University of Houston
College of Optometry

Commencement Ceremony
Saturday, May 14, 2022, 2 p.m.
Cullen Performance Hall

Message from Renu Khator, President p. 3
Message from Paula Myrick Short, Provost p. 5
University of Houston System Board of Regents p. 6
President’s Cabinet p. 6
University of Houston Deans p. 7
University of Houston History p. 8
Commencement Traditions p. 9
Ceremonial Symbols p. 11
Academic Honors p. 12
Summa Cum Laude – 4.0 GPA Graduates p. 13
Honorary Degree p. 14
College of Optometry
Message from Michael Twa, Dean p. 17
Class of 2022 Graduates p. 21
Message from Drue DaSilva, Alumni Association p. 39
Message from the President

May 12, 2022

Dear University of Houston Graduates,

Congratulations! The moment you’ve long dreamed of today becomes a reality. Today, you become a college graduate. The long hours, late nights and countless sacrifices have all been worth it. Your hard work has prepared you for a rewarding and successful career.

Over your college journey, you’ve grown in knowledge and skill, character and stature. Reaching this cherished milestone is a testament to your resilience and tenacity. Having done so in a pandemic shows your strength and resolve. I have no doubt these same attributes will serve you well as you make your mark in the world. You leave here today educated, equipped and prepared to succeed.

The support of your parents, families and friends, and the encouragement of your UH faculty, advisers and staff have also played a significant part in your success. Remember to thank them for their contribution.

You’ve received a first-class education here at UH. This is the home of “genius grant” winners, nationally top-ranked academic programs, world-renowned faculty, Carnegie-designated Tier One research and so much more. Now, go forward as proud graduates and take the world by storm. I know in my heart that you are now ready and able to be the leaders that our society needs. You are the future we have been waiting for.

With my best wishes for a bright future, Go Coogs!

Warmest regards,

Renu Khator
President
Message from the Provost

Congratulations, Cougars!

I would like to personally congratulate each of you on this momentous achievement. You have worked hard to be here today, and that effort shows.

Your family, friends, mentors and peers have supported you and helped you to arrive at this great time in your life. So, I thank them, as I am sure you also do, for all they have contributed.

I would like to remind each of you to be proud of your time at the University of Houston. You graduate today as future intellectual leaders, researchers, entrepreneurs, healers and artists. Do not forget that you are bound together by your alma mater, and that bond is a strong one. Many of your predecessors have gone on to achieve great success in their professional lives. I wish the same for you.

Whether you are receiving your bachelor’s, master’s, professional or doctoral degree, you have achieved a major milestone in your life. We are proud of you, and we are proud you are now Tier One University of Houston alumni.

On behalf of all the University faculty and college deans, I congratulate you on your achievements. You are our best and brightest, and we are honored to have been a part of your lives.

Warm regards,

Paula Myrick Short
Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost
University of Houston System

BOARD OF REGENTS

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University of Houston

PRESIDENT

Renu Khator

PRESIDENT’S CABINET

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University of Houston Deans

Anthony P. Ambler  
**College of Technology**

Leonard M. Baynes  
**UH Law Center**

Andrew Davis  
**Founding Dean**  
*Cullen Foundation Endowed Dean’s Chair*  
**Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts**

Alan J. Dettlaff  
**Maconda Brown O’Connor Endowed Dean’s Chair**  
**Graduate College of Social Work**

Jim Granato  
**Hobby School of Public Affairs**

Athena N. Jackson  
**Elizabeth D. Rockwell Endowed Dean’s Chair**  
**University of Houston Libraries**

Stuart Long  
**Interim Dean**  
**The Honors College**

Robert McPherson  
**Elizabeth D. Rockwell Endowed Dean’s Chair**  
**College of Education**

Daniel P. O’Connor  
**College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences**

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**ACSA Distinguished Professor**  
**Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture and Design**

Paul A. Pavlou  
**Cullen Distinguished Chair**  
**C. T. Bauer College of Business**

F. Lamar Pritchard  
**Humana Endowed Dean’s Chair in Pharmacy**  
**College of Pharmacy**

Dennis Reynolds  
**Barron Hilton Distinguished Chair**  
**Conrad N. Hilton College of Global Hospitality Leadership**

Stephen J. Spann  
**Founding Dean**  
**College of Medicine**

Kathryn M. Tart  
**Founding Dean**  
**Humana Endowed Dean’s Chair in Nursing**  
**College of Nursing**

Joseph W. Tedesco  
**Elizabeth D. Rockwell Endowed Dean’s Chair**  
**Cullen College of Engineering**

Michael Twa  
**Humana Endowed Dean’s Chair in Optometry**  
**College of Optometry**

Dan E. Wells  
**Distinguished Professor of Science**  
**College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics**
The University of Houston was established as the Houston Junior College in 1927. As the college grew, it prospered and officially became the four-year University of Houston in 1934. Two years later, the college attained land for a permanent campus, and in 1939 it constructed its first building, the Roy G. Cullen Building. The University became a state institution in 1963.

The University includes 15 academic colleges, one school and the multidisciplinary Honors College that teach a wide array of subjects – from math, arts and engineering to law, pharmacy and business. What started as a campus with a single building has grown into a world-class university, offering more than 270 undergraduate and graduate programs to more than 47,000 students annually.

UH is a Carnegie-designated Tier One public research university, and its public service and community activities, such as cultural offerings, clinical services, policy studies and small business initiatives, serve a diverse metropolitan population. Likewise, the resources of the Gulf Coast Region complement and enrich the University’s academic programs, providing students with professional expertise, practical experience and career opportunities.

In keeping with the University’s commitment to excellence, UH raised the benchmark of academic achievement when Phi Beta Kappa, the nation’s oldest and most prestigious academic honor society, awarded UH the approval to start a chapter in 2015. This designation welcomed UH to an elite group of the nation’s most esteemed colleges and universities.
Commencement Traditions

Academic costumes of today have a history of nearly eight centuries. In medieval Europe, all townspeople wore long flowing robes and gowns. The materials and colors were governed by royal decree. Gradually, distinctive gowns were developed for the various professions, trades and guilds. Scholars wore robes and hoods to protect their shaved heads. Later, skullcaps were worn on the head, and the hoods became a cape that could be pulled over the head during unpleasant weather.

As additional universities were founded, distinctive forms of the gown and hood were adapted by their faculties for bachelor’s (apprentices of the arts), master’s (teachers) and doctoral (teachers who had completed postgraduate studies). When caps and hats came into fashion in the 15th century, the hoods became ornamental, draped over the shoulders and down the back.

The academic hat was first worn as a symbol of the master’s degree and existed in various forms. The mortarboard style comes to us from Oxford University. When academic costumes came to America in 1754, styles were quite varied. In Europe, they still are; however, in our country, usage has been standardized by the Intercollegiate Code of Academic Costume.

Gerald D. Hines College of Architecture and Design

Bachelor’s Degree  Tassel: Violet
Master’s Degree   Hood: Violet
                   Tassel: Black

Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts

Bachelor’s Degree  Tassel: Brown
Master’s Degree   Hood: Brown
                   Hood (Music): Pink
                   Tassel: Black
Doctoral Degree   Hood: Pink
                   Tassel: Red

C. T. Bauer College of Business

Bachelor’s Degree  Tassel: Dark Blue
Master’s Degree   Hood: Drab
                   Tassel: Black
Doctoral Degree   Hood: Dark Blue
                   Tassel: Red

College of Education

Bachelor’s Degree  Tassel: Light Blue
Master’s Degree   Hood: Light Blue
                   Tassel: Black
Doctoral Degree   Hood (Ed.D.): Light Blue
                   Hood (Ph.D.): Dark Blue
                   Tassel: Red

Cullen College of Engineering

Bachelor’s Degree  Tassel: Orange
Master’s Degree   Hood: Orange
                   Tassel: Black
Doctoral Degree   Hood: Dark Blue
                   Tassel: Red

Conrad N. Hilton College of Global Hospitality Leadership

Bachelor’s Degree  Tassel: Navy
Master’s Degree   Hood: Navy, Red and White
                   Tassel: Black
Doctoral Degree   Hood: Dark Blue
                   Tassel: Red
University of Houston

Commencement Ceremony

**UH LAW CENTER**

- **Master’s Degree**
  - Hood: Purple
  - Tassel: Black

- **Doctoral Degree**
  - Hood: Purple
  - Tassel: Black

**COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

- **Bachelor’s Degree**
  - Tassel: Citron

- **Master’s Degree**
  - Hood: Citron
  - Tassel: Black

- **Doctoral Degree**
  - Hood: Dark Blue
  - Tassel: Red

**COLLEGE OF MEDICINE**

- **Doctor of Medicine Degree**
  - Hood: Kelly Green
  - Tassel: Red

**COLLEGE OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND MATHEMATICS**

- **Bachelor’s Degree**
  - Tassel: Golden Yellow

- **Master’s Degree**
  - Hood: Golden Yellow
  - Tassel: Black

- **Doctoral Degree**
  - Hood: Dark Blue
  - Tassel: Red

**COLLEGE OF NURSING**

- **Bachelor’s Degree**
  - Tassel: Apricot

- **Master’s Degree**
  - Hood: Apricot
  - Tassel: Black

**COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY**

- **Master’s Degree**
  - Hood: Gold
  - Tassel: Black

- **Doctor of Philosophy Degree**
  - Hood: Royal Blue
  - Tassel: Red

- **Doctor of Optometry Degree**
  - Hood: Seafoam Green
  - Tassel: Red

**COLLEGE OF PHARMACY**

- **Bachelor’s Degree**
  - Tassel: Olive

- **Master’s Degree**
  - Hood: Olive
  - Tassel: Black

- **Doctor of Philosophy Degree**
  - Hood: Royal Blue
  - Tassel: Red

- **Doctor of Pharmacy Degree**
  - Hood: Olive
  - Tassel: Red

**GRADUATE COLLEGE OF SOCIAL WORK**

- **Master’s Degree**
  - Hood: Citron
  - Tassel: Black

- **Doctoral Degree**
  - Hood: Citron
  - Tassel: Red

**COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY**

- **Bachelor’s Degree**
  - Tassel: Maroon

- **Master’s Degree**
  - Hood: Maroon
  - Tassel: Black

**HOBBY SCHOOL OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

- **Master’s Degree**
  - Hood: Peacock Blue
  - Tassel: Peacock Blue
Ceremonial Symbols

**THE SEAL**
Throughout history, seals have been used to authenticate official documents. The University of Houston and UH System seals both bear the Official Seal of Arms of General Sam Houston, as handed down to him from his noble ancestors. It includes the escutcheon in the center of the seal — consisting of checkered chevrons denoting nobility — and three martlets, gentle lowland birds that symbolize peace and deliverance. A winged hourglass is placed above the shield. Surmounting this is the motto “In Tempore,” meaning “In Time.” The greyhounds indicate speed of giving aid. The UH seal was first adopted in 1938 as the present campus was established. Although the look of the seal has evolved over the years, the first version was etched into the floor of the Roy G. Cullen Building.

**UNIVERSITY MACE**
The University Mace, which is carried in academic processions, is a staff symbolizing the University’s authority and unity. The tradition of the academic mace began in the late 14th century when two ancient instruments, the royal scepter and the battle mace, were combined to form a university president’s symbol of authority.

**THE ALMA MATER**

All hail to thee,
Our Houston University.
Our hearts fill with gladness
When we think of thee.
We’ll always adore thee
Dear old varsity.
And to thy memory cherished,
True we’ll ever be.

*Words and music by Harmony Class of 1942*
University of Houston

Commencement Ceremony

Academic Honors

Academic honors are based on the requirements of the catalog year students entered the University. The final designation for honors is determined by the Provost’s Office upon final completion of all degree requirements.

Undergraduates who have graduated with the stated academic honors have achieved the following grade point averages earned in the last 54 hours completed at the University of Houston.

3.90 to 4.0 Summa Cum Laude (with Highest Honors)
3.70 to 3.89 Magna Cum Laude (with High Honors)
3.50 to 3.69 Cum Laude (with Honors)

This roster does not include the names of degree holders who chose to withhold information under the Federal Education Rights and Privacy Act.

Summa Cum Laude – 4.0 GPA Graduates

The following graduates are recognized for achieving Summa Cum Laude with a 4.0 cumulative grade point average while also completing their degree within four years of starting their first semester in college at the University of Houston.

### FALL 2021

Ryan Chang  
**Bachelor of Science in Biology**  
*College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics*

Rabia Gadrab  
**Bachelor of Business Administration**  
in Supply Chain Management  
*C. T. Bauer College of Business*

Julia Nguyen  
**Bachelor of Business Administration**  
in Supply Chain Management  
*C. T. Bauer College of Business*

Kelly Nguyen  
**Bachelor of Business Administration**  
in Finance  
*C. T. Bauer College of Business*

Kimberly Nguyen  
**Bachelor of Business Administration**  
in Supply Chain Management  
*C. T. Bauer College of Business*

Jacob Olsen  
**Bachelor of Business Administration**  
in Supply Chain Management  
*C. T. Bauer College of Business*

Precious Amber Vargas  
**Bachelor of Business Administration**  
in Supply Chain Management  
*C. T. Bauer College of Business*

Istvan Wang  
**Bachelor of Science in Computer Science**  
*College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics*

Shehzad Yousaf  
**Bachelor of Science in Computer Science**  
*College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics*
Spring 2022 Commencement Ceremony

University of Houston

SPRING 2022

Hanan AbdelGilil
Bachelor of Science in Biology
College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Polina Maksimovna Bandrovskaya
Bachelor of Business Administration in Marketing
C. T. Bauer College of Business

Alex R. Botelho
Bachelor of Science in Teaching and Learning
College of Education

Alexander Xavier Eddings
Bachelor of Business Administration in Supply Chain Management
C. T. Bauer College of Business

Zoe Elliot Hearnsberger
Bachelor of Business Administration in Supply Chain Management
C. T. Bauer College of Business

Roger M. Hoang
Bachelor of Science in Hotel and Restaurant Management
Conrad N. Hilton College of Global Hospitality Leadership

Tammy Thanh Tam Lam
Bachelor of Science in Mathematics
College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Ana Crystelle Angela Manda
Bachelor of Business Administration in Management Information Systems
C. T. Bauer College of Business

Alexandria D. Martinez
Bachelor of Science in Hotel and Restaurant Management
Conrad N. Hilton College of Global Hospitality Leadership

Rachel Thao-Mi Pham
Bachelor of Business Administration in Management Information Systems
C. T. Bauer College of Business

Sebastian Poggi
Bachelor of Arts in Psychology
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Kristen N. Rollins
Bachelor of Science in Communication Disorders
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Giovani Solis
Bachelor of Business Administration in Finance
C. T. Bauer College of Business

David Andrei Tatchin
Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting
C. T. Bauer College of Business

Morgan E. Thomas
Bachelor of Arts in History
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

Alina Mai Thao To
Bachelor of Science in Biochemical and Biophysical Sciences
College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics

Jorge L. Vaca
Bachelor of Science in Economics
College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences
University of Houston

Commencement Ceremony

Honorary Degree

Kathrine G. McGovern

A lover of arts and the humanities, Kathrine G. McGovern is an exemplar of a life well-lived in service to others. The John P. McGovern Foundation, which she and her late husband Dr. John P. McGovern established, is a legendary philanthropic institution in Houston. Through its magnanimous support, the foundation has transformed the city’s arts, health care, park and higher education systems for the benefit of all Houstonians.

From 1957 to 1961, McGovern studied art and design at the University of Houston under noted professor and Texas artist Don Snell. Although she made the difficult decision to leave the University to marry Dr. McGovern before completing her degree, her passion for the arts never ceased. In the 1960s, she continued her studies at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston under renowned Texas painter Dorothy Hood and became an accomplished painter in her own right.

She believes “the arts play a very vital role in our society as artists convey their interpretations of beauty, performance and concept to the viewer, often opening minds to new appreciations of the world around us.” Motivated by her lifelong love for the arts and UH, in January 2017, she gave a historic $20 million gift to create a permanent endowment for the University’s newly established College of the Arts. In recognition of the transformational gift, UH renamed the college the Kathrine G. McGovern College of the Arts and McGovern made history by becoming the first alumna and first woman at UH to have a college bear her name. The gift was one of two leading, eight-figure gifts in the $1.24 billion “Here, We Go” campaign and is one of the three largest gifts to the visual and performing arts in the history of the University.

She has served as president of The John P. McGovern Foundation since her husband’s passing in 2007 and is always looking to the future with a focused interest in improving the quality of life throughout Houston. In addition to UH, McGovern has given generous support to The University of Texas Health Science Center; The Houston Zoo; The Ronald McDonald House; the Houston Parks Board; The Museum of Fine Arts, Houston; and individuals and families in need throughout the Houston and Galveston region, among others.

The Doctor of Humane Letters degrees, honoris causa, given for exemplary service to the University of Houston or society at large, is the highest honor UH can bestow.
Message from the Dean

Dear Graduate,

First and foremost, congratulations on this exciting achievement! This is the defining moment of your transition from student to practitioner. We are pleased and proud to celebrate as you now join the community of practicing Doctors of Optometry and leaders in optometry and vision science.

For those of you receiving the Doctor of Optometry degree, you have made a lifelong commitment as healthcare professionals. That commitment now begins a new phase of independence where you will use your talents to shape the world and leave your mark. As a professional, your decisions, your actions, and your character will define not only your reputation, but will also shape the public’s trust in the profession and the institutions that you represent. Be mindful of that obligation and aspire to be true to the core values of your college—learning, integrity, reason, and humanity.

For those of you receiving a Master of Science or Doctor of Philosophy degree, congratulations on your achievements. Your training reflects your persistence and dedication to a noble purpose—the pursuit of knowledge and scientific discovery. Your degrees also reflect innumerable investments by others to inspire your curiosity, to nurture new talents, and to advocate for you along your journey. Be generous in your recognition and gratitude towards others and seek opportunities to give back through teaching and encouragement to those around you. The need for knowledge and scientific integrity has never been greater. We look to you as future leaders in discovery who will bring new knowledge and advances to health and vision care.

Those of us who have reached this point before you share a mix of emotions: excitement, hope, admiration, expectations, and more. Our views are seasoned by time and experience. We have passed along our insights and knowledge as best we can. Take this next step with confidence, knowing that you are well prepared to embark on your journey.

On behalf of the faculty, staff, and administration, we wish you the best in your endeavors. Remember you always have a home at the University of Houston College of Optometry, and we will always welcome you back with open arms. Again, congratulations on your academic success.

Sincerely,

Michael D. Twa, O.D., Ph.D., F.A.A.O.
Dean and Professor
Humana Endowed Dean’s Chair in Optometry
Prelude

Classical Arrangement

Processional

“Pomp and Circumstance”
By Sir Edward Elgar

Honorary Mace Bearer

Han Cheng
Clinical Professor

Honorary Banner Bearer

Marcus G. Piccolo
Associate Dean for Professional Advancement
Associate Dean for Clinical Education
Associate Professor
Executive Director, Surgical Services

National Anthem

Moores School of Music

Welcome and Recognition

Michael D. Twa
Dean and Professor
Humana Endowed Dean’s Chair in Optometry

Greetings

Renu Khator
President

Recognition of Graduates

Summa Cum Laude
Kimberly Lambreghts
Associate Dean for Professional Studies and Clinical Professor

Magna Cum Laude

Gold Key International Memberships

Ralph Herring
Assistant Dean for Professional Studies and Clinical Professor

Beta Sigma Kappa

Moriah Chandler
Clinical Assistant Professor

BSK Silver Medal Award

Clinical Excellence Awards

Assistant Dean Herring

Special Recognitions

Outstanding Grand Rounds Presentation Award
Joe Wheat
Clinical Associate Professor

Cora and J. Davis Armistead Faculty Teaching Award revealed
Dean Twa

Distinguished Alumnus Award

Distinguished Alumnus Award for 2022 presented to Lanny Shulman
Dean Twa
STUDENT ADDRESS
Tiara Thomas

COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS
Associate Dean Piccolo

PRESENTATION AND HOODING
Dean Twa
OF THE CANDIDATES

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES FOR
Laura Frishman
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN
Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research
PHYSIOLOGICAL OPTICS DEGREE
and John and Rebecca Moores Professor

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES
Associate Dean Frishman
FOR DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY
IN PHYSIOLOGICAL OPTICS

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES
Amber Gaume Giannoni
FOR DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY DEGREE
Chair of the Faculty and Clinical Professor

ANNOUNCEMENT OF CANDIDATES
Associate Dean Lambrechts
FOR DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY DEGREE

HOODING OF CANDIDATES
Anita Ticak
Clinical Associate Professor

Jennifer Tasca
Adjunct Faculty

FACULTY ASSISTING IN HOODING
Lucy Kehinde-Darnell
Clinical Assistant Professor

Jason Marsack
Associate Professor

PRESENTATION OF DIPLOMAS
Dean Twa

Professor Giannoni

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES
President Khator

ADMINISTRATION OF THE OPTOMETRIC OATH
Danica Marrelli
Assistant Dean for Clinical Education and Clinical Professor

CLOSING REMARKS
Dean Twa

PLATFORM PARTY RECESSINAL
“War March of the Priests”
By Felix Mendelssohn
The Optometric Oath

With full deliberation, I freely and solemnly pledge that:

- I **affirm** that the health of my patient will be my first consideration.

- I **will** practice the art and science of optometry faithfully and conscientiously, and to the fullest scope of my competence.

- I **will** uphold and honorably promote by example and action the highest standards, ethics and ideals of my chosen profession and the honor of the degree, Doctor of Optometry, which has been granted me.

- I **will** provide professional care for the diverse populations who seek my services, with concern, with compassion and with due regard for their human rights and dignity.

- I **will** work to expand access to quality care and improve health equity for all communities.

- I **will** place the treatment of those who seek my care above personal gain and strive to see that none shall lack for proper care.

- I **will** hold as privileged and inviolable all information entrusted to me in confidence by my patients.

- I **will** advise my patients fully and honestly of all which may serve to restore, maintain or enhance their vision and general health.

- I **will** strive continuously to broaden my knowledge and skills so that my patients may benefit from all new and efficacious means to enhance the care of human vision.

- I **will** share information cordially and unselfishly with my fellow doctors of optometry and other professionals for the benefit of patients and the advancement of human knowledge and welfare.

- I **will** do my utmost to serve my community, my country and humankind as a citizen as well as a doctor of optometry.

- I **hereby** commit myself to be steadfast in the performance of this my solemn oath and obligation.
Spring 2022 – Candidates for Graduation

Graduates’ names are followed by their thesis/dissertation title.

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN PHYSIOLOGICAL OPTICS

Lauren J. Johnson Lattery
Lakeville, MN
BS, University of Wisconsin-Madison
**Thesis:** Patient and Parent Perceptions of Myopia Modalities

Rachel N. Wang
Spring, TX
B.S., University of Texas at Austin
**Thesis:** Anterior Segment Changes in Prediabetes

Allison Casey Jussel Zagst
Austin, TX
B.S., Texas A&M University
B.A., Texas A&M University
M.S., Texas A&M University
**Thesis:** The Relationship between Structure and Function Parameters in Diabetic and Prediabetes

Sudan Puri
Kathmandu, Nepal
B. Optom., Tribhuvan University, Nepal
O.D., Southwestern University, The Philippines
**Dissertation:** Role of Extracellular Matrix Component Hyaluronan in Corneal Homeostasis and Pathology

Santoshi Ramachandran
Allen, Texas
B.S. in Neuroscience - University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, Texas
M.S. in Applied Cognition and Neuroscience - University of Texas at Dallas, Richardson, Texas
**Dissertation:** Investigating Spatial Patterns of Fixation Preference in Non-Human Primates with Strabismus

Sujata Rijal
Jhapa, Nepal
B. Optom., Institute of Medicine, Tribhuvan University, Kathmandu, Nepal
**Dissertation:** Optical and Visual Performance in Typically-sighted and Highly Aberrated Eyes

Erin Sayoko Tomiyama
Rancho Santa Margarita, CA
B.S., UCLA, Los Angeles, CA
O.D., Marshall B. Ketchum University, Fullerton, CA
M.S., University of Houston, Houston, Texas
**Dissertation:** Comparison of Toric Orthokeratology and Soft Toric Multifocal Contact Lenses in Managing the Astigmatic Myope

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY IN PHYSIOLOGICAL OPTICS

Samuel Adade
Kumasi, Ghana
Doctor of Optometry, Kwame Nkrumah University of Science & Technology, Ghana
**Dissertation:** Neural Control of Vertical Vergence and Extraocular Muscle Compartmentalization

Linjiang Lou
Ottawa, ON, Canada
B.Sc., McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada
**Dissertation:** Influence of Light Exposure on the Retina and Choroid and on Circadian Rhythms

Austin Barr, O.D.
O.D., University of the Incarnate Word Rosenberg School of Optometry
**Residency:** Ocular Disease at the Cedar Springs Eye Clinic

Rosaline Cruz, O.D.
O.D., University of Houston College of Optometry
**Residency:** Pediatrics at the University Eye Institute

James Dowgin, O.D.
O.D., Pacific University College of Optometry
**Residency:** OMNI Eye Specialists of Colorado, Residency in Ocular Disease/Refractive and Ocular Surgery

Safinaz Gamini, O.D.
O.D., Inter-American University School of Optometry – Puerto Rico
**Residency:** Ocular Disease at the Community Eye Clinic Fort Worth

Brittney Jimenez, O.D.
O.D., University of Houston College of Optometry
**Residency:** Michael E. Debakey VA Medical Center, Residency in Primary Care/Ocular Disease

Nicole Karson O.D.
O.D., M.S., University of Houston College of Optometry
**Residency:** Brain Injury Vision Rehabilitation at the University Eye Institute

Jeffrey Kong, O.D.
O.D., University of California Berkeley School of Optometry
**Residency:** Cornea and Contact Lens at the University Eye Institute

Phoebe Luong, O.D.
O.D., Marshall B. Ketchum University’s Southern California College of Optometry
**Residency:** The Vision Center of West Phoenix, Residency in Primary Care/Ocular Disease

RESIDENTS

Candidates’ names are followed by their graduate institutions and University of Houston College of Optometry residency information.

Valerie Baca, O.D.
O.D., University of Houston College of Optometry
**Residency:** Eye Center of Texas, Residency in Ocular Disease/Refractive and Ocular Surgery
Stephanie Martich, O.D.
O.D., Southern College of Optometry
**RESIDENCY**: Eye Center of Texas, Residency in Ocular Disease/Refractive and Ocular Surgery

Kate Muramoto, O.D.
O.D., Pacific University College of Optometry
**RESIDENCY**: New Mexico VA Medical Center, Residency in Primary Care Optometry

David H. Nguyen, O.D.
O.D., University of Houston College of Optometry
**RESIDENCY**: Low Vision Rehabilitation at the University Eye Institute

Quynh Pham, O.D.
O.D., Marshall B. Ketchum University’s Southern California College of Optometry
**RESIDENCY**: Primary Care Optometry at the UH Eye Center in the Heights

Whitney Powell, O.D.
O.D., University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Optometry
**RESIDENCY**: Eye Center of Texas, Residency in Ocular Disease/Refractive and Ocular Surgery

Salena Quach, O.D.
O.D., Marshall B. Ketchum University’s Southern California College of Optometry
**RESIDENCY**: Primary Care Optometry at the University Eye Institute

Safaa Siddiqui, O.D.
O.D., University of Houston College of Optometry
**RESIDENCY**: Ocular Disease at the University Eye Institute

Caitlyn Stakeley, O.D.
O.D., Southern College of Optometry
**RESIDENCY**: Eye Center of Texas, Residency in Ocular Disease/Refractive and Ocular Surgery

Autumn Wooten, O.D.
O.D., University of the Incarnate Word Rosenberg School of Optometry
**RESIDENCY**: Michael E. DeBakey VA Medical Center, Residency in Primary Care/Ocular Disease

---

**POSTDOCTORAL FELLOWS:**
Candidates’ names are followed by their graduate institutions and fellowship information.

Amber Nichols, O.D.
O.D., University of Houston College of Optometry
**FELLOWSHIP**: The Eye Research and Technology Center (TERTC), Corneal and Contact Lens Fellowship

Hadi Alaiddin Abusaad
Dallas, TX
B.S., Texas Tech University
**FELLOWSHIP**: Eyes & Optics of Pearland, Pearland, Texas

Shana Alborz
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---

**DOCTOR OF OPTOMETRY**
Candidates’ names are followed by their undergraduate institutions and, if applicable, graduate institutions; and fourth-year clinical externship locations.

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M.S., Vanderbilt University  
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NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma

Cindy Lang  
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Plano Eye Associates, Plano, Texas
University of Houston
College of Optometry

Commencement Ceremony

Louise Le
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B.S., University of Texas at Austin
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas
Oak Hill Eye Care, Austin, Texas

Kathryn Elaine Leeper
Fort Worth, TX
B.S., Texas A&M University
Community Eye Clinic, Fort Worth, Texas
Houston Eye Associates, Houston, Texas

Lauren Litwak
Baltimore, MD
B.S., Pennsylvania State University
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MyEyeDr. Spring Klein, Spring, Texas

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Acadian Vision Associates, Lafayette, Louisiana

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Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas

Nishani Rasik Patel
Southlake, TX
B.S., University of Texas at Dallas
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas
Community Eye Clinic, Ft Worth, Texas
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Degree(s)</th>
<th>Experience</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Priyanka P. Patel</td>
<td>Richmond, TX</td>
<td>B.S.A., University of Texas at Austin</td>
<td>Bellaire Family Eye Care, Houston, Texas, UHCO Eye Clinic in the Heights, Houston, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shivani K. Patel</td>
<td>San Antonio, TX</td>
<td>B.S., Baylor University</td>
<td>Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas, Mission Vision, San Antonio, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sambridhi Paudyal</td>
<td>Dallas, TX</td>
<td>B.S., University of Houston</td>
<td>Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas, Community Eye Clinic, Fort Worth, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Homero Perez</td>
<td>Houston, TX</td>
<td>B.S., University of Houston</td>
<td>NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma, Valley Coastal Bend VA Medical Center, McAllen, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bryan Pham</td>
<td>Cypress, TX</td>
<td>B.S., University of Houston</td>
<td>Signature Eye Care, Austin, Texas, Vision Centers of Houston - Willowbrook, Houston, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophia T. Pham</td>
<td>Mansfield, TX</td>
<td>B.S., University of Texas at Dallas</td>
<td>Hellerstein &amp; Brenner, Greenwood, Village, Colorado, McCormick Vision Source, Austin, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Truc Ly Pham</td>
<td>Houston, TX</td>
<td>B.S., University of Houston</td>
<td>Lakeline Vision Source, Austin, Texas, Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hoa Ngoc Phung</td>
<td>Jacksonville, FL</td>
<td>B.S., University of North Florida</td>
<td>Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas, Community Eye Clinic, Fort Worth, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiffany Loo Portillo</td>
<td>Keller, TX</td>
<td>B.A., Baylor University</td>
<td>Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas, Community Eye Clinic, Fort Worth, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rafia Rehman</td>
<td>Houston, TX</td>
<td>B.A., University of St. Thomas</td>
<td>Santa Fe Indian Hospital, Santa Fe, New Mexico, Northside Community Clinic, Fort Worth, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tyler Ryan Scott</td>
<td>Temecula, CA</td>
<td>B.S., Baylor University</td>
<td>Naval Medical Center, San Diego, California, Community Eye Clinic, Fort Worth, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nadine Shihabeddin</td>
<td>Fort Worth, TX</td>
<td>B.S., University of Texas at Arlington</td>
<td>Community Eye Clinic, Fort Worth, Texas, Vision Source Mission Bend, Houston, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emma Stahr</td>
<td>League City, TX</td>
<td>B.S.A., University of Texas at Austin</td>
<td>NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma, Houston Eye Associates, Houston, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Elizabeth Supak Fisher</td>
<td>El Campo, TX</td>
<td>B.S., Texas A&amp;M University</td>
<td>MyEyeDr. Spring Klein, Spring, Texas, Victoria Eye Center, Victoria, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebekah Swicegood-Green</td>
<td>Lowell, AR</td>
<td>B.A., Thomas Edison State University</td>
<td>UHCO Eye Center in the Heights, Houston, Texas, Hope Clinic, Houston Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Takenaka</td>
<td>Honolulu, HI</td>
<td>B.Sc., University of Minnesota – Twin-Cities</td>
<td>Diagnostic Eye Center, Houston Texas, Bellaire Family Eye Care, Bellaire, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anisha Tanwani</td>
<td>Yakima, WA</td>
<td>B.S., Washington State University</td>
<td>Diagnostic Eye Center, Houston, Texas, Vision Source Mission Bend, Houston, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tiara Thomas</td>
<td>Dallas, TX</td>
<td>B.S., University of Texas at Dallas</td>
<td>Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas, NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sydney Michelle Thompson</td>
<td>Dallas, TX</td>
<td>B.S., Baylor University</td>
<td>NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma, Signature Eye Care, Austin, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aurelio Tijerina</td>
<td>Pharr, TX</td>
<td>B.S., University of Texas at San Antonio</td>
<td>Mission Vision, San Antonio, Texas, Today’s Vision Meyerland, Houston, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shelby Ann Tomek</td>
<td>White Oak, TX</td>
<td>B.S., Texas A&amp;M University</td>
<td>M.S., Mississippi College, Coastal Eye Associates, Webster, Texas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Khanh N. Ton</td>
<td>Dallas, TX</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cory E. Toufar</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Thien Truong</td>
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<td>Hellerstein and Brenner, Greenwood, Village, Colorado, NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma</td>
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<tr>
<td>Matthew Thien Truong</td>
<td>Mesquite, TX</td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
John David Tybor  
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Honors and Awards

_Doctoral Students who demonstrated leadership skills by holding office in one or more state-level Optometric Student Organization._

Josephine R. Ausdemore, STOA Secretary/Treasurer-elect 2019-2020, STOA Treasurer 2020-2021
Jessica Brooke Hines-Beard, STOA President-elect 2019-2020, STOA President 2020-2021
Tiara Thomas, OSA President-elect 2019-2020, OSA President 2020-2021
Cory E. Toufar, AOSA Trustee-elect 2019-2020, AOSA Trustee 2020-2021

_Doctoral students who complete their degree requirements will graduate with the stated academic honors if they achieve the corresponding grade point averages earned in the doctor of optometry program at the University of Houston._

**Summa Cum Laude – 3.75 to 4.0**

Hadi Alaiddin Abusaad
Afiya S. Ali
Rachel Anne Butler
Yi Shun Cheuk
Mary Thuy Tien Dang
Amanda Claire Groenhuyzen
Jessica Brooke Hines-Beard
Hovhannes Hovhannisyan
Lauren J. Johnson Lattery
Polly Hoa Luong
Gabrielle Ngoc Mai Nguyen
Lawrence Nguyen
Nhat Quang Nguyen
Emma Stahr
Shelby Ann Tomek

**Magna Cum Laude – 3.50 to 3.74**

Sehreen Haider Ali
Josephine R. Ausdemore
Justine Kathryn Blumenstock
Nilupul Udara Bulathsinhala
Charles R. Dale
Gurpartap S. Dhillon
Erin Raye Flores
Neer Hazra
Tiffany Thanh Huynh
Dennis Joseph Kalec
Angalie Ann Koshy
Louise Le
Lauren Litwak
Brian John McKeon
Amy Mistry
Lauren Virginia Murphy
Billy Nguyen
Priyanka P. Patel
Sambridhi Paudyal
Hoa Ngoc Phung
Rafia Rehman
Tyler Ryan Scott
Sarah Elizabeth Supak Fisher
Rebekah Swicegood-Green
Sarah Takenaka
Matthew Thien Truong
Diana Ngan Uong
Jena Ann Van Marel
Karina Vargas Torrecilla
Emily J. Wang
Rachel N. Wang
Allison Casey Jussel Zagst
2022 Gold Key International Optometric Honor Society

Gold Key International Optometric Honor Society recognizes graduating students who have demonstrated outstanding professional and ethical attitudes through leadership and service to their class, college, and profession. Membership is limited to no more than 10 percent of the graduating class. The University of Houston College of Optometry chapter of Gold Key was created in 1974.

Josephine R. Ausdemore
Charles R. Dale
Jessica Brooke Hines-Beard
Hovhannes Hovhannisyan
Matthew D. Lyons
Barbara-Dinh M. Nguyen
Lawrence Nguyen
Tiara Thomas
Cory E. Toufar
Jena Ann Van Marel

Beta Sigma Kappa International Optometric Honor Society Graduates

Beta Sigma Kappa recognizes students who stimulate scientific attainment, academic excellence, and the ethical practice of optometry. Membership is awarded based on scholastic excellence and is calculated per semester. The asterisk denotes membership since Fall 2019.

Hadi Alaiddin Abusaad
Afiya S. Ali *
Sehreen Haider Ali
Josephine R. Ausdemore *
Justine Kathryn Blumenstock *
Nilupul Udara Bulathsinha
Rachel Anne Butler *
Yi Shun Cheuk *
Mary Thuy Tien Dang *
Gurpartap S. Dhillon
Erin Raye Flores *
Amanda Claire Groenhuyzen *
Neer Hazra
Jessica Brooke Hines-Beard *
Hovhannes Hovhannisyan *
Lauren J. Johnson Lattery *
Dennis Joseph Kalec *
Angalie Ann Koshy
Louise Le *
Lauren Litwak *
Polly Hoa Luong *
Amy Mistry
Lauren Virginia Murphy
Gabrielle Ngoc Mai Nguyen *
Lawrence Nguyen *
Sambridhi Paudyal
Rafia Rehman *
Tyler Ryan Scott *
Sarah Elizabeth Supak Fisher
Rebekah Swicegood-Green
Sarah Takenaka *
Shelby Ann Tomek *
Matthew Thien Truong *
Diana Ngan Uong
Jena Ann Van Marel *
Karina Vargas Torrecilla
Emily J. Wang
Rachel N. Wang
Allison Casey Jussel Zagst *
Clinical Excellence Specialty Awards

**Cornea and Contact Lens**
Cory E. Toufar

**Dry Eye Center**
Josephine R. Ausdemore

**Good-Lite Pediatric Optometry**
Emma Stahr

Low Vision
Charles R. Dale

**Medical Eye Service**
Rachel N. Wang

Fourth-Year Professional Awards

**College of Optometrists in Vision Development Excellence in Vision Therapy Award**
Matthew Thien Truong

**The Ebling Award in Medical Contact Lens Patient Care**
Tiffany Thanh Huynh

**Eschenbach Low Vision Award**
Sarah Elizabeth Supak Fisher

**Excellence in Community Service Award**
Amy Mistry

**Excellence in Optics Award**
Emma Stahr

**William Feinbloom Low Vision Award**
Matthew Thien Truong

**GP Lens Institute Clinical Excellence Award**
Hovhannes Hovhannisyan

**Johnson & Johnson Award of Excellence in Contact Lens Patient Care**
Lawrence Nguyen

**Metro Optics Excellence Award**
Tiffany Loo Portillo

**Ocular Instruments Award for Excellence**
Anthony G. Hoang

**Optelec Low Vision Award**
Shelby Ann Tomek

**Outstanding Teaching Assistant Award**
Carl Gene Hinote

**Public Health Leadership Award**
Charles R. Dale

**VSP/AAOF Practice Excellence Award**
Mary Thuy Tien Dang
Polly Hoa Luong

**Optometry Cares® - The AOA Foundation - Dr. Pat and Patrick Cummings Scholarship**
Charles R. Dale
University of Houston
College of Optometry

Honors and Awards

2022 Distinguished Alumnus

LANNY SHULMAN, O.D.’81, Ph.D.’98

Dr. Lanny Shulman received his Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Houston in 1972 and his Doctor of Optometry degree from the University of Houston College of Optometry in 1981. Following ten years of private practice in Houston, Dr. Shulman returned to the University of Houston College of Optometry and received his Ph.D. in Physiological Optics and Vision Science in 1998. After serving as an Adjunct Professor and a Visiting Associate Professor, he joined the faculty as an Associate Professor in 2004.

During his time as a faculty member, Dr. Shulman taught many diverse courses including ocular anatomy laboratory, contact lenses, physiology and molecular biology, and clinical practicum 1, 2, and 3. He served as Assistant Dean for Student Affairs and Admissions from 2005 to 2013. After his administrative position, in addition to his teaching responsibilities, Dr. Shulman continued to maintain a clinical presence in the University Eye Institute’s Family Practice Service and Cornea and Contact Lens Service.

During his time as a graduate student and a faculty member, he has held a number of committee appointments. As a graduate student, he served on the graduate curriculum committee and served as a clinical examiner for the National Board of Examiners in Optometry. Dr. Shulman has also served on the Academic Committee, Scholarship and Financial Aid Committee, Cougar Pride Annual Giving Committee, and ASCO’s Student Affairs Committee. Additionally, Dr. Shulman was the Director of UHCO’s Texas Optometry Careers Opportunities Program (TEXOCOP).

Golden Reunion Class of 1972

The University of Houston College of Optometry’s faculty, staff, and students salute the Class of 1972 on the occasion of the 50th Anniversary of their Commencement.

Noozhan Ashraf, O.D.
Stanley David Babington, O.D.
Anthony Vincent. Bass, O.D
Paul Robert Beckwith, O.D
William B. Bieker, O.D.
Charles Lee Bland, O.D.*
Roger L. Boltz, O.D., Ph.D.
Lionel Edward Boudreaux, O.D.
Howard Joel Braverman, O.D.
Ann Lynn Brenner-Wild, O.D.
Calvin Sanderson Clarke, O.D.
Gary Mack Frederick, O.D.*
George Reed Gage, O.D.
James Earl Gustinella, O.D.
Ronald Thomas Gustinella, O.D.
Daniel James Hanisch, O.D.
Stanley Norman Hodges, O.D.*
Craig Collins Hughes, O.D.
Ralph Hamme Jackson, O.D.
Robert Lee Jarrell, Jr., O.D.
Stephen Lee Kelsey, O.D.*
Edward Alan Makler, O.D.
Franklin Edward Makovic, O.D.
Gail Henry McPeak, O.D.
Arthur A. Medina, O.D.
Thomas Howard Melton, O.D.*
Richard Scott Miller, O.D.
James Edwin Paramore, O.D.
Gerald Douglas Phillips, O.D.
Henry L. Phillips, IV, O.D.
Alton Lee Provost, O.D.
Augustin C. Pruneda, Jr., O.D.
Sam Quintero, O.D.
Bobby Gene Ray, O.D.*
Donald Eugene Rexroad, O.D.
Daniel Daley Richardson, O.D.
Curtis Edward Roberson, O.D.
John Thomas Ryder, O.D.
Herman Salmenson, O.D.
Kent Roy Schauer, O.D.
Gordon Dale Schultze, O.D.
Lacy Bordelon Shaw, O.D.
Michael Edward Siegel, O.D.
Earl L. Smith, III, O.D., Ph.D.
Jeryl Lynn Sparks, O.D.*
Jonathan Spilkin, O.D.
Robert Lee Spurling, O.D.
James Hartin Starling, O.D.
Arliss Lee Stebbins, O.D.
L. L. Tagtmeyer, O.D.
Larry Amos Tallent, O.D.
Roger Lee Talley, O.D.*
Luisa Mayorga de Thompson, O.D.
Robert Stanley Thompson, O.D.*
Richard Wayne Tiahart, O.D.*
Terry Ray Van Der Heyden, O.D.
Donald E. Walter, Jr., O.D.
Jeffery Ward Weltmer, O.D.
Barry Alvin Wineinger, O.D.

* Deceased
# College Administration

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Michael D. Twa, O.D., Ph.D.</td>
<td>Dean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura J. Frishman, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Associate Dean for Graduate Studies and Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kimberly Lambreghts, R.N., O.D.</td>
<td>Associate Dean for Professional Studies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marcus Piccolo, O.D.</td>
<td>Associate Dean for Professional Advancement</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Associate Dean for Clinical Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew M. Archila, O.D.</td>
<td>Associate Dean for Clinical Operations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ralph Herring, O.D., M.H.A.</td>
<td>Assistant Dean for Professional Studies Director, External Education</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Danica Marrelli, O.D.</td>
<td>Assistant Dean for Clinical Education Director, Ocular Diagnostic and Medical Eye Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>LaSaundra Cotright, M.B.A.</td>
<td>Executive Director, College Business Operations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

# College of Optometry Faculty

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Raymond Applegate, O.D., Ph.D.</td>
<td>Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew M. Archila, O.D.</td>
<td>Clinical Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julia Benoit, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Research Associate Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan Bergmanson, O.D., Ph.D.</td>
<td>Brien A. Holden Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Berntsen, O.D., Ph.D.</td>
<td>Golden-Golden Professor in Optometry Chair, Department of Clinical Sciences</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rudolph Black, O.D.</td>
<td>Clinical Associate Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alan Burns, Ph.D.</td>
<td>McDaid-Vision Source Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Louvenia Carter-Dawson, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Senior Research Scientist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Moriah Chandler, O.D.</td>
<td>Clinical Assistant Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Han Cheng, Ph.D., O.D.</td>
<td>Clinical Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daniel Coates, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vivien Coulson-Thomas, Ph.D.</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vallabh Das, Ph.D.</td>
<td>John and Rebecca Moores Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jennifer Deakins, O.D.</td>
<td>Clinical Assistant Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Luca Della Santina, Ph.D., Pharm.D.</td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kim Duong, O.D.</td>
<td>Clinical Assistant Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura Frishman, Ph.D.</td>
<td>John and Rebecca Moores Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janet Garza, O.D.</td>
<td>Clinical Assistant Professor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Amber Gaume Giannoni, O.D.</td>
<td>Clinical Professor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marcus Gonzales, O.D.</td>
<td>Clinical Associate Professor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Beth Harper, O.D.</td>
<td>Clinical Associate Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wendy Harrison, O.D., Ph.D.</td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ralph Herring, O.D., M.H.A.</td>
<td>Clinical Professor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hong Dieu Ho, O.D.</td>
<td>Clinical Assistant Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nicole Hooper, O.D.</td>
<td>Clinical Assistant Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Li-Fang Hung, B. Med, O.D., Ph.D.</td>
<td>Senior Research Scientist</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nange Jin, M.D., Ph.D.</td>
<td>Research Assistant Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew Kauffman, O.D.</td>
<td>Clinical Assistant Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lucy Kehinde-Darnell, Ph.D., O.D.</td>
<td>Clinical Assistant Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andrew Kemp, O.D.</td>
<td>Clinical Assistant Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tonya Ketcham, O.D., Ph.D.</td>
<td>Clinical Assistant Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jung-Sun Kim, Ph.D., O.D.</td>
<td>Clinical Assistant Professor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julianne Knowles, O.D.</td>
<td>Clinical Associate Professor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Zanna Kruoch, O.D.</td>
<td>Clinical Assistant Professor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kimberly Lambreghts, R.N., O.D.</td>
<td>Clinical Assistant Professor</td>
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</table>
University of Houston
College of Optometry

Administration and Faculty

Karen Lee, O.D.
Clinical Assistant Professor

Anna-Kaye Logan, O.D.
Clinical Assistant Professor

Ruth Manny, O.D., Ph.D.
Charles R. Stewart Professor

Danica Marrelli, O.D.
Clinical Professor

Jason Marsack, Ph.D.
Associate Professor

Muriel Martinez, O.D.
Clinical Assistant Professor

Swati Modi, O.D.
Clinical Associate Professor

Cherylyn J. Ng, Ph.D.
Senior Research Scientist

Lauri Nurminen, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor

John O’Brien, Ph.D.
Professor

Lisa Ostrin, O.D., Ph.D.
Associate Professor

Lloyd Pate, O.D.
Clinical Assistant Professor

Nimesh Patel, O.D., Ph.D.
Associate Professor

Ryan Patel, O.D.
Clinical Assistant Professor

Marcus Piccolo, O.D.
Associate Professor

Mandy Polacco, O.D.
Clinical Assistant Professor

Jason Porter, Ph.D.
Associate Professor

Guoting Qin, Ph.D.
Research Associate Professor

Sam Quintero, O.D.
Adjunct Associate Professor

Rachel Redfern, O.D., Ph.D.
Associate Professor

Christophe P. Ribelayga, M.S., Ph.D.
Professor

Katheryn Richdale, O.D., Ph.D.
Associate Professor

Eric Ritchey, O.D., Ph.D.
Assistant Professor

Abirami Santhanam, O.D.
Research Assistant Professor

Kaitlyn Sapoznik, O.D., Ph.D.
Assistant Professor

Pat Segu, O.D.
Clinical Professor

Justin Simbulan, O.D.
Clinical Assistant Professor

Scott Stevenson, Ph.D.
Associate Professor

Anita Ticak, O.D., M.S.
Clinical Associate Professor

Michael D. Twa, O.D., Ph.D.
Professor

Maria Walker, O.D., M.S.
Clinical Assistant Professor

Samantha Wang, O.D.
Clinical Associate Professor

Joe Wheat, O.D., Ph.D.
Clinical Associate Professor

Geunyoung Yoon, Ph.D.
Professor

Zhijing Zhang, Ph.D.
Research Assistant Professor

Emeritus Faculty

Harold Bedell, Ph.D.

Roger L Boltz, O.D., Ph.D.

Yuzo Chino, Ph.D.

Karen Fern, O.D.

Troy Fannin, O.D.

Merton Flom, O.D., Ph.D.

Ron Harwerth, Ph.D.

Nicky Holdeman, O.D., M.D.

Randy Jose, O.D.

Penelope Kegel-Flom, Ph.D.

James Koetting, O.D.

Paul Pease, O.D., Ph.D.

Don Pitts, O.D.

Nelson Reber, O.D.

Jerome Rosner, O.D.

Earl L. Smith, III, O.D., Ph.D.

Charles Stewart, O.D., Ph.D.

Jerald Strickland, O.D., Ph.D.

College of Optometry Commencement Committee

Renee Armacost

Bee Banks

Jacqueline Conde

Lee Dempsey

Cristian Loayza

Liz Mauzy

Michele Luman

Lyle Tate
Cora and J. Davis Armistead Faculty Teaching Award Recipients

Judith A Perrigin, O.D.
Marcus G. Piccolo, O.D.
Jan PG Bergmanson, O.D.
William L. Miller, O.D.
Gregory L. Stephens, O.D.
Kimberly L. Lambrechts, R.N., O.D.
Harold Bedell, Ph.D.
Suzanne Wickum, O.D.
Scott B. Stevenson, Ph.D.
Jason Porter, Ph.D.
Han Cheng, O.D., Ph.D.
Yuzo Chino, Ph.D.
Deborah C. Otteson, Ph.D.
Norman Leach, O.D.
Danica Marrelli, O.D.
Alan Burns, Ph.D.
Amber Gaume Giannoni, O.D.
Heather Anderson, O.D., Ph.D.
David Berntsen, O.D., Ph.D.
Nimesh Patel, O.D., Ph.D.
Anita Ticak, O.D., M.S

Optometry at the University of Houston

DOCTORS OF OPTOMETRY ARE:
Primary health care professionals who diagnose and treat eye health and vision problems.

OPTOMETRY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON:
The four-year Post-Baccalaureate Professional Program includes:

- 3,216 hours of lectures and laboratories in optics, advanced human physiology, gross human and ocular anatomy, neuroanatomy, systemic and ocular pathology, general and ocular pharmacology, and vision and clinical sciences.
- 500 eye health and vision care experiences in the University Eye Institute’s family practice, cornea and contact lens, pediatric, low vision, and medical services.
- 1,200 eye health and vision care experiences during two externships (32 weeks) at vision and health care centers. These centers include private practices, military hospitals, Indian Health hospitals, community health centers, surgical centers, Veterans Administration hospitals, and multidisciplinary vision care centers and institutes.

 LICENSING AND CREDENTIALING INCLUDE:

National Board Examinations
Applied Basic Science
Patient Assessment and Management
Treatment and Management of Ocular Disease
Clinical Skills Examination

State Licensure Examination
Optometric Jurisprudence Examination

2021-2022 ACADEMIC YEAR EXTERNSHIP SITES INCLUDE:

Lieutenant Anthony M. Belekanich, O.D.
Naval Medical Center San Diego, San Diego, California
Jacqueline Brending, O.D.
Clear Lake Eye Center, Webster, Texas
Kim Castleberry, O.D.
Plano Eye Associates, Plano, Texas
Randy Charrrier, O.D.
Family Vision Solutions, Houston, Texas
John Coble, O.D.
Eyecare of Greenville, Greenville, Texas
Jennifer Deakins, O.D.
Community Eye Clinic, Fort Worth, Texas
David Dinh, O.D.
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas
Amy Elsila, O.D.
Hellerstein-Brenner Vision Center, Greenwood Village, Colorado
Michael Everson, O.D.
Memorial Eye Center, Houston, Texas
University of Houston
College of Optometry

Administration and Faculty

Janet Garza, O.D.
UH Eye Center at Heights, Houston, Texas

Kevin Gee, O.D.
Gee Eye Care, Missouri City, Texas

Robert Gibson, O.D.
Coastal Eye Associates, Webster, Texas

Steve Gill, O.D.
New Orleans VA Medical Center,
New Orleans, Louisiana

Geeta Girdher, O.D.
Walter Reed National Military Medical Center, Washington, D.C.

Marcus Gonzales, O.D.
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas

Jonathan Goodwin, O.D.
North Little Rock VA Eye Clinic,
Little Rock, Arkansas

Charity Grannis, M.D.
Houston Eye Associates,
Houston Texas

Robert Janot, O.D.
Dr. Robert Janot Vision Source, Sulphur, Louisiana

Paula Johns, O.D.
Indian Health Hospital, Santa Fe,
New Mexico

Andrew Kemp, O.D.
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas

Brook Komar, O.D.
Texas Children’s Hospital Clinic,
Houston, Texas

Zanna Kruoch, O.D.
Cedar Springs Eye Clinic, Dallas, Texas

Thanh Le, O.D.
South Texas Veterans Health Care System,
San Antonio, Texas

Michael Leung, O.D.
Richmond VA Outpatient Clinic,
Richmond, Texas

Oliver Lou, O.D.
Signature Eye Care, Cedar Park, Texas

Stephanie Lozano, O.D.
Diagnostic Eye Center, Houston, Texas

Zahraa Majeed, O.D.
Victoria Eye Center, Victoria, Texas

Michael McCormick, O.D.
McCormick Vision Center, Austin, Texas

Earlena McKe, O.D.
NSU College of Optometry, Tahlequah, Oklahoma

Donner Mizelle, O.D.
Acadian Vision Associates, Lafayette, Louisiana

Clarke D. Newman, O.D.
Plaza Vision Center, Dallas, Texas

Vu Nguyen, O.D.
Today’s Vision Meyerland, Houston, Texas

Amita Patel, O.D.
Hope Clinic, Houston, Texas

Samir Patel, O.D.
Texas State Optical, Beaumont, Texas

Khanh Pham, O.D.
Vision Centers of Houston Willowbrook,
Houston, Texas

Brittney Probst, O.D.
Kingwood Family Vision Center,
Kingwood, Texas

Kristi Ramirez, O.D.
Sharp Eye Consultants, San Antonio, Texas

Jackson Robison, O.D.
Mission Vision, San Antonio, Texas

Mary Kate Sain, O.D.
Northside Community Clinic, Fort Worth, Texas

Laurie Sorrenson, O.D.
Lakeline Vision Source, Austin, Texas

Anthony Stout, O.D.
Indian Health Hospital, Albuquerque, New Mexico

Megan Stubinski, O.D.
Vision Source Mission Bend, Houston, Texas

Lisa Thomas, O.D.
Eyes & Optics of Pearland, Pearland, Texas

David Tybor, O.D.
Oak Hill Eye Care, Austin, Texas

Ann Voss, O.D.
Bellaire Family Eye Care, Bellaire, Texas

Ashley Wallace-Tucker, O.D.
Bellaire Family Eye Care, Bellaire, Texas

David Way, O.D.
MyEyeDr. Spring Klein, Spring, Texas

Michael Wingard, O.D.
Valley Coastal Bend VA Medical Center,
McAllen, Texas

Gordon Wong, O.D.
GW Eye Associates, San Diego, California
UHCO Milestones

1950s
In 1952, UHCO officially opens. Charles R. Stewart, O.D., Ph.D., is named first dean of the college.

The Foundation for Education and Research in Vision is established to increase and promote awareness of vision and its care.

UHCO graduates the first class with 11 O.D.s entering the optometric profession in 1955.

Mildred Carlisle, O.D., is UHCO’s first female graduate.

1960s
Faculty member Chester H. Pheiffer, O.D., Ph.D., assumes duties as dean of the college.

The Texas Commission on Higher Education confirms the offering of optometry at UH, making the college eligible for state support.

Charles M. Stephens, O.D., becomes UHCO’s 100th graduate.

1970s
The graduate program is established in physiological optics (vision science) with the M.S. degree in 1970 and the Ph.D. in 1972. The first M.S. graduate is Norman E. Leach, O.D., a current UHCO faculty member.

James K. Donovan, O.D., becomes the 500th graduate.

The J. Davis Armistead Building is completed with both state and federal assistance. The state-of-the-art $9.6 million building remains UHCO’s home.

UHCO establishes a formal partnership with the Good Neighbor Healthcare Center and on-site optometric services begin.

William R. Baldwin, O.D., Ph.D., becomes UHCO’s dean.

The UHCO Reading Room becomes an official UH recognized library.

The Nelson Reber, O.D., Eye Open Golf Tournament is established to raise funds for student scholarships and emergency loans. Dr. Reber died in 2011.

1980s
Dan Patterson, O.D., becomes UHCO’s 1,000th graduate.

UH Downtown formally names the vision clinic the Herbert H. Moore Vision Care Clinic, in honor of the popular UHCO professor.

The Texas Optometry Career Opportunities Program (TEXOCOP) is created with grant funds contributed from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Service Administration.

1990s
Karen M. Conway, O.D., becomes the 2,000th graduate.

The Weston A. Pettrey Library is dedicated to honor Dr. Pettrey’s tireless efforts on behalf of UHCO and the profession. The Reading Room is named to honor Dr. Irvin M. Borish for his achievements in the profession.

The college building is formally named the J. Davis Armistead Building in recognition of Dr. Armistead’s enduring efforts benefitting the college, university, and the profession. Dr. Armistead is known for being the optometrist to singer Buddy Holly and having a hand in selecting the famous black frames.

Jerald W. Strickland, O.D., Ph.D., is named UHCO’s dean in September 1991.

2000s
Seren D. Ngin, O.D., becomes UHCO’s 3,000th graduate in May 2001.

UHCO caps off the 50th Anniversary celebration with a gala celebrating Visions of the Past, Present, and Future.


UHCO and the National Multiple Sclerosis Society form an official affiliation to establish the MS Eye Care Center. The clinic is dedicated to the early diagnosis and treatment of MS, to the delivery of comprehensive eye care to patients with MS, and to groundbreaking research.

UHCO debuts its Mobile Eye Institute, designed specifically to provide eye care to the greater-Houston area. MEI is equipped with the latest in ophthalmic technology and brings comprehensive on-site vision services to patients in need of optometric care.

2010s
UHCO hosts a Groundbreaking Celebration on the site that will become the UH Health and Biomedical Sciences Center featuring the UHCO Vision Institute in November 2010.

The Topping Out Ceremony and pillar signing event for the Molly and Doug Barnes Vision Institute within the new Health and Biomedical Sciences Building marks the occasion when construction on the new building reaches its highest point in September 2011.
Bridget Ducote, O.D., becomes the 4,000th UHCO graduate during the May 2012 ceremony.

The UH Health and Biomedical Sciences Building featuring the Molly and Doug Barnes Vision Institute officially opens in November 2012, and the formal dedication ceremony celebrates this milestone in February 2013.

Pierrette Dayhaw-Barker, Ph.D., ’76, UHCO’s first Ph.D. recipient, receives the Distinguished Alumna Award at the May 2013 commencement ceremony.

Vissett Sun, O.D., ’95 is recognized as the 2013 Volunteer of the Year.

In August 2013, Brady Betten from the Class of 2014 receives the Norman E. Wallis Award honoring the student earning the highest score among students from all 23 schools of optometry on Part I of the National Board Examinations.

In November 2013, Earl L. Smith III, O.D., Ph.D., is appointed to serve as the Interim Chief Health Officer for the university, and Roger L. Boltz, O.D., Ph.D., is appointed to serve as UHCO’s Interim Dean.

In February 2014, William R. Baldwin, O.D., Ph.D., UHCO Dean from 1979-1990, passes away. The UH Flag flies at half-staff the day of his funeral as a tribute to his memory.

In May 2014, Dennis M. Levi, O.D., Ph.D., ’77 is recognized as UHCO’s Distinguished Alumnus.

J. Davis Armistead, O.D., passes away in June 2014. He was the first O.D. to serve on the UH Board of Regents and completed two terms, the longest of any optometrist. He served as an advocate for the college, university, and profession until his death.

The Simulation Lab is established in August 2014 giving optometry students an opportunity to learn diagnostic techniques on a state-of-the-art, first-in-the-nation set of networked computers that mimic the experience of examining a real patient’s eyes. The sophisticated program is preloaded with 200 pathology cases designed to teach pattern recognition to students.

nJOY Vision Center opens in the Molly and Doug Barnes Vision Institute in February 2015. This partnership provides the opportunity to integrate new clinical services into the curriculum, including refractive surgery, laser refractive procedures, and advanced treatment options for conditions like keratoconus.

In May 2015, Jenny Terrell, O.D., ’03 and Jennifer Deakins, O.D., ’10 receive the Volunteer of the Year Award.

William J. Townsend, O.D., ’77, is honored as UHCO’s Distinguished Alumnus during graduation ceremonies in May 2015.

In June 2015, Bill Benedict is posthumously inducted into UHCO’s Hall of Visionaries for his innovation, dedication, and personal and financial commitment to the optometric profession.

Charles R. Stewart, O.D., Ph.D., UHCO’s founding dean, passes away in June 2015.

Brien Holden, Ph.D., D.Sc., founder of the Brien Holden Vision Institute and friend and benefactor of UHCO, passes away in July 2015. Prior to his death, he established the Brien Holden Vision Institute Classrooms and Learning Commons in the Health and Biomedical Science Building on UHCO’s second floor. He was awarded an Honorary Degree from the University of Houston in May 2012.

In August 2015, UHCO establishes eye and vision care services at the Hope Clinic, which is located in one of Houston’s most racially diverse neighborhoods. A unique characteristic of the clinic is its capacity to provide services in 14 languages, including Mandarin, Cantonese, Vietnamese, Korean, Burmese, Arabic, and Spanish.

In May 2016 William R. Elizondo, O.D., receives the UHCO Volunteer of the Year Award.

Brett G. Bence, O.D., ’79, is honored as UHCO’s Distinguished Alumnus during graduation ceremonies in May 2016.

In October 2016, James H. Dienst, O.D., ’89, is promoted to Brigadier General and is the first optometrist to achieve general officer rank in the Air Force. He received the prestigious Air Force Optometrist of the Year Award in 2001.

Suzanne Ferimer, Librarian for UHCO’s Weston A. Pettey Library, is presented with the Medical Library Association President’s Award in March 2017. This is one of MLA’s highest honors and recognizes those who have made outstanding contributions in the field of health sciences librarianship.

In May 2017, Michael Kalloniatis, B.Sc., M. Sc., Ph.D., ’88, PG-COT, is recognized as UHCO’s Distinguished Alumnus.

Hurricane Harvey made an unwelcome stop in Houston in August 2017, dumping an unprecedented 20 trillion gallons of rain on Houston, impacting over 6 million Texans and flooding 300,000 structures in the region. More than 30,000 water rescues were performed and 46,000 evacuees sought shelter. UHCO faculty, residents, fellows, staff, and students stepped up to help those displaced and in need of eye care, working alongside the City of Houston Health Department, Harris County Health Department, Prevent Blindness Texas, local optometrists, ophthalmologists, opticians,
optometric assistants and volunteers. Together, the clinical eye care teams provided eye exams and eyeglasses to over 1,000 individuals in Houston, Dallas and Austin area shelters.

UHCO’s 100th scholarship endowment is established in March 2018 to provide merit based awards for optometry students enrolled at UHCO.

Roger Boltz, O.D., ’72, Ph.D., ’78, is recognized as UHCO’s Distinguished Alumnus in May 2018. He joined the college’s faculty in 1978 as an assistant professor, retiring in May 2018 after 40 years of service. In addition to teaching and working in the cornea and contact lens clinic, he served in a variety of roles including chief financial officer, interim dean, associate dean for finance and administration, and associate dean for professional studies.

In fall 2019, UHCO becomes the first optometry school in the US to have two Anatomage Virtual 4D Anatomy Tables designated exclusively for optometry students. The advanced technology allows students to visualize structures in four dimensions.

Following a national search, Michael Twa, O.D., Ph.D., is selected as UHCO’s dean effective June 1, 2019, succeeding Earl L. Smith III, O.D., Ph.D., who served as dean of the college from August 2003 through May 2019.

The Earl L. Smith III, O.D., Ph.D. Professorship is established to honor his 41 years of service to UHCO as a faculty member, associate dean and dean of the college.

In March 2019, the inaugural UHCO First Lady, Mrs. Dorothy “Sue” Stewart passes away at her home in Arizona. She is the widow of UHCO’s founding dean, Charles R. Stewart, O.D.M Ph.D, who passed away in 2015.

In May 2019, Moes R. Nasser, O.D., ’82 is recognized as UHCO’s Distinguished Alumnus.

**Academic Heraldry**

The academic costume in America consists of three components: a cap, gown, and hood. The cap is the beret or mortarboard type with a tassel color (black or gold) which represents the graduate level of education – the professional doctorate.

The doctor’s gown is an elaborate costume marked with velvet panels down the front and around the neck as well as three bars on the bell-shaped sleeves. The hood design is unique to the profession of optometry. The velvet trim of the hood is seafoam green, the color which represents the academic discipline of optometry. The length of the hood depicts the doctoral level of education, while the field of the hood is specific for the University of Houston – red with a reverse white chevron.

The hooding ceremony and the formal conferring of the degrees by the Dean or the President represent the final acts of academic endorsement by the faculty of the College and the University.

**Invitation**

At the conclusion of the ceremony, the College of Optometry will host a reception celebrating our newest alumni.

We invite all our graduates and guests to join us for light refreshments as we honor the Class of 2022.

**University of Houston**

**Health 1 Building**

**The Doctors of Texas State Optical Alumni Education Center**

**ENHANCING HEALTH AND VISION FOR LIFE**
Message from the UH Alumni Foundation Board President

Congratulations 2022 Graduates!

Let me be the first to welcome you to the UH Alumni Association (UHAA). You are joining a global network of over 300,000 Cougars. With your participation, we can only grow stronger. As you embark on this next chapter, know that UHAA is here to help you stay connected with your beloved alma mater. From volunteering, joining a group, coming to events, to becoming a Life Member, the opportunities to engage are endless. To get started, click on the QR code below and make a gift in honor of the Class of 2022 so you can enjoy all the activities that soon await you. In the meantime, enjoy this moment and continue to soar. True we’ll ever be and Go Coogs!

Drue DaSilva (’93, M.S. ’99)
President
University of Houston Alumni Association Foundation Board

Have You Completed Your Graduation Checklist?