

#### @ICO\_Optometry says:

Our latest blog post, in which fashion maven @Fatimalbrahim gets a new

coat #WhiteCoatCeremor

# JOIN THE CONVERSATION

ly first post for \$50\_Optometry

im says: cited for weeks:)

Follow @ICO\_Optometry on Twitter

**@swtster** says: Survived my first day of classes at @ICO\_Optometr<mark>y! It's</mark> going to be a good year. I can feel it.

# ALSO CHECK US OUT ON and that



facebook.com/IllinoisCollegeOfOptometry

@ICO\_Optometry says: Guess who payscale named the highest paid low stress profession? #opto pinterest.com/icoptometry/



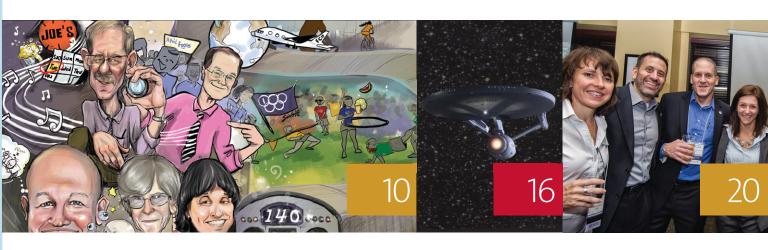
linkedin.com/company/illinois-college-of-optometry

b**andze</mark>ye** says:

Weee!

@LaurieBergman says: MLB Stadium Tour stop at The Cell for @whitesox & @Athletics; waving hello to friends at nearby @ICO\_Optometry!

@ICO\_Optometry says:
Hope you had fun in Chicago



#### **Features**

- 10 64 Essential ICO Experiences
- 16 Live Long and Prosper: ICO Alum Gives Patients Full Star Trek Experience
- 20 Homecoming 2012

#### **Departments**

- 3 President's Message
- 4 In Focus
- 24 Class Notes
- 26 In Memoriam
- 28 Second Look
- BACK COVER Datebook

#### **Cover Art:**

Sepideh Omidghaemi '15 and Saeideh Omidghaemi





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www.ico.edu

# ROADMAP TO COOS FUTURE



WE'RE
BUILDING
ICO'S NEW
STRATEGIC
PLAN AND
WANT TO
HEAR FROM

YOU

Imagine that it's 2017. What is ICO doing differently or better?

Currently, a Strategic Planning Committee is developing a five-year strategic plan for the institution. Over the next few months, we want **you** to share ideas for moving ICO forward.

It's easy!

Please email the committee at **spc@ico.edu** or mail your ideas to:

ICO Strategic Planning Committee Illinois College of Optometry 3241 S. Michigan Ave. Chicago, IL 60616



#### **ICO Strategic Planning Committee**

**President's Administrative Cabinet** Stephanie Messner, OD, FAAO (chair) Leonard Messner, OD

#### **Faculty**

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Sandra Block, OD '81, MEd, FAAO, FCOVD

#### Staff

Michael Butz Jenni Gaster Sopko

#### **Student Body**

Kevin Cassin '14 Andrew Ritter '15 ive years ago, ICO launched an ambitious strategic plan, "Focus on Our Future" (2007-2012). The plan had five major initiatives that embodied the core goals and values of the institution:

- To foster excellence in education of students and related progressive experiences in patient care
- To optimize the clinical education opportunities in patient care
- To define ICO's organizational structure, reporting relationships, and goals and objectives to be consistent with ICO's mission
- To provide for long-term investment in or replacement of ICO's assets including facilities, equipment and faculty, and provide for the eventual repayment of ICO's outstanding honds
- To improve ICO's financial operating results

I am pleased to report that by following this most recent strategic plan we have had a profound impact on the progress of the institution. The vast majority of our planning goals have been achieved. During this five-year period, ICO's progress has included:

- Many measures of excellence in the outcomes of our education of students and residents
- Rich and growing patient care activities at the Illinois Eye Institute which provide excellent optometric clinical experiences
- New and evolving patient-centered elective courses added to the curriculum
- A Project Accountability Model which has allowed the redefinition of our organizational structure while meeting the mission of ICO and doing so in a budget-appropriate manner
- New high-tech learning spaces, including the renovated Eyepod and Lecture Center
- Fiscally responsible operations that positioned the college competitively while at the same time allowing ICO to acquire new property, enhance capital equipment replacement and grow our net worth

Our success in addressing "Focus on Our Future" has put ICO in the driver's seat for re-imagining our next five-year strategic plan, which will be presented to the ICO Board of Trustees in the spring of 2013.

I wish to thank the whole ICO family for their collective work in the strategic plan's success, and feel confident that our aims for the future will also move the college dramatically forward.

Arol Augsburger, OD

Arol Lugly OD

President

## PLAN FOR THE FUTURE

#### A Message From the President



# INFOCUS

#### ICO Alumnus, Professor Named IOA President

On Sept. 29, **Geoffrey Goodfellow, OD '01** became the latest in a long line of ICO alumni to assume the role of Illinois Optometric Association president. He was inaugurated

during the 2012 IOA Convention in Springfield, succeeding **Sandra Bury, OD '95**. **Robert Quilleash, OD '99** 

was named presidentelect.

"I've been involved with the IOA for over a decade, so becoming president really represents the time that I've put into the organization," says Dr. Goodfellow, who previously held the positions

of vice president and president of the IOA's local society at ICO, and served as the IOA's education trustee for six years. "ICO has had lots of alumni throughout the state serve as

IOA president, but we've never had a faculty member that has been in this position, so it's exciting for the college."

During his tenure as IOA president, one of Dr. Goodfellow's primary goals is to breathe new life into the organization's committees, thereby engaging more members. "With any organization, the more you can get people involved, the better the organization is."

In his inauguration speech, Dr. Goodfellow reflected on the current state of the profession. "Optometry nationally has been its own worst enemy lately," he told the audience. "We need not agree on everything, but we should promise to stay on the same team and work through our differences. How fitting in this Springfield

venue to remember Lincoln's words, 'a house divided against itself cannot stand.'We are all contractors on this same optometric house."



Drs. Goodfellow and Bury

#### ICO at IOA

Alumni who have served as IOA president in the last 60 years

2011-12 Sandra Bury '95

2010-11 Scott Wooley '88

2009-10 Dennis Brtva '84

2008-09

Robert Blumthal '81

2007-08 Charlotte Nielsen '92

2006-07 Gregg Eubanks '81

2005-06 Louise Sclafani '89

2004-05

Dennis Rabe '87

Pamela Lowe '88

2002-02 Steve Leon '80

2001-02 Todd Bussian '84

1999-2000

Vincent Brandys '90

1998-99 **Gary Gray '79** 

1997-98 **Peter Kehoe '84** 

Peter Kenoe 84

1996-1997 James Strieter CCO '54

1995-96 Walter Zinn CCO '51

> 1994-95 Gary Lasken '73

1988-1990 Floyd Woods CCO '51 1986-88 Martin Sikorski '66

1984-86

Allen Baker NICO '42

1982-1984 Paul Randolph '56

1980-1982 Wayne Gordon CCO '50

1978-80 Thaddeus Depukat '60

1976-78 James Stafford MCO '47

1972-74 Earnest Havrilla CCO '52

1971-1972 Henry Luckhardt MCO '47

1969-70 Floyd Mizener MCO '48 1968-69

Albert Bucar NICO '55

1966-1968

Stanley Maer NICO '43

1965-1966

Jack Potter NICO '38

1963-1965 Mario Rubinelli NICO '38

1961-1962 Stephen Gard MCO '47

> 1957-58 Ralph Barton '46

1956-1960

William Dale NICO '35

1955-1956 James Gardner NICO '37

1953-1954 Jerome Conlogue NICO '33

#### Dr. Eric Baas '06 Named Rosenbloom Center Service Chief



Dr. Baas

On Sept. 17, **Eric A. Baas, OD '06, FAAO** assumed the role of service chief for the Alfred and Sarah Rosenbloom Center on Vision and Aging at the Illinois Eye Institute. In addition to his position at the IEI, Dr. Baas is now a full-time faculty member at ICO. The owner of the Chicago-based private practice Marketplace Vision, Dr. Baas has worked at ICO since 2007 as an assistant clinical instructor.

"Dr. Baas is well trained in the facets of eye disease as it relates to geriatric populations," says **Dr. Leonard Messner**, executive director and vice president for patient care services at the IEI. "Additionally, he has significant experience within the low vision arena. So he is somewhat of a unique provider in that he bridges the spectrum of primary eye care to the geriatric population with cognizance of the low vision options that are available to partially sighted individuals."

As service chief for the Rosenbloom Center, Dr. Baas is responsible for all clinical practice activities at the Center, as well as for all of the College's service-related educational activities. Other responsibilities of the position include developing the Center's marketing plan, managing quality assurance and compliance issues, and creating a continuing education geriatric program.

"As a fourth year student, I knew that I ultimately wanted to return to ICO in a role that allowed me to have the greatest and most influential impact on students, fellow faculty, and patients alike," says Dr. Baas. "This exciting new position represents an ideal combination of clinical practice management and education, all the while paying tribute to, and continuing the legacy of, a true pioneer and role model in our profession."

The Rosenbloom Center will ultimately have four essential functions: to promote optometry students' and practitioners' understanding of the inter-relatedness of aging and vision care; to provide vision care, counseling and support services for older adults and underserved communities in and around Chicago; to develop ongoing relationships with selected geriatric care facilities in the Chicago area for education and patient care services; and to sponsor vision-related geriatric research.



WEB EXTRA
Learn more about Dr. Baas at
www.ico.edu/Baas

**Bloggers** 

One of the most frequently asked questions prospective students have is, "What's life like at ICO?" We launched a blog in September so that applicants can get the skinny straight from the people who know best: our current students. First years **Adrienne Chan** and

Fatima Ibrahim, second year Jennifer
Tai and fourth year Danny Nguyen will be
posting twice a week about everything from
the interview process to studying for exams to
life in Chicago. Read the bloggers' writing at
blog.ico.edu.





Meet ICO's New

Fatima Ibrahim

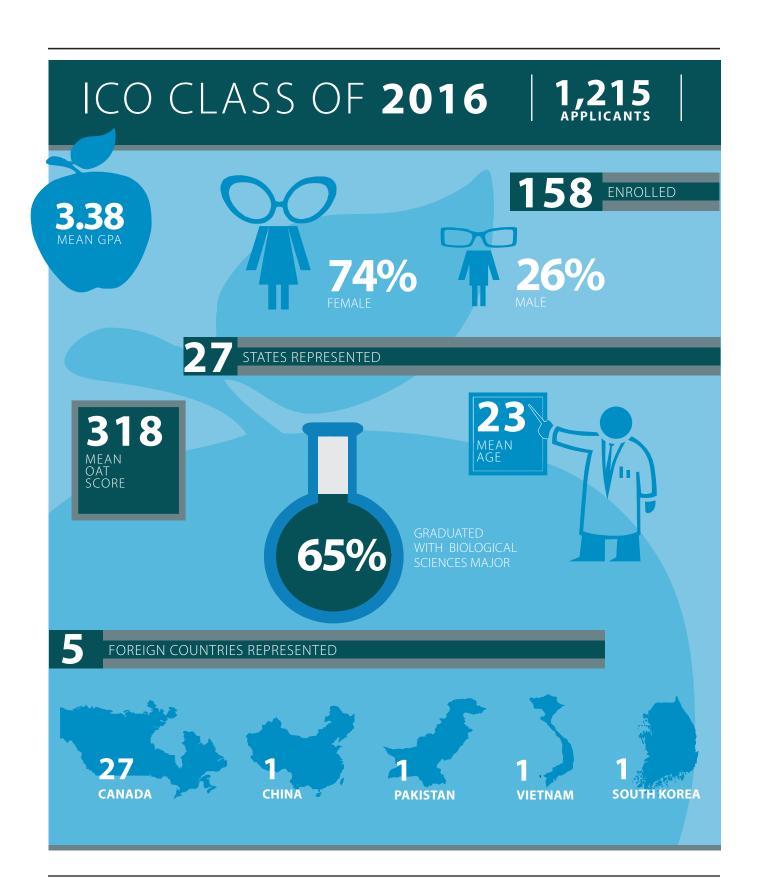


Jennifer Tai



Danny Nguyen





#### Focus On Your Future

Before the class of 2016 arrived, 14 new faces were already on campus the week of July 9-13 for ICO's fifth annual Focus On Your Future program. Organized by admissions/marketing director Teisha Johnson, the program offers underrepresented minority undergraduate students the opportunity to spend a week

in the Residential Complex free of charge and learn more about optometry. The agenda included an introduction to specialties and a day in the ophthalmic optics lab. Eleven participants have matriculated at ICO since Focus on Your Future began in 2008.

Participants from across the country took part in the program, including Chicago resident **Alexander Adegunwa**, a 2011 graduate of DePaul University. Among the week's highlights he cited were bonding with other participants and learning about vision therapy during a visit to the Plano Vision Center with **Stephanie Johnson-Brown, OD '78**. Adegunwa's response when asked if he would be applying to ICO? "Of course!"



Alexander Adegunwa

#### Alumni Help Plan New Conference

Think about the typical conference experience: After hanging out at the airport for a few hours, getting on a plane and checking into your hotel, you attend sessions, network with colleagues, interact with vendors in the exhibit hall, maybe nosh on a piece of pizza between presentations. Now imagine accessing all of a conference's essentials from the convenience of your home or office—no travel required.

Seeing Is Believing is billed as "optometry's first virtual conference dedicated to teaching practitioners about the power of online tools, techniques and technology." Scheduled for Jan. 30-31, 2013, SIB is the brainchild of Daniel Rostenne, CEO of the optometric web consulting company EyeCarePro; and Dr. Alan Glazier, an optometrist in Maryland and an industry leader in social media and internet marketing. Among the optometrists serving on the conference planning board are two ICO alumni: Nathan Bonilla-Warford, OD '04, FAAO and Neil Gailmard, OD'76, MBA, FAAO, who was recruited because of his experience in teaching about practice management.

"I think they wanted my input on how to design an educational program," says Dr. Gailmard, who will also present at the conference. "There are so many exciting new ways to market an optometric practice today, with electronic media, social media, websites, email, text. I use them in my own practice and I advise my consulting clients about how to use them to build and grow their practices."

SIB's interface will simulate that of a real conference. Attendees will access a website that takes them into what looks like a convention, complete with avatars standing outside of conference rooms as they wait for doors to open; signage for workshops; and vendor exhibit booths. "It's the coolest thing you've ever seen," says Dr. Gailmard.

Should conference-goers get hungry, SIB organizers have worked out an arrangement with Domino's Pizza. Attendees can click on the Domino's sign within the conference site, and pizza and soft drinks will be delivered within 20 minutes to wherever they are.

Other features of SIB include video conferencing, offline private meetings, and a booth for optometric students to explore practice opportunities. Dr. Gailmard views the conference as reflective of the direction the industry is heading. "It's a very electronic world out there, and optometrists need to embrace that."

#### FOR MORE INFO on Seeing is Believing, check out www.sib2013.com

#### **ICOlympics 2012**





When the Class of 2012—the three-time reigning champs—graduated, the title race for ICOlympics champions was left wide open. In the end, the second years won the competition on Aug. 18 decisively, with 360 points—150 points more than their closest rivals, the third years.

The annual contest again took place at Morton Park, on the grounds of the Illinois Institute of Technology. For four hours—as faculty and staff watched from the sidelines—students competed in such events as volleyball, 16-inch softball,

tug-of-war and a water balloon toss.

Though the first years didn't have the easiest time of it during their initial games, coming in third, the Class of 2016 did manage to sweep the men's and women's limbo competitions. **Scott Gabreski** and **Vivien Yip** danced to new lows as dozens of students circled around, effusively oohing and aahing every move. "She was incredible. She got, like, down here," said third year **Dave Turner** of Yip, as he motioned a foot above the ground. "It was unreal."









# 2012 READERSHIP SURVEY RESULTS

Earlier this year, we issued a survey to determine if readers are satisfied with the content and design of ICO Matters. This was our second readership survey; following the first one, conducted in 2009, we redesigned and refocused the content in order to better connect with ICO alumni. We also launched a digital edition of the magazine in 2011. Thanks to the hundreds of you who completed the 2012 survey. We've compared some of the results of the two surveys in this infographic.



323 AAA

ICO MATTERS STRENGTHENS MY CONNECTION TO THE INSTITUTION.





2012 STRONGLY AGREE OR AGREE

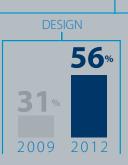
# HOW WOULD YOU RATE *ICO MATTERS* IN THE FOLLOWING CATEGORIES?

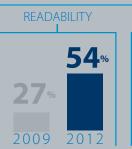
VERY GOOD

IN GENERAL, HOW SATISFIED ARE YOU

WITH ICO MATTERS?









2012

HOW OFTEN WOULD YOU MOST PREFER TO RECEIVE THE ALUMNI MAGAZINE?

2009 VERY SATISFIED (46%)

75% SAY **3**x**YEAR** 

# ESSENTIAL © EXPERIENCES

Those of us involved in the planning of ICO Matters wanted to end our 140th anniversary year with a bang, by running a cover story about alums' and students' top memories of ICO. We sought responses by email and on Facebook, we tweeted, we even asked folks at Homecoming to use good old-fashioned pen and paper—and we're pretty darn pleased with the 64 we ended up with. Spanning seven decades, the recollections run the gamut from favorite professors and practice opportunities to watering holes (there were more than a couple Blind Spot mentions) and wild nights. We hope you enjoy the trip down memory lane.

Illustrations by SEPIDEH OMIDGHAEMI '15

Clusters of students and professors gazed up at the daytime sky from the Courtyard. We wore pinhole eye shields and marveled together at the solar eclipse.

DIANE SLOTEMAKER '97

Going to a party with classmates and then streaking across Lake Shore Drive to skinny-dip in Lake Michigan.

ROBIN RINEARSON '77

I was minding my own business at a Blind Spot party when my roommate introduced me to a pretty lady from a different class. Before I knew it, I'd married her, gone into private practice with her and raised two boys with her.

MARK OLMSTED '86 (Married to Christine Olmsted '89)

# STUDENT BONDING

I married one of the two female students in our class, Lorayne Pocius, and suggested that she and her sister Pat [also '47] form a practice with the motto 'Correct your focus with Pocius and Pocius.'

R. ELLIOT POLITSER '47

Attending The Vision Care
Institute in Jacksonville, Fla.,
the weekend after Boards Part I:
Contact lenses, students from all
the optometry schools and lots
of fun!

NATASHA KRZYANOWSKI 13

Sharing a limo ride with friends and roommates to the Eye Ball.

JEFFREY VARANELLI'98

Members of the September '48 class
—over 400 of us—were all gathered
in a church for orientation. About
10 minutes into the session, a man
sitting near the front got up and
said, 'This is the damnedest service is
have ever heard' and stormed out

MORRIE DUBIN '48

Christmas parties with my roommates in our apartment. We always purchased a small tree and shared dinner and a gift exchange.

STACY HINKEMEYER COLATRELLA '96

12 / ICO MATTERS / 11

Best downtime ever=the Blind Spot.

PAMELA LOWE '88

The Blind Spot that occurred every Friday at 3 p.m. All of the faculty and students came.

MARY FLYNN ROBERTS '91

The third year end of finals party—it was the best way to

celebrate completing three years

at ICO and say goodbye before

leaving for externships.

JORDAN T. BIERMAN '13

Waking up under a sawhorse in the parking lot after a dorm bachelor party—a fun night.

**ANONYMOUS '82** 

Living in the RC—it's so convenient.

**KELLI THEISEN '14** 

Having the local alderman in Bridgeport knock on the door and insist that all of us vote for the original Mayor Daley—even though none of us were Chicago residents.

The extra long twin mattresses in Brady Hall required a trip to a big box store for sheets. Back in '93, that meant a drive to Cicero Avenue.

DIANE SLOTEMAKER '97

**ROBIN RINEARSON '77** 

# AMPL

Working as a TA in the Anatomy Lab.

**KELLI THEISEN '14** 

12 / ICO MATTERS / FALL 2

The annual Hat Day in the late '70s.

THOMAS POSWILKO '79

The big snow of '79—as a second year commuter student with my car snowed in, I froze riding the CTA.

**GARY HAUSER '81** 

The big snow of '67—I slipped on the clinic steps within the first hour of snowfall and fractured my ankle. I was in a cast, on crutches and with a cane all through the aftermath.

E.D. ATTAYA '67

Being involved with the SA and other campus groups—I saw how passionate faculty and alumni were about ICO and optometry, which showed me the kind of active doctor I could be.

ANDREA MCCANN '04

Dr. Tennant was the joy of my experience at the school. A finer man never lived.

I remember Dr. Abplanalp lecturing in stocking feet.

> STACY HINKEMEYER COLATRELLA '96

Pranking Dr. Lesher on April Fools' Day: He never wore a shirt that wasn't blue, so everyone in the class wore a blue dress shirt to match him. Then we all pitched in and got him a pink dress shirt, which he proudly wears now!

President Strawn scowled at me each time we encountered one another in passing, especially on those occasions when I wore my multi-zippered, Marlon Brandostyle black leather jacket, indicating that my Harley was probably parked next to his Cadillac in the ICO parking lot.

E. D. ATTAYA '67

Getting many pearls of

optometry wisdom in

Dr. Hodur's Optics

classes!

KEATON CORNISH'13

#### ROBIN RINEARSON '77

The day Dr. Harthan surprised us with jumbo bags of candy in our

RACHEL KLUZ '15

Dr. Tennant slamming his wooden pointer on the desk to get the class quiet.

THOMAS POSWILKO '79

Dr. Goodfellow's Optics course.

ABBY JAKOB'14

**KELLI THEISEN '14** 

Working with Dr. Opitz in Advanced Care was a phenomenal educational experience. His approach to delivering a diagnosis of glaucoma to his patients and aiding them emotionally should be the model taught in courses.

MATTHEW MERGENTHALER '14

Watching Dr. Paul Abplanalp lecture. He would start off cool and collected, and by midway would always take off his sportcoat because he became so animated. We all joked that lecture doesn't get really good until the coat comes off.

GEOFFREY GOODFELLOW '01

Dr. Newton Wesley

introduced me to

# PROFESS

Hugh Ashby, the comptroller, was mild-mannered and compassionate. On more than one occasion he arranged augmentation of my governmentsponsored loans, without which my ICO enrollment would have terminated.

E. D. ATTAYA '67

The Rosenblooms held a party at their Hyde Park apartment for all the married first years. I was one of a dozen or so female students in my class and the only married one at that time. The gathering made me feel so welcome.

LINDA SLAVONIC MURRAY '78

We developed a note-taking service to assist the students. Included in the notes was a count of Dr. Teshima's quips: 'It's like falling off a log.' Easy as duck soup.' 'Um.'

Yoga with Dr. Z. KELLI THEISEN 14

> Challenging and caring professors like Ted Tobias, Al Rosenbloom, A.B. Ross and Paul Schulman.

> > SYLVIO DUPUIS '57

Professor Gary Porter's famous Ocular Anatomy lecture quote: 'Only one man knows, and he's not telling.

THOMAS POSWILKO '79

contact lenses in 1946. R. ELLIOT POLITSER '47 President Eugene Strawn was

authoritative, paternal and demanding. He called my classmate and me on the carpet for cashing checks at the Marina City bar. The checks we were awarded in recognition of our second- and first-place freshman class standings, respectively. Our actions were deemed to have reflected poorly upon the institution and the profession.

E.D. ATTAYA '67

Dr. Roberts always checked my patients and intently examined their lenses. I figured I missed something and got very concerned. Turns out he was conducting P&S research.

NICK COLATRELLA '96

Dr. Carl Shepard, the head of the research department, told me 'Never ask me about what you know, tell me what you do not know.

MORTON DAVIS '50

ROBIN RINEARSON '7'

Driving to the Taco Bell in Wrigleyville at 2 a.m. while studying for first year fall finals, then realizing it was the Friday of Halloween weekend. It took forever, but the costumes were ridiculously awesome. In the end it took so long that we decided DiGiorno would suffice, so we went to Jewel instead.

Pequod's Pizza—best pizza in the city.

ANDREA MCCANN '04

Late-night dancing at the Limelight downtown, especially after Monday tests. It's probably not there anymore, but it was the best late-night venue for dancing, performance art, and really, really loud bass.

LORI LATOWSKI GROVER '90

NICKOLAS HUISMAN '14

2:00-

Celebrating at the Hangge-Uppe after a weekend of studying and Monday quizzes.

> STACY HINKEMEYER COLATRELLA '96

OUTE ABOUT

Trivia nights at Bull & Bear or the Weather Mark.

APRIL STURSMA'14

The Bad Apple in North Center. It has a specialty burger menu, as well as an extensive beer menu. Absolutely delicious!

TAYLER PEACHEY '15

Piling in the car for road trips up Lake Shore Drive to Evanston for wings and burgers at Buffalo Joes.

LORI LATOWSKI GROVER '90

Any of the museums the Shedd Aquarium and the Field Museum are my personal favorites.

APRIL STURSMA'14

In 1980, I saw concerts by the Ramones, ZZ Top, Talking Heads and The Police, all for less than \$10 a pop.

GARY HAUSER '81

The Tip Top Tap at the Allerton Hotel.

SYLVIO DUPUIS '57

Joe's is a big tradition the first Tuesday of each quarter.

RICH DELANO '15

Walking to Sox games.

STACY HINKEMEYER
COLATRELLA '96

Running along the lakeshore with my best friends.

SARABJIT KAUR'13

Taking a group to their thir first White Sox game at Comiskey Park, during the Disco Demolition fiasco with Detroit—going onto the field, Chicago Police in riot gear and a crazy game.

ANONYMOUS'82

# PORTS & RECREATION

Participating in IM sports.

CATHERINE LIU'15

Relaxing after class by biking along the lakefront path.

ALISA NOLA '14

 $\bigcirc$ 

Playing for ICO's basketball team for coach Dr. Jimmy Gardner during the 1964-65 season. We lost every game. Are season tickets available for the 2012-13 season?

CONRAD STOLL '67

Having a clinic attached to the school.

NAZY RASTEGAR '15

GUATEMALA

Working the Chicago Fire vision screening.

ELLIE DANESHVAR '14

I remember being present at the first soft contact lens fitting.

VERNON ROUDEBUSH '57.

PATIENT CARE

AMISSION TRIPS

Volunteering for the Special Olympics vision screening—so much fun and so rewarding!

ROSE PURDY '15

FCO mission trips to Honduras and Guatemala.

CATHERINE LIU'15

It was a pleasure to be a part of patient care in a busy clinic.

PAMELA LOWE '88

Going on a SVOSH mission trip to Peru this past year. It was an amazing, educational, and rewarding trip that will stay with me forever!

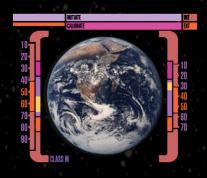
ASHLEY ROTH '15

ALL 2012 / ICO MATTERS / 15



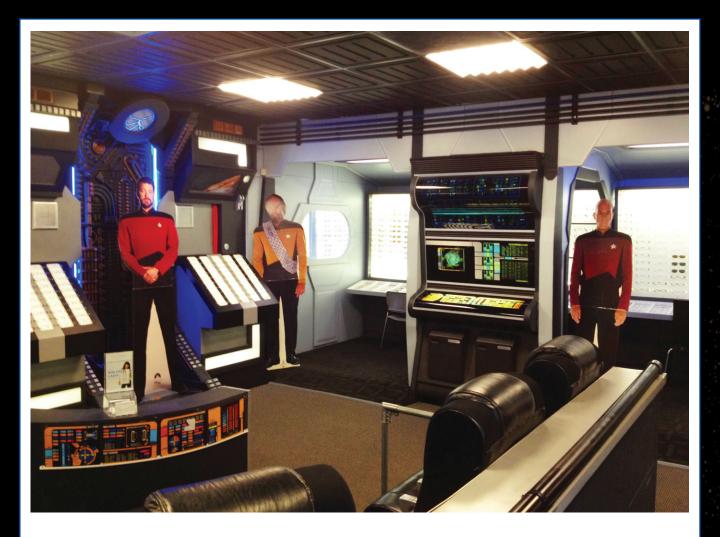
ICO ALUM GIVES PATIENTS FULL STAR TREK EXPERIENCE

By Jacqui Cook











hen **Garrett Wada** was a student at ICO in the early '90s, he and some classmates decided to put on their Star Trek uniforms and head to the popular convention in Chicago dedicated to the iconic television show and feature films. They had some fun and were able to meet actor Patrick Stewart, who played Captain Jean-Luc Picard in "Star Trek: The Next Generation."

What Dr. Wada didn't realize at the time was that he was actually preparing for his next role, too, as the optometrist who brings a little Trekkie to his practice.

Dr. Wada, who graduated from ICO in 1993, owns Wada Optometry, a full-service optometry practice in Anaheim, Calif., with a décor dedicated to all things Star Trek. There's a waiting area that's a replica of the bridge of the Enterprise; life-sized cutouts of crew members positioned throughout the office; and, from the "Star Trek: Voyager" series, Seven of Nine's science station and the actual Borg regeneration panel, purchased from a prop maker on the show. The sign outside invites patients to experience "The Next Generation of Eyecare," and stepping through the doors is an experience unlike any other doctor's office. "I thought it would be kind of interesting to give a theme to the office," Dr. Wada says. "It generates a lot of referrals. Patients always say how their friend or family member would love this place. I think more doctors should make a theme to their practices and get away from the traditional offices."

#### BUILDING THE ENTERPRISE

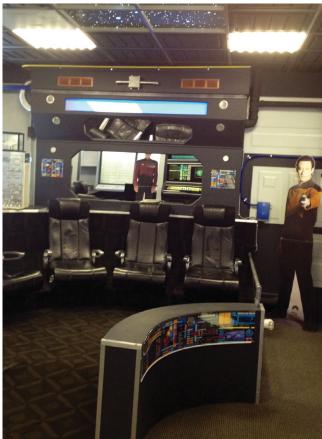
Dr. Wada purchased his practice from a retiring optometrist shortly after graduating from ICO and returning to his home state of California. He put up a few small pieces of Star Trek memorabilia to make the office more interesting and generate conversations with patients. One of his patients happened to be an accomplished movie set designer, and he remarked during an exam that he could help Dr. Wada expand on his idea. He'd worked on several feature films, including Jim Carrey's "How the Grinch Stole Christmas," and he used his expertise for the initial transformation of Dr. Wada's practice from traditional to Trekkie.

Dr. Wada continued to add more details to his theme as he moved toward purchasing the building six years ago. He made sure every corner of the practice lets patients know they are somewhere special and different. The result, he says, is a theme that is both interesting to patients and communicates that his is a cutting-edge practice. He prides himself on having the latest optometric tools, including automated phoropters, fundus cameras, corneal topographers and rotating instrument tables. He also has a lens lab in the building so he can offer his patients a quick turnaround on glasses.

"I have state-of-the-art equipment in the office," Dr. Wada says. "Yes, I do I like Star Trek a lot, but I also thought that bringing all this technology into the office and creating an atmosphere highlighting that technology would be very interesting."











#### THE RIGHT CREW

Dr. Wada's team consists of an associate, Jean Hoang, OD, and five staff members. His office manager, Ann Yoshimitsu, says the distinctive décor is one of the appeals of the practice.

"When I first saw it, I thought it was very interesting and more of a fun environment, and it definitely has been," says Yoshimitsu, who has worked for Dr. Wada for 10 years. "It's the same when people come in and say, 'Whoa, where am I?' and they realize it is fun but also very professional."

She and the other staff witness that same reaction every day when a new patient walks through the door. She says they often wonder at first if they are in a doctor's office, and then it becomes a way to get the conversation started and make them feel at ease. Many times, a new patient will go home and tell friends and family they need to come in and see Dr. Wada's office for themselves – generating new patients for the practice.

"Word really gets around," she says. "When the last Star Trek movie came out, I was in line and heard someone behind me tell their friends about our office and said they had to go check it out. People will come just to look at it."

Meggan Marenco doesn't consider herself a Star Trek fan, but says she was captivated by the décor the minute she walked in the door more than a decade ago. Her husband, Robert, is now a patient, as are their two daughters, Scarlet, 8, and Sailor, 5. She says her girls also aren't Star Trek fans, but they think it's very cool to step inside a spaceship for an eye exam, making it easier for their mom to get them there.

"I loved it right away," Marenco says. "Before I even met Dr. Wada, I thought 'I am going to love it here.' And I did. Now my kids go there and they love it, which makes it much easier for me."

Marenco also worked with Dr. Wada to provide prescription safety goggles to employees at her previous job, and she would enjoy hearing people's reactions when they returned from visiting his office. She said it is always a professional place, but has a big enough twist to distinguish it from every other practice out there.

"The Star Trek theme enhances the ambiance of being modern and current with technology," she says. "Most people assume his services are advanced just by looking at this office, and it makes people curious about what he offers besides the obvious vision care."

#### THE NEXT FRONTIER

Dr. Wada knows he is light years from where he was as a student at ICO more than two decades ago. He is grateful for the opportunities ICO gave him as a student and for the advantage some creative decorating has given him in the marketplace. He encourages new doctors to seek ways to distinguish themselves as they build their careers.

"The opportunity to open your own practice is still there, but it is a little tougher these days," he says. "You have to be a little bit unique and set yourself apart from others. I've done this over a process of many years. I started my office hanging Star Trek models and having a few mementos and then it grew into what it is now."



# Homecoming 2012



















#### AWARD RECIPIENTS

MARK K. COLIP OD '92

Alumnus of the Year Award

**ALCON** 

Distinguished Friend Award

MILLICENT L. KNIGHT OD '87

Professional Achievement Award

**LEONARD V. MESSNER** OD, FAAO

Excellence in Education Award

CASEY L. HOGAN OD '97, FAAO Humanitarian Award

**ROBERT L. FAIT** 0D '68

Lifetime Service Award

NATHAN J. BONILLA-WARFORD OD '04, FAAO Young Alumnus of the Year Award









# 50 YEAR CLUB

FRONT ROW: Walter Brenart, OD '48; Alfred Rosenbloom, OD '48

**BACK ROW:** Alvin Zohn, OD '49; Gilda Preskill, OD '55; Morrie Dubin, OD '48; Sydney Harris, OD '47; President Arol Augsburger, OD; Richard Wolken, OD '57; Floyd Mizener, OD '48; Vernon Roudebush, OD '57; Irene Walczak, OD '52; Morton Davis, OD '50; Glen Zucker, OD '47; Sylvio Dupuis, OD '57

NOT PICTURED: James Reilly, OD '61

























































#### **CLASS NOTES**









3

#### 1965

John F. Amos received the 2012 Life Fellow Award from the American Academy of Optometry at the annual AAO meeting in Phoenix. A long-time member of the Academy, he was recognized for distinguished service to the profession.

#### 1966

**Brian S. Klinger** retired from Harbor Eyecare in Rye, N.H., on Sept. 1 after a 46-year career.

#### 1978

**Dominick Maino** served on the 3-D Symposium panel during Optometry's Meeting in Chicago in June.

#### 1980

Marsha Benshir has been appointed to the medical staff of MedStar National Rehabilitation Hospital in Washington, D.C.

#### 1981

**Duane Rutz**, of Hallock, Minn., was named Optometrist of the Year by the Minnesota Optometric Association during its annual meeting.

#### 1982

Michael W. Lamb was recognized as the 2012 Arizona Optometrist of the Year by the Arizona Optometric Association. He was also appointed by Governor Jan Brewer to serve a four-year term on the Arizona State Board of Optometry.

#### 1980

Stanley Toompas, along with his twin brother, Stephen, has published his second book, I'm the One the Other Isn't, Book Two: More Stevie-Stanley Stories.

#### 1985

Neil Margolis, of Arlington Heights, Ill., published an article about visual therapies for children with autism titled "To See or Not to See?" in the June/July 2012 issue of *Autism File*.

Margolis specializes in working with children who are non-verbal, have developmental delays, or have multiple neurological diagnoses.

#### 1989

1 Louise Sclafani is vice president and event organizer for Women of Vision (WOV), an organization dedicated to mentoring female optometrists by providing education and networking. During Optometry's Meeting in June, WOV hosted keynote speaker Susan Sher, former chief of staff to First Lady Michelle Obama and presently executive vice president for corporate strategy and public affairs at the University of Chicago Medical Center.

#### 1987

2 Millicent Knight was named one of 2012's Most Influential Women in Optical by Vision Monday.

#### 1990

Vincent Brandys was re-elected to the Illinois Optometric Association's Board of Directors at the annual IOA meeting in September.









**3 Stephen H. Eap, OD, JD**, of Long Beach, Calif., is the author of a new book, *Optometry Law*, published by Outskirts Press.

#### 1993

Arnold Bulos, owner of The Eye Gallery in Ypsilanti/Ann Arbor, Mich., has teamed with Ozone House to provide free eye exams and glasses to children whose families are members of Ozone House, an agency that provides shelter and support services for runaway, homeless, and high-risk youth and their families.

#### 1995

4 Sandra Bury has officially declared her candidacy for mayor of Oak Lawn, Ill. Bury has served on the board of the Oak Lawn Chamber of Commerce since 1997 and has been involved in several civic projects. She lives and practices in Oak Lawn. The election is in April 2013.

#### 2002

**Brian Brightman** was awarded 2012 Young Optometrist of the Year on Sept. 22 by the Nebraska Optometric Association at its annual convention.

#### 2010

**Michael V. Landy** is the newest addition to Community Eyecare in Dunkirk, N.Y.

5 Jessica Condie welcomed son Maddox (Max) Barton Nguyen on July 29.

#### 2012

Erik Mothersbaugh was ICO's recipient of the American Optometric Foundation's 2012 Award for Excellence in Contact Lens Patient Care.

#### FRIENDS & FAMILY

ICO faculty member **Christine Allison**, **OD**, was re-elected to the IOA's Board of Directors at the association's annual meeting.

**John Baker, OD,** has returned to ICO as assistant dean for patient care education.

Elyse Chaglasian, OD, FAAO, was appointed ICO's cornea/contact lens residency coordinator.

ICO faculty member **Katie Foreman**, **OD**, **FAAO**, welcomed son Hudson Benjamin Foreman on Sept. 28.

Teisha Johnson, MS, ICO's director of admissions/marketing, received the National Emerging Leadership Award on Sept. 15 at the National Association of Medial Minority Educators' annual conference.

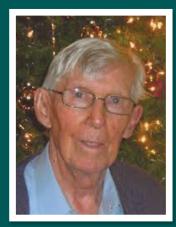
ICO resident **Cherie Nau, OD**, received the Sheldon Wechsler Contact Lens Residency Award from the American Optometric Foundation.

ICO faculty member **Danielle Poole Piser**, **OD**, **FAAO** welcomed son Charlie Ellis Piser on Aug. 2.

## **IN MEMORIAM**



Martha H. "Terry" Peck



Thomas Spencer



Anthony Charles "Terry" Terrence

#### 1936

Martha H. "Terry" Peck, NICO, of Fort Madison, Iowa, died Aug. 31. She practiced in locations throughout Iowa, including Fort Madison, Shenandoah, and Mount Pleasant, for 45 years. She was preceded in death by her husband of 65 years, Glenn M. Peck, NICO, '36.

#### 1939

Robert J. Davis, NICO, of Newburgh, Ind., died April 6. He served in the U.S. Army during WWII from 1942 to 1946. He practiced in Alabama and Henderson, Ky. He was past president of the Kentucky Optometric Association and a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry.

#### 1940

**Melvin A. Harper**, NICO, of Elyria, Ohio, died Sept. 11. He was awarded the Purple Heart Medal while serving in the U.S. Army during WWII. He practiced in Elyria for more than 50 years.

#### 1943

Phillip Fellman, NICO, of West Palm Beach, Fla., died May 4.

#### 1945

**Albert Odey**, MCO, of Warrenville, Ill., died Oct. 9. The founder and CEO of the Morrison Institute of Technology, he was also the former president of such organizations as the West Suburban Optometric Association, the Sertoma Club and the Oak Park Home Betterment Club.

#### 1947

Richard J. Apell, NICO, of Madison, Conn., died May 30. He was head of the optometric department of the Gesell Institute of Human development in New Haven, Conn., for 40 years.

**Thomas Spencer**, MCO, of Newton, Ill., died June 27. He served in the U.S. Army in WWII. He is survived by his wife of 70 years, Virginia.

#### 1948

Samuel C. Chapman, of Liberty, Mo., died June 1. He served in the U.S. Navy during WWII from 1943 to 1946. He practiced in Liberty for 50 years, until he retired in 1999. He was past president of the International Association of Boards of Optometry, Missouri State Board of Optometry, Missouri Optometric Association and Greater Kansas City Optometric Society. He was also a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry and a member of VOSH/International.

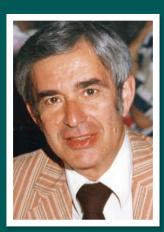
James W. Hall, Jr., of Putnam, Conn., died Aug. 27. He practiced in Putnam for 47 years.

#### 1949

Jack W. McGonagle, NICO, of Santa Rose, Calif., died July 5.

Albert Sperry, NICO, of Lake Jackson, Texas, died July 11.

William J. "Bill" Volckmann, of Waukesha, Wisc., died June 29. He served in the U.S. Navy during WWII and



Bernard Zakem



Sidney H. Katzman

# PLEASE BE SURE TO SHARE ALUMNI NEWS WITH ICO.

**SEND THE INFORMATION TO**CONNIE M. SCAVUZZO, M.A.

Director of Alumni Development Illinois College of Optometry 3241 S. Michigan Avenue Chicago, IL 60616 312-949-7080 CSCAVUZZO@ICO.EDU or ALUMNI@ICO.EDU

was stationed in Guam as a communications officer. He practiced in Waukesha for 37 years. A member of the Waukesha Noon Lions Club for 56 years, he was a recipient of the Melvin Jones Fellow Award and active with the Lions Eye Bank of Wisconsin.

#### 1950

Max E. Johns, NICO, died of congestive heart failure on July 26, at Casa de la Luz Hospice, in Tucson, Ariz. He served in the Fifth Army Air Corps in the South Pacific during WWII. He is survived by his wife of 63 years, Jodie.

John P. Jones, NICO, of Augusta, Ga., died Aug. 21. He enlisted in the U.S. Navy at the age of 17 and served on the USS Chemung. He practiced for 45 years and had offices in Augusta and Louisville, Ga.

Bernard Lutzk, CCO, of Overland Park, Kan., died March 9.

Paul L. Mogyordy, NICO, of Cleveland, died June 18. He served as a medical assistant in the U.S. Army during WWII.

**Donald Charles "Doc" Ruppe**, of Sarasota, Fla., died Aug. 23. He served in the U.S. Army Air Forces during WWII. He practiced in Monticello, Ill., for 31 years. He was a member of the Illinois Optometric Association and served on the Monticello city council.

Anthony Charles "Terry" Terrence, NICO, of Whiteville, N.C., died Sept. 7. He served with the U.S. Army in the South Pacific during WWII. Prior to and shortly after the war, he was a professional musician. He practiced in Whiteville for more than 50 years and was active

in numerous local organizations, including the Columbus County Board of Health and the Columbus County chapter of the American Red Cross.

#### 1953

Bernard Zakem, NICO, of Louisville, Ky., died Sept. 16. He served as a sergeant in the U.S. Army as part of the post-WWII occupation of Germany. He was a member of the Kentucky Optometric Association for more than 50 years.

#### 1956

**Sidney H. Katzman**, of Stoughton, Mass., died June 13. He served as a first lieutenant in the U.S. Air Force prior to entering civilian practice. He was one of the founders of the Optometric Institute and Clinic of Detroit.

#### 1958

**John A. Perkinson**, of Diamondhead, Miss., died June 11. He practiced in Woodale, Ill., for many years before retiring to Mississippi with his wife, Delores.

#### 1967

John T. Carns, of Marinette, Wisc., died Sept. 29. He received a Bronze Star for his service as a captain in the Army Medical Service Corp. 4th Division Infantry during the Vietnam War. He practiced for 29 years and was a past president of the Wisconsin Optometry Association.

# A SECOND **LOOK**

# Brad Williams, OD

**CURRENT POSITION:** Founder and Chairman at the Williams Group in Lincoln, Nebraska

**FAMILY LIFE:** One daughter, Jennifer; one son, Steven; four grandchildren, Noah, Isabella, Cassie and Stella; married to wife Beverly since 2006

ICO CLASS OF: 1965

### **THEN**

## When and how did you decide to pursue a career in optometry?

I was raised on a ranch in north central Nebraska. My mother worked for an optometrist named Vernon Hybl in a small rural community called Ainsworth. I'd already started college—I was going to be an architect. I'm fairly creative, and I thought, 'I'm going to go nuts sitting at a desk drawing all these lines.' I was chatting with Dr. Hybl during an evening meal at

my mother's house, and I told him, 'I'm not sure I've picked the right profession.' He said, 'Why don't you think about optometry? You've got the math, you've got your prerequisites. It might be a fairly easy transition to switch to pre-optometry.' As I researched it, I became more and more interested.

#### Why did you choose ICO?

I asked Dr. Hybl where he went to school, and he said ICO. I was going to the University of Nebraska, and he directed me to some of his optometric friends from ICO who were practicing in Lincoln. I visited them and thought, 'This is the way for me to go.' When I spoke to the doctors in Lincoln about optometry programs, they said that there wouldn't necessarily be a big difference from an academic standpoint—obviously the schools have to teach similar courses—but they thought that the clinical experience I would gain at ICO would be the best of all the schools.

#### What are some of your favorite memories from your days at ICO?

Those were the days that you went through in three years. I remember it was quite a shock to my system because that first semester we were taking 26 hours of classes, whereas I was used to doing 14 or 15 at the University of Nebraska. But I really enjoyed it. I have fond memories of the instructors and their passion to help us provide great patient care. The part that I certainly enjoyed was working in the old clinic. We were in this, old, old building, and in between patients we'd go downstairs and play table tennis.

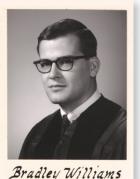
#### NOW

### What did you do after graduation?

I practiced for five years in the same practice in Ainsworth where my mother worked. I'd been working for someone else the first year out of school. My mother

called me and told me that Dr. Hybl was selling his practice.

She told me, 'You need to buy this practice.' He was asking \$85,000 for the building and the practice. I said, 'Mom, I couldn't pay off \$85,000 if I practiced 85 years.' She said, 'Yes, you can. Your uncle owns the bank and he can get you a loan. This is really a good practice.' And it was. So I did that for five years. And then another optometrist named Jim Berglund enticed me to work for an international contact lens company called American Optical. I was one of the marketing managers at American Optical for seven years, and then my kids reached an age where I thought, 'I've got to stop all of this traveling.'



Bradley Williams

Secretary

Nebraska

#### What kind of work do you do now?

I started a practice here in Lincoln in 1980. To put food on the table, I went out and held marketing and business seminars for optometrists. I'd learned a lot about marketing and business working for American Optical, and I started building my consulting business in the early '80s. This was the early years of managed care coming on to the scene. I realized that I needed to have more expertise in the consulting business to provide the kind of education and training that doctors needed to enter this new era.

Originally, I was a one-man consulting firm, and I felt that that wasn't enough so I surrounded myself with people with degrees in finance, with degrees in human resources, and more people in marketing. We work as a team, and we have two objectives. Number one is to help our clients provide better patient care. Number two is to enhance their lifestyle. By running your operation more effectively, the net effect is that you provide better patient care. By providing training in finance and marketing, I really felt we could help doctors meet the challenges of the times. Unfortunately, in the good old days, all we had to do to be successful was to be really good eye doctors and to keep the appointment book full. But in this day and age, you really need to have the business skills. We've been at the consulting piece for 28 years.

If you're interested in being part of the Second Look feature, please email communications@ico.edu. We're always looking for stories to tell about then and now!

# APPRECIATE THE WORK OF ICO'S ALUMNI COUNCIL!



Pamela A. Lowe, OD '88, FAAO PRESIDENT

Nicholas Colatrella, OD '96, FAAO VICE PRESIDENT

Andrea McCann, OD '04, FAAO SECRETARY-TREASURER

Sandra S. Block, OD '81, MEd, FAAO FACULTY REPRESENTATIVE

Thomas L. Lim, OD'77

Bill M. Park, OD'77

Nikki Rai, OD'03

Larry H. Van Daalen, OD'87

**Kevin Cassin '14**STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Andy Ritter'15
STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE

Welcome to the newest members:

Stephen H. Eap, OD '90, JD

Jeanette Carbone Varanelli, OD '97, FAAO



#### Office of Student, Alumni and College Development

3241 South Michigan Avenue Chicago, IL 60616

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# **DATEBOOK**

#### November

#### November 4 - 5

Essentials in Optometry CE
Program
16 hours
ICO Campus
(sponsored in part by Luxottica)

#### November 5 - 10

Fall Quarter Break - No Classes

#### **November 12**

First Day of Winter Quarter

#### November 22 - 24

Thanksgiving Break

#### December

#### December 13

Primary Care Grand Rounds\* CE Program Two hours non-tested Adams Center, ICO Campus

#### December 24 - January 6

Winter Break

## January

#### January 21

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day College/Clinic Closed

#### January 24

Primary Care Grand Rounds\*
CE Program
Two hours non-tested
Adams Center, ICO Campus

## February

#### February 7

Primary Care Grand Rounds\* CE Program Two hours non-tested Adams Center, ICO Campus

#### February 9 - 16

**Final Exams** 

#### February 17

CE Program 6 hours ICO Campus

\*sponsored in part by an Alcon Partners in Education Grant