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NEWS FROM ARVO'S BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Your Board of Trustees met on November 3rd, following a round of meetings with members of Congress. At present, the status of legislation and appropriation measures provide for a 14% increase for the National Eye Institute, as part of the effort to double the NIH budget by next year. While recent events may make achieving that goal by next year more difficult, at present the budget is on target. Highlights of the Board meeting include the following:



Sheila K. West, PhD
President

- The Board has approved **benchmarks to monitor the performance of the Association's journals, IOVS and JOV**. Bob Frank, the newly elected Editor-in-Chief of *IOVS*, is assembling an exciting new Editorial Board. Online submissions will be accepted by June, with a demonstration of the process at the ARVO Annual Meeting. Andrew Watson, Editor-in-Chief of *JOV*, expects to publish 34 papers by year's end, plus the Vision Science Society's 2001 meeting abstracts. Drs. Oliver Braddick and Joel Miller were approved as Editors for *JOV*.
- *It's ALL About SCIENCE!*, reflects the **strong scientific program** being planned for the 2002 ARVO Annual Meeting. Set aside time to greet friends at the ARVO Social following the Keynote Address by Dr. Alfred Sommer, long-time ARVO member.
- In connection with the report from the **Long Range Planning Committee**, the Board is concerned about **attracting key constituents responsible for training eye and vision researchers**, which include chairs of departments of ophthalmology and optometry. The proposal to have "hot topics" or key minisymposia organized by each Section prior to the Section Business Meetings was endorsed by the Board and will be formalized by the Program Committee in January.
- The **Advocacy Committee** continues **discussions with the Center for Scientific Review (CSR)** about the timelines of reviews and efforts to broaden the scientific base of Study Sections by soliciting and forwarding the names of ARVO members for consideration for appointments. The Committee provided advocacy suggestions to the newly created **Australian Society for Vision Research (ASVR)**, organized by ARVO member Steve Kwok.
- The newly established **Ethics and Regulations for Clinical Research Committee**, co-chaired by Doug Anderson and Ed Howes, has a **stellar symposium** planned for the Annual Meeting, including a special presentation by the DHHS Director of the Office of Human Research Protection, as well as other government and academic notables in the area of **responsible conduct of research in humans**.

It is my pleasure to report that the Board continues to represent all of the membership's interests and works hard to ensure ARVO is a productive organization committed to fostering the best in eye and vision research.



Sheila K. West, PhD
President



LATE BREAKING NEWS!

Vision Research Funding Boost

On December 16, Congress approved Fiscal Year 2002 funding for the National Institutes of Health and the National Eye Institute. NIH received \$2.3 billion (14.7% over 2001) and NEI received \$581.3 million (13.9% over 2001). **NEI received the second highest percentage increase among research institutes.**

Congratulations to the vision research advocates who worked hard during the year to raise the visibility and importance of vision research on Capitol Hill.

It is important to thank your Senators and Representative for the significant NEI budget increase and for their support.

2002 Abstract Submissions Strong

Janet Blanks, PhD, ARVO Executive Vice President and Program Committee Chair, reported December 15, that the 2002 abstracts going forward for review (5,154) nearly reached that of 2001 (5,324). Memberships for 2002 (9,872) equaled that of last year at the same time.

Dr. Blanks stated, "Such strong numbers of submissions and memberships is proof that in spite of global events, ARVO's mission to provide scientific interchange is as essential as ever."



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www.journalofvision.org

The Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology, Inc. (ARVO) was founded in 1928 in Washington, DC.

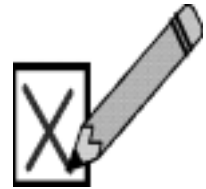
“The purposes of ARVO shall be to encourage and assist research, training, publication, and dissemination of knowledge in vision and ophthalmology.”

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2002 Trustee Election Information

Board of Trustees Candidates

Early in 2002, all voting members (Regular, Family, Sustaining, Life and Family Life) of the three Sections voting for Trustees in the upcoming year will be sent election ballots accompanied by biographical sketches of their candidates.



Biochemistry/Molecular Biology

Nicolas G. Bazan, MD, PhD, LSU Health Sciences
Center, New Orleans, Louisiana

Daniel T. Organisciak, PhD, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio

Clinical/Epidemiologic Research

Frederick L. Ferris, III, MD, National Eye Institute, Bethesda, Maryland

Paul Mitchell, MD, PhD, University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia

Visual Neurophysiology

Robert B. Barlow, PhD, Upstate Medical University, Syracuse, New York

Peter Sterling, PhD, University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

When voting by mail, your ballot must be received in the ARVO Office no later than April 12, 2002. You can cast your ballot in person or change your vote before the beginning of your Section's Business Meeting at the Annual Meeting in the Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The election results will be announced during the corresponding Section's Business Meeting.

ARVO 2002 Calendar of Events

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| January 25-26 | Program Committee Meeting, Rockville, Maryland |
| January 31 | Deadline to withdraw Abstracts from Meeting Publications |
| February 18 | Abstract Search Program activated (www.arvo.org/abstracts.htm) |
| March 5 | Deadline for 2003 Awards nominations |
| March 23 | Deadline for housing reservations at ARVO rates through the Housing Bureau |
| April 12 | Deadline for election ballot receipt for Trustees
Deadline for Annual Meeting advance registration and ARVO Course registration |
| April 30 | Deadline for Annual Meeting and Course refund requests (must be in writing and accompanied by namebadge) |

MORE NEWS FROM ARVO

Trustees Approve 2002 Budget

At its November 3rd meeting, the Board of Trustees accepted the Finance Committee's recommendation for approval of the 2002 ARVO Budget. The Finance Committee advised that the budget is based on a conservative estimate for income and a realistic estimate for expenditures if all activities currently planned are undertaken. However, the Finance Committee and ARVO Staff plan regular reviews of ARVO's financial status with the goal of narrowing the projected deficit.

A modest growth in revenue is expected, 4.2% above 2001 levels, which is based on an increase in member dues, Annual Meeting registration fees, and nonmember subscriptions to *IOVS*, tempered by lower investment income due to market instability and a reduction in income stemming from lower *IOVS* color charges. Expenses, projected to increase 11.6% over 2001, reflect maintenance of current member services and increases in programmatic costs related to the first year expenses for the installation of *IOVS* online manuscript submission and review software and for the new abstract submission and review software, as well as, the second stage of development of new programs – The ARVO Foundation and the *Journal of Vision*.

For ARVO Courses and Registration Information, visit www.arvo.org/courses.htm.



*It's
Not
Too
Late!*



Your copy of the January 2002 issue of *IOVS* might not arrive if you have not renewed your 2002 ARVO Membership. Check the online membership directory at www.arvo.org/membership.htm.

Vision Study Section Nominees Sought

The ARVO Board of Trustees is seeking individuals to nominate for service on the Vision Study Sections on an ongoing basis. Researchers who have successfully recompleted their R01s are strongly encouraged to serve in this capacity at some point in their careers. After review by the ARVO Trustees, names will be forwarded to the Center for Scientific Review, which is particularly seeking nominees that represent minority, women and clinician segments of the vision research community. Please forward a letter indicating your interest and CV via e-mail to mcrissman@arvo.org or by mail to ARVO, Study Section Nomination, Suite 250, 12300 Twinbrook Parkway, Rockville, MD 20852.

For questions contact: Michael Crissman (mcrissman@arvo.org; phone 240-221-2912) in the ARVO office or Dr. Janet Blanks (blanks@oakland.edu), Executive Vice President.

Scientific Journals Discounted for ARVO Members

As an ARVO Member, you may be eligible to receive discounted subscriptions to the scientific journals listed below. Some restrictions may apply. Not all classes of membership may be eligible. All subscription orders must be sent directly to the journal, not the ARVO Office. For a list of rates and contact information, check the ARVO Web site at www.arvo.org/discount.htm.

- ◆ *Binocular Vision & Strabismus Surgery Quarterly*
- ◆ *Current Eye Research*
- ◆ *European Journal of Ophthalmology*
- ◆ *Journal of Ophthalmology*
- ◆ *Journal of Toxicology - Cutaneous and Ocular Toxicology*
- ◆ *Neuro-ophthalmology*
- ◆ *Ocular Immunology and Inflammation*
- ◆ *Ophthalmic Epidemiology*
- ◆ *Ophthalmic Genetics*
- ◆ *Ophthalmic Research*
- ◆ *Ophthalmologica*
- ◆ *Orbit*
- ◆ *Seminars in Ophthalmology*
- ◆ *Strabismus*
- ◆ *Visual Impairment Research*
- ◆ *Visual Neuroscience*

IOVS/JOV UPDATE

ARVO 2002 Workshops

- **IOVS Online Submission**

IOVS sponsors the all-new IOVS Online Submission Workshop in preparation for the launch of this program on June 1, 2002. IOVS authors, reviewers and editorial board members should plan to attend this highly important session scheduled for Monday, May 6, 1:45-3:15 PM in Room 315.

- **Digitizing Art**

For a third straight year, IOVS and JOV are sponsoring the digital art workshop, an informative session aimed at teaching authors how to create high-quality digital images for manuscript submission, Tuesday, May 7, 1:45 PM-3:15 PM in Room 305.

- **JOV Online Submission**

All interested ARVO members are encouraged to attend this informative workshop on JOV's approach to online publishing. Editor-in-Chief Andrew Watson, PhD, will review the journal's multimedia philosophy and its submission and manuscript production processes. Authors will learn to make use of the latest technology when preparing their manuscripts for JOV. An interactive question-and-answer

period with Dr. Watson follows the presentation. The workshop will be held Monday, May 6, 1:45 PM - 3:15 PM in Room 114.



IOVS Introduces Soft Proofing

Recently, IOVS instituted a new procedure for authors of accepted manuscripts. Authors of accepted manuscripts now view their page proofs in high-tech fashion. Authors are now notified via e-mail when their page proofs are complete. This is called "soft proofing," and the pages called "s-proofs." Turnaround time from printer to author is greatly reduced. In addition, authors now have access to their proofs wherever they might be, as long as they have remote access to their e-mail.

IOVS Covers: Science as Art

Do you have an eye-catching image from your research that you feel would make a great cover for IOVS? You don't have to submit a manuscript to the journal to suggest an image for the cover. Cover submissions can be either directly related to a manuscript or be of a more general scientific nature. Science and beauty go hand-in-hand on the cover of IOVS. For

more information about cover submission requirements, please contact the IOVS Editorial Office at 240-221-2920; IOVS@arvo.org.

IOVS Submissions Continue to Climb

Since 1999, submissions to IOVS have increased steadily. Between 1999 and 2000, submissions rose 6%; projections for 2001 place the increase at 10%. With the launch of the online submission program slated for summer of 2002, IOVS editorial staff believes that submissions will rise even higher.

Color Charges Lowered

Beginning with the January 2002 issue, IOVS authors who submit in color receive cost savings of 33%. Color charges are decreasing from \$1,200 per page to \$800 per page. As submissions to IOVS increased by 10% in 2001, color use also increased. The result? The more color throughout the Journal, the lower the cost to IOVS, a savings IOVS is passing onto its authors.

DON'T FORGET...

To sign up for your online subscription. All ARVO members get a free online subscription to IOVS Online. This enables you to sign up for e-alerts which notify you when the most recent IOVS Table of Contents is available for you to view. The link for access to IOVS Online is www.iovs.org.

ONLINE RESOURCES

Genomics

<http://www.123genomics.com/>

Provides access to a wide array of other URLs dealing with genomics.

Vischeck: Color Vision Simulator

<http://www.vischeck.com/showme.shtml>

Vischeck's color vision model allows you to simulate how the world looks to people with various sorts of color deficiencies.

NEIBank

<http://neibank.nei.nih.gov/About.shtml>

- Ocular Genomics Resource for Human Eye dDNA Libraries
- Sign up for e-mail alerts



Robert Nussenblatt, MD, Past President of ARVO, visited the IOVS/ARVO/JOV Booth at the Academy of Ophthalmology meeting in November. (Photo: Joanna Matthews)

Journal of Vision (JOV) —Call for Papers Special Issue on Induced Failures of Visual Awareness

journal
of **VISION**

Research over the past half century has produced extensive evidence that observers cannot report or retain all of the details of their visual world from one moment to the next. During the past decade, a new set of studies has illustrated just how pervasive these limits are. For example, early evidence for the failure to detect changes to simple dot patterns and arrays of letters generalizes to more naturalistic displays such as photographs and motion pictures. This failure to report changes (change blindness) can be induced in both simple and naturalistic displays, provided that the change signals that normally accompany the change are disrupted in some way such as by eye movements, flashed blank screens, blinks, transients, masks, etc.

Other forms of induced failures of conscious perception have reinforced the broad conclusion that given the right timing, we are often unaware of what would otherwise be fully-visible stimuli. For example, observers often

fail to report a visible but unexpected stimulus provided that attention is focused on some other object or event in the display (inattention blindness). Similarly, stimuli are often undetected if they are repeated (repetition blindness). Observers can also fail to detect a stimulus in a rapid stream of stimuli provided they had to perform an attention-demanding task shortly before the stimulus appeared (the attention blink).

All of these findings suggest limitations on visual awareness, and they have produced a renewed interest in exploring the limitations on perception, attention, and representation. Are these limitations due to failures of perception? Of memory? Of comparisons over time? What is preserved with and without awareness?

This special issue explores recent work on induced failures of visual awareness, and the mechanisms that underlie them. We particularly welcome submission of papers that investigate the nature of the information preserved and the information

lost in the face of failures of awareness. We encourage the submission of empirical reports as well as papers adopting a computational approach.

Guest Editors: Daniel J. Simons, Harvard University, dsimons@wjh.harvard.edu; Ronald A. Rensink, University of British Columbia, rensink@psych.ubc.ca

Deadline for submissions:
March 1, 2002

Target publication date:
August 1, 2002

How to Submit: The *Journal of Vision* encourages authors to submit images, color, movies, and other digital enhancements to help communicate their ideas. If you are interested in contributing a paper to this special issue on induced failures of visual awareness, please follow the **Instructions for Authors** at www.journalofvision.org.

ARVO Online Advertisements

Check regularly for online advertisements on the ARVO Web site at www.arvo.org/class.htm. We show advertisements for:

- **Grants Available**

Non-profit organizations can place information on available grants for free on the ARVO Web site. For-profit rates are \$40 per month.

- **Positions Available**

This service is available for employers seeking employees. Rates are \$100 per month per advertisement.

- **Positions Wanted**

This service is available for candidates seeking employment. Members-in-training can place ads for free on the ARVO Web site. Rates for all other candidates seeking positions are \$25 per month per advertisement.



Payment can be by check in US dollars drawn on a US bank, VISA, or MasterCard. Send ad copy to web@arvo.org as an e-mail attachment or in the body of the message. Please do not fax ad copy. Ads are limited to 150 words (excluding headings). The ad can be posted anytime after payment has been received.



Request for Volunteers Faxback Form

Fax: 240-221-0370

TO: **ARVO Members**
 FROM: **Robert Weinreb, MD, President-Elect**

As President-Elect, I am preparing to make appointments to ARVO Committees, and I am seeking members who would be interested in serving ARVO in this way. Anyone holding a Regular, Sustaining, Life, Family or Family Life membership is eligible to serve if appointed. There are no geographical boundaries, and members from outside the United States are encouraged to indicate their availability.

Most appointments are for 3 years. Committee meetings are generally held during the ARVO Annual Meeting, and at other times business is conducted by fax, mail, conference call, or e-mail. Current lists of Committee members can be found at www.arvo.org/committe1.htm.

Please indicate if you would be interested in serving on any of the following committees, if appointed, and propose a few new initiatives or ideas relative to the activities of the Committee.

Name _____ Membership Number: _____ Section: _____ State/Country: _____

APPOINTED POSITIONS

1. **Advocacy Committee** (Defines and conveys the views of ARVO on issues relating to vision research funds at the Federal level, the grant review mechanism and review panel composition, and the role of the NEI within the NIH.)
 Yes, I am interested in serving and have attached my proposed ideas.
2. **Animals in Research Committee** (Focal point for ARVO response to members under attack, monitors status of use of animals in biomedical research.)
 Yes, I am interested in serving and have attached my proposed ideas.
3. **Commercial Relationships Committee** (Reviews ARVO's Commercial Relationships Policy, monitors compliance by members, fosters collaboration between industry and ARVO.)
 Yes, I am interested in serving and have attached my proposed ideas.
4. **Diversity Issues Committee** (Monitors issues relevant to the ability of ARVO members to excel in the scientific, professional, and personal facets of their lives.)
 Yes, I am interested in serving and have attached my proposed ideas.
5. **Ethics & Regulations For Clinical Research Committee** (Monitors issues relating to Clinical Research that impact ARVO members, assists the Board of Trustees with issues requiring policy decisions.)
 Yes, I am interested in serving and have attached my proposed ideas.
6. **Exhibits Committee** (Examines parameters of the Exhibits Program, evaluates the Exhibits Program.)
 Yes, I am interested in serving and have attached my proposed ideas.
7. **International Members Committee** (Ascertains needs of non-US members and encourages their participation in ARVO.)
 Yes, I am interested in serving and have attached my proposed ideas.
8. **Members-in-Training Committee** (Ascertains needs of students and other members-in-training and encourages their participation in ARVO.)
 Yes, I am interested in serving and have attached my proposed ideas.
9. **Professional Development and Education Committee** (Develops programming to assist members in furthering their understanding of the science underlying eye and vision research.)
 Yes, I am interested in serving and have attached my proposed ideas.
- K-12 Plus College Education Subcommittee** (Interacts with students and teachers to further understanding of biomedical science.)
 Yes, I am interested in serving and have attached my proposed ideas.
10. **Public Relations Committee** (Conducts Press Forums at the Annual Meeting, interfaces with press and the public.)
 Yes, I am interested in serving and have attached my proposed ideas.

ELECTED POSITIONS

To be considered, you must be nominated at your Section's Business Meeting. For further information on other positions, contact your Trustee or Program Committee member whose name can be found at www.arvo.org/board.htm and www.arvo.org/committe1.htm

The Request for Volunteers Form can be found at the ARVO Web site at <http://www.arvo.org/forms.htm>

1. **Program Committee**—At Section Business Meetings at the Annual Meeting, each Section will elect one (1) or more additional Program Committee members. The position is for 3 years with the last year requiring service as the Chair. A commitment to review and program abstracts within a tight time schedule is required, along with attendance at a January Committee Meeting.
2. **Trustee**—The AP and GL Sections will each nominate two (2) potential candidates for the positions of Trustee. A commitment of 5 years is required, along with an interest in the organization. There are three (3) meetings per year and Committee assignments.

Fax this form with proposed ideas to 240-221-0370 or mail to:
 ARVO, Suite 250, 12300 Twinbrook Parkway, Rockville, MD 20852-1606 by **February 15, 2002.**

GRANTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

ARVO 2001-2002 Research Fellowship Grant Program

The ARVO Research Fellowship Grant Program, established in 1987 with one Alcon Laboratories Grant, continues to be generously supported by Alcon, Novartis Ophthalmics, and the Japan National Society for the Prevention of Blindness. Recipients of the above Fellowships are selected from candidates who apply for the Fight for Sight Research Division Prevent Blindness America Awards Program for which ARVO conducts the scientific review.

Emma B. Hume, PhD, University of New South Wales. ARVO/Alcon Laboratories Grant-in-Aid. Project: *Investigation of Staphylococcus Aureus Keratitis in a Mouse Model.*

Zhenglin Yang, MD, Cole Eye Institute, Cleveland Clinic. ARVO/Alcon Laboratories Research Fellowship Grantee. Project: *Genetic Linkage Mapping of Dominant Stargardt's Macular Dystrophy in Two Large Families.*



Ione Fine, PhD, University of California, San Diego. ARVO/Japan National Society for the Prevention of Blindness Research Fellowship Grantee. Project: *Functional and Neural Recovery from Long Term Blindness.*



Additional Travel Grants for 2002 ARVO Annual Meeting

The Tear Film & Ocular Surface Society (TFOS) seeks applicants for the annual TFOS Travel Awards. These awards provide partial travel support to the ARVO Annual Meeting for at least four postdoctoral fellows, graduate students or young investigators (35 years or younger) whose ARVO 2002 abstract, in which they appear as First Author, demonstrates significant achievement in the field of tear film, ocular surface or Sjogren's syndrome research. Each award is \$500 and will be accompanied by a complimentary ticket to the TFOS Cruise & Dinner on Monday evening, May 6, in Fort Lauderdale. To apply, please e-mail your accepted ARVO abstract to Lydia Briscoe (lsb2y@virginia.edu) before April 5, 2002. Applicants' abstracts will be evaluated by the TFOS Travel Awards Committee. Awardees will be notified by April 26 and will be announced during the TFOS Cruise & Dinner. The 2002 ARVO Travel Fellowship Grant award winners are not eligible. For more information about these awards or the cruise, please contact Dr. Gordon Laurie (awards-gwl6s@virginia.edu) or Dr. David A. Sullivan (cruise-sullivan@vision.eri.harvard.edu).

Fight For Sight—PREVENT BLINDNESS AMERICA

Fight For Sight, Inc., the research division of PREVENT BLINDNESS AMERICA, awarded 61 grants totaling over \$511,000 to scientists and physicians working to restore and preserve sight through research in the detection, prevention, treatment and curing of eye and vision disorders.

The program is administered in cooperation with the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO), which is responsible for the scientific review of applications. Additionally, the ARVO/Alcon, ARVO/Novartis Ophthalmics, and the ARVO/Japan National Society for the Prevention of Blindness Postdoctoral Research Fellowships are also selected from this review.

Applications for 2002-2003 awards are now available:

- Grants-in-aid support pilot projects of young investigators to defray the costs of lab personnel (excluding applicant), equipment and consumable supplies needed for the specific research investigation. Applications from residents, postdoctoral fellows, or senior investigators who have other significant research support are not considered. Fifteen to 20 grants are awarded annually, each with a maximum of \$12,000 per year.
- Postdoctoral fellowships provide one year of support to individuals pursuing independent basic or clinical research in ophthalmology, vision or related sciences. Applicants must hold a doctoral degree by the date of the award. Residents and individuals with more than two years of postdoctoral training are not considered. Fifteen to 20 fellowships are awarded annually with a maximum of \$14,000 each.
- Student fellowships provide up to three month's (summer) support for students interested in eye-related clinical or basic research. Fellowships are available to undergraduate, graduate, and medical students in the US and Canada. Fifteen to 20 fellowships are awarded annually, each with a maximum of \$700 per month for up to three months (\$2,100 total).
- Student and postdoctoral fellows are permitted to supplement their stipends with institutional funds. However, any anticipated supplemental support must be disclosed on the application. Total combined FFS and institutional support may not exceed the appropriate stipend level for National Research Service Award (NRSA) trainees set annually by the National Institutes of Health.
- Applications for these awards can be obtained by writing to the Fight For Sight Research Division of PREVENT BLINDNESS AMERICA, 500 East Remington Road, Schaumburg, IL 60173, or by calling 1-800-331-2020. **Deadline for receipt of applications is March 1, 2002.**

ARVO 2002: It's ALL About SCIENCE!

NATIONAL EYE INSTITUTE (NEI/NIH) NEWS

New Funding Opportunities for 2002



National Eye Institute

There has never been a better time to seek NEI support for new research ideas or for new opportunities in training and career development. The NEI appropriation

for Fiscal Year 2002 has not yet been enacted, but there have been substantial budget increases over the past three years and another very good funding year is anticipated. These increases have enabled NEI to offer a number of new funding mechanisms described in detail at www.nei.nih.gov. A small sample of these many opportunities follows.

Supplements for Technology Enhancement in NEI-Funded Laboratories. These one-time awards are designed to introduce innovative technologies and/or to upgrade existing facilities that support NEI-funded research projects. Applicants may request direct costs up to \$400,000 in the first year and \$100,000 in the second year. These awards will provide equipment, supplies, and personnel to support technology that will benefit several NEI-funded research project grants. Awards will be determined on the basis of scientific merit, program relevance, and the availability of funds. Institutions and departments are not limited in the number of separate applications for this program; multiple applications are encouraged. Applications are due by February 1, 2002.

NEI Small Grants for Pilot Research (R03). This program was initiated in 2001 and will remain in effect for at least three years. It encourages independent investigators in all research areas and at all levels of experience to pursue their most innovative, creative, and high-impact ideas. Small grants provide up to three years of support of up to \$100,000 direct costs per year. R03s present the opportunity to acquire data to support the feasibility or rationale for a new research direction. Applications are accepted on three receipt dates each year, February 1, June 1, and October 1.

Collaborative Research on Therapy for Visual Disorders. This broad, on-going program supports multidisciplinary translational research to develop novel therapies for all visual system diseases and disorders. Up to \$2 million in direct costs per year is available to provide the resources for scientists from several disciplines to form research teams able to rapidly and efficiently bring the results of laboratory and animal studies into clinical practice.

NEI at ARVO 2002

- Visit the NEI Exhibit Booth to meet Extramural Staff during regular exhibit hours.
- Attend the NEI Grants Workshop
Monday, May 6, 1:45 PM - 3:15 PM
Room 316.

Public Information Network

The National Eye Institute announces the 2002 VISION Public Information Network meeting on March 13–15, 2002, in New York City. The meeting is designed for public information officers at eye institutes and departments of ophthalmology and schools and colleges of optometry. Meeting details and an online registration will be posted on the Network Website, www.visionnetwork.nei.nih.gov.



The VISION Public Information Network for Eye Institutes and Departments of Ophthalmology and Schools and Colleges of Optometry informs and educates the public about the benefits of vision research. Public information officers at member institutions develop strategies to maximize media coverage of their institution's achievements and the contributions of their vision researchers. Membership in the Network continues to grow, and now includes 48 eye institutes and departments of ophthalmology, and 17 schools and colleges of optometry. For more information and a full list of member institutions, visit the Network Website.

Research Integrity

The September Newsletter of the Office of Research Integrity/NIH reported several items that might be of interest. Check www.ori.hhs.gov for more, plus the full Newsletter.

- A recently undertaken study, "Incidence of Research Misconduct in Biomedical Research", scheduled for completion in 2003 will initiate a longitudinal database for measuring change in the incidence of research misconduct at 5-year intervals.
- "Data Management Guidelines" issued by British Medical Research Council gives points on research data record management.
- A notice of a listserv designed to promote discussion and networking among researchers, research administrators, and responsible conduct of research instructors has been created. To join the listserv, send an e-mail to the list manager at rcrlist@osophs.dhhs.gov requesting information on how to join.

THE EYE SITE Tour Continues

The National Eye Institute's THE EYE SITE—A Traveling Exhibit on Low Vision for Shopping Centers continues a nationwide tour that began this spring in southern California. More than three million shoppers visited the five Los Angeles area malls where the exhibit appeared from April–August 2001.

After leaving L.A., THE EYE SITE stopped in Albuquerque, Santa Fe, and Farmington, NM, and Henderson, NV. An identical exhibit visited Chesapeake, VA, Myrtle Beach, SC, and Asheville, NC. Planning is underway for 2002–2004 tours. For more information on the exhibit and how to sponsor it in your state, visit THE EYE SITE Website at www.nei.nih.gov/nehep/eyesite and complete the online application.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE FROM NAEVR

The vision research community is poised to reap the benefits of what may be an unprecedented increase in the budget for the National Eye Institute (NEI). As Congress works to finish the "must pass" appropriation bills that fund government operations, House and Senate conferees are negotiating final fiscal year 2002 spending levels for the NEI and the National Institutes of Health (NIH) overall.

The Senate spending bill proposes a 16.8% increase for NIH in fiscal year 2002, which would result in a total NIH budget of \$23.7 billion. For NEI, the Senate has recommended a 21% increase, resulting in a total budget of \$614 million. This provides the "catch-up" increase the vision research community has been requesting to match the increases of NIH as a whole during the national five-year campaign to double the NIH budget by 2003.

The House has proposed smaller increases of slightly over 12% and 11% for NIH and NEI respectively, which more closely track the funding levels proposed in the President's fiscal year 2002 budget request.

The progress made in securing significant funding increases for NEI is due to the collective hard work of the NAEVR and its member organizations. Special efforts to reach out and cultivate relationships with Members of Congress who are in a position to affect NEI funding have begun to pay dividends. NAEVR initiated this effort at the March 7th Gala Reception by publicly thanking the architects of the campaign to double the NIH budget – Senators Tom Harkin (D-IA) and Arlen Specter (R-PA) – and some of the true champions of vision research, including Senator Ernest Hollings, Senator Herb Kohl, and Representative Ileana Ross-Lehtinen. The success of the March 7th Gala was due to the broad-based participation in the event by the vision research community. Over 65 individuals and organizations contributed to this event, including the generous support received from the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO.)



**NATIONAL
ALLIANCE
for EYE and
VISION
RESEARCH**

Following the March 7th reception several activities have been conducted to reinforce the importance of vision research with the Congress, including the "Contact Congress" booth at the ARVO Annual Meeting that generated over 1,500 letters to Congress, a congressional briefing jointly sponsored by NAEVR and Foundation Fighting Blindness (FFB) to highlight the successful application of gene therapy in providing sight to blind canine models, and a "congressional lobby day" orchestrated by the American Optometric Association.

The FFB held a reception in Washington, DC on October 9, 2001, the night before the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee marked-up their budget for NIH and NEI. The leading congressional figures in the NIH appropriations process, Senator Tom Harkin and Representative Bill Young, Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee were there at the request of FFB and they presented an award on behalf of FFB to the Secretary of Health and Human Services "Tommy" Thompson. Several other important Senators and Congressman as well as congressional staffers and government officials attended this function. FFB displayed the support on Capitol Hill that can be attracted to the eye and vision research cause.

On November 2nd, members of the ARVO Board of Trustees fanned out across Capitol Hill to conduct meetings with key congressional members to urge support for the higher Senate NIH and NEI funding levels in the final Fiscal Year 2002 conference agreement. Many of these meetings occurred in temporary locations for congressional offices that were displaced due to the presence of anthrax in some of the House and Senate office buildings.

All of these events coupled with the past Alliance activity has put vision research funding on the right path. The NAEVR looks forward to a productive and successful year ahead based on what has been accomplished through the collective efforts and involvement of the NAEVR and its member organizations.

Top US Ophthalmic Research Programs

In a recent survey published by *Ophthalmology Times* ranking the nations best ophthalmic programs, The Wilmer Eye Institute at Johns Hopkins University tops the list of the Best Research Programs in the survey. Filling out the rest of the top ten Best Research Programs in the nation are Jules Stein Hospital/UCLA, Massachusetts Eye & Ear Infirmary/Harvard University, University of Iowa, Washington University-St Louis, Bascom Palmer Eye Institute/University of Miami, University of Wisconsin-Madison, Scheie Eye Institute/University of Pennsylvania, W.K. Kellogg Eye Center/University of Michigan, and Doheny Eye Institute/USC.

National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research

For the latest information on the status of funding, go to the NAEVR homepage at www.eyeresearch.org.

Cora Verhagen

Call For Applications

The Cora Verhagen Prize is awarded for the best ocular immunology poster or paper presentation at the ARVO Annual Meeting. The Cora Verhagen Prize was instituted in 1995 to honor the memory and scientific contributions of our colleague Cora Verhagen. An international jury committee consisting of six active ARVO members has been appointed to select the Prize Winners.

Two prizes will be awarded. The first prize winner will receive an award of \$250 and a plaque with an inscription of his or her name along with those of previous awardees. This plaque may be temporarily mounted in the institute in the year following the presentation at ARVO. The winner will also receive a bronze medallion. Both the medallion and the plaque contain the image of Winged Victory. The money and the plaque for the 2002 Cora Verhagen Prize will be awarded at the 2003 ARVO Annual Meeting. The second place winner will receive an award of \$100.

1. Eligible candidates for the prize should conform to the following criteria: Candidates must be a student or postdoctoral fellow considered as a trainee in ocular immunology working under the guidance of a mentor. Such trainees may have independent support for salaries, but do not hold a personal grant to support the cost of their research. Excluded are individuals with permanent faculty appointments at universities, research institutes, or employees of companies.
2. Candidate must be the first author of a poster or paper presentation at the 2002 ARVO Annual Meeting dealing with a subject in the field of ocular immunology.

Call for Applications deadline is **March 9, 2002**. Please send all Application Forms to:

Dr. Martine Jager
Department of Ophthalmology
LUMC-J3
PO Box 9600
2300 RC Leiden, The Netherlands
Fax: 31-71-5248222
E-mail: M.J.Jager@lumc.nl

Do *not* send Application Forms to the ARVO Office.

-Application Form-

Name: _____

Abstract Title: _____

Mentor Name: _____

The above applicant would like to compete for the 2002 Cora Verhagen Prize to be awarded for the best "ocular immunology" presentation by a trainee.

Mentor Statement:

I hereby state that the above named applicant fulfills the "trainee" criteria for the Cora Verhagen Prize.

Mentor Name: _____

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ARVO Meeting Update

Contact . . .

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Australian Society for Vision Research (ASVR) Formed

At the 8th Australasian Ophthalmic Visual Science Meeting (AOVSM) in November 2002, the proposal was adopted to form an Australian Society for Vision Research (ASVR) to represent all sectors of Australian-New Zealand vision research. Steve Kwok, MD, ARVO member, is drafting the constitution.

This new Society aims to hold the AOVSM annually and engage in advocacy for vision research to federal and state governments and other agencies.

The ARVO Advocacy Committee supports members' initiatives, such as this, that further the status of eye and vision researchers by representing their interests before their respective governments. Potential members should contact Dr. Kwok (s.kwok@crcert.unsw.edu.au) for more information.

ARVO Membership Applications and 2002 Renewals are accepted through the Annual Meeting. Join now for member savings on the meeting registration. Go to www.arvo.org.



2003 Annual Awards

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Deadline: March 5, 2002

Members of the vision community are encouraged to nominate their esteemed colleagues for the prestigious ARVO Annual Awards to be presented at the ARVO Annual Meeting, May 4 – 9, 2003.

Proctor Medal

Outstanding research in basic or clinical science as applied to ophthalmology by a non-clinical professional

Friedenwald Award

Outstanding research in the basic or clinical sciences as applied to ophthalmology

Mildred Weisenfeld Award for Excellence in Ophthalmology

Distinguished scholarly contributions to the clinical practice of ophthalmology

Cogan Award

Contributions to research in ophthalmology or visual sciences directly related to disorders of the human eye or visual system, by a promising individual researcher under 40 years of age

Kupfer Award

Distinguished public service on behalf of eye and vision research

Special Recognition Award

Outstanding service to ARVO and the vision research community

For complete nomination information, please visit our website at www.arvo.org/awards.htm or contact the ARVO office at 240-221-2940.

Make Sure ARVO and Your Colleagues Can Contact You!

3 Easy Ways to Update Your Membership Data

- Online - Check your listing in the Membership Directory Search at www.arvo.org/membership.htm and click the link to submit changes/corrections
- E-mail changes to mailchange@arvo.org
- Fax changes to 240-221-0370

Future ARVO Annual Meetings

May 5–10, 2002	May 1–6, 2005
May 4–9, 2003	April 30–May 5, 2006
April 25–30, 2004	May 6–11, 2007

Contacting ARVO

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12300 Twinbrook Parkway
Rockville, MD 20852-1606

Phone: 240-221-2900

Fax: 240-221-0370

Membership Directory: <http://www.arvo.org/membership.htm>

Membership E-mail: mem@arvo.org

Home Page: <http://www.arvo.org>

Journal of Vision: (JOV) <http://www.journalofvision.org>

Phone: 240-221-2930

Fax: 240-221-0370

Investigative Ophthalmology & Visual Science: (IOVS) <http://www.iovs.org>

Phone: 240-221-2920

Fax: 240-221-0355



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