



# DoD/VA TBI Vision Rehab Symposium

Naval Medical Center San Diego, 34800 Bob Wilson Drive, San Diego, CA 92134

April 26-27, 20



## Executive Director Colonel Donald A. Gagliano, M.D.

Dr. Gagliano is a medical doctor, retinal ophthalmologist, and a Fellow of the American College of Health Care Executives. Dr. Gagliano has most recently served as Director of the Clinical Investigations Regulatory Office in the Army Medical Research and Materiel Command. He has led soldiers at every level of command, including the 30th Medical Brigade in Iraq from February 2003 until February 2004. He simultaneously served as the CJTF-7 Surgeon with responsibility for planning, integrating, and executing coalition combat health support in Iraq during the first year of the war. The 30th Medical Brigade was awarded the Meritorious Unit Citation for exemplary performance during Dr. Gagliano's command.



## Elizabeth Hoppe, OD, DrPh, MPH, FAAO

Dr. Hoppe received her undergraduate degree from Fair State University and her Doctorate of Optometry from the Ferris State University of Optometry. She received her MPH from the Yale University School of Medicine and her Doctor of Philosophy from the University of Michigan School of Public Health. Dr. Hoppe is the Founding Dean for the Western University of Health Science College of Optometry where she is also a Professor. She served as Professor and Associate Dean of Academic Affairs for the New England College of Optometry and was director of Outreach and Outcomes and tenured professor at the Southern College of Optometry. She is heavily involved with professional associations and has received numerous awards and honors.

Dr. Hoppe has been actively involved in contributions to optometric education and has made many policy and legislative contributions to optometry. She published two policy analysis regarding: 1) the redefinition of legal blindness and 2) the expanded optometric role of practice in the health care field, particularly related to vision rehabilitation. Dr. Hoppe has been published in more than 80 peer reviewed journals. She has also been actively involved in public health forums concerning lower vision and optometry for national service.



## Valerie Quan Wren, OD, FAAO - Chief of Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation, Associate Professor

Dr. Wren joined WesternU from the State University of New York College of Optometry where she served as Assistant Clinical Professor and Residency Program Supervisor involved in multispecialty clinical education and research for 10 years. Additionally, she brings experience from hospital-based, rehabilitation, psychiatric, VA medical center, private practice, and outpatient surgical settings. As a Neuro-Optometrist, her focus lies in evaluation, treatment and interdisciplinary management of patients with acquired brain injury. She provides state-of-the-art diagnostic, therapeutic and rehabilitative assessments to enhance her patient's visual capabilities, daily activities and quality of life. She is actively involved in clinical research and continuing professional education in the area of Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation.



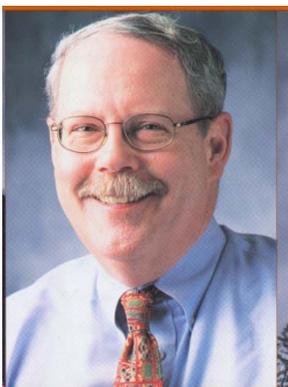
### **Kierstyn Napier-Dovorany, OD, FAAO-Chief of Low Vision, Assistant Professor**

Dr. Napier graduated from Indiana University in 2001 with a degree in Nutrition Science and from the New England College of Optometry in Boston in 2005. She then completed a residency at a veterans hospital in Vermont. She has worked at 2 veterans' hospitals as well as other practices before coming to Western University in 2009. At Western, she sees patients with visual impairments in the Low Vision Rehabilitation Clinic as well as patients in the Primary Care Clinic. She teaches low vision, ocular disease and interprofessional studies, and does research in diabetes and low vision. She believes that her patient is the central part of their health care team and encourages everyone to embrace their own health.



### **Mitchell M. Scheiman, O.D., F.A.A.O**

Mitchell M. Scheiman, O.D. is Chief of the Pediatric and Binocular Vision Services at The Eye Institute of the Pennsylvania College of Optometry in Philadelphia. He is also a full tenured, Associate Professor of Optometry at the Pennsylvania College of Optometry. Dr. Scheiman received his Doctor of Optometry degree from the New England College of Optometry in 1975, and completed a residency in Pediatric Optometry and Vision Therapy in 1976, at the State University of New York. After completion of this residency, he has spent the last 19 years specializing and teaching in the area of pediatric optometry, binocular vision disorders and Orthoptic Therapy. Dr. Scheiman lectures frequently at continuing education meetings, has published numerous articles in the professional literature and has authored many textbooks on Pediatric Optometry, Orthoptics and Brain Injury. Dr. Scheiman also serves as a consultant for the Army Office of the Surgeon General on TBI vision-related matters.



### **Dr. Felix Barker**

Dr. Barker is Associate Director of Research of the Rehabilitation and Reintegration Directorate of the VA/DoD Vision Center of Excellence (VCE). Dr. Barker is Emeritus Professor at Salus University, Adjunct Associate Professor of Pathology (Comparative Medicine) at Wake Forest University and was the Dean of Research at Salus University. He is a clinical staff member at the Salisbury VAMC. In his VCE role, Dr. Barker works to facilitate the prioritization, development, and funding of vision rehabilitation research efforts within the VA, DoD and non-Federal Communities.a



## **Carl G. Hillier, O.D., F.C.O.V.D. Fellow, College of Optometrists in Vision Development**

Dr. Carl Hillier graduated from the University of California San Diego in 1977 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology. He received a Bachelor of Science degree at Pacific University in 1980 and then graduated as a Doctor of Optometry in 1982.

Dr. Hillier dedicated the summer of 1980 providing vision care to the rural population in Honduras. He traveled to remote areas where he established vision clinics that helped hundreds of visually handicapped people.

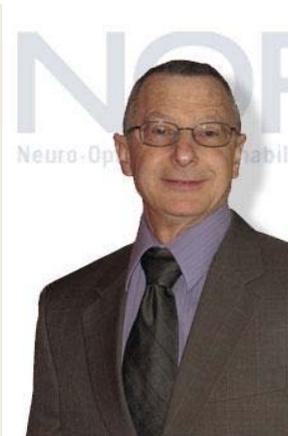
Upon his graduation, he was honored with a Naval Scholarship and direct appointment as a lieutenant in the Medical Service Corps. He was stationed at Balboa Naval Hospital, San Diego. He was in charge of the Vision Therapy Clinic helping active duty dependent families overcome visual problems that surgery, glasses and contact lenses alone could not solve. In addition, Dr. Hillier was responsible for training ophthalmology residents in the fitting of contact lenses.

After completing his tour in the Navy in 1985, Dr. Hillier entered into private practice in Lemon Grove, California. Dr. Hillier practices the functional and developmental approach to treating vision problems and enhancing vision skills, especially with learning disabled children.

Dr. Hillier is actively involved in his profession. His affiliations include the American Optometric Association, California Optometric Association, San Diego County Optometric Society, The Optometric Extension Program Foundation, The College of Optometrists in Vision Development, and the Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation Association.

Dr. Hillier is a certified Fellow in the College of Optometrists in Vision Development. He lectures nationally and internationally on topics relating to vision and learning, sports vision and visual treatment of those who have suffered a brain injury. In addition to his lectures in Europe and throughout the United States, he presents lectures locally to the Departments of Education and Nursing and San Diego State University, California School of Professional Psychology, California Optometric Association, Southern California College of Optometry, Southern California Vision Forum, San Diego rehabilitation hospitals, National Academy of Sports Vision, National University, American Optometric Association, The College of Optometrists in Vision Development, University of San Diego School of Medicine – Sports Medicine Fellowship Program, The Professional Development Program and Parents Active for Vision Education (PAVE).

In 1992 Dr. Hillier founded the Vision Rehabilitation Clinic at the San Diego Rehabilitation Institute at Alvarado Hospital. His innovative clinical techniques are being used today throughout the world. He is also a faculty member of the Southern California College of Optometry and TBI vision consultant for the Naval Medical Center San Diego. Dr. Hillier provides vision training with professional baseball players throughout the country.



## **Dr. Carl Garbus**

Dr. Garbus graduated from the Southern California College of Optometry in 1980. He opened two private practices in Valencia, Family Vision Care Optometry and Neuro Vision Rehabilitation Institute. Currently the practices emphasize care for children and adults with vision deficits from traumatic brain injury, stroke and developmental and learning problems.

Dr. Garbus has hospital privileges and consults at Cedars Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, Cottage Hospital in Santa Barbara and Henry Mayo Hospital in Santa Clarita. In addition, Dr. Garbus works with the following rehabilitation centers; Centre For Neuro Skills, Solutions At Santa Barbara and the Brain Injury Specialists. He has made various presentations and in-services to optometric societies, occupational therapy groups, and PTA groups regarding vision problems. Another area of interest is working with children who have learning problems. Autism is on the rise and these children have many vision issues that need to be addressed. Family Vision Care has a new office that is equipped to help children who have autism. Dr. Garbus was president of the Los Angeles County Optometric Society in 1993 and is currently serves as president for the Neuro Optometric Rehabilitation Association (NORA) since 2010.