HAMILTON EYE INSTITUTE WELCOMES NEW CHAIR
a seasonal newsletter produced by

The Hamilton Eye Institute at
The University of Tennessee
Health Science Center
930 Madison Avenue, Suite 200
Memphis, TN 38163

Email:
heiacademic@uthsc.edu

Editors:
James C. Fleming, MD, FACS
Lee A. Thompson, MA
Blanca X. Phillips

Layout & Design:
Will Phillips, Jr.
Sleek Design Graphics Studio
www.sleekdesignstudio.com

Photography:
Daniel Cox, BA
Lee Thompson, MA

Chancellor,
UT Health Science Center:
Steve J. Schwab, MD

Executive Dean,
College of Medicine:
David M. Stern, MD

Director,
Communications & Marketing:
Sheila T. T. Champlin, MA

Front Cover Photo:
James C. Fleming, MD, FACS,
new department chair (left), and
Barrett G. Haik, MD, FACS,
director, Hamilton Eye Institute, and
fifth department chair (right)

Also In This Issue

3 History of Past Chairmen
4 New Director and Chair
10 Welcome Aboard
12 Events Calendar

Publication Number: R073286147-0001-2013 (0145)
Dr. Edward Coleman Ellett

Dr. Ellett was professor of Ophthalmology at the Memphis College of Physicians and Surgeons, which merged with the University of Tennessee Medical School in 1911 to become the University of Tennessee College of Medicine. Ophthalmology was a division of the Department of Surgery at that time, and Dr. Ellett served as its chair until his resignation in 1922.

Dr. A.C. Lewis

Following the death of Dr. Ellett, the department lacked a chairman or professor. It was staffed solely by three associate professors of Ophthalmology until 1933, when Dr. A.C. Lewis was named clinical professor and chair, titles he held until his death in 1944.

Dr. Philip M. Lewis

Upon the death of Dr. A.C. Lewis, his brother, Dr. Philip M. Lewis, became clinical professor and chair of Ophthalmology from 1945 to 1969. He considered it his highest honor to be the president of the American Ophthalmological Society from 1966 to 1967. The P.M. Lewis Eye Clinic at the University of Tennessee was dedicated on March 11, 1967, in the Gailor Outpatient Clinic building.

Dr. Roger L. Hiatt

After joining the department in 1964 as the first full-time ophthalmologist at the university, Dr. Hiatt became professor and chair in 1969. During his career, he dramatically expanded the department’s academic and clinical programs. He increased the residency training program from one to three residents per year, trained 110 ophthalmologists, and in 1971 established the Annual Alumni/Residents’ Day, which is now in its 41st year. He retired in 1995 to pursue missionary work with his church.

Dr. Barrett G. Haik

In 1995, the search began for the 5th chair of the Department of Ophthalmology. There were more than 50 candidates, but Dr. Haik stood out among them all. He was drawn to Memphis by the challenge of developing an eye center second to none. Since his arrival in 1995, the department has grown from four academic faculty members to more than 40, serving in a world-class, vertically integrated, 70,000-square-foot facility with a clinical program recognized as one of the top 10 in the nation.
Since the 1960s, several visionary leaders have sought to establish a world-class eye center in Memphis, but it took the unparalleled leadership of Dr. Barrett G. Haik to fulfill that vision 50 years in the making. Recruited to the University of Tennessee Health Science Center by Dr. Ralph S. Hamilton in 1995, Dr. Haik has served as chair of the Department of Ophthalmology for more than 17 years.

Now, he leaves that role to Dr. James C. Fleming and steps into his new role as director of the Hamilton Eye Institute, enabling him to devote more time to what he dearly loves. “I want to go back to being a teacher, researcher and clinician,” he states. “But as director I will continue to bring in new grant funding and work on philanthropic goals.”

A native of New Orleans, Dr. Haik earned his medical degree and his master’s degree in anatomy at Louisiana State University, completing his residency at the Edward S. Harkness Eye Institute of the Columbia-Presbyterian Medical Center in New York. He joined Cornell University in 1980 and became associate director of the Ophthalmic Oncology Service at the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center in 1984. In 1986, he moved to New Orleans to join Tulane University as a professor of Ophthalmology. He was subsequently made program director and medical director of the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat Hospital, where he trained residents from Tulane, Louisiana State University and the Oschner Foundation. In 1991, he became director of the Ophthalmic Oncology and Orbital Disease Service at Tulane, and he was named the George M. Haik, Sr., MD - St. Giles Foundation Professor of Pediatric and Adult Ophthalmic Oncology, Tulane’s first endowed chair in Ophthalmology.

Since his recruitment to UTHSC in 1995, his remarkable leadership and the generosity of our wonderful donors have transformed the Department of Ophthalmology from a small office with four academic faculty members into the acclaimed Hamilton Eye Institute, a world-class eye center that is home to more than 40 academic faculty members and lauded among the top 10 clinical care facilities in the United States.

“I am truly gratified to see Dr. Chris Fleming leading the Hamilton Eye Institute,” Dr. Haik states. “He is an inspired leader and the ideal chair to steer the institute into the evolving world of modern ophthalmic medicine.”
New Department Chair

JAMES C. FLEMING, MD, FACS

A native Memphian, Dr. Fleming has been a full-time physician with the Department of Ophthalmology since 1997, when he was recruited by Dr. Haik to head the Oculoplastic Service. In 2003, he was promoted to professor and appointed vice-chair of clinical affairs. Four years later, he successfully unified a consortium of the Baptist and Methodist health care systems — competitors that almost never work together — and established the HEI ambulatory surgery center. He was named the Philip M. Lewis Professor of Ophthalmology in 2008.

On July 1, 2012, Dr. Fleming became the sixth chair in the department’s 101-year history.

“Barrett has developed a group of people that have a great core value set,” Dr. Fleming states. “The primary job of chairman here is to continue to grow those core values.” Those include giving patients the finest care that ophthalmology has to offer, providing the best education possible for future generations of ophthalmologists, recruiting top vision scientists, fostering a fertile environment for translational research, and providing a vertically integrated facility that inspires all of these to flourish together under one roof.

A master clinician, Dr. Fleming is consistently recognized by “Best Doctors in America” and has received many awards both locally and nationally. He has served as president of the American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery and the Tennessee Medical Association. He is also on the council of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and chair of the American Medical Association’s southeast delegation. He has traveled the world with ORBIS International and the World Cataract Foundation, volunteering his surgical expertise to improve the sight and lives of disadvantaged people in developing nations.

Dr. Fleming’s wife of more than 35 years, Anne, is a UTHSC College of Nursing graduate. They are the proud parents of two daughters, Rebecca and Katherine, who are both physicians, and they have two granddaughters, Norah and Gabriela.
41st Annual Alumni/Residents’ Day

On Friday, June 1, 2012, the faculty, residents and alumni of the Hamilton Eye Institute convened for the 41st Annual Ophthalmology Alumni/Residents’ Day, an event that celebrates the graduation of our third-year residents and departing instructors. Following case and research presentations by residents and faculty, the centerpiece of the program was the George K. Kambara, MD, Distinguished Visiting Professorship Lecture presented by Elias I. Traboulsi, MD, vice-chair for Education, professor of Ophthalmology, and head of the Department of Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus, Cole Eye Institute, Cleveland Clinic Lerner College of Medicine, Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland, Ohio.

After participating in numerous Q & A sessions, Dr. Traboulsi presented the Kambara Lecture, “Differential Diagnosis and Management of the Patient with Ectopia Lentis with Emphasis on Marfan Syndrome.” Following his presentation, which was of very high interest to the audience of physicians and residents, Dr. Natalie C. Kerr, director of the HEI Residency Program, presented a plaque to Dr. Traboulsi in appreciation for his outstanding service as the 22nd Kambara Distinguished Visiting Professor.

We offer our deepest gratitude to Dr. Traboulsi for his participation in the 41st Annual Alumni/Residents’ Day.
A. Vitreoretinal surgery instructor Dr. John Randolph (left) is congratulated by his mentor, Dr. Calzada (right). Dr. Randolph will complete a second-year fellowship at the Charles Retina Institute.

B. Graduating resident Dr. Brian Jerkins (right) is congratulated by Dr. Kerr (left). He joins the Ochsner Health System in New Orleans to begin a glaucoma fellowship.

C. Dr. Barrett G. Haik (right) congratulates departing oculoplastic surgery instructor Dr. Margaret Phillips (left), who will complete her second year fellowship with Dr. Ralph E. Wesley in Nashville, Tenn.

D. Graduating resident Dr. Brian T. Fowler remains with HEI to pursue a fellowship in ocular oncology.

E. Graduating resident Dr. Alinda Guynes McGowin (right) thanks Dr. Kerr (left). Dr. McGowin joins the HEI faculty as a comprehensive ophthalmologist.

F. Drs. Kerr (left) and Hoehn (right) congratulate graduating pediatric ophthalmology instructor Dr. Emily T. Graves (center), who begins a fellowship with Dr. James Loden, in Nashville, Tenn.

G. International ocular oncology research fellow Dr. Aladdin Rashwani (left) is congratulated by Dr. Kerr (right). He will practice in Gaziantep, Turkey.

H. Glaucoma research fellow Dr. Chainarong Leungchaichawang (left) is congratulated by his mentor, Dr. Salim (right). He returns to practice in Nakhonnayok Hospital in Bangkok, Thailand.

I. Graduating chief resident Dr. Daniel Bennett receives his diploma from Dr. Kerr. He begins a fellowship in vitreoretinal surgery at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

J. Graduating vitreoretinal surgery instructor Dr. John Hyatt heads to Charleston, S.C., to join Carolina Eyecare Physicians, LLC, as a vitreoretinal surgeon.
The Philip M. Lewis, MD, Award

Jorge I. Calzada, MD

This award is bestowed annually by the graduating residents on the faculty member they feel has provided exceptional instruction in clinical service.

This year’s recipient, Dr. Calzada, is a clinical professor of ophthalmology at HEI and president of the Charles Retina Institute (CRI). Originally hailing from the Republic of Panama, Dr. Calzada was brought to the United States by Dr. Barrett Haik for a laboratory research fellowship at HEI. He completed a clinical ophthalmology residency in 2003, and then returned to Panama to join the Clínica de Ojos Orillac-Calvo, one of the most respected ophthalmology practices in Panama.

Dr. Steve Charles, who had worked with Dr. Calzada during his ophthalmology residency, recruited him back to Memphis to complete a vitreoretinal surgery fellowship at CRI and finally join CRI as an associate surgeon. Later, Dr. Calzada became president of CRI, and also serves as director of the Retinopathy of Prematurity Service and attending physician to the HEI/CRI vitreoretinal surgery fellowship. Dr. Calzada has a weekly retina clinic at HEI.

The Roger L. Hiatt, MD, Award

Elliott M. Kanner, MD, PhD

This award is bestowed annually by the graduating residents on the faculty member they feel has provided exceptional instruction in the academic program.

Dr. Kanner, this year’s recipient, is an assistant professor of Ophthalmology at HEI specializing in glaucoma. Dr. Kanner hails from New Haven, Conn., where he obtained his bachelor’s and master’s degrees in molecular biophysics and biochemistry. He then moved to New York, where he completed his MD at Weill Medical College of Cornell University and his PhD at Rockefeller University. Following a residency at Columbia Presbyterian, he came to UTHSC and completed a glaucoma fellowship.

In 2007, Dr. Kanner was recruited to the HEI Glaucoma Service. As an assistant program director for the residency program, he is very active in resident education. In addition to being an attending physician for resident clinic and surgery rotations, he also provides glaucoma and optics lectures, actively participates in weekly grand rounds, and trains residents on the surgical simulator in the HEI Skills Transfer Center.
On Tuesday, June 12, 2012, the Hamilton Eye Institute unveiled its new donor wall. Constructed of etched glass and brushed metal, this monument honors those who have helped make the Hamilton Eye Institute into the world-class eye center it is today.

Department of Ophthalmology Vice-Chair Dr. James C. Fleming welcomed donors, university and community leaders, physicians and members of the press to the ceremony. UTHSC Chancellor Steve J. Schwab, MD, praised the institute as a national-caliber research, education and patient care facility. “It is my distinct pleasure to be here as we unveil this wall that reflects the commitment of so many to build a world-class institution here in Memphis, Tennessee,” he said.

The chancellor and other UTHSC administrators commended the vision of Dr. Ralph Hamilton for the institute's creation. A grateful Dr. Hamilton humbly stated, “I think you are giving me too much credit. Dr. Haik is the man who really did this.” He then spoke of his vision for the institute and his efforts in trying to establish it over 35 years, until the leadership of Dr. Barrett Haik and the generosity of many supporters enabled his dream to become a reality.

Dr. Haik said the way was paved well before he took the reins. “Drs. Ralph Hamilton, Roger Hiatt, Jerre Freeman, and Richard Drewry laid the groundwork for the creation of this eye institute,” he said. “It is a testament to the Hamilton family, ophthalmic leaders in Memphis, the ophthalmic community throughout Tennessee, and our treasured alumni and friends.”

We thank Chancellor Schwab, Dean Stern, and the leadership of UTHSC for their participation in this historic unveiling. Further, we wish to express our ineffable gratitude to our donors who make all things possible at the Hamilton Eye Institute through their tremendous generosity.

PHOTO ABOVE (FROM LEFT TO RIGHT):
Welcome Aboard

New Faculty

**Alinda Guynes McGowin, MD - Comprehensive Ophthalmology**

Dr. McGowin received her MD from the University of Alabama School of Medicine. She completed residency training at the Hamilton Eye Institute, University of Tennessee Health Science Center.

**Shiva Nobar, MD - Pediatric Ophthalmology**

Dr. Nobar received her MD from Ross University School of Medicine. She completed residency training at Tulane University School of Medicine in New Orleans, and her fellowship in pediatric ophthalmology and strabismus at Children’s Mercy Hospital.

**Byron N. Wilkes, MD - Oculoplastic Surgery and Orbital Disease**

Dr. Wilkes received his MD from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. He completed residency training at the University of Oklahoma Department of Ophthalmology, and his fellowship in oculoplastics surgery and orbital disease at the University of Louisville in Kentucky.

New Residents

**Austin P. Bell, MD**

Dr. Bell received his MD from the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences.

**Michael P. Hood, MD**

Dr. Hood received his MD from the University of Oklahoma.
New Instructors

Brian T. Fowler, MD - Ocular Oncology
Dr. Fowler received his MD from the University of Virginia School of Medicine. He completed residency training at the Hamilton Eye Institute, University of Tennessee Health Science Center.

Carolee Cutler Peck, MD - Oculoplastic Surgery
Dr. Peck received her MD from the University of Utah School of Medicine. She completed residency training at the University of Florida College of Medicine-Jackson.

Eric Sigler, MD - Vitreoretinal Surgery
Dr. Sigler received his MD from the State University of New York at Buffalo’s School of Medicine and Biomedical Sciences. He completed residency training at Yale New Haven Hospital, Yale University School of Medicine.

New Residents

T. Amerson Pegram, MD
Dr. Pegram received his MD from the University of Tennessee Health Science Center.

Patrick W. Risch, MD
Dr. Risch received his MD from the University of Oklahoma.
Come and see us:

The University of Tennessee
Health Science Center
Hamilton Eye Institute
Adult Specialty Clinic, Suite 200
Pediatric Clinic & Orthoptics, Suite 400
Lions Low Vision Center, Suite 400
930 Madison Avenue, Memphis, TN 38163
Ph: (901) 448-6650

Clinic of Ralph S. Hamilton, MD
930 Madison Avenue, Suite 230
Memphis, TN 38163
Ph: (901) 448-1664

Wolf River Medical Building
7945 Wolf River Boulevard, Suite 240
Germantown, TN 38138
Ph: (901) 347-8240

HEI Ambulatory Surgery Center
930 Madison Avenue, Suite 370
Memphis, TN 38163
Ph: (901) 448-3900

Clinical Research
Jessica Knowlton, MS CRA
Ph: (901) 448-1201 • Fax: (901) 448-1299
jknowlto@uthsc.edu

http://www.uthsc.edu/eye

Events Calendar:

August 4, 2012
Mid-South Lions ‘Give the Gifts XX’ Dinner, Auction & Casino Night
5 p.m. at Memphis Marriott East, 2625 Thousand Oaks Blvd., Memphis, Tenn.
For more information: (901) 543-5466 or http://www.midsouthlions.org

September 13, 2012
15th William N. Williford, MD, Distinguished Visiting Professorship
Featuring M. Bruce Shields, MD, Marvin L. Sears Professor and Chair Emeritus,
Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science, Yale School of Medicine,
New Haven, Conn., 6 p.m., HEI Freeman Auditorium
Register for free at http://bit.ly/Qa1H9N

October 20, 2012
Memphis VisionWalk
9 a.m. at Overton Park, 2080 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, Tenn.
For more information: (847) 680-0100 or http://bit.ly/OzDbfj

November 19 and December 7, 2012
Residency Applicant Interviews
For more information: (901) 448-5884 or http://www.uthsc.edu/eye/education

December 8, 2012
16th Annual Clinical Update for the Comprehensive Ophthalmologist
Featuring the I. Lee Arnold Distinguished Visiting Professor, David J. Wilson, MD,
Chair, Department of Ophthalmology, Director, Casey Eye Institute, Oregon
Health & Science University, Portland, Ore.
Also featuring invited lecturer Anastacios Costarides, MD, PhD, Associate
Professor of Ophthalmology, Pamela Humphrey Firman Professor of
Ophthalmology, Section of Glaucoma, Emory Eye Center, Atlanta, Ga.
8 a.m. - 5 p.m., HEI Freeman Auditorium