



FALL 2022

VOLUME 7

ISSUE 2

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## *Fall Fun Begins*

### *Meet Our New Students of Optometry Class of 2026*

What an exciting beginning for our newest class of students who started their first quarter of optometry classes this fall. Hailing from varied backgrounds and locations, they all share the common goal of training to become the next generation of healthcare providers.

We are thrilled to welcome them to our CCO family and look forward to seeing them grow into successful student optometrists in the coming years.

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# MIDWESTERN UNIVERSITY

*Tomorrow's Healthcare Team*



# Clinical Rotation Spotlight



**Hye Seon Yoo, O.D.**  
*Assistant Professor*

Dr. Hye Seon Yoo, O.D. graduate Magna Cum Laude from Saint Louis University with her Bachelor of Art in Biological Sciences. She went on to complete her doctorate at Illinois College of Optometry, Cum Laude, May 2017. Dr. Yoo completed her residency training at the Cincinnati Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Cincinnati, OH. Dr. Yoo specializes in ocular disease, diabetes and primary eye care, with a particular passion for geriatric optometry. Dr. Yoo joined Midwestern University in August of 2018, as an assistant professor and clinical instructor in the primary care and advanced ocular health optometry department. Dr. Yoo enjoys exploring different national parks; she has seen 7 so far and hope to visit them all one day.

**Thank you for all you do and being a part of Midwestern University!**

## Preceptor Corner: Responsibilities of Our Preceptors

- ⇒ The preceptor will provide instruction to student clinicians and offer suggestions and advice where appropriate.
- ⇒ The preceptor will encourage independent decision making and afford student clinicians the opportunity to formulate diagnosis and patient management plans.
- ⇒ The preceptor will allow open communication between the Chicago College of Optometry and offer comments, suggestions and constructive feedback about the external rotation program when appropriate.
- ⇒ The preceptor will evaluate performance of student clinicians and provide feedback on a frequent basis directly to the student.
- ⇒ The preceptor will formally provide feedback by completing the evaluations through Meditrek® at six weeks (midterm) and the final day of the rotation.
- ⇒ The preceptor will immediately discuss issues that may occur with both the student clinician and the Assistant Director of Rotations.

**Preceptor  
Corner**

## WELCOME CCO NEWEST PRECEPTORS

**David Waterfill O.D. with Milwaukee VA Medical Center.**

Dr. Waterfill received his Bachelor's degree from Michigan State University and went on to Illinois College of Optometry to obtain his Doctorate of Optometry. Dr. Waterfill is a proud member of the National Association of VA Optometrists (NAVAO), that encourages and promotes the best possible primary eye and vision care for our nation's veterans, their education and welfare of optometric staff, residents, and students. Dr. Waterfill also participates in Special Olympics Opening Eyes Program, where they administer visual exams on kids with special needs.

**John Nowell, O.D with Southwest Orlando Eye Care.**

Dr. Nowell received his Bachelor's degree from Auburn University. He then went on to The University of Alabama in Birmingham School of Optometry where he received his Doctor of Optometry degree. Following optometry school, Dr. Nowell did a fellowship at the Neumann Eye Institute in Deland, Florida. He enjoys any outdoor activity especially fishing and will gladly share some "fish stories" with anyone who will listen. (<https://www.southwestorlandoeyecare.com/about-us/meet-the-doctors/meet-dr-john-nowell.html>)

**Andrew Benedict, O.D with Illinois Eye Center.**

Dr. Benedict completed his undergraduate degree from the University of Missouri, and his Doctor of Optometry from the Indiana University School of Optometry. He is fully licensed to diagnose and treat most eye diseases. Dr. Benedict completed his residency at Northeastern State University School of Optometry. He is a member of the American Optometric Association and Beta Sigma Kappa – Optometric Honor Society. He enjoys hiking, lifting, running, and exploring national parks in his free time. (<https://www.illinoiseyecenter.com/blog/andrew-benedict-od-at-illinois-eye-center/>)

**Luke Cyr, O.D.,FAAO with VA Maine –Portland CBOC. (Resident Optometrist)**

Dr. Cyr received his Bachelor's degree from University of Maine and went on to New England College of Optometry to obtain his Doctorate of Optometry with honors. Dr. Cyr completed his residency at the Maine Veteran's Administration Hospital with a focus in Ocular Disease and Primary Care and is a fellow in the American Academy of Optometry.

**Nicholas Colatrella O.D., FAAO with PineCone Vision Center. (CEO/Medical Director)**

Dr. Colatrella received his doctorate degree with honors from the Illinois College of Optometry in Chicago and performed a hospital-based residency in ocular disease through the Cleveland Veterans Affairs Medical Center. He is board certified by the American Board of Optometry and the American Board of Certification in Medical Optometry, and a Fellow in the American Academy of Optometry. He was also the first optometrist in the country to attain Diplomate status in Anterior Segment disease from the American Academy of Optometry and acknowledged as a leader in his field. (<https://pinecovevisioncenter.com/about-us/doctors/>)

**Keyv Simmons O.D., FAAO with PineCone Vision Center. (Director of Pediatric Services)**

Dr. Simmons received his Bachelor's degree from Seattle Pacific University and went on to Pacific University of Oregon to obtain both his Doctorate of Optometry and Master of Education in Visual Function and Learning. Following graduation, he joined a pediatric optometry practice in the Seattle area for additional experience working exclusively with kids. Dr Simmons then moved to Denver to complete a residency program in Pediatric Specialty Care at Children's Hospital Colorado for more advanced training in pediatric ocular disease and genetic syndromes affecting the eye. (<https://pinecovevisioncenter.com/about-us/doctors/>)



## **REMINDER**

It could be a rough respiratory season between flu, COVID-19 and now monkeypox. As long as the public is being reminded about good hygiene this fall, doctors of optometry might want to refresh patients' knowledge on handwashing and wearing contact lenses.

Flu season typically starts in October and peaks between December and February, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) say. Curiously, the CDC reported that the number of flu cases was down markedly during the height of COVID-19. The reason? All the precautions taken due to COVID-19—the mask wearing, the social distancing and the handwashing.

With all of that, this may be a good time to reiterate to patients the benefits of good hygiene, including handwashing, especially with 45 million contact lens wearers in the U.S..

<https://www.aoa.org/news/clinical-eye-care/public-health/wash-rinse-repeat-reminding-contact-lens-wearers-about-risky-hygiene?ss0=y>

**Wash  
Your  
Hands**

## **Upcoming Events**

### **September Healthy Aging Month**

- ◆ **Midwestern University White Coat Ceremony:** Saturday, October 1, 2022 2:30pm  
Midwestern University/Cardinal Hall.
- ◆ **Academy Meeting 2022 San Diego:** October 26-29, 2022. San Diego Convention Center.

### **November: American Diabetes Month**

- ◆ **November 18:** Last Day of Fall Rotations
- ◆ **November 18:** Last Day to Submit Final Evaluations
- ◆ **November 24, 25:** Closed Thanksgiving Break

### **Fall 2022 CE Event: TBD**

- ◆ Watch out for more information in your emails

## **KEEP IN TOUCH**

We would love to hear about any updates on you and your site! Presented a poster or lecture at a conference? Providing new services at your site? Earned a fellowship or diplomate status? Let us know. You may be featured in one of our upcoming newsletters.

You may contact the Assistant Director of Rotations, Dr. Daniel Deligio, at [ddelig@midwestern.edu](mailto:ddelig@midwestern.edu) or 630-743-4853, or Clinical Education Coordinator, Shannen Hamlin, at [shamli@midwestern.edu](mailto:shamli@midwestern.edu) or 630-743-4812.

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