FOCUS: Transitions
New Facilities • Five Year Growth • Expanding Footprint • PROFILE: Dan B. Jones, M.D.
PEARLS XI: Comprehensive Look at Ophthalmology
Dear Friends,

This year marks my fifth anniversary as Chairman. While we are not halfway through the year, we have had a remarkable and memorable year.

In February, the Eye Institute moved into beautiful new vision research labs on the 11th floor of Medical Research Building 4. Among leading eye programs, there has been considerable debate as to whether it is preferable to have your research laboratories contiguous with the clinical programs or located with other laboratory investigators. After lengthy internal discussion, we opted for the latter. By placing our laboratories in MRB4, we can work side-by-side with human genetics and neurotoxicology scientists. We are only an elevator ride from the outstanding shared core facilities for proteomics, gene microarray and imaging. Animal care facilities are also easily accessible. In addition, our scientists interact with graduate students and post-doctoral fellows from other labs on a daily basis. We are confident that we made the right choice.

One month later, we occupied the new Vanderbilt Eye Institute clinical and educational facility. Our two-story, 50,000 square foot, state-of-the-art facility will almost double our number of examining rooms, update our ancillary testing capabilities and provide a beautiful, patient friendly environment to accommodate our steady increase in outpatient visits. In addition, the building houses expanded space for education, featuring a beautiful 70-seat lecture hall, and specialized wet lab for surgical instruction.

We celebrated our two new homes with a spectacular gala on Friday night, April 4. On a festive evening, over 400 guests toured the new facility, then moved to the Vanderbilt Student Life Center for a dinner, highlighted by a surprise performance by country music legend, Ronnie Milsap, and a stimulating talk by Ned Rifkin, Undersecretary for Art at the Smithsonian, on "Art and the Eye." More than 30 leaders of ophthalmology from around the world joined us for the special event.

All of us now are settling into our new offices and enjoying what we do best: providing quality eye care, exploring answers to critical questions about blinding eye diseases and training the next generation of clinicians and scientists. We hope you enjoy reading a bit about the excitement we have generated, and that you will stop by to tour our new facilities when you are in Nashville.

Sincerely yours,

Paul Sternberg, Jr., M.D.
G. W. Hale Professor and Chair
Vanderbilt Eye Institute
EDITOR’S NOTES

_Vanderbilt Vision_ is a publication of Vanderbilt Eye Institute, a department of Vanderbilt University Medical Center. _Vanderbilt Vision_ provides ophthalmologists with information on current research and state-of-the-art clinical applications.

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Vanderbilt University Medical Center is a comprehensive research center committed to excellence in patient care and physician education.

_Vanderbilt Vision_ is written for physicians and friends of the VEI and does not provide a complete overview of the topics covered. It should not replace the independent judgment of a physician about the appropriateness or risk of a procedure for a given patient.

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Vanderbilt University Medical Center

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Cover: “Eyes of Hatch” by Jim Sherraden.
Photo: Anne Rayner

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FOCUS
THE VEI GETS NEW FACILITIES

Above: The new patient facility for the Vanderbilt Eye Institute. Opposite: Kate Naddell plays in the waiting room of the new Lions Eye Center housed within VEI.
Photos by Anne Rayner
On April 1st, the Vanderbilt Eye Institute moved into its new home in the South Garage Office Building on the Vanderbilt Medical Center campus. With 53 examination rooms and double the space, the $11 million patient services facility is designed to accommodate the dramatic increase in office visits that the Eye Institute has experienced over the past five years, and will allow for future growth. (continued)
The 50,000 square-foot clinic offers a more comfortable, easily accessible setting for patients. Minor procedures, laser surgery and comprehensive eye care services are all available in one location. The building also houses the Tennessee Lions Eye Center for Children, a refractive laser surgery (LASIK) suite, an imaging suite, diagnostics area, an optical retail shop, departmental offices and designated exam and waiting room areas for sub-specialty care.

Professionals can leverage electronic technology to provide high-tech imaging for diagnostic testing and efficient, comprehensive patient care. And in the new Elliott Conference Room, there is dedicated space for education with seating for 70 in plush comfort. “In the old facility we felt landlocked – we were crowded and it was tough for patients to find us. With our new facilities, we’ve upgraded our equipment and instrumentation. And now we have almost double the number of patient examining rooms,” said Paul Sternberg, VEI Chair.

Moving an entire clinic is no small undertaking. The entire VEI staff pitched in to help with the move. The team left the old building on Friday afternoon, and saw its first patient on Monday at 12:30. “The staff was incredible,” said Sternberg. “They spent their weekends to help make this a success.”

**New look. New energy.**

When you walk into the new clinic, you’re immediately struck by how different it feels from other doctors’ offices. Shades of ochre, tan and cream, combined with natural textures and green plants in the atrium produce a calming effect. The neutral walls provide the perfect backdrop for an impressive collection of art – from abstract black-and-white photographs of eyeglasses to the colorful strokes of outsider art in the Lions Eye Center.

“We brought in some of our own artwork,” said Dr. Sternberg, who with his wife Gloria is an avid art collector. “We wanted it to feel warm, but tasteful...even the décor in the Lions Eye Center waiting area is...”
adult-friendly.”

While it may be friendlier to adults, one thing about the pediatric clinic didn’t change. In the former space, larger-than-life paintings of jungle animals had adorned the walls since the clinic’s inception. “The kids loved them and the staff did not want to leave them behind,” explained Sean Donahue, M.D., Ph.D., head of the center. The paintings were brought along and installed in niches throughout the clinic’s hallways.

“This new facility gives us the needed room to serve children from Tennessee and surrounding states in a more pleasant and efficient manner,” said Dr. Donahue. “Our waiting room is nearly twice the size, to accommodate the large families that often come to appointments. And we now have 11 full sized examining rooms, nearly twice the previous six, which allows us to have two pediatric ophthalmologists and one subspecialist seeing patients simultaneously. Our faculty, staff, and I couldn’t be happier!”

**Research finds its home.**
From temporary buildings, to flex space in Light Hall, to its new state-of-the-art digs above Langford Auditorium, the Vanderbilt Eye Institute research team has really moved around in the last several years. But the expansion of the laboratory space has, since Dr. Sternberg’s arrival in 2003, been a critical piece of the department’s research strategic plan.

In addition to housing current vision scientists, the 11th floor space offers fully equipped lab benches that are poised to accommodate more investigators to be recruited in the near future. There is a conference room, library, and areas geared toward specialized use such as cell culture, microscopy and radioisotope work.

“In the new space, we’re using 7,500 square feet and have another 4,500 square feet to accommodate newly recruited scientists,” said John Penn, vice chairman of the VEI and director of research. “Combined with the roughly 5,000 square feet of ophthalmology research space in Medical Center East, we are occupying about 17,000 feet of lab space for vision research in the VEI. The newest space is both functional and beautiful; we can now attract new outstanding scientists who will complement our research plan.”

This expansion reflects Vanderbilt’s substantial dedication to growing vision research...and continuing its legacy as a comprehensive, world-class eye program.

“Four our research scientists are ecstatic,” says Penn. “We’ve got the space and equipment we need to compete on even footing with the best eye institutes in America.”

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The wet lab for surgical instruction. Photo: Anne Rayner

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- John Penn, Ph.D.
During the first week of April, following the grand opening of the new Vanderbilt Eye Institute clinic (see article, page 2), the Vision sat down with Paul Sternberg and John Penn to reflect on the successes of the five years since Sternberg’s arrival as Chairman of the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences. Penn, vice chairman of the department, head of research, and a faculty member for 10 years, served as interim chair and was on the committee that hired Dr. Sternberg.

John Penn noticed something different about Paul Sternberg when they first met to discuss Vanderbilt. One of four finalists for Vanderbilt’s Ophthalmology Chair, the time with this candidate wasn’t like his interviews with the other three finalists.

“The others just wanted to know how to gain advantage in the race,” Penn recalls. “Paul jumped right into the research plan and the clinic infrastructure. He wanted to know if he was going to have the support he needed to accomplish his vision.”

Setting the tone for success. Once hired for the post, the Vanderbilt Eye Institute’s new leader set the stage from the ground up. “I believe in getting the right pieces in place,” he says, “then stepping back and not getting in the way of success. The right people and resources set the tone for the right culture.”

Sternberg wanted to avoid a culture of intimidation present in some medical communities, where doctors often don’t acknowledge subordinates, and staff members rarely compliment the physicians with whom they work.

“I don’t want the VEI to be just any clinic,” he says of the great morale he and his staff enjoy. “When our patient service representatives are happy, our patients feel well-cared for.”

Establishing a focus for research. As they began to develop the VEI’s research plan, Drs. Sternberg and Penn agreed: focus on the things that matter. Together, the men set to work organizing the institute’s research around the three leading causes of age-related
blindness – AMD, diabetic retinopathy and glaucoma. They sought to build depth in these areas, recruiting new faculty whose areas of focus complemented the department’s overall goals.

This philosophy has attracted both talent and grant money. While the NIH budget has flattened, Vanderbilt Eye Institute has actually increased its federal funding and watched its NIH funding portfolio skyrocket. Over the past five years, the number of single investigator grants from the National Eye Institute of NIH has soared from 8 to 24!

“This sort of research growth doesn’t just spontaneously happen,” Penn explains. “Our funding growth flies in the face of all indicators. But we haven’t strayed from our original approach and we leverage it at every opportunity.”

Building leaders from the ground up.
In the clinical enterprise, Dr. Sternberg wanted to ensure that the VEI’s staff had the depth it needed. “When I arrived, there were a lot of gaps in the faculty. No matter how good you are, if you’re the only practitioner of your specialty, there’s not a lot of room for creativity.”

To that end, he strove for a department with both strong senior leadership and bright young stars. “As senior people start to retire, we want the younger faculty to be able to step in and lead the department,” he says. “That’s the way our patients will have more solutions to complex eye problems.” In five years the faculty has increased from 15 specialists to 33.

Getting the right tools in place.
Commensurate with VEI’s new growth was the need for infrastructure. This is where Sternberg’s strong business strategy came into play. “Our new facilities are just one more piece of evidence that the university wholly supports Paul,” said Dr. Penn. “The expansion plan was ambitious, but the university bought it – for both clinical and research development. Now our scientists have the tools they need to facilitate their research, and our physicians, to facilitate any procedure.”

“The university has been our biggest donor for the new facilities,” Sternberg added. “They must believe we’re doing something right!”

Looking toward the future.
When asked about his goals for the next five years. Dr. Sternberg is philosophical. “The ultimate goal is to create a comprehensive, state-of-the-art, world-recognized eye program,” he says. “But we need to be patient and the recognition will come. What’s really important is providing great patient care and physician training, and doing research that improves the quality of life for patients.”
Out in Williamson County, James Felch, Daniel Weikert, and Mark Kroll were thriving in their ophthalmology practice. But when Vanderbilt called, they answered. Soon Eye Associates of Middle Tennessee was merging with the Vanderbilt Eye Institute.

Why marry resources with Vanderbilt when you’re already doing well? For Weikert, it means greater coordination of care and access to Vanderbilt specialists. The change has brought in practice management, services and alliance with the Vanderbilt brand. Patients now enjoy added benefits like clinical trials and appointment reminder calls – and easy access to a talented group of subspecialists.

LASIK surgery is performed at Vanderbilt’s Cool Springs surgery center, while cataract surgery is performed at the clinic in Lewisburg. Pediatric ophthalmologists visit the Franklin clinic on Edward Curd Lane.

“The patients have continued to receive the excellent quality of care they received in the past,” said Weikert. “We’re now able to communicate with our patients’ internists and specialists in a more efficient manner.”

For the VEI, the merger has added three experienced, comprehensive ophthalmologists to its faculty. It also brought 17 employees – and offices in Franklin, Spring Hill, Nashville and Bellevue.

“We have achieved a ‘win-win’ relationship for both patients and physicians,” says VEI Chairman Paul Sternberg.

The merger is part of a strategic growth initiative implemented by the Vanderbilt Eye Institute over the last five years. With an eye toward expanding its services, the VEI has identified areas of growth and need in Nashville’s neighboring communities. This strategy aims to bring the same kind of ophthalmologic care available on campus to patients farther afield.

“Vanderbilt bought a community-based practice to tie to its overall mission as an academic medical center and to bring specialized ophthalmic services to a community where the services are needed,” explained Brad Logan, Chief Administrative Officer of the Vanderbilt Williamson Medical Group. “Working with the physicians who were already here, we have put together a good team that drives at the critical success factors of the practice.”

The VEI Williamson site is one of thirty Vanderbilt specialties that have expanded into Williamson County. In fact, Williamson County’s billings are one-quarter that of the Vanderbilt Medical Group on campus.
Dan Jones has been keeping his eye on the Vanderbilt Eye Institute over the last several years. “They’re doing great things!” he marvels.

And he would know. Dr. Jones has chaired the Department of Ophthalmology and the Cullen Eye Institute at Baylor College of Medicine for over 25 years. “Vanderbilt is one of the first new eye institutes to be built in several years,” he says. “It’s the envy of other ophthalmology departments around the country.”

This success was apparent to the chairman at this year’s Pearls conference (see article, page 10), where everywhere around him was evidence of the clout Vanderbilt has achieved in the ophthalmology community. Scientists from all over the world descended on the university. Of the professionals on hand, 23 were current chairs of other departments of ophthalmology.

All this is a far cry from the fledgling department he joined at Vanderbilt in 1969 with two physicians and a handful of residents. When Dr. Jones first arrived, Ophthalmology wasn’t even a department. It was a section, headed by Dr. James Elliott, under the Department of Surgery.

Six months into the job, Dr. Elliott went on sabbatical...and the new kid on the block stepped up to the plate. “I got my baptism by fire,” he recalls of those days. “I had to see all the patients and supervise the residents in all the subspecialty areas. It was excellent training for being the chair of a department.”

Jones earned his bachelor’s and M.D. at Duke University. From there, he completed a residency at the renowned Bascom Palmer Eye Institute at the University of Miami’s School of Medicine. Then London called – with a fellowship at Moorfields Eye Hospital in cornea and external eye disease, which became his subspecialty.

Today, Dr. Jones is a Sid W. Richardson Professor, Distinguished Service Professor & Margaret Root Brown Chair...and a dedicated friend of Vanderbilt.

The University’s support of the Eye Institute isn’t lost on Dr. Jones. He insists that eye departments require strong commitment from leadership to affect the kind of growth the VEI has enjoyed. “Paul (Sternberg, Chair of VEI) presented a sound business plan and a sound academic plan and they responded,” he notes. “(He) and the university have worked together to establish an immense resource for this university, the community and the region.”
Each spring, the faculty of Vanderbilt Eye Institute hosts a weekend symposium in which distinguished guest speakers discuss recent advances and the latest treatment modalities for diseases of the retina and vitreous, new technology in cataract and refractive surgery, state-of-the-art glaucoma care, current concepts in neuro-ophthalmology, and treatment of common anterior segment pathology. The two-day scientific program provides practical and invaluable information geared towards the practice of ophthalmology.

Pearls XI − held April 4-5, 2008 − featured 32 distinguished guest faculty from across the country and from as far away as Germany and Japan. The 254 attendees included 23 chairs or former chairs of eye institutes plus many other ophthalmologists, including those seeking continuing education and friends of the VEI.

Friday morning’s program was comprised of presentations on glaucoma, ophthalmic education and vision research, while Friday afternoon was devoted to innovations in retina, kicked off by the William S. and Grace Snyder Lectureship in Ophthalmology. This year’s Snyder lecture was presented by Stephen J. Ryan, M.D., President of the Doheny Eye Institute and the Emery Beardsley Professor of Ophthalmology at USC. The topic was Imaging in Retinal Disease.

Dr. Ryan has served as President of the Association of University Professors of Ophthalmology and the Macula Society, and is the founding President of the Alliance
for Eye and Vision Research. He is the author or editor of nine books and has published over 270 articles in the scientific peer-reviewed literature. An internationally recognized expert in the field of retinal diseases and ocular trauma, Dr. Ryan has provided congressional testimony in support of NIH and the National Eye Institute.

The William S. and Grace Snyder Lectureship in Ophthalmology was endowed by William B. Snyder, M.D., and his wife, Phyllis, in memory of Dr. Snyder’s parents, who both practiced medicine in the state of Kentucky. Dr. and Mrs. Snyder have been longstanding supporters of the Vanderbilt Eye Institute and Vanderbilt University Medical Center.

Saturday morning’s sessions were divided among cornea and external disease, neuro-ophthalmology and oculoplastics, and ocular oncology. The lectures ended at noon, but the fellowship continued into the evening with the gala opening of the new Vanderbilt Eye Institute.

This year’s Pearls sponsors included Allergan, Alcon Laboratories, Genentech, Merck & Co., Vistakon Pharmaceuticals, Carl Zeiss Meditec, Flanagan Instruments, Haag-Streit USA, Lombar Instrument, OptiMedica Corp., Eye Designs, Inspire Pharmaceuticals, and Ophthalmic Imaging Systems.

Thanks to Jeffrey Kammer, M.D. and Tammy Tankersley for organizing the festivities!
FACULTY
The Vanderbilt Eye Institute would like to welcome two new additions to our faculty:

Steve Kim, M.D., comes to the VEI from Emory University’s Department of Ophthalmology, where he completed a Fellowship in Vitreoretinal Surgery. Dr. Kim also completed a Fellowship in Uveitis at The Wilmer Eye Institute at Johns Hopkins Hospital.

Mark Melson, M.D., also comes to us from Emory, where he completed Fellowships in Oculoplastic, Orbital and Cosmetic Surgery and Neuro-Ophthalmology.

RESIDENTS
Sorting through the list of impressive resident applicants this year proved to be a daunting undertaking! The VEI received 415 applications and reviewed only those with board scores of 230 or above (national average was 216). The committee evaluated 190 applications and interviewed 80 individuals. Meet our 2008 residents.

Michael Diekhaus obtained a bachelor of science in molecular biology from Vanderbilt University. He completed his medical degree at Washington University in May of 2008.

Carey Dozier is a native of Florida. He attended the University of Florida where he obtained a degree in Zoology. Carey received his medical degree from Duke University in May of 2008.

Chirag Patel joins us from California. He received a degree in molecular and cell biology from the University of California Berkeley. Chirag received his medical degree from the University of California San Diego.

Ami Shah obtained her bachelor of science from the University of Alabama Birmingham. She completed her medical degree from the University of Alabama Birmingham in May of 2008.

Ruth Yeilding graduated from Washington and Lee University with a degree in biology. She also received her medical degree from the University of Alabama Birmingham.

AWARDS AND GRANTS
The VEI is proud to announce the following awards and grants:

Min S. Chang, M.D. 
Won the Robert E. McCormick Award from Research to Prevent Blindness, Inc.

Rachel Kuchtkey, M.D., Ph.D. 
Clinician-Scientist Award from the American Glaucoma Society: “Mechanisms of Regulation of Cornea-Derived Transcript 6 Expression by Transforming Growth Factor Beta in Human Trabecular Meshwork Cells and Tissue”

David Morrison, M.D.
Knights Templar Eye Foundation Grant: “IGF-1 and VEGF in Ocular Angiogenesis”

John S. Penn, Ph.D.
Pearle Vision Foundation Grant: “Targeted Drug Delivery by Endothelial Progenitor Cells” 
Dr. Penn has also published a book: “Retinal and Choroidal Angiogenesis”

Franco M. Recchia, M.D.
Elected to the ARVO Annual Meeting Program Committee

Paul Sternberg, Jr., M.D.
Named ARVO Vice President Elect

Susan Yanni has been awarded a travel fellowship to ICER XVIII, the 2008 Congress of the International Society for Eye Research in Beijing, China. She will speak in a platform session on lipid mediators of retinal disease.
Paul Sternberg, Jr., M.D.
Chair, Vanderbilt Eye Institute
RETINA/VITREOUS
Special interests: age-related macular degeneration and complex retinal detachments.

Anita Agarwal, M.D.
RETINA/VITREOUS
Special interests: inflammatory diseases of the retina and diabetic retinopathy.

Jiyang Cai, M.D., Ph. D.
VISION RESEARCH
Special interests: mitochondrial oxidative damage and protection in aging and age-related degenerative diseases.

David J. Calkins, Ph.D.
VISION RESEARCH
Special interests: degenerative disorders of the visual system and the genetic mechanisms of retinal disease.

Min S. Chang, M.D.
VISION RESEARCH
Special interests: growth and maintenance of corneal epithelial cells.

Amy S. Chomsky, M.D.
COMPREHENSIVE OPHTHALMOLOGY
Special interests: Veterans Administration Hospital Chief Attending.

Sean P. Donahue, M.D., Ph.D.
NEURO-OPHTHALMOLOGY/PEDIATRIC OPHTHALMOLOGY
Special interests: amblyopia, surgical management of complicated strabismus, pediatric neuro-ophthalmology, and visual field testing.

Robert Estes, M.D.
PEDIATRIC OPHTHALMOLOGY/ADULT STRABISMUS
Special interests: Childhood and adult strabismus, ophthalmic genetics.

James W. Felch, M.D., Ph.D., F.A.C.S.
COMPREHENSIVE OPHTHALMOLOGY
Special interests: Cataract surgery

Jin Hui-Shen, Ph.D.
VISION RESEARCH
Special interests: laser surgery and the invention of surgical devices.

Karen M. Joos, M.D., Ph.D.
GLAUCOMA
Special interests: low-pressure glaucoma and pediatric glaucomas.

Jeffrey A. Kammer, M.D.
GLAUCOMA
Special interests: neovascular glaucoma and complicated glaucoma cases.

Brad Kehler, O.D.
OPTOMETRY
Special interests: low vision rehabilitation, specialty optics, contact lenses.

Lori Ann F. Kehler, O.D.
OPTOMETRY
Special interests: specialty contact lens fitting, both for adults and for children.

Steve J. Kim, M.D.
RETINA/VITREOUS
Special interests: uveitis.

Mark A. Kroll, M.D., J.D.
COMPREHENSIVE OPHTHALMOLOGY
Special interests: Cataracts, refractive surgery, secondary IOL implantation, corneal transplantation.

John Kuchtey, Ph.D.
VISION RESEARCH
Special interests: immunological aspects of anterior chamber pathology in glaucoma.

Rachel W. Kuchtey, M.D., Ph.D.
GLAUCOMA
Special interests: cellular and molecular mechanisms of aqueous outflow in glaucoma.

Patrick Lavin, M.D.
NEURO-OPHTHALMOLOGY
Special interests: eye movement disorders, nystagmus, neuro-otology, headache and metabolic disorders affecting the visual system.

Jennifer Lindsey, M.D.
COMPREHENSIVE OPHTHALMOLOGY
Special interests: Cataracts, eyelid disorders, ocular trauma, diabetic eye disease, and glaucoma.

Louise A. Mawn, M.D.
NEURO-OPHTHALMOLOGY/OCULOPLASTICS
Special interests: ophthalmic plastic surgery with a particular interest in orbital disease.

Mark R. Melson, M.D.
OCULOPLASTICS
Special interests: ophthalmic plastic surgery.

Lawrence M. Merin, RBP, FIMI
OPHTHALMIC IMAGING CENTER
Special interests: retinal imaging, epidemiology and diabetic eye disease.

David Morrison, M.D.
PEDIATRIC OPHTHALMOLOGY
Special interests: strabismus, pediatric cataracts, and retinopathy of prematurity.

Denis, M. O’Day, M.D., F.A.C.S.
CORNEA and EXTERNAL DISEASE
Special interests: ocular fungal infections.

Chasidy D. Singleton, M.D.
COMPREHENSIVE OPHTHALMOLOGY
Special interests: refractive errors, cornea disorders, cataracts, glaucoma, diabetic eye disease, ocular trauma, and strabismus.

Jeffrey Sonsino, O.D., F.A.A.O.
OPTOMETRY
Special interests: complicated and difficult-to-fit contact lenses, and low vision rehabilitation of adults and children.

Uyen L. Tran, M.D.
CORNEA and EXTERNAL DISEASE/LASER SIGHT
Special interests: corneal transplantation, cataract surgery, and refractive surgery.

Laura L. Wayman, M.D.
COMPREHENSIVE OPHTHALMOLOGY
Special interests: Director of Resident Training and cataracts.

Daniel S. Weikert, M.D.
COMPREHENSIVE OPHTHALMOLOGY
Special interests: Cataracts, refractive surgery, secondary IOL implantation, sports ophthalmology - team physician for Tennessee Titans and Nashville Predators.
The 2008 Vanderbilt Eye Institute Symposium will present new approaches to understanding the mechanisms of optic neuropathy in glaucoma, related translational results, and preclinical studies with direct relevance to treating the neurodegeneration associated with glaucoma.

While the focus is decidedly neurobiological, guest speakers will represent a variety of disciplines and approaches. Confirmed speakers include Harry Quigley, Paul Kaufman, Leonard Levin, Simon John, Cynthia Grosskreutz, Jeff Goldberg, Adriana Di Polo, Tom Reh, Brian Link, Vittorio Porciatti, Richard Libby, Nick Marsh-Armstrong, Steven Bernstein, John Danias, Rosario Hernandez and David Sretavan.

The symposium will take place October 14-15, 2008 at the Vanderbilt Marriott Hotel in the heart of the Vanderbilt University community. We will welcome our guests with an informal reception the evening of Monday, October 13th, followed by two full days of invited lectures, discussion forums and poster presentations with departure on Thursday, October 16th. The meeting also will include special panel discussions moderated by meeting participants from academia and industry.

For more information or to register visit:
www.vanderbilteyeinstitute.com