

EDUCATION

Illinois College of Optometry, Chicago, IL
Doctor of Optometry

May 2016

University at Albany, Albany, NY
Bachelor of Science in Biology, Minor in Spanish

May 2012

AIP Language Institute, Valencia, Spain
Study Abroad Program - Fall 2010

CLINICAL EXPERIENCE

Optometrist, Jenkins Eye Care, Honolulu, HI: August 19, 2024– present

High volume OD/MD practice managing ocular surgery, ocular disease, emergency care, and specialty hard contact lenses

Optometrist, Kaiser, Waipio, HI: August 2, 2021– August 2024

High volume multidisciplinary clinical setting managing primary care including ocular disease, emergency care, and specialty hard and soft contact lenses

Optometrist, Hawaii Eye Institute, Honolulu, HI: July 1, 2016 – July 2021

High volume OD/MD practice managing primary care with emphasis on ocular disease, emergency care, and specialty hard and soft contact lenses

Optometrist, Liane Casuga & Associates, Mililani, HI: February 1, 2017 – 2021

Extern, WG Hefner VA Medical Center, Kernersville, NC: February 2016 – May 2016

Externship focus primary care by completing full ocular exams

Worked with veterans gaining experience and comfort in urgent care situations, management of ocular disease and vision preservation

Became proficient in optometric technology including Humphrey visual field, Cirrus OCT, fundus photography, autorefraction, non-contact tonometry and auto phoropter.

Extern, Hickam Air Force Base, Pearl Harbor, HI: November 2015 – February 2016

Externship focus on contact lenses and primary care by completing full ocular exams and flier evaluations for air force members and their dependents

Worked with all ages gaining experience and comfort in urgent care situations, management of ocular disease and vision preservation

Gained comfort and adeptness in contact lens fitting, follow-up and dispensing for multifocals, toric contact lenses and spherical contact lenses

Became proficient in optometric technology including Humphrey visual field, Cirrus OCT, fundus photography, autorefraction, non-contact tonometry and auto phoropter.

Extern, Vision Care at the Brown Center, East Providence, RI: August 2015 - November 2015

Externship focused on primary care and contact lenses by completing full ocular exams and

contact lens fits including multi-focals, RGPs, and toric/spherical soft contact lenses
Gained valuable experience in dry eye treatment and management, proficiency in punctal plug insertion and co-management of pre/post cataract extraction.
Expanded my knowledge on the business aspects of private practice management and patient interaction to aid in patient loyalty and follow-up

Extern, Illinois College of Optometry, Chicago, IL: May 2015 – August 2015

Externship focused on advanced care and pediatrics/ binocular vision in a clinical setting
Completed full ocular exams with a patient focus of glaucoma, neuro-ophthalmology, cataract pre/post-op care and emergency service clinic.
Completed full ocular exams with a patient focus of pediatrics, Chicago public school outreaches and vision therapy
Worked under eight different attendings weekly to provide individualized experience and diversity in patient care and interaction helping to broaden my knowledge in optometric techniques
Familiarized myself with fundus fluorescein angiograms, MRIs, CTs, OCTs, and visual Fields

Clinician, Alivio at Illinois College of Optometry, February 2015- May 2015

Program centered around providing eye care at Alivio Medical Center in West Chicago to Spanish speaking patients
Focus of diabetic retinopathy and ocular disease due to patient acceptance from primary care referral only
Gained valuable experience in communication with non-english speaking patients to broadened my range in patient interaction skills while creating understanding through diversity

ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

Student Tutor, Illinois College of Optometry, February 2014 - May 2015

Assisted under-classmen in their studies for optometric procedures, human physiology, microbiology, color vision, strabismus & amblyopia and binocular vision
Available for weekly open lab sessions with students to improve and clarify optometric techniques

Laboratory Teaching Assistant, Illinois College of Optometry, November 2014-February 2015

Communicated ideas and techniques to students for their education in optometric procedures

Suite Technician, Illinois College of Optometry, Chicago, IL: November 2013 - February 2014

Facilitated doctors and student clinicians in diagnostic testing the use of optometric equipment including OCTs, fundus cameras and IOL masters

Optometric Technician, Enfield Eye Care Associates, Enfield, CT: May 2013 - August 2013

Facilitated doctors in diagnostic testing through the use of optometric equipment including OCTs, fundus cameras and Humphrey Visual Fields

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Speaker, Lions Club, 2018, 2019, 2024

Multiple presentations at community events about amblyopia, diabetes, and aging eyecare

Special Olympics Volunteer, Honolulu, HI Jun 2022

Aided in screening athletes by performing autorefraction, cover test and tonometry

Optometric Mission Trip to Guatemala, SightSavers International, Feb. 2018 and 2019

Doctor for patient care and teaching current optometry students

Optometric Mission Trip to Guatemala, FCO, Feb. 2014, Feb. 2015

Group Leader for 2015 trip; organized schedule, volunteer locations and aiding in trip preparations and execution

Traveled around Guatemala providing free eye exams, medication and glasses to people in need
Sites included an ophthalmologist office, orphanage, school and church

Optometric Mission Trip to Mexico, Student Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity, Nov. 2014

Traveled to Oaxaca, Mexico to work with Desarrollo Integral de la Familia (DIF) to provide free eye exams, glasses, and medication for over 2000 patients selected by the Mexican government

Sports Vision Screening Volunteer, University of Illinois-Chicago, Chicago, IL, August 2014

Assessed UIC athletes for ocular issues which could potentially lead to limitations in athletic performance

Special Olympics Volunteer, International Opening Eyes/ Lions Club, Normal, Illinois, June 2014

Aided in screening 200 athletes by performing cover testing, non-contact tonometry and slit lamp

Special Olympics Volunteer, International Opening Eyes Program, New Britain, CT, Jun. 2013

Aided in screening 262 athletes of all ages by performing non-contact tonometry

Optometric Volunteer on Diabetic Retinopathy Bus, Lions Club, Chicago, Illinois, September 2012

Aided retinopathy screening for patients by performing direct ophthalmoscopy and educating both diabetic and non-diabetic persons

Technician Assistant, The Sight Society of Northeastern New York at Lions Eye Bank, Albany, NY 2010

Assisted technicians with corneal retrieval, vitreal collection and enucleation for deceased organ donors.

Spread awareness of program to community by orchestrating mailings for fundraising events, donor memorial dinners and education to local morgues and funeral homes

LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE

Fundraising Chair, Student Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity, 2014 – May 2015

Orchestrated school events to raise money for mission trips

Collaborated with Illinois College of Optometry administration and staff along with outside companies including lens manufacturers, frame sale representatives, and printing companies.

Initiated and executed annual optometric clinic guide sale, lens sale and lapel pin sale.

AWARDS AND HONORS

Member of the Gold Key International Honor Society, ICO Chapter Class of 2016

2015 George Comstock Scholarship awarded by CT Association of Optometrists Scholarship Committee

2014 Robert Ross Scholarship awarded by CT Association of Optometrists' Scholarship Committee

ORGANIZATIONS & AFFILIATIONS

Lions Club, member, August 2012- present

American Optometric Student Association at ICO, member, 2012- present

College of Optometrists in Vision Development at ICO, member, 2012- 2016

*Contact Lens Society at ICO, **member**, August 2012- 2016*
*Private Practice Club at Illinois College of Optometry, **member**, August 2012- 2016*
*Fellowship of Christian Optometry at ICO, **member**, August 2012- 2016*
*Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation Association at ICO, **member**, August 2012- 2016*
*Student Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity, **member**, August 2012- 2016,*
Fundraising chair, May 2014- May 2015