





The ARVO Foundation raises funds through partnerships, grants and sponsorships to support ARVO's world-class education and career development resources for eye and vision researchers.

2019 by the numbers



Travel grants awarded to young researchers

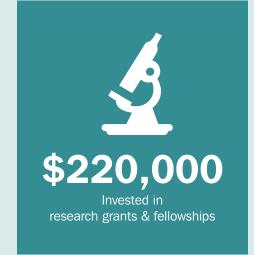


\$23,000

Given to career development programs to support junior scientists



International Chapter Affiliates





Grants given to help authors with financial need publish in ARVO journals



\$32,800

Awarded to recognize and encourage innovative research



ARVO members and friends who supported the ARVO Foundation with a gift

A message from the Chair



This annual report celebrates the ARVO Foundation's successes in 2019, but we cannot celebrate without acknowledging the tremendous challenges facing our global community. In just a few short months, the covid-19 pandemic response has upended our lives and our work, including the temporary closure of many of our labs.

Though these challenges are great and the future is uncertain, I know our collective passion and commitment to vision research is not extinguished. Our sight-saving work will go forward. So too continues the work of the ARVO Foundation to create and fund opportunities that support bright minds in ophthalmology and vision research.

Our community is vibrant and we remain committed to supporting each other. Last year's ARVO meeting was a tremendous example of this support. With a matching gift from Steve Charles, MD, the ARVO community raised over \$42,000 in Vancouver. With the cancelation of ARVO 2020, those funds will be deferred to ARVO 2021 in San Francisco where they will support travel grants for 22 young members to attend and present their research.

The ARVO Foundation also continues its expansion of programs to better serve ARVO members. We partnered with other vision research organizations to introduce the EyeFind Research Grants Program which will provide supplementary grants for the procurement of human eye tissue. We also launched a new award funded by Genentech that will provide a two-year grant to an early-career vision scientist from an underrepresented minority group. Both will accept their first applications in 2020.

While covid-19 has overtaken our collective consciousness, our community should not forget that 2020 is the year of the eye. We have made remarkable progress in our understanding of the eye and visual system: our accomplishments are enormous and should engender great pride. Nonetheless, we still face many scientific hurdles.

We will rely on each other even more in the coming year and I look forward to your continued partnership on this journey of discovery and cure. Thank you for your support.

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We will rely on

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Paul Sternberg, Jr., MD, FARVO Chair, ARVO Foundation Board of Governors



Top: ARVO 2019 attendees enjoy the Student-Trainee Social for trainees, students and travel grant recipients

Right: ARVO President Steven J. Fliesler, PhD, FARVO, at the ARVO/Alcon Opening Keynote

Below: 2018 – 2019 ARVO Foundation award winners





Travel grants

The ARVO Foundation awarded 183 travel grants through 36 named funds in 2019, benefitting trainees from 20 countries. These travel grants underwrite the cost of attendance for the ARVO Annual Meeting, allowing young scientists to present their research and network with other eye and vision researchers from around the world.

American Macular Degeneration Foundation Travel Grants

ARVO Staff Travel Grant

ARVO Foundation Travel Grants

Elizabeth Anderson Travel Grants

Joanne G. Angle Travel Grants

Grant Wood Balkema Memorial Travel Grant

Robert B. Barlow, Jr. Travel Grant

IRCCS-Fondazione G. B. Bietti per lo Studio e la Ricerca in Oftalmologia-ONLUS Travel Grants

BrightFocus Foundation Travel Grants

Ramon F. Dacheux II Memorial Travel Grant

Marij and Paulus de Jong Travel Grant

M. Velma Dobson Memorial Travel Grant

C. Stephen and Frances B. Foster Foundation Travel Grant

Qais Farjo, MD Memorial Travel Grants

Foster Ocular Immunology Society Travel Grants

G. M. Jager Travel Grant

Murray and Jeanie Johnstone Travel Grant

Karamichos/Utheim Keratoconus Travel Grant Knights Templar Eye Foundation Travel Grants

Sarla P. Kothary Memorial Travel Grant

Kowa Travel Grant

Kreissig Travel Grant

Lens and Cataract Travel Grant

Lions Eye Institute for Transplant and Research Travel Grants

Richard Newton Lolley Travel Grant

Friederike Mackensen Travel Grant

NIHR Moorfields Biomedical Research Centre Travel Grants

Ocular Immunology and Uveitis
Foundation Travel Grant

Overseas Chinese Association for Vision and Eye Research (OCAVER) Travel Grant

David R. Pepperberg Travel Grant

Reader's Digest Partners for Sight Foundation Travel Grants

Retina Research Foundation/ Joseph M. and Eula C. Lawrence Travel Grants

Bosco Tjan Memorial Travel Grant

Josh Wallman Travel Grant

Women in Eye and Vision Research (WEAVR) Travel Grants

Gerhard Zinser Memorial Travel Grant



Denis Plotnikov, MD Cardiff University Josh Wallman Travel Grant

I attended the ARVO 2019 meeting at the pivotal part of my PhD study and it was very helpful to me in terms of career perspective (now I know what I want to achieve, how I want to do it and whom I need to ask for advice). I will be attending annual ARVO meetings, as I feel my experience this year gave me a stimulus for both professional and personal growth.



Rumi Kawashima, MD, PhD Osaka University Graduate School of Medicine Robert B. Barlow Travel Grant

I was thrilled to talk with many researchers about new medical science and future projects. I am inspired to develop my research. Communication with so many reputable doctors from many countries was an amazing experience. Receiving this grant has given me the opportunity to take part in this prestigious conference and develop possible future collaborations with international scholars.



Kaitryn Ronning University of California Davis Ocular Immunology and Uveitis Foundation Travel Grant

When I attend the ARVO Annual Meeting, I know I have my finger on the pulse of the community. Interacting with other investigators and clinicians at ARVO meetings helps me attach names and stories to the published science. I think this human side can make the science more impactful and memorable and allows us to engage with the latest work far more intimately than is possible in the standard publication pipeline.



Ken Kitavama, BA, MPH UCLA Stein Eve Institute Knights Templar Eye Foundation Travel Grant

This was my first experience giving a paper presentation at a research conference. I was able to develop valuable public speaking skills that will definitely benefit me in my professional development. I was also able to have interesting and productive discussions with others in my field of research that will help to improve my research efforts.



2019 Travel Fellows

The Developing Country Eye Researcher Travel Fellowships program brings aspiring scientists from developing nations to the ARVO Annual Meeting. Each recipient is paired with a volunteer mentor who guides them through ARVO's large scientific meeting. Below are the 2019 recipients:

Meenu Chaudhary, MD

Institute of Medicine, Tribhuvan University Nepal

Emerson M. Cruz, MD

Asian Eye Institute **Philippines**

Christine Darko, OD

Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology Ghana

Shima Dehghani, MD

Zahedan University of Medical Sciences Iran

Masoud Fard, MD

Farabi Eve Hospital Iran

Ranju Kharel (Sitaula), MD, FAICO

B P Koirala Lions Centre For Ophthalmic Studies, Institute of Medicine, Tribhuvan University Nepal

Leila Satarian, MD

Royan Institute Iran

Renu Venugopal, MSc

Dr. R.P. Centre for Ophthlamic Sciences, All India Institute of **Medical Sciences** India

Erdost Yildiz, MD

Koc University Turkey

Program supporters

The Alcon Foundation

ARVO 2018 **Annual Meeting** donors

ARVO Foundation donors

University of Wisconsin— Madison

Women in Eye and Vision Research (WEAVR)



This experience changed me in the most positive way, allowing me to stay motivated and try harder in the face of all limitations I have. This award was more proof that hard work, grit and

perseverance will prevail no matter how daunting the challenges are. My experience at ARVO solidified my desire to work harder to mitigate blindness and to fight vision diseases in my country and other countries around the world. 77

Shima Dehghani, MD



Finding opportunity through the ARVO **Foundation**

Srilekha Sundaramurthy, PhD of the Vision Research Foundation in India is a two-fold beneficiary of the ARVO Foundation's careerbuilding financial support. In 2018, she received the Developing Country Eye Researcher Travel Fellowship (DCERF) which allowed her to attend the ARVO Annual Meeting in Honolulu. There, she presented her research during a poster session, and with the help of her ARVO-assigned mentor, worked on building her professional network.

"The DCERF program is really a golden opportunity for young researchers in developing country like India, especially at the start of their research career," Sundaramurthy says. "It gave me an opportunity to get updated on ophthalmic research and develop my network with colleagues and mentors with similar research interests."

With her new connections, she applied for and won a 2019 Roche Collaborative Research Fellowship with Patrick Yu-Wai-Man, BMedSci (Hons), MBBS (Hons), PhD, FRCPath, FRCOphth of the University of Cambridge and Moorfields Eye Hospital. The yearlong award provides a \$10,000 research grant to help recipients build their research skills with the support of a collaborator. Sundaramurthy's research project is focused on understanding the mitochondrial mutations of Leber Hereditary Optic Neuropathy, a mitochondrial genetic disease.

The ARVO Foundation supports young minds and talented individuals by giving them a start which

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"The ARVO Foundation supports young minds and talented individuals by giving them a start which every scientist needs early in their career," she says. "I am sure that I will be able to use the opportunities and the networks that I am developing through these fellowships to successfully apply for more collaborative grants in the future. I am thankful to the ARVO Foundation."

2018 – 2019 Award Recipients

ARVO/Alcon Early Career Clinician-Scientist Research Awards

These support researchers who are committed to careers as clinicianscientists. The \$3,000 award recognizes significant research being presented at the ARVO Annual Meeting.

Cecilia Lee, MD

University of Washington Seattle, Wash. Genomic and gene expression analyses of pathogens in post-surgical endophthalmitis

Lev Prasov, MD, PhD

National Eye Institute Bethesda, Md. Variants in myelin regulatory factor (MYRF) cause autosomal dominant nanophthalmos

Mary Whitman, MD, PhD

Boston Children's Hospital, Harvard Medical School Boston, Mass. Rare copy number variants increase risk for esotropia

Patrick Yu-Wai-Man, BMedSci, MBBS, PhD, FRCPath, FRCOphth

University of Cambridge Cambridge, U.K. rAAV2/2-ND4 for the treatment of Leber Hereditary Optic Neuropathy (LHON): 72-week data from the REVERSE phase III clinical trial

Dr. David L. Epstein Award

This \$100,000 award is given in memory of David L. Epstein, MD to a well-established, senior level investigator with a documented history of conducting eye and vision research in glaucoma and a record of accomplishment in successfully mentoring clinicianscientists to independent research in academic careers.

Mentor:

Harry A. Quigley, MD, FARVO

Mentee:

Thomas V. Johnson, MD, PhD

Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine Baltimore, Md.

Stem cell transplantation for RGC replacement and optic nerve regeneration



From left: ARVO/Alcon Early Career Clinician-Scientist Research Award recipients Mary Whitman, MD, PhD; Lev Prasov, MD, PhD; Patrick Yu-Wai-Man, BMedSci, MBBS, PhD, FRCPath, FRCOphth; and Cecilia Lee, MD

2018 - 2019 **Award Recipients**

Bert M. Glaser, MD Award for **Innovative Research in Retina**

Given in memory of Bert M. Glaser, MD, this \$10,000 award recognizes an early-career investigator who has made a novel discovery of a drug, technique or disease mechanism that impacted the understanding and/or treatment of a retinal disease or condition.

Mandeep S. Singh, MD, PhD

Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine Baltimore, Md.

Pfizer Ophthalmics Carl Camras Translational Research Award

This research award gives \$12,000 to early-career researchers who exhibit excellence in research. Their discovery or observation must have led to, or have the promise of leading to, clinical applications.

Yali Jia, PhD

Oregon Health & Science University Portland, Ore.



ARVO Foundation Chair Paul Sternberg, Jr., MD, FARVO and Pfizer Carl Camras Translational Research Award recipient Yali Jia, PhD

Oberdorfer Award in Low Vision Research

Named in honor of Michael D. Oberdorfer, PhD and supported by the Lighthouse Guild, this \$1,250 award is given to an invited speaker at the ARVO Annual Meeting whose presentation is on a topic related to low vision.

Cynthia Owsley, PhD, FARVO

University of Alabama at Birmingham Birmingham, Ala.

The effects of mesopic light levels on vision and functional activities

Ludwig von Sallmann Clinician-Scientist Award

This \$1,250 award for young clinician-scientists remembers Ludwig von Sallmann, MD, a distinguished international ophthalmologist and ophthalmic investigator, by recognizing an outstanding invited speaker at the ARVO Annual Meeting.

Pearse A. Keane, MD

Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS **Foundation Trust** London, U.K.

Artificial intelligence: the algorithmic solution to retinal healthcare

2018 - 2019 **Fellowship Recipients**

Roche Collaborative **Research Fellowships**

This \$10,000 fellowship supported by Roche promotes international scientific interactions and innovative research by pairing researchers from developing countries with wellestablished research scientists for a one-year collaborative project.

Researcher

Vicente Bermúdez, PhD

Instituto de Investigaciones Bioquímicas Bahía Blanca Bahía Blanca, Argentina

The Phospholipase D (PLD) pathway modulates retinal pigment epithelium (RPE) cells phagocytosis: an insight into signaling at the onset of retinal inflammatory diseases

Collaborating researcher: Nicolas G. Bazan, MD, PhD, FARVO

LSU Health School of Medicine New Orleans, La.

Researcher

Daniela Alejandra Quinteros, PhD

Unidad de Investigación y Desarrollo en Tecnología Farmacéutica -CONICET

Cordoba, Argentina Potential neuroprotective effect of antioxidants included in innovative pharmaceutical formulations

Collaborating researcher: Rocío Herrero Vanrell, PhD

Universidad Complutense de Madrid Madrid, Spain

Researcher

Swaminathan Sethu, BDS, MSc, **PhD**

Narayana Nethralaya Foundation Bangalore, India Intraocular immune cell profiling in dry age-related macular degeneration

Collaborating researcher: Debasish Sinha, PhD

University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine Pittsburgh, Pa.

Genentech AMD Research Fellowships

Supported by Genentech, these \$40,000 research fellowships offer two grants annually for age-related macular degeneration: one for basic research and one for translational research.

Basic AMD Research Fellowship:

Susana da Silva, PhD

University of Pittsburgh Pittsburgh, Pa. Establishment of a foveated human 3D retinal organoid system to model **AMD**

Translational AMD Research Fellowship:

Dimitra Skondra, MD, PhD

University of Chicago Chicago, III.

Common antidiabetic drug metformin prevents AMD by reshaping the gut microbiome

2018 - 2019 **Grant Recipients**

Publications Grants

These grants provide no-cost publication to several individuals per year who need funding assistance to publish in any of ARVO's three journals.

Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences

Nov. 2018; Volume 59, Issue 13

Scanning Acoustic Microscopy Comparison of Descemet's Membrane Normal Tissue and Tissue With Fuchs' Endothelial Dystrophy

Esam T. Ahmed Mohamed; Jean-Marc Perone: Sebastian Brand: Michael

Koegel; Nico F. Declercq

Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences

Nov. 2018; Volume 59, Issue 13

Macular Inner Retinal Layer Thickness in Relation to Photopic and Mesopic Contrast Sensitivity in Healthy Young and Older Subjects

María Cinta Puell; Catalina Palomo-Álvarez; María Jesús Pérez-Carrasco

Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences

May 2019; Volume 60, Issue 6

Electrophysiological and Psychophysical Studies of Meridional Anisotropies in Children With and Without Astigmatism

Tiong Peng Yap; Chi D. Luu; Catherine M. Suttle; Audrey Chia; Mei Ying Boon

Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences

June 2019; Volume 60, Issue 7

Effects of Monocular Atropinization on Refractive Error and Eye Growth in Infant New World Monkeys Andrew R. Whatham; Daniel Lunn; Stuart J. Judge

Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences

Nov. 2019; Volume 60, Issue 14

Lowered Decorin With Aberrant Extracellular Matrix Remodeling in Aqueous Humor and Tenon's Tissue From Primary Glaucoma Patients Sampath Nikhalashree; Gayathree Karthikkeyan; Ronnie George; Balekudaru Shantha; Lingam Vijaya; Vineet Ratra; Konerirajapuram Natarajan Sulochana; Karunakaran Coral

Journal of Vision

May 2019; Volume 19, Issue 5

Short-Term Global Motion Adaptation Induces a Compression in the Subjective Duration of Dynamic Visual Events Doga Gulhan; Inci Ayhan

Translational Vision Science and Technology

Jan. 2019; Volume 8, Issue 1

Characterization of Corneal Epithelial Cells in Keratoconus Rohit Shetty; Krishna Poojita Vunnava; Kamesh Dhamodaran: Himanshu Matalia; Subramani Murali; Chaitra Jayadev; Ponnulagu Murugeswari; Arkasubhra Ghosh; Debashish Das



Special connections for the inaugural Glaser Award

Mandeep S. Singh, MD, PhD, assistant professor of ophthalmology at the Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins Medicine, received the inaugural Bert M. Glaser, MD Award for Innovative Research in Retina in 2019. The award, funded by Glaser's family in his memory, recognizes young researchers whose work has led to a novel discovery that could revolutionize retina care.

Singh earned the award through his work studying the relationship and interactions between host and transplanted photoreceptor cells. He and his team seek to understand how photoreceptor cells behave after transplantation, including how they integrate and exchange materials, like proteins, with the recipient tissue cells. A better understanding of the material transfer between photoreceptor cells, also known as cell fusion, can lead to the development of novel therapies that work to restore vision capabilities of the eye.

"The Glaser award has become so incredibly useful for my team," said Singh. "Most of the work we do is resource-heavy, especially the materials that are key to our transplantation experiments, which are particularly expensive," said Singh. "Having this award has allowed us to move forward on, and even accelerate, much of our work on stem cell transplantation."

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Having this award has allowed us to move forward on, and even accelerate. much of our work on stem cell transplantation.

Glaser was a long-time retina researcher, surgeon, innovator and teacher who spent some of his early career years at Johns Hopkins University before moving to private practice in the Baltimore area. Ronnie Glaser, Bert Glaser's widow, was delighted that another clinician-scientist from Wilmer Eye Institute was the inaugural recipient of the award. Mrs. Glaser, who still lives in the Baltimore area, had the opportunity to see Singh's work up-close with a visit to his lab.

"Meeting Mrs. Glaser was absolutely wonderful," said Singh. "I was struck by how deeply she cared about our work and its impact. It is a special feeling when you find other people who value your goals and the work you want to do. It was an incredibly motivating experience for my team and I."

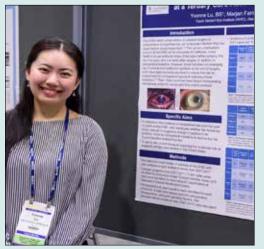
ARVO 2019 Highlights



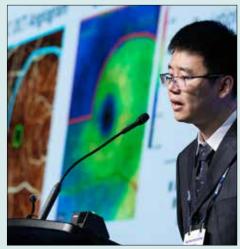
Breakfast with the Expert, a program underwritten by the ARVO Foundation's Ramesh and Brenda Tripathi Vision Research Fund



Meeting the matching gift campaign goal



Knights Templar Eye Foundation Travel Grant recipient Yvonne Lu presents her research



Liang Liu, MD, mentee recipient of the 2017 Dr. David L. Epstein Award, presents at the Epstein Award Session

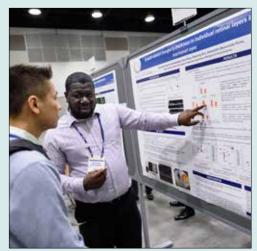


Travel grant recipients and colleagues celebrating at the Student-Trainee Reception

ARVO 2019 Highlights



Welcome to Vancouver



MIT Poster Award winner Reynolds Ablordeppey presenting his research



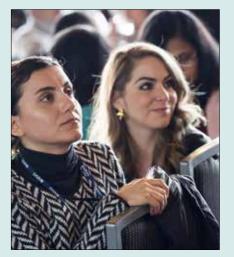
It's very complicated



Recipients of the 2019 ARVO Foundation Travel Grants funded by donations made at the ARVO 2018 Annual Meeting

Women in Eye and Vision Research

More than 520 colleagues attended the 12th Annual WEAVR Luncheon, raising \$30,000 to support women in the visual sciences







Outgoing WEAVR Leadership Committee Chair Terri L. Young, MD, MBA, FARVO





Attendees from the Casey Eye Institute at Oregon Health and Science University enjoy the 11th Annual WEAVR Luncheon

Women in Eye and Vision Research









WEAVR Luncheon speaker Gail C. Murphy, PhD (University of British Columbia)



WEAVR volunteers support their young colleagues with the Drop-In Mentoring Program

Dowling Society Reception



The ARVO Foundation welcomed 21 new members of the Dowling Society in Vancouver, including M.E. Hartnett, MD, FARVO (second from right)



Carole Miner Schuman (center) joins the Dowling Society







Steve Charles, MD poses with a cardboard cutout of John E. Dowling, PhD, FARVO who was unable to attend his namesake event

ARVO Foundation Gala

550 friends and colleagues kicked off the week of ARVO 2019 at the ARVO Foundation Gala, raising over \$90,000 to support eye and vision researchers





2019 ARVO Foundation Honoree J. Mark Petrash, PhD, FARVO (right) celebrates with his family



2019 ARVO Foundation Honoree Sir Peng Khaw, MD, PhD, FARVO



The team from Genentech, a 2019 ARVO Foundation Honoree, celebrates their recognition

The Dowling Society

Dowling Society members have made a commitment to the ARVO Foundation of \$10,000 or more. The ARVO Foundation welcomed 21 new members to the Dowling Society at the 2019 ARVO Foundation Gala.

2019 Dowling Society members

Jayakrishna Ambati, MD, FARVO

Catherine Bowes
Rickman, PhD, FARVO

Melinda K. Duncan, PhD, FARVO

Malinda E. C. Fitzgerald, PhD. FARVO

Ronnie Glaser and Bert M. Glaser, MD*

Hans E. Grossniklaus, MD, FARVO

Julia A. Haller, MD, FARVO, and John D. Gottsch, MD, FARVO

Mary Elizabeth Hartnett, MD, FARVO

John R. Heckenlively, MD, FARVO

John A. Hoepner, MD

John L. Keltner, MD, and Nancy Keltner

Marmor Foundation/ Michael F. Marmor, MD, FARVO

Carole Miner Schuman

Gregory L. Skuta, MD

Vicki Smith

Alfred Sommer, MD, MHS

Richard F. Spaide, MD, FARVO

Terri L. Young, MD, MBA, FARVO

Dowling Society members

Gary W. Abrams, MD, FARVO, and Jane C. Werner, MD

Anthony P. Adamis, MD, FARVO

Jayakrishna Ambati, MD, FARVO

Robert E. Anderson, MD, PhD, FARVO

Joanne Angle*, MLS, MPA

Sally S. Atherton, PhD, FARVO and Robert Atherton

Robert B. Barlow*, PhD, FARVO and Patricia Barlow

Haydee E. P. Bazan, PhD, FARVO, and Nicolas G. Bazan, MD, PhD, FARVO

Bernard Becker*, MD, FARVO

David C. Beebe*, PhD, FARVO, and Mrs. Betsy Beebe, PA-C

Paul S. Bernstein, MD, PhD, FARVO, and Ann Bernstein

Eliot L. Berson*, MD, FARVO, and Kyra Kaplan-Berson

Roger W. Beuerman, PhD, FARVO

Laszlo Z. Bito, PhD

Janet C. Blanks, PhD, FARVO

Jeffrey H. Boatright, PhD, FARVO

William J. Brunken, PhD, FARVO, and Dale D. Hunter, PhD, JD

Claude F. Burgoyne, MD, FARVO and Vicki Smith

Patrick Burke, MD, PhD

R. V. Paul Chan, MD, and Ann-Marie Lobo-Chan, MD

Stanley Chang, MD, FARVO

Steve T. Charles, MD, FACS, FICS

Emily Y. Chew, MD, FARVO, and Robert P. Murphy, MD

Michael F. Chiang, MD

Bruce E. Cohan, MD Lancey B. Cowan, JD,

Cheryl M. Craft, PhD, FARVO

Patricia A. D'Amore, MBA, PhD, FARVO

Reza Dana, MD, FARVO

Paulus T. V. M. de Jong, MD, PhD, FARVO, FEBOphth, FRCOphth, and Marij de Jong

John E. Dowling, PhD, FARVO, and Judith F. Dowling Joseph L. Dowling, MD John L. Keltner, MD, and Nancy Keltner Melinda K. Duncan. PhD, FARVO Shigeru Kinoshita MD, PhD, FARVO David L. Epstein*, MD, FARVO, and Susan M. Renu A. Kowluru, PhD, Epstein, RN, JD FARVO, and Anjan Kowluru, PhD Rafal Farjo, PhD and Krysten M. Farjo, PhD Ingrid Kreissig, MD Malinda E. C. Fitzgerald, Paul P. Lee, MD, JD, FARVO, and Jennifer PhD, FARVO Steven J. Fliesler, PhD, **FARVO** Marmor Foundation/ Michael F. Marmor, Robert N. Frank, MD, MD, FARVO **FARVO** Alice R. McPherson, MD Ronald E. P. Frenkel, MD Jennifer J. Kang-Mieler, Juan E. Gallo, MD, PhD, PhD, FARVO, and **FARVO** William F. Mieler, MD, Ronnie Glaser and **FARVO** Bert M. Glaser*, MD, Ann H. Milam, PhD, **FARVO FARVO** Israel A. Goldberg, PhD, Joan W. Miller, MD, and Diane Goldberg **FARVO** Evangelos S. Gragoudas, Robert F. Miller, MD, MD, FARVO **FARVO** Hans E. Grossniklaus, Alan R. Morse, PhD MD, FARVO Janice Oliva Julia A. Haller, MD, FARVO, and John D. Samir C. Patel, MD Gottsch, MD, FARVO Christopher A. Mary Elizabeth Hartnett, Paterson*, PhD, DSc, MD, FARVO **FARVO** Linda D. Hazlett, PhD, David R. Pepperberg*, **FARVO** PhD, FARVO, and Audrey Eisenmann John R. Heckenlively, MD, FARVO J. Mark Petrash, PhD, FARVO, and Kelly Cope John A. Hoepner, MD Petrash David Huang, MD, PhD, Stephen C. Pflugfelder, **FARVO** MD, FARVO Martine J. Jager, MD, Robert Ritch, MD, PhD, FARVO **FARVO** Murray A. Johnstone, Stella M. Robertson, MD, and Jeanie PhD, and James D. **Johnstone** Robertson, PhD Dimitrios Karamichos, Frances J. Rucker, PhD, PhD MCOptom, FARVO Paul L. Kaufman, MD,

Iris M. Rush, CAE

FARVO, and Margaret

Kaufman

Stephen J. Ryan*, Jr., MD, FARVO David E. Saffer Jose Alain Sahel, Jr., MD, FARVO Joel S. Schuman, MD, FARVO, and Carole Miner Schuman Lawrence J. Singerman, MD, FACS Gregory L. Skuta, MD Alfred Sommer, MD, **MHS** Richard F. Spaide, MD, **FARVO** William Eric Sponsel, MD, FARVO W. Daniel Stamer, PhD, FARVO, and Catherine Bowes Rickman, PhD, **FARVO** Michael E. Stern, PhD, **FARVO** Paul Sternberg, Jr., MD, FARVO, and Gloria Sternberg Joyce Tombran-Tink, PhD, FARVO, and Colin J. Barnstable, DPhil, **FARVO** Carol B. Toris, PhD, **FARVO** Michael T. Trese, MD, **FARVO** Erik J. van Kuijk, MD, PhD, and Virginia Brooke, RN, PhD Sheila K. West, PhD, **FARVO** Janey L. Wiggs, MD, PhD, FARVO David R. Williams, PhD, FARVO, and Inger M. Williams, PhD Terri L. Young, MD, MBA, FARVO Thomas Yorio, PhD, FARVO and Elena Yorio

*deceased



Paying it forward

Giving back to the ARVO community has become a central tenant of the career of Joyce Tombran-Tink, PhD, FARVO. Tombran-Tink, a professor of Neural and Behavioral Sciences at Penn State, was recognized as a 2019 ARVO Foundation Honoree for her leadership. volunteer service and philanthropy to the ARVO community. Tombran-Tink was an early member of the ARVO Foundation's Women in Eye and Vision Research (WEAVR) Leadership Committee and served on the ARVO Foundation Board of Governors. She and her husband Colin J. Barnstable, DPhil, FARVO have also been generous financial supporters of the ARVO Foundation.

"As an international student, I received great support from the ARVO

community in terms of validating my work, funding my research and providing travel grants," says Tombran-Tink, who is originally from Guyana. Her family's giving has centered on travel grants and awards to bring early-career scientists to the ARVO Annual Meeting. "We want to encourage young bright minds globally to bring their innovations and ideas to a place where we can listen critically and network with people interested in collaborating with them. It really is investing in the next generation."

I give because I was given to. I want to

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pay it forward. Whatever you give, it gives back.

Tombran-Tink benefited early in her career from a travel grant to attend a scientific meeting, which was followed by a Fight for Sight award. These two awards jump-started her career and helped to narrow her research focus. Her work ultimately led to the discovery of the Pigment Epithelial Derived protein (PEDF), a neurotrophic factor that reduces ocular cell death rates. This research has culminated in the creation of Skyran Biologics, a company co-founded by Tombran-Tink and Barnstable, that aims to develop PEDF therapy to treat diabetic retinopathy and other retinal diseases.

Being named a 2019 ARVO Foundation Honoree was a meaningful milestone for Tombran-Tink in helping her realize the significance of her contributions to the eye and vision research community over the span of her career. "It hits you that you made this impact. It made me step back and say, 'Wow, I'm glad I've made a difference,'" she says. "I give because I was given to. I want to pay it forward. Whatever you give, it gives back."

Corporate donors

\$100,000 and above

- Genentech
- Knights Templar Eye Foundation

\$75,000 - \$99,999

Alcon Laboratories

\$50,000 - \$74,999

- Alcon Foundation
- Mallinckrodt Pharmaceuticals

\$25,000 - \$49,999

- Roche
- May and Samuel Rudin Family Foundation

\$10,000 - \$24,999

- BrightFocus Foundation
- Eye Bank Association of America
- Harvard Department of Ophthalmology
- Lowy Medical Research Institute
- NIHR Biomedical Research Centre
- Research to Prevent Blindness
- Retina Research Foundation

\$5,000 - \$9,999

- Boston University School of Medicine, Department of Ophthalmology
- Byers Eye Institute at Stanford
- Duke University
- EyeCRO
- Fondazione G B Bietti per Studio e Ricerca
- Foster Ocular Immunology Society
- Shiley Eye Institute
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Assets

Total assets	\$4,806,687
Receivable, net	\$195,288
Investments	\$3,736,922
Cash and equivalents	\$874,477

Liabilities and Net Assets

Liabilities

Total liabilities	\$335,872
Deferred revenue	\$119,776
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$216,096

Net Assets

Total net assets	\$4,470,815
With donor restrictions	\$1,878,183
Without donor restrictions	\$2,592,632

Total Liabilities and Net Assets \$4,806,687

As of December 31, 2019

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