

ASOPRS 2011 New Members



Adam G. Buchanan, MD

Lieutenant Colonel Adam G. Buchanan graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry/Biology from Gannon University in Erie, Pennsylvania. He attended medical school at the Pennsylvania State University College of Medicine, where he was inducted into Alpha Omega Alpha as a junior. Following a General Surgery Internship at Madigan Army Medical Center in Tacoma, Washington, he served for two years as a flight surgeon in Germany and deployed to Kosovo in support of Operation Joint Guardian. He returned to Madigan Army Medical Center for his Ophthalmology Residency from 2001-2004. After residency he was assigned to Fort Campbell, Kentucky, where he served as the Chief of Ophthalmology and volunteered as a clinical instructor in Corneal Refractive Surgery for the residency program at Vanderbilt University. During this time period he also deployed to Bagram, Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. From 2008-2010, Dr. Buchanan completed his fellowship in Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery in St. Louis with Drs. John Holds and Philip Custer. He is currently an Assistant Professor of Surgery for the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, F. Edward Hebert School of Medicine, and is the Assistant Chief of Ophthalmology at Madigan Army Medical Center. Aside from his clinical, surgical and educational duties, he is involved in the organization and execution of the Army's humanitarian eye surgical missions in Central America and Africa. He resides in University Place, Washington with his wife, Rebecca, and sons, Hunter and Nolan.



Mauricio R. Chavez, MD

Dr. Mauricio Chavez grew up in Chicago, Illinois. He earned his Doctor of Medicine from the University of Illinois College of Medicine in 2003 and completed his Ophthalmology residency at the University of Illinois Eye and Ear Infirmary in 2007. During his residency, he had the opportunity to work with Dr. Allen Putterman and became fascinated with the field of Oculofacial Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. Afterwards, he completed a two year fellowship at Oregon Health & Science University – Casey Eye Institute in 2009 under Dr. Roger Dailey and Dr. John Ng. He currently practices at Rocky Mountain Eye Center in Pueblo, Colorado. In his spare time, he attempts to learn the game of golf and enjoys traveling, skiing, and spending time with his wife and two dogs.



Lauren A. Eckstein, MD, PhD

Lauren Eckstein, MD, PhD, is an assistant professor of ophthalmic plastic and reconstructive surgery at the Scheie Eye Institute at the University of Pennsylvania. She completed her undergraduate training at the California Institute of Technology and later matriculated in the Medical Scientist Training Program at the University of California, San Francisco where she completed her graduate dissertation in the biomedical sciences. Thereafter, she received her residency training at the Jules Stein Eye Institute and completed her fellowship training in oculofacial and orbital surgery with Dr. Roberta Gausas at the Scheie Eye Institute.



Lauren Z. Gavaris, MD

Lauren Gavaris was born and raised in Bethesda, Maryland. In college, she played tennis for the University of Wisconsin, where she received a full athletic scholarship. Following a year on the women's professional tennis circuit, she attended the George Washington University School of Medicine. Lauren completed her ophthalmology training at the Georgetown University-Washington Hospital Center residency program. Following this, she served as an ASOPRS fellow at the Sinai Hospital of Baltimore under James Karesh, MD and Marc Hirschbein, MD. She has since joined her father, Paul T. Gavaris, MD in a multi-specialty group practice in Washington, DC. She continues to work with residents in the Georgetown University program. Lauren resides in Bethesda, MD with her husband and two baby girls, Zoe 2, and Sophia 1.



Dan Georgescu, MD, PhD

Dr. Georgescu is originally from Europe, where he initiated his medical training. After graduating from the most prestigious medical school in Bucharest in 1999 he continued his studies at Yale University and received the Master of Science degree in 2001. After three more years of graduate work at UT Southwestern Medical Center, Dallas he received a Ph.D. degree in Neuroscience in 2004. His work in the field of molecular biology, genetics and behavior was critical in establishing, at a molecular level, the connection between feeding behavior and drug addiction. Dr. Georgescu subsequently completed a clinical internship at the University of Utah Hospitals and Clinics in Salt Lake City followed by residency training in ophthalmology at the prestigious Moran Eye Center, one of the top 3 residency training programs in the country. Following residency he stayed in Salt Lake City for two additional years of subspecialty training in the field of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery with Richard L. Anderson, one of the grandfathers of oculofacial plastic surgery. He is now an Assistant Professor of ophthalmology and oculofacial plastic surgery at Wilmer Eye Institute at Johns Hopkins Medical Institute. Currently, Dr. Georgescu is a board certified eye surgeon and a member of the European Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery (ESOPRS) and the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO).



Catherine J. Hwang, MD

Dr. Catherine J. Hwang was born in New York and raised in Atlanta, Georgia. She graduated from Emory University with a B.S. in Biology and then traveled to Philadelphia where she obtained her M.D. degree at the University of Pennsylvania. She stayed at the University of Pennsylvania, Scheie Eye Institute, for her ophthalmology residency. She then moved to Los Angeles and trained under Bob Goldberg, Norman Shorr, and Jonathan Hoenig for her ASOPRS/AACS fellowship at the Jules Stein Eye Institute, UCLA Medical Center. Dr. Hwang has since joined the faculty at the Jules Stein Eye Institute and is the head of the division of orbital and ophthalmic plastic surgery at the Greater Los Angeles Veterans Hospital. She is also completing an additional year of fellowship training in cosmetic surgery and rhinoplasty with Ronald Strahan, a facial plastic surgeon in Santa Monica, California.



Mauricio Jaramillo U., MD

Dr. Mauricio Jaramillo was born and raised in Medellin, Colombia (South America). He attended medical school at CES University in Medellin. After completing an internship at General Hospital of Medellin, Dr. Jaramillo completed his residency in ophthalmology at CES University (Department of Ophthalmology) of CES clinic in Medellin. In 1999 he did a fellowship in Ocular Oncology and Orbital surgery in National Institute of Oncology with Javeriana University in Bogota. After fellowship, he returned home to join CES University in Medellin as Chief Professor of Oculoplastic, Orbit and Oncology Department and he works in his Private Practice in CLOFAN Clinic of Medellin. He resides in Medellin with his wife Paula, and two children: Thomas (4) and Celeste (2).



Maria Kirzhner, MD

Maria Kirzhner received her medical degree from New York University School of Medicine and completed her ophthalmology residency at Kresge Eye Institute in Detroit, Michigan. She went on to train with Dr. Chris Fleming and Dr. Ralph Wesley in Tennessee to finish her ASOPRS fellowship. Maria is currently completing an ocular pathology fellowship with Dr. Frederick Jakobiec at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary. Maria lives in Boston with her husband and son.



John J. Koo, MD

John Koo grew up in Sacramento, California and graduated with high distinction from the University of California, Berkeley with a degree in economics. After spending a year working for a health care start-up company in San Francisco, he moved to New Haven, Connecticut where he earned both MD and MBA degrees from Yale University. John completed his medicine internship at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Harvard Medical School and ophthalmology residency at the Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins School of Medicine. John took time off to do Medicare policy for the Congressional Budget Office and health care consulting with Avalere Health, both in Washington DC. He returned to medicine and completed his oculoplastics fellowship at Wilmer under the guidance of Shannath Merbs, MD, PhD, with additional mentorship from Michael Grant, MD, PhD and Nicholas Iliff, MD. Currently John is happy to be back on the West Coast where he is practicing in Portland, OR.



Wendy W. Lee, MD, MS

Wendy W. Lee, M.D., M.S., Assistant Professor of Clinical Ophthalmology, specializes in ophthalmic plastic and reconstructive surgery with a special interest in aesthetic medicine. Dr. Lee earned her medical degree from Tulane University School of Medicine. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California at Santa Barbara and a Master of Science degree in physiology from Georgetown University. She completed both her residency and internship at her medical school alma mater, and a fellowship in ophthalmic plastic and reconstructive surgery at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute at the University of Miami Miller School of Medicine. Dr. Lee dedicates time to the teaching of residents, fellows and medical students. She is co-director of UM Cosmetic Medicine, a multidisciplinary cosmetic group involving the departments of ophthalmology, dermatology, ENT and plastic surgery. Together with her colleagues she organizes multispecialty trainings in cosmetic injectables and topical treatments. Dr. Lee also trains physicians and health care professionals on aesthetic injectables, lasers, light therapy and topical treatments of the eyelid, face and body. Dr. Lee conducts research at the Bascom Palmer Eye Institute with special interests in eyelid reconstruction, eyelash growth products, and aesthetic lasers. As well, she lectures around the world on oculoplastic disorders and aesthetic treatments related to the eye. She has been featured on CNN for her charitable work on patients flown in from other nations. She has also been featured on local news channels such as NBC and WSFL and is often quoted in women's interest magazines such as Allure, Marie Claire, and Women's Health regarding aesthetic treatments around the eyes.



Kevin S. Michels, MD

Kevin Michels started a new practice, Northwest Eyelid and Orbital Specialists, in Spokane, Washington. Kevin received his medical degree with distinction from Oregon Health and Science University in Portland, Oregon and was elected to the Alpha Omega Alpha honor society. He completed his internship within the Legacy Health System in Portland, Oregon. He returned to Oregon Health and Science University for his ophthalmology residency at the Casey Eye Institute. His ASOPRS fellowship was in Columbus, Ohio with Drs. Kenneth Cahill, Jill Foster, John Burns, and Kelly Everman. Kevin was awarded Fellow of the Year within the Ophthalmology Department at the Ohio State University. Kevin grew up in Albuquerque, New Mexico and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma, Washington. He is married to Trish Michels who is a pediatric anesthesiologist and they enjoy spending time in the out-of-doors fly fishing, skiing, and biking.



Lisa D. Mihora, MD

Lisa Mihora is originally from Santa Barbara, CA. She did her undergraduate training at UC San Diego, then attending the Medical College of Virginia. She was a flight surgeon with a Combat Search and Rescue group before doing her residency at the University of Tennessee. She was then stationed in Alaska as a general ophthalmologist and went on to train with fellowship director David Holck in San Antonio, TX. She is currently stationed at Langley AFB, VA. She will be unable to attend the spring meeting due to a deployment to Afghanistan. In her free time, she enjoys her pets, her husband, and running.



Keshini Parbhu, MD

Keshini Parbhu, M.D. grew up in Tallahassee, FL. She then attended Duke University in Durham, NC where she graduated Summa Cum Laude with a Bachelors of Science in Biology. Dr. Parbhu then went on to Vanderbilt University in Nashville, TN for her medical school training, general surgery internship, and ophthalmology residency. She then did her ASOPRS fellowship at the University of Alabama at Birmingham under the preceptorship of Drs. John Long and Matthew Vicinanzo. Following fellowship, she moved to Orlando, FL with her husband Dr. Deepak Raja, a comprehensive ophthalmologist and cornea specialist. They started their own practice, Orlando Eye and Oculoplastics, in southwest Orlando in October of 2010. She is also serving as volunteer faculty and has an appointment with the University of Central Florida College of Medicine as an Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology. She is a member of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and is board certified by the American Board of Ophthalmology. She is happy to be an incoming member of the American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery.



Edward (Ted) J. Wladis, MD

I was born and raised in Syracuse, NY, and attended Columbia University for my undergraduate education. I graduated from college with a degree in neuroscience in 1997. Upon graduation, I went to the State University of New York – Syracuse for medical school, and graduated in 2001. I performed my residency in ophthalmology at UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School. From there, I completed a fellowship in oculoplastic surgery with Dr. Roberta Gausas at the Scheie Eye Institute of the University of Pennsylvania. After graduation from fellowship in 2008, I joined Dr. Dale Meyer in private practice at Ophthalmic Plastic Surgery in Albany, NY and am currently on faculty at Albany Medical College. My research interests focus on inflammatory diseases of the orbit and eyelids, and I was fortunate to win the 2008 Marvin Quickert Thesis Award from the American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery. I currently am engaged in a variety of projects to further explore and characterize the molecular biology of oculoplastic inflammatory disorders. On a personal level, I am married to Lianne, an attorney who specializes in commercial litigation. We have two wonderful daughters, Molly (three years old) and Becca (six months). My hobbies include running marathons, watching and playing a variety of sports, cooking, and reading.



Christopher I. Zoumalan, MD

Dr. Zoumalan completed his undergraduate training at the University of California, Los Angeles in Biology and Psychology. Prior to starting medical school, he was awarded the coveted Stanley Fellowship at Harvard Medical School to continue his research in medicine. Dr. Zoumalan attended the Medical College of Wisconsin, where his interests in eyelid and plastic surgery blossomed. He was inducted into the Alpha Omega Alpha (AOA) honor society. He later received the Merck Award, which is awarded to the graduates with the highest academic achievements (top 1%). Dr. Zoumalan received his Ophthalmology training at Stanford University. He then went on to complete a two-year sub-specialized multidisciplinary fellowship program in Oculoplastic Surgery at various world-renowned New York City-based hospitals including: NYU Medical Center, Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons, New York Eye and Ear Infirmary, and the Manhattan Eye Ear and Throat Hospital under the preceptorship of Dr. Richard Lisman. Dr. Zoumalan is now in private practice in Beverly Hills, California. He continues to teach as a Clinical Instructor at the Keck School of Medicine of USC. He also serves as a volunteer staff surgeon at the Shriners Hospital of Los Angeles, where is part of a multidisciplinary team of plastic surgeons that help in identifying children in need from all over the world and flying them over to Shriners Hospital for their specialized care.
