

## **Training of Specialists in our Practice**

C. Stephen Foster, M.D.

Dr. Foster's practice is nearly 30 years old. Nearly since its inception, he has had a specific mission and interest in training ophthalmologists from the United States and from foreign countries in the art and science of ocular immunology. He has had this bias because of the prevalence of ocular inflammation disease creating blindness.

In the course of our training efforts, we have now educated over 100 individuals who now provide ocular immunology expertise in twenty-one countries. Many of these former trainees maintain a close connection with Dr. Foster, both through Internet interactions with , through course teaching with us at home and abroad, through common research collaborations, and through attendance of the Foster Fellows Clinical Meeting in Fort Lauderdale, Florida each May. Most of these individuals are currently engaged in consultation practices at university medical centers and in private practice. . It is a source of enormous satisfaction to watch the growth and development of individuals who come to experience the Ocular Immunology Service training program, and while it is always quite sad to see them leave at the end of their training, it provides additional joy to watch their further development in their home lands and to renew acquaintances at the scientific meetings.

I trust that each of our patients, while perhaps sometimes unenthusiastic about being examined by multiple doctors in the course of a visit with us, can also take some pleasure in the knowledge that the patient has also very measurably contributed to the growth of knowledge and the spread of blindness-prevention knowledge around the globe.