

ASSOCIATION
OF OPTOMETRIC
CONTACT LENS
EDUCATORS

July 2004
Newsletter #21

Newsletter Highlights

Chair's Message / Officers

2004 Workshop highlights

George Mertz Travel Award

AOCLE 2004-2006 Officers

Campus & Industry News

AOCLE Directory

New 2004-2006 Officers

Elections for AOCLE Officers for the term 2004-2006 were held in conjunction with the annual workshop in June 2004 in California. Details inside!

SCCO Workshop focuses on team work !

SCCO was this year's host of the AOCLE workshop. Topics included ocular prosthetics, an on-line strengthfinder tool and team building projects ! Congratulations to SCCO for a great workshop !

Yamane, Dillehay & Gunderson honored.

Stan Yamane (Vistakon), Sally Dillehay (CIBA) and Gary Gunderson (ICO) were all honored by AOCLE this year for their support of AOCLE.

AOCLE Directory

The AOCLE Directory is continually updated and continues to be a valuable networking tool for AOCLE. The updated version is sent as a pdf file to all AOCLE folks and is available on the website as well. Keep checking the website for a downloadable version for Palm pilot users.

Mertz Travel Award

The George Mertz Travel Award was awarded for the first time this year to two young CL educators, Wanda Lam (ICO) and Sri Thota (Houston). This award allowed these recipients to attend the AOCLE workshop.

Business meeting

The business meeting was held in conjunction with the annual workshop in SCCO. Highlights of projects are included.

Plans are underway for 2005 Workshop

The folks at MCO are busy planning the next AOCLE workshop scheduled for the first weekend in June 2005. It promises to be an exciting program.

Clinic remodel

UC Berkeley shares its CL clinic remodel and addresses some of the challenges we all face with space and the numerous trial CL containers.

AOCLE Newsletter

Because not all faculty members are funded to attend the AOCLE functions, the AOCLE newsletter provides a vehicle for communication & a summary of the educational programs and teaching materials available to CL educators. If you have information to contribute, contact the editor.

From the chair

What an honor it is to be able to address this group in the capacity as your new Chair. The AOCLE is a group of very special individuals that have meant so much to me throughout my professional career. My first exposure to the group was during my fourth year of optometry school, attending the B&L NRS in Florida as a travel grant recipient (I won't share the exact year because it will either (a) make some of you laugh and still consider me a spring chicken or, (b) will remind myself of how fast the time has really gone.) What I will share is the fact that I left that meeting inspired to become a contact lens educator – even before receiving my diploma.

Within this membership I have found my role models and mentors, hard-working committee partners and incredible friends. Our educational and practice settings may be different, but our goals are always the same. We share the desire to inspire our students, to embrace new technologies and to provide the best specialty education possible. The enthusiasm for teaching, research and clinical practice in the area of cornea and contact lenses is infectious among our group and for that reason I leave every AOCLE meeting feeling energized, inspired and ready to get back home to share all that I have learned from each of you.

Each year at the workshops and educator meetings, in addition to catching up with old friends, I have looked forward to meeting the new faces. Several new individuals have joined us recently and many have stepped forward to serve on committees and the executive board. This willingness to dive-in and participate on multiple levels once again exemplifies the uniqueness of our membership and our commitment to contact lens education.

The workshop this year at SCCO was a huge success. Harue, Julie, Sunny, Tim, Sherri and all the others that put so much time and energy into the planning and implementation please accept a sincere appreciation for your efforts. It also would not have been possible without the generous support of our friends in industry who are as much a part of the AOCLE as our members are.

Finally, I would like to extend a thank you to our past-chair Dr. Neil Pence for his leadership, his mentoring and the boundless energy he put into every project and endeavor during his years on the Executive Board. Neil you did a fantastic job and I am grateful for your years of service!

I wish you all a safe, relaxing and rewarding summer.

Jenny Smythe, AOCLE Chair

2004-2006 Officers

Electors for new AOCLE officers were held at the annual business meeting, held in conjunction with the annual workshop in Fullerton at SCCO (June 2004). Due to exceptional circumstances, Ron Watanabe, Treasurer for several years for AOCLE has decided to take on a new position and was voted in as Vice-chair. Etty Bitton, head of communications committee for several years decided to pass the torch and maintains the position of Secretary for this mandate. Newcomers include Latricia Pack (NSU) and Sri Thota (Houston) to the communications committee. New Officers for the 2004-2006 term are;

Chair: Jenny Smythe, OD, MS
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2004 Workshop Highlights from SCCO

The 2004 AOCLE workshop was held in Fullerton, California between June 3-6, 2004. Southern California College of Optometry (SCCO) was the host of this year's workshop and the program coordinators included Harue Marsden, Julie Schornack, Tim Edrington and Sunny Sanders along with administrative assistant Sheri Diliberto. We wish to thank our hosts for a fabulous workshop with numerous educational opportunities and team building tasks that can only strengthen the bonds at AOCLE.



Harue Marsden, Sheri Diliberto, Tim Edrington, Julie Schornack

Morris Berman (VP of Academic Affairs) and John Nishimoto (Dean of Clinical Affairs) greeted the 57 attendees representing all the north american schools and colleges of Optometry including representatives from industry and two IACLE representatives (from Mexico and Peru). Six attendees were first timers to the AOCLE workshop. This year's theme for the workshop focused on ocular prosthetics and an on-line "Strength Finder" tool.



SCCO faculty and coordinator of the Ocular Prosthetic Service, Sunny Sanders, lectured on ocular prosthetics followed by a hands-on workshop. She gave a very

compelling argument with regards to the role an optometrist can play in the area of ocular prosthetics. Optometrists should be able to identify key questions during the case history (trauma history, age of current prosthetic, care & maintenance issues, frequency of prosthetic removal (1X/week is recommended), date of last visit with oculurist or ophthalmologist that fitted the prosthetic, etc) and be able to identify problems associated with the prosthetic (scratches, membrane splitting, crazing of the surface) or the ocular adnexa (GPC is a major problem, secretions) to name a few. Dr. Sanders invited the CL educators to include discussion of ocular prosthetics in their respective curriculums. During a hands-on workshop attendees were able to modify and polish existing prosthetics which had nicks, scratches and roughened surfaces as well as prepare a cast mold of an existing prosthetic. Attendees, including industry representatives, enjoyed the hands-on aspect of the workshop and were introduced to simple, affordable tools that can easily



be implemented in the clinics at the schools and colleges of Optometry as well as in clinical practice. Such a minor investment would render an imeasurable service to the prosthetic wearing population.



Associate Dean of Clinical Education, Julie Schornack, discussed an on-line tool named Stength Finders prepared by the Gallup organization. Attendees were able to answer a series of questions on-line, that addressed different strengths of an individual. Over 35 qualifiers are indentified during the exercise and the top five strengths were identified for each participant. Qualifiers such as communication,



self-assurance, empathy, adaptability, are a few examples. Dr. Schornack discussed how this tool and the books entitled *StrengthsQuest: Discover Your Strengths in Academics, Career and Beyond* (Clifton & Anderson) and *Now, Discover your Srengths* (Buckingham & Clifton)



have tremendous value to an educator. A copy of each book was offered to each attendee. Dr. Schornack has learned to use her strengths while teaching students in the CL clinic and found it extremely valuable in her role as Associate Dean of clinical education. She attempts to identify strengths of students and works to maximize those instead of focusing a remediation process to improving the weaknesses.

Studies have shown that companies in which employees with similar strengths work together make for a more productive unit. This may also have positive ramifications for students especially when placed in work study groups.

Team Building Activity

As part of the activities of the workshop, attendees were split up in teams and asked to build a cardboard boat. This team building activity demanded creativity and ingenuity since the task consisted of building a boat which needed to transport a 2 members of the team (one at a time) during a boat race. Extra points were also awarded for creativity and decoration. This prooved to be a challenging exercise for the time allotted and a humorous event for all. (see page 4)

2004 Workshop Highlights from SCCO

(continued from page 3)

All teams were named after our industry sponsors. The winning team was the Vistakon Vikings, proving to have the most durable



and boyant design. Team members included Cristina Schnider (Vistakon), Bill Edmondson and Latricia

Pack (NSU) and Mark Parker (X-Cel). For more boat race photos and movie clips, stay tune to the AOCLE website.

The George Mertz Travel Award

Dr. George Mertz, long-time friend and colleague of AOCLE, had a strong dedication to CL education. In his memory, AOCLE has created the George Mertz Travel Award to be awarded to a new CL educator, who has never attended an AOCLE workshop. This opportunity would help a novice CL educator to network with other educators from all the north american schools and colleges of Optometry. Due to their exceptional qualifications, there were two recipients that were awarded this honor for the first time this year; Sri Thota (Houston) and Wanda Lam (ICO).



Neil Pence (Indiana), chair of AOCLE and Jenny Smythe (Pacific), vice-chair congratulate the recipients.

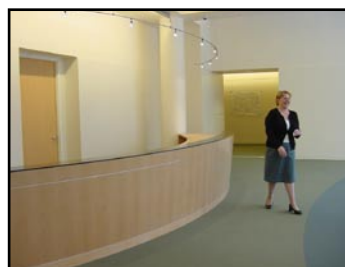
The Remodeled Eye Care Center at SCCO

The AOCLE attendees were also given a tour of the remodeled 40,000 ft² Eye Care Center on the SCCO campus at Fullerton. This impressive renovation, which has taken over a year to complete will be inaugurated on July 4th. The new clinic includes all the latest technological

advancements, including internet access in every examination room, remodeled faculty offices with modern furniture, an impressive and inviting optical dispensary and fully automated lanes. The new facilities will house a laser refractive center on its second floor. The clinic will sure be the envy of schools and colleges of Optometry around the world !



The Eye Care Center



The reception area

AOCLE attendees observing the Marco automated lanes



The Optical Dispensary

A word from our sponsors...

It goes without saying that the AOCLE workshop would not be possible without the generous support of our sponsors; Alcon, AMO, Bausch & Lomb, Blanchard Contact Inc., CIBA Vision, CooperVision, Menicon, Ocular Sciences, Paragon, Vistakon and X-Cel Contacts. Thank you for your continued support and your dedication to the advancement of Contact Lens related education.

We are very fortunate this year to welcome a new sponsor to AOCLE, Blanchard Contact Lens Inc. Lee Buffalo, Director of Sales and Marketing was this year's attendee. Welcome to AOCLE !



Industry sponsors



AOCLE also congratulates Bausch & Lomb this year as they celebrate 150 years in business ! Congratulations on this momentous milestone !

-reported by E. Bitton
-photos by E. Bitton & B. Edmondson

AOCLE Business Meeting

The AOCLE holds its Business meeting during the annual workshop. Neil Pence (Indiana), Chair of AOCLE, presided the meeting and Etty Bitton (Montreal), Secretary wrote the minutes of the meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Neil Pence related the Treasurer's report prepared by Ron Watanabe (NEWENCO). The annual workshop held at INTER-American (2001) was over budget (mainly due to the airfares). The workshops held at SUNY (2002), and PACIFIC (2003) were under budget and this year's workshop is projected to be within budget.



The AOCLE welcomes a new sponsor this year, Blanchard Contact Lens, Inc. bringing the total to eleven sponsors for this year's AOCLE workshop.

George Mertz Travel Award

A warm welcome was given to the two Mertz Travel Award recipients Dr. Sri Thota (Houston) and Dr. Wanda Lam (ICO) to their first AOCLE meeting. AOCLE Chair, Neil Pence, mentioned that promoting CL education and networking possibilities via a travel award to the AOCLE meeting for a young CL educator is an appropriate way to honor George Mertz memory.

A motion was passed to encourage the Mertz Travel Awards, on a yearly basis if possible.



AOCLE Recognition Awards

Two recognition awards were handed out this year. One to Dr. Stan Yamane, past VP of Professional Affairs at Vistakon, on the occasion of his retirement. A clock was awarded during the Vistakon Educator's meeting (January 2004) with an inscription, on behalf of AOCLE, for his support and dedication to CL Education. Congratulations and Thank you Stan !



The other AOCLE recognition award was given to Dr. Sally Dillehay, Manager of Academic Development at Ciba Vision. Sally will be taking on a new challenge as Director of Medical Marketing & Clinical Claims at Ciba. During the Ciba Educator's meeting (April 2004), an inscribed wine carafe was offered to Sally, on behalf of AOCLE, in appreciation of the support to the AOCLE and the support of sponsoring the AOCLE executive committee mid-year planning meeting. Thank you Sally !



AOCLE Projects

From last year's survey of possible AOCLE projects, four were highlighted with much interest from the group;

AOCLE Media Resource Database. Bill Edmondson (NSU) noted an interest in heading this project. Previous slides and videos which have been done by AOCLE will be reviewed for accuracy and continued interest. Many lecturers need a photo or video segment of a technique or CL fit which they may not have readily available. Clinical case photos can be placed on the AOCLE website which can be downloaded for educators to be used for their lectures. A CD can eventually be made available for educators to have for their lectures. This can be particularly useful for incoming CL educators and residents.

Entry Level CL Competency. Although this topic is a hot topic for many, Harue Marsden (SCCO) would like to see some sort of starting point to address this issue. This year's workshop at SCCO had several surveys for the CL educators to begin to evaluate what core knowledge and skills in the area of CL education are necessary for a new graduate.

Case Presentations. Neil Pence presented this topic and would like to see a "case of the month" on the AOCLE website. A good start can be the CL residents, which usually have to do at least one case report during their residency. If one case can be forwarded per school, then each school would be responsible for a case every 19 months ! A format will be proposed shortly, which will include the length, format of presentation and picture guidelines.

Living Library. This project was started over 3 years ago and needs to be "resurrected". For those that have submitted a case, the information needs to be reviewed for accuracy and updated information. For those that have not yet submitted their cases, please do so. A peer-review process is in play

for this project.

A sign up sheet for the different projects was passed around to the attendees. Contact the chair if you were not at the this year's meeting and have an interest in participating to these projects.

AOCLE Workshops

The 2005 workshop will be hosted by the Michigan College of Optometry. Big Rapids or Travis City are being looked at as the location for the workshop. Program Chair, Bruce Morgan, discussed that the educational program will include computer performance systems, distance learning tools amongst others.

The location for the 2006 workshop is as yet undetermined. Possibilities discussed during the workshop include Montreal (celebrating its centennial year), UAB (new facilities) or in conjunction with the next World Congress (location as yet undetermined, LV Prasad Eye Institute in India can be a potential site). We will inform you as plans become more formal.

News from IACLE

Gina Sorbara, IACLE Treasurer, informed AOCLE attendees that Module 7, entitled Contact Lens Related Ocular Complications, of the IACLE CL Course is now available on CD.

The students at Waterloo took the IACLE Student Trial Exams. Feedback from the students revealed that they thought it was a great preparation for their board exams. Other schools are encouraged to participate in this program as well.



Neil Pence, chair of AOCLE, welcomed two IACLE representatives to this year's AOCLE workshop. Guillermo Carillo from Peru (left) and Julio Torres from Mexico (on the right) were in attendance.

(continued on page 6)

AOCLE Elections

Elections for the 2004-2006 AOCLE executive board were being sought at this year's annual business meeting. Ron Watanabe (NEWENCO), long time Treasurer of AOCLE, was stepping down to allow for new challenges. Etty Bitton (Montreal), headed the communications committee and was the editor of the newsletter since 1995. She also wanted to pass the torch for this task which was becoming increasingly demanding.

Elections were held and the new 2004-2006 AOCLE board will be ;

Chair: Jenny Smythe (Pacific)

Vice-Chair: Ron Watanabe (NEWENCO)

Secretary: Etty Bitton (Montreal)

Treasurer: Ami Abel (UAB)

Immediate past-chair: Neil Pence (Indiana)

Communications Committee: Latricia Pack (NSU), Sri Thota (Houston), Bill Edmondson (NSU).

Congratulations to the new officers! Recognition by attendees was offered to Ron Watanabe for his work as Treasurer, Etty Bitton for her work as editor of the newsletter and communication committee and Neil Pence for Chair between 2002-2004.

Communications Committee

The listing of the AOCLE remains a very valuable tool for AOCLE and industry sponsors. Every effort is made to keep this database as updated as possible to continue to be a useful networking tool for the CL educators and industry representatives. Mark Swan (MCO) proposed that an automated contact information be looked into whereby, each person can update their own information as it becomes available (password protected of course). This would lessen the burden of updates on the shoulders of a single individual.

Acknowledgements

During the business meeting, Neil Pence, chair, offered a gift of appreciation, on behalf of the AOCLE, to the immediate past chair, Gary Gunderson (ICO) for his service as chair between 2000-2002. Thank you Gary for a job well done!

Neil Pence, AOCLE chair, also announced that a letter on

behalf of the AOCLE was sent to the President of SCCO on the occasion of their centennial celebration.

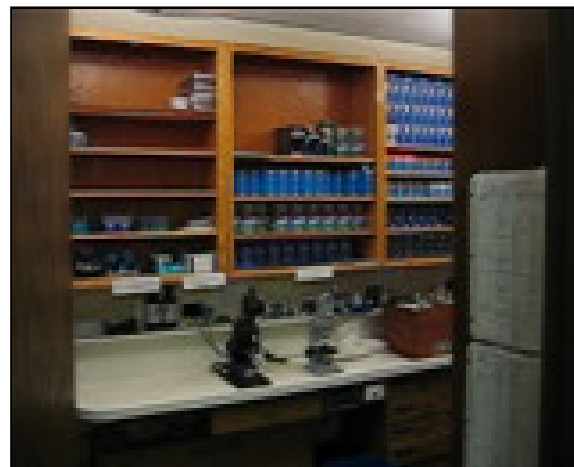
-reported by E. Bitton



Neil Pence congratulating
Gary Gunderson

CL Clinic remodel

All of our clinics are plagued with space limitations. In light of this fact, we attempt to accommodate the ever-increasing set of trial lenses in our clinics. John Corzine, chief of the CL Service at the School of Optometry at UC Berkeley would like to share some of the CL clinic remodeling which addressed the CL trial lens room. Take a personal tour of the trial lens room yourself !



Click here to download Acrobat Reader 6.0 to see this movieclip. Don't forget to turn up the volume!

Meeting Schedule

As a service to the AOCLE faculty members and friends, we will be happy to make all members aware of Cornea/Contact Lens related meetings throughout the world. Please send your information to the editor.

July 22-25, 2004	2nd Global Orthokeratology Symposium (GOS) (Sheraton Center, Toronto, Canada)
Oct 1-3, 2004	International Contact Lens and Anterior Segment Symposium (Montreal, Canada) www.cpro.ws
Nov. 17-21, 2004	The 4th International Conference on the Lacrimal Gland, Tear Film and Dry Eye Syndromes: Basic Science and Clinical Relevance (Fajardo, Puerto Rico) www.tearfilm.org
Dec 9-12, 2004	Cornea and CL Section in conjunction with the AAO meeting (Tampa, FL)
Jan 19-23, 2005	CLES meeting (San Diego Sheraton, CA)
May 2005	British Contact Lens Association's (BCLA) Annual Clinical Conference www.bcla.org.uk/
June 2005	AOCLE annual workshop (Ferris State University, MCO)

Editor's note

It has been a pleasure to serve as the editor of the AOCLE newsletter since 1995. It has been both a challenge and a wonderful way to stay in touch with industry and campus news. I treasure the numerous friendships I have developed over the years and the true camaraderie of the folks at AOCLE. The AOCLE listing continues to be an important networking tool for this group and I am proud that we have made this list readily available to all in an electronic format. Keeping it updated is a constant challenge and I am confident that the new Communications Committee will be as dedicated to this valuable resource. I thank you again for all that have guided me over the years, with a special thanks to Les Caplan (AOCLE Consultant) and Bill Edmondson (NSU). Although this is my last newsletter as editor, I look forward to serving the AOCLE in other capacities.

Etty Bitton (Montreal)

What's new at other organizations ?

AAO- Cornea and CL Section

Plans for the upcoming Cornea and CL section of the AAO are well underway for this year's meeting in Tampa in December. This year's recipients of the Schapero Memorial Lecture Award will be Dr. Debbie Sweeney (Contacts On or In the Cornea ?- What the Eye Needs) and Dr. Louis Catania (Corneal-based vs Lens-based Refractive Surgery: The Great Debate). So mark your calendar for the Saturday 3-5 pm of the AAO weekend !

IACLE

The International Association of Contact Lens Educators (IACLE) is looking towards the next World Congress on CL Education. Dr. Luigina (Gina) Sorbara discussed at the AOCLE workshop the possibility of a Congress at the LVEI (Low Vision Eye Institute) in Prasad in India. This congress is still in its planning stages, thoughts and ideas can be forwarded to Gina Sorbara (Treasurer of IACLE and liaison to AOCLE) or to the IACLE Secretariat directly (iacle@iacle.org).

AOA-CLCS

Dr. David Seibel will be serving as the incoming chair for the 2004-2005 period for the CL and Cornea Section (CLCS) of the AOA.

During the AOA annual conference in Orlando in June, the CLCS will be awarding the Dr. Donald Korb Excellence Award to Dr. John De Carle, for his major developmental impact on the CL and cornea field, and for lifelong achievement in the optometric profession. Dr. Joe Barr (TOSU) will also be honored with an Achievement Award and Dr. Ken Lebow will receive the Dr. Roger Kame Award. Congratulations to the recipients !

A 2004-2005 Member Directory is now available to facilitate networking and referrals amongst CLCS members.

GPLI

A new pamphlet, entitled "GP Lens Care & Handling" is available for first time GP wearers. This pamphlet will be a valuable educational tool for our patients as well as students learning the application and removal of GP lenses.

Another valuable educational tool are the on-line symposia's on the GPLI website which address different GP topics. Here is the schedule for the next on-line symposia;

- Aug 10 Corneal Reshaping & Young People
- Sept 21 Incorporating GP Bifocals & Multifocals into your practice
- Oct 12 How to Optimize Both GP Fitting Approach & Adaptation
- Nov 16 GP Correction of the post-surgical cornea

You can check out more details on the GPLI website;

www.rgpli.org

The CL & Cornea Resident's Symposium will be held on August 20-22, 2004 in St. Louis, MO. This networking weekend is extremely valuable for residents as they begin their year long residency. Invitations have already been sent out for the event.

Campus-Industry News

X-Cel Contacts: Mark Parker and Linda Glover announced at the AOCLE workshop that the Walman Optical School Award, offered to the American schools was also going to be extended to the 2 Canadian schools of optometry. Great news !

ICO: Jan Jurkus received a Faculty Recognition Award (a beautiful Waterford crystal ice bucket) for 30 years of service. Congratulations Jan !

Vistakon: New appointments include Pat Cummings as VP of Prof. Affairs, Cristina Schnider as Director of Academic Affairs and Derrick Artis as Director of Professional Affairs. Howard Purcell was named Director of the Vision Care Institute, this 7000 sq. ft. facility will receive 4th yr students and ECPs whom will be able to enhance their fitting skills with lectures, seminars and hands-on CL fitting experiences.

NEWENCO: Ron Watanabe and Nadia Zalatio are the first time parents of a beautiful baby girl named Hana, born June 8th (6 lbs, 12 oz). Congratulations to the first time parents !

Ciba: Karen Gough has been appointed as President, North America CibaVision. Ciba continues to be a proud sponsor of the AAO Speakers Program. Contact the chair, Joel Silbert, for more information. The CCLRU/LVPEI Guide to the Differential Diagnosis of Microbial Keratitis vs CL Peripheral Ulcers has been redesigned. It is now a laminated flip side version (no longer a fold out document). The program of Finding the Practice of your Dreams is no longer

available, however ideas for other practice management programs should be forwarded to the Ciba team.

Ocular Science: Biomedics 55 Premier, launched in June 2004, is a new disposable lens with an optical design that corrects for aberrations in the lens and the eye. Combined with a tapered edge technology for greater comfort, this lens should offer a clearer more comfortable vision to patients.

Bausch & Lomb: Brian Levy has been appointed as Corporate VP and Chief Medical Officer. His responsibilities include preclinical, clinical and medical affairs for all B&L business worldwide. A refracted light beam will be included as part of the new B&L logo. Watch for it in the near future.

AMO: Dave Hansen has recently joined AMO as the Director of Professional Affairs. He will bring with him the wealth of clinical acumen that 32 years of practice has brought him. Over that time, Dr. Hansen mentioned that he learned about the "3 P's. People, Problems and Products". He hopes to bring that wisdom in his new role at AMO.

Blanchard: Blanchard Contact Lens has recently acquired the manufacturing of the Rose K lens for north america. This challenging venture will keep them very busy, however, according to Lee Buffalo the turn around time should remain between 24-36 hrs plus delivery time. A new Rose K lens, named Rose K2, should be available in mid fall 2004, which is an aberration-control lens design. Plans for a Rose K post-graft lens is presently under manufacturing and should be available in 2005.

Paragon: June 2004 marks the 2nd anniversary of Paragon Vision Sciences earning the first FDA approval for overnight Corneal Refractive Therapy (CRT), therapeutic lens corneal reshaping.

Finding an associate just got easier with Paragon's CRT University, an online matching service which provides practitioners and candidates to connect with each other. Get connected at www.crtuniversity.com

Waterloo: Waterloo received a donation of \$500,000(Cdn) from Ciba Vision for the expansion of its facilities. The company gave its donation in honor of Dr. Desmond Fonn recognizing his research and ongoing contribution in eyecare and the CL field. The school named a conference room in the Center for CL Research after the company.