



AUSTRALIAN COLLEGE OF
OPTOMETRY
CLINICAL SERVICES • RESEARCH • EDUCATION



NATIONAL VISION
RESEARCH INSTITUTE
OF AUSTRALIA

ANNUAL REPORTS 2019



WHO WE ARE

THE AUSTRALIAN COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY (ACO) is committed to improving the eye health and quality of life of communities through clinical optometry practice, research and education. We are involved in public health eye care service delivery, vision research and optometry education. We serve a diverse community and wide range of stakeholders. Our focus is to meet the equally diverse expectations and needs of these communities and to show leadership through innovation and best practice in each area. The ACO is proud to be the only organisation in Australia specialising in each of the areas of public health optometry, vision research and optometry student and professional education, which together are enhancing improvements in eye health and the wellbeing of the community.

Building on our History

From its humble beginnings

As a teaching clinic on the 4th floor of Kurrajong House on Collins Street, Melbourne, the Australian College of Optometry (ACO) has continued to grow. Incorporated in 1940, the ACO was the first not for profit membership institution in Australia to teach a 4-year full time Optometry course, with its first students enrolled in 1941.

Clinical Learning Pathways

Over the past 80 years the ACO has continued to build on its commitment to education, through provision of clinical training in a public health setting to university optometry students across Australia, and through expansion and innovation of education delivery to meet the current and future needs of members and the wider optometry profession.

Focus on the disadvantaged

Our much valued and important work providing eye care services to disadvantaged communities began back in 1955 when we received our first grant for this purpose from the Victorian State Government. Fast forward 30 years to 1985, when the Victorian State Government made a key decision to establish an integrated, coordinated public health eye care program called the Victorian Eyecare Service (VES).

Victorian Eyecare Service

The ACO has been responsible for administering this important initiative on behalf of the Victorian State Government for 35 years, over which time more than 2 million Victorians experiencing disadvantage and the most vulnerable have benefited from quality eye care consultations and services aimed at correcting refractive error and preventing eye disease. In 2019, the ACO in partnership with rural practices provided 79,000 services and dispensed close to 47,000 spectacles or other visual aids to almost 63,000 patients across the state.

Victoria and beyond

Today our main clinic is in Carlton with a network of clinics in metropolitan Melbourne and a mobile eye care service. Outreach services began in 1998 for patients with disabilities that could not access mainstream services, and expanded in 2003 with services to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders, homeless and other vulnerable Victorians. The ACO provides a coordinated program of clinics and outreach services across Victoria, including services for the aged and frail, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, refugees and asylum seekers, children from disadvantaged schools, homeless and other high-risk groups. Going forward the ACO seeks to adapt and expand this important public health eye care model to benefit more Australians experiencing disadvantage. In 2019 we proudly opened our first permanent clinic outside of Victoria – in Elizabeth, South Australia.

High impact research

Back in 1972 the ACO reached another milestone with the establishment of its research division, the National Vision Research Institute, to pursue research in vision and the disorders of vision. The NVRI was made possible through donations from the optometry community and later strengthened in 1979 and 2001 through a generous donation followed by an even more generous bequest from the Schultz Laubman Schultz Endowment Fund. Over the past 45 years, the NVRI has carried out basic, applied and clinical vision research, with current research priorities including neurotechnology, with a strong focus on the development of prosthetic vision devices (or bionic eyes), clinical optometry and public health, to improve the understanding of vision science, vision care and treatment.

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Our Vision

To achieve world leading eye health outcomes for all

Our Mission

To improve the eye health and well being of communities through innovation, partnership and leadership in:



Clinical optometry services providing high quality public health eye care for communities in need and leading best practice;



Research undertaking high impact internationally recognised research to improve the understanding of vision science and eye care; and



Education providing best practice clinical learning pathways for optometrists from pre-registration through to professional practice.

Our Values

We are led by the following values and principles:



We deeply *care* about eye health



Everything we do drives this *purpose*



Mutual *respect* guides our expectations



We foster excellence through *collaboration* with our patients, partners and teams



Our commitment to *innovation* pushes us to question and find better ways



We *deliver* what we promise to patients, partners and each other

Our Strategic Priorities

Clinical Optometry Services

Providing high quality public eye care for communities in need and leading best practice and standards.

Research

Undertaking high impact internationally recognised research to improve the understanding of vision science and eye care.

Education

Providing best practice clinical learning pathways for optometrists from pre-registration through to professional practice.

Sustainable Organisation

Our culture is innovative and collaborative and our people strive for excellence in everything we do, facilitated by innovative and effective technology, systems and processes. Our members and supporters are key to our success.

Chief Executive Officer

Maureen O'Keefe
BSc (Hons) DipEd MBA WCLP GAICD

Company Secretary

Clare Escott
BSc (Hons) CA GAICD

Director of Clinical Services

Neville Turner
BScOptom PGDipAdvClinOptom PGCertOcTher FACO

Director National Vision Research Institute

Professor Michael Ibbotson
BSc (Hons) PhD

Executive General Manager Finance and Corporate Services

Clare Escott
BSc (Hons) CA GAICD

Director of Education

Marcel Mihulka (until November 2019)
M.Ed MAICD

Acting Director of Education

Dr Michelle Waugh (from November 2019)
BScOptom MScOptom PhD CertOcTher(ACO)



ACO Senior Management Team (L-R): Maureen O'Keefe (CEO), Clare Escott (EGM Finance & Corporate Services), Jennifer Caulfield (Head of Clinic Operations & Support Services), Piers Carozzi (Head of Community & Outreach Eye Care Services), Professor Michael Ibbotson (Director, NVRI), Jane Trevaskis (Head of Teaching & Quality), Dr Michelle Waugh (Acting Director of Education), Neville Turner (Director of Clinical Services), Tenille Ryan (Facilities Project Manager).

Absent: Chelsey Seamer (HR Co-ordinator), Roman Serebrianik (Head of Primary & Specialist Eye Care Services), Marcel Mihulka (Director of Education)

COUNCIL PRESIDENT AND CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

THE ANNUAL REPORT of the Australian College of Optometry (ACO) is usually focused on the previous year's work. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, writing of this report has been anything but usual, and has put in context the important role not just of the Council, its governance committees and the ACO's management team, but highlights the importance of our team of front line health care workers, as well as our education, research and corporate services teams. Nothing tests an organisation's strength, resilience, adaptability and capability more than challenging times like these. We thank our amazing staff who have worked extremely hard during these confronting times as we work to keep our staff, patients and students safe, while adopting flexible clinical and operational practices in response to ongoing changes in community restrictions. We are also very proud during this time to have been asked to support the public hospital system resulting in new collaborations and care provision.

A Milestone Year

2019 was an important year for the College, with significant progress made towards achieving key strategies in the ACO's 2018-2022, strategic plan.

"Seek funding and opportunities to expand our eye care services and provide accessible and affordable eye care to more patients who are experiencing disadvantage across Australia"

Expansion of the ACO Footprint – South Australia Chapter

After 80 years of providing clinical services and education across Victoria we are very proud to have established our first ACO public health eye care clinic facility outside Victoria, in Elizabeth, South Australia. As with our metropolitan ACO clinics in Victoria, the new SA clinic will provide a hub for establishing a collaborative network of outreach services across metropolitan, rural and remote communities, targeting unmet demand for accessible and affordable eye care for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged people in the community. Towards this, we are working to build partnerships with other public health

and community services and medical services/hospitals, to enhance opportunities to improve eye health outcomes for the community where it is needed most. Discussions commenced in late 2019 with local public hospitals and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health services in SA, exploring opportunities for services that will improve access to eye care to local communities. Discussions will continue in 2020 as we seek to provide accessible and affordable eye care to the most disadvantaged and vulnerable in SA, including building of an outreach service in partnership with local organisations.

"The College continues to play an important role in public eye health in Victoria in partnership with the Department of Health and Human Services."

Victorian Government (DHHS) Funded 'Victorian Eyecare Service'

The College continues to play an important role in public eye health in Victoria in partnership with the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), with the provision of nearly 80,000 consultations in 2019 in collaboration with 89 rural optometry practices, 238 community outreach sites across Victoria and the ACO's 7 fixed site clinics across metropolitan Melbourne. The ACO delivers the Victorian Eyecare Service on behalf of DHHS, which assists those people experiencing disadvantage and those most vulnerable in the community to access clinical care and glasses. During 2019, discussions continued with key stakeholders regarding how ACO can further enhance access to eye care services for VES eligible patients as target population demographics and geographic locations expand.

Strengthening our Partnership with Royal Flying Doctors

We are proud to have expanded our partnership with the Royal Flying Doctors during 2019. An additional 6 remote regions are now being provided with eye care, with the ACO now servicing a total of 14 remote townships across Victoria in partnership with the Royal Flying Doctors.

"The Commonwealth Government's funding extension until June 2021 of the Eye Health Equipment and Training program is wonderful news for Indigenous eye health as it means further inroads can be made towards addressing the inequalities in eye care that exist within Australia."

Commonwealth Government Funded National Eye Health Program for Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander people with Diabetes

A collaborative consortium including the ACO (co-lead), along with the Brien Holden Foundation (contractor & co-lead), Aboriginal Health Council of South Australia, Centre for Eye Health and Optometry Australia, won a Commonwealth tender announced in January 2018, to procure and distribute up to 162 retinal cameras to primary health care clinics across Australia, who provide care to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with diabetes. \$7.3M of funding was announced during 2019 extending the project to June 2020, which enabled further embedding of retinal photography. By 31 December 2019, retinal cameras had been installed at 132 of the 162 locations, 753 health care workers had received retinal camera training and 156 staff had completed the diabetic retinopathy assessment course. During early 2020 additional funding of \$1.6M was announced to procure and distribute slit lamps to Aboriginal health services, further extending the project to June 2021. The ACO is very proud to be part of the consortium and its role in procurement of equipment nationally and for provision of retinal camera training and support for health care workers in Victoria and Tasmania. Although the project is complex working across multiple jurisdictions and with multiple stakeholders, it is a very significant initiative of the Commonwealth government with the potential for long term benefits for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people.

"As a respected leading provider of public health eye care, we work to develop clinical initiatives, collaborations, innovation and models of care that lead the way in the profession and identify and support opportunities to translate our research into clinical practice and to provide best practice clinical learning pathways for optometry students and the optometry profession and wider community"

Embedding Public Health at the Heart of Everything We Do

ACO is highly regarded for its experience and expertise in public eye health over the past 80 years. Historically the focus has been on public health clinical service delivery in Victoria and national provision of professional education and university student clinical placements. Progress has been made over the last couple of years towards expanding the ACO's national

footprint, including the provision of eye health education and training as part of the retinal camera project in Tasmania and the opening of a new clinic in South Australia, which will be expanded to include a network of outreach services.

"The ACO's research arm, the National Vision Research Institute, pursues high impact research to improve the understanding of vision science, eye care and health systems."

An important milestone was reached in 2019 towards achievement of the ACO's objective in its 5-year strategic plan of playing a key role in public health research which informs development of models of care and eye health policy and service delivery systems. Following discussions in 2018 between the ACO and the University of Melbourne (UoM), a new jointly funded, 5-year clinical research position was established. This is based at both the NVRI and the Department of Optometry and Vision Sciences, and was fast tracked as a result of the ACO-UoM affiliation agreement and research agreement negotiated 3 years earlier. During 2019 early work included a high level audit of the accessibility and searchability of the ACO database, towards ensuring that the database is 'research ready', and our researchers working closely with our clinical services team to identify ways in which the ACO database could offer improved output for public health research and policy development with some minor input process changes, including consistent terminology and data entry.

Also in 2019 we launched the new Certificate in Public Health Optometry which was developed by ACO working closely with a highly esteemed Advisory Committee. This Certificate is an important milestone in our education offerings and appealed to those health care professionals interested in the broader field of public health, aiming to help shape tomorrow's leaders. The course covers leadership and advocacy, health promotion, policy making and research, with presenters from all of the major organisations promoting public eye health, including Vision2020 Australia, University of Melbourne's Indigenous Eye Health Unit (IEHU), International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness, Melbourne School of Population and Global health, Public Health Association of Australia and The Fred Hollows Foundation.

In the area of Membership, we commenced a significant review of our Membership program during 2019 under the oversight of the Membership Review Steering Committee chaired by ACO Councillor, Professor Linda Denehy. Whilst this work is still in progress it is clear that public health should be central to our member value proposition.

"We are proud of the strong partnerships and relationships that we have with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander colleagues, stakeholders and community members, and acknowledge the importance of the collaborations in delivering the work that we do"

ACO Reconciliation Action Plan

The ACO has worked closely with First Nations Australians for over 20 years, through the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (VACCHO) from 1997 and then the provision of eye care services in partnership with the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service (VAHS) since 1998 and other Aboriginal community-controlled health services across Victoria and South Australia since 2008. We are proud of the strong partnerships we have with our First Nations colleagues, stakeholders and community members, and acknowledge the importance of their self-determination in delivery of the services we provide, working together towards achieving equitable eye health outcomes and the importance of the College to actively contribute to efforts for reconciliation.

The ACO formalised its commitment towards reconciliation with Indigenous Australians with the launch of its Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP) 2019-2021 in May 2019. This action plan provides a roadmap for continuing to develop and strengthen our relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, for engaging our staff, patients and our stakeholders, and for implementing innovative strategies that contribute to societal change.

We work closely with community and stakeholders across many levels, with involvement in regional stakeholder meetings, representation at the Victorian Aboriginal Eye Health Strategic Governance Committee, as well as nationally through active support of policy development and advocacy through our membership of Vision 2020 Australia and its Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander committee and Strong Eyes Strong Communities working group. We also support the work of the University of Melbourne Indigenous Eye Health Unit and broader Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander eye health sector, with 5 ACO staff members, including the CEO, Director of Clinical Services, and the Head of Community & Outreach Eye Care Services, participating in the Close the Gap for Vision by 2020: Strengthen and Sustain - National Conference 2019 held in Alice Springs. The team presented on Retinal Photography in Primary Health Care Practice, The Victorian Aboriginal Spectacles Subsidy Scheme – 'Strengthening and Sustaining Access', a poster 'From There to Here – A Story of Strengthening and Sustaining over 20 years', in addition to an information table in the trade hall. In November 2019, the CEO was invited to deliver a joint Aboriginal led presentation for Vision 2020 Australia on Strong Eyes Strong Communities at the 2019 National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation (NACCHO) Conference in Darwin.

"During 2019 a strong focus was placed on culture, alignment and embedding of personal values with our 6 organisation values - Respect, Care, Purpose, Collaboration, Innovation and Delivering what we promise – which formed the basis of our weekly staff 'Living the ACO Values Awards'"

ACO Culture and Values

In 2019 we introduced a staff awards program that directly aligned with our 6 core values. Called "Living the Values", these awards are nominated by staff and management alike for ACO staff colleagues that are displaying one or more of the values in their approach to their work. During this first year, the CEO was honoured to give out over 40 Living the Values awards to staff across the organisation.

Following feedback from previous staff culture surveys, the ACO has taken significant steps towards rolling out a new Performance Development Review (PDR) process. With a strong focus on cascading the ACO's strategic key performance indicators (KPI's) throughout the organisation from the top down, this step was taken to ensure staff understand the value of their contribution to the ACO, clearly aligning their job KPI's with the objectives and KPIs published in the 2018-2022 strategic plan. Greater visibility in how the KPI's cascade up and down through the organisation has also been a focus of the implementation. The new system was rolled out to staff in December 2019, and for the first time has included our sessional optometrists and casual staff members.

"We foster a culture of innovation across the organisation, while engaging with our members and our community of supporters."

Engagement with Community of ACO Members and NVRI Members

Following the August 2019 Council Strategic Planning day, the ACO has committed to strengthening its value proposition for Members. Our Members form part of our community and we are committed to re-engaging with them in new and better ways. In late 2019, a Membership Review Steering Committee was convened consisting of ACO Council members and staff as well as representation from our membership base. We also recognised that our existing organisational structure did not best support our membership program, with a new structure ready for implementation in 2020 to bring education, membership, engagement and marketing all together under one division. A key focus of this team is to build engagement with members, supporters and the wider community of the ACO and NVRI.

Celebrating the past

In May 2019 we officially opened the Aitken Gallery, which forms part of the renowned Kett Museum. The Gallery has been

named after Mr Michael Aitken, a significant and long term supporter of the Museum and its archival collection. With a custom built space that houses a display of significant objects from our archived collection, the gallery honours the history of the optometry profession. The project steering committee included Michael Aitken, Colin Bates, Joseph Chakman AM, Barry Cole AO, Pamela Sutton, Clare Escott, Tenille Ryan and Maureen O'Keefe. The new gallery was only possible thanks to the support of our generous donors who are honoured on a sign at the entrance to the new Aitken Gallery.

"The right people in the right roles, actively engaged in what they are doing and committed to continuous improvement."

Corporate Services

The ACO commenced implementation in 2019 of a restructure and investment in the Corporate Services, a team made up of a small group of staff providing central support services across all divisions. The services delivered by the team include the provision of strategic, financial, HR, OHS, technical, risk management and administrative support and advice to each of the ACO's operational divisions. Changes were implemented to strengthen business services support as the ACO continues to diversify and grow. In particular, focusing on putting the 'A' in to ACO, increasing funding and services, strengthening capacity in the areas of business development, business improvement, productivity improvements, risk management, financial reporting and organisational culture.

Honouring our colleagues

Farewell to Clare Escott, Executive General Manager Finance and Corporate Services and Company Secretary who after 9 years of leading the ACO's Corporate Services and supporting ACO Council, accepted a leadership role in community based health delivery. Clare was a valuable member of the team who played a key role across the College and will be greatly missed.

We sadly note the passing during 2019 of two of our valued Members who both contributed greatly to the ACO/ NVRI as well as to their profession – Mr Wolfgang 'Wolf' Gartner FACO and Professor John 'Jack' Pettigrew. Their valuable contributions will not be forgotten. At the time of writing this Annual Report, a long serving member of staff, Dr Genevieve Napper FACO, also sadly passed

away. Genevieve's passion and commitment to improving eye health services and outcomes for all Australians, but in particular, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, and her contributions to the broader optometry profession, will always be remembered.

Thank you to our Supporters

We are very proud of the ACO's achievements during 2019 and sincerely thank Council, all staff, committee members, volunteers, VES practitioners, collaborators, donors, philanthropic supporters, university partners, students, the Victorian Government, Department of Health and Human Services, and the Commonwealth Government, Department of Health, NHMRC and ARC for their funding and support.

A special thank you to our retiring Board members in 2019 and early 2020 – Sarah Byrne, Melissa Downing, Ben Hamlyn and The Honourable Paul Lucas. They all contributed greatly to the strategic direction and governance of ACO. In 2019, we welcomed Associate Professor Peter Keller to the Board as well as welcoming back Mitchell Anjou AM. Welcome also to The Honourable John Chaney our new Council member who joined just prior to the writing of this Annual Report.

We hope you enjoy reading our 2019 achievements in the ACO and NVRI Annual Reports as we look forward to building on these achievements in 2020 towards achieving the ACO 2018-2022 Strategic Plan and 'Living of the ACO's Values'.

Facing a global threat

It cannot be overlooked, at the time of writing, that we are facing an unprecedented pandemic that has both global health and economic consequences. It has been heartening to see how the ACO staff have responded, supporting each other and their communities in these uncertain times.

The number one priority of the ACO Council and Senior Management Team has been to protect the health, safety and wellbeing of staff, patients and students, while ensuring the College is strong and sustainable as it emerges from the crisis. This has required a substantial commitment from our Council and our staff, who we celebrate and thank for their outstanding support.

After you read the 2019 Annual Reports' reflections, we hope you are excited as we are about the future of the ACO and the significant role it plays in public health eye care, research and education going forward. Thank you for your continuing support of the ACO.



Professor Konrad Pesudovs FACO
President
Australian College of Optometry
National Vision Research Institute



Maureen O'Keefe
Chief Executive Officer
Australian College of Optometry
National Vision Research Institute

INNOVATE RECONCILIATION ACTION PLAN 2019-2021

At the Australian College of Optometry, we are committed to the preservation of sight and the prevention of blindness for all people. We acknowledge the disparity in eye health outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, and we are committed to walking alongside First Nations People in achieving equitable eye health outcomes.

We are proud of the strong partnerships and relationships that we have with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander colleagues, stakeholders and community members, and acknowledge the importance of these collaborations in delivering the work that we do.

The Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan formalises our commitment to reconciliation. Through this action plan we will continue to develop and strengthen our relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, we will engage staff and our stakeholders in our mission and implement innovative strategies that reflect the key values of the ACO; care, purpose, respect, collaboration, innovation and delivery.

Maureen O'Keefe
ACO CEO

Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan

The Australian College of Optometry launched its Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan 2019-2021 in May 2019. The Innovate Reconciliation Action Plan (RAP), provides us with a roadmap for reconciliation through the setting of strategic goals that are realistic, achievable, appropriate and measurable.

The RAP will further strengthen our strategic plan by reflecting the key values of the ACO; care, purpose, respect, collaboration, innovation and delivery. The RAP will promote staff development and growth, through strengthening cultural competency and cultural safety in the organisation. It will also guide the organisation and keep the ACO accountable in the process. The RAP will further enhance and strengthen the patient experience and relationships with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders. The RAP will demonstrate a commitment to employment pathways for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people within the ACO. Fundamentally it will demonstrate our respect to the First Nations Peoples of this country, and it will contribute to closing the gap in eye health.

RAP Launch

The RAP Launch was held in National Reconciliation Week 2019, with over 80 guests in attendance including Council members, staff, collaborators and community members.

The event was opened with a Welcome to Country ceremony by Wurundjeri Elder Colin Hunter, followed by the Wurundjeri Djiirri Djiirri dancers, who also welcomed guests through traditional dance and song. Konrad Pesudovs (ACO President) and Maureen O'Keefe (ACO CEO) provided a warm welcome to guests, and spoke about our long and established relationships with the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community, and the ACO's commitment to implementing practical actions which will foster current collaborations with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander stakeholders, build new partnerships, strengthen the cultural competency of our workforce, build the cultural safety of our organisation and create opportunities for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The RAP Working Party members Anne-Marie Banfield and Levi Lovett introduced artist Kelvin Rogers, who created the RAP artwork 'Journey down the Murray'. Kelvin, a proud Yorta Yorta man, spoke about his artwork and provided us with a very honest and inspiring account of his life story.



Wurundjeri Elder Colin Hunter at the RAP launch

RAP progress 2019

The ACO are committed to a whole organisational approach to reconciliation; reconciliation is everybody's business.

Since the launch of our RAP, we are establishing systems to ensure we progress with our plan over the next two years. A number of ACO staff working groups have been established to work up the actions for the key domains including education and training, communications, human resources and procurement. We work in consultation with our RAP Working Party.

A number of initiatives that have happened over this time are:

- provision of Aboriginal cultural safety training workshops for all our staff (140+), facilitated by the Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation;
- rollout of 'Asking the Question' modules for existing and new staff; rollout of 'Asking the Question' resources at our sites;
- development of an Aboriginal Employment Strategy;
- quarterly meetings with the RAP Working Party - consisting of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander eye health practitioners, stakeholders and community members;
- purchase of Aboriginal artwork from local artist to represent our RAP, and to be embedded in all future communications related to Aboriginal Services and the RAP;
- strengthening onboarding process to ensure cultural competency of our staff, and cultural safety of our organisation;
- development of cultural repository on staff intranet;
- strengthening relationship with the Wurundjeri Council with a Wurundjeri Elder providing a Welcome to Country at all ACO significant events;
- holding the ACO Annual General Meeting in National Reconciliation Week, with the opening address on the theme of Reconciliation provided by an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander consultant;
- procurement of services for ACO events from local Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander businesses; in addition to the development of procurement guide for all staff;
- participation in a NAIDOC week event, with staff representatives and leadership team attending the NAIDOC week march;
- hosting a NAIDOC week event across all our clinical sites with a morning tea and display of NAIDOC week resources;
- displaying Acknowledgment of Country plaques at the front entrance of our Carlton ACO Clinic;
- displaying Aboriginal artwork, posters and flags in the main clinic reception area;
- providing an Acknowledgment of Country at the beginning of all meetings and events; and
- strengthening of relationships with Aboriginal Services in South Australia, with the opening of ACO clinic in Elizabeth.



ELIZABETH EYE CARE

Expanding our services

THE ACO has been delivering public eye care in Victoria for over 35 years. As a national organisation we had a long held strategic goal to expand our services beyond Victoria. Essentially, we wanted to put the A in ACO.

In expanding our clinical services, we needed to remain true to the public health values of our organisation so we looked for locations where there was unmet demand for affordable and accessible eye care. After a great deal of research and discussion we settled on the northern suburbs of Adelaide. A site was chosen in Elizabeth - around 30km north of the Adelaide CBD.

The site was officially opened on 21st October 2019 by The Honourable Amanda Vanstone AO, former Minister and Senator for South Australia and Chair of Vision 2020 Australia.

Through Elizabeth Eye Care, the ACO is committed to helping meet unmet demand for accessible and affordable eye care for South Australians, and providing a base for developing a broad outreach program for disadvantaged, vulnerable and remote communities.

The clinic is working closely with local GPs, optometrists and ophthalmologists to provide clear referral pathways for their patients. With a strong history of providing collaborative



From left to right: Tristan Glover, Glenn Docherty (City of Playford Mayor), The Honourable Amanda Vanstone AO, Lyn Dean (Chief Executive of Wellbeing SA), Rodney Hodge, Sarah Byrne, Associate Professor Peter Keller FACO

care with public hospitals in Victoria, we are exploring similar opportunities with South Australian public hospitals. We are also committed to working in partnership with local primary health, community, and charity organisations to achieve the best eye health outcomes for the community.

The facility has the capacity for 4 consulting rooms in addition to a dedicated imaging space. Elizabeth Eye Care offers bulk-billing for all patients, with no out-of-pocket costs for diagnostic imaging services. The clinic is also part of the South Australian government's GlassesSA scheme - offering low-cost spectacles to eligible South Australian residents.

Former ACO resident and local South Australian Tristan Glover took the helm for the ACO and has been managing the site since its opening. "Having the opportunity to be part of this exciting new adventure was a challenge I happily took on. I am a strong believer in accessible eye care and it is a real pleasure to provide and grow eye care services for the local community here in Adelaide's north."



Optometrist Tristan Glover and Mrs Dorothy Lewtas, Elizabeth Eye Care's first patient

THE AITKEN GALLERY

THE KETT MUSEUM AND ARCHIVE began in 1970 as a collection of optometric memorabilia donated by Cyril Kett FBOA FSMC (1890-1970). In the early days, the collection was housed in a few cardboard boxes and gradually developed to fill two rooms in the basement of the ACO. This provided limited space to display some of the artefacts as well as secure storage for the rest of the collection. It was time to expand the museum's footprint and create a space where people could view highlights of the collection at their best.

A disused laboratory area on the first floor of the Carlton building was identified and made available to house a new gallery that would form part of the Kett Museum. Following the development of a design brief, tenders were invited for design, fabrication and installation from a small number of specialist firms. The Steering Committee (comprising Honorary Archivists Michael Aitken, Colin Bates, Joseph Chakman AM, Barry Cole AO



Maureen O'Keefe, CEO, and Michael Aitken, Honorary Archivist

and Pamela Sutton along with CEO Maureen O’Keefe, EGM Finance and Corporate Services Clare Escott & Project Manager Tenille Ryan) selected the highly regarded and award winning firm Thylacine Design.

The impressive Aitken Gallery was officially opened by Anthony Carbines MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Health and Member for Ivanhoe, on 20th May 2019. Named in honour of Mr Michael Aitken, one of the museum’s longer-serving honorary archivists, the new gallery is designed to showcase some of the most interesting and significant pieces in the collection. Whilst the new Aitken Gallery only displays around 10% of the Kett Museums collection, it provides a focal point for the history of the profession.

The gallery includes displays that detail all aspects of the ophthalmic profession, from the earliest equipment to modern diagnostic tools. Highlights include a showcase of historic spectacles, a variety of ophthalmic equipment from both past and present, and a replica 1930s consulting room. The display of eye wash cups certainly creates a very impressive entrance to the space.

The new gallery would not have been possible without the generous support of our valuable donors. A display panel at the entrance honours each of the donors for the contribution they have made.



Dawn Odgers and Alan Isaacs AM

Aitken Gallery Supporters

Principal Donor

Michael Aitken

Valued Donors

- Peter Dwyer AM
- Andrew Harris
- Graham Hill OAM
- Dawn Odgers
- Maureen O’Keefe
- Pamela Sutton
- Duncan Waite

Major Gifts

- Barry Cole AO
- Jean Colledge PSM
- Alan Isaacs AM
- John Nathan OAM



L-R: Maureen O’Keefe (CEO), Clare Escott, Michael Aitken, Pamela Sutton FACO, Colin Bates, Tenille Ryan, Joseph Chakman AM

CLINICAL SERVICES

Quality, affordable eye care for all communities



ELIZABETH
EYE CARE

OPEN
Mon-Fri

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DIRECTOR'S REPORT

I AM HONOURED TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY to report on the accomplishments of the Clinical Services Division in 2019 and I would like to thank all clinical services staff for the year of hard work and significant achievement.

Key achievements in 2019 were informed by the strategic priorities and values of the ACO to provide eyecare to people experiencing disadvantage while ensuring sustainability of activities. These include establishing a framework for public/private patient care, ensuring our focus remains on the provision of care to people experiencing disadvantage, while recognising the importance and costs associated with providing quality and specialised care to the community. In addition, the expansion of clinical services into South Australia with the opening of our clinic in Elizabeth is a significant milestone in the ACO providing care beyond Victoria. Whilst the clinic is still small and growing, the opportunities it presents to provide care to the community are significant and will offer many opportunities into the future.

Over 63,000 patient visits were provided by ACO clinical staff across Victoria and South Australia in 2019, while maintaining the productivity and efficiency measures implemented over previous years required to ensure future sustainability. This is a 5.3% increase from 2018, with much of this growth occurring across our network of satellite clinics in

Melbourne. Our services continue to lead best clinical practice with our collaborations and partnerships with the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital and other public hospitals across Melbourne. The value of the services we offer can be seen from the feedback we receive from patients, both through patient feedback and comments, and from more formal patient surveys.

The success of 2019 has been achieved through the hard work of our entire team, providing care across our network of clinics and outreach services, and being well supported by other divisions across the organisation to allow for continued growth and clinical care to be provided, not just in Victoria, but increasingly across the country.



Neville Turner
Director Clinical Services

Neville Turner, BScOptom PGDipAdvClinOptom PGCertOcTher FACO

Director of Clinical Services



Clinic Management Team (L-R) Roman Serebrianik FACO, Jennifer Caulfield FACO, Neville Turner FACO, Jane Trevaskis, Piers Carozzi FACO

Clinic Management Team

Director of Clinical Services

Neville Turner

Heads

Piers Carozzi, *Community and Outreach Eye Care Services*

Jennifer Caulfield, *Clinic Operations and Support Services*

Roman Serebriani, *Primary and Specialist Eye Care Services*

Jane Trevaskis, *Teaching and Quality*

Lead Optometrists

Adrian Bruce, *Contact Lenses*

Mae Chong, *Low Vision*

Nellie Deen, *Paediatrics*

Leanne Nguyen, Janelle Scully, *Ocular Diseases and Hospital Services*

Optometrist Managers

Angeliki Arvanitis, *East Reservoir metropolitan clinic*

Lesley Dacion, *Braybrook metropolitan clinic*

Tristan Glover, *Elizabeth Eye Care (SA) metropolitan clinic*

Rosemary Haikal, *Broadmeadows metropolitan clinic*

Angela Hall, *Clinical Research*

Peregrine Horton, *Broadmeadows metropolitan clinic*

Iris Huang, *Frankston metropolitan clinic*

Lauren Kharsas, *Dandenong Eye Care*

Nilmini John, *Aboriginal Services*

Josephine Li, *Community Eye Care Services*

Lisa Lombardi, *Clinic Operations and VES*

Ho Wah Ng, *Visual Functions*

Karen Trinh, *Frankston metropolitan clinic*

Michael Yen, *Braybrook metropolitan clinic*

Danielle Zheng, *Dandenong metropolitan clinic*

Managers

Colette Davis, *Senior Projects Officer*

Vicki McSweeney, *Manager Clinic Administration*

Elizabeth Eye Care

In August 2019, the ACO opened its first clinic outside of Melbourne, in Elizabeth, north of Adelaide. This was the culmination of several years of work and was driven by the ACO's goal of expanding service delivery where needed to meet unmet demand outside of Victoria.

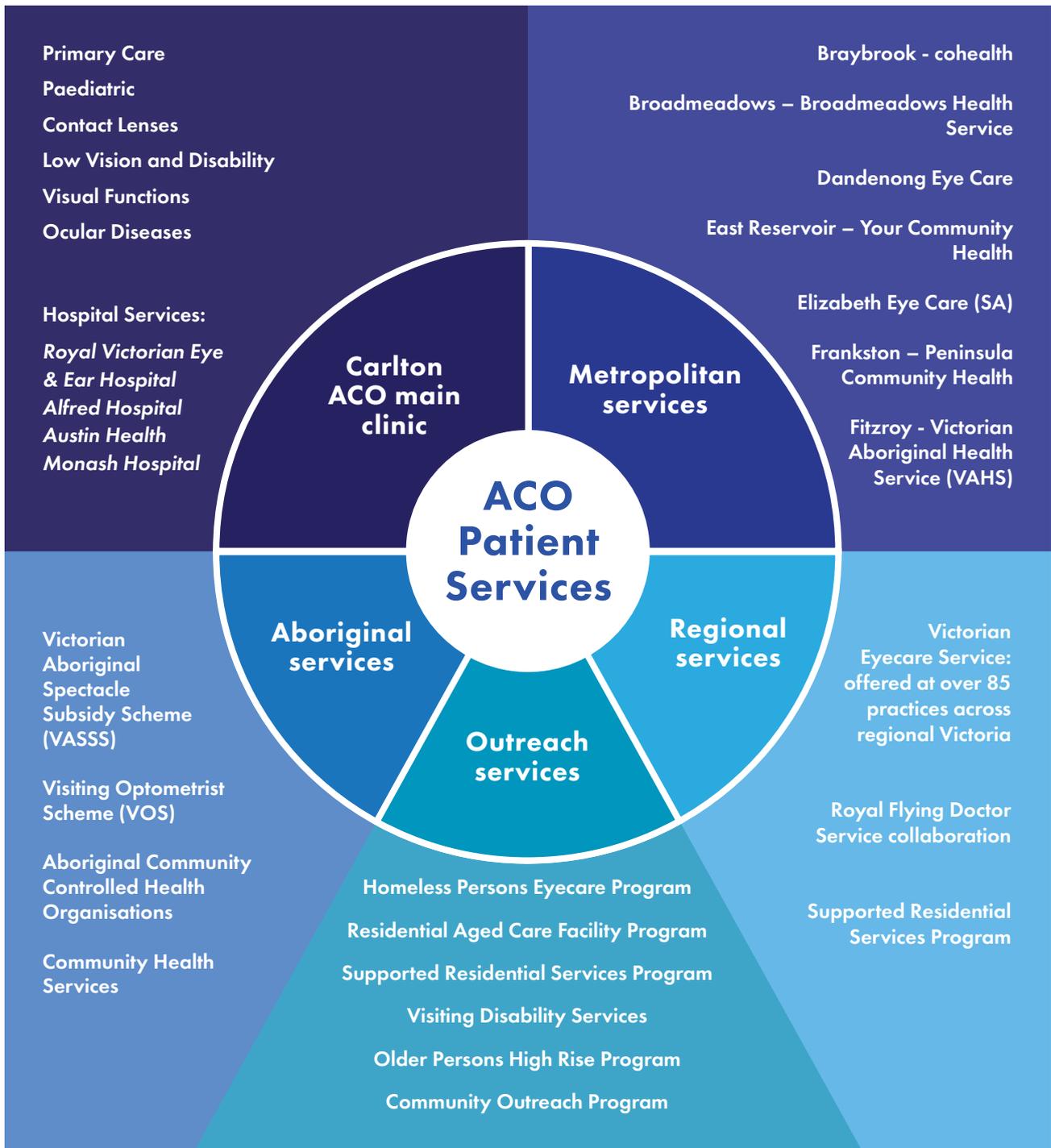
The facility at Elizabeth has the capacity for 4 consulting rooms plus a dedicated imaging space and large frame display and waiting area and provides a full scope optometry services to the local community. Located alongside 3 GP practices, it will also support general practice to ensure the visual needs of patients in the surrounding areas are met. Discussions are ongoing with local public hospitals and Aboriginal communities about how we can establish services to improve access to care.

This marks an important milestone as the ACO expands its network of clinics to ensure communities in need have accessible and affordable public optometry services.



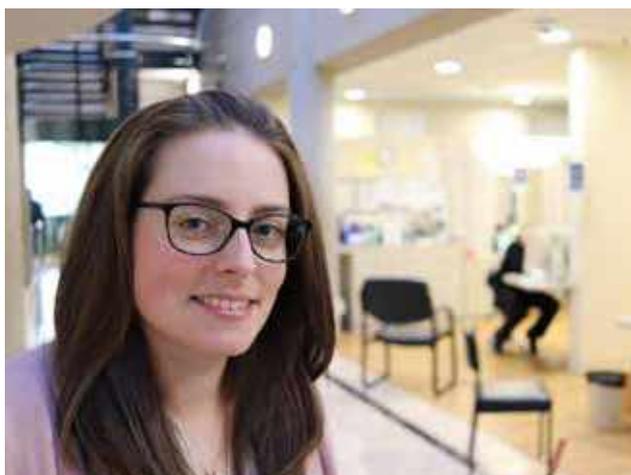
The Elizabeth Eye Care team: Tristan Glover and Julie Rozman

ACO PATIENT SERVICES



Carlton Clinic

The ACO's largest clinic and hub is located in Carlton, with more than 25 consulting rooms and state-of-the-art equipment. In 2019 we provided more than 32,000 primary and advanced eye care services to Victorians at this location. The Carlton location also plays a major role in our provision of clinical placements for optometry students from around Australia.



Lisa Lombardi, Manager of Clinic Operations and VES

Metropolitan Clinics

Our network of seven metropolitan clinics continues to play a key role in our provision of care and are critical in getting care into the community. In 2019, we saw an increase in service provision of over 10% through improved utilisation of consulting space at the existing sites. In addition, we opened our first interstate clinic in Elizabeth, South Australia. Whilst much smaller than our Carlton hub, our metropolitan clinics are fully equipped with the latest diagnostic and imaging equipment to ensure the highest level of care possible.

Victoria

- **Braybrook** – cohealth Braybrook
- **Broadmeadows** – Broadmeadows Health Service
- **Dandenong Eye Care**
- **East Reservoir** – Your Community Health
- **Frankston** – Frankston Community Health
- **Fitzroy** – Victorian Aboriginal Health Service

South Australia

- **Elizabeth Eye Care**

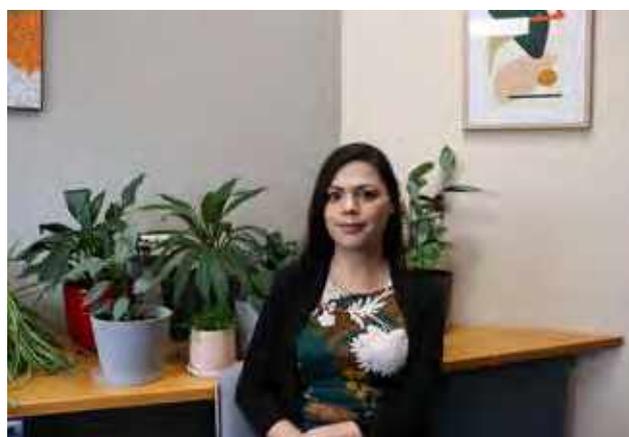
Metropolitan Service Provision



- Elizabeth Eye Care (SA)
- Frankston - Frankston CH
- Dandenong
- Broadmeadows - Broadmeadows HS
- East Reservoir - Your Community Health
- Victorian Aboriginal Health Service
- Braybrook - cohealth Braybrook

Paediatric Services

The ACO has a dedicated paediatric eye care service at Carlton providing comprehensive age-appropriate assessments for children aged 0-18, as well as evidence-based myopia management and vision therapies to children when required. Good vision and eye health are imperative in the education and development of children and the ACO works in partnership with Maternal and Child Health Nurses, teachers, behavioural psychologists, paediatric ophthalmologists, other optometrists and the Royal Children's Hospital to support the eye care needs of children.



Dr Nellie Deen, Lead Optometrist of Paediatric Services

Contact Lens Services

At our Carlton location we offer a comprehensive contact lens service, ranging from daily soft lenses to more complex presentations requiring mini-scleral, prosthetic contact lenses and ortho-k services. ACO optometrists work in partnership with the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital to provide contact lenses and care to patients with advanced corneal pathologies, post-surgical and therapeutic needs. We welcome referrals and receive many from optometry colleagues and ophthalmologists.

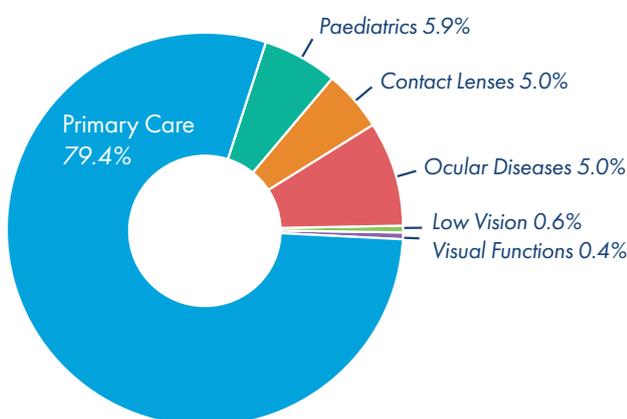
Low Vision and Disability Services

The ACO leads an integrated holistic service for people with vision impairment in partnership with Vision Australia. The low vision clinic at Carlton is supported by occupational therapists and has a full range of optical devices and adaptive equipment, including electronic magnifiers, available. We also provide eye care services to people with other disabilities and work to maximise people's ability to perform their activities of daily living.

Ocular Diseases and Hospital Services

We offer services in anterior eye, diabetes and retina, cataract, and glaucoma assessment and management at our Carlton location. We work in partnership with the Alfred Hospital to provide a cataract surgery aftercare clinic and with the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital to provide a glaucoma collaborative clinic. ACO optometrists also provide eye care services at the Austin Hospital and Dandenong Hospital for patients with diabetes. Our optometrists are endorsed to prescribe scheduled medicines for the treatment of eye conditions.

ACO services provided in 2019



Ho Wah Ng, Manager of Visual Functions Clinic

Visual Functions Clinic

The visual functions clinic provides advanced diagnostic colour vision and occupational testing for patients working in, or wishing to enter, a range of specialised professions (including pilots, electricians, and defence force personnel). We work closely with industry to provide specialist testing including Victoria Police, where we are the referral point for police applicants with abnormal colour or binocular vision. We provide specialised testing for applicants for the railway industry and continue to provide pilot medical examinations for CASA (Civil Aviation Safety Authority).



Customer Service team member, Margaret Chan

Outreach Services

The ACO provides outreach services to members of our community who have difficulty accessing mainstream eye clinics via several programs, operating across both metropolitan and regional Victoria. These programs are targeted at people experiencing significant disadvantage - through homelessness; people living in residential aged care, supported residential services or older person's high rise; people with a disability; and refugee and asylum seekers, and are supported through funding from the Victorian and Commonwealth governments.

We are proud to continue to partner with Royal Flying Doctors (Vic) to provide eye care to an additional 6 remote locations, servicing 14 townships, across Victoria.

Aboriginal Services

The Aboriginal services team at the ACO continues to strive towards closing the gap for vision in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities. The ACO has had a regular clinic at the Victorian Aboriginal Health Service in Fitzroy since 1998 and continues to work to ensure integrated care models. We also work in partnership with more than 20 Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisations and a number of community health services in urban and regional Victoria, as well as in the border regions of NSW and SA. The ACO's work in providing eye care to Aboriginal communities is supported by the Victorian Eyecare Service (funded by the Victorian state government), the Visiting Optometrists Scheme (administered by the Rural Workforce Agency Victoria on behalf of the Commonwealth government) and the Victorian Aboriginal Spectacles Subsidy Scheme (funded through the Victorian state government).



Patient attending Royal Flying Doctors Service collaborative clinic in Birchip, Victoria

Regional Outreach Services

Outreach services continue to grow, with more and more services provided across rural Victoria. In 2019, rural service provision by ACO staff increased with services targeted to Aboriginal communities, aged care and supported residential services, and remote communities with limited access to eyecare.

Our outreach program provides us with so many examples of how we assist people experiencing disadvantage, and how important good vision is to quality of life.

A snapshot of our work

We saw a 35 year old male living in a caravan park in rural Victoria, which represents a tertiary level of homelessness. He was receiving unemployment benefits, and his current glasses were more than 7 years old. His prescription was around +9.00 in each eye. His lenses had already been cut into another frame because he couldn't afford a whole new pair. They were one of the most scratched glasses we have ever seen, and the frame was held together with wire and string. We were able to prescribe a new pair of glasses into a donated frame with the best high index lens available to him under the VES at a minimal price, and he was absolutely thrilled to get new glasses.

Mr T, a 66 year old male with diabetes, is a resident at a rural Supported Residential Services facility. We had visited the site annually over the past few years, but Mr T suffers from agoraphobia and rarely left his room, so we had not had the opportunity to see him in our previous visits. On this occasion we examined Mr T in his room, putting the chart on the back of his door, while he sat in his prized lounge chair. His visual acuity was around R 6/60, and L 6/15 due to a visually significant cataract, greater in the right eye. We discussed his options, and referred him to the local public cataract service in a nearby town, which we knew provided excellent service. We talked about his agoraphobia, and what he would need as support to attend the appointment, which was one of the support workers at the facility to attend the appointment with him. There were so many barriers to care for Mr T, but with collaboration and compassion we were able to ensure that Mr T was provided with the appropriate care pathway.

Provision of Eye Health Equipment and Training Project

The ACO continues to work in partnership on the implementation of the Provision of Eye Health Equipment and Training Project, a Commonwealth Government Department of Health funded initiative. A consortium of five organisations from across Australia work in partnership to deliver this project based on their existing links and experience in Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander eye care in discussion with local and regional stakeholders, and service providers. These organisations are: Brien Holden Foundation (contractor, co-lead), Australian College of Optometry (co-lead), Aboriginal Health Council of South Australia, Centre for Eye Health and Optometry Australia.

The project is responsible for the procurement and distribution of up to 162 retinal cameras over four years to primary health care clinics, who provide care to Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people. The project incorporates training on the use of the camera to primary health care workers and general practitioners, with the aim to support increased primary-level access to retinal photography for Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander people with diabetes. As of 31 December 2019:

- Canon CR-2 AF retinal cameras have been delivered and installed, with training on its use completed for 132 recipient locations;
- 753 primary health care workers have received retinal camera training via online modules plus face-to-face training. A range of primary health care staff were trained, including registered nurses (30%), Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers/practitioners (25%), general practitioners (10%); and others (35%) (Image 1);
- 156 primary health care staff have completed the diabetic retinopathy assessment course; (5.7%) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers/practitioners, (78%)



Retinal camera training at Karadi Aboriginal Corporation, Hobart, Tasmania

- general practitioners, (12%) registered nurses, (1%) diabetic educators and (3%) others (Image 2); and
- In Round 4 of the project, we continue to work with all sites to support embedding of retinal photography into primary health care processes, supported by the program extension to June 2020.

Project Expansion to 2021

The Commonwealth Government has granted a further extension for the Provision of Eye Health Equipment and Training project, continuing the support for an additional year until June 2021.

The project expansion will involve the procurement and distribution of slit lamps to approximately 39 health services. The consortium will work closely with eye health stakeholders and health services to develop the plan for implementation and evaluation of this initiative.



Image 1

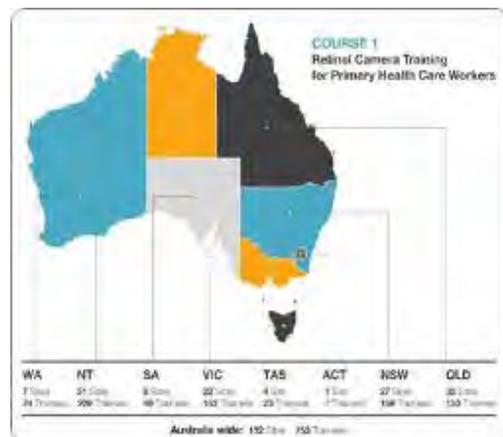


Image 2

VICTORIAN EYECARE SERVICE

THE VICTORIAN EYECARE SERVICE (VES) is a significant public optometry service in Victoria, ensuring access to eye care and visual aids to Victorians experiencing disadvantage, and is funded by Victorian Government Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS). The ACO is responsible for the administration and management of the VES, and through the VES the ACO is able to offer eye care services targeted to Victorian people who are financially, socially or geographically most in need, with the aim of correcting refractive error and preventing eye disease. Since 1985 the VES has provided Victorians with a coordinated program of eye care and subsidised visual aids. People are eligible for VES benefits if they are permanent residents of Victoria and either: hold a Pensioner Concession Card; hold a current Health Care Card (and have done so for at least 6 months); are children in out-of-home care; or identify as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person.

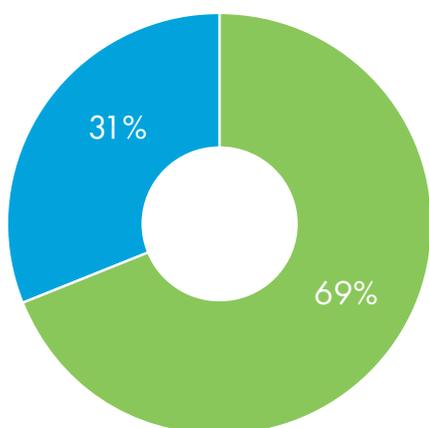
The VES is delivered by ACO staff in the Melbourne metropolitan area and by more than 80 dedicated partner private practices in regional and rural areas across Victoria, supported by outreach services provided by the ACO. Metropolitan services are provided through a network of

clinics, consisting of our main clinic at Carlton, six smaller satellite clinics based in community health centres and mobile outreach clinics.

In 2019, more than 79,000 services and 46,380 visual aids were provided through the VES to 62,625 patients across the state. Consistently, the VES is delivered to within $\pm 3\%$ of set targets. Two-thirds of services are provided in our Melbourne based clinics.

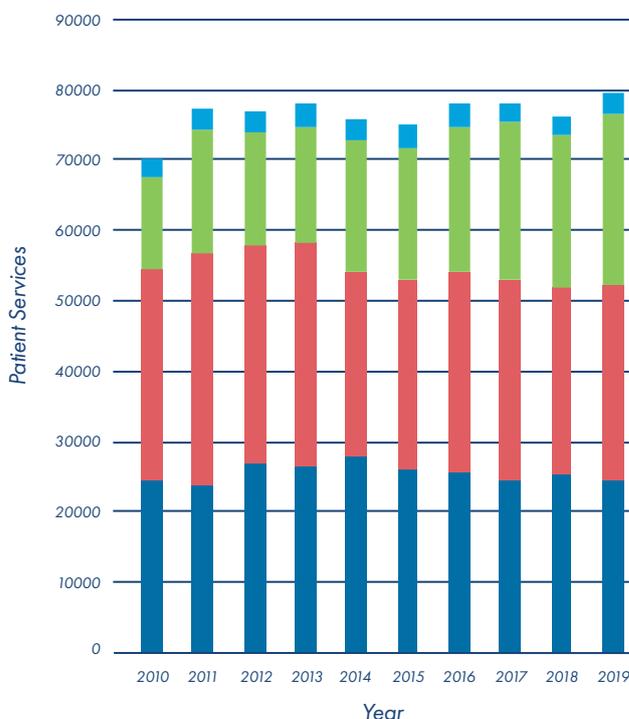
The VES Advisory Committee supports the work that we do across both metropolitan and regional Victoria. The Committee meets three times per year to provide advice to the ACO and Department of Health and Human Services in relation to the activities and priorities of the VES and also to identify ways to continuously improve delivery of the VES. We are grateful for the commitment of all committee members and thank them for their time and expertise.

VES Metropolitan and Rural Service Provision



● Rural & Regional Clinics ● Metropolitan Clinics

VES Services



● Metropolitan Outreach ● Metropolitan Clinics
● Carlton Clinic ● Rural Practices and ACO Outreach

Victorian Eyecare Service Rural Practices & Victorian Aboriginal Spectacle Subsidy Scheme Practices**

The ACO acknowledges the ongoing care and commitment provided by our VES and VASSS partner practices.

** VES practices also offering VASSS

Ararat

Raymond Blizzard & Associates **

Bacchus Marsh

Darryl Wilson & Associates
North West Optical

Bairnsdale

Eyecare Plus Bairnsdale **

Ballarat

GMHBA Eyecare – Ballarat **

Belmont

Robinson Family Optometrists **

Benalla

Focus on Laurimar

Bendigo

Cartwright & Associates **
Eyecare Plus Bendigo **

Bright

Eyes of Bright **

Bunyip

Bunyip Optical **

Camperdown

Penry Routson Optometrists **

Casterton

Glenn Howell Optometrist **

Castlemaine

Eyeworks Castlemaine

Cobram

Cobram Optical

Corio

GMHBA Eyecare – Corio **

Curlewis

Spectacle Hub

Daylesford

Darryl Wilson & Associates

Dromana

Eyes on Dromana

Echuca

Horsfalls Optometrists **

Edenhope

Wimmera Eyecare **

Euroa

Graham Hill & Associates **

Foster

Chris Hely Optometrist

Geelong

GMHBA Eyecare – Geelong **
Eye Gallery Geelong
New Vision Eyewear

Gisborne

Merrington Optometry
Simon Leong Optometrist

Hamilton

Glenn Howell Pty Ltd **

Healesville

Harris, Blake and Parsons

Hopetoun

Wimmera Eye Care **

Horsham

Wimmera Eye Care **

Kerang

Kerang Optical **

Kilmore

Ian J Wood by G & M Eyecare

Korumburra

South Gippsland Optical

Kyabram

Horsfalls Optometrists **

Lakes Entrance

East Gippsland Optical **

Lang Lang

Lang Lang Eyecare **

Lara

New Vision Eyewear

Leongatha

Leongatha Optometrists
McCartin Street Optometrists

Leopold

GMHBA Eyecare – Leopold **

Lorne

Deakin Optometry

Mallacoota

Dyson & Long Optometrists

Maryborough

D P Hare Optometrist

Mildura

Mildura Optical
Eyecare Sunraysia – Plaza **
Eyecare Sunraysia **

Moe

Moe Optical **

Mornington

20/20 Sight 'N Style
Main St Eyecare

Morwell

Latrobe Eyecare **

Myrtleford

Alpine Eyecare

Nathalia

Horsfalls Optometrists

Newcomb

Vogue Vision **

Nhill

Wimmera Eye Care **

North Geelong

Winks Eyecare **

Ocean Grove

Greg Sly Optometrist

Orbost

Eyecare Plus Bairnsdale **

Pakenham

Pakenham Optical

Portland

Portland Eyecare **

Robinvale

Vision Wise Optics

RosebudEyes on Rosebud
Robert P Zent**Sale**

B W Pettitt **

Seymour Vic

Focus on Laurimar

SheppartonGraham Hill & Associates **
Shepparton Optical Services**Somerville**

Eyes on Somerville

St Arnaud

Raymond Blizzard & Associates

Stawell

Raymond Blizzard & Associates **

Swan HillSwan Hill Optical **
Warburton Optical**Torquay**

GMHBA Eyecare

Traralgon

Kay Street Eyecare

Wangaratta

Wangaratta Eyecare **

Warracknabeal

Wimmera Eye Care **

WarrnamboolWarrnambool Eyecare **
Penry Routson Optometrists **
Somer Toprak Optometrist**Waurin Ponds**

GMHBA Eyecare – Waurin Ponds **

Wendouree

Darryl Wilson & Associates

WodongaMichael Smith Optometry
Peachey Optometry Clinic **
The Optical Superstore **
Wodonga Eyecare**Wonthaggi**

Akers Eyewear **

Yarram

B W Pettitt

Yarrawonga

Sandra Heaney Optometrist **

Outreach and Aboriginal Services Sites

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Program

Billabong BBQ, *Collingwood*
 EACH-Boronia K-12 College, *Boronia*
 EACH-Boronia West Primary School,
Boronia
 Eastwood Primary, *Ringwood East*
 Heathmont College, *Heathmont*
 Melton Djerriwarrh, *Melton*
 Pangula Mannamurna Inc,
Mt Gambier (RDWA, SA)
 Wantirna Secondary College,
Wantirna
 Worawa College, *Healesville*
 Yappera Children's Service, *Thornbury*

Community Based Outreach

Campbellfield Primary, *Campbellfield*
 Castlemaine District Community Centre,
Castlemaine
 Central Bayside Community Health,
Parkdale | Chelsea
 cohealth, *Niddrie*
 cohealth, *Kensington*
 Creswick Community Hub, *Creswick*
 Destiny Care, *Dingley*
 Eastern Access Community Health
 (EACH), *Ringwood*
 Furlong Park School for Deaf Children,
Sunshine North
 Inspiro Community Health, *Lilydale*
 IPC, *Hoppers Crossing*
 Melbourne Immigration Transit

Accommodation, *Broadmeadows*
 Sunshine Harvester Primary School,
Sunshine
 Sebastapol Community Hub,
Sebastapol
 The Marley St Hub, *Sale*
 The Wellington, *Collingwood*

Homeless Persons Eyecare Program

cohealth First Response, *Footscray*
 Cornerstone, *Dandenong*
 Drill Hall, *Melbourne*
 Drouin Caravan Park, *Drouin*
 El-Paso Caravan Park, *Drouin*
 Flagstaff, *West Melbourne*
 Frankston Community Support
 (City Life), *Frankston*

Hosier Lane, *Melbourne*
 Launch Housing, *South Melbourne*
 Lazarus Centre, *Geelong*
 MOSS, *Northcote*
 Ozanam Centre, *Flemington*
 Sacred Heart Mission, *St Kilda*
 Salvation Army Eastcare, *Croydon*
 Salvation Army, *The Basin*
 Salvocare, *Rosebud*
 St Kilda Drop In, *St Kilda*
 St Mary's House of Welcome, *Fitzroy*
 WAYSS, *Pakenham*
 Wintringham, *Williamstown*
 Women's Housing Group, *Mt Martha*
 YWCA Boarding House, *Noble Park*
 YMCA Housing, *Parkdale*

Older Person's High Rise Program

Crown St, *Flemington*
 Floyd Lodge, *Williamstown*
 Gordon St, *Footscray*
 Hall St, *Moonee Ponds*
 Melrose St, *North Melbourne*
 Ormond St, *Kensington*
 Pascoe Vale Rd, *Pascoe Vale*
 The Strand, *Moonee Ponds*
 Victoria Ave, *Albert Park*

Residential Aged Care

Arcadia Aged Care, *Essendon*
 Arpad Elderly Welfare Society, *Wantirna*
 Avonsleigh, *St Kilda*
 Cambridge House, *Collingwood*
 Corpus Christi, *Greenvale*
 James Barker House, *Footscray*
 Little Sisters of The Poor, *Northcote*
 Mayflower Aged Care, *Reservoir*
 McGregor Gardens, *Pakenham*
 Mclean Lodge, *Flemington*
 Oak Towers, *Oakleigh*
 Olivet, *Ringwood*
 Prague House, *Kew*
 Sambell Lodge, *Clifton Hill*
 San Carlo, *South Morang*
 Wesley Mission, *Coburg*
 Wintringham, *Williamstown North*

Royal Flying Doctors Service

Birchip	Goroke
Cann River	Jeparit
Dargo	Kaniva
Donald	Murrayville
Ensay	Ouyen
Gelantipy	Rainbow
Goongerah	Sealake

Rural Workforce Agency Victoria (RWAV) / Visiting Optometry Scheme (VOS)

Aboriginal Community Elders Service (ACES), *Brunswick*
 Ballarat and District Aboriginal Co-operative, *Ballarat*
 Bendigo and District Aboriginal Co-operative, *Bendigo*
 Brophy Family Youth Services, *Warrnambool*
 Budja Budja Aboriginal Co-operative, *Halls Gap*
 Bunurong Health Services, *Dandenong*
 Coomealla Health Aboriginal Corporation, *Dareton*
 DPV Health, *Epping*
 Eastern Health, *Healesville*
 Gippsland and East Gippsland Aboriginal Corporation (GEGAC), *Bairnsdale*
 Goolum Goolum Aboriginal Co-Operative, *Horsham*
 Gunditjmarra Aboriginal Co-operative, *Warrnambool*
 IPC Health Care, *Wyndham Vale*
 Kirrae Health Services, *Purnim*
 Lake Tyers Health and Children's Service, *Lakes Tyers*
 Lakes Entrance Aboriginal Health Association, *Lakes Entrance*
 Mallee District Aboriginal Services, *Kerang*
 Mallee District Aboriginal Services, *Mildura*
 Mallee District Aboriginal Services, *Swan Hill*
 Moogji Aboriginal Council, *Orbost*
 Murray Valley Aboriginal Co-

operative, *Robinvale*
 Njernda Aboriginal Corporation, *Echuca*
 Oonah Health and Community Services Aboriginal Corporation, *Healesville*
 Ideas Van- Moogji Aboriginal Council, *Orbost*, IPC Health Care, *Wyndham Vale*
 Ramahyuck District Aboriginal Corporation, *Sale*
 Robinvale District Health Service, *Robinvale*
 Rumbalara Aboriginal Cooperative, *Shepparton*
 Victorian Aboriginal Health Service, *Fitzroy*
 Wathaurong Aboriginal Health Service, *Geelong*
 Winda Mara Aboriginal Corporation, *Heywood*

Supported Residential Services

Aaron Lodge, *Dandenong*
 Acacia Gardens, *Ringwood*
 Acacia Place, *Frankston*
 Achmore Lodge, *Clarinda*
 Acland Grange, *St Kilda*
 Alma House, *St Kilda*
 Angus Martin, *Frankston*
 Arnica Lodge, *Alphington*
 Balmoral Lodge, *Malvern East*
 Belair Gardens, *Noble Park*
 Belmont Manor, *Belmont*
 Berwick House, *Hallam*
 Brooklea Lodge, *Donvale*
 Brooklyn House, *Newtown*
 Brown Lee Home, *Brown Hill*
 Brown Lee Lodge, *Wendouree*
 Brunswick Lodge, *Brunswick*
 Chippendale Lodge, *Heidelberg*
 Chiron, *Kensington*
 Coorondo House, *Ashwood*
 Corandirk House, *Moonee Ponds*
 Cranhaven Lodge, *Cranbourne*
 Crosbie Lodge, *Bentleigh*
 Crystal Manor, *Noble Park*
 Darebin Lodge, *Preston*
 Dunelm Lodge, *Croydon North*
 Eagle Manor, *Eagle Point*
 Edwards Lodge, *Reservoir*

Elgar Home, *Box Hill North*
 Eliza Park, *Mt Eliza*
 Fermont Lodge, *Noble Park*
 Ferntree Manor, *Ferntree Gully*
 Footscray House, *Footscray*
 Galilee, *Noble Park*
 Glenville Lodge, *Glenroy*
 Glenwood Assisted Living, *Traralgon*
 Golden Gate Lodge SRS, *Ararat*
 Gracedale Lodge, *Morwell*
 Gracevale Lodge, *Warragul*
 Grandel Lodge, *Fairfield*
 Greenhaven Lodge, *Footscray*
 Hambleton House, *Albert Park*
 Hampton House, *Hampton*
 Harrier Manor, *Dandenong*
 Hazelwood, *Boronia*
 Heathmont Lodge, *Heathmont*
 Hillview Lodge, *Black Hill*
 Hollydale Lodge, *Malvern*
 Homebush Hall, *Junortoun*
 Janoak, *Strathmore*
 Kallara Care, *Golden Square*
 Karinya, *Lancefield*
 Kilara House, *Diamond Creek*
 Kooralbyn Retirement Lodge,
Bairnsdale
 Kyneton Park, *Kyneton*
 L'abri, *Ringwood North*
 Manalin House, *Clayton South*
 Maroondah House, *Croydon North*

Mayfair Lodge, *Dandenong*
 Meadowbrook, *Melton South*
 Melton Willows, *Melton*
 Merriwa Grove, *Cobram*
 Mornington House, *Mornington*
 Mt Eliza Park, *Mt Eliza*
 Mulvra Care, *Wendouree*
 Northern Terrace, *Reservoir*
 Princes Park Lodge, *Maryborough*
 Queens Lodge, *Lalor*
 Reservoir Lodge, *Reservoir*
 Royal Avenue, *Essendon North*
 Sandy Lodge, *Aspendale*
 Southcare Lodge, *Hastings*
 Stewart Lodge, *Brunswick*
 Surfcoast Accommodation, *Grovedale*
 Sydenham Grace, *Sydenham*
 Themar Heights, *Warrnambool*
 Trentleigh Lodge, *Dandenong North*
 Viewmont Terrace, *Bayswater*

Visiting Disability Services

Allenby Ave, *Reservoir*
 Ashbrook Place, *Mooroolbark*
 Banff St, *Reservoir*
 Black Forest Rd, *Werribee*
 Bonita Crt, *Dandenong*
 Bowen St, *Cranbourne*
 Cleveland St, *St Albans*
 Coburns Rd, *Melton*

Coora Rd, *Oakleigh South*
 Crispe St, *Reservoir*
 Cypress Ave, *Glen Waverley*
 David St, *Hadfield*
 Defelice Place, *Mooroolbark*
 Delia St, *Oakleigh South*
 Dredge St, *Reservoir*
 Elsey Rd, *Reservoir*
 Glasgow St, *Reservoir*
 Glen Park Rd, *Bayswater*
 Gower St, *Preston*
 Griffiths St, *Bellfield*
 Heatherton Rd, *Noble Park*
 Hedgely Crt, *Langwarrin*
 Helen St, *St Albans*
 Henderson Crt, *Bundoora*
 Henry St, *Melton*
 Hughes Pde, *Reservoir*
 Lascelles Ave, *Viewbank*
 Leigh Crt, *Doveton*
 Linnet St, *Altona*
 Lonsdale Ave, *Hampton*
 Ludstone St, *Hampton*
 Orchard Rd, *Bayswater*
 Peugeot Pursuit, *Mill Park*
 Reita Ave, *Wantirna South*
 Ruthven Cres, *Lalor*
 Scartree Crt, *Burwood*
 Smith St, *Burwood East*
 Wallara Cres, *Bundoora*
 Walls Rd, *Werribee*

PRESENTATIONS AND PUBLICATIONS

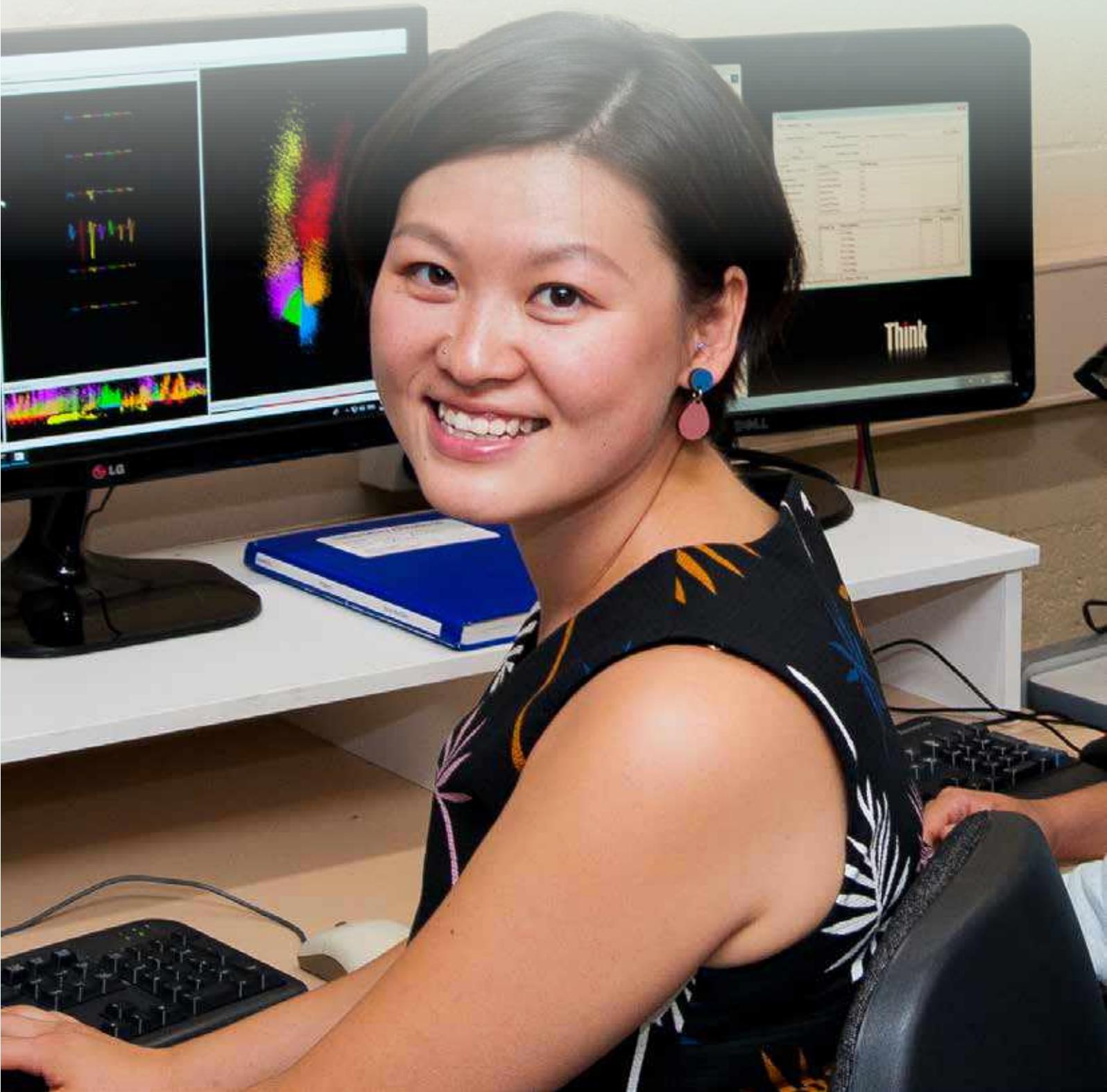
Presentations by ACO Staff: Academic and Teaching

Bruce AS	Spherical GP Lens Fitting	University of Melbourne, 3 rd Year OD, 14 February
Bruce AS	Spherical Contact Lens Fitting	University of Melbourne, 3 rd Year OD, 21 February
Bruce AS	Toric GP Lens Fitting	University of Melbourne, 3 rd Year OD, 1 March
Carozzi P	Eyecare for People Experiencing Disadvantage	University of Melbourne, 3 rd Year OD, 19 August
Chong MFA	Low Vision and Technology	University of Melbourne, 3 rd Year OD, 2 September
Chong MFA	Electronic Magnifier Workshop	University of Melbourne, 3 rd Year OD, 12 September

<i>Presentations by ACO Staff: Professional Groups and Community Groups</i>		
Arvanitis A	Falls and Balance	Your Community Health, 13 March
Arvanitis A	Falls and Balance	Your Community Health, 19 June
Bruce AS	Diagnosis of Glaucoma Using OCT	ACO National Conference (Clinical Workshop) 6 October
Bruce AS, Hutanhan A	Orthokeratology Workshop	ACO CPD: Clinical Workshop, 6 July
Carozzi P	Victorian Aboriginal Spectacles Subsidy Scheme- Strengthening and Sustaining Access to Affordable Spectacles	Close the Gap for Vision by 2020: Strengthen & Sustain National Conference, 14 – 15 March
O'Keefe M, Tatipata S	Strong Eyes, Strong Communities	Because of Them We Must: Improving Health Outcomes for 0-29 year olds. Darwin 5-7 November
Serebrianik R	Look Into My Eyes – Common Ocular Presentations and How to Manage Them	RACGP Rural Education Initiatives – Webinar to rural GPs, 7 September
Serebrianik R, Sharma A, Gunn D	The Use of OCT for the Diagnosis of Glaucoma and Retinal Conditions	ACO CPD Clinical Workshop, Brisbane, 27 July
Serebrianik R, Thomas K	The Use of OCT for the Diagnosis of Retinal Conditions	ACO CPD Clinical Workshop, Bendigo, 22 June
Turner N	Retinal Photography in Primary Care Practice	Close the Gap for Vision by 2020: Strengthen & Sustain National Conference, 14 – 15 March
Turner N, Carozzi P, Davis C, John N, O'Keefe M	From There to Here – A Story of Strengthening and Sustaining over 20 Years	Close the Gap for Vision by 2020: Strengthen & Sustain National Conference, 14 – 15 March
<i>Presentations by Clinic Staff: In House</i>		
Bruce AS	Papilloedema and OCT	Clinic Staff Education event, 3 July
Bruce AS	Co-ordinator for ACO Certificate in Advanced Contact Lenses (CACL)	ACO Education Division
Bruce AS, Burns L	Anterior Chamber Angles	Combined Journal Club, Case Reports and Grand Rounds, 18 July
Chong MFA	Low Vision Clinic	Open House at the ACO Low Vision Clinic, 5 August
Deen N, Lowe K	Amblyopia	Combined Journal Club, Case Reports and Grand Rounds, 9 May
Hall AE, Leong J	Proliferative Diabetic Retinopathy in a Newly Arrived Refugee	Case Reports and Grand Rounds, 26 November
Li J, Tran T	Working with People with Intellectual Disabilities	Case Reports and Grand Rounds, 27 March
Ng HW, Glover T	SITA Faster: A New Time-Saving Threshold Visual Field Testing Strategy	Journal Club, 10 January
Serebrianik R, Travis M	Topical Therapy with Beta Blockers in Glaucoma	Combined Journal Club, Case Reports and Grand Rounds, 12 December
<i>Publications by Clinic Staff</i>		
Chong MFA, Dacion L	Ocular Co-Morbidities in Domiciliary Eye Care	Optometry Australia (Pharma) June 2019
Ganesalingam K, S Ismail, T Shervin, J Craig	Molecular Evidence for the Role of Inflammation in Dry Eye Disease	Clinical and Experimental Optometry 2019; 102: 456-454

RESEARCH

Leading innovation in research
through collaboration



NVRI CHAIR'S REPORT

DUE TO A NUMBER OF extenuating circumstances, the Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) was unable to meet in person in 2019. Nevertheless, the Chair of the SAC had a number of fruitful phone calls with the Director, Professor Michael Ibbotson, regarding the overall challenges faced by NVRI and continuing success with the Institute's portfolio of research projects.

“*The research team constitutes 8 Research Fellows, 5 PhD students and 1 Honours student, the research output is impressive with 13 papers in high quality journals and 1 PhD completion.*”

A current major challenge for the Institute, as well as indeed the University sector and independent Medical Research Institutes, is to secure funds as well as recruit and retain the best possible researchers. We commend the Director and the NVRI for more than overcoming both challenges by securing funding for the appointment of Dr Cirous Dehghani. Dr Dehghani's expertise in a number of areas including refractive error, diabetes, and corneal innervation as a diagnostic tool were invaluable in establishing important collaborations at the Institute and beyond. In addition, he was able to mine the ACO

database and reveal its value in addressing various research questions. Although his tenure was short because he was recruited elsewhere, he accomplished a great deal and a replacement appointment has already been made with Dr Marianne Coleman from the University of Surrey joining the Institute later in 2020. Dr Coleman trained as an orthoptist and then completed her Masters and PhD with research in amblyopia including visual distortions, psychophysics and game-based perceptual learning. Her research strengths directly complement those of NVRI and the Institute looks forward to welcoming her.

The Institute continues its ongoing work in four main inter-related neurotechnology areas namely bionic eyes, visual cortex, primate vision and visual control of flight. The research team constitutes 8 Research Fellows, 5 PhD students and 1 Honours student, the research output is impressive with 13 papers in high quality journals and 1 PhD completion. Building capacity is still of critical importance to ensure continuing research income, discovery and impact as well as securing strong succession planning. Outreach has also been substantial with NVRI researchers engaging with both the scientific community via presentations at conferences and workshops as well as with the public via various school programs.

Professor Sarah Dunlop

Chair, NVRI Scientific Advisory Committee



Professor Sarah Dunlop

*Chair NVRI
Scientific Advisory
Committee*

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

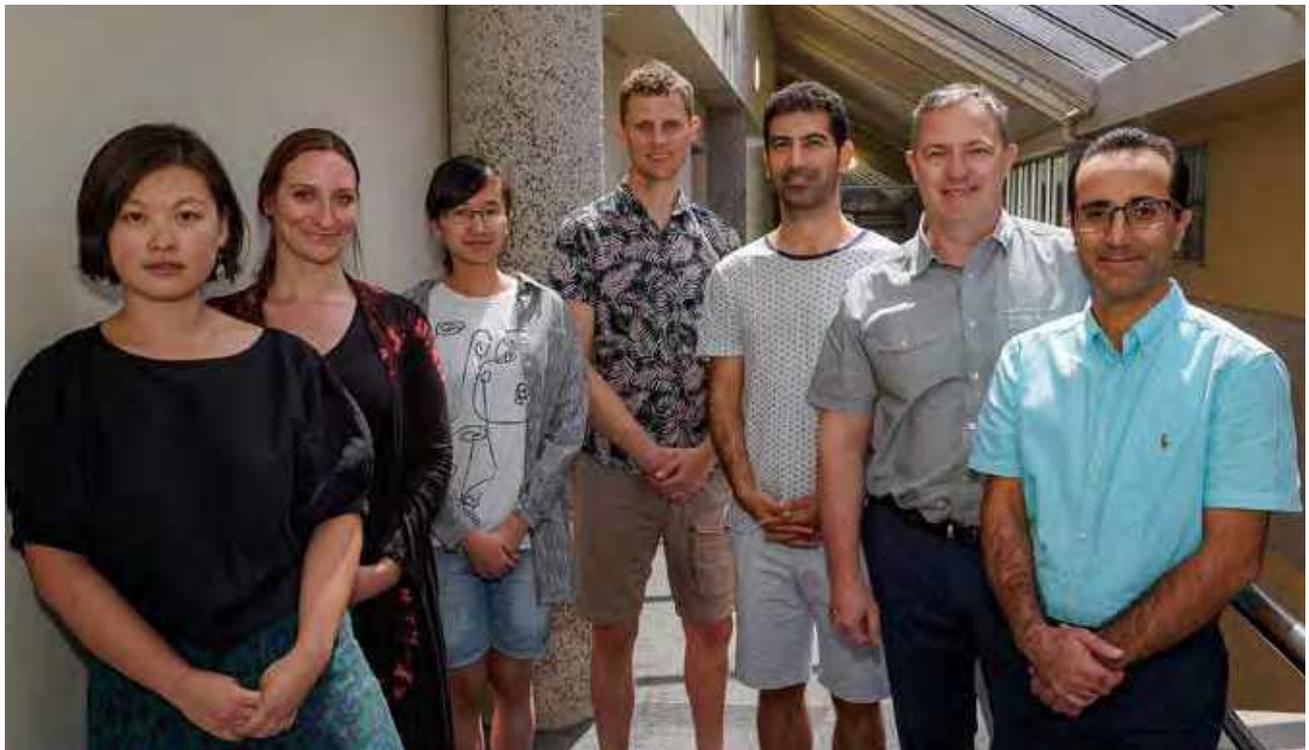
SINCE I BECAME THE DIRECTOR of the NVRI in 2011, and for many years beforehand, a major key aim has been to establish Clinical Research into the portfolio of the institute. There was never any lack of desire for this to happen but it always came down to the availability of money. During 2018, a strategic decision was made by the ACO Council to commit to a 5-year Clinical Research Fellowship using the Schultz Laubman Schultz Endowment Trust Fund. Once that commitment was made, negotiations were held between the ACO and the Department of Optometry and Vision Sciences (DOVS) at the University of Melbourne (UoM), which led to the department contributing 50% of the salary, thus making it a joint appointment. The Head of DOVS, Professor Allison McKendrick and the ACO CEO Maureen O'Keefe were the main driving forces behind organizing this collaborative venture. By the end of 2018 we had a firm plan in place and we advertised the new position. We were very fortunate to appoint Dr Cirous Dehghani. Cirous started in the position in

February 2019 and immediately set to work on a wide range of projects ranging from using ocular markers to assess neurological disease through to analysis of the ACO database. Cirous worked hard to establish many collaborators to work on the first project, and also initiated the first detailed assessment of the ACO database. As so often happens when appointing talented people, Cirous was recruited into a tenured position in mid-2019 at the University of Canberra. With this news, we went into overdrive and focused entirely on the ACO database, knowing that Cirous would leave in December. This was a frantic period and very productive. We discovered that the ACO database, as always expected, was a treasure-trove of information but extracting



Professor Michael Ibbotson

NVRI Director



L-R: Dr Molis Yunzab, Dr Melanie Stamp, Dr Wei Tong, Dr Hamish Meffin, Dr Ali Almasi, Professor Michael Ibbotson, Dr Cirous Dehghani

that information proved quite challenging. The NVRI is working toward publishing the results of this initial analysis in 2020. We also recruited a new person, Dr Marianne Coleman from the UK to replace Cirous in April 2020.

Needless to say, the existing team at the NVRI continued its work. The main aims of that research remain the same: development of technologies leading to the next generation of prosthetic vision devices (bionic eyes) and fundamental research into the mechanisms within the visual cortex that transform incoming visual signals into actions and perceptions. Both research projects are highly collaborative. The work on prosthetic vision

involves collaboration with several groups in Melbourne and Canada. Professor Steven Praver's research group in the School of Physics at UoM is without doubt our main contributor, and long may that continue. We hold several joint PhD students with Steven and these projects led to several high-impact outputs in 2019, including a publication in the prestigious journal *Biomaterials*.

The work on visual cortex also involves strong national collaboration, mainly through our association with the Centre of Excellence for Integrative Brain Function, which brings together neuroscientists from six major institutions nationwide. We also collaborate very strongly with the Department of Biomedical Engineering at UoM, especially with Professors David Grayden and Tony Burkitt.

Seeking research funds is a critical task for the Director and staff of the NVRI and 2019 involved grant applications to a wide range of bodies including the Medical Research Future Fund, the National Health and Medical Research Council, the Australian Research Council, the US National Science Foundation and the US National Institutes of Health. We also remain heavily engaged with the Lions Clubs of Victoria, which made several large and very welcome donations during 2019.

“... a strategic decision was made by the ACO Council to commit to a 5-year Clinical Research Fellowship using the Schultz Laubman Schultz Endowment Fund.”



L-R: Dr Molis Yunzab, Jason Jung, Dr Ali Almasi, Dr Scott Sun

In terms of outreach we had a big year. NVRI staff and students attended 4 international and 3 national conferences. This attendance generated 23 presentations, which certainly continued to promote the NVRI in the international community. The largest conference attended was the Society of Neuroscience meeting, which was held in Chicago. Two PhD students attended and presented their results for the first time, Jason Jung and Scott Sun. They came back inspired and amazed at the 33,000 attendees at the meeting. Scott was awarded his PhD in 2019, making the year particularly important for him.

“We hold several joint PhD students with Steven and these projects led to several high-impact outputs in 2019, including a publication in the prestigious journal *Biomaterials*.”

Without doubt, 2019 was a busy year that involved many more people than those directly mentioned above. I would like to thank all those that have offered support and assistance through the year. These include the NVRI and ACO staff, members of the NVRI Advisory Board, the NVRI Board of Administration, ACO Council and the many members and friends of the NVRI that so kindly donate their time and money to our causes. Particular thanks go to the many members of the Lions in Victoria that provide their support, both moral and financial.

Professor Michael Ibbotson

BSc (Hons) PhD

NVRI highlights

- Members of the institute attended seven international and national conferences and gave 23 presentations.
- Professor Jan Provis became a Fellow of the NVRI. She was a Professor at Sydney University and the ANU who contributed significantly to the world's understanding of age-related macular degeneration.
- We showed that man-made diamond substrates can promote retinal growth.
- We showed that diamond-coated carbon fibres provide exceptionally high quality recordings from neural tissue, providing new avenues for neuroscience research and clinical applications in the future.
- We showed that marsupial visual cortex is more like primate cortex than rodent cortex, with major evolutionary implications.
- We developed a unifying algorithm to explain visual coding in the visual cortex.
- We appointed a Clinical Research Fellow to investigate the ACO's patient database, in collaboration with the Department of Optometry and Vision Sciences at the University of Melbourne.
- One student obtained a PhD: Scott Sun.

Bionic Eyes

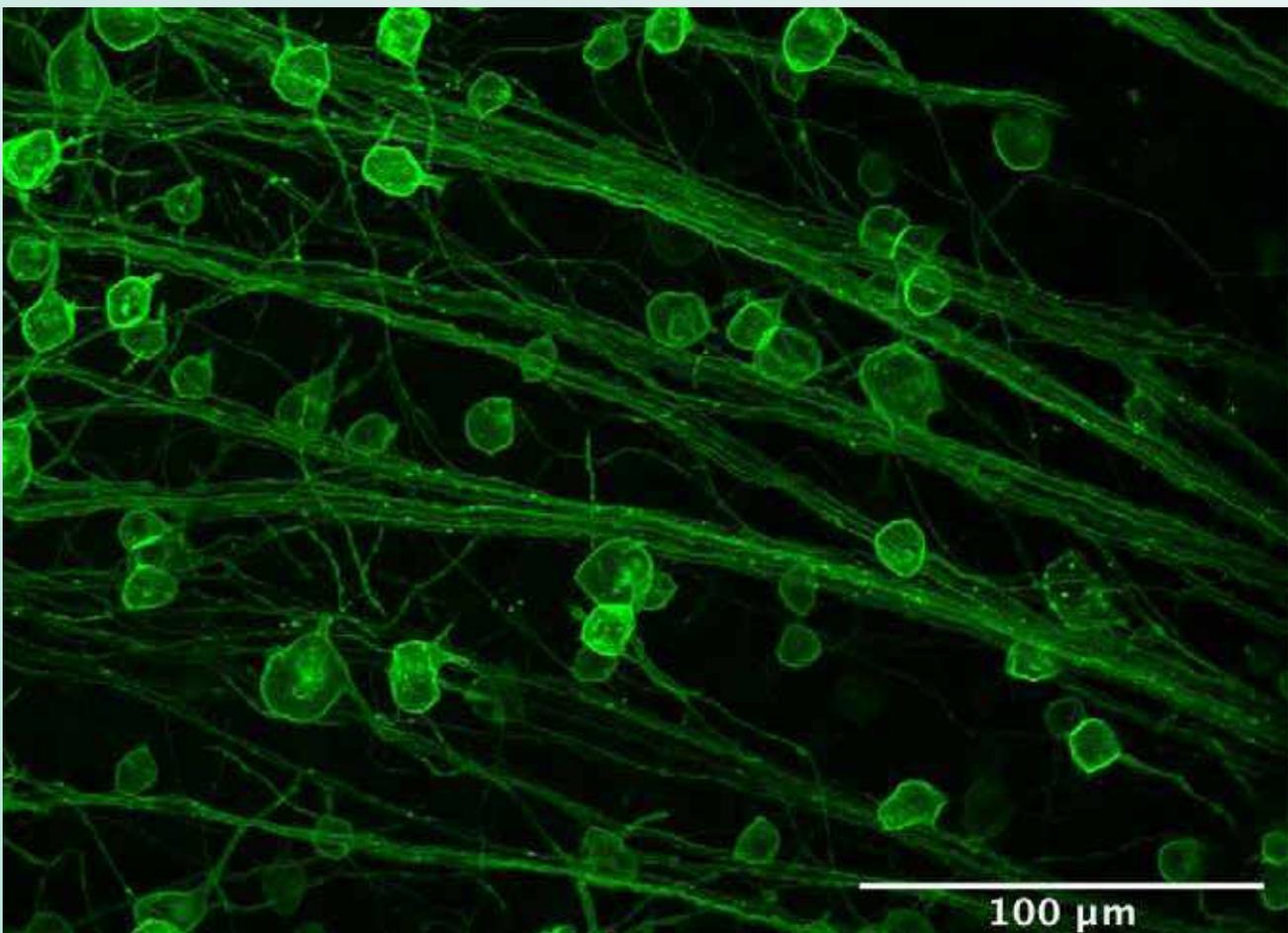
The NVRI Director, Michael Ibbotson initiated Bionic Eye research as a main focus of the NVRI in 2011.

We have made substantial progress since this time.

In 2011, the most advanced Australian device had 24 stimulating electrodes and the best worldwide had 60 operational electrodes. This is not many when considering that the idea of the bionic eye was to replace the millions of photoreceptors in the normal human eye with stimulating electrodes. We have been working on devices that have the potential to have thousands of individually addressable electrodes. Needless to say, it was necessary to do a lot of basic research to make the giant leap from a handful of stimulating electrodes to thousands. One of the great limiting factors was a lack of basic knowledge about how retinal

ganglion cells (RGCs) respond to electrical stimulation. Over time, and with consolidation in 2019 we have established algorithms that allow us to predict the optimum stimulation required to activate particular types of RGCs. Moreover, we worked particularly hard on establishing the optimum shapes and configurations of electrodes that generate the highest possible resolution of electrical stimulation.

Reference. Tong, W, Hejazi M, Garrett DJ, Esler T, Prawer S, Meffin H, Ibbotson MR (2020). Minimizing axon bundle activation of retinal ganglion cells with oriented rectangular electrodes (submitted, 9 January, 2020).



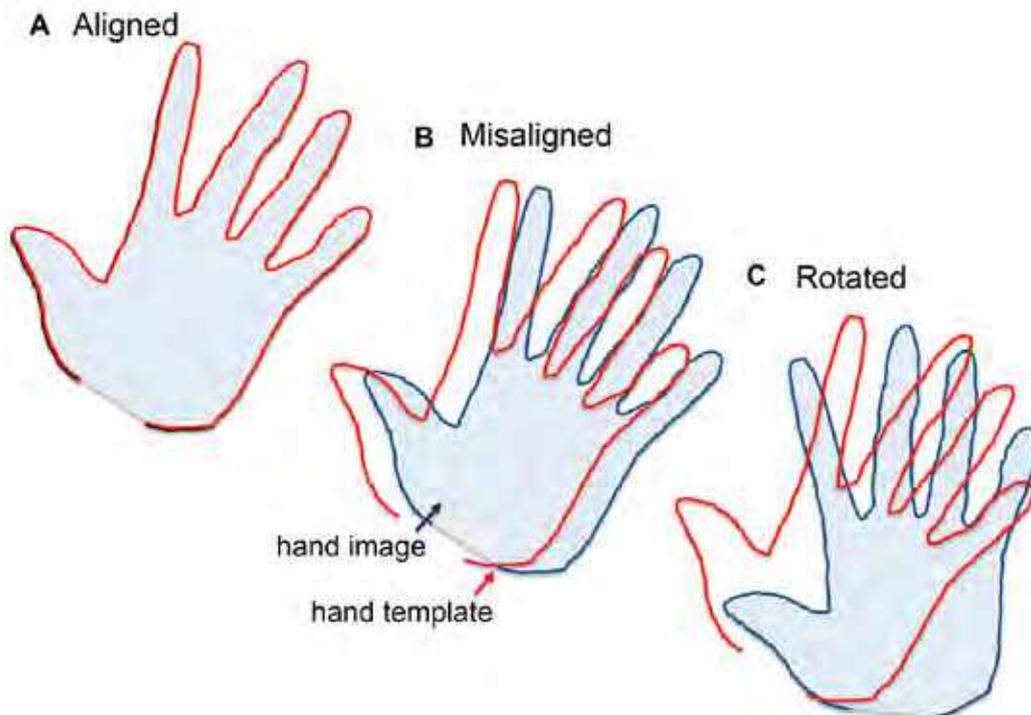
Retinal ganglion cells (RGCs) in the rat retina filled with a fluorescent dye. The near circular structures are cell bodies of retinal ganglion cells. The green tracts are the axons of the RGCs. Note that the axons bundle together as they travel to the optic nerve.

Visual Cortex

Most textbooks that say anything about the visual system will tell you that it has a hierarchical structure with each stage becoming more and more selective. However, while this is true, it is also the case that the system also becomes more invariant – that is less selective! This is best explained using an example. If you want to recognize a hand, you can think of a system that first detects edges, then combinations of edges and finally a template of edges that looks like a hand. This rather simplistic example shows that you can make a system detect complex shapes like hands. However, if the hand is now moved sideways or rotated or changed in size, the template will no longer match the shape and the hand cannot be recognized. Therefore, the system needs to build invariance to movements, orientation and

size at the same time that it becomes more selective. These competing requirements require the visual system to use very complex algorithms to allow it to become simultaneously more selective and more invariant as signals ascend the hierarchical pathways. Drs Ali Almasi and Hamish Meffin, along with many others at the NVRI, have made significant strides in understanding this complex process, the seminal paper below being submitted in 2019.

Reference. Almasi A, Meffin H, Cloherty SL, Wong Y, Yunzab M, Ibbotson MR (2020). Mechanisms of feature selectivity and invariance in primary visual cortex. 9th February 2020, BioRxiv: <https://doi.org/10.1101/2020.02.08.940270>.

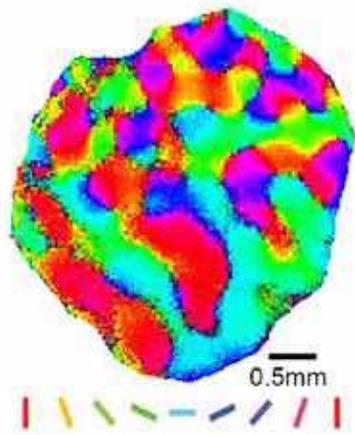


(A) Image of a hand (pale blue) aligned perfectly with a theoretical hand template (red outline) in the visual system. (B) A mismatch between the hand image and the template caused by a lateral misalignment. (C) A mismatch created by the rotation of the hand image.

Visual Cortex in Marsupials

Jason Jung, one of the NVRI's PhD students, used intrinsic optical imaging techniques to show that wallabies, a small Australian marsupial, have visual cortical architecture similar to that found in primates (monkeys and apes). It had been presumed by most that marsupials would have the more primitive structure associated with rodents. This research led Jason, in collaboration with Prof. Ibbotson, to develop a set of evolutionary theories about mammalian visual brain evolution, which were published in the following paper.

Reference. Ibbotson MR, Jung YJ (2020). Origins of functional organization in the visual cortex. Front. Syst. Neurosci., 03 March 2020 | <https://doi.org/10.3389/fnsys.2020.00010>

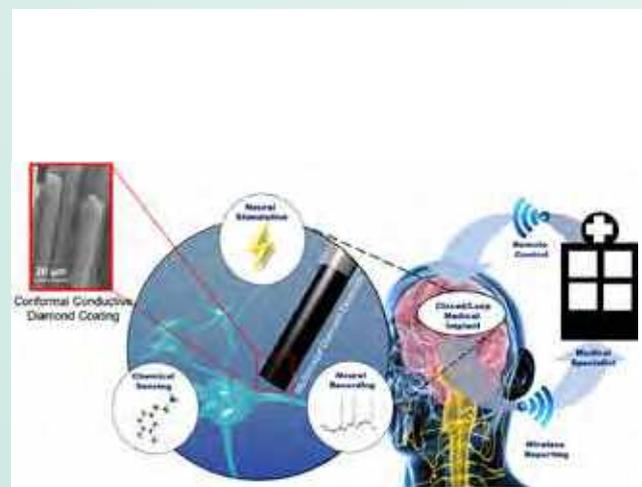


An orientation preference map of wallaby primary visual cortex obtained using intrinsic optical imaging. The map shows orientation domains as colour patches (see legend). Each colour represents the area in cortex where the orientation shown in the legend is coded. This pattern is similar to that found in primates but radically different to that reported in rodents.

Diamond-Coated Graphite Electrodes

For many years the NVRI has worked closely with Professor Steven Praver and Dr David Garrett from the School of Physics at the University of Melbourne. Together, we have developed new carbon-based recording and stimulating devices. The purpose of this research is to produce new technologies that offer improved electrical recording capabilities, along with more flexible electrodes (which cause less tissue damage) and greater biocompatibility. Such devices can be incorporated into new medical devices that allow both electrical stimulation and recording from neural and retinal tissues.

Reference. Hejazi et al. (2020). Hybrid diamond/carbon fiber microelectrodes enable multimodal electrical/chemical neural interfacing. Biomaterials. February, 230: 119648. doi: 10.1016/j.biomaterials.2019.119648. Epub 2019 Nov 22.



This figure is adapted with permission from Hejazi, Maryam A., et al. "Hybrid diamond/carbon fiber microelectrodes enable multimodal electrical/chemical neural interfacing." *Biomaterials* 230 (2020): 119648

Publications by NVRI Staff and Students

Clinical Research Publications

Chong MFA, Dacion L (2019). Ocular co-morbidities in domiciliary eye care. *Optometry Australia (Pharma)* June 2019

Ganesalingam K, Ismail S, Shervin T, Craig J (2019). Molecular evidence for the role of inflammation in dry eye disease. *Clinical and Experimental Optometry* 102: 454-456

Neurotechnology Publications

Cloherly SL, Ibbotson MR (2019). Contrast dependent phase sensitivity in area MT of macaque visual cortex. *Neuroreport* 30(3):195-201 doi: 10.1097/WNR.0000000000001183

Ibbotson MR (2019). How do bees see? *BKA News Incorporating the British Bee Journal* 235: 11-14 (ISSN:2051-0624)

Yunzab M, Meffin H, Cloherly SL, Scholl B, Preibe NJ, Ibbotson MR (2019). Synaptic basis for contrast-dependent shifts in functional identity in mouse V1. *eNeuro ePub* doi:10.1523/ENEURO.0480-18.2019

Lian Y, Grayden DB, Kameneva T, Meffin H, Burkitt AN (2019). Toward a biologically plausible model of LGN-V1 pathways based on efficient coding. *Front Neural Circuits*. Mar 14;13:13 doi: 10.3389/fncir.2019.00013 eCollection

Spencer M, Kameneva T, Grayden DB, Meffin H, Burkitt AN (2019). Global activity shaping for a retinal implant. *J Neural Eng*. 16(2):026008 doi: 10.1088/1741-2552/aaf071

Eskikand PZ, Kameneva T, Burkitt AN, Grayden DL, Ibbotson MR (2019). Pattern motion processing by MT neurons. *Frontiers in Neural Circuits*. Jun 21;13:43 doi: 10.3389/fncir.2019.00043

Yunzab M, Cloherly SL, Ibbotson MR (2019). Comparison of contrast-dependent phase-sensitivity in primary visual cortex of mouse, cat and macaque. *Neuroreport*. Oct 9;30(14):960-965 doi: 10.1097/WNR.0000000000001307

Tong W, Stamp M, Apollo NV, Ganesan K, Meffin H, Prawer S, Garrett DJ, Ibbotson MR (2019). Improved visual acuity using a retinal implant and an optimized stimulation strategy. *J. Neural Engineering* 17(1):016018 doi: 10.1088/1741-2552/ab5299

Tong W, Stamp M, Hejazi M, Garrett D, Prawer S, Ibbotson MR (2019). The effects of phase durations on the spatial responses of the retinal ganglion cells to epi and sub-retinal electrical stimulation. *41st Annual International Conference of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society (EMBC)*. Oct 2019. doi: 10.1109/EMBC.2019.8857347

Monfared O, Tahayori B, Freestone D, Nestic D, Grayden DB, Meffin H (2019). Determination of the electrical impedance of neural tissue from its microscopic cellular constituents. *J. Neural Eng*. Nov 11 doi: 10.1088/1741-2552/ab560

Hejazi MA, Tong W, Stacey A, Soto-Breceda A, Ibbotson MR, Yunzab M, Maturana MI, Almasi A, Jung YJ, Sun S, Meffin H, Fang J, Stamp MEM, Ganesan K, Fox K, Rifai A, Nadarajah A, Falahatdoost S, Prawer S, Apollo NV, Garrett DJ (2019). Hybrid diamond carbon fiber microelectrodes enable multimodal electrical/chemical neural interfacing. *Biomaterials* 230:119648 doi:10.1016/j.biomaterials.2019.119648 (ePub Nov 2019)

Presentations by NVRI Staff and Students

ARVO 2019 Annual Meeting, 28 April -2 May 2019, Vancouver, Canada

Soto-Breceda A, Yonzab M, Maturana M, Meffin H, Kameneva T, Burkitt AN, Ibbotson MR. Investigating preferential activation of rat ganglion cell classes with electrical stimulation. *(poster)*

Computational Neuroscience meeting, 13-17 July 2019, Barcelona, Spain

Almasi, A. Feature selectivity and invariance in primary visual cortex. *(oral)*

Yonzab M, Choi V, Meffin H, Cloherty SL, Priebe NJ, Ibbotson MR. Synaptic basis for contrast-dependent shifts in functional identity in mouse V1. *(poster)*

Almasi A, Cloherty SL, Wong WT, Ibbotson MR, Meffin H. How cells in visual cortex combine filters for feature selectivity and invariance. *(poster)*

Almasi A, Sun S, Yonzab M, Ibbotson MR, Meffin H. How do stimulus statistics change the receptive fields of cells in primary visual cortex? *(poster)*

Sun S, Almasi A, Yonzab M, Ibbotson MR, Meffin H. Extracellular spike waveform predicts whether single units recorded in visual cortex are tuned to orientation. *(poster)*

Zehra S. Meffin H, Hicks D, Kameneva T, Ibbotson MR. V1 visual neurons: receptive field types vs spike shapes. *(poster)*

Lian Y, Meffin H, Grayden D, Kameneva T, Burkitt AN. Learning the receptive field properties of complex cells in V1. *(poster)*

Meffin H, Almasi A. Full day workshop: Integrative theories of cortical function. 17th July 2019 *(organisers)*

International Engineering in Medicine and Biology Conference, 23-27 July 2019, Berlin, Germany

Tong W, Meffin H, Hejazi M, Stamp M, Garrett DJ, Prawer S, Ibbotson MR. Avoiding retinal ganglion cell axon activation with oriented rectangular electrodes. *(poster)*

Tong W, Stamp M, Hejazi M, Garrett DJ, Prawer S, Ibbotson MR. The Effects of phase durations on the spatial responses of retinal ganglion cells to epi and sub retinal electrical stimulation. *(oral)*

Stamp M, Tong W, Ganesan K, Ibbotson MR, Prawer S, Garrett DJ. A 3D diamond electrode array for high acuity stimulation in retinas. *(poster)*

Stamp M, Tong W, Peng D, Ibbotson MR, Collins DJ, Garrett DJ, Prawer S. Surface acoustic wave-driven enhanced dye uptake in retinal tissue. *(poster)*

Scientific presentation at UNSW, 4 September 2019, Sydney, Australia

Tong W. Stimulation strategy for improving the visual acuity of retinal prostheses. *(oral)*

Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting, 19-23 October 2019, Chicago, USA

Sun S, Meffin H, Wong Y, Cloherty SL, Almasi A, Yonzab M, Jung Y, Ibbotson MR. Strong correlation between extracellular spike waveform and spatial receptive field type in cat visual cortex. *(poster)*

Jung Y, Yonzab M, Almasi A, Sun S, Cloherty SL, Bauquier S, Renfree M, Meffin H, Ibbotson MR. Orientation maps in the primary visual cortex of an Australian marsupial, the Tammar Wallaby *Macropus engienii*. *(poster)*

NeuroEng 2019, 29-30 November, Adelaide, Australia

Monfared, Tahayori B, Freestone DR, Nestic D, Burkitt AN, Grayden DB, Meffin H. Modelling the electrical impedance of neural tissue based on its cellular building blocks *(poster)*

Tong W, Elser TB, Kerr RR, Tahayori B, Grayden DB, Hajazi M, Stamp M, Garrett D, Prawer S, Meffin H, Burkitt AN, Ibbotson MR. Avoiding Retinal Ganglion Cell Axon Activation with Oriented Rectangular Electrodes *(poster)*

Meffin H, Almasi A, Cloherty S, Wong Y, Ibbotson MR. Nonlinear receptive field estimation reveals novel forms of feature invariance in primary visual cortex *(oral)*

Jung J, Yonzab M, Almasi A, Sun S, Cloherty S, Bauquier S, Renfree M, Meffin H, Ibbotson MR. Orientation maps in the primary visual cortex of the Tammar Wallaby *(oral)*

Sun S, Almasi A, Yonzab M, Meffin H, Ibbotson MR. (2019) Positive-going spikes recorded extracellularly in cat visual cortex correspond to thalamic axons *(poster)*

Ibbotson MR Invited panel member to discuss 'The interface between wet and dry neurosciences'

EDUCATION

Expanding our education



DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Your learning community

MIRRORING THE SHAPE SHIFTING landscape of education today, the ACO Education Division underwent significant personnel changes in 2019. We saw the departure of the Director of Education, Marcel Mihulka, who we graciously thank for his innovative approach to education and for whom we wish the very best of luck. The team also saw the departure of Elizabeth Salvatore, our primary administrator over the last 8 years, who has been the face at countless events, project managed most of them and helped keep the division humming. With so many changes, the year therefore did not go without its occasional hiccups as we re-oriented and kept pace with what is always a very full yearly calendar.

As ever, we are grateful and humbled to work with members, lecturers, examiners, curriculum committee

members, ACO staff, sponsors and donors who work tirelessly and give their time generously to help achieve the aims of our division. The Education Team and the ACO simply would not be able to run without these significant contributions, therefore we thank all of you and look forward to another year of providing best practice clinical learning pathways for optometrists.

Dr Michelle Waugh
Acting Director of Education



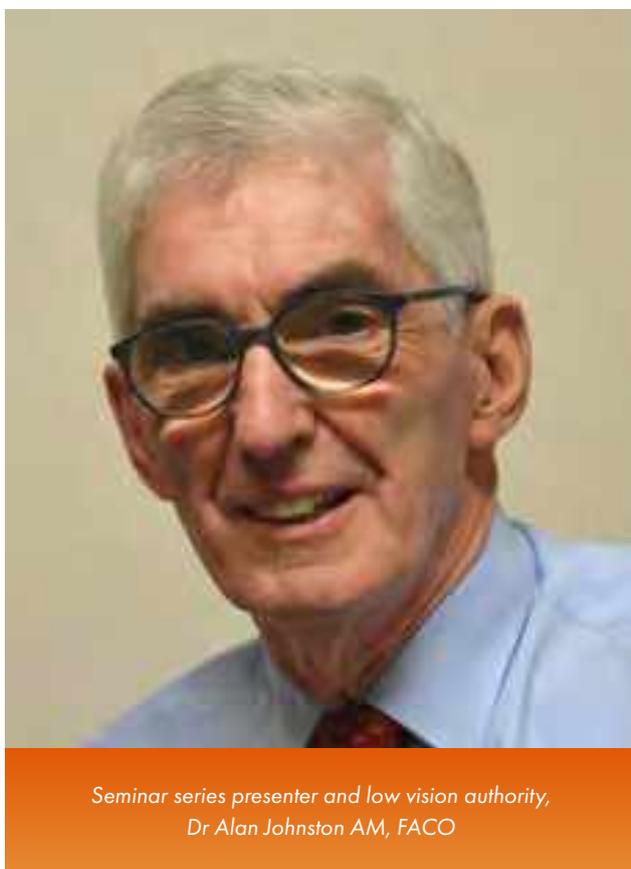
Education Team (L-R) Elizabeth Salvatore, Shazia Tahseen, Dr Michelle Waugh

Education Activity

The Education Division of The Australian College of Optometry offers a broad range of face to face and online learning opportunities including various certificate courses, clinical workshops, an annual conference, a therapeutics updates weekend, lectures and webinars. Below is a snapshot of some of these events.

Clinical Workshops

The ACO hosted its first Dry Eye Disease clinical workshop in 2019 and provided the perfect backdrop to showcase our two lecturers and various medical device technologies in this ever-evolving space. Attendees of this workshop were able to learn from the experts how best to evaluate the condition and then see and test out some of the best available treatments in the market. We sincerely thank Dr Joanne Goh, a corneal specialist who led a discussion on ocular surface disease and Dr Nicholas Young, optometrist founder of the Dry Eye Centre in Victoria who discussed the spectrum of available treatments.



Seminar Series

It was a pleasure to welcome to our seminar series during 2019 a doyen of low vision, Dr Alan Johnston AM FACO, a former reader and Associate Professor of the Department of Optometry at the University of Melbourne who presented, “Low vision opportunities for optometry in the 2020s: simple but essential optics, smartphone apps and magnification, reading options and spectacle gems”. During this fascinating lecture, Dr Johnston shared with an appreciative audience the evolution of low vision care from its fundamental beginnings in magnification to the technological wizardry offered by smart phone technology to actively improve the lives of patients with low vision. We thank Alan and all seminar series presenters for sharing their valuable knowledge across many different areas of eye care: Dr Alex Ioannidis, Anne-Marie Banfield, Professor James Armitage FACO, Dr Elvis Ojaimi, Dr Amy Cohn, Dr Nathan Kerr, Dr Anton Van Heerden, Dr Lana Del Porto and Dr Ming-Lee Lin.

ACO'S 10TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

THE ACO'S 10th Annual Conference was held at the Melbourne Cricket Ground for what was another memorable highlight of the year. Keynote speaker Professor Noel Alpins shared his specialist knowledge in astigmatism correction in surgical procedures to much applaud. Other notable lectures included Professor Alex Gentle's elegant and illuminating discussion on selecting appropriate antibiotics and Dr Lewis Levitz's impassioned lecture on, "Avoiding litigation: When to treat, when to refer and how to recognise potentially life or sight threatening conditions". The ACO Conference always seeks to showcase the very best in up and coming leaders in the profession and therefore we were very proud to host Dr Kate Gifford who shared her insights and research on,

"OrthoK and multi-focal contact lenses for myopia: why binocular vision matters" and also Isabelle Jalbert who shared her latest research on eye care delivery outcomes and in a separate lecture she discussed tear quality impact factors on contact lens wearability.

All of the lectures at this year's conference were truly insightful and we thank all of our conference lecturers for 2019 which included: Dr Maryla Stelmach, Dr Raj Pathmaraj, Dr Graham Lakkis FACO, Professor Wilson Heriot, Dr Adrian Bruce FACO, Dr Simon Hurn, Dr Gillian Cochrane FACO, Simon Hanna, Dr Kelly Wright and Dr Michael Loughnan. Thank you also to our sponsors CooperVision, Opticare, Designs for Vision, Rim Optics and Good Optical.



CERTIFICATE COURSES

ACO Certificate in Ocular Therapeutics

In 2019 we welcomed our 8th cohort of just under 60 candidates to the Certificate in Ocular Therapeutics.

Survey results for ACO-COT 2019 graduates were very positive with 92% of respondents saying that the course met or exceeded their expectations. A full 100% of the respondents said that they were satisfied with the course and would recommend it to others. The feedback highlights the value of the ACO-COT as a practice builder and extension of professional and clinical skills.

"The lecturers and the staff went out of their way to make sure that I attained a high standard"

"I no longer need to send patients to GP for S4 eye drops"

"The quality of the course management, lecturers and materials is excellent."

"The ACO programme is just more convenient, everything is either on line or done locally."



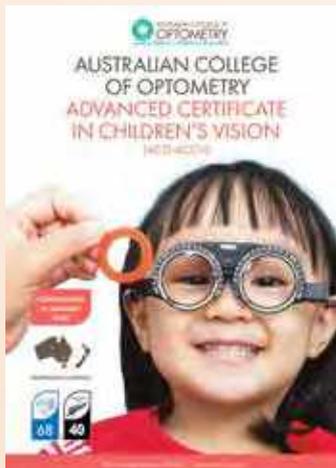
Associate Professor Ian Gutteridge with COT Outstanding Graduate Lisa Deacon

ACO Certificate in Ocular Therapeutics Curriculum Committee:

- A/Prof Ian Gutteridge, MScOptom LOsc FAAO FACO PGCertOcTher
- Prof James Armitage, MOptom, PhD FACO
- Dr Bang Bui, B.Optom, M.Optom, PhD, PGCOT
- A/Prof Colin Chan, MBBS(HONS) FRANZCO
- Prof Erica Fletcher, PhD, MScOptom, FACO
- Maureen O'Keefe, BSc(Hons); MBA; DipEd; GAICD, WCLP
- Dr Graham Wilson, MB ChB 1990 Otago; FRANZCO
- Dr Heathcote Wright, PhD FRANZCO



ACO Certificate in Ocular Therapeutics graduation in May 2019



Advanced Certificate in Children's Vision collaboration

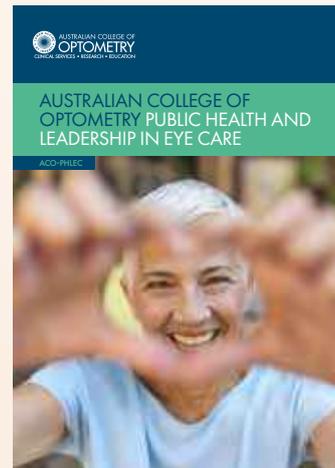
A successful collaboration led by Dr Nellie Deen and Dr Michelle Waugh with the team at the Royal Children's Hospital (RCH), notably Dr Anu Mathew and Dr Shiva Sheth ensured that lectures in this course were updated and new lectures added, including a lecture by the RCH's lead orthoptist Cathy Lewis, and a new lecture by the RCH team of Dr Anu Matthews, Associate Professor Daryl Efron, Professor Vicki Anderson and Dr Bernice Dodds on Learning Difficulties – A Multidisciplinary Approach. We would like to thank all the lecturers in this certificate who kindly gave up their time to apply updates and for their ongoing help in engaging with our candidates and offering their time while our candidates undergo clinical placements: Dr Lisa Hamm, Dr Tina Gao, Françoise Rateau, Paul Croucher, Dr Lionel Kowal, Dr Elaine Wong, Elisse Higginbotham, Peter Nixon FACO, Danny Chew and Monica Jong.

Notably, implementation of continuous improvement measures that ensure long term quality assurance for all certificates was commenced in the latter half of 2019 with ongoing work taking place on this during 2020.

New launch: Certificate in Public Health Optometry (ACO-CPHO)

A new addition to the Certificate course stable entered in 2019 in the form of the Certificate in Public Health Optometry. This Certificate joins the Certificate in Advanced Contact Lenses (ACO-CACL), Advanced Certificate in Glaucoma (ACO-ACG) and the Advanced Certificate in Children's Vision (ACO-ACCV).

The most significant achievement for the Education Division this year was the release of the Certificate in Public Health



Optometry. This certificate is an important milestone in our education offering, being the first to pivot from a purely focused clinical area. It was designed to appeal to those health care professionals looking to push the boundaries and diversify their knowledge in the broader field of public health. Importantly, the Certificate also teaches the central tenets of leadership and advocacy, aiming to play a foundational role in helping shape tomorrow's professional leaders.

We were pleased to see the Certificate was well received by candidates in its inaugural year, as it rated highly overall with many positive comments relating to how much they enjoyed the experience of completing the personalised capstone projects. A full 100% of candidates would recommend the Certificate to a colleague or friend. As conjectured, the Certificate appealed to and inspired those optometrists looking for education that offered a broader perspective and something different from traditional clinical offerings.

This Certificate could not have taken place without the hard work by Kai Lyn Goh who carried out on initial developmental plans by Michelle Waugh. The diverse content, covering health education, health promotion, policy making and research for eye disease, injury prevention, epidemiology, biostatistics, health systems, global eye health, indigenous eye care to name some of the topics and their associated readings enabled a broad base of knowledge for candidates to then work on and submit capstone projects on public health.

In 2020 we will be offering this Certificate under a new name, "Certificate in Public Health and Leadership in Eye Care" to recognise the significant leadership component of the course.

Special thanks to the Advisory Committee and lecturers for being involved in this truly special educational offering.

Advisory Committee:

- Mitchell Anjou AM MScOptom BScOptom FACO
- Mae FA Chong BOptom, PGDipAdvClinOptom, PGCertOcTher, FACO
- Kerryn Hart BOptom, PostGradDipAdvClinOptom, PostGradCertOcTher, MPH, GCHETL
- Dr Suit May Ho PhD BScOptom GCertOcTher, GCertSocSci (Int Devel) FACO
- Dr Josephine Li PhD BScOptom FACO
- Lien Trinh BOptom MOptom MScPH
- Dr Mandy Truong PhD MPH BOptom

Lecturers:

- Judith Abbott, Vision 2020 Australia
- Skye Cappuccio, Optometry Australia
- Piers Carozzi FACO, Australian College of Optometry
- Amanda Davis, University of Melbourne
- Angeline Ferdinand, University of Melbourne
- Jennifer Gersbeck, The Fred Hollows Foundation
- Annette Hoskin, Essilor International
- Prof Erwin Loh, Monash University
- Alicia Mathews, Telstra Corporation
- Prof Rob Moodie AM, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne
- Michael Moore AM, Public Health Association of Australia
- Prof Julie Simpson, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne
- Judith Stern, International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB)
- Prof Hugh Taylor AC, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne
- Dr Mandy Truong, University of Melbourne
- Dana Young, Melbourne School of Population and Global Health, University of Melbourne

For all of our Certificate courses, we are grateful to the active involvement of present and re-established Certificate committee. We aim to deliver key metrics and candidate feedback for all certificates to ensure transparent review to ensure educational currency and quality is maintained. Operational sustainability is also key for the ACO and always a challenge. With consultation from our administrators, streamlining Certificate processes was identified as a key priority and much work is being conducted in this space by the team.

Clinical Teaching Program

Helping to train the next generation of optometrists is a fundamental role that the ACO continues to play. Each year students from Deakin University, Flinders University, University of Melbourne and University of NSW attend ACO clinics and see patients under the watchful eyes of our staff. Our diverse patient base, along with a large group of very devoted clinical educators, ensures that students attending for placements at the ACO have a very rich and varied experience in our clinics.

Feedback from students reinforces the important value of this program to their overall learning – both in terms of the patients they see and the educators that support them in their journey. The educators also act as role models to the students, in how to build good patient rapport and the demonstrating the need for good communication.

“Observation of his tableside manner helped shape my understanding of how I want to practice as an optometrist after seeing the strong patient rapport that he builds. As a clinical educator, he is knowledgeable, patient, and encouraging of students' learning and development.”

“How she presented herself to patients was exceptional, she made them feel very comfortable and answered all their questions in a knowledgeable manner. She was very welcoming to me as a supervisor, encouraging yet thought provoking.”



ACO Clinical Educator, Davut Ulusoy

MEMBERSHIP

Building membership value

KETT OPTOMETRY MUSEUM

Welcome to the Kett Optometry Museum.

This museum takes you on a journey through the history of optometry.

The history begins with the invention of spectacles over 700 years ago, in 1280 in Florence.

For the next 400 years spectacles were rarely made in colour. Spectacles used clear or dark glass and were not shaped to the eye of the wearer. Some contemporary spectacles, such as the 'cat's paw' spectacles of the 17th century, were made to help correct the eye.

The Age of Enlightenment and the Scientific Revolution of the 16th and 17th centuries laid the foundations for scientific study and the profession of opticians.

A new understanding of optical theory, combined with advances in the use of glass, led to the development of the first spectacles for near vision in 15th century Italy.

The 18th century was a golden age for spectacle frames. Advances in the technology of the eye and vision led to the development of the first contact lenses in 1827. The 19th century saw the development of the first contact lenses and the mass production of spectacles in the 20th century. By the end of the century opticians began to sell their services to the public.

Advances in science and technology continued to shape the 20th century.



BATHS, BOTTLES OINTMENT POTS

These were used to contain ointments or solutions in poor conditions before the advent of modern drugs.

These were used for many centuries to hold water with modern drugs. They have been made in many materials including wood, glass, metal, and plastic. Some were made of wood and some of glass. Some were made of metal and some of plastic. Some were made of wood and some of glass. Some were made of metal and some of plastic.

MEMBERS – YEAR IN REVIEW

To remain a strong, effective and sustainable membership organisation

ACO MEMBERS form part of an extensive collegial community consisting of over 1000 optometrists and students promoting the importance of eye health to the public and health professionals. Members are given access to our education program which offers flexible and innovative learning for optometrists, with pathways for students undertaking placement at the ACO to be fostered and guided through a unique learning environment in a broad range of clinical situations.

In 2019 our member numbers held steady and we will be looking at new ways to engage with the profession to ensure our membership program is sustainable. Throughout this year members were recognised and encouraged for their achievements through our awards program; enjoyed access to our online optometry resources and Nathan Library; and received news updates on all things ACO through our online publications.

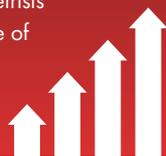
In mid 2019 the ACO Council engaged Survey Matters, consultants in association membership, to look at our current membership model and help us to reinvigorate the program. From this work came a renewed commitment by the Council and management to membership being a fundamental pillar of the ACO. A Membership Steering Committee was formed consisting of ACO Council members, ACO staff and representation from the profession. Chaired by Professor Linda Denehy, the committee first met in late 2019 and is committed to creating a sustainable membership model for the ACO.

“*I would think that every optometrist practice in Victoria would know of the ACO and regard it highly.*”

ACO Membership Benefits

Continuing education

Our continuing education program offers flexible, innovative education for optometrists across a broad range of clinical areas.



Fellowship

ACO Fellowship recognises members who have made a significant contribution to the practice and profession of optometry and to the community.



ACO Awards

ACO Awards recognise outstanding achievements by those in the optometry community.



Online membership newsletters and publications

Members stay up to date with the ACO through monthly online e-newsletters, InFocus magazines and other ACO publications.



Library resources

Members have access to a specialist collection of books, journal articles and other optometry, ophthalmology and vision science resources from the Nathan Library and ACO's online resources centre.



Travel grants

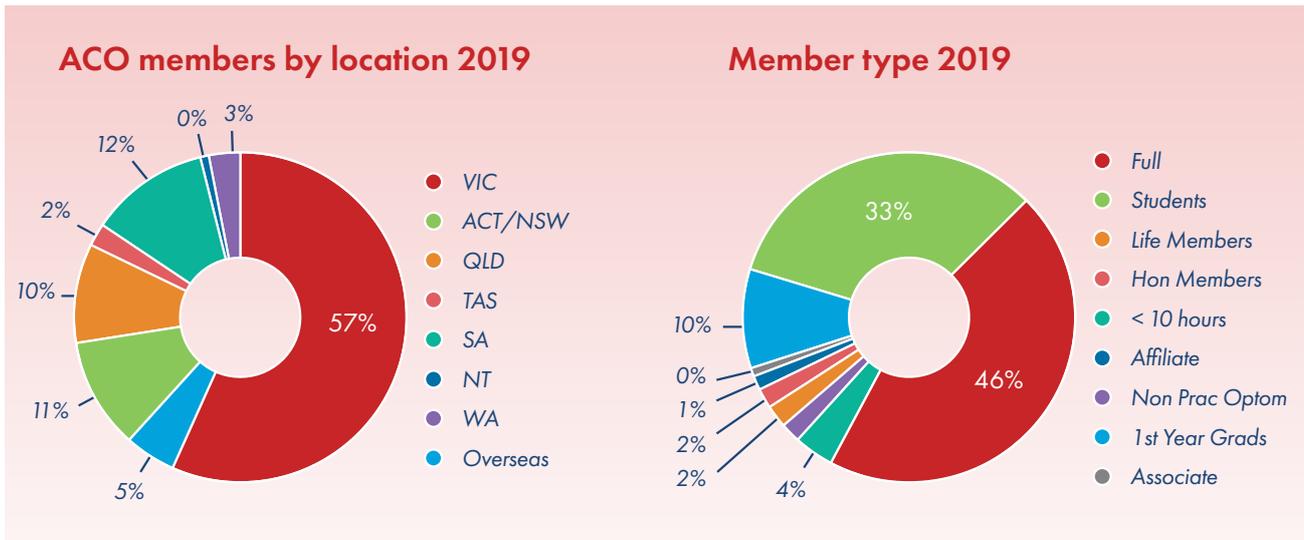
Travel grants give members the opportunity to gain knowledge of international best practice or to contribute their time and skills to a disadvantaged community (either in remote Australia or overseas).



Voting rights

ACO financial members have voting rights at our Annual General Meeting.





Kett Museum Report

The Kett Optometry Museum acquires and preserves items of importance in the history of optometry. These include books, ophthalmic equipment, spectacles and lenses, photographs and videos, archival papers, works of art and ephemera.

The Museum is a member of Museums Victoria and a contributing partner to Trove, the aggregator platform of the National Library of Australia. The catalogue is also open to Google searches.

Honorary archivists

Michael Aitken *LOSc*

Colin Bates *BScOptom LOSc*

Joseph Chakman AM *BSc*

Pamela Sutton *BScOptom FACO*

Barry L Cole AO PhD MAppSc BSc LOSc FAAO FACO retired as an archivist during 2019 after many years. He was always most supportive of the Kett Museum during his time as Head of the Department of Optometry. After his retirement he continued his interest and became very actively involved in the

work of the Museum. The archivists continue to catalogue the donations of significant documents from Optometry Australia.

The Nathan and Suzanne Efron Collection of contact lens publications continues to grow due to the generous funds included in the original donation.

Statistics	2019	2018
Total catalogued items at 31 Dec	3794	3676
Items catalogued in 2019	118	285
Acquisitions in 2019	147	310
Number of donors of items in 2019	21	38



Museum Donors

There were 21 donors this year. Some are regulars and others new, and some just cleaning out the back room or offering us great-granny's spectacles. We thank them all.

Donors are not always optometrists. This year, industry support from BOC Optical resulted in the donation of a Tonopen to further expand the extensive collection of tonometers. The Museum receives material from members of the general public, often the descendants of optometrists or sometimes just collectors.



Nathan Library and Members Lounge

The Nathan Library continues to offer valuable services meeting requests received by members, students, and candidates of our courses.

The resources made available through the Nathan Library make it possible for us to service the majority of requests directly. However, if unable to source a book or article ourselves we are grateful that requests can be supplied through the Library's membership of the Association of Vision Science Libraries (AVSL) and Gratisnet. In return, the Nathan Library continues to support these channels with requests for articles that were not available anywhere else, making us very proud to have such an outstanding and unique resource within our own organisation.

In addition to the Nathan Library's collection of specialist books in the fields of optometry, ophthalmology, vision science and optics we house the two significant archival collections; the Aitken Rare Book and Hewett collection. These collections can be accessed through the Nathan Library's web catalogue as well as the Kett Museum and Archive's own catalogue.

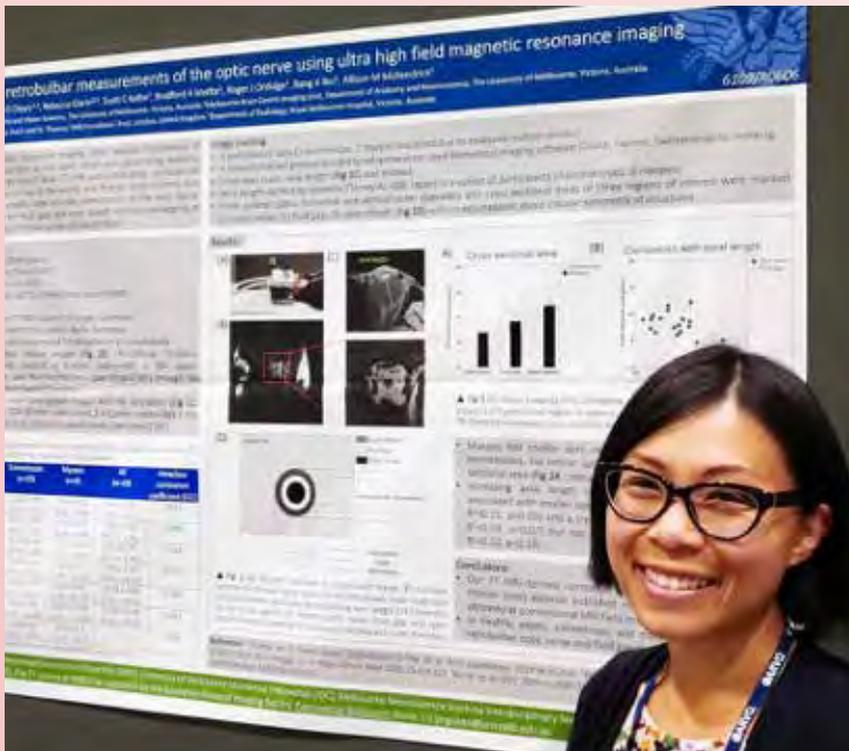
ACO Travel Grant 2019

Optometrist and research fellow at The University of Melbourne, Dr Bao Nguyen FACO, presented her work at the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) in Vancouver, Canada, in May 2019. ARVO is the largest international conference for eye and vision clinicians and scientists, and is an excellent opportunity for researchers and clinicians from around the world to hear the latest advances in research.

Dr Nguyen presented work arising from the funding received as recipient of a Melbourne Neuroscience Institute Fellowship in 2017. "The Fellowship enabled me to divert some of my time to a new area of research, specifically, the use of ultra high field magnetic resonance imaging of the eye. A key advantage of magnetic resonance imaging over other ophthalmic imaging such as OCT is that we can get 'real', unprocessed images of the shape of the eye, and that we can actually see what is behind the eyeball. At The University of Melbourne we are fortunate to have access to a 7.0 Tesla magnetic resonance scanner at the Melbourne Brain Centre Imaging Unit, which is the highest magnetic field strength available for human scanning, in conjunction with a unique, dedicated eye coil – one of only two in the

world. This work was basically a proof-of-concept study to demonstrate that we could use this cutting-edge technology to take unprecedented images of the retrobulbar anatomy, particularly of the optic nerve, surrounding subarachnoid space and optic nerve sheath."

Since becoming a Member of the Australian College of Optometry in 2009 and a Fellow in 2014, Dr Nguyen has continued to maintain her membership and has been awarded the Travel Grant three times for national and international conference attendance (2011, 2016 and 2019). She is grateful for the funding support, and encourages other members and optometrists to apply for the grant. "I particularly appreciate that the ACO Travel Grants can be applied for at any time, which is not typical of other funding schemes where there are specified deadlines and grant rounds. The Travel Grant contributed to my international travel costs, which are never cheap from Australia. The funds also paid for my conference registration, including an optional 'Breakfast with the Experts' where I met with two prominent female vision scientists from the United States to discuss ways to navigate work-life integration – not balance! – with kiddies and partners and all else that life throws our way."



Dr Bao Nguyen FACO, recipient of the ACO Travel Grant, 2019

IN MEMORIAM

Professor John "Jack" Pettigrew FRS FAA
2 October 1943 - 7 May 2019

Professor Jack Pettigrew was Emeritus Professor of the Queensland Brain Institute. Professor Pettigrew was a remarkable vision scientist.

Jack Pettigrew was an exciting man to be around – there was always something new and interesting. Nothing was ever dull when Jack had an idea. He had a special skill in being able to persuade everyone that what he was working on was the best thing in research. Jack's primary research interest was in comparative neuroscience, with a strong emphasis on vision and, particularly, binocular vision. He studied the brains and visual systems of a wide range of different birds and mammals. His career was long and during that time he interrogated these systems using virtually every new technique that came along, and mastered them all. Jack started his career with a flourish. He was the first person to clarify the neurobiological basis of stereopsis when he described neurones sensitive to binocular disparity. Later, he discovered that owls have independently evolved a system of binocular neurones like those found in mammals, despite having a different brain structure. In the 1980s Jack became the chief proponent of the Flying primates theory, which suggests that megabats (e.g. flying foxes) were primates. Jack's theory was based on the observation that the binocular visual systems of megabats had evolved a solution to combining information from two eyes that is very similar to primates. Importantly, amongst the mammals, this 'unique' design only exists in primates and megabats. Jack did not

just work on the visual system. He also placed considerable emphasis on other sensory structures, such as the auditory and somatosensory systems.[2] Jack showed evidence for a role for non-visual pathways in the phenomenon of developmental neuroplasticity during the postnatal critical period. In the later years of his career, Jack used the phenomenon of binocular rivalry as an assay for interhemispheric switching, whose rhythm is altered in bipolar disorder.

Jack was the Director of NVRI from 1980 to 1983. This was very early in the genesis of the NVRI and Jack had an important role in setting the agenda for the NVRI towards visual neuroscience and comparative physiology, something it still emphasises today. Jack had a very important role in attracting funding from the Schultz family, which continues to provide much of the core funding for the NVRI.

His scientific work was recognized by several honours and awards, including becoming a Fellow of the Royal Society of London (FRS) and fellow of the Australian Academy of Science (FAAS), and the Centenary Medal in 2001 for service to Australian society and science in phylogeny. Jack was a recipient of the H Barry Collin Research Medal in 2010.

Jack was an accomplished rock climber. His most notable climb was in 1965 when he and 3 fellow climbers were the first to climb the 562 m (1,844 ft) high Ball's Pyramid, the tallest volcanic stack in the world and forms part of Lord Howe Island Marine Park.

Jack was known to be a very colourful character. He built many friendships through his academic career and was known for his invariable wit.



Professor Jack D Pettigrew FRS (right) holding the H Barry Collin Research Medal presented to him by Professor Barry Collin at the Southern Regional Congress on 16 May 2011.

IN MEMORIAM

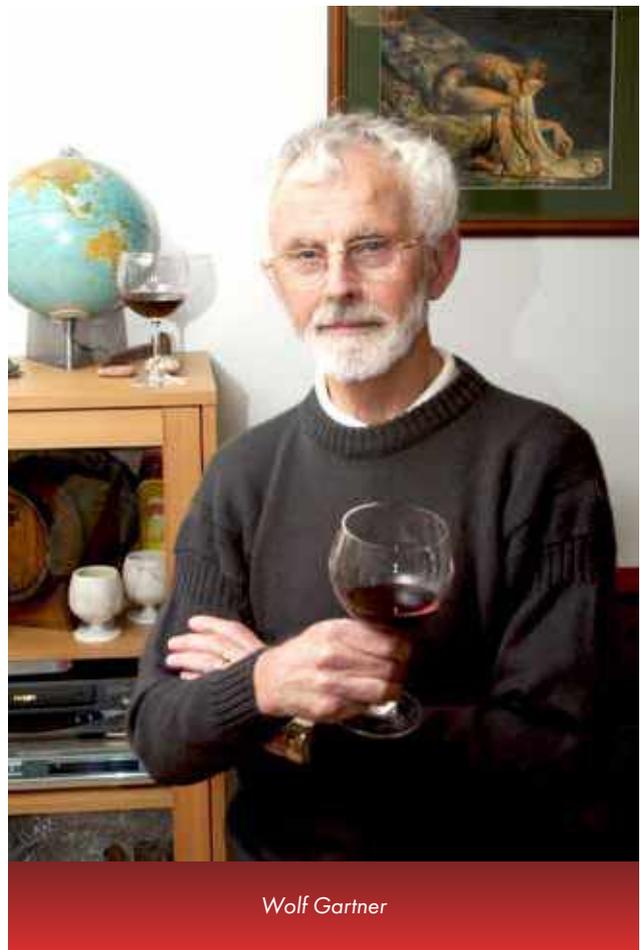
Wolfgang "Wolf" Gartner BAppSc LOSc FAAO FACO
1 March 1929 – 8 March 2019

Wolfgang "Wolf" Gartner FACO was born in Hoym Germany in 1929 and emigrated to Australia in 1949. Wolf was a Fellow and Honorary Life Member of the ACO and served as a Councillor for 27 years, and was a foundation members of the NVRI. We wish to acknowledge the significant contribution he made to optometry through teaching, publications and practice.

Wolf obtained his LOSc diploma in optometry from the Australian College of Optometry in 1955, which he upgraded to Bachelor of Applied Science in 1963. He was one of the first Australian optometrists to be elected a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry in 1964.

He set up practice in 1958 in Ringwood and later in Croydon both in the outer suburbs of Melbourne, a practice that grew to become a highly regarded three partner practice. The Croydon based practice ran the first public glaucoma screening supported by the Lions Club. He had a particular talent for optics and in the late 1950s and 1960s he was a part-time lecturer in optics in the then Victorian College of Optometry to which he brought a new and higher standard to optics teaching, especially ophthalmic optics. He also taught as guest lecturer at the Cologne School of Optics in Germany for a semester, where he was highly regarded. He published regularly mostly in *The Australian Journal of Optometry* but his work on vector analysis of astigmatism was published in *American Journal of Optometry* and *Archives of American Academy of Optometry* in 1965. This paper has been cited 17 times and has been influential in contact lens and progressive power lens design. Later he was a part-time lecturer in the dispensing course at the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology.

He was on the Council of the Victorian College of Optometry for a very impressive 27 years until 1992 and was our First Vice President from 1982. He was also a foundation member of the National Vision Research Institute. He was a frequent presenter at conferences both in Australia and overseas, in Germany, New Zealand, Italy and several countries in SE Asia. He was an active participant in and supporter of the annual conferences of the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science (ANZAAS) and successfully promoted the idea of a separate section for optometry in ANZAAS.



Wolf Gartner

During preparation of this report, we were saddened by the loss of long-term ACO staff member, Dr Genevieve Napper FACO. Genevieve will be honoured in the 2020 Annual Report.

ACO MEMBERS

Life Members

1961 Lady Meriel Wilmot-Wright
 1963 Dr Alan Isaacs AM
 1965 Dr Jonathan Nathan OAM FACO
 1981 Emer Prof Barry Collin AM, FACO
 1990 Prof Barry Cole AO, FACO
 1994 Jean Colledge PSM
 2007 John Pettit, FACO
 2011 Graham Hill, FACO, OAM
 2012 Ross Harris, FACO
 2012 Prof Hugh Taylor AC
 2013 Wolfgang Gartner, FACO
 2013 Anthony Gibson OAM, FACO
 2013 A/Prof Ian Gutteridge, FACO
 2013 Anthony Hanks OAM
 2014 Prof Ian Bailey
 2014 Prof Janette Lovie-Kitchin
 2015 Emer Prof Kenneth Bowman AM
 2016 A/Prof Rodney Watkins AM, FACO
 2018 Margaret Banks OAM, FACO
 2018 Prof Nathan Efron AC, FACO
 2019 Emer Prof Leo Carney
 2019 Dr Damien Smith AM, FACO, FAAO

ACO Fellows

Carla Abbott FACO
 Hans-Peter Abel FACO
 Nicholas Anderson FACO
 Mitchell Anjou AM FACO
 Prof James Armitage FACO
 Max Astri FACO
 Dimitrios Athanasakis FACO
 Dr Lauren Ayton FACO
 Nicole Baines FACO
 Rod Baker FACO
 Kristina Barnhill FACO
 Dr Sharon Bentley FACO
 Terence Blake FACO
 Ian Bluntish FACO
 Antony Bolton FACO
 Ian Bourchier FACO
 Ian Breadon FACO
 Dr Adrian Bruce FACO

Susan Callahan FACO
 Giorgio Campanella FACO
 Piers Carozzi FACO
 Dr Kathryn Case FACO
 Jennifer Caulfield FACO
 Kuong Chang FACO
 Jessica Chi FACO
 Jeffrey Chibert FACO
 Joseph Choi FACO
 Christopher Chong FACO
 Mae Chong FACO
 Luke Chong FACO
 Dr Gillian Cochrane FACO
 Dr Heather Connor FACO
 Jenny Cooke FACO
 Darren Couch FACO
 Sandra Coulson FACO
 Jeffrey Coulson FACO
 Paul Croucher FACO
 Jennifer Currie FACO
 Dr Paris Deliyannis FACO
 Rachel Denham FACO
 Paul Donaldson FACO
 Ian Douglas FACO
 Anthony Dowling FACO
 Dr Laura Downie FACO
 Sally Doyle FACO
 Jane Duffy FACO
 John Farmer FACO
 Prof Erica Fletcher FACO
 Timothy Fricke FACO
 Bryan Fuller FACO
 Sonja Gaulke FACO
 Prof Alexander Gentle FACO
 Malcolm Gin FACO
 Kenneth Gregory FACO
 Michael Hare FACO
 David Hare FACO
 Andrew Harris FACO
 A/Prof Leo Hartley FACO
 Tania Hartung FACO
 Elizabeth Hatfield FACO
 Dr Charlotte Hazel FACO
 Dr Suit May Ho FACO
 Robert Holloway FACO
 Glenn Howell FACO
 Dr Edwin Howell FACO
 Petra Hurleston FACO
 A/Prof Robert Jacobs FACO
 Dr Alan Johnston AM FACO
 Stephen Jones FACO
 Susan Kalff FACO
 Chris Katopodis FACO
 A/Prof Peter Keller FACO

John Kingshott FACO
 Dr Bradley Kirkwood FACO
 Michael Knipe AM FACO
 Dr Carol Lakkis FACO
 Dr Graham Lakkis FACO
 Sam Lauriola FACO
 David Lawry FACO
 Nicole Leong FACO
 Mark Letts FACO
 Dr Josephine Li FACO
 Ka-Yee Lian FACO
 Richard Lindsay FACO
 Peter Martin FACO
 Andrew Maver FACO
 Christopher McDonald FACO
 Ross McDowell FACO
 Kurt Mechkaroff FACO
 Dr Alan Kwok Hei Mok FACO
 Paula Monaco FACO
 James Moran FACO
 Dr Genevieve Napper FACO
 Leanne Nguyen FACO
 Bao Nguyen FACO
 Peter Nixon FACO
 Markus Ochsenbein FACO
 Majella O'Connor FACO
 Russell Oldham FACO
 Brett Parsons FACO
 Sonia Pellizzer FACO
 Prof Konrad Pesudovs FACO
 Anne Pezzimenti FACO
 Francoise Rateau FACO
 Helen Robbins FACO
 Neil Roche FACO
 A/Prof Mark Roth FACO
 Anne Russell FACO
 Norman Russo FACO
 George Sahely FACO
 Janelle Scully FACO
 Roman Serebrianiak FACO
 Gregory Sly FACO
 Kent Snibson FACO
 Jenni Sorraghan FACO
 Dr Margaret Squires FACO
 Susanne Strachan FACO
 Gregory Strachan FACO
 Hayley Supple FACO
 Pamela Sutton FACO
 Kenneth Thomas FACO
 Neville Turner FACO
 Glenn Vessey FACO
 Dr Stephen Vincent FACO
 Carmela Violi FACO
 Leonidas Vlahakis FACO

A/Prof Richard Vojlay FACO
 Jean Walters FACO
 John Warren FACO
 Dr Harrison Weisinger FACO
 Carolyn West FACO
 David West FACO
 Dr Anne Weymouth FACO
 David Wilson FACO
 Rosemary Wilson FACO
 Darryl Wilson FACO
 Eva Wong FACO
 Prof Craig Woods FACO
 Dr Yota Yoshimitsu FACO
 Konstantinos Zagoritis FACO
 Robert Zent FACO

Honorary Members

Michael Aitken
 Rev Douglas Allen FACO
 Margaret Banks OAM FACO
 Ronda Beer
 Miriam Bergman
 Raymond Blizzard
 Brian Carney FACO
 Dr Barry AJ Clark
 Norman Corbett FACO
 Clifton Egarr FACO
 Michael Friith
 Anne Gibson FACO
 Donald Jessop FACO
 Francis Keogh
 Geoffrey Leunig FACO
 Robert Loutit FACO
 Prof Ted Maddess
 Prof Geoffrey McColl
 John McGibbon
 Dawn Odgers
 Donald Owen FACO
 Dr Damien Smith AM, FACO, FAAO
 Dr Gad Trevaaks AM
 Peter Turner FACO
 Duncan Waite
 Dr George Woo FACO
 Ronald Wrigley

ACO Members

Stuart Aamodt
 Fady Abraham
 Ian Abraham
 Rebecca Abraham
 Jamsheed Akbar
 Jonathan Albert
 Dr Julie Albietz

Annette Alchin	Daniel Chew	Andrew Eastaugh	Simone Hibbert
Amani Alghanem	Vivian Chi	Amanda Edgar	Amy Higginbotham
Lesley Allan	Jane Chin	Amanda Edwards	Elisse Higginbotham
Claude Allen	Jia Sheng Choo	Houda Elhassan	Stephen Hill
Susan Anastasiadis	Raelene Christ	Julia Ephraim	Carol Hinch
Dr Andrew Anderson	Dr Michael Christian	Benjamin Eskander	Gregory Hindmarsh
Mary Andreou	Justine Chuang	John Evans	Trent Hingston
Dianne Andrews	Graham Chuck	Zeinab Fakih	Dr Ngoc Bao Yen Ho
Carole Anjou	Simon Clark	Haroula Fantaoutsakis	Richard Ho
David Antonios	Philip Clem	Michael Farrell	Sally Hoang
Johanna Arendsen	Janelle Coates	Daniel Farrugia	Sam Hobbs
Shaheen Asgar	Rashelle Cohen	Anne Fernandez	Janine Hobson
Dr Benjamin Ashby	Sally Collins	Gregory Fielder	Rodney Hodge
Con Athanasiou	Paul Congiu	Amanda Field-Wilson	Mary-Louise Hooton
Constantine Atzemakis	Faye Conlin	Ian Finch	Jamie Hua
Sandra Au	Bronte Connoley	Megan Finlay	Russell Hunter
Dr Karima Ayoub	Jennie Cooke	Karl Fischer	Elkirra Hutchins
Kirsty Banfield	Patricia Corbett	John Fitzgerald	Anh Huynh
Dr Erica Barclay	Katherine Corrigan	Ailish Fitzpatrick	Annie Hwong
Michael Barradell	Daniel Corti	Judy Fok	Koon Ching Ip
Fiona Barrett	Gemma Cowan	Christopher Fonseka	Darko Ivkovic
Marina Bassilios	John Cronin	Desmond Foo	Alice Jackson
Colin Bates	Solana Cua	Liesl Forward	Claire Jackson
Ashleigh Beck	Emmy Cui	Timothy Fowler	Leesa Jagers
Daniel Beech	Dr Isaac Curkpatrick	Anton Frank	John Jalowicki
Michelle Bell	Bill Cutler	Kylie Freiberg	Michelle Jedwood
Kenny Benjamin	Lesley Dacion	Cheng-Li Fu	Adele Jefferies
Alison Bennett	Alyse D'Agostini	Rowena Fuller	Robert Jenkinson
Matthew Bennett	Wayne D'Agostini	Christopher Gale	Erica Johnston
Louisa Betlehem	Zara Daneshvar	Carolyn Galloway	Joshua Johnstone
Sarah Bibby	Shannon Davies	Melanie Galloway	Paul Johnstone
Krystle Biffin	Samantha Day	Meri Galoyan	David Jones
Dean Binns	Michael De Felice	Madara Gamaralalage	Diane Jones
Graham Bohl	Salvatore De Pasquale	Susan Gaskell	Katrina Kalff
Mario Borazio	Lisa Deacon	Lori Gaterell	Prof Michael Kalloniatis
Shuvagata Bose	Dr Cirous Dehghani	Melissa Genovesi	Beatrix Kandova
Katherine Bouma	Simon Vedova	Angeline Benjamin	Chris Karanasio
Kirily Bowen	Mark DePaola	Patrick Gerry	Alex Kaye
David Box	Dilani Dewage Dona	Stephen Giacon	Phillip Kearney
Sundeep Boyal	Vaishali Dhanji	Mirella Giorlando	Danielle Keogh
Rachel Boylan	Salvatore Di Falco	Adam Gloury	Lauren Kharsas
Riona Brennan	Brittany Dias	Hayley Gobell	Hana Khoo
Rebekah Bryant	Kevin Dick	Rodney Gordon	Hyunjin Kim
Matthew Buckis	Kha Diep	Rory Gordon	Lisa Kingshott
John Buckley	Maria Dimitratos	Katherine Gouliaev	Gordon Kirk
Linda Bui	Carla Dinardo	Paul Gray	Andrew Knight
Debra Bunting	Duy Dinh	Edward Green	Sophie Su-Hui Koh
Deborah Burgess	Camella Do	Alan Greenhill	Huey Ming Koo
Samantha Bushby	Christine Do	Cheryl Greenway	Edward Kosmac
Stephanie Callisto	Jacinta Do	Anne Greeves	Catherine Kubale
Angela Campion	Michelle Do	Peter Grimmer	Deepa Kumar
Clare Campitelli	Lawrance Dove	Hermina Grobler	Rahul Kumar
Dario Canale	Rory Dowdall	Deborah-Anne Hackett	Jenny Duan-Jung Kung
Dr Ranjay Chakraborty	Natalie Dowling	Peter Haman	Andre Kupfer
Hoi Him Chan	Melissa Downing	Benjamin Hamlyn	Kam Suen Kwan
Pak Di Chan	Albert D'Souza	Kerryn Hart	Jin Jane Kwon
Yan Tung Chan	Hester Du Plessis	Sarah Hawe	Isabella La Rocca
Phillipa Charteris	Shane Duggan	Sandra Heaney	John Lacey
Po Chen	Anh Quynh Duong	Suzanne Heaps	Katherine Landrigan
Siwei Chen	Kerrin Duong	Christopher Hely	Chelsea Lane
Eric Cheng	Cameron Dyson	David Hendry	Jennifer Lanham

Rachael Larner	Kenneth McLaren	Dr Sebastian Pinel	Glenda Stewart
Peter Larsen	Andrew McMillan	Jakub Plociennik	Hayley Stewart
Dr Christopher Law	Robert McQualter	Leigh Plowman	Dr Ruth Stewart
Heather Law	Anna Melrose	Elise Pocknee	Joanne Stower
William Law	Dr James Merrington	Nicky Poly	Kyra Stretton
Yien Law	Peter Merrington	Timothy Powell	Samantha Sturgess
Thuy-Thao Dinh Le	Ziqian Miao	George Prassinis	Felix Sugiarto
Amanda Lea	Merna Michael	Jackelyn Prentice	Kevin Sun
Anna Lee	Paula Mildenhall	Vivienne Price	Raj Sundarjee
Audrey Lee	Jean Anne Crawford Mill	Loan Quach	Karina Sutanto
Grace Lee	Daniel Moderiano	Martin Rattle	Richard Sutton
Helen Lee	Christopher Mouser	Sandy Rezk	Oliver Svadlenak
Jong Hung Lee	Yavani Mudaly	Geoffrey Robertson	Carla Louise Sy
Soo Fun Lee	Paula Ann Mudie	Stephen Robertson	Christina Taing
Dr Sze Yee Lee	Felicity Mulette	Glenn Robinson	Jessie Tan
Julianne Lehmann	Nelly Munckhof	Jennifer Robinson	Richmond Tan
Jia Jia Lek	Timothy Murphy	Linda Robinson	Yinju Jeena Tan
Richard Lenne	Dr Krysta Murray	Martin Robinson	Melitta Tanzer
Suzanne Lenne	Murray Nagle	Christopher Rodgers	Allan Targett
David Leong	Surendran Naidoo	Alenjandro Rodreiguez-Mercado	Pasquale Tascone
Joanne Leong	Victoria Nankervis	Katelyn Joyce Rose	Dr Samantha Tay
Simon Leong	Stephen Nash	Dr Gennaro Rosella	Wendy Thompson
Peter Lewis OAM	George Nasser	Dr Richard Ross	William Thomson
Anne Li	Richard Newson	Peter Roth	Nigel Thrush
Annie Li	Clifton Ng	Simon Routson	Timothy Thurn
Xiaoxuan Li	Michelle Ng	Linda Rozitis	Andrea Tims
Sheryl Liew	Darleen Ngo	Timothy Ryan	Teng Yong Tiong
Ian Liley	Quyên Ngo	Ayah Salhab	Brian Toh
Dr Alyssa Lin	Steven Ngo	Frank Salsone	An Tran
Vincent Lin	Van Phuong Kim Ngo	Adam Samuels	Minh Tran
Qian Liu	Huu Nguyen	Simran Sarin	Vicky Tranis
Simon Liu	Ronald Nguyen	Dr Annyck Savill-Inns	Steven Trinh
Anthony Lord	Sophia Nguyen	Daniela Scalora	Dr Jessica Truong
Alicia Lou	Tu-My Nguyen	Brad Schirmer	Jessie Truong
Michael Loughlin	Annie Nguyen-Duc	Alan Schmedje	Phung Hue Truong
Michelle Lucas	Deanne Lee Nicholas	Katie Schneider	Alan Tsai
Carol Luo	Chengqun Niu	Paul Schoneveld	Bonnie Tsang
Hue Ly	Neville Noller	Glenda Schubert	Dina Tsigotis
John Ly	Brendan Norden	Sheldon Schultz	Kathryn Twort
Tuyet Quan-Sharon Ly	Eliza Notini	Isra Shafiq	Sao Mai Tyler
Graeme Mackenzie	Kevin O'Brien	Vivek Shah	Rajinder Uppal
Andrew Maclean	Malcolm Omrod	Naomi Shannon	Abby Ussher
Ashley Madeira	Sabine Ostrowski	Alan Sher	Anthony Van Aalst
Sean Mahendran	Caroline Owens	May Shin	Caleb Van Cooten
Julia Mainstone	John Palassis	Karina Sinclair	Barry Van Der Vyver
Shankhamoy Maiti	Arthur Panagiotidis	Hannah Skehan	Catherine Van Paassen
Son Ian Mak	Jasmeet Pandher	Rachel Smeal	Dr Hans Vellara
Eve Makrai	Dr Scott Panozza	Murray Smith	Babara Vermeulen
Andre Mallet	Jim Papas	Renae Snape	Elizabeth Vidor
Kylie Mann	Elena Parker	Belinda Snashel	Clara Vitali
Mario Marchionna	Mehul Patel	Amanda Sobbizadeh	Wrania Vlahos
Theo Markos	Joseph Paul	Bregan Soh	Rosalyn Voullaire
Jennifer Martin	Kate Pecar	Lina Soufi-Sabbagh	Kym Vu
Timothy Martin	Maria Perez	David Southgate	Stephen Wakeling
Lori Matthews	William Perriam	Jennifer Spicer	Matthew Walcott
Michelle McCambridge	Michael Peter	Samantha St John	Richard Wales
Paul McCann	Michael Petraitis	George Stamatelatos	Jiny Wang
Stewart McConnell	Khang Pham	Nicholas Stanley	Zhan Wang
Bernard McGrane	Son Hoang Hai Pham	Alison Steer	Jayson Ward
Robert McIlroy	Danh Thanh Phan	Karina Stephens	Sharon Warwick
Jeanine McKenzie	Amy Pillay		Joseph Waterman

NVRI MEMBERS

Anthony Waters
 Andrew Watkins
 Natalie Watt
 Maxwell Webb
 Pei Hsien Grace Wee
 Don Weerasinghe
 Matthew Wells
 Gaynor Whitehead
 Natasha Willemse
 John Williams
 Kallen Williams
 Trevor Williams
 Menaka Wimalarathna
 Stephen Witt
 Kien Wong
 Kin Wong
 Thomas Wong
 Jing Wu
 Nerida Wu
 Ruo Bing Wu
 William Wu
 Ian Wynn
 William Xiao
 Elizabeth Xue
 Tsok Wee Yap
 Dr William Yip
 Hiromi Yoshikawa
 Catherine Young
 Michael Zammit
 Lucy Zheng
 Lena Zhu

Associate Members

Denise Gronow
 Hon Paul Lucas
 Maureen O'Keefe

NVRI Fellows

Prof Robert Augusteyn
 Prof Ian Bailey
 Emer Prof Peter Bishop, AO
 Dr David Cockburn OAM, FACO
 Prof Barry Cole AO, FACO
 Edmund Coote
 Dr Geoffrey Henry
 Prof Abbie Hughes
 Prof William Levick
 Prof Paul Martin
 Prof Donald Mitchell
 Prof John Pettigrew
 Prof Jan Provis
 Prof Allan Snyder
 Emer Prof David Vaney
 A/Prof Rodney Watkins AM, FACO
 Prof Robert Weale
 Dr Gerald Westheimer
 Prof Rachel Wong

Honorary Life Members

Jean Colledge PSM

Principal Governors

Margaret Banks OAM, FACO
 John Nicola

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 Richard Bennett
 Terence Blake, FACO
 Ewen Clemens
 John Clemens
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 Prof Barry Cole AO, FACO
 Dr David Crewther
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 Wolfgang Gartner, FACO
 A/Prof Ian Gutteridge, FACO
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 John Jennings
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 Theodore Kannis
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 Dawn Odgers
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 Colin Bates
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 John Buckley
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 Philip Clem
 Emer Prof Barry Collin AM, FACO
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 Jennie Cooke
 Bill Cutler
 Dr Paris Deliyannis, FACO
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 Prof Nathan Efron AC, FACO
 John Farmer, FACO
 Daniel Farrugia
 Prof Erica Fletcher, FACO
 Malcolm Gin, FACO
 A/Prof Ulrike Grunert, PhD
 Tania Hartung, FACO
 Elizabeth Hatfield, FACO
 Sandra Heaney
 Graham Hill, FACO, OAM
 Glenn Howell, FACO
 Bassam Issa
 A/Prof Robert Jacobs, FACO
 Stephen Jones, FACO

Chris Katopodis, FACO
 Michael Knipe AM, FACO
 Josef Krusche
 Dr Graham Lakkis, FACO
 Sam Lauriola, FACO
 Yien Law
 Mark Letts, FACO
 Richard Lindsay, FACO
 Ashley Madeira
 Julia Mainstone
 Ian McBeath
 Paul McCann
 John McGibbonny
 Robert McIlroy
 Bruce Mellick
 Peter Mildren
 Paula Monaco, FACO
 Prof Konrad Pesudovs, FACO
 Elise Pocknee
 David Pye
 Loan Quach
 Anne Russell, FACO
 Peter Russell
 Stephen Ryan
 Gregory Sly, FACO
 Jenni Sorraghan, FACO
 David Southgate
 Jennifer Spicer
 Dr Margaret Squires, FACO
 Murray Stanley
 Gregory Strachan, FACO
 Susanne Strachan, FACO
 Pamela Sutton, FACO
 Andrew Thomas
 Christopher Thomson
 Anthony Van Aalst
 A/Prof Richard Vojlaj, FACO
 Rosalyn Voullaire
 Stephen Wakeling
 A/Prof Rodney Watkins AM, FACO
 Richard Watt
 Robert Webster
 Matthew Wells
 Carolyn West, FACO
 David West, FACO
 Bruce Willis
 Thomas Wong
 Dr Yen Yap
 Dr Steve Zantos
 Robert Zent, FACO

AWARDS

Celebrating our people



Research Awards

Nicola Family Fund 2019 Travel Grant Award

The Nicola Family Fund is a capital fund that exists in perpetuity to be a permanent reminder of the family’s support of vision research to support young researchers as they begin their career in vision research.

Awardee:

Dr Wei Tong

Dr Tong presented at the 41st Annual International Conference of the IEEE Engineering in Medicine and Biology Society, Berlin Germany, July 2019.



(L-R) Maureen O’Keefe (CEO), Dr Wei Tong & Professor Michael Ibbotson (Director NVRI)

L.E.W. Carty Charitable Fund & Victorian Lions Foundation Research Fellow

This award funds a 3 year Post-Doctoral Fellowship position at the NVRI.

Awardee:

Dr Molis Yunzab

Molis is working on projects associated with the development of the next generation of the bionic eye.



(L-R) Sue Forrest (L.E.W CARTY) and Dr Molis Yunzab

Clinical Residency

The ACO clinical residency program extends over a two-year period and is designed to strengthen the clinical, academic and professional development of newly graduated optometrists.

Awardees:

Vanessa Tang

Rachael Kwok

Vanessa Tang graduated from the Queensland University of Technology in 2016 with a Bachelor of Vision Science and Master of Optometry. Upon graduation, she moved to Melbourne, beginning her optometry career at the ACO. Vanessa has completed the ACO Certificate in Advanced Contact Lenses in 2017 and the ACO Advanced Certificate in Children’s Vision in 2018. Vanessa enjoys outreach work and travels to remote Indigenous communities in the Northern Territory to provide eye care through BHVI. Her special interests include public health, paediatric vision, ocular diseases and contact lenses. Vanessa is currently undertaking a PhD with the University of Melbourne.



(L-R) Maureen O’Keefe (CEO), Rachael Kwok, Vanessa Tang and Neville Turner FACO (Director Clinical Services)

Rachael Kwok graduated from the Queensland University of Technology in 2016 with a Bachelor of Vision Science and Master of Optometry. She has since completed the ACO Certificate in Advanced Contact Lenses in 2017 and the ACO Advanced Certificate in Children's Vision in 2018. Rachael has published articles in Pharma magazine and actively contributed to ACO CPD by presenting case studies across seminar series, journal club and staff education evenings. Her special interests include contact lenses, paediatrics and glaucoma disease management. Rachael continues to work with the ACO and is heavily involved in our regional and outreach work specifically in Aboriginal communities across Victoria and New South Wales.

Outstanding Graduate award for ACO Certificate in Ocular Therapeutics 2018

The ACO Outstanding graduate award for Certificate in Ocular Therapeutics is granted in recognition of the candidate who has achieved the highest score across all assessments for their graduating year for the ACO Certificate in Ocular Therapeutics in the previous year.

Awardee:

Lisa Deacon

Lisa Deacon graduated from Melbourne University with a Bachelor of Optometry in 2000. She is now based in Ballarat and works at both Melbourne and Ballarat practices. She is a strong advocate of work life balance – working part time so that she can continue to enjoy every day of work.

Lisa completed the ACO Certificate in Ocular Therapeutics in 2018, praising the flexibility of the course in allowing her to complete her studies while raising three children and working. Lisa credits the course in having increased the scope of her practice and allowing her to service her patients with more professional pride.



(L-R) Associate Professor Ian Gutteridge FACO and Lisa Deacon

ACO Outstanding University Graduate Award

Each year the five Australian Optometry schools are invited to each nominate their outstanding graduate. The selection criteria for these awards is based on a combined evaluation of academic excellence and professional commitment. It is great to see the quality of the next generation of optometrists and the ACO are delighted to award the recipients as the Outstanding Graduates of 2019:

Sam Hobbs Flinders University

Jin Jane Kwon University of New South Wales

Tim Murphy Deakin University

Scott Panozza University of Melbourne

Katelyn Rose Queensland University of Technology



(L-R) Jin Jane Kwon, Sam Hobbs, Maureen O'Keefe (CEO), Scott Panozza, Tim Murphy and Professor Konrad Pesudovs FACO.

Absent: Katelyn Rose

Staff Awards

'We deeply CARE about eye health'

Awarded to: Mary Travis

'Everything we do drives this PURPOSE'

Awarded to: Davut Ulusoy

'Mutual RESPECT guides our expectations'

Awarded to: Alena Hodzic

'We foster excellence through COLLABORATION with our patients, partners and teams'

Awarded to: Addie Jiang

'Our commitment to INNOVATION pushes us to question and find better ways'

Awarded to: The South Australia Team; Tristan Glover & Julie Rozman

'We DELIVER what we promise to patients, partners and each other'

Awarded to: Lisa Lombardi

Staff Service Awards

Piers Carozzi (25 years)

Head of Outreach & Community Eyecare Services

David Leeming (20 years)

Optical Technician

Leonidas Vlahakis (20 years)

Sessional Optometrist

Heidi Saheed (20 years)

Receptionist, Broadmeadows Clinic

Member Awards

ACO Member Award for Outstanding Service

The Member Award for Outstanding Service acknowledges someone who has contributed actively to the governance of the ACO, either on a Committee and/or Council, consistently and generously provided support, time and advice beyond the expectations of a Committee/Council. The nominee should have always upheld and promoted the principles and practices of the ACO in a positive and beneficial light and be highly regarded by peers.

Awardee:

Susan Kalff FACO

Susan Kalff has been dedicated to providing eye care to the elderly and patients with a disability for over 20 years. Often, her patients are socially isolated and can't always get to specialists or eye care services. By coming to them, she believes she provides a valuable link in their care pathway, so that they don't feel lost and forgotten. It's this holistic approach to care that Susan describes as requiring a collaborative effort between herself, their GP and other health care professionals to give her patients the best

possible outcomes. Susan is a long-standing Member of the ACO and NVRI and was awarded her ACO Fellowship in 2008. Susan was an ACO Council Member and was Chairperson of the NVRI Board of Administration.



(L-R) Maureen O'Keefe (CEO), Susan Kalff FACO and Professor Konrad Pesudovs FACO (ACO President)

Honorary Life Membership Award

Honorary Life Membership is awarded to either members or non-members who have provided distinguished and meritorious service to the ACO or to the profession; who have been influential in the community and have earned the respect and recognition of their colleagues. Honorary Life Membership is the ACO's highest most prestigious award. In 2019, this was awarded to Emeritus Professor Leo Carney and Dr Damien Smith.

Awardees:

Emeritus Professor Leo Carney

Dr Damien Smith AM, FACO

Emeritus Professor Leo Carney has had a highly distinguished career as a researcher, teacher and academic leader in both Australia and the United States of America, and he has quietly carved out an impressive career in academic optometry. Leo graduated in optometry in 1967 and continued his studies to complete a MScOptom and a PhD at the University of Melbourne. He was appointed lecturer in the Department of Optometry of the University of Melbourne in 1976 and in 1985 took an academic post at Ohio State University. He returned to Australia in 2002 as Professor and Head of Optometry QUT.

His research has focused on the physiological and optical evaluation of the anterior eye, and the effects of contact lens wear on the structures of the eye. He has published approximately 200 articles dealing with aspects of anterior eye physiology, contact lenses, and visual optics. Throughout his career Leo has provided distinguished and meritorious service to the profession through the many boards and committees he has served on and on which he still participates. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry and of the Contact Lens Society of Australia and was a Councillor of

the International Society for Contact Lens Research. In 2001 he received the Max Schapero Memorial Award from the Cornea and Contact Lens Section of the American Academy of Optometry and in 2004 he received the British Contact Lens Association Medal for outstanding achievement in the field of contact lenses.

Dr Damien Smith AM, FACO graduated as an optometrist in 1967, and went on to do a Masters of Science in 1970 and a PhD in 1974. Over his career Damien has contributed greatly to the profession and has held a number of roles that helped to facilitate this. Damien was a long standing member of Council of the VCO/ACO from 1974 to 2005 and participated in a number of the College's committees. He was Executive Director of Australian Optometrical Association (now Optometry Australia) and in this role Damien contributed greatly to optometry's entry into Medibank (now Medicare). He was a Co-founder of the International Federation of Asian and Pacific Associations of Optometry (IFAPAO)/ Asia Pacific Council of Optometry (APCO) and held the position of Secretary for 17 years. He was also a foundation member of the Victorian Division of the Australian Public Health Association (APHA) and from 1984 to 1995, Damien was the Ministerial appointment to the Committee of Management of the Royal Victorian Eye and Ear Hospital. In 1995, Damien was named the International Optometrist of the Year by the IOOL. The same year he was awarded the Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for services to optometry and the promotion of eye care in the Asia-Pacific region. From 2002 to 2004 Damien was the President of the Council of Optometry. Since 2012, he has held the position of Chair of the Board of Management of the Lorne Community Hospital.



(L-R) Maureen O'Keefe (CEO),
Emeritus Professor Leo Carney,
Dr Damien Smith AM, FACO
and Professor Konrad Pesudovs
FACO (ACO President)

NVRI Fellowship

Awardee:

Professor Jan Provis

Jan Provis is Professor of Anatomy and Associate Dean in the ANU Medical School. She is Chair of Retina Australia's Grants Assessment Committee, and member of the Scientific Advisory of the Ophthalmic Research Institute of Australia. Jan commenced her research career as Post-Doctoral Fellow at the University of Sydney Department of Clinical Ophthalmology in 1980, studying development of the human retina. Between 1988 and 2003 she was a lecturer, senior lecturer and Associate Professor in Anatomy at the University of Sydney, while maintaining an honorary position in the Department of Clinical Ophthalmology studying development and aging of the primate retina. Jan moved to the ANU in 2004, and since that time has focused on identification of the genes that regulate development of human central retina, and the factors that destabilize central retina and promote AMD.

Jan's work provides a broad perspective on how the macular / foveal part of the primate retina has evolved, how it develops, the molecular factors involved, the functional constraints, and why the macula is vulnerable to degeneration. She has co-edited a major text on Macular Degeneration, participates in a number of national and international collaborations, and most recently was part of an international team that identified the cellular mechanism causing death of retinal pigment epithelial cells in the dry form of AMD.



Professor Jan Provis

FUNDERS, SUPPORTERS & DONORS

Our valued supporters



FUNDERS, SUPPORTERS & DONORS

The Australian College of Optometry and National Vision Research Institute are extremely grateful to all of our funders, donors and supporters. Their support allows us to continue the work that we do across clinical services, research and education

Clinical Services



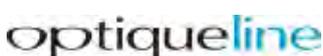
Research - NVRI



Schultz-Laubman Endowment Fund



The Nicola Family Fund



NVRI Governors Endowment Fund

Education



Donors

Dianne Andrews

Janice N Bastiaan

Matthew Bennett

Reginald Bennett

Susan Callahan

John Cartwright

Dr Colin Chan

Emeritus Professor H Barry Collin AM

Geelong Camera Club

Malcolm Gin

A/Prof Ulrike Grünert

Peter Haman

Unal Jarkan

Susan Kalff

John M Kingshott

Anne Li

Peter Mildren

Dr Jonathan Nathan OAM

Dawn Odgers

Maureen O'Keefe

Optique Line Kew

Anne Russell

Ken Thomas

Christopher Thomson

Bruce Willis

Darryl Wilson

CORPORATE SERVICES

A strong, effective and sustainable organisation



AUSTRALIAN COLLEGE OF
OPTOMETRY

EXECUTIVE GENERAL MANAGER'S REPORT

THE CORPORATE SERVICES DIVISION provides central services and support across the whole organisation, delivered by a small team of dedicated staff. The services delivered by the team include the provision of strategic, technical and administrative support and advice in relation to:

- Facilities and infrastructure
- Business systems and development
- Finance and payroll
- Governance and risk
- Human resources
- Information technology
- Project management

This year we supported the delivery of a number of key projects, in particular the new clinic in Elizabeth, South Australia and the Aitken Gallery which forms part of the Kett Museum. These projects are all collaborative in nature, and we have worked closely with our internal stakeholders to ensure that they are delivered on time and within budget.

In 2019 we farewelled a number of staff and I would like to thank them for all their hard work and dedication over the years: John Dascoli (Building Services), Holly Gouldthorpe (Membership) and Bob Tobin (Technical Officer).

This is my final report as Executive General Manager of Finance and Corporate Services and I want to thank everyone that I have worked with over the years. I have thoroughly enjoyed my 9 years at the ACO and have found it very rewarding to be part of a remarkable organisation that is driven to improve eye health outcomes for all.

Clare Escott

*Executive General Manager Finance & Corporate Services
Company Secretary*

Year highlights

- The opening of Elizabeth Eye Care in South Australia was a significant milestone for the ACO, as our first fixed clinic outside of Victoria. The project team, led by Tenille Ryan, managed the selection and fit out of the new site in close collaboration with the Clinic Services Division.
- Significant project management for the development and delivery of the new state of the art gallery for the Kett Museum. The Aitken Gallery is a custom-built space that houses a display of significant objects from the archived collection that honour the history of the optometry profession.

- Successful roll out of an online time management and rostering system, streamlining a number of processes and functions. The system has greatly improved staff access to roster, payroll and leave information and has significantly enhanced reporting functions for management.



Clare Escott

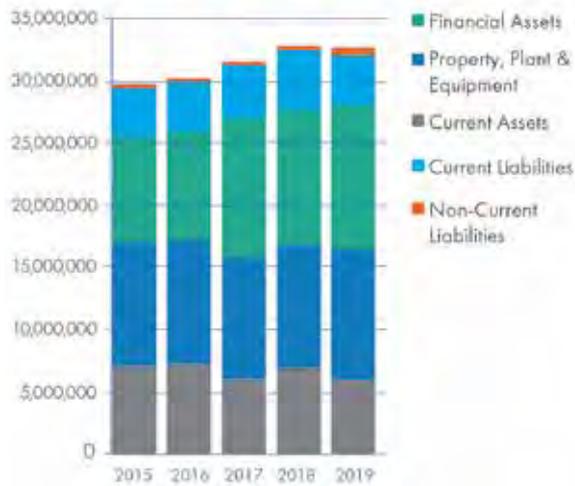
*EGM Finance &
Corporate Services*

- Based on feedback from a staff culture survey, the ACO has undertaken a significant advancement of its Performance Development Review (PDR) system. Focused on both the needs of the organisation and the staff, the new system will be rolled out in 2020 and will, for the first time, include our sessional optometrists.
- Completed a restructure of the division, ensuring we can strengthen our business services support as the ACO continues to diversify and grow. It will allow us to consolidate activities and reporting lines and also to enhance the teams capacity in risk, compliance and IT.
- Significant improvements were made in network security with a hardware and software upgrade at Carlton. The same products were installed at Elizabeth Eye Care as part of the initial site readiness and upgrades to Melbourne metropolitan clinics are also planned.
- Completed a voluntary upgrade of our fire detection and alert systems, with the installation of a new fire panel as well as updating our smoke detection devices and warning system.

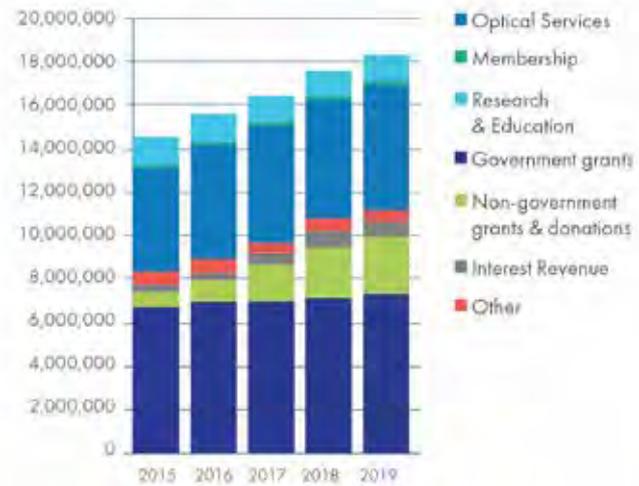
Results for the year

	Consolidated Group		College	
	2019	2018	2019	2018
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Net results for the year	(84,890)	553,439	(151,086)	414,588
Comprehensive income	877,373	(539,590)	55,808	(48,766)
Comprehensive results	792,483	13,849	(95,278)	365,822

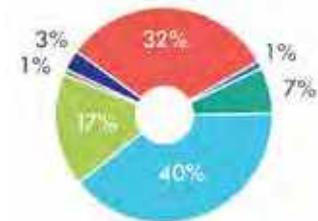
Balance Sheet Breakdown \$ (2015 - 2019)
Consolidated Group



Income from Operating Activities \$ (2015 - 2019)
Consolidated Group

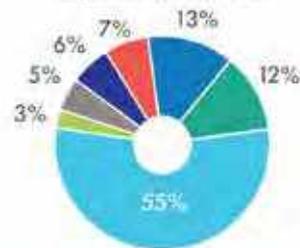


Income from Operating Activities (2019) ACO



- Government grants
- Optical services
- Non-government grants and donations
- Research and Education
- Membership
- Interest Revenue
- Other

Expenses (2019) ACO



- Employee expenses
- Reimbursements to optometrists
- Other divisional costs
- Cost of goods sold
- Other expenses
- Depreciation and amortisation
- Operating charges



The Corporate Services team: Holly Gouldthorpe, Tenille Ryan, Chelsey Seamer, Clare Escott, John Dascoli, Pat Huen, Addie Jiang, Maria Carlos and Jessica Sloan. Absent: Peta Coats

Our People

The ACO acknowledges the dedication and commitment of our Councillors, committee members, staff and research students in 2019.

Council

Prof Konrad Pesudovs *President*
 Mitchell Anjou AM *(from May 2019)*
 Sarah Byrne *(until December 2019)*
 Hon John Chaney *(from May 2020)*
 Prof Linda Denehy
 Melissa Downing *(until May 2019)*
 Denise Gronow
 Hon Paul Lucas
 Benjamin Hamlyn *(until March 2019)*
 Rodney Hodge
 Assoc Prof Peter Keller *(from May 2019)*
 Sophie Koh
 Maureen O'Keefe
 Tim Powell
 Clare Escott *Company Secretary*

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 Sandra Calvert
 Prof Michael Ibbotson
 Maureen O'Keefe
 Prof Konrad Pesudovs
 Clare Escott *Secretary*

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 Prof Paul Baird
 Prof Erica Fletcher
 Prof David Grayden
 Prof Michael Ibbotson
 Maureen O'Keefe
 Prof Marcelo Rosa
 Chelsey Seamer *Secretary*

Finance and Risk Committee

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 Mitchell Anjou AM *(from May 2019)*

John Delinaoum
 Rodney Hodge *(until May 2019)*
 Pat Huen
 Maureen O'Keefe
 Prof Konrad Pesudovs
 Ian Thompson

Human Research Ethics Committee

Sarah Byrne *Chair (until June 2019)*
 Assoc Prof Peter Keller *Chair (from June 2019)*
 Mary Archibald
 Leigh Berrell
 Maureen O'Keefe
 Father Geoffrey Poliness *(until December 2019)*
 Dr Cheryl Read
 Kerryn Risely
 Dr Rasa Ruseckaite
 Jenny Wilkins
 Tenille Ryan *Secretary*

Reconciliation Action Plan Working Group

Maureen O'Keefe *Chair*
 Anne-Marie Banfield
 Robyn Bradley
 Eric Cheng
 Colette Davis
 Melinda Heap
 Nilmini John
 Levi Lovett
 Tess Mihailou
 Colin Mitchell
 Kate Pecar
 Joe Waterman

Victorian Eyecare Service Advisory Committee

Neville Turner *Chair*

Mitchell Anjou AM
 Chelsea Brand
 Daniel Brown
 Piers Carozzi
 Clare Escott
 Susan Forrester
 Liz Grunwald
 Daryl Guest
 Veronica Jamison *(until May 2019)*
 Gina Kuras *(from July 2019)*
 Lisa Lombardi
 Rosie Maddick
 Letitia Meaney
 Megan Morris *(until June 2019)*
 Maureen O'Keefe
 Dr Noela Prasad
 Caroline Radowski
 Jo Richardson
 Nicholas Rittinghausen
 Linda Robinson
 Fiona Shaw
 Sundram Sivamalai
 Catherine Thompson
 Shae Wissell
 Lee Yin Chong *Secretary*

Senior Management Team

Maureen O'Keefe *Chair*
 Piers Carozzi
 Jennifer Caulfield
 Clare Escott
 Prof Michael Ibbotson
 Marcel Mihulka *(until November 2019)*
 Tenille Ryan
 Chelsey Seamer
 Roman Serebrianiuk
 Jane Trevaskis
 Neville Turner

Dr Michelle Waugh
CEO's Office

Maureen O'Keefe *Chief Executive Officer*
Emma Perry *Executive Assistant to the CEO (until September 2019)*
Timothy Hall *Marketing Coordinator*
Andrew Hannemann *Membership Coordinator*
Alex Ip *Marketing Assistant (until March 2019)*

Clinical Services

Neville Turner *Director of Clinical Services*
Piers Carozzi *Head of Community & Outreach Eye Care Services*
Jennifer Caulfield *Head of Clinic Operations and Support Services*
Roman Serebrianik *Head of Primary & Specialist Eye Care Services*
Jane Trevaskis *Head of Teaching & Quality*

Adrian Bruce *Lead Optometrist Contact Lenses*
Mae Chong *Lead Optometrist Low Vision*
Nelofar Deen *Lead Optometrist Paediatric Services*
Leanne Nguyen *Lead Optometrist Ocular Disease (until August 2019)*
Janelle Scully *Lead Optometrist Ocular Disease*

Carla Abbott *Sessional Optometrist*
Emily Alessi *Customer Service*
Yiota Anastasopoulos *Customer Service*
Anna Angelodemou *Administration*
Carole Anjou *Sessional Optometrist*
Judd Aravena *Customer Service*
Angeliki Arvanitis *East Reservoir Site Manager*
Sandra Au *Sessional Optometrist*
Erica Barclay *Staff Optometrist*
Carol Bramich *Customer Service*
Megan Bridges *Customer Service (until April 2019)*
Luke Burns *Staff Optometrist*
Nicholas Butler *Customer Service*
Jillian Campbell *Sessional Optometrist*

Jordan Carozzi *Customer Service*
Kathryn Case *Sessional Optometrist*
Mabel Ceballos *Customer Service*
Margaret Chan *Customer Service*
Kuong Chang *Sessional Optometrist*
Eric Cheng *Staff Optometrist*
Helen Cho *Staff Optometrist*
Joseph Choi *Sessional Optometrist*
Lee Yin Chong *Executive Assistant to the Director of Clinical Services*
Kimberley Chung *Customer Service*
Timothy Chung *Sessional Optometrist*
Rosalind Collis *Customer Service (until July 2019)*
Hazel Corry *Administration Assistant*
Lynn Cupido *Customer Service*
Ricardo D'Cruz *Dispensary Services Assistant*
Albert D'Souza *Sessional Optometrist*
Lesley Dacion *Acting Braybrook Site Manager*
Colette Davis *Senior Projects Officer*
Dilani Dewage Dona *Sessional Optometrist*
Carla Dinardo *Sessional Optometrist*
Kim Doake *Customer Service*
Bozana Dusanovic *Customer Service*
Pei Zi Ee *Ophthalmic Assistant*
Zeinab Fakhri *Staff Optometrist*
Jasmine Featherston *Sessional Optometrist*
Angela Fornaro *Administration Assistant*
Johanna Fraser *Ophthalmic Assistant*
Hayley Fraser *Customer Service (until February 2019)*
Timothy Fricke *Sessional Optometrist*
Cheng-Li Fu *Sessional Optometrist*
Kalaivarny Ganesalingam *Staff Optometrist*
Lauren Gaskell-Kharsas *Dandenong Eye Care Site Manager*
Emily Glover *Staff Optometrist*
Tristan Glover *Elizabeth Eye Care Site Manager*
Abbie Guy *Customer Service*
Michelle Haddrell *Customer Service*
Rosemary Haikal *Broadmeadows Site Manager*
Angela Hall *Manager of Clinical Research*
Kerryn Hart *Sessional Optometrist*
Melinda Heap *Customer Service*
Elisse Higginbotham *Sessional*

Optometrist
Nicholas Hockley *Sessional Optometrist*
Alena Hodzic *Customer Service*
Li Hoo *Sessional Optometrist*
Peregrine Horton *Acting Broadmeadows Site Manager*
Iris Huang *Frankston Site Manager*
Vianh Huynh *Sessional Optometrist*
Nilmini John *Manager of Aboriginal Services*
Anagha Joshi *Sessional Optometrist*
Chang-June Jung *Sessional Optometrist*
Katrina Kalf *Sessional Optometrist*
Michael Kalloniatis *Sessional Optometrist*
Masumi Kobayashi *Sessional Optometrist*
Can Komser *Staff Optometrist*
Rachael Kwok *Staff Optometrist*
Jean Margaret Lamont *Sessional Optometrist*
Jeremy Lau *Sessional Optometrist*
King Li Lay *Customer Service*
Diane Leaf *Administration Assistant*
Ling Lee *Sessional Optometrist*
David Leeming *Optical Technician*
Joanne Leong *Staff Optometrist*
Josephine Li *Manager of Community Outreach Services*
Michael Li *Staff Optometrist*
Steffanie Liang *Sessional Optometrist*
Linda Lim *Customer Service*
Shuli Liu *Staff Optometrist*
Lisa Lombardi *Manager of Clinic Operations and VES*
Jivan Lotay *Sessional Optometrist*
Kirsty Lowe *Staff Optometrist*
Flora Luk *Sessional Optometrist (until April 2019)*
Sharon Ly *Sessional Optometrist*
Hue Ly *Sessional Optometrist*
Louise Macnish *Customer Service*
Marie Marchand *Staff Optometrist*
Theo Markos *Sessional Optometrist*
Subahsinee McKenzie *Sessional Optometrist*
Alice McLennan *Staff Optometrist*
Vicki McSweeney *Manager of Clinic Administration*
Tessa Mihailou *Optical Technician*
Liz Montgomery *Customer Service*
Loyal Naji *Staff Optometrist*
Ho Wah Ng *Manager of Visual*

Functions Service

Dung Nguyen *Staff Optometrist*
 Dianne Nulty *Customer Service*
 Scott Panozza *Staff Optometrist*
 Kate Pecar *Staff Optometrist*
 Elisabetta Perri *Dispensary Services Assistant*
 Quyen Pham *Senior Receptionist*
 Larissa Rae *Administration Assistant*
 Danielle Raiti *Senior Receptionist*
 Kay Read *Customer Service*
 Sandy Rezk *Sessional Optometrist*
 Julie Rozman *Customer Service*
 Heidrun Saheed *Customer Service*
 Tracy-Leigh Saxon *Customer Service*
 Paloma Scherer *Senior Optical Dispenser*
 Rhea Sharma *Customer Service*
 Stella Shin *Staff Optometrist*
 Christa Sipos-Ori *Staff Optometrist*
 John Sweeney *Sessional Optometrist*
 Vanessa Tang *Sessional Optometrist*
 Catherine Tay *Sessional Optometrist*
 Jonathan Tay *Sessional Optometrist*
 Lynette Taylor *Senior Receptionist*
 Angela Thomson *Customer Service*
 Linda Toban *Sessional Optometrist*
 Tram Tran *Customer Service*
 Dzung Tran *Staff Optometrist*
 Tracy Tran *Staff Optometrist*
 Mary Travis *Sessional Optometrist*
 Lien Trinh *Sessional Optometrist*
 Karen Trinh *Acting Frankston Site Manager*
 An Truong *Sessional Optometrist*
 Courtney Turner *Customer Service*
 Davut Ulusoy *Sessional Optometrist*
 Leonidas Vlahakis *Sessional Optometrist*
 Kevin Vo *Sessional Optometrist*
 Amanda Wang *Staff Optometrist*
 Ruixi Wang *Sessional Optometrist*
 Joseph Waterman *Staff Optometrist*
 Natalie Watt *Sessional Optometrist*
 Adine Wield *Staff Optometrist*
 Katrina Wong *Acting Manager of Clinical Teaching*
 Ching Yi Wu *Staff Optometrist*
 Jianing Yan *Staff Optometrist*
 Vin-Lin Yang *Sessional Optometrist*
 Michael Yen *Acting Braybrook Site Manager*
 Hee Wei Yii *Staff Optometrist*

Alexis Zhang *Sessional Optometrist*
 Danielle Zheng *Acting Dandenong Site Manager*

NVRI

Michael Ibbotson *Director*
 Ali Almasi *Research Fellow*
 James Begeng *PhD Student*
 Anna Brzostowska *Technician & Administration Support Officer*
 Mitchell Crawford *Technician & Administration Support Officer (until July 2019)*
 Cirous Dehghani *Clinical Research Fellow (until November 2019)*
 Samira Falahatdoost *PhD Student*
 Marcela Gomez-Escudero *Research Technician*
 Maryam Hejazi *PhD Student*
 Young Jun (Jason) Jung *PhD Student*
 Elaina Kotzialamos *Research Technician*
 Hamish Meffin *Research Fellow (until December 2019)*
 Kevin Meng *Research Assistant*
 Anton Newgreen *Honours Student (completed 2019)*
 Tenille Ryan *Brain Function CoE Node Administrator*
 Artemio Soto-Breceda *Research Assistant (until May 2019)*
 Melanie Stamp *Honorary Research Fellow*
 Shi Hai (Scott) Sun *PhD Student/ Postdoctoral Fellow*
 Wei Tong *Research Fellow*
 Molis Yunzab L.E.W. Carty Lions *Research Fellow (until December 2019)*

Education

Marcel Mihulka *Director of Education (until November 2019)*
 Kai Lyn Goh *Acting Course Program Manager (until March 2019)*
 Ryan Anthony Rosario *Clinical Education Coordinator*
 Elizabeth Salvatore *Education & Events Coordinator (until June 2019)*
 Shazia Tahseen *Course Administration*
 Michelle Waugh *Acting Director of Education/Course Program Manager*

Honorary Archivists

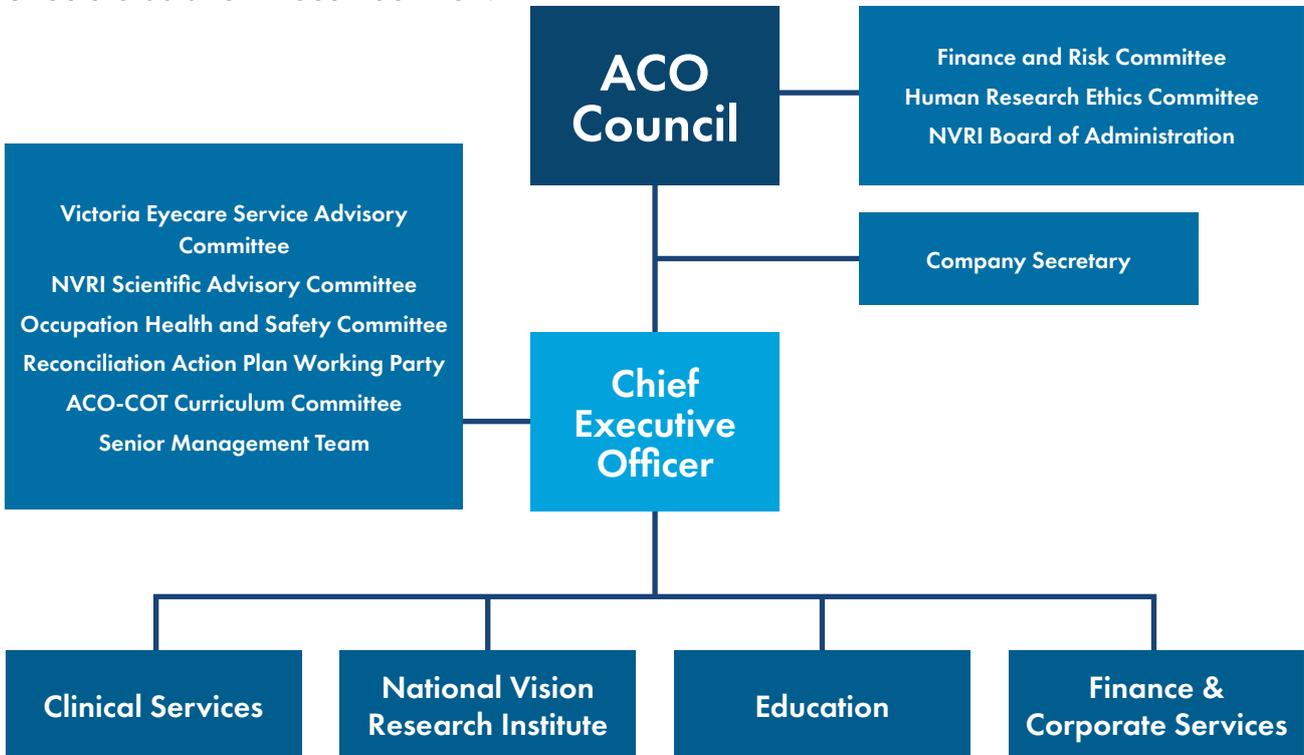
Michael Aitken *Honorary Archivist*
 Colin Bates *Honorary Archivist*
 Joseph Chakman AM *Honorary Archivist*
 Barry Cole AO *Honorary Archivist*
 Pamela Sutton *Honorary Archivist*

Corporate Services

Clare Escott *Executive General Manager Finance & Corporate Services*
 Kristine Carlos *Casual Administration Assistant*
 Maria Carlos *Finance Officer*
 Peta Coats *Administration Officer*
 John Dascoli *Building Services Manager (until October 2019)*
 Natalia Dusanovic *Casual Administration Assistant*
 Sage Escott *Casual Administration Assistant*
 Paola Fernandez *Project Officer*
 Shanika Gonsalge *Junior Accounts Clerk (until October 2019)*
 Holly Gouldthorpe *Membership & Communications Assistant (until June 2019)*
 Pat Huen *Finance Manager*
 Addie Jiang *Management & Project Accountant*
 Bradley Mills *Administration Assistant*
 Tenille Ryan *Facilities Project Manager*
 Chelsey Seamer *Human Resources Coordinator*
 Jessica Sloan *Accounts Clerk*
 Robert Tobin *Technical Officer (until July 2019)*
 Chloe Turner *Casual Administration Assistant*
 Timothy Vong *Casual IT & Facilities Assistant*

Organisation Chart

Structure as at 31 December 2019



Affiliations

University of Melbourne
Royal Victorian Eye & Ear Hospital

Partners and Collaborators

Aboriginal Health Council of South Australia
Alfred Hospital
Anglia Ruskin University
ARC Centre of Excellence for Integrative Brain Function
Austin Health
Commonwealth Government
Australian National University
Australian Research Council
BioMelbourne Network
Bionics Institute
Bionic Vision Australia
Bionic Vision Technologies
Brien Holden Foundation
Broadmeadows Health Service

Centre Eye Research Australia
Centre for Eye Health
cohealth
Deakin University
Department of Health (Commonwealth)
Department of Health and Human Services (Victoria)
Eastern Access Community Health
Flinders University
iBionics
Indigenous Eye Health, University of Melbourne
International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness
Monash Health
Monash University
National Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation
National Health & Medical Research Council
Northern Health
Optometry Australia

Optometry Victoria South Australia
Optometry Council of Australia and New Zealand
Peninsula Health
Royal Flying Doctors Service
Royal Victorian Eye & Ear Hospital
Rural Workforce Agency Victoria
University of Canberra
University of Auckland
University of Melbourne
University of New South Wales
Victorian Aboriginal Community Controlled Health Organisation
Victorian Aboriginal Health Service
Victorian Lions Foundation
Victorian State Government
Vision 2020 Australia
Vision Australia
Vision Initiative
Watto Purrinna Aboriginal Health Service
Your Community Health

AUDITED CONCISE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS



CONCISE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

For the year ended 31 December 2019

Councillors' Report

The Responsible Persons (the Councillors) present their report on the Australian College of Optometry (the College) and its controlled entities (collectively the consolidated group) for the financial year ended 31 December 2019.

Councillors

The names of the Councillors of the College in office at any time during, or since the end of the financial year are:

K Pesudovs
 M Anjou (from 29 May 2019)
 S Byrne (until 14 December 2019)
 J Chaney (from 21 May 2020)
 L Denehy
 M Downing (until 29 May 2019)
 D Gronow
 B Hamlyn (until 17 March 2019)
 R Hodge
 P Keller (from 29 May 2019)
 S Koh
 P Lucas (until 27 April 2020)
 T Powell
 M O'Keefe

The Councillors have been in office since the start of the financial year to the date of this report unless otherwise stated.

Consolidated Group

The Australian College of Optometry is appointed as Trustee to the Schultz Laubman Schultz Endowment Fund Trust and the NVRI Governors Endowment Fund Trust. The Councillors of the College are appointed as Trustees to the Beresford Cambridge Bequest Trust.

The Councillors of the College consider it is a reporting entity as defined by AASB 1053 and the general purpose financial statements of the Australian College of Optometry have been prepared under Section 60-95 of the ACNC Act. In preparing these financial statements, the ACO has included controlled entities (the Trust Funds) that are part of the 'ACNC reporting group' consolidated in these financial statements as follows:

- The Trustee for Schultz Laubman Schultz Endowment

Fund Trust;

- The Trustee for NVRI Governors Endowment Fund Trust; and
- The Trustee for the Beresford Cambridge Bequest Trust.

The College holds Deductible Gift Recipient (DGR) status.

Principal Activities

The object of the College is to undertake public charitable activities primarily in Australia to promote the prevention and/or the control of disease in human beings.

The principal activities of the consolidated group in the course of the year have been the provision of affordable eyecare services, principally to communities experiencing disadvantage; the advancement of eye and vision care through research; and to support the education of current and new generations of optometrists.

There were no significant changes in the nature of the consolidated group's principal activities during the financial year. In addition, the operations of the College remained essentially unchanged in 2019.

The income and property of the College must be used and applied solely in promotion of its objects and no portion will be dismantled, paid or transferred directly or indirectly by way of dividend, bonus or by way of profit to Members. The assets and income of the Trust Funds must be used solely for the furtherance of its' objectives and no portion shall be distributed directly or indirectly to the members of the Funds.

Short-term and Long-term Objectives

The ACO Council has approved the College's strategic plan for 2018 - 2022.

The entity's short-term objectives are to:

- continue to strengthen our clinical governance framework;
- continue to be a respected leader in the sector;
- identify opportunities to address unmet need in public health eye care;
- deliver high impact, internationally recognised research;
- build research capability and increase the translation of research to deliver outcomes that benefit the community;
- develop best practice clinical learning pathways;
- build membership and supporters;
- foster a culture of leadership, innovation, development

- and partner engagement;
- improve digital capability and maximise the benefit returned to the community through the investment of resources.

The entity's medium to long-term objectives are to:

- Clinical Optometry Services:** provide high quality public health eye care for communities in need and to lead best practice and standards;
- Research:** undertake high impact internationally recognised research to improve the understanding of vision science and eye care;
- Education:** provide best practice clinical learning pathways for optometrists from pre-registration through to professional practice;
- Sustainable Organisation:** develop an innovative and collaborative culture with our people striving for excellence in everything we do, facilitated by innovative and effective technology, systems and processes and with our members and supporters key to our success.

Strategies

Business plans and operational budgets for each Division are in place which set out the specific strategies adopted to support the achievement of the overall short-term and long-term objectives.

Key Performance Measures

The College measures its own performance through the use of both quantitative and qualitative benchmarks, including benchmarks relating to patient numbers, clinic occupancy and productivity, membership and key financial indicators. The benchmarks are used by management and the Council to assess the financial sustainability of the College and whether the College's short-term and long-term objectives have been achieved. The Council has not identified any additional actions that need to be taken arising from this process.

This work continues to be supported by a range of management committees, with oversight of risk and financial performance issues by the Finance and Risk Committee which is scheduled to meet at least four times during each year.

Operating Results and Review of Operations

The results for the year for the College and the Consolidated Group are set out on page 12.

The consolidated group result for the year was deficit \$84,890 (2018: surplus \$553,439) and the comprehensive result for the year was surplus \$792,483 (2018: surplus

\$13,849). The difference in consolidated group results is attributable to the anticipated year one performance of the new South Australia Optometry clinic, reduced capital grants and donations received along with interest costs recognised (AASB 16), accrued expenditure and a higher depreciation charge.

The net assets of the consolidated group at 31 December 2019 were \$23,348,292 (2018: \$22,555,809).

The College is exempt from income tax and therefore no provision for income tax has been made.

Significant Changes in the State of Affairs

There were no significant changes in the consolidated group's state of affairs during the financial year. The key significant event was the opening of ACO's first interstate clinic in South Australia.

Events Subsequent to the End of the Reporting Period

The COVID-19 global pandemic has created significant social and economic uncertainty. This issue and its impact for the College and the group subsequent to year end is covered in detail at Note 4. As a direct result of this issue the Council has recognised the necessity to take various actions including the establishment of a line of credit secured against property owned by the College.

No other matters or circumstances have arisen since the end of the financial year which significantly affected or may significantly affect the operations of the consolidated group, the results of those operations, or the state of affairs of the consolidated group in future financial years.

Likely Events and Expected Results of Operations

Likely developments in the operations of the consolidated group and the expected results of those operations in future financial years have not been included as the inclusion of such information is likely to result in unreasonable prejudice to the consolidated group.

Environmental Regulation

The operations of the consolidated group are not subject to any significant environmental regulation under the laws of the Commonwealth or of a State or Territories.

Information on Councillors

PRESIDENT **Professor Konrad Pesudovs**

*BScOptom PhD PGDipAdvClinOptom
DipWSET MCOptom FACO FAAO
FCCLSA FARVO FAICD*



Konrad was elected to Council in 2010 and appointed President in June 2016. His career has been spent in outcomes research in ophthalmology and in optometric education. He completed his Bachelor of Optometry at The University of Melbourne, and a PhD in Ophthalmology at Flinders University. In 2009 he was appointed the Foundation Chair of Optometry and Vision Science at Flinders University, a position held until 2017. Konrad is currently working as a research and education consultant. He is a Graduate and Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors. Governance experience includes Councillor of the Flinders University Council (2017); Councillor of the SA Division of the Optometrists Association of Australia (1992-1996); Contact Lens Society of Australia (SA Chapter) committee member (1993-2000) and President (1994-1996).

Mitchell Anjou AM

*MScOptom BScOptom FACO
(from 29 May 2019)*



Mitchell has a long-standing connection to the ACO. A member since 1982, Mitchell served as the Clinic Director for nearly 20 years until 2010. He is currently employed at The University of Melbourne as an Academic Specialist and Senior Research Fellow and is the Deputy Director of Indigenous Eye Health in the Melbourne School of Population and Global Health. Mitchell is co-author of The Roadmap to Close the Gap for Vision, the policy framework nationally adopted to achieve equitable vision and eye care outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Australians. He publishes, presents, advises and advocates in support of this work. Mitchell was awarded a Member of the Order of Australia for contributions to optometry and public health in 2013 and an ACO Member Award for Outstanding Service in 2017.

VICE PRESIDENT* & CHAIR OF HUMAN RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE** **Sarah Byrne**

*BA LLB GAICD
(* until 14 December, ** until June 2019)*



Sarah is a practising lawyer with over 25 years of experience in public and health law, corporate governance, and related policy development. She has held numerous positions including General Counsel for the Australian Medical Association, ACT Public Advocate, Deputy CEO of the ACT Justice & Community Safety Department, and Executive Director with responsibility (inter alia) for Research Integrity and Corporate Governance for the NHMRC. She has served on the boards of three NHMRC Partnership Centres, chairs the Commonwealth Department of Health's Human Research Ethics Committee, and is the lawyer member of the Defence and DVA Joint HREC. Sarah has particular interest and expertise in information law, health and medical research law and ethics, and governance in the public and non-profit sectors. Sarah resigned from her position on Council in December 2019.

The Honourable John Chaney

*SC BJuris LLB
(from 21 May 2020)*



John is a former justice of the Supreme Court of Western Australia, retiring from the court in 2018. His judicial career spanned 14 years, during which time he sat as a judge of the District Court, Deputy President and then President of the State Administrative Tribunal of WA, and on the Supreme Court. Prior to his appointment as a judge, John practised as a barrister for 10 years during which time he was appointed Senior Counsel. Prior to this, he was a partner in a commercial law firm where he practised in the areas of commercial litigation, professional negligence and planning law. He served on the council of the Law Society of WA for 12 years and was president in 1991. He has sat on several Law School advisory boards at universities in WA, and was an inaugural board member of the Australian Advocacy. John is now engaged in practice as a private mediator and arbitrator.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBER **Professor Linda Denehy**

BAppSc (Physio), PhD



Linda is Head of the Melbourne School of Health Sciences and Professor of Physiotherapy at The University of Melbourne, Australia, as well as joint head of Allied Health Research at the Peter MacCallum Cancer Centre. Linda has extensive teaching and learning experience at both under and post graduate level. Her research interests are in rehabilitation in critically ill patients, those with cancer, COPD and in

perioperative medicine. Linda is a member of the Society of Critical Care Medicine where she is currently on a guidelines panel examining rehabilitation in ICU. She reviews for national and international competitive granting bodies and for several international scientific journals including, Lung Cancer, Intensive Care Medicine, Critical Care Medicine and Thorax.

Melissa Downing

*B.Sci. B. Optom (Hons), GradCertOcTher
(until 29 May 2019)*



Melissa is a therapeutically endorsed optometrist. She has worked in a wide range of independent and corporate optometry businesses including regional locations. Melissa has been involved with education committees for both OA Victoria and the ACO, highlighting her passion for continuing education for optometrists. She was a Clinical Instructor for the University of Melbourne for several years. Melissa's six years on the OA Victoria Board, including four as President, gives her the governance skills and experience to contribute to the ACO council in shaping the next generations of optometrists and providing accessible eye care for the community. Melissa's elected term on Council ended in May 2019.

HONORARY TREASURER, CHAIR OF THE FINANCE & RISK COMMITTEE, CHAIR OF THE NVRI BOARD OF ADMINISTRATION
Denise Gronow

CA



Denise was appointed as Honorary Treasurer and as Chair of the College's Finance & Risk Committee in February 2017. Denise has been an independent member of the ACO's Finance & Risk Committee since March 2014. She previously acted as an alternate director on ACO Council between August 2015 and January 2016. Denise is a qualified chartered accountant with significant experience working at a senior level in both the professional practice and banking sectors.

Ben Hamlyn

*B. Optom (Hons), GradCertOcTher
(until 17 March 2019)*



Ben is a therapeutically endorsed optometrist. He has spent much of his professional life working in regional and remote locations across the Northern Territory and South Australia. He has worked with the Fred Hollows Foundation, Brien Holden Vision Institute Papua New Guinea Eyecare, Flinders University and Optometry Australia. He is passionate about

ensuring quality eye care is available to all. Ben has held positions on the board of Optometry South Australia. He has been a member of a number of committees regionally and nationally for the OA. Ben resigned from his position on Council in March 2019.

Rodney A. Hodge

B.Sc.Optom



Rodney is an experienced optometrist who has worked in private practice, corporate practice and public health. He worked part time for over 20 years with North Metropolitan Health Services in Western Australia whilst running a private optometry practice. He has had a variety of experience in management and governance roles, including nine years on the WA division of the Council of Optometry. Rodney has an active interest in continuing education for optometrists. He has also served the community through local government (Councillor, City of Subiaco, 13 years) and a number of planning and land use committees in Perth. Rodney is now semi-retired, undertaking some locum optometry work mostly in rural and remote locations providing him with a greater understanding of the challenges of working in those regions.

VICE PRESIDENT* & CHAIR OF HUMAN RESEARCH ETHICS COMMITTEE**

Associate Professor Peter Keller FACO

*BAppSc(Optom), MBA, PhD, MHEth, PGCert OcTher
(Councillor from 29 May 2019)
(*from December 2019; ** from June 2019)*



Peter has significant experience across clinical practice in private and public healthcare, clinical research, research ethics and governance, professional associations and membership services. He holds an appointment at the University of Melbourne as an Honorary Principal Fellow and is a clinical instructor at UM Eyecare in addition to his main role with Therapeutic Goods Administration developing and implementing a regulatory oversight program for clinical trials. Peter is an alumnus of Queensland University of Technology - BAppSc(Optom) 1985, University of Western Australia - MBA (1992) and PhD (2008), and University of Melbourne - MHEth (2003) and PGCert OcTher (2004). He is a member of the Australian Institute of Company Directors and a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry. Peter has been an ACO member since 2001 and was appointed to Council in May 2019.

Sophie Koh

*BOptom (UniMelb), GradCertOcTher,
LmusTCL*



Sophie is an experienced optometrist who started her career in the Northern Territory. She has broad experience working in public health and corporate settings across metropolitan, rural and outback Australia. She has extensive experience working in ophthalmology teams and training nurses in East Timor, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands. Sophie studied her undergraduate degree at the University of Melbourne and was amongst the first cohort of graduates to achieve the ACO Certificate in Ocular Therapeutics. She is now the National Professional Services Advisor at Optometry Australia. She is passionate about public health and Indigenous eye health. She is devoted to empowering students and colleagues to improve their knowledge and skills so they can play a wider role in improving the health and wellbeing of our underprivileged communities locally and overseas.

The Honourable Paul Lucas

*BEcon LLB MBA MURP MPIA FAICD
(until 27 April 2020)*



Paul was appointed to Council in July 2014. He holds Bachelor's Degrees in Economics and Law as well as Master's Degrees in Business Administration and Urban and Regional Planning. Paul is both a Solicitor and Urban Planner by profession and was Queensland Deputy Premier for 4 years and a Minister in the Queensland State Government for 11 years. His Ministerial responsibilities included Infrastructure & Planning; Local Government; Health; and Attorney-General amongst others. As Health Minister, he was responsible for a number of initiatives in broadening the scope of practice for optometrists and other allied health professionals – an issue he continues to be passionate about. Paul is an Adjunct Professor at Bond University and the Australian Catholic University. Paul chairs the Board of the Brisbane Cross River Rail Delivery Authority and is a Director of the Institute for Urban Indigenous Health. He designed international programs for and lectures for UQ International Development and is a Fellow of the Australian Institute of Company Directors.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER**Maureen O'Keefe**

BSc (Hons) DipEd MBA GAICD



Maureen was appointed Chief Executive Officer of the ACO in 2013. Maureen has held senior executive and board director positions across health, research and education sectors over the past 17 years, with a focus on transformation and growth of organisations to achieve long term sustainability. Previously Maureen was COO at Walter & Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research for 7 years during a period of major expansion, following an earlier career at the University of Melbourne in senior management and major project roles focused on new initiatives. Maureen is currently Deputy Chair of Vision2020 Australia, a BioMelbourne Network Board Director, member of SA Govt Clinical Pathways committee, and previously appointed to Ministerial Health Consultative Committees – Victorian Cancer Agency and Victorian Clinical Trial Research Council.

Tim Powell

B App Sci (Optom); PGCOT



Tim completed his undergraduate degree at QUT in Brisbane, and moved to Tasmania on graduation. Tim has a strong history of working with local GP's, ophthalmologists, aged care providers and hospital based rehabilitation services. Tim has worked across independent, corporate and franchise optometry practices, being a partner in a large independent practice before becoming partner in a multi-site franchise optometry business which he sold in 2017. He is involved in optometry profession advocacy, and has extensive experience on state and national based boards. He has held positions on state and national Optometry Australia boards, was part of the inaugural allied health advisory committee to the Tasmanian Primary Health Network and the Optometry Australia Rural Optometry Group. Tim has a passion for rural and remote eye care, and is currently undertaking a Graduate Certificate Course in Clinical Redesign through UTAS, which looks at how we can improve the patient experience and outcomes in our health system.

Meetings of Council

During the financial year, seven (7) meetings of Council were held. Attendance by each Councillor during the year was as follows:

	Councillor Meetings	Meetings Attended
K Pesudovs	7	7
M Anjou (from 29 May 2019)	5	4
S Byrne (until 14 December 2019)	6	6
L Denehy	7	3
M Downing (until 29 May 2019)	2	1
D Gronow	7	7
B Hamlyn (until 17 March 2019)	1	1
R Hodge	7	6
P Keller (from 29 May 2019)	5	5
S Koh	7	6
P Lucas (Until 27 April 2020)	7	5
T Powell	7	7
M O'Keefe	7	7

In addition, the Council also met on one (1) other occasion for a strategic planning event.

Guarantee by Members

The entity is registered with the Australian Security and Investment Commission as well as the Australian Charities and Not for Profit Commission and is a company limited by guarantee. If the company is wound up, the constitution states that each member is required to contribute a maximum of \$50 each towards meeting any outstanding obligations of the entity. At 31 December 2019, the total amount that members of the company are liable to contribute if the company is wound up is \$31,000 (2018: \$37,550).

Indemnification and Insurance of Officers and Auditors

The College provides insurance cover to Councillors and Officers against loss for which they may not be indemnified by the College arising from any claim by reason of any wrongful act committed by them in their capacity as a Councillor or Officer. This policy also covers the College against any legal payment which is made arising out of a claim by reason of any wrongful act committed by any Councillor or Officer of the College. The amount of the premium paid in respect of this insurance contract is not included as such disclosure is prohibited under the terms of the contract.

The Auditors of the College are not indemnified out of assets of the College.

Proceedings on Behalf of the College

No person has applied for leave of Court to bring proceedings on behalf of the College or intervene in any proceedings to which the College is a party for the purpose of taking responsibility on behalf of the College for all or any part of those proceedings.

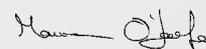
The College was not a party to any such proceedings during the year.

Auditor's Independence Declaration

The auditor's independence declaration for the year ended 31 December 2019 has been received by the council. This report is made in accordance with a resolution of the Councillors.



Peter Keller
Vice President



Maureen O'Keefe
Chief Executive Officer

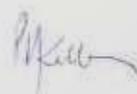
Dated this 22nd day of June 2020

Responsible Persons' Declaration

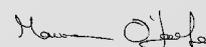
The Responsible Persons (the Councillors) of the Australian College of Optometry declare that the concise financial report of the Australian College of Optometry and Controlled Entities (Consolidated Group), comprising the consolidated statement of financial position, consolidated comprehensive operating statement, consolidated statement of changes in equity, consolidated statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements set out herein for the financial year ended 31 December 2019:

- complies with Accounting Standard AASB 1039: Concise Financial Reports; and
- is an extract from the full financial report for the year ended 31 December 2019 and has been derived from and is consistent with the full financial report of the Australian College of Optometry and Controlled Entities.

This declaration is made in accordance with a resolution of the Councillors.



Peter Keller
Vice President



Maureen O'Keefe
Chief Executive Officer

Dated this 22nd day of June 2020

Discussion and Analysis of the Financial Statements

Information on the Australian College of Optometry Concise Financial Report

The concise financial report is an extract of and is derived from the full financial report of the Australian College of Optometry and Controlled Entities for the financial year ended 31 December 2019. A copy of the full financial report and auditor's report from which this is derived will be sent to any member, free of charge, on request. This discussion and analysis is provided to assist members in understanding the concise financial report.

Consolidated Comprehensive Operating Statement

The total comprehensive results of the consolidated group for the year was made up as follows:

	2019	2018
	\$	\$
Net results for the year	(84,890)	553,439
Other Comprehensive Income		
Unrealised (losses)/gains on equity investments (Note I)	790,579	(847,353)
Realised gains/(losses) on equity investments	86,794	307,763
Total Other Comprehensive Income	877,373	(539,590)
Comprehensive results	792,483	13,849

Note I - Unrealised gain on revaluation of equity investments for the Consolidated Group were \$790,579 (2018: loss \$847,353). This positive movement on the revaluation of equity investments reflected economic reality. Equity investment assets are held by the Consolidated Group with a long-term view on return and are not considered to be regularly tradeable investments. Despite the deficit in 2019, the overall financial position for the Consolidated Group remains strong.

College Income

The College saw income increase by 4.6% to \$18,219,809 (Consolidated Group: 2.9% to \$18,442,507) analysed as follows:

ACO	2019	2018	Change
Revenue from Operating Activities	\$	\$	%
Government grants	7,358,022	7,164,246	2.7%
Non-government grants, trusts and donations (Note II)	3,021,898	2,690,020	12.3%
Optical services	5,767,633	5,417,839	6.5%
Research and Education	1,208,283	1,172,857	3.0%
Dividends and distribution (Note III)	85,859	83,624	2.7%
Interest revenue (Note IV)	91,553	109,212	-16.2%
Property services (Note V)	182,433	174,036	4.8%
Membership	178,007	186,882	-4.7%
Other	288,211	207,262	39.1%
ACO Total Revenue from Operating Activities	18,181,899	17,205,978	5.7%
Capital grant Income	48,448	205,617	-76.4%
Realised gains/(losses) on equity investments	(10,538)	119	-8955%
ACO Total Income	18,219,809	17,411,714	4.6%

Note II - Income for 2019 includes \$1,595,504 (2018: \$1,331,793) under contract with Brien Holden Vision Institute towards a project for the provision of eye health equipment and training to indigenous communities across Australia. This project is ultimately funded by the Australian Government, Department of Health.

Note III & IV - At 31 December 2019, the investment income stood at \$166,874 (2018: 192,955). A decreased return on investment was due to downward market volatility at the end of 2018 and the beginning of 2019, particularly in the banking and energy sectors. The overall investment achieved a reasonable rate of return.

Note V - Additional tenants occupied space at the ACO in 2019.

Expenditure grew by 8% to \$18,440,603 which included expenditure arising from the project for the provision of eye health equipment and training for distribution to indigenous communities across Australia.

Trust Funds

Total Trust Fund investment income was \$599,821 (2018: \$850,365), comprising operating income of \$502,489 (2018: \$542,721) and realised gains on sale of financial assets of \$97,332 (2018: \$307,644).

Consolidated Statements of Financial Position and Changes in Equity

Net assets of the consolidated group, including the Trust Fund, increased by 3.4% to \$23,348,292. Details of the net assets of the consolidated group are set out on page 13.

Within its Statement of Financial Position, the consolidated group maintains a strong financial position, with total property, plant and equipment of \$9,719,192 (2018: \$9,677,587) and total financial assets of \$17,084,023 (2018: \$17,329,087).

At 31 December 2019, the consolidated group retained surplus stood at \$17,672,046 (2018: \$17,670,142). The Reserves stood at \$5,676,246 a 16.2% increase from the previous year. A full analysis of changes in equity is set out on page 16.

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

Net cash outflow during 2019, as set out on page 15 was \$316,972 (2018: inflow \$404,058), comprising a net cash outflow from operating activities of \$773,329 (2018: inflow \$1,185,728) available for investment in asset improvements and replacements. Cash inflows from investing activities were \$542,486 (2018: outflow \$781,670).

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of the Australian College of Optometry

Report on the Concise Financial Statements

Opinion

We have audited the concise financial report of the Australian College of Optometry (the registered entity) and the Australian College of Optometry and Controlled Entities (the consolidated group), which comprises the consolidated statement of financial position as at 31 December 2019, the consolidated comprehensive operating statement, consolidated statement of changes in equity and consolidated statement of cash flows for the year then ended, and related notes, derived from the financial report of the Australian College of Optometry and Controlled Entities for the year ended 31 December 2019 and the discussion and analysis. In our opinion, the accompanying concise financial report, including the discussion and analysis of the registered entity and the consolidated group, complies with Accounting Standard AASB 1039: Concise Financial Reports.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Australian Auditing Standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Concise Financial Report section of our report. We are independent of the registered entity and the consolidated group in accordance with the ethical requirements of the Accounting Professional and Ethical Standards Board's APES 110 Code of Ethics for Professional Accountants (the Code) that are relevant to our audit of the concise financial report in Australia. We have also fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with the Code. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of Matter

We draw attention to Note 4 to the financial report, which describes the events after the reporting period in relations to the financial impact arising from the current outbreak of the Coronavirus (COVID-19), which may have a material impact on the entity within the next 12 months of the signed financial report. The registered entity has considered the impact of the outbreak and has put measures in place to mitigate the financial risks, however, as of the date of this financial report, it is unable to be quantified due to the uncertainties surrounding this matter. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

Concise Financial Report

The concise financial report does not contain all the disclosures required by the Australian Accounting Standards

in the preparation of the financial report. Therefore, reading the concise financial report and the auditor's report thereon is not a substitute for reading the financial report and the auditor's report thereon.

The Financial Report and Our Report Thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the financial report in our report dated 29th June 2020, with the same Emphasis of Matter paragraph included as per above in this report.

Responsibilities of the Responsible Persons for the Concise Financial Report

The responsible persons are responsible for the preparation of the concise financial report in accordance with Accounting Standard AASB 1039: Concise Financial Reports and the ACNC Act, and for such internal control as the responsible persons determine is necessary to enable the preparation of the concise financial report.

Independence

In conducting our audit, we have complied with the independence requirements of the ACNC Act. We confirm that the independence declaration required by the ACNC Act, which has been given to the responsible persons of the Australian College of Optometry and Controlled Entities, would be in the same terms if given to the responsible persons as at the time of this auditor's report.

Auditor's responsibilities for the Audit of the Concise Financial Report

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the concise financial report, in all material respects, complies with AASB 1039: Concise Financial Reports and whether the discussion and the analysis complies with AASB 1039: Concise Financial Reports based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Auditing Standard ASA 810: Engagements to Report on Summary Financial Statements.



McBain McCartin & Co
Chartered Accountants
123 Whitehorse Road
Balwyn VIC 3103



Simon Aukstin (CA)
Partner

Dated this 29th day of June 2020



Consolidated Comprehensive Operating Statement for the year ended 31 December 2019

	CONSOLIDATED GROUP		COLLEGE	
	2019	2018	2019	2018
	\$	\$	\$	\$
Revenue from Operating Activities	18,307,265	17,402,936	18,181,899	17,205,978
Employee Expenses	(9,891,739)	(9,222,563)	(9,891,739)	(9,222,563)
Non-Salary Labour Costs	(133,880)	(114,146)	(133,880)	(114,146)
Interest Expense on Lease Liability	(42,977)	-	(42,977)	-
Other Expenses	(7,376,534)	(6,883,752)	(7,317,364)	(6,825,645)
Net results before Capital Grant Income and Depreciation and Amortisation	862,135	1,182,475	795,939	1,043,624
Capital Grant Income	48,448	205,617	48,448	205,617
Depreciation and Amortisation	(995,473)	(834,653)	(995,473)	(834,653)
NET RESULTS FOR THE YEAR	(84,890)	553,439	(151,086)	414,588
Other Comprehensive Income				
Unrealised (losses)/gains on equity investments	790,579	(847,353)	66,346	(48,885)
Realised gains/(losses) on equity investments	86,794	307,763	(10,538)	119
Total Other Comprehensive Income/Loss	877,373	(539,590)	55,808	(48,766)
COMPREHENSIVE RESULTS	792,483	13,849	(95,278)	365,822

This statement should be read in conjunction with the following notes.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2019

	CONSOLIDATED GROUP		COLLEGE	
	2019	2018	2019	2018
	\$	\$	\$	\$
CURRENT ASSETS				
Cash and cash equivalents	2,220,197	2,537,169	1,607,085	2,016,604
Financial assets	2,730,087	3,529,235	2,730,087	3,529,235
Trade and other receivables	519,746	506,439	763,714	751,566
Inventories	323,985	307,002	323,985	307,002
Other current assets	105,942	111,381	105,942	111,381
TOTAL CURRENT ASSETS	5,899,957	6,991,226	5,530,813	6,715,788
NON CURRENT ASSETS				
Property, plant and equipment	9,719,192	9,677,587	9,719,192	9,677,587
Right of use asset	578,232	-	578,232	-
Intangible assets	160,674	172,915	160,674	172,915
Financial assets	11,613,993	10,756,244	1,497,763	1,437,969
TOTAL NON CURRENT ASSETS	22,072,091	20,606,746	11,955,861	11,288,471
TOTAL ASSETS	27,972,048	27,597,972	17,486,674	18,004,259
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Trade and other payables	992,192	1,021,578	996,942	1,030,228
Provisions	1,825,053	1,790,672	1,825,053	1,790,672
Contract liabilities	1,094,672	2,080,240	1,094,672	2,080,240
Lease liabilities	93,353	-	93,353	-
TOTAL CURRENT LIABILITIES	4,005,270	4,892,490	4,010,020	4,901,140
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Lease liabilities	503,197	-	503,197	-
Provisions	115,289	149,673	115,289	149,673
TOTAL NON CURRENT LIABILITIES	618,486	149,673	618,486	149,673
TOTAL LIABILITIES	4,623,756	5,042,163	4,628,506	5,050,813
NET ASSETS	23,348,292	22,555,809	12,858,168	12,953,446
EQUITY				
Reserves	5,676,246	4,885,667	151,362	85,016
Retained surplus	17,672,046	17,670,142	12,706,806	12,868,430
TOTAL EQUITY	23,348,292	22,555,809	12,858,168	12,953,446

This statement should be read in conjunction with the following notes.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Consolidated Statement of Changes in Equity for the year ended 31 December 2019

	Reserves				Total
	Asset Revaluation -Investments	Contributed Equity	Development Fund	Retained Surplus	
	\$	\$	\$	\$	
CONSOLIDATED GROUP					
Balance at 1 January 2018	1,707,083	3,907,819	118,118	16,808,940	22,541,960
Net result for the year	-	-	-	553,439	553,439
Other comprehensive loss	(539,590)	-	-	-	(539,590)
Transfer - gains/(losses) on disposal of equity instruments at fair value through Other Comprehensive Income to Retained Surplus	(307,763)	-	-	307,763	-
Balance at 31 December 2018	859,730	3,907,819	118,118	17,670,142	22,555,809
Net result for the year	-	-	-	(84,890)	(84,890)
Other comprehensive income	877,373	-	-	-	877,373
Transfer - gains/(losses) on disposal of equity instruments at fair value through Other Comprehensive Income to Retained Surplus	(86,794)	-	-	86,794	-
Balance at 31 December 2019	1,650,309	3,907,819	118,118	17,672,046	23,348,292
Total Reserves at 31 December 2019					5,676,246
COLLEGE					
Balance at 1 January 2018	15,783	-	118,118	12,453,723	12,587,624
Net result for the year	-	-	-	414,588	414,588
Other comprehensive income	(48,766)	-	-	-	(48,766)
Transfer - gains/(losses) on disposal of equity instruments at fair value through Other Comprehensive Income to Retained Surplus	(119)	-	-	119	-
Balance at 31 December 2018	(33,102)	-	118,118	12,868,430	12,953,446
Net result for the year	-	-	-	(151,086)	(151,086)
Other comprehensive income	55,808	-	-	-	55,808
Transfer - gains/(losses) on disposal of equity instruments at fair value through Other Comprehensive Income to Retained Surplus	10,538	-	-	(10,538)	-
Balance at 31 December 2019	33,244	-	118,118	12,706,806	12,858,168
Total Reserves at 31 December 2019					151,362

This statement should be read in conjunction with the following notes.

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 December 2019

	CONSOLIDATED GROUP		COLLEGE	
	2019	2018	2019	2018
	\$	\$	\$	\$
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES				
Receipts from government grants	6,372,455	7,925,027	6,372,454	7,925,026
Receipts from patients, other funding sources and members	10,130,042	9,423,931	10,375,940	9,611,274
Payments to suppliers and employees	(17,232,849)	(16,163,230)	(17,080,698)	(16,031,898)
Lease interest expense	(42,977)	-	(42,977)	-
Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities	(773,329)	1,185,728	(375,281)	1,504,402
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES				
Dividends received	509,520	623,733	85,859	83,624
Interest received	134,880	112,326	91,554	109,212
Proceeds from sale of property, plant and equipment	-	16,800	-	16,800
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(881,073)	(809,570)	(881,073)	(809,570)
Purchase of intangible assets	(39,610)	(65,054)	(39,611)	(65,055)
Proceeds from sale of financial assets	7,230,949	11,279,059	6,724,206	10,062,588
Purchase of financial assets	(6,412,180)	(11,938,964)	(5,929,044)	(10,641,473)
Net cash generated from / (used in) investing activities	542,486	(781,670)	51,891	(1,243,874)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES				
Repayment for lease liabilities	(86,129)	-	(86,129)	-
Net cash used in financing activities	(86,129)	-	(86,129)	-
Net (decrease) / increase in cash and cash equivalents	(316,972)	404,058	(409,519)	260,528
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	2,537,169	2,133,111	2,016,604	1,756,076
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	2,220,197	2,537,169	1,607,085	2,016,604

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

Notes to The Concise Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 December 2019

Note 1: Basis of Preparation of the Concise Financial Report

The concise financial report is an extract from the full financial report for the year ended 31 December 2019. The concise financial report has been prepared in accordance with Accounting Standard AASB 1039: Concise Financial Reports, and the Division 60 of the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012.

The financial statements, specific disclosures and other information included in the concise financial report are derived from and are consistent with the full financial report of the Australian College of Optometry and Controlled Entities. The concise financial report cannot be expected to provide as detailed an understanding of the financial performance, financial position and financing and investing activities of the Australian College of Optometry and Controlled Entities as the full financial report. A copy of the full financial report and auditor's report will be sent to any member, free of charge, upon request.

The financial report covers the Australian College of Optometry, Schultz Laubman Schultz Endowment Fund Trust, NVRI Governors Endowment Fund Trust and Beresford Cambridge Bequest Trust ("Controlled Entities") as the "Consolidated Group" or "Group".

The accounting policies have been consistently applied in the preparation of the Consolidated Group financial statements and are consistent with the policies of the previous financial year apart from those changes detailed below at Note 2. The Consolidated Group financial statements were prepared in accordance with Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission Act 2012 (ACNC Act) and Australian Accounting Standards - Reduced Disclosure Requirements and Interpretations of the Australian Accounting Standards Board ("AASB").

Note 2: Comparative Figures

When required by Accounting Standards, comparative figures have been adjusted to conform to changes in presentation for the current financial year.

New and Amended Accounting Policies Adopted by the Entity

Initial application of AASB 16

The Consolidated Group has adopted AASB 16: Leases retrospectively with the cumulative effect of initially applying AASB 16 recognised at 1 January 2019. In accordance with AASB 16, the comparative for 2018 reporting period have not been restated.

Initial application of AASB 15 and AASB 1058

The Consolidated Group has applied AASB 15: Revenue from Contracts with Customers and AASB 1058: Income of Not-for-Profit Entities using the cumulative effective method of initially applying AASB 15 and AASB 1058 as an adjustment to the opening balance of equity at 1 January 2019. The adoption of these standards did not have an impact on the Consolidated Group's financial statements. Therefore, the comparative information has not been restated and continues to be presented under AASB 118: Revenue and AASB 1004: Contributions.

Note 3: Presentation Currency

The concise financial statements have been prepared in Australian dollars.

Note 4: Events After the Reporting Period

The financial investments held by the College and Consolidated entities have experienced a significant decline in fair value of approximately \$50,192 (12.9%) for the College and \$587,585 (9.4%) for the Consolidated entities after year-end 31 December 2019 to 31 May 2020 arising from recent global market uncertainty.

There has been a 53% decrease in patient consultations at the College clinics subsequent to year-end, this fall is attributable to the COVID-19 pandemic. There has been no other material impacts to other income streams of the College noticed subsequent to year-end as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic at the time of this report.

The Council has put in place various strategies to mitigate the financial risks brought on by COVID-19. These include but are not limited to the successful application for the Federal Government's JobKeeper Payment and PAYG Cash Boost packages, operational cost minimisation strategies and a line of credit for operational purposes of \$3 million. The Council is confident that these strategies will allow the College to navigate the challenges that COVID-19 has presented.

Segment Reporting for the year ended 31 December 2019

CONSOLIDATED GROUP	Corporate Services	Education	Clinical Services (VIC)	Clinical Services (SA)	National Vision Research Institute	Trust Funds	Intersegment Eliminations	Total
2019	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
REVENUE								
External Revenue	5,168,546	886,026	14,021,386	30,858	1,164,882	502,489		21,774,187
Other Segment Revenue							(3,418,475)	(3,418,475)
	5,168,546	886,026	14,021,386	30,858	1,164,882	502,489	(3,418,475)	18,355,712
Net surplus/ (loss)	(6,961)	62,703	(3,148)	(159,349)	(44,331)	66,196	-	(84,890)
ASSETS								
Segment assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unallocated segment assets								27,972,048
								27,972,048
LIABILITIES								
Segment liabilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unallocated segment liabilities								4,623,756
								4,623,756
2018								
REVENUE								
External Revenue	4,565,744	864,337	13,437,395	-	1,167,160	542,721		20,577,357
Other Segment Revenue							(2,968,464)	(2,968,464)
	4,565,744	864,337	13,437,395	-	1,167,160	542,721	(2,968,464)	17,608,893
Net surplus/ (loss)	(119)	49,434	355,750	-	9,523	138,851	-	553,439
ASSETS								
Segment assets	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unallocated segment assets								27,597,972
								27,597,972
LIABILITIES								
Segment liabilities	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Unallocated segment liabilities								5,042,163
								5,042,163

The Consolidated Detailed Income Statement is prepared by management and does not form part of the audited financial statements.

Trust Funds' Financial Position

The financial statements for the Consolidated Group (pages x to x) include the results and net assets of:

- the Schultz Laubman Schultz Endowment Fund Trust;
- the NVRI Governors Endowment Fund Trust; and
- the Beresford Cambridge Bequest Trust.

The ACO or the ACO Council members act as the Trustees of these three internally-managed funds.

In accordance with the terms of their Trust Deeds, income from two of the internally-managed funds (Schultz Laubman

Schultz Endowment Fund Trust and the NVRI Governors Endowment Fund Trust), together with income from one externally-managed fund (Lions Vision Research Fund), is designated to fund vision research delivered through the National Vision Research Institute of Australia, a division of the ACO. Income for the Beresford Cambridge Bequest Trust is designated to fund research in to visual impairment.

The financial position and results for the Trust Funds as at 31 December 2019 is summarized as follows:

	INTERNALLY-MANAGED FUNDS				EXTERNALLY-MANAGED FUNDS			
	Beresford Cambridge Bequest Trust		Schultz Laubman Schultz Endowment Fund Trust		NVRI Governor's Endowment Fund Trust		Lions Vision Research Fund	
	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018	2019	2018
	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE								
Profit/(Loss) on ordinary activities	30,179	44,936	126,423	356,597	6,926	44,962	(12,016)	(1,859)
Net increase in asset revaluation reserve	40,938	(45,744)	625,211	(683,801)	58,084	(68,923)	42,546	(19,701)
Total Changes in Equity	71,117	(808)	751,634	(327,204)	65,010	(23,961)	30,530	(21,560)
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION								
Current assets	59,626	39,910	600,949	519,155	90,444	70,784	55,956	44,697
Non current assets								
Shares in listed companies and units in listed trusts at market value	590,434	539,032	8,730,066	8,039,197	795,730	740,046	449,491	405,221
Total assets	650,060	578,942	9,331,015	8,558,352	886,174	810,830	505,447	449,918
Current liabilities	-	-	335,640	314,610	41,483	31,153	45,000	20,000
Net assets	650,060	578,942	8,995,375	8,243,742	844,691	779,677	460,447	429,918
EQUITY								
Contributed equity	-	-	3,600,153	3,600,153	307,666	307,666	173,867	173,867
Asset revaluation reserve	63,525	22,587	1,454,319	829,108	99,221	41,137	22,910	(19,636)
Retained profits	586,535	556,355	3,940,903	3,814,481	437,804	430,874	263,670	275,687
Total Equity	650,060	578,942	8,995,375	8,243,742	844,691	779,677	460,447	429,918

This information is prepared by management and is extracted from the financial records of the ACO and controlled entities and of the Lions Vision Research Fund for the year ended 31 December 2019.



AUSTRALIAN COLLEGE OF
OPTOMETRY

CLINICAL SERVICES • RESEARCH • EDUCATION



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