

# OPHTHALMIC HOSPITALIST INTEREST GROUP

## NEWSLETTER

Donna Kim, MD | Maggie Hymowitz, MD

### Announcements

#### Join the Community!

Read about trauma call staffing, goniosol discussions, inpatient medication formularies for ophthalmic meds, and more!

[AAO/OHIG Online Community!](#)

#### OHIG Round Table at AAO 2023

Join your fellow OHIG members at the annual AAO meeting for a casual meet and greet and round table discussion about hospital-based consults. Save the date: **Sat Nov 4th @ 4:00-5:00pm**, location TBA.

#### OHIG Topic Wishlist

Have a topic or clinical case that you'd like to feature in a future OHIG newsletter? We welcome your ideas and expertise. Feel free to email [ohig@ohig.org](mailto:ohig@ohig.org)

#### Welcome New Members!

Thanks for joining OHIG! Please verify your information on the [OHIG website](#).



### Articles

#### [Enhancing Diversity in the Ophthalmology Workforce, Ophthalmology, 2022](#)

Currently ophthalmology is less diverse with respect to race, ethnicity, and gender compared to other medical specialties.

#### [Trends in Racial Diversity Among US Ophthalmology Residents, Ophthalmology, 2022](#)

Ophthalmology residency programs are less racially diverse compared with other specialties, URM representing only 6.3%.

#### [Perspectives of US Ophthalmology Residents and Medical Students on Ophthalmology Exposure During Medical School, JAO, 2023.](#)

Ophthalmology exposure in medical school has shifted toward research and clinical observation, many students do not feel confident in their diagnostic skills.

## PEARLS



### New BCSC Chapter on DEI

#### CHAPTER 17

#### Social Determinants of Health

##### Highlights

- Social determinants of health (SDOH) are major drivers of health disparities.
- Addressing SDOH will "create social, physical, and economic environments that promote attaining the full potential for health and well-being for all" (Healthy People 2030).
- Minority ethnicity, lower educational attainment, lower income, and lack of insurance are all associated with greater visual impairment in the United States.
- Ophthalmologists should assess the impact of SDOH as part of every patient encounter and should address SDOH in their treatment of patients.

A recent important addition to the BCSC textbooks featuring Social Determinants of Health and DEI educational content. [Click here](#)

### MOM Special Recognition Award



The AAO honored the leadership and sponsors of the MOM program with the 2022 Special Recognition Award for its outstanding service. Congratulations! [Click here](#)

## CONSULT ROUNDS

### Minority Ophthalmology Mentoring for Students



Deion Sims, MD  
Minority Ophthalmology  
Mentoring (MOM) Program  
Mentee

#### Q1) Which medical school do you currently attend?

University of Washington School of Medicine (UWSOM), Seattle Washington.

#### Q2) Where did you match for ophthalmology?

Casey Eye Institute, Oregon Health and Science University in Portland, Oregon.

#### Q3) How did you learn about the MOM program and what made you decide to apply to the program?

I first heard about the MOM program when the ophthalmology advisor at UWSOM forwarded an email about MOM to our ophthalmology interest group. I decided to apply because I thought ophthalmology was interesting, and the structure and

support of the program looked phenomenal. As an underrepresented student, I was also eager to be involved in a diverse ophthalmology community.

**Q4) What was your experience with the MOM program? Did you feel that having a MOM mentor made a difference in terms of your decision to go into ophthalmology?**

My experience in the MOM program was overwhelmingly positive. They provided resources that helped with Step studying, application advice, and even stipends for away rotations. My MOM mentor Dr. Tyrone Glover was there each step of the way and supported me through the entire process. Our mentor/mentee relationship encouraged my decision to go into ophthalmology and gave me confidence when applying. My support extended beyond my mentor; the MOM community is a vast network of physicians and students committed to each other's success and the mission of the MOM program.

**Q5) What particular aspects of mentorship did you feel were most helpful for you?**

Having someone to advise me early on in my medical school career was vital. I am a first-generation college student and did not know what steps I needed to take to ensure I was a competitive applicant. Dr. Glover helped me map out my schedule and set goals throughout my medical school career in preparation for residency applications. I was also assigned a specific mentor, Dr. Nathan Scott, to help me navigate the application process. Dr. Scott reviewed every line of my application with me and helped me decide which schools to apply to. He even helped me prepare for interviews. The mentorship provided through the MOM program was instrumental to my success.



Lisa D. Kelly, MD  
Professor, University of Cincinnati College of Medicine  
Taylor Asbury Endowed Chair in Ophthalmology  
Medical Director, University Eye Clinics  
Director, Medical Student Education, Ophthalmology  
Cincinnati, OH

**Qr: What is your current role in the Minority Ophthalmology Mentoring (MOM) program?**

Ar: I am on the Minority Ophthalmology Mentoring Executive Committee and chair and member of the Mentoring and Data and Metrics Subcommittees.

**Q2: What goals do you have for the MOM program and how do you hope it will impact ophthalmology?**

A2: Increase diversity in the field of ophthalmology by helping UIM students become competitive ophthalmology residency applicants. Improve longterm ophthalmic health for communities of color and foster a culturally competent, empathetic healthcare system.

**Q3: What role do mentors serve for MOM mentees? Are there specific requirements for being a mentor?**

A3: Mentors are the heart of the Minority Ophthalmology Mentoring program. Each member is matched one-on-one with a student whom they guide through medical school and, ideally, on to ophthalmology residency. Therefore mentorship is a relationship commitment of several years.

We ask our mentors to complete an implicit bias training as well as mentor orientation facilitated by our Mentoring Subcommittee. Additionally, we ask our mentors to:

- support student's career development as they explore different areas of medicine
- demonstrate how ophthalmologists positively contribute to the healthcare community by preventing vision loss from diseases such as diabetes and glaucoma
- illustrate how ophthalmologists help protect patients' valuable eyesight and how practicing ophthalmology is personally and professionally gratifying
- communicate by phone, video chat, email, or in person with their student mentee three to four times each year, and more frequently when needed

**Q4: How do you match mentors and mentees?**

A4: We match mentors and mentees through a process that considers our mentor and mentee preferences, e.g. gender, race/ethnicity, geographic location, subspecialty, practice type, LGBTQ+. It is essentially a big puzzle that is customized, as best as possible, to meet specific interests and needs.

*We wish to sincerely thank **Dr. Deion Sims** and **Dr. Lisa Kelly** for sharing their experience and expertise on the Minority Ophthalmology Mentoring (MOM) program supported by the AAO and AUPO. Congratulations on the success of this wonderful program which is improving the field of ophthalmology and healthcare in multiple important ways.*

For more information about the Minority Ophthalmology Mentoring (MOM) Program, visit: <https://www.aao.org/minority-mentoring>

Interested in becoming a MOM mentor or speaker? Visit <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6455519/Mentor-and-Speaker-Interest-Form-Class-of-2022>

Are you a current MOM mentee/mentor? We welcome you to share comments about your experience on the AAO/OHIG Online Community: <https://aao.mobilize.io/main/groups/47315/lounge>