye Center and the UNC Department of Ophthalmology after finishing a Transitional Year at St. Francis Hospital in Evanston, Illinois. Born in Milwaukee, WI, Dr. Moss attended the University of Wisconsin at Madison for his undergraduate studies where he received a Bachelor of Arts & Sciences in Biology. Upon completion of his work, he remained at the University of Wisconsin for his medical education which he completed in May, 2008.

Dr. Jay Meyer joins the Kittner Eye Center and the UNC Department of Ophthalmology after completing a Preliminary Internship in the Department of Internal Medicine at the University of Utah School of Medicine. Born in Logan, Utah, Dr. Meyer has never strayed to far from his home state. After receiving his undergraduate degree in Microbiology from Weber State University, he went on to receive a Masters in Public Health from the University of Utah School of Medicine before moving on to receive his medical education from the same institution.

Dr. Matheson Harris completed his residency training at UNC Eye in June, 2009. Dr. Harris has begun a fellowship at West Virginia University in Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery.

Dr. Lydia Hsu left UNC Eye in late June, 2009 after the completion of her residency training. Dr. Hsu headed west as she moved to Palo Alto, CA to begin her Glaucoma fellowship at Stanford University.

Dr. Isaac Porter also finished his time with UNC Eye in late June, 2009 upon the completion of his residency training. Dr. Porter is currently a fellow in Cornea, External Disease and Refractive Surgery at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

All of the faculty, residents, and staff of UNC Eye would like to wish Drs. Harris, Hsu, and Porter all the best with their future endeavors.

M. Bowes Hamill, MD Presents 2009 McPherson Memorial Lecture

M. Bowes Hamill, MD, Associate Professor of Ophthalmology at the Baylor College of Medicine, presented the 2009 S. Dace McPherson, Jr. Memorial Lecture at the annual Residents’ Day on June 20, 2009. Invited by the residents to be their guest lecturer, Dr. Hamill presented two lectures titled, “Medical Ethics: Where We Came From and Where We Are Going” and “Reconstructive Approaches to the Anterior Segment.”
Dr. Amy Fowler presented with Arthur C. Chandler Teaching Award

Matheson Harris, MD, a 3rd year resident at the time, presented Amy M. Fowler, MD, Assistant Professor and Residency Program Director at UNC Eye, with the 2009 Arthur C. Chandler, MD Resident Teaching Award at the annual Residents’ Dinner and Awards Ceremony held June 20, 2009. Presented annually and voted on by the residents, the Chandler Teaching Award is given to the Faculty member the residents feel has most contributed to their education in the previous year. A member of the Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery service at UNC Eye, Dr. Fowler assumed controls of the Residency Program in the fall of 2008. Since then, she has made an impact on the current residents and their educational experience, as noted by current Chief Resident, Neda Esmaili, MD, “As Residency Program Director, Dr. Fowler has been committed to enhancing the quality of resident education. She has been exceptionally receptive to resident needs, and her initiatives have had a positive impact on our training and experience. She is a true resident advocate and we are grateful for her hard work and dedication.”

Dr. Graham LylesPresented with The Frederick W. Stocker Award

Dr. Amy Fowler presented the 2009 Frederick W. Stocker Award for Outstanding Resident Research to Dr. Graham Lyles, 2nd year resident at UNC Eye, at this year’s Residents’ Dinner and Award Ceremony. Dr. Lyles was presented the award for his research project titled, “Bimanual Clear Corneal Incisions: Wound Architecture and Natural History.” Dr. Lyles’ project was sponsored by Kenneth L. Cohen, MD, Professor of Ophthalmology at UNC Eye.

Fellow Update

George Escaravage, MD completed his Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery fellowship with Jonathan Dutton, MD, PhD in June, 2008. He has spent nearly the last decade in Chapel Hill completing his medical education at the UNC School of Medicine, his residency training at UNC Eye, and most recently his fellowship. Dr. Escaravage, his wife Vaishali and their young daughter have now taken residency in Wilmington, NC and he has joined the Coastal Carolina Eye Clinic.

Jan Niklas Ulrich, MD began the 2nd and final year of his surgical retina fellowship in mid-October, 2009.

Daniel Sines, MD began his fellowship training in Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery under the guidance of Jonathan Dutton, MD, PhD and Amy Fowler, MD in August, 2009. Dr. Sines attended Purdue University for his undergraduate degree in Health Sciences and went on to the Indiana University School of Medicine where he received his medical education and specialty training in Ophthalmology.
Jonathan J. Dutton, MD, PhD, Professor of Ophthalmology, and UNC Eye hosted the Annual Spring Meeting of the International Orbital Society in Chapel Hill over the weekend of April 24 – 26, 2009. Twenty-five of the world’s leading members in the field representing nine countries and four continents came together for the weekend to present and discuss unique and interesting cases and the latest innovations in orbital eye disease.

On June 12 – 13, 2009 Dr. Dutton was the keynote speaker at the 12th Annual Samsung University Medical Center Oculoplastics Symposium held in Seoul, South Korea. More than 350 attendees from Korea and surrounding countries attended this meeting. At the symposium Dr. Dutton lectured on Thyroid Eye Disease, Eyelid Anatomy, Eyelid Reconstruction, and Blepharospasm and Hemifacial Spasm and he also spent time giving several lectures to the medical center’s ophthalmology residents.

Dr. Dutton was appointed Editor-in-Chief of the journal, Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (OPRS) in July, 2009. OPRS is the leading global Oculoplastics journal publishing more than 200 original papers each year and its editorial office will now be located in the UNC Department of Ophthalmology.

Odette M. Houghton, MD, Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology, was elected president of the North Carolina Society of Eye Physicians and Surgeons (NCSEPS) and served as the Program Chair of the 2009 Annual Joint Meeting of NCSEPS and the South Carolina Society of Ophthalmology, which was held in Myrtle Beach, SC on September 10 - 13, 2009. UNC Eye was well represented at the meeting as Faculty, Staff, Fellows and Residents presented at the meeting, including: Amy M. Fowler MD, Travis A. Meredith MD, Sarah Moyer, CRA, OCT-C, John D. Wright, Jr. MD, along with UNC Eye residents Neda Esmaili, Graham Lyles, Mathew Aschbrenner, and Vitreoretinal Fellow, J. Niklas Ulrich.

The Student Health Action Coalition (SHAC) located in Carrboro, NC is the nation’s oldest student run medical clinic and now has a dedicated Ophthalmology Clinic thanks in part to the efforts of Maurice B. Landers, III, MD, Professor of Ophthalmology, and third year UNC School of Medicine students Emily Roemer and Anna Berry. In addition to serving as the Faculty Advisor to the clinic, Dr. Landers, along with Wendy Marbury, Ophthalmic Technician in The Kittner Eye Center, provided a significant donation to the clinic allowing them to purchase the necessary equipment to continue serving the unique medical needs of the community. The Lombart Instrument Company of Greensboro, NC was also instrumental in getting this new Eye Clinic started, through the donation of a used Zeiss Slit Lamp. After completing basic ophthalmology equipment training, UNC Medical Students work with Ophthalmologists and Resident Physicians to provide basic eye care along with screenings and referrals for more complex diagnoses such as glaucoma, macular degeneration and diabetic retinopathy.

Terete Borras, PhD, Professor of Ophthalmology and the principle investigator for the Molecular Mechanisms of Glaucoma and Gene Therapy Program at UNC was the International Coordinator of the Laboratory of Eye Research subspecialty for the 24th Congress of the APAO-AAO (Joint meeting of the Asian-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology and the American Academy of Ophthalmology), held in Bali in
May, 2009. Along with Calvin Pang, MD of The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Dr. Borras co-organized four sessions for the congress and presented results of her own research in a talk entitled, “Effects of Statins on calcification markers of the human trabecular meshwork.”

Mary Elizabeth Hartnett, MD, Professor of Ophthalmology, was the featured invited speaker at 115th Annual French Congress of Ophthalmology Meeting held in Paris, France on May 9 - 13, 2009, where she presented, “Research Insights into Retinopathy of Prematurity.” Along with numerous speaking engagements, Dr. Hartnett also authored, co-authored or contributed to three book chapters and thirteen peer-reviewed articles. Dr. Hartnett was awarded a significant grant of nearly $500,000 from stimulus funds administered by the National Eye Institute for purchase of new equipment for her laboratory.

W. Craig Fowler, MD, Associate Professor of Ophthalmology, was presented with a Merit Award from the Eye Bank Association of America on June 20, 2009. Dr. Fowler was recognized with this award for serving as the Director of Ophthalmic Technician education for the Eye Bank Association of America for the past 10 years.

Ground Rounds & Visiting Professor

Grand Rounds and Visiting Professorships are held from 8:00 – 10:00am in 1131 Bioinformatics Building unless otherwise noted. Each session has been approved for two hours of CME Category I Credit. The NC Board of Optometry has also approved two hours of CE for optometrists. You can also view a list of all upcoming CME events at UNC Eye by visiting our website at www.unceye.org, or by contacting the CME Coordinator, Matt O’Neal at 919-843-0264 or via email at matthew_oneal@med.unc.edu.

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<td>January 23, 2010</td>
<td>Retina Visiting Professor</td>
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<td>Gerald A. Fishman, MD</td>
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<td>Professor of Ophthalmology</td>
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<td>February 6, 2010</td>
<td>Cornea Visiting Professor</td>
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<td>C. Stephen Foster, MD</td>
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<td>Founder &amp; President, Massachusetts Eye Research and Surgery Institution</td>
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<td>Professor of Ophthalmology, Harvard Medical School</td>
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<td>March 5, 2010</td>
<td>Pediatric Ophthalmology Grand Rounds</td>
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<td>April 10, 2010</td>
<td>Neuro-Ophthalmology Visiting Professor:</td>
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<td>The Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN</td>
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<td>May 8, 2010</td>
<td>Oculoplastics Visiting Professor</td>
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<td>Chair, Department of Ophthalmology</td>
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<td>Wilford Hall Medical Center, San Antonio, TX</td>
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<td>June 19, 2010</td>
<td>UNC Eye Residents’ Research Day</td>
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save-the-date

March 27, 2010  2010 UNC Eye Symposium and Ophthalmic Technician Course
The Sunflower Room • William & Ida Friday Center
Chapel Hill, NC
Featured Speakers:
• Jay S. Pepose, MD, PhD
  Director, Pepose Vision Institute
  Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology
  Washington University School of Medicine
• Frederick A. Jakobiek, MD
  Director, David C. Cogan Ophthalmic Pathology Laboratory Massachusetts Eye & Ear Infirmary
• Michael T. Trese, MD
  Chief, Pediatric and Adult Vitreoretinal Surgery
  Beaumont Eye Institute, W.M. Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak, MI