

# OIUF

THE OCULAR IMMUNOLOGY  
AND UVEITIS FOUNDATION

*Dedicated to Eye Disease Cure and Education*

## Ocular Immunology and Uveitis Foundation

### Massachusetts Eye Research and Surgery Institution

C. Stephen Foster, M.D., F.A.C.S., F.A.C.R., F.A.R.V.O.

Clinical Professor of Ophthalmology Harvard Medical School



Spring/Summer 2016



## Annual Giving Spotlight: Patricia and Bruce Bartlett

***Patricia Bartlett and her husband, Bruce, have graciously given annually to OIUF for many years. Their continued support and dedication to our Mission has contributed to the training and education of countless Fellows and ocular immunologists, as well as research projects stemmed towards finding cures for ocular inflammatory disease. Patricia agreed to share her story below and why she and her husband choose to continuously support the Foundation each year.***

If anyone were to ask me how to describe 2007, it would have to be a roller-coaster of emotions. My daughter was getting married and as any parent who has been through the process of planning a wedding, you can appreciate the stress, joy, and nostalgia of giving your daughter away. Luckily, the polymyalgia rheumatica I was diagnosed with years ago was not flaring despite the excitement and I was happy my joints remained pain-free. The week of her wedding also began the largest wildfires in California history. Living in San Diego, we experienced the smoke, ash, and pollution firsthand.

To add another log to the fire, I woke up one morning that week looking through a cloud, with the pupil in my right eye fully dilated. I knew this was not normal so I went to my local ophthalmologist who diagnosed me with uveitis. Knowing my history with an autoimmune disease, he assumed the uveitis and arthritis were connected. I was initially treated with prednisone, yet every time we attempted to wean me off, I experienced a flare. Additionally, my eye pressures were going up due to the steroids. I was placed on numerous eye drops to control the pressures, but my eyes kept getting red and irritated.

A year and a half had passed and neither the uveitis nor the pressures were under control. I went to my PCP and said “please, help me!” Since my diagnosis, I had been researching online and found Dr. Foster and the [www.uveitis.org](http://www.uveitis.org) website. I asked my PCP what he thought about seeing one of the doctors from the website that practices in Los Angeles (there is unfortunately nobody in San Diego). My PCP, who had seen me through everything in the past 18 months, said “Why don’t you go right to the source and go to Boston to see Dr. Foster yourself? You’re from Boston. Go home and get some answers.” It was the push I needed to hear. My husband and I booked our travel to Massachusetts and never looked back. During my first appointment, Dr. Foster took one look at my eyes and told me “I think your ophthalmologist in San Diego will be embarrassed when he receives my notes. You have herpes in your eye.” Dr. Foster concluded I had an extremely difficult case of herpetic uveitis and was allergic to many of the eye drops, which is why my eyes continued to be red over the past months.

It was easy to assume an autoimmune disease was linked with my uveitis based on my medical history, but my local physicians did not dig deep enough and look at the big picture to determine if any other causes could be attributing to my symptoms. I am happy to report that since my first visit with Dr. Foster, I have been put on antiviral medication, my glaucoma from the months of steroids is now under control, and my vision has improved significantly from cataract surgery performed by Dr. Foster. I now see Dr. Foster twice a year in Massachusetts and follow up locally with my ophthalmologist in California.

*Continued on page 9*



## Calendar of Events

**August 21, 2016**

*Boston Walk for Vision*  
Hyatt Regency Cambridge

**September 25, 2016**

*NJ/NY Walk for Vision*  
Verona Park Boathouse

**October 2016**

*Support Group Meeting*

**November 12, 2016**

*Posterior Segment Summit*  
Waltham, MA

**Spring 2017**

*11th Annual Auction Benefit*

Cut along the dotted line and retain for reference.



# OIUF

THE OCULAR IMMUNOLOGY  
AND UVEITIS FOUNDATION

*Dedicated to Eye Disease Cure and Education*

## Our Mission

The Ocular Immunology and Uveitis Foundation is a 501c(3), national non-profit, tax-exempt organization. Our mission is to find cures for ocular inflammatory diseases, to erase the worldwide deficit of properly trained ocular immunologists, and to provide education and emotional support for those patients afflicted with ocular inflammatory disease.

## How You Can Make A Visible Difference

Your gifts and donations help the work of the Ocular Immunology and Uveitis Foundation in achieving our mission.

To help meet your philanthropic goals, OIUF accepts gifts of many types, including appreciated securities, bequests, real estate, qualified retirement and life income gifts.

**For more information please contact  
Alison Justus at (781) 647-1431 x407  
or email oiuf@uveitis.org**

**Please use the enclosed envelope  
for your donation**

*Wedding Bells are Ringing!*



**Congratulations!** Are you one of many happy couples planning a wedding this time of year?

Instead of traditional favors, consider a donation to the Ocular Immunology and Uveitis Foundation and begin your marriage with a gift of sight!

For information on how to make a donation, contact Alison Justus, Director of Development and Programs, at [ajustus@mersi.com](mailto:ajustus@mersi.com)

**[www.uveitis.org](http://www.uveitis.org)**

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## Letter from Our President



**C. Stephen Foster, M.D.**

It has been quite a busy season for OIUF since we last updated you in December.

In April the Foundation had its 10th Annual Auction Benefit in Boston, a move from its usual time in the Fall. It is wonderful to see so many supporters and donors, including Olympic Medalist Nancy Kerrigan. Yet, what I enjoyed celebrating the most that evening, was watching Demi Miller, a patient of mine, share her story before the Live Auction began. You see, despite traveling from Pennsylvania to seek care from a uveitis specialist, Demi's story is a dream story. Her parents were not satisfied with the care she was receiving in Philadelphia, so they researched what else could be done for their daughter to preserve her sight. They brought Demi to Massachusetts to me early, and now, in remission, she is attending college with plans to become a physician.

This is why we do what we do every day through OIUF. The importance of training ocular immunologists cannot be overstated. Throughout my career, I have cared for countless patients who already have permanent damage by the time they reach a uveitis specialist. Unlike the joint in an arthritis patient, the eye is very unforgiving; it cannot sustain the same level of inflammation as other parts of the body without damage causing loss of vision. Therefore, it is critical that proper treatment is initiated early and for the correct length of time to prevent irreversible vision loss.

In addition to the training of Fellows, speaking at conferences allows us to reach a greater audience of patients and physicians. This winter, I gave the David Easty Lecture at the Bowman Club, Royal College of Surgeons in Glasgow, Scotland. In May, I traveled to Lebanon and was an Honored Guest Lecturer at the Annual Meeting of the Lebanese Ophthalmological Society. Also speaking at this meeting was one of my former Fellows, Rola Hamam, MD. She, like many former Fellows, continue this practice of educating other physicians regarding ocular inflammatory disease with the hopes of spreading the knowledge learned during her OIUF Fellowship in order to prevent improper treatment of patients.

Many of our current Fellows (and former Fellows) presented at this year's Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology Conference (ARVO) held in Seattle, Washington in May. ARVO is the largest and most respected organization devoted to research in ophthalmology and to have so many of my students present each year is truly a testament to their dedication to expanding the knowledge and field of ocular immunology.

This summer, I will be speaking at the Lancaster Course in Ophthalmology at Colby College, (my 36th year) which is the oldest and largest ophthalmic educational course in the world. This course is tailored for residents-in-training and practicing ophthalmologists and happens to be where I met a young and ambitious resident by the name of Stephen Anesi, who then applied for a uveitis fellowship at MERSI. Of course, he was later matched as an OIUF Fellow and is now a Partner at MERSI.

We cannot do the work we do alone. The support from donors such as Bruce and Patricia Bartlett, and Richard and Margaret Rhodes, as well as fundraising initiatives such as the Auction and the upcoming Walk for Vision allows us to train future ophthalmologists through our Fellowship Program and continue the research needed to find cures for ocular inflammatory diseases. Thank you for your continued support and I hope to see you at our future events.

With sincerest best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. Stephen Foster".

C. Stephen Foster, MD

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## Where In the World Are Former Foster Fellows?

**Katrina Palafox, MD**

***Subspecialty Chief, Uveitis***

***Secretary, Executive Committee for the Department of Ophthalmology - Makati Medical Center  
Consultant Staff - Asian Hospital and Medical Center, Manila, Philippines***



**Former OIUF Fellow Katrina Palafox, MD (center) with her residents Neil and Angeli in the Philippines, who have expressed a special interest in Ocular Immunology and Uveitis**

I was born and raised in the Philippines and completed my residency training at the Department of Health Eye Center in Manila. During my years in residency, I realized that in the third world setting, it was common for many patients with ocular inflammatory disease to seek consult in the advanced stage, sometimes unfortunately, too late.

In order to change this, I traveled half way across the globe to study through OIUF's Fellowship program at the Massachusetts Eye Research and Surgery Institution. When I began my Fellowship in 2009, little did I know that even in one of the most progressive parts of the world – there still remains a need to increase awareness in visually disabling conditions such as uveitis. While at MERSI, I could not help

but admire the fervor of Dr. Foster and the entire team to educate us fellows and cultivate in us fortitude to diagnose and help manage such conditions.

Now back home in my fifth year in practice, whenever I am challenged by intimidatingly difficult cases, it helps to think along the lines of "WWFD?"– What Would Dr. Foster Do? The seed for my passion for uveitis and ocular immunology was definitely planted as a mentee of Dr. Foster. I continue to learn and have come to love the challenge in trying to diagnose and provide treatment, alongside the rheumatologist or immunology internist, tailor-fit to each patient. Our team tries our best to persevere, despite the times of frustration out of a long search for the etiology of the disease or stubbornness of some inflammatory conditions, which both the patient and his family openly express to us at times.

I have also come to love teaching residents in the Makati Medical Center, Metro Manila. I encourage them to approach uveitis as a “fun puzzle” to solve and allow them to develop inquisitiveness to make the task less daunting. Although ocular immunology/uveitis remains to be a less popular choice as a subspecialty, I am happy to report that there are now almost 20 members of the Philippine Ocular Inflammatory Society (POIS) under another former Foster fellow, Junjie Ocampo. Still the challenge to reach uveitis patients in the 7000 islands outside Manila remains.

I am humbled to have been a part of the first national webinar organized by Junjie and other officers of the POIS and the Philippine Academy of Ophthalmology. Live streaming of the lecture series was broadcasted to Cebu, Legazpi and Batac, areas about 300 miles each from the capital. I also realize that even in the rest of the Asian region, there is still a lack of ocular immunologists evidenced by a few referrals received by my colleagues and myself from Pakistan, India and even the Middle East.

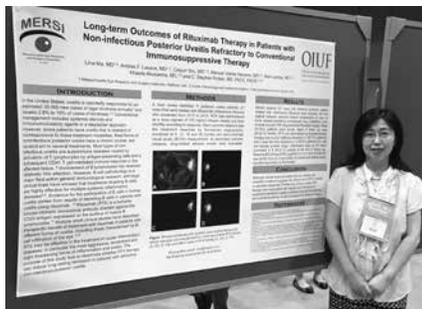
Outside hospital and academic life, I enjoy traveling to the local pristine beaches with my handsome and very supportive fiancé, Dennis. After our wedding in June 2016, I look forward to revisiting Japan, Thailand and Coron, Palawan for our honeymoon.

# 2016 Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) Annual Meeting

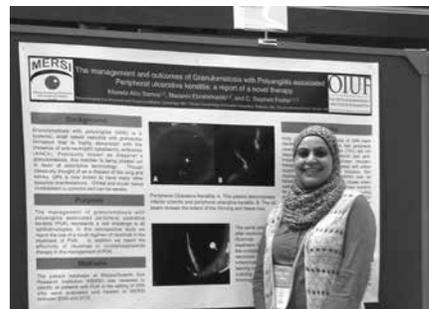
In May, several OIUF Fellows traveled to Seattle, Washington to present their research at the annual Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) Meeting. This is the largest meeting devoted to research in ophthalmology. While there, the Foster Ocular Immunology Society (FOIS) comprised of current and former Fellows of Dr. Foster, gathered for dinner and to discuss interesting cases in ocular immunology.



**OIUF Director of Development and Programs Alison Justus with Former OIUF Fellow Luis Gonzalez, MD**



**Current OIUF Fellow Lina Ma, MD presents her research on "Longterm Outcomes of Rituximab Therapy in Patients with Non-infectious Posterior Uveitis Refractory to Conventional Immunosuppressive Therapy"**



**Current Fellow Khawla Abusamra, MD presents her research on "The Management and Outcomes of Granulomatosis with Polyangiitis associated Peripheral Ulcerative Keratitis: A Report of a Novel Therapy"**



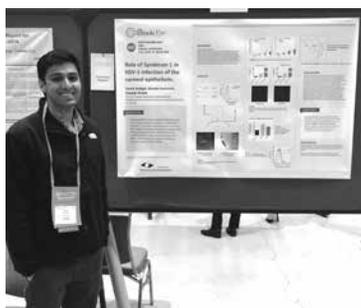
**Current Fellows stop by the OIUF booth**



**Former OIUF Fellow Maite Sainz de la Maza, MD visits the OIUF booth**



**Former Fellows gathered at the Foster Ocular Inflammation Society (FOIS) Dinner**



## 2016 ARVO OIUF Travel Grant Recipient - Satvik Hadigal

I was overjoyed to be chosen as a recipient of the 2016 Ocular Immunology and Uveitis Foundation Travel Grant. This award has allowed me to pursue my goals of attending the 2016 ARVO Conference. I am working towards becoming an academic physician with interests in microbiology, immunology and ophthalmology. Support for research is invaluable to those of us with interests in academic medicine, and I am very grateful to have your foundation's support to present our laboratory's research on the mechanism of herpes simplex virus pathology in the eye. Attending ARVO has made me excited about continuing research on this topic as I received many interesting questions and ideas from fellow attendees.

The Ocular Immunology and Uveitis Foundation Travel Grant was more than a distinction to me; it represents a significant step towards my growth as a physician-researcher. This honor provides me with a platform to begin accomplishing challenges and goals that I have set before me: to outline my own research, attend conferences and meetings to present my studies, and ultimately, to revolutionize medicine and patient care in ways unimagined. Thank you!

# SAVE THE DATES

## WALK FOR VISION:



### **BOSTON**

*Sunday, August 21, 2016  
Hyatt Regency Cambridge  
Boston, MA*

[https://sna.etapestry.com/fundraiser/  
OcularImmunologyandUveitis/2016BostonWalk/](https://sna.etapestry.com/fundraiser/OcularImmunologyandUveitis/2016BostonWalk/)



### **NEW JERSEY/NEW YORK**

*Sunday, September 25, 2016  
Verona Park Boathouse  
Verona, NJ*

[https://sna.etapestry.com/fundraiser/  
OcularImmunologyandUveitis/NJNYWalk/](https://sna.etapestry.com/fundraiser/OcularImmunologyandUveitis/NJNYWalk/)



### **POSTERIOR SEGMENT SUMMIT**

*Saturday, November 12, 2016  
Westin/Waltham Boston  
Waltham, MA*

### **11<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL AUCTION BENEFIT**

*Spring 2017  
Boston, MA*



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## 10th Annual Auction Benefit

On Friday April 29, 2016 OIUF held its 10th Annual Auction Benefit at Space 57 at the Revere Hotel in Boston, MA. Many thanks to Co-Chairs Jennifer Hughes and Andrea Patisteas, as well as our volunteers. Marie Keep of Skinner Auctioneers and Appraisers joined us for the 10th year as our auctioneer. Our guest speaker was Demi Miller, who bravely shared her story with JIA-associated uveitis. She originally traveled from Pennsylvania to Boston due to the lack of specialists in her home state and is now in remission. She is currently in college with her sight set towards medical school. The event raised over \$100,000 for OIUF.



**Marie Keep and Samantha French**



**Dr. Foster and his wife Frances**



**Sue Paulson gathers with friends**



**Demi Miller shares her story**



**Guests view a silent auction bid**



**Live auction bidding begins**



**Bryan and Andrea Belton**



**Olympic Figure Skater Nancy Kerrigan with  
MERSI Physician Stephen Anesi, MD**



**Steven and Susanne Tallarida**

# Uveitis Support Group

The Uveitis/OID Support Group is a patient education and mutual support resource founded in 1996 by Dr. Foster, Frances Foster MS, NP, John Hurley LICSW, and patients of Dr. Foster. Our mission is to educate patients, their family members and friends, and the medical community about ocular inflammatory disease and to facilitate the exchange of information, emotional support, and mutual aid between members. We are also deeply committed to raising funds to support research related to the causes and effective treatment of uveitis/OID.

Please take advantage of all our free services in this upcoming year: support group meetings; online support groups for kids and adults; the website with a support group page for adults, parents, and children; parent/teacher guide; and A Guide to Ocular Inflammatory Disease. Our support group runs on generous contributions to the support group under the Foundation from our members, their family and friends.

We have six support group meetings a year. The meetings are committed to support, not criticism, and no medical advice is given unless the person has a medical degree to do so. All meetings are based at the Massachusetts Eye Research and Surgery Institution (MERSI) in Waltham, Massachusetts. The time of each meeting varies to try to meet the needs of our members with some occurring in the day and others in the evening. Please see the event calendar for the next upcoming meeting.

## ***Can't attend a meeting? Get support online!***

**In addition to the onsite meetings, the Uveitis/OID Support Group has an online support group and informational website for adults, parents, and kids. For more information, point your web browser to [www.uveitis.org](http://www.uveitis.org) and click on the Support Group links for a list of these wonderful and informative resources.**

**Or if you just want to ask a question of an expert, go to our "Ask Dr. Foster" page.**

## **facebook**

The [Ocular Immunology and Uveitis Foundation](http://www.facebook.com/ocularimmunologyanduveitisfoundation) reaches over 2500 fans on Facebook! Are you one of them? Visit the OIUF page at [www.facebook.com/ocularimmunologyanduveitisfoundation](http://www.facebook.com/ocularimmunologyanduveitisfoundation) and click the "Like" button at the top of the page to receive the latest updates about our activities and photos of our recent events, including the Walk for Vision and the annual Auction Benefit.

**New Teen Support Group on Facebook!** Kids 14 and older are welcome to join this private group for teens with ocular inflammatory disease. Email Ashley Floreen at [afloreen@mersi.com](mailto:afloreen@mersi.com) to join!



OIUF is on Twitter! Follow us at <http://twitter.com/#!/uveitis1>



OIUF is on Instagram! Follow us at [oiuf2020](https://www.instagram.com/oiuf2020)

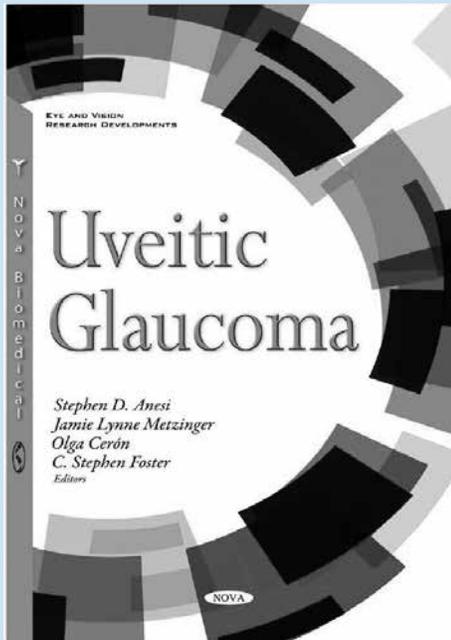
**The Kids Club is back!** Check out our updated online support group for kids 13 and under. Email adult moderator Liz Irvin at [eirvin@comcast.net](mailto:eirvin@comcast.net) for the protected password.

## **Monthly Giving**

Monthly giving to OIUF allows us to spend more of our resources on finding cures for ocular inflammatory diseases and less on administrative costs. Monthly giving is easy and secure. You choose the amount to give each month. You can change the amount or cancel at any time. Sign up today and help make a difference in the life of a patient with OID.



**Sign up today at <https://sna.etapestry.com/prod/Main2.jsp>**



## **Hot off the Press!**

Uveitic Glaucoma provides an overview of the disease, as well as the pathophysiology, diagnosis, management, and an examination of the disease in specific populations. The term “uveitic glaucoma” is used to describe glaucoma associated with uveitis or ocular inflammation. It is an important, yet underappreciated condition, as uveitis and glaucoma separately account for a substantial proportion of cases of blindness worldwide. Their co-occurrence, however, provides an additional layer of complexity for patients and their treating ophthalmologists. In this publication, we emphasize a “hands-on” medical and surgical approach aimed at educating patients and practitioners with topic sections crafted in a concise, manageable way. Basic science concepts and disease pathophysiology, including chapters focused on aqueous humor dynamics, disease classification, and normotensive uveitic glaucoma, are thoroughly reviewed. A comprehensive discussion of diagnosis, clinical management, and treatment is also included. The stepladder approach in treating the underlying disease, uveitis, is explained. Other topics of clinical interest, including pediatric uveitic glaucoma, uveitic

glaucoma and pregnancy, and off-label medication use provide treatment and management guidance for special patient populations. This textbook is essential for both comprehensive ophthalmologists and specialists looking for more guidance in dealing with this complicated disease. It is available through purchase from the publisher with a link on our website at [www.uveitis.org](http://www.uveitis.org)

## **Annual Giving Spotlight** *(continued from page 1)*

Although my husband and I reside in San Diego, I wanted to remain involved with the Foundation as a way to give back for the help I was able to receive. Their website, [www.uveitis.org](http://www.uveitis.org), was a tremendous support system to me early in my diagnosis and I will occasionally receive an email from someone locally and I'll refer them to Dr. Foster or to a uveitis specialist in California. There are simply not enough specialists who know how to properly diagnosis and treat these diseases to reach everyone affected.

I am often asked how I feel about travelling across the country to seek medical care. My answer is always the same: If there was an ocular immunologist in San Diego that would be my dream. However, I am so grateful for the open communication Dr. Foster has with my local physicians in California. I cannot stress how important the continuity of care has been between all of my providers and the sharing of information and collaboration has been a key factor in my treatment.

Of course, I understand not all physicians are willing to work together, nor is everyone financially able to travel to see a specialist who can guide local physicians in a treatment plan. This deficit of Fellowship-trained ocular immunologists is a core reason why my husband and I give annually to the Foundation. It breaks my heart to see the children in the waiting room facing similar hardships, reading personal stories on the website and on the “Ask Dr. Foster” forum. There are so many stories that lead back to the Foundation, whether patients now see a Fellow trained under Dr. Foster or they were somehow able to seek care through help of another patient that led them to a specialist.

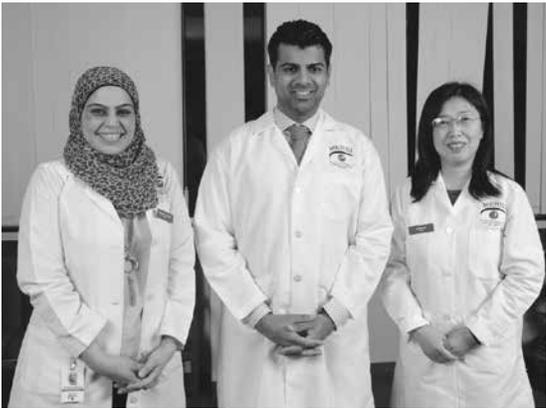
I truly cannot emphasize how grateful my husband and I are for the work Dr. Foster and the Foundation do each and every day. I have been given a second chance at sight. We hope that with the help of our annual gifts, families will one day only have to concentrate on beating the disease, not searching for a specialist thousands of miles outside their zip code.

For information on Annual Giving, please contact Alison Justus, OIUF Director of Programs and Development, at [ajustus@mersi.com](mailto:ajustus@mersi.com).

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## 2015-2016 Fellowship Update

*As graduation approaches, our Fellows share below a reflection on their year and their plans for the future.*



**Khawla Abusamra, MD, Neel Lamba, MD, Lina Ma, MD**

### **Khawla Abusamra, MD**

So, here I am after what was a truly challenging year! First of all, I want to say that I was so lucky to spend a full a year with the legendary Dr. Stephen Foster. Moving from Kansas with three small children and leaving my husband alone in order to spend a year as an OIUF Fellow at MERSI was a true challenge for me. This Fellowship was the perfect place to foster my passion and thirst for learning more about uveitis and immunology of the eye and I am very thankful for all the nice people I have met, from staff to patients, who supported me this past year. The learning opportunity I received as an OIUF Fellow was priceless. Thank you to both Dr. Foster and Dr. Anesi for all the teaching you provided. I feel that the knowledge I gained during

this year is much more than what I have learned over the past 6 years of my ophthalmology career. I have to admit that keeping up with Dr Foster's pace was not easy at all and required lots of work, studying and sneakers!

To everyone who touched my life, I say thank you. To patients who let me be part of their life. To my mentors: Dr. Foster and Dr. Anesi who tried to strengthen my passion for learning. To the administrators who supported us throughout the year. To all of the Fellows I met through this year who were there for pizza parties, study sessions, journal clubs, lab meetings and everything in between. And to all those others we depend on. Without you—without each other—there would be no purpose to being here, no way to advance. After graduation, I will be returning to Kansas to reunite my family after one year of separation. I hope that I will be able to deliver all the knowledge I gained here at MERSI as an OIUF Fellow and use it to treat patients in the Midwest, where sadly a lack of uveitis specialists remains.

### **Neel Lamba, MD**

After a year as an OIUF Clinical Fellow, I would like to express my sincere thanks to everyone I have encountered for giving me the opportunity to learn so much in my pursuit of preparing myself to treat those with vision-threatening diseases. At times my work here has been quite challenging, but it's provided me with invaluable insight about myself and my capabilities. It has been an amazing experience working with Dr. Foster and Dr. Anesi and I will miss the enthusiasm, perseverance, and the 'never give up' spirit that embodies MERSI. Dr. Foster and Dr. Anesi are truly leaders in ophthalmology, and I have no doubt that I will be leaving OIUF and MERSI with a wealth of knowledge that I will always treasure. This summer, I will be moving to Chicago to join a practice, and I will carry the "MERSI way" with me every day and I hope to inspire others in the same way that I have been inspired after my time here. MERSI is truly a unique place and I feel incredibly blessed and lucky to have spent the last year here as an OIUF Fellow and it will always have a special place in my heart.

### **Lina Ma, MD**

One year flew by so quickly! I would like to use this opportunity to thank Dr. Foster, Dr. Anesi and the staff for the opportunity to complete a one year fellowship in uveitis and ocular immunology. In the past year, I was surrounded by bright, hard-working staff, technicians, and co-fellows, and I learned a lot from them. Most importantly, I would like to express my great appreciation to the wonderful patients for welcoming us to participate in the care of your complex diseases that often spans beyond just the eyes. This unique fellowship training program, under the direction of Dr. Foster, has broadened my knowledge base, my courage, my humility, and my determination to care for complex ocular diseases. I love this fellowship training program so much and am very happy to be able to continue one more year of training with Dr. Foster and Dr. Anesi as an OIUF Fellow at MERSI.

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## Research Highlights

### **Bausch + Lomb 853**

Bausch + Lomb 853 is an observational research study to evaluate the change from baseline of endothelial cell density in eyes treated with Retisert® (fluocinolone acetonide [FA] intravitreal implant) 0.59 mg. Eligible participants will visit the clinic for three (3) study visits in total. At the first visit, current and relevant medical, ophthalmic, and medication history will be collected after the subject reads and signs a written informed consent. Baseline specular microscopy will be performed. Within 30 days, the subject will return for implantation of the Retisert and any changes to medical, ophthalmic, and medication history will be recorded. Subjects will return for a third visit approximately one year after Retisert surgery. Any changes to medical, ophthalmic, and medication history will again be recorded. Subjects are sought that are scheduled for surgical placement of a Retisert in a previously unimplanted eye, who are willing and able to comply with all treatment and follow-up/study procedures and are able and willing to provide informed consent, or assent in the case of participants 12-18 years of age. Subjects will be excluded who have previously participated in B+L 440, are monocular (unable to detect hand motion at 6 feet in 1 eye), have history of ocular surgery in the study eye within 30 days prior to screening, or any type of intraocular drug delivery implant in the study eye. Additional inclusion and exclusion criteria apply.

### **B+L 440**

Bausch + Lomb 440 is a phase 4, multi-center study to investigate Fluocinolone Acetonide (FA) intravitreal implants (both the 0.59mg and 2.1mg) on corneal endothelial cell density. Patients with a FA intravitreal implant will visit clinic one (1) time for bilateral specular microscopy. Eligible participants will be asked for current and relevant medical, ophthalmic, and medication history after signing a written informed consent. Then, bilateral specular microscopy is used to determine endothelial cell density. The risks of endothelial cell specular microscopy are similar to the risks of an ophthalmic examination using an applanation tonometer (corneal abrasion, reaction to the anesthetic, etc.), and no additional risk is known. Participants of this study must be at least six years of age, have a Retisert (FA intravitreal implant) in only one eye for at least one year, be able and willing to provide informed consent (or assent in the case of subjects under 18 years) and be willing to comply with all study requirements. Subjects who are monocular and

unable to detect hand motion at 6 feet in one eye, have known corneal dystrophy or corneal transplant, bilateral Retiserts (FA intravitreal implants), or history of ocular surgery in previous 30 days are not eligible to participate. Additional inclusion and exclusion criteria apply.

### **Novartis LFG316**

This is an open-label, multicenter, proof-of-concept study assessing the use of LFG316 in patients with active non-infectious intermediate-, posterior-, or panuveitis. This study examines the effect of intravitreal LFG316 on patients with active multifocal choroiditis and panuveitis. It is an open-label design; patients will know which dose they are receiving. Males and females between the ages of 18 and 65 are targeted for enrollment of this small study. Eligible patients will have active MFC, will be 18 to 65 years old, and will have to meet certain inflammation criteria. Certain conditions will exclude patients from this study, such as specific medications and endophthalmitis. The duration of this study is 85 days. This is comprised of a screening period, treatment period, and then a safety follow-up. Drug is in the form of intravitreal injections. Standard ophthalmic exams are part of each exam (about once a month). Additional tests are necessary at the initiation and termination of the study – blood testing, fluorescein angiography, and best corrected visual acuity. The dosing is randomly selected.

### **pSivida 006**

This study builds on a previously conducted trial of the Mk I inserter at the Ocular Immunology and Uveitis Foundation. This trial is a 12 month, phase 3, multi-center, randomized, single-masked (subject), controlled study designed to evaluate the utilization and safety of the Mk II inserter and the safety of the Fluocinolone Acetonide Intravitreal (FAI) insert, in subjects with non-infectious uveitis affecting the posterior segment of the eye. All subjects will receive the FAI insert on Day 1 of the study, administered using either an Mk I inserter or an Mk II inserter. If both eyes in a subject with bilateral uveitis satisfy the study's inclusion/exclusion criteria, both eyes may be enrolled in the study. The duration of this study is 12 months. This is comprised of a screening visit, an insertion visit, and four follow-up visits. Standard ophthalmic exams are part of each visit. Additional tests are necessary at the initiation and termination of the study – blood testing, pregnancy testing (if applicable), and visual field testing.

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## OIUF Research Reaches Global Scale

OIUF receives weekly updates from ResearchGate regarding statistics surrounding the number of times our research has been viewed, cited, and downloaded. While the results have always been quite astounding, Dr. Foster has been ranked the most read author and the most downloaded researcher in his field multiple times in the past several months. We have shared the latest total numbers below. Thank you again for your continued support in allowing physicians and patients from across the world to access the novel discoveries conducted at OIUF each day.

<b>Number of times our work has been cited</b>	<b>21,262</b>
<b>Number of times our work has been viewed/downloaded</b>	<b>14,553</b>



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## **[Publications of Interest to Physicians and Patients for Sale](#)**

***Foster, C.S., Bhatt, P., Yilmaz, T., Cervantes, R., Mauro, J. Atlas of Ocular Inflammatory Disease. 2009. Cost \$198.00***

The photographs were taken from the MERSI archives and will provide a unique resource for ophthalmologists world-wide to view various types of lesions caused by ocular inflammation as a result of roughly 100 different disorders, enabling them to more readily recognize and diagnose these diverse disorders.

***Foster, C.S., Anesi, S., Gonzalez, L., Palafox, S. Childhood Uveitis. 2011. Cost \$30.00***

Monograph from the Ocular Immunology and Uveitis Foundation's Symposium on Childhood Uveitis held on August 7, 2010 in Cambridge, MA.

*This monograph is based on the lectures delivered by the following experts in the field, Janis Arnold, David Chu, MD, David Hinkle, MD, C. Eglia Rabinovich, MD, MPH, C. Michael Samson, MD, MBA, H. Nida Sen, MD, MCHc, Howard H. Tessler, MD, Patrick Whelan, MD, PhD, and C. Stephen Foster, MD.*

***Foster CS. Birdshot Retinochoroidopathy Volume Two. 2013. Cost \$30.00***

This Monograph is based on lectures delivered from the 2nd International Symposium on Birdshot Retinochoroidopathy held in Boston on September 28, 2013.

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