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Barret Trust Gives \$500,000 to Eye Institute

The capital campaign for the UT Eye Institute has received a generous gift from the Paul W. Barret, Jr., Charitable Trust for the construction and equipping of the Adult Sub-Specialty Eye Clinic. The trust was established upon Mr. Barret's death in 1999 and has supported numerous community initiatives since that time. Most notable have been substantial gifts to Rhodes College and the Memphis Zoo.

Paul Barret, Jr., was a prominent banker in Millington. He was the chairman and president of Barretville Bank and Trust and was the patriarch of Barretville itself—an unincorporated community of about fifty people located fifteen miles northeast of Memphis. His family founded the community and the bank, and his father was an influential figure in Shelby County politics as well, serving on the old Shelby County Quarterly Court. A section of the interstate highway system in Memphis is named for the elder Paul Barret.

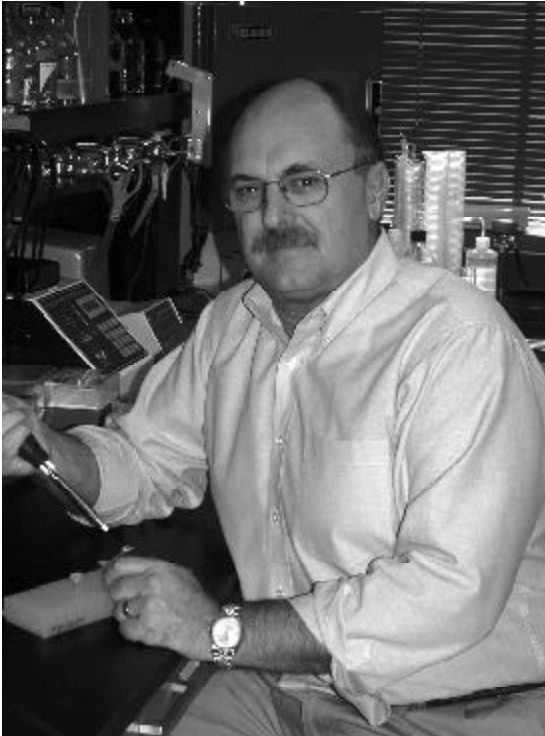
Although he did not pursue politics to the extent of his father, Paul Barret, Jr., had his own influence in the life of the community. A graduate of Bolton High School and Rhodes College, Mr. Barret went to work as a ginner and cotton buyer

before joining the bank. Under his leadership, the bank corporation was named one of the safest banks in the nation in 1989 by *Money* magazine. The holding also included six other branches in Shelby County under the names People's Bank and People's State Bank. The banks were eventually acquired by Trust-Mark Banks of Mississippi.

Mr. Charles Ennis, Mr. Graves Leggett, and Mr. Lewis Donnelson, prominent Memphians who are co-executors of the estate and administrators of the trust, were instrumental in awarding the gift to the Department of Ophthalmology, as were the efforts of Dr. Fletcher Goode, who is a renowned ophthalmologist in Millington and a UT alumnus (College of Medicine, 1956; Department of Ophthalmology, 1970).

This significant gift from the Barret Trust will allow us to build and equip examining rooms and diagnostic areas essential for the treatment of adult patients. It will help us fulfill our goal of providing the finest ophthalmic care to the citizens of Memphis and the Mid-South.

Dr. Geisert Is Named Director of Vision Research Center



Dr. Eldon Geisert

Eldon E. Geisert, Jr., Ph.D., has been named the new director of the Vision Research Center at the University of Tennessee Health Science Center. Dr. Diana Johnson will remain as director of research for the Department of Ophthalmology but has assumed additional university duties as the director of the Faculty Resource Center (FRC) in the College of Medicine. Dr. Geisert was also named professor of ophthalmology to accompany his current professorial rank in the Department of Anatomy and Neurobiology.

As director of the Vision Research Center, Dr. Geisert will bring his passion for research to our department, facilitating the continuing process of forming a world-class vision research center. Building on the strengths of the UT Vision Research Center, Dr. Geisert will be recruiting new research faculty to be

housed on the seventh and eighth floors of the new Hamilton Eye Institute. In addition to his expertise in DNA science, including cutting-edge gene technology, Dr. Geisert brings leadership skills to foster interactions in the vision community of Memphis, guiding the Vision Research Center into the twenty-first century.

Dr. Geisert is uniquely qualified for this new position. He received his undergraduate degree in biology and chemistry from the University of California, Irvine, and his Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. His post-doctoral work was also carried out at the University of Wisconsin, Madison, with the support of a National Institutes of Health Postdoctoral Fellowship grant. He was on the faculty of the Department of Cell Biology at the University of Alabama at Birmingham prior to joining the faculty of the University of Tennessee in 1993.

He has published over one hundred peer-reviewed articles and abstracts on diverse topics of visual development and presented over twenty invited lectures and visiting professorships since his arrival at UT. In addition, Dr. Geisert is intimately involved in policy development and administration within the University. He serves as director of the cell and molecular biology facility for the Department of Anatomy, director of the Vision Core Molecular Biology Module, and representative to the UT Faculty Senate, and he serves on the Progress and Promotions Committee of the Medical School.

Recently, Dr. Geisert has focused on the scarring that occurs following an injury to the retina. This scarring can lead to deleterious complications and the loss of vision. Work in his laboratory may lead to new, innovative approaches to alter scarring in the retina and improve clinical outcome. We are pleased to welcome Dr. Geisert and his research group into the Department of Ophthalmology.

Faculty Publications and Presentations

Dr. **Barrett G. Haik**, Hamilton Professor and chair of the Department of Ophthalmology, presented five named lectures at prestigious academic medical centers throughout the country.

Louisiana State University sponsored the Henderson Lecture in Shreveport, Louisiana; the University of Arkansas in Little Rock presented the Petursson Lecture; the George Wise Lecture was presented at Albert Einstein-Montefiore Medical Center in New York; and the Taylor Asbury Lecture was given at the Cincinnati Society of Ophthalmology meeting in Ohio. Of particular note was Dr. Haik's invitation to be the first Robert M. Ellsworth Lecturer at Cornell University Medical College in New York. Dr. Haik's presentations at these invited lectures addressed topics of adult and pediatric ocular and orbital tumors and allowed him to honor prominent colleagues for their remarkable contributions to the field of ophthalmology.

Dr. Alessandro Iannaccone and **Dr. Monica Jablonski** were co-authors of "Electroretinographic abnormalities in parents of patients with Leber congenital amaurosis who have heterozygous GUCY2D mutations" along with senior author Dr. Koenekoop and co-authors Drs. Fishman, Ezzeldin, Ciccarelli, Baldi, Sunness, Lotery, Pittler, and Maumenee. This multicenter study was published in *Archives of Ophthalmology*.

Dr. Edward Chaum was senior author of "Gene therapy for genetic and acquired retinal diseases," which appeared in the September-October issue of *Survey of Ophthalmology*. Dr. Mark Hatton was Dr. Chaum's co-author on this important discussion of advances in the treatment of retinal disorders.

Dr. Barrett Haik and **Dr. Peter Netland** were among the faculty at the Panamanian Society of Ophthalmology meeting in Panama City, Panama. Drs. Haik and Netland each presented four different lectures in their respec-



Dr. Haik speaks in Panama

tive specialties of ophthalmic oncology and glaucoma. The meeting was attended by over one hundred ophthalmologists from Central and South American countries. Dr. Ernesto Calvo of Panama organized and moderated the meeting. Other faculty included Dr. Calvin Roberts of New York, Dr. Gary Foulks of Pittsburgh, and Dr. Robert Goldberg of Los Angeles.

Seven members of the department's faculty presented "Thyroid eye disease: management from A to Z," an instructional course at the combined meeting of the American Academy of Ophthalmology and the Pan-American Association of Ophthalmology in Orlando, Florida. **Dr. Barrett Haik** was senior instructor and his co-instructors were **Dr. Peter Netland, Dr. Richard Drewry, Dr. R. Christopher Walton, Dr. James C. Fleming, Dr. Natalie Kerr and Dr. James Linder**. This course, presented for the fifth year, coincided with the publication of *Thyroid Eye Disease: Diagnosis and Treatment*, a text co-edited by Drs. Jonathan Dutton and Barrett Haik. Many members of the faculty contributed to this comprehensive textbook on the eye manifestations of thyroid disease.

Dr. Peter Netland was a co-instructor at the AAO instructional course "Complications following glaucoma filtering surgery: face them

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boldly, manage them efficiently." Dr. Anil Mandal was senior instructor with Drs. Dale Heuer and Eve Higginbotham as co-instructors.

Also at the AAO meeting, **Dr. Matthew Wilson** was senior author of "¹²⁵I episcleral plaque brachytherapy in the management of large malignant melanomas of the ciliary body and/or choroids," presented as a scientific poster with co-authors Karla Alejandro and Drs. John Cantrell and Barrett Haik. Dr. Wilson also co-authored "Manifestations of fungal cellulitis of the orbit in children with neutropenia and fever" with senior author Dr. Melanie McCarty and co-authors Drs. Haik, Fleming, Thompson, Flynn, Sandlund, and Knapp. Dr. Wilson received an achievement award from the AAO for his contributions to ophthalmic education.

Dr. Richard Drewry was Visiting Pro-

fessor to the Department of Ophthalmology at the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga. Dr. Drewry spoke on "Temporal Arteritis" to members of the Department and regional physicians, and presented "Congenital Anomalies of the Optic Disc" to the residents.



Drs. Netland, Mandal, Higginbotham, and Heuer

Faculty Contributions to *Thyroid Eye Disease: Diagnosis and Treatment*

Barrett G. Haik and Jorge Calzada
Introduction to thyroid eye disease:
diagnosis and treatment

Eli Chang, Matthew W. Wilson, & Mary E. Smith
Orbital imaging in thyroid eye disease

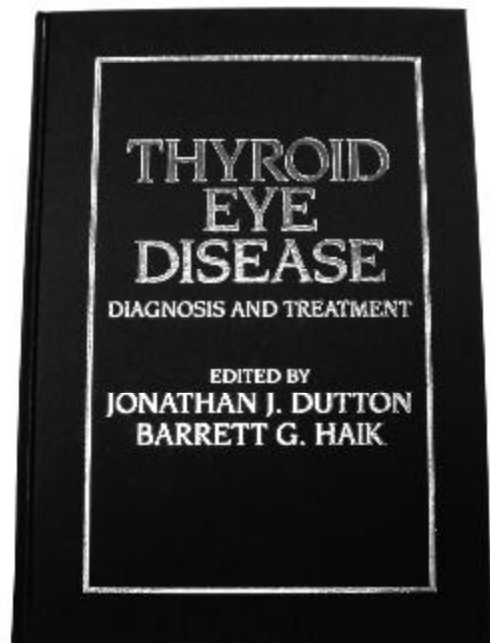
Richard D. Drewry
Optic neuropathy in thyroid eye disease

Natalie C. Kerr
Practical management of strabismus
and diplopia in thyroid eye disease

John S. King and Peter A. Netland
Glaucoma in thyroid eye disease

Stephen J. Laquis, Barrett G. Haik, & James C. Fleming
Blepharoplasty in Graves' disease

R. Christopher Walton
Basic concepts of the immune system



Department Welcomes Drs. Pamela Cheung, Roderick Hargrove, and Lama Al-Aswad

Dr. **Pamela Cheung** has joined the Department as adjunct assistant professor of ophthalmology. Dr. Cheung is a specialist in cornea and external disease and was formerly assistant professor at the Edward S. Harkness Eye Institute of Columbia University in New York. Dr. Cheung received her medical degree from Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons and completed her ophthalmology residency at Harkness Eye Institute. She completed a fellowship in cornea and external disease at the Wilmer Ophthalmological Institute of Johns Hopkins University under the direction of Drs. Walter Stark and Terrence O'Brien, and she has received extensive training in refractive surgical techniques. Dr. Cheung will supervise the residents' training in clinical care and surgery at the Veterans' Affairs Medical Center.

Dr. Roderick Hargrove is an instructor in ophthalmology who is completing his first year in our American Society of Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery-approved fellowship program. The oculoplastic and orbit fellowship is a two-year training program, with one year spent in Memphis and another in Nashville. The physician staff of the Orbit Center in Memphis, Drs. James C. Fleming, Barrett G. Haik, Matthew W. Wilson, and James S. Linder, shares the training responsibilities with Drs. Ralph E. Wesley and Kimberly A. Klippenstein in Nashville. Dr. Hargrove is a graduate of the University of North Carolina School of Medicine and completed his residency in ophthalmology at the State University of New York, Downstate Medical Center, where he was named resident of the year for 2000-2001.



Dr. Pamela Cheung



Drs. Roderick Hargrove and Lama Al-Aswad

Dr. Lama Al-Aswad is also an instructor in ophthalmology, spending a year under the direction of Dr. Peter Netland. Her subspecialty training will encompass all facets of medical and surgical glaucoma management. Dr. Al-Aswad received her M.D. from the Damascus Medical School in her native Syria. She was a research fellow at the Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary of Harvard Medical School and completed her residency at the State University of New York in Brooklyn. Dr. Al-Aswad was chief resident in her final year of training.

Distinguished

Visiting

Professors

Distinguished Visiting Professorships Feature Outstanding Speakers



Drs. Jerre Freeman, David Apple, and Barrett Haik

Distinguished visiting professorships, generously endowed by prominent alumni of the UT ophthalmology program, allowed the department to invite outstanding academicians as speakers recently.

On September 19, 2002, Jay H. Krachmer, M.D., professor and chair of the Department of Ophthalmology at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis was the William N. Williford, M.D., Distinguished Visiting Professor. Dr. Krachmer spoke on "Keratoconus and other eye-rubbing disorders" as the Williford Lecture, which was attended by UT faculty and residents as well as members of the Memphis Eye Society, co-sponsor of the event.

The following day, Dr. Krachmer also presided over patient presentations by the residents and spoke on "Slit lamp examination: importance and techniques." Dr. Williford (College of Medicine, 1970; Department of Ophthalmology, 1975), a noted ophthalmologist in Knoxville, established this professorship in 1997.

On November 7, 2002, the Sir Harold Ridley Distinguished Visiting Professor was David J. Apple, M.D., professor of ophthalmology and pathology at the Storm Eye Institute of the Medical University of South Carolina in Charleston. Dr. Apple's lecture, "The future of research and innovations in the fields of ocular pathology and biodevices: a rough, uncertain road ahead," included unique personal recollections of Sir Harold Ridley, inventor of the intraocular lens implant.

Jerre M. Freeman, M.D., (College of Medicine, 1963; Department of Ophthalmology, 1967), professor of ophthalmology and founder of Memphis Eye and Cataract Associates in Memphis, established the Ridley Professorship last year to commemorate Sir Harold's contribution to ophthalmology and to encourage innovative analysis and solutions to ophthalmic problems.



Drs. Monika Malecha and Jay Krachmer

Department Faculty & Offices

UT Ophthalmology Web Site:
<http://www.eye.utmem.edu>

Barrett G. Haik, M.D., F.A.C.S.

Ophthalmic oncology, orbital disease, and oculoplastic surgery
Chair and Hamilton Professor

Lama Al-Aswad, M.D.

Glaucoma and anterior segment disease
Instructor

Richard D. Drewry, Jr., M.D., F.A.C.S.

Neuro-ophthalmology
Professor and Vice-Chair

Edward Chaum, M.D., Ph.D.

Medical and surgical retina
Associate Professor and
Plough Foundation Professor
of Retinal Diseases

Pamela Cheung, M.D.

Anterior segment surgery
Assistant Professor

James C. Fleming, M.D., F.A.C.S.

Orbital disease and
oculoplastic surgery
Associate Professor
Director of the Orbit Center

Ralph S. Hamilton, M.D.

Anterior segment surgery
Professor

Roger L. Hiatt, M.D.

Pediatric ophthalmology
and strabismus
Professor Emeritus

Roderick Hargrove, M.D.

Orbital disease and
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Hereditary retinal disease
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Pediatric ophthalmology and strabismus
Associate Professor
Residency Program Director

James S. Linder, M.D.

Orbital disease and oculoplastic surgery
Assistant Professor

Monika A. Malecha, M.D.

Corneal and anterior segment
disease; refractive surgery
Assistant Professor

William R. Morris, M.D.

Comprehensive ophthalmology
and ophthalmic pathology
Associate Professor

Peter A. Netland, M.D., Ph.D.

Glaucoma
Siegal Professor of Ophthalmology

Mary E. Smith, M.P.H., R.D.M.S.

Diagnostic ultrasonography
Instructor
Director of Special Projects & Events

R. Christopher Walton, M.D.

Uveitis and ocular
inflammatory disease
Associate Professor

Matthew W. Wilson, M.D., F.A.C.S.

Ophthalmic oncology, orbital
disease, and oculoplastic surgery
Assistant Professor

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Professor of Anatomy and Neurobiology
Director of Research, Department of
Ophthalmology

Eldon E. Geisert, Jr., Ph.D.

Professor of Ophthalmology
Professor of Anatomy and Neurobiology
Director of Center for Vision Research

Howard M. Jernigan, Ph.D.

Professor of Ophthalmology
and Biochemistry

Monica M. Jablonski, Ph.D.

Associate Professor of
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Gerwin Research Scholar

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HOW TO HELP UT OPHTHALMOLOGY ACHIEVE ITS GOALS

Without the continuing generosity of the alumni and friends of the Department, it would be impossible for us to complete our current educational and research objectives or undertake additional projects. You can help by contributing to existing funding initiatives, by underwriting a project of particular interest to you or your family, or by lending unrestricted support with a gift to the Ophthalmology Support Fund.

For additional information on charitable donations to the Department of Ophthalmology at UT Health Science Center in Memphis, please contact Bettye Speake CFRE, Director of Development for the College of Medicine, 62 South Dunlap, Suite 500, Memphis, TN, 38163, phone 901-448-6532 or 1-800-733-0482, or you may call our Department offices at 901-448-5883.

USA Aniridia Network Conducts First Meeting; Provides Information, Support for Patients and Families

The USA Aniridia Network held its first meeting October 13, 2002, at the Hampton Suites Hotel in Memphis. The network provides information and support for patients afflicted with aniridia, a congenital absence of the iris that can have devastating ocular complications.

Presentations by University of Tennessee clinical faculty, most notably Dr. Peter Netland of the Department of Ophthalmology and Dr. Eniko Pivnick of Pediatrics and Genetics, highlighted the scientific session, which also included talks on special educational challenges of the low-vision, aniridic child. Patients and their families, not only from Tennessee and the Mid-South, but also from all areas of the United States, attended and benefited greatly from the informational exchange and opportunity to share experiences. The meeting organizers were Jill Nerby, Amy Lewis, and Wendy Baum. Dr. Netland serves on the board of directors of the Network and acts as medical adviser.



Dr. Peter Netland with Amy Lewis, Jill Nerby, and Wendy Baum, organizers of the meeting



Attendees of the USA Aniridia Network meeting

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