Dr. Pamela Jeter joined the Lions Vision Center in January as a post-doctoral fellow with Dr. Gislin Dagnelie, where her research focused on visual perception and healthy lifestyles. Perceptual learning addresses the ability to improve performance with practice in a perceptual task, such as discriminating motion direction. In the future, her background may help play a role in the development of training protocols for retinal prosthetic patients. So keep an eye on the LVC weather report for ongoing precipitation.

Many thanks to Lion Bob Bullock for making this LVRF fundraiser possible.

“When it rains...at the LVC”

If you have been following the Lions Vision Center for a few years, then you know that this facility spends quite a bit of time writing proposals for new research. And that bringing these grant proposals funded sometimes feels like playing the lottery, even when the science is good and the plan is solid. Yet even with great funding the saying “When it rains, it pours” apparently holds true time and time again.

Last year, Dr. Dagnelie submitted 4 grant applications. Three of these were competitive with Second Sight Medical Products, the maker of the Argus™ retinal implant, he applied for a Stimulus Grant, aimed at bringing the retinal implant closer to clinical use by developing evaluation and rehabilitation tools so clinicians can determine how well the device works and help patients put it to the best possible use. You won’t be surprised that Dr. Marcel Chicharro, and Golden’s will play important roles in the proposed project. A second proposal, with Dr. Ana Bittner and lead by the Resolve Group in Connecticut, continues the development of a new retinal prosthesis for people who are blind. This proposal, which will allow patients to see meaningless shapes, will also allow them to see distinctiva quick and very accurately, but not if there is a “fast” complication and go visit the retina specialist right away. A third proposal, with Advanced Medical Electronics in Minneapolis, aims to develop a touch sensitive computer screen that will allow people to see and read text.

Over the past 4 months, Dr. Dagnelie received the happy news that all 4 proposals will be funded. After recovering from the shock, he dug a little more and realized that he might not be able to carry out the work within the allotted time. But rather than losing himself (which might not be such a good thing), he got lucky again. He has found a talented young scientist from the Netherlands (yes, double-Dutch will be spoken at least once) that will carry out all the work within the allotted time. But rather than cloning himself (which might too much of a good thing) he has found a talented young scientist from the Netherlands (yes, double-Dutch will be spoken at least once) that will carry out all the work within the allotted time. But rather than cloning himself (which might too much of a good thing) he has found a talented young scientist from the Netherlands (yes, double-Dutch will be spoken at least once) that will carry out all the work within the allotted time. But rather than cloning himself (which might too much of a good thing) he has found a talented young scientist from the Netherlands (yes, double-Dutch will be spoken at least once) that will carry out all the work within the allotted time. But rather than cloning himself (which might too much of a good thing) he has found a talented young scientist from the Netherlands (yes, double-Dutch will be spoken at least once) that will carry out all the work within the allotted time. But rather than cloning himself (which might too much of a good thing) he has found a talented young scientist from the Netherlands (yes, double-Dutch will be spoken at least once) that will carry out all the work within the allotted time. But rather than cloning himself (which might too much of a good thing) he has found a talented young scientist from the Netherlands (yes, double-Dutch will be spoken at least once) that will carry out all the work within the allotted time. But rather than cloning himself (which might too much of a good thing) he has found a talented young scientist from the Netherlands (yes, double-Dutch will be spoken at least once) that will carry out all the work within the allotted time.

Meanwhile, Dr. Dagnelie and his colleagues hope the rain won’t stop falling. Dr. Dagnelie has another proposal in the pipeline, submitted to the National Eye Institute in February, And Dr. Marcel, Cancino, Golden’s, Clinton, and leafless have submitted proposals recently, or will do so shortly. So keep checking the LVRC weather report for ongoing precipitation.

Chairman’s Message

Blindeess and Low Vision Education Project

The Lions Blindeess and Low Vision Education Project LCF grant will be completed later this year. With your remaining funds in the grant, we will develop an improved LVC website, update the Blindeess and Low Vision Education Project videos, produce Lions Low Vision folders and brochures for promotion of assistance, and develop a training program to help Lions interact with low vision and blind patients. We have entered into a contract with Delawones to develop the new website.

Continuing activity in the presentation of the Blindeess and Low Vision Education Project videos to organizations in our communities. To facilitate this, additional audiovisual equipment has been purchased for loan to Lions clubs. Clubs can contact their district LCF Blindeess and Low Vision Education coordinators or an LCF Trustee to arrange for borrowing the equipment and video.

Extending Low Vision Services Throughout Multiple District 22

The LCF Executive Committee is continuing its interest periodically with Wilmer professionals about providing low vision services in areas that are far away from Baltimore. The professionals at Wilmer will be developing relationships with eye care professionals who will provide low vision care.

Change in LVRF Executive Committee

Although elections of LVRF officers are held in May each year, there has been a tradition that the Past President and Past Chair serve for two years. June 2010 will complete the latest two-year period. Although elections of LVRF officers are held in May each year, there has been a tradition that the Past President and Past Chair serve for two years. June 2010 will complete the latest two-year period.
In Memory of Dr. Arnall Patz

Arnall Patz was born in Elberton, Georgia on June 14, 1920, the youngest of seven children. He died in his sleep at his home in Pikesville, MD on March 11, 2010. He was 89.

He graduated from Emory University, served three years in the Army, and received his M.D. from Emory University School of Medicine in 1950. He joined the eye clinic at Walter Reed Army Hospital and then began his education in ophthalmology at the Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore, Maryland. There he saw that excessive oxygen given to promote retina allowed decreased growth of视网膜的神经纤维束。He was initially denied funding for his pilot experiments to explore this idea, and found that the test with oxygen limited from his brother, Louis. Subsequent studies with contemporary colleagues helped establish this collaboration with Ernest Kinsey, a physician and friend who continued in this line of research.

Dr. Patz served as a part-time faculty member of John Hopkins for 15 years, ending in 1993. The St. John Hopkins Eye Foundation awarded him a research fellowship at Wilmer in 1977. He joined the Faculty from his position in the United States Eye Research Institute and began work on the rationale behind his idea that photoreceptors in the eye that cause irreparable damage to the optic nerve. He repeated this many times in his lectures at Johns Hopkins.

At that time she told Dr. Patz, “Never tell a patient there is nothing more to be done. Rehabilitation is always an option.”

In 1968, Helen Keller presented the Albert Lasker Clinical Medical Research Award to Dr. Patz and Dr. Everett Kinsey. As late as 1978 when he went back to Hopkins and earned a master of liberal arts and sciences degree at the age of 78, he was still working at Hopkins and was the only ophthalmologist in the country on the editorial board of the Journal of the American Medical Association.

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In recognition of his outstanding achievements, Dr. Patz received many honors and awards, among them:

• Presidential Research Award in 1992
• The first award of the Helen Keller Prize for Vision Research in 1989
• The Albert Lasker Clinical Medical Research Award in 1989
• The Presidential Medal of Freedom in 2004
• The Lions Club International Humanitarian Award in 2006

He also received honorary degrees from the Universities of Pennsylvania, Emory University, Thomas Jefferson University, Johns Hopkins University. At the age of 78 he went back to Hopkins and earned a master of liberal arts and sciences degree at the age of 78, he was still working at Hopkins and was the only ophthalmologist in the country on the editorial board of the Journal of the American Medical Association.

In 1989, President George W. Bush awarded him the National Medal of Science, the nation’s highest highest award. President Bush said of Dr. Patz, “He is the man who has enlightened us, improved our vision and helped our fellow citizens.

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