Acknowledgement

of Traditional Owners

The QUT School of Optometry and Vision Science acknowledges the Traditional Owners of the lands where QUT now stands, and recognises that these have always been places of teaching and learning.

We wish to pay respect to their Elders - past, present and emerging - and acknowledge the important role Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people continue to play within the QUT community.
The School of Optometry and Vision Science, Queensland University of Technology (QUT) had another very successful year in 2018, with multiple achievements and a major celebration.

We celebrated our Golden anniversary, 50 years of optometry graduates. The first graduates, a class of just four, Colin Waldron, Heather Waldron (OAM), Jennifer Bevan and Graham Cooper, along with past Heads of School, Emeritus Professor Ken Bowman (AM), Emeritus Professor Leo Carney and Associate Professor Peter Hendicott joined members of the profession, staff of the School and new graduates to celebrate at an enjoyable evening event generously hosted by our professional organisation, Optometry Queensland and Northern Territory. Our first graduates spoke passionately about the early days of optometry, the ongoing advancement of the profession and scope of practice, the fight to gain the rights to prescribe medications for the treatment of eye conditions and the tremendous advances in diagnostic imaging technology.

In 2018, we worked diligently throughout the year to ensure our current students have a strong foundation in the sciences, are trained in evidence-based practice, are immersed in real-world clinical placements with cutting edge technology (both locally and overseas), and are collaborative and community minded. Our students and clinical supervisors provided 6,789 consultations at our QUT Optometry Clinic, an increase in 17% from 2017, with the service now operating throughout the year. We embedded a ‘Patients as Partners’ program, developed a ‘Student Peer Support’ program and re-invigorated our partnership with the Institute for Urban Indigenous Health.
The School’s research was rated ‘above world standard’ in the Australian Research Council Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) 2018 rankings. Our research in the fields of myopia, contact lenses, anterior eye, optics, imaging of the eye, melanopsin function, and the impact of vision loss on night driving attracted substantial funding from the Australian Research Council and industry. Six PhD students graduated, with two nominated for an ‘Outstanding Thesis Award’.

We look forward to the next 50 years. With continuing rapid advancements in treatments and technology, we believe we are on the brink of enormous and exciting changes in the profession of optometry. This will not be limited to how we treat eyes and vision, but how we work and collaborate with others to provide efficient, person-centred services to all, in any location. Regardless of the transformations in technology and health service systems, we will need to care. Indeed, the need to care will deepen.

Our School is striving to shape the future through our research and through preparing the next generation of optometrists. This cannot happen without a highly skilled and conscientious team, and many generous supporters. We are deeply grateful to our clinical supervisors, clinical placement providers, patients, research funding organisations, award sponsors and donors.

On a personal note, my first year at the School, and QUT more broadly, has been immensely rich and rewarding. I cannot thank my colleagues and students enough for their warm welcome and dedication to our work.
In 1965 the Queensland Institute of Technology (QIT) began an optometry program. This was a three year full-time optometry diploma under the leadership of Noel Verney, the new head of the Section of Optometry. Noel Verney was born in 1921 and attended high school at Brisbane Grammar School and trained as an optometrist at the Central Technical College in Brisbane before the Second World War. During the war, Noel was an aircraft navigator and was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for his service in Burma. Following the war, he travelled to the United Kingdom to further his optometry education. He led the optometry school at QIT until 1980 and has had a lasting impact on the development of the profession of optometry in Queensland.

The first cohort of undergraduate optometry students at QIT (Graham Cooper, Heather Waldron, Jennifer Bevan and Colin Waldron) began their studies in 1966 at the Gardens Point campus. The course had a strong emphasis on developing clinical skills.
in the QIT Optometry Clinic, located in the basement of U Block. The first QIT graduates completed their Diploma of Optometry in 1968.

Ken Bowman came from the University of Melbourne to be the new Head of the Optometry Department at QIT in 1980. He set about recruiting new academic staff, building a strong research culture within the department, establishing the Centre for Eye Research, and working with the profession and QIT management to enhance and develop the department. The optometry program at QIT graduated its first students from the four year BAppSc (Optom) degree in 1984 and in 1989, Ken oversaw the move of the department and clinic to the Law building (C Block) on Gardens Point campus, with a dedicated wing of research and teaching laboratories. In 1989 QIT became QUT and in 1991, Ken went on to become the Dean of the Faculty of Health, and in 2008 the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) of QUT.

In 1992, Leo Carney became the new Head of Optometry at QUT after previous appointments at Ohio State University and the University of Melbourne. Leo oversaw the move of the Optometry Department and Clinic to the Kelvin Grove campus of QUT. Over the next 16 years he continued to strengthen the research profile of the school, transitioning from the Centre for Eye Research to the Vision Domain of the Institute for Health and Biomedical Innovation.

He was instrumental in advancing the optometry program to the five year double degree (BVisSc and MOptom) program to include the teaching of therapeutics and strengthening the clinical experiences of students in the program. Leo was responsible for overseeing the development of the Optometry Clinic in the current QUT Health Clinics complex at Kelvin Grove.

His strategic leadership built a strong relationship with the profession and an excellent international reputation for the school.
In 2008, the QIT graduate Peter Hendicott became the Head of the School of Optometry and Vision Science after previous roles as Head of Optometry in Dublin, and clinic director at the University of Auckland and Hong Kong Polytechnic University. Peter oversaw the transition to the five year double degree program and the strong development of the research performance of the school over the next 10 years, with growing numbers of full-time researchers and higher degree research students in the school. Peter’s background in clinical management saw the schools clinical program develop an emphasis on the diversity of student’s clinical experiences and training.

Sharon Bentley became the first female Head of the School of Optometry and Vision Science in 2018, after academic appointments at The University of Melbourne, Dalhousie University, Deakin University and an executive appointment at the Australian College of Optometry. Sharon has brought a very strong background in clinical teaching and management, research and curriculum development to QUT.

When asked about the changes over the years, Emeritus Professor Leo Carney reflected that, “The past 50 years of optometry education at QIT and QUT have seen an impressive development in teaching and research along with the expanding scope of clinical practice of the optometry profession. With the current developments in the ongoing integration of optometry as a primary health-care provider, together with impressive technology changes, it is likely that the pace of change in our profession and the education of optometrists will also continue in the future.”

Over 50 years of development and the leadership of five heads of school, the School of Optometry and Vision Science at QUT has achieved great success in teaching, research and service to the community. It continues to build upon this legacy of achievement.
Head of School, Emeritus Professor Ken Bowman (back row, fourth from left) with staff. Back row from left: Michael Collins, David Atchison, Peter Swann, Ken Bowman, Brian Brown. Front row from left, Jan Kitchin, Jennifer Bevan, Joanne Wood.

References:
Carney LG. Profile: Kenneth J Bowman AM. Clinical and Experimental Optometry 2009; 92(2): 159-162.
Lecturer
Dr Katie Edwards
(School Research Ethics Advisor)

Associate Professor Katrina Schmid (Director of International Engagement and Recruitment; Course Coordinator Bachelor of Vision Science)

Lecturer
Dr Shelley Hopkins

Associate Professor Stephen Vincent (Course Coordinator Master of Optometry)

Associate Professor Scott Read (Director of Research)

Associate Professor Ann Webber

Professor
Joanne Wood

Associate Professor Andrew J. Zele

Associate Professor
Katrina Schmid

Professor
Joanne Wood

Associate Professor
Ann Webber

Associate Professor
Andrew J. Zele
Dr Julie Albeitz
Emeritus Professor Leo Carney DSc (QUT)
Emeritus Professor Nathan Efron AC
Associate Professor Peter Hendicott
Professor Mark Radford
Dr Kate Gifford (QUT Young Alumnus of the Year 2017)
The QUT School of Optometry and Vision Science offers the only Optometry program in Queensland. Our students are some of the brightest, requiring an OP1 or equivalent to enter and undertake a challenging five-year program comprising the Bachelor of Vision Science followed by the Master of Optometry leading to registration as an Optometrist in Australia. Our incredibly dedicated academic staff and sessional clinical supervisors have consistently won teaching and professional awards.

In 2018 we introduced a new unit into the first year of the program, ‘Foundations of Optometric Practice’, reviewed our curriculum on cultural safety and Indigenous knowledge, introduced more online flexible learning in ‘Research and Evidence-Based Optometry’ and developed a student peer support program.

Students had the opportunity to undertake local clinical placements in optometry practices, ophthalmology practices and at the Institute for Urban Indigenous Health, as well as international
clinical placements in Canada (University of Waterloo), Hong Kong (Hong Kong Polytechnic University), India (LV Prasad Eye Institute) and Mexico (Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity), some supported by Endeavour Leadership Program scholarships.

A highlight was the renewal of our student exchange program Memorandum of Understanding with the School of Optometry at the Hong Kong Polytechnic University.

Forty-nine students graduated from the Bachelor of Vision Science course and sixty one graduated from the Master of Optometry course.

**Bachelor of Vision Science Graduates**

Ahmad Ismael Sorefan  
Celine Tran  
Chaeyoung Lee  
Dalena Do  
Dinh Minh Chau Phan  
Emily Margaret McIntyre  
Emma Haley  
Jamie Chi Bao Dang  
Ji Hye Kim  
Katherynn Villamizar Pinilla  
Lauren Margaret Whittle  
Roderick Campbell Robertson  
Shiyi Chen  
Steven Le  
Tram Mai Tran Le  
Tzu-Ching Lin  
William Blair D’renty Donelly  
Yi-Chun Hsieh  
Yi-Tse Kuo  
Yutong Yang
Anna Jane Reaburn with Distinction
Anne Le with Distinction
An-Thien Ho with Distinction
Briana Mailun Tsang with Distinction
Caitlin Anne Kelland with Distinction
Cassandra-Elyse Versteeg with Distinction
Chantelle Nhu-Tam Chau with Distinction
Chien-Fu Chang with Distinction
Chun-Chen Shih with Distinction
Cleo Michelle Yip with Distinction
Darcie Alexandra Beckmann with Distinction
Derek Lay with Distinction
Elisabeth Margaret Liggett with Distinction
Georgina Li-Hsing Sheu with Distinction
Ho Jung Moon with Distinction
Jianing Lu with Distinction
Katrina Claire Lacy with Distinction
Lachlan Munro with Distinction
Lynley Han Jun Law with Distinction
Maegan Sarah Emerick with Distinction
Renata Naomi Gordon with Distinction
Sally Jeongmun Lee with Distinction
Samantha Kitson (QUT Medal Prize) with Distinction
Thuy Ngoc Nguyen with Distinction
Vanessa Au with Distinction
Vincent Le with Distinction
Yan Xu with Distinction
Yu-Chieh Tsui with Distinction
Yu-Ju Wang with Distinction
Master of Optometry Graduates

Beom Seok Oh
Brian Toh
Bruce Shang-Yu Kuo
Chen-Pang Chiang
Chia-Jun Tu
Edward Wonjae Lee
Kerrin Jia Qian Duong
Lina Go
Ming Gu
Po-Yen Chen
Samuel Shiu Chung Lay
Sang Nhat Dinh
Abby Lee Ussher
Amy Nhi Y Tran
Annie Luu
Ashleigh Jade Casey
Chia-Chen Tsai
Danica Hua Liu
Grace Kai-Ting Lee
Huu My Phuong Nguyen
Ingrid Lok-Yun Ng
Jacinta Lok
Janessa Amy Kimlin
Jenna Leigh Truong
Jia Hao Ng
Jia Sheng Choo
Joshua Brent Johnstone
Joy Chen
with Distinction
with Distinction
with Distinction
with Distinction
with Distinction
with Distinction
with Distinction
with Distinction
with Distinction
with Distinction
with Distinction
with Distinction
with Distinction
with Distinction
with Distinction
with Distinction
with Distinction
with Distinction
Justine Chieh-Ting Chuang with Distinction
Justine Yu-Ting Huang with Distinction
Katelyn Rose with Distinction
Kirby Anne Phillips with Distinction
Kryton Antony Louis Skokidis with Distinction
Lynne Thao Dinh with Distinction
Madeline Anne Hutchinson with Distinction
Megan Elizabeth Finlay with Distinction
Peiyu Billy Chang with Distinction
Phyllida Claire Murray with Distinction
Rachael Louise Larner with Distinction
Rachel Maree Pitts with Distinction
Rebecca Anne Duff with Distinction
Richard Hoang with Distinction
Rory James Dowdall with Distinction
Rosemary Guadalupe Galvez with Distinction
Sarah Elizabeth Hawe with Distinction
Sarah Hoa My Ha with Distinction
Shona Trang with Distinction
Sophia Isabella Wallace with Distinction
Stephanie Dawn Beavis with Distinction
Suhyun Kweon with Distinction
Syafiq Asyraf Bin Kusni with Distinction
Terry Nguyen with Distinction
Te-Yuan Chang with Distinction
Vincent Lin with Distinction
Viraya Naicker with Distinction
Yi-Ping Lee with Distinction
Yi-Tang Chien with Distinction
Yi-ting Katherine Chen with Distinction
Yu-Chong Anderson Chang with Distinction
Yu-Ting Hung with Distinction
Zion Kim with Distinction
As part of the Master of Optometry program, all students undertake a 12-month research project. The following projects were led by academic staff members:

**David Atchison, Katrina Schmid, & Kate Gifford:** Impact of contact lenses for myopia on refraction measures
Students: Joshua Collins, Clare Maher, Riya Makan, Thi Kim Phung Nguyen, Gemma Parmenter, Bronte Rolls, Xinyue (Sevanna) Zhang

**Alex Black & Joanne Wood:** Night-time conspicuity of pedestrians
Students: Jami Bashar, Jacqui Clow, Brittany Darbyshire, Liam Grouhel, Chih - Ling Hsu, Ka - Man Tse, Ming Wei Alger Yeo

**Andrew Carkeet:** Acuity, refraction and biometry: Correlation in 4-year old children
Students: Alicia Bingham, Heidi Lee, Emily Major, Lisa Ogi, Preyanka Sivasuthan, Henriette Warnken

**Michael Collins & Alyra Shaw:** Cornea and eyelid sensitivity and rigid contact lens awareness
Students: Jia Lin Koh, Yong Fun Annabel Kwok, James Lee, Leo Liu, Jordan Marr, Sungwoo Son

**Katie Edwards & Luisa Colorado:** Dry eye disease in women: Influence of somatosensory function
Students: Woori Cho, Anna Hua, Colleen Lam, John Le, Yue Ma, Narae Park, Jennifer Tran

**Scott Read & Samaneh Delshad:** Factors affecting short-term variations in axial length
Students: Thi Le, Jamie Nguyen, Jessie Phan, Anita Tran, Bao Tran, Cindy Tran, Thu Tran

**Katrina Schmid & Kate Gifford:** Impact of variable focus contact lenses for myopia on binocular vision
Students: Patrick Chan, Benjamin Christie, Sarah Crouther, Olivia Nahuysen, Kristina Sechenova, Laura Sevil, Marlin Youssef
Stephen Vincent: The corneal response to scleral contact lens wear
Students: Samuel Cheung, Annabel Cristaldi, Amy Johnson, Zoe Logan, Anthony Than, Lynda Tran

Ann Webber: New binocular test of suppression
Students: Hannah Kamgarpour, Caitlin Kindness, Thomas Mandall, Darcy Molloy, Prajna Vidyasagar, Chin Song Yek, Eugenie Zhan

Joanne Wood & Alex Black: Safe street crossing decisions
Students: Thanh Bui, Ryan Chiang, Tzu-Hsiang Hung, Fei Fei Liu, Lachlan Su, Phillip Tran, Raymond Truong

Andrew J. Zele: The perception of brightness
Students: Joan Lee, Siti Nurhidayatul Nabilah Mohamad, Chia Lun Mandy Thai, Ying Tiong, Nguyen Thi Hanh Vo, Ya Weng Wong

Winners of the Master of Optometry Student Research Project Presentation Award (sponsored by Optometry Queensland and Northern Territory): ‘The corneal response to scleral contact lens wear’, by (left to right) Amy Johnson, Lynda Tran, Annabel Cristaldi, Assoc. Professor Stephen Vincent (supervisor), Zoe Logan, Anthony Than and Samuel Cheung. Each student was presented with a copy of the book, Clinical Procedures in Primary Eye Care (signed by the author, Professor David B Elliott) from Optometry Queensland and Northern Territory.
• Optometry Queensland and Northern Territory Academic Highest Achievement in First Year BVisSci Award – Bianca Romeo

• Optometry Queensland and Northern Territory Highest Academic and Clinical Achievement in MOptom Award – Madeline Hutchinson

• School of Optometry and Vision Science Award (year three BVisSci student with highest GPA in the units ‘Assessment of Vision 5’ and ‘Assessment of Vision 6’) – Renata Gordon

• CooperVision Australia Contact Lens Prize (MOptom student with highest achievement in first year contact lens studies) – Jacqui Clow

Pictured Top to bottom, L-R: Bianca Romeo with OQNT President, Melinda Toomey, Madeline Hutchinson with OQNT President, Melinda Toomey, Renata Gordon with Head of School, Professor Sharon Bentley.
• Johnson & Johnson Vision Care Award (MOptom student with highest achievement in second year contact lens studies) – Katelyn Rose

• Australian College of Optometry Outstanding Graduate Award (highest GPA across both the BVisSci and MOptom) – Katelyn Rose

• Optometry Australia Student Leadership Program – James Lee and Amy Johnson

Pictured Top to bottom, L-R: Jacqui Clow with CooperVision Professional Services Manager, Joe Tanner. Katelyn Rose with Head of School, Professor Sharon Bentley.
In 2018 Tina Huynh was appointed to the position of Clinic Coordinator and we welcomed dispenser Pam Vorias to the team.

Our students and clinical supervisors provided 6,789 consultations at our QUT Optometry Clinic, an increase in 17% from 2017, with the service now operating throughout the year. In addition to providing services at the QUT Optometry Clinic, the School provides outreach services to communities experiencing disadvantage and with limited access to eye care. In 2018, students and supervisors participated in twelve regional clinics in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities, four refugee clinics, one aged care organisation and one homeless connect clinic.

Another highlight of our Clinic in 2018 was the ‘Patients as Partners’ program, where patients have the opportunity to give feedback about their consultation to the student via an online survey. In particular, patients are asked to provide feedback on the student’s communication and interpersonal skills. This was beneficial not only for students, but for patients. More than 90% of patients agreed that they felt they were helping, that it was easy to give constructive comments, and that providing this feedback fostered patient participation in the clinic learning environment.
Tina Huynh (centre), QUT Optometry Clinic Coordinator, with Dispensers Harry Grzes (left) and Pam Vorias, (right).
The School’s research was ranked ‘above world standard’ in 2018 according to the Australian Research Council Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) evaluation.

Our research focus is on technological advances in the treatment and management of vision problems, the diagnosis and assessment of eye and vision disorders, and the functional impacts of vision impairment.

Our cutting-edge research is collaborative, globally recognised and far reaching. This year, more than fifty articles were published in scholarly journals, three Australian Research Council grants were awarded, substantial industry research support was secured, and six PhDs were completed.

**Our Collaborations**

The School of Optometry and Vision Science collaborates with many local and international researchers.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Metric</th>
<th>Publications</th>
<th>Citations</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>International collaboration</td>
<td>49.2%</td>
<td>183</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only national collaboration</td>
<td>12.4%</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Only institutional collaboration</td>
<td>30.9%</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Single authorship (no collaboration)</td>
<td>7.5%</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Table: School affiliated publications, 2013-2018, by amount of collaboration, as calculated in SciVal, based on Scopus data 15 February 2019.*
Our Reach: Number of Citing Countries

Using the 627 Scopus publications (2008-2018), the number of citing countries identified was 92.

Our research strengths include:

- Myopia and its prevention and control
- Optics of the eye and imaging
- Advanced methods for imaging the eye
- Anterior eye assessment and treatment
- Novel methods for the early detection and management of eye disease
- Melanopsin and visual science
- Ocular biomarkers of systemic disease
- Vision and everyday function
- Indigenous Eye Health
- Children’s vision

Figure: Top ten citing countries 2008-2018, calculated in Scopus up to 15 February 2019.

Figure: Map of citing countries, as calculated in SciVal. The map was produced in Excel, using Bing, based on Scopus data up to 15 February 2019.
Optics of the Eye and Imaging

The research team, led by Professor David Atchison, made progress with work on biometry changes in accommodation, peripheral aberrations and the development of their new technique of retinal holography. Collaborations with researchers from the QUT Robotics Centre, UNSW, China, India, Iran and the USA continued. The year ended well with a successful ARC Discovery grant to further investigate the Stiles-Crawford effect (retinal directionality).

Contact Lenses and Visual Optics

The Contact Lens and Visual Optics laboratory had a number of significant achievements during 2018. Three PhD students graduated during the year, Sekar Ulaganathan, Samaneh Delshad and Seyed Hosein Hoseini Yazdi and one of the current HDR students, Rohan Hughes, was named Queensland Young Optometrist of the Year. Members of the laboratory gave twenty conference presentations and had sixteen published research papers. David Alonso-Caneiro was awarded a Rebecca Lillian Cooper Medical Research Foundation grant, Michael Collins, Scott Read and David Atchison were awarded an Innovation Connections Grant, with Cylite Pty Ltd and Michael Collins was awarded industry funding from Johnson and Johnson Vision Care (USA). This funding from Johnson and Johnson represented a 20-year milestone of continuous funding and partnership with the Contact Lens and Visual Optics laboratory.

Early in the year, the Contact Lens and Visual Optics Lab (CLVOL) hosted 36 secondary school teachers from the National Science Teachers Summer School (NSTSS) and 45 high school students from the National Youth Science Forum (NYSF). The School’s CLVOL was delighted to be part of a program that encourages teachers and students to be excited about science, and especially health science disciplines such as optometry and vision science. They enthusiastically engaged the visiting teachers and visiting students at 11 different workstations, which
included learning activities on eye tracking, wavelength of light, thermal imaging of the eye, colour vision, binocular vision, contact lenses, tear film stability, visual acuity and blur, anatomy of the anterior eye (slit lamp), anatomy of the posterior eye (OCT), and also lenses and adaptive optics.

**Vision and Everyday Function**

In 2018, the research team, led by Professor Joanne Wood and Dr Alex Black, completed data collection on a range of industry-funded projects on night-time visibility and road safety, delivered presentations at a range of national and international conferences and published papers on topics including visual impairment and driving, night-time driving and children’s vision. The team also continued to develop their international profile in night driving and road lighting through CIE membership and presentation at the CIE Visibility workshop in Berlin. The research team was also successful in securing research support to lead an ARC-funded project on night-time driving, in partnerships with national and internal collaborators. The ongoing research will focus on the specific visual challenges of night driving and develop solutions to improve the safety of night-time driving, walking and cycling.

**Anterior Eye**

The Anterior Eye Laboratory, led by Katie Edwards has continued their research into cellular level changes at the ocular surface, in both ocular and systemic disease, using in-vivo confocal microscopy. Collaborations continued with researchers from UNSW, as well as a number of local collaborators. In the future, they will continue their work in assessment of the ocular surface, as well as their new area of research into the neurobiology of ocular surface symptoms.
Melanopsin and Visual Science

Together with his team, Associate Professor Andrew Zele provided initial evidence that melanopsin photoreception, independent of the rod and cone pathways, gives rise to conscious, image-forming visual perception (Zele, Feigl et al Scientific Reports 2018) and that its interactions with the cone pathways provide the neural code for a person to be able to ascertain the brightness of the ambient illumination (Zele, Adhikari et al J Opt Soc Am A 2018); this knowledge is redefining our textbook understanding of how the retinal output is used for visual perception. Of significance, Associate Professor Zele was awarded a prestigious Australian Research Council (ARC) Future Fellowship (2018-2022): ‘Vision and lighting in the age of melanopsin’. A central challenge that will be addressed by this ARC Future Fellowship is to understand the retinal circuits giving rise to image and non-image forming melanopsin function.
Professor Fiona Fylan, Leeds Beckett University, UK

Professor Alex Wade, University of York, UK

Dr. Alexander Leube, Eberhard Karls University, Germany

Dr. Yonji Liu, Optics, Modern Optics, China
Name: Adhikari P
Title: A novel technology for understanding melanopsin contributions to human vision
Funding Source: IHBI Early-Career Researcher Development Scheme
Duration of Funding: 2018
Total Funds: $10,000

Names: Alonso-Caneiro D
Title: Artificial intelligence for image processing in ocular imaging in health and disease
Funding Source: Rebecca Lillian Cooper Medical Research Foundation
Duration of Funding: 2018-2019
Total Funds: $100,000

Name: Atchison DA, Schmid KL, Suheimat M
Title: Accommodation mechanisms in relation to the development of myopia
Funding Source: Carl Zeiss Vision
Duration of Funding: 2018-2020
Total Funds: $113,955

Names: Atchison D, Lambert A, Suheimat M
Title: Relationship of retinal directionality to human retinal anatomy variations
Funding Source: Australian Research Council (ARC) Discovery
Duration of Funding: 2019-2021
Total Funds: $425,000

Names: Chen F, De Roach J, Hunt D, Wilton S, Alonso-Caneiro D
Title: Establishing a centre of research excellence in juvenile macular disease
Funding Source: Telethon-Perth Children’s Hospital Research Fund
Duration of Funding: 2018-2019
Total budget: $249,880

Names: Collins MJ, Read SA, Atchison DA
Title: Clinical validation trial: Cylite’s hyperparallel optical coherence tomographer
Funding Source: Innovation Connections Grant, Cylite Pty Ltd.
Duration of Funding: 2018
Total Funds: $57,528
Name: Collins MJ
Title: Industry
Funding Source: Johnson & Johnson Vision Care Inc.
Duration of Funding: 2017 - 2018
Total Funds: $701,250 USD

Name: Collins MJ
Title: Industry
Funding Source: Johnson & Johnson Vision Surgical
Duration of Funding: 2018
Total Funds: $108,750 USD

Name: Edwards K, Kerr G, Finlayson K, Lazzarini P
Title: Equipment Grant
Funding Source: QUT IHBI
Duration of Funding: 2019
Total Funds: $50,000

Name: Edwards K, Pritchard N
Title: Industry
Duration of Funding: 2019
Total Funds: $120,000

Name: Hopkins, S
Title: How smart are the ‘smart vision charts’ at detecting reduced vision in children?
Funding Source: QUT Women in Research Grant Scheme
Duration of Funding: 2018-2019
Total Funds: $9,757

Names: Read SA, Alonso-Caneiro D, Collins MJ
Title: The interaction between ON and OFF retinal cell activation and near focusing in myopia
Funding Source: IHBI Innovation Ideas Grant Scheme
Duration of Funding: 2018-2019
Total Funds: $10,000

Names: Wood J, Black A, Atchison D, Larue G
Title: Mitigating signal colour-misconceptions from prescription lenses worn by train drivers
Funding Source: Australasian Centre for Rail Innovation
Duration of Funding: 2018-2019
Total Funds: $108,079

Names: Wood J, Black A, Cupitt A
Title: Assessment of blue light hazards and colour temperature for LED lighting
Funding Source: Energex
Duration of Funding: 2018
Total Funds: $30,000

Names: Wood J, Black A, Isoardi G
Title: Dimming levels on driver performance
Funding Source: Department of Environment and Energy, Commonwealth of Australia
Duration of Funding: 2018
Total Funds: $18,180

Names: Wood J, Black A, King N, King M, Brough D, Fylan F
Title: “WAKE up” - making exercising in the dark safer and more appealing through innovative design of retroreflective apparel
Funding Source: 2018 IHBI and HASS Collaborative Incentive Scheme
Duration of Funding: 2018-2019
Total Funds: $21,940
Names: Wood JM, Black A  
Title: Evaluation of optimum form of visibility via active lighting in various contexts  
Funding source: MAS Holdings – Research & Innovation (Private) Ltd  
Duration of Funding: 2017-2018  
Total Funds: $31,241

Names: Meuleners L, Wood JM, Ng J, Morlet N, Brameld K  
Title: Visual impairment and injury: A population-based study  
Funding Source: Australian Research Council (ARC) Discovery Project  
Duration of Funding: 2018-2020  
Total Funds: $228,000

Name: Wood J  
Title: Consulting Agreement  
Funding Source: Allergan  
Duration of Funding: 2018  
Total Funds: $9,000

Name: Wood JM, McKendrick A, Black AA, Lacherez P, Isoardi G, Owsley CO  
Title: Using visual science to reduce the dangers of night driving  
Funding Source: Australian Research Council (ARC) Discovery Project  
Duration of Funding: 2019-2021  
Total Funds: $399,458

Names: Zele AJ, Feigl B, Cao D, Kremers J  
Title: Melanopsin function in humans  
Funding Source: Australian Research Council (ARC) Discovery Project  
Duration of Funding: 2017-2019  
Total Funds: $243,387

Name: Zele AJ  
Title: Vision and lighting in the age of melanopsin  
Funding Source: Australian Research Council (ARC) Future Fellowship  
Duration of Funding: 2018-2021  
Total Funds: $988,451


lens refractive index distribution and ciliary body ring diameter with accommodation. Biomedical Optics Express. 2018; 9: 1272-1282.


33. Perkins BA, Lovblom LE, Bril V, Scarr D, Ostrovski I, Orszag A,


Adhikari P, Zele AJ, Cao D, Kremers J, Feigl B. Melanopsin interacting with the cone-mediated white noise electroretinogram. (Poster) ARVO Annual Meeting; 2018, 29 Apr-3 May: Honolulu, HI, USA.


Atchison DA, Khan A, Pope JM, Verkicharla PK, Suheimat M. Change in human lens dimensions, lens refractive index distribution and ciliary ring diameter with accommodation. (Poster) ARVO Annual Meeting; 2018, 29 Apr-3 May: Honolulu, HI, USA.


Atchison DA. Eye shapes in emmetropes and myopes. Congress of the Orthokeratology Society of Oceania; 2018, 6 Oct: Gold Coast, QLD, Australia.

Black AA. Teaching clinical reasoning in the optometry consulting room: Perspectives from clinical educators. Scientific and Educators’ Meeting in Optometry; 2018, 5-6 Apr: Melbourne, VIC, Australia.


Carkeet A. Diplopia and visual acuity, magnitude, orientation and contrast. (Poster) ARVO Annual Meeting; 2018, 29 Apr-3 May: Honolulu, HI, USA.

Carkeet A. Different termination rules give different acuity results for Sloan and C optotypes and different levels of crowding. Scientific and Educators’ Meeting in Optometry; 2018, 5-6 Apr: Melbourne, VIC, Australia.

Carkeet A. Acuity rules. (Keynote Address) University of Houston College of Optometry USAustralia Vision Summit; 2018, 12 Nov: Houston, TX USA.

Carkeet A, Ng JH, Choo J.S. Bearing fixing. A new subjective method for determination of astigmatic cylinder and power. (Poster) American Academy of Optometry Annual Meeting; 2018, 9 Nov: San Antonio, TX, USA.
Collins MJ. Myopia control: The evidence base behind the options. (Invited) Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists, Queensland Branch, Annual Scientific Meeting; 2018, 4 Aug: QLD, Australia.

Davis BA, Rajasingam PV and Collins MJ. Measuring ultraviolet autofluorescence (UVAF) and sodium fluorescein (NaFl) emission spectra. (Poster) ARVO Annual Meeting; 2018, 29 Apr-3 May: Honolulu, HI, USA.

Delshad S, Collins MJ, Read SA, Vincent SJ. Time course of the axial length and blur adaptation responses of the human eye to imposed myopic blur. Scientific and Educators’ Meeting in Optometry; 2018, 5-6 Apr: Melbourne, VIC, Australia.


Elliott D, Black AA, Wood JM. Oblique astigmatism distorts subjective visual vertical. (Poster) ARVO Annual Meeting; 2018, 29 Apr-3 May: Honolulu, HI, USA.


Fylan F, Hughes A, Wood JM, Elliott DB. Why do people drive when they can’t see clearly? ARVO Annual Meeting; 2018, 29 Apr-3 May: Honolulu, HI, USA.

Gifford KL, Gifford P, Hendicott PL, Schmid KL. The interaction of vergence...
and tonic accommodation in pediatric myopic contact lens wear. (Poster) ARVO Annual Meeting; 2018, 29 Apr-3 May: Honolulu, HI, USA.

Holguin Colorado L. Corneal dendritic cell density and its association with corneal nerve morphology and inflammatory mediators and neuropeptides in the healthy tear film. University of Houston College of Optometry USAustralia Vision Summit; 2018, 12 Nov: Houston, TX USA.


Kimlin J, Black AA, Wood JM. Investigation of visual function tests for night driving difficulties. (Poster) ARVO Annual Meeting; 2018, 29 Apr-3 May: Honolulu, HI, USA.

Kirkman JM, Bentley SA, Armitage JA, Woods CA. Attitude of optometry students towards rural clinical placements and practice. Scientific and Educators’ Meeting in Optometry; 2018, 5-6 Apr: Melbourne, VIC, Australia.

Lau JKK, Cheung SW, Collins MJ and Cho, P. Short-term changes in choroidal thickness and axial length in children fitted with orthokeratology lenses of different compression factors. (Poster) ARVO Annual Meeting; 2018, 29 Apr-3 May: Honolulu, HI, USA.


Read SA. High resolution eye imaging, now and into the future: Prospects for new research discoveries. (Invited) Australian Academy of Health and Medical Sciences, Queensland Clinical Science Symposium; 2018 10 Mar: Brisbane, QLD, Australia.

Read SA. Mapping peripheral retinal and choroidal thickness in myopia. (Paper) American Academy of Optometry Annual Meeting 2018, 7-10 November: San Antonio Texas, USA.

Read SA. Light therapy and the choroid. US Australia Vision Summit 2018, 12 Nov: Houston Texas, USA.

Read SA. The role of the choroid in myopia; Retinal changes associated with myopia; Near work in myopia. (Invited) Singapore Primary Eye care Symposium 2018, 18-19 Jul: Singapore.
Read SA. The great outdoors and myopia. (Invited) 13th Congress of the Orthokeratology Society of Oceania; 2018, 6 Oct: Gold Coast QLD, Australia.

Schmid KL, Beavis SD, Chen J, Chien Y-T, Nguyen T, Tran AN, Wallace SJ, Varnas SR, Atchison DA. The effect of base-up and base-down vertically yoked prisms on binocular vision and accommodation. (Poster) ARVO Annual Meeting; 2018, 29 Apr-3 May: Honolulu, HI, USA.

Schmid KL. Mastery motivation in optometry students at commencement and end of the first year of study. Scientific and Educators’ Meeting in Optometry; 2018, 5-6 Apr: Melbourne, VIC, Australia.

Schmid KL. Breakfast with an Expert. Developing Your Teaching Portfolio. ARVO Annual Meeting; 2018, 29 Apr-3 May: Honolulu, HI, USA.

Schmid KL. Mastery motivation in first year optometry students. Queensland University Educators’ Showcase; 2018, 28 Sept: Sunshine Coast, QLD, Australia.


Suheimat M, Lambert AJ, Atchison DA. In-vivo holographic imaging and reconstruction of the human eye. ARVO Annual Meeting; 2018, 29 Apr-3 May: Honolulu, HI, USA.


Left: Associate Professor Scott Read. Singapore Primary Eyecare Symposium 2018.

Vincent SJ. MD/OD collaboration on sclerals for corneal irregularity and PKP. (Invited) International Congress of Scleral Contacts; 2018: 27 Jul: Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA.


Webber AL, Wood JM, Thompson B, Birch EE. From suppression to stereoacuity – A composite binocular function score for clinical research. American Academy of Optometry Annual Meeting; 2018, 7-10 Nov: San Antonio, TX, USA.

Webber AL, McKinlay L, Gole GA. Boots on the ground for paediatric eye care - An evaluation of the Paediatric Optometry Alignment Program. (Poster) American Academy of Optometry Annual Meeting; 2018, 7-10 Nov: San Antonio, TX, USA.

Webber AL. Scary kids that keep me awake at night. (Invited) North Queensland Vision, Optometry Queensland and Northern Territory; 2018, 7-8 Jul: Cairns, QLD, Australia.


Wood JM, Black AA, Anstey K, Horswill M. Hazard perception in older adults with visual impairment. ARVO Annual Meeting; 2018, 29 Apr-3 May: Honolulu, HI, USA.

Wood JM. Road safety at night: The visual challenges, lighting issues and improving visibility. CIE Visibility Workshop; 2018, 24-25 May: Berlin, Germany.


Wood JM. Role of vision in driving. (Invited) Eye Institute Annual Conference; 2018, 4 Nov: Auckland, NZ.


Yi F, Davis BA, McNeill HJ, Collins MJ. Dynamic pupil tracking for adaptive optics visual simulator with liquid crystal spatial light modulator. (Poster) ARVO Annual Meeting; 2018, 29 Apr-3 May: Honolulu, HI, USA.

Zele AJ, Feigl B, Adhikari P, Cao D. Melanopsin contributions to image forming vision. (Poster) ARVO Annual Meeting; 2018, 29 Apr-3 May: Honolulu, HI, USA.


Edwards K. Are the eyes a window to the sole? School of Optometry and Vision Science, UNSW; 2018, May: Sydney, NSW, Australia.

Edwards K. Corneal nerve markers of peripheral neuropathy. Royal Brisbane Hospital, Neurology Department; 2018, Aug: Brisbane, QLD, Australia.

Holguin Colorado L. Corneal dendritic cell density and its association with corneal nerve morphology and inflammatory mediators and neuropeptides in the healthy tear film. Seminar in Neuroscience, Louisiana State University, School of Medicine; 2018, Nov: New Orleans, USA.


Vincent SJ. Visual optics, eye growth, and myopia control. Hong Kong Academy of Orthokeratology, Hong Kong Polytechnic University; 2018, 4 Dec: Hong Kong.
Sekar Ulaganathan
Title: The influence of light exposure and seasonal changes on short-term and longer-term changes in axial length of the human eye / Supervisors: Scott Read, Michael Collins, Stephen Vincent

Kate Gifford
Title: Binocular visual function in orthokeratology contact lens wear for myopia / Supervisors: Katrina Schmid, Peter Hendicott

Samaneh Delshad
Title: Temporal dynamics of the eye’s response to blur / Supervisors: Michael Collins, Scott Read, Stephen Vincent

Khaled Al Rashah
Title: Characterising corneal nerve migration rates in healthy and diabetic individuals with and without neuropathy / Supervisors: Katie Edwards, Nathan Efron, Nicola Pritchard

Seyed Hosein Hoseini Yazdi
Title: Spatial characteristics of the response of the human choroid to imposed defocus / Supervisors: Stephen Vincent, Scott Read, Michael Collins

Amithavikram Rugvedi Hathibelagal
Title: The role of noise on rod signaling in the visual pathways / Supervisors: Andrew J. Zele, Beatrix Feigl
Staff Promotions

- Associate Professor Stephen Vincent
- Associate Professor Ann Webber

Research Awards

- Professor Joanne Wood: Distinguished Lecturer, Schepens Eye Research Institute, Massachusetts Eye and Ear, Boston in recognition of “unique expertise and outstanding accomplishments in the field of driving research.”

- Dr David Alonso-Caneiro: Kevin Cahill Award as part of the 2018 Project Grant from the Rebecca L Cooper Medical Research Foundation for the most interesting or innovative project grant in the field of Vision Sciences, “Artificial intelligence for image processing in ocular imaging in health and disease.”

- Dr Yahya Alzahrani, Dr Luisa Holguin Colorado, Dr Nicola Pritchard and Professor Nathan Efron for their article, ‘Longitudinal changes in Langerhans cell density of the cornea and conjunctiva in contact lens-induced dry eye’: 2018 J Lloyd Hewitt Award for the most meritorious article published in Clinical and Experimental Optometry in the previous three years.

Teaching and Learning Awards

- Dr David Alonso-Caneiro: Graduate Certificate in Academic Practice and Fellowship of the Higher Education Academy

- Dr Emily Pieterse: Sessional Teaching and Reflection Showcase Finalist (highly commended)

Professional Awards

- Professor David Atchison: Outstanding Committee Award (MS-024 – Spectacles. Standards Australia, 2018)
Dr Luisa Holguin Colorado: Fellowship of the American Academy of Optometry

Rohan Hughes: Optometry Queensland Northern Territory Young Optometrist of the Year

Professor David Atchison (fifth from left), member and past Chair (2005-2017) of the Standards Australia Spectacles Committee, winners of the ‘Outstanding Committee Award’.
We would like to pay tribute to Professor Brian Brown, recognised as the founder of optometry research at QUT, who sadly passed away in August 2018.

Professor Brian Brown joined Queensland Institute of Technology (QIT), as it was known in 1983, under Emeritus Professor Ken Bowman (AM), charged with creating research capability and culture in the Department of Optometry. Indeed, he was extremely successful. Today, thanks to his excellent leadership and mentoring, the School has a vibrant research culture and produces high quality scientific research that is internationally recognised.

Emeritus Professor Ken Bowman AM recalls, “I recruited Brian to QIT in the early 1980s, giving him a remit to support the development of the research performance and research culture of the (then) Department of Optometry. His enthusiasm for instilling a questioning and research-oriented perspective in students was infectious and was supported by his own very strong research activities. He also played the
lead role in final year research projects, the high standard of which meant that many resulted in journal publications. Brian also led and collaborated with his academic staff colleagues on many grant-funded as well as industry-funded research projects. In this capacity, he played a strong mentoring role within the Department. He also organised the ‘Practitioner Forum’ series of monthly presentations for optometrists that were conducted during the 1980s. Brian’s contribution to the early development of the strong research base for the School of Optometry and Vision Science is his lasting legacy at QUT.”

Professor Brown studied optometry at The University of Melbourne, completing his Bachelor of Applied Science (Optometry) in 1964 and his PhD in 1970 on dynamic visual acuity and driving. He was in good company, with classmates including QUT Emeritus Professor Leo Carney (former Head of our School), and the late Professor Brien Holden (founder of the Brien Holden Vision Institute) and several others who made significant contributions to optometry and academia. Professor Brown’s contributions to optometry and vision science extended far beyond Australia to the UK, USA and Hong Kong. He published more than 170 scientific articles across a diverse range of topics; in particular, AMD and mfERG. Perhaps most importantly, Professor Brown supervised and mentored hundreds of students and colleagues, generating a long lasting legacy far and wide, and well into the future. He was Clinical and Experimental Optometry’s Editor-in-Chief from 1986-1990.

A legend in vision research, Professor Brian Brown will always be fondly remembered and very much missed by the School. In his memory we have established the Brian Brown Research Award for the 4th year student who achieves the highest grades in the research project units of the course.
Professional staff

Julie Anderson
Adele Birks (School Coordinator)
Catherine Foster
Robyn Sutton

Clinic staff

Harry Grzes
Tina Huynh (Clinic Coordinator)
Pam Vorias

Research staff

David Alonso-Caneiro
Laura Bentley
Ines Cahill
Trent Carberry
Samuel Cheung
Brett Davis
Samaneh Delshad
Jared Hamwood
Luisa Holguin Colorado
Seyed Hoseini Yazdi
Amy Johnson

Sessional staff

Callula Killingly
Jason Kugelman
Hamish McNeill
Kylie McNeill
Pryntha Rajasingam
Alyra Shaw
Marwan Suheimat
Hoang Tran
Sekar Ulaganathan
Prajna Vidyasagar
Fan Yi

Sandra Au
Celia Bloxsom
Edward Burgin
Rachel De Leon
Ashim Dey
Ruvini Dissanayake
Katie Dwyer
David Foresto
James Fuss
Cheryn Goh
Cavelle Griffiths
Noel Harris
Mark Hinds
Mark Hoffmann
Jason Holland
Inez Hsing
Brittney Ismail
Dinesh Kaphle
Simon Lan
Courtenay Lind
Simon Little
Michelle Maynard
Marissa Megaloconomos
Josiah Murphy
Ngoc Tho Nguyen
Henry Nona
Candice Pearson
Emily Pieterse
Leisa Schmid
Fiona Stubbins
Peter Swann
Melinda Toomey
Elizabeth Vieritz
Roslyn Vincent
Daniel Vu
Bill Watson
Julie Weir
Ursula White
Katherine Whittaker

Higher degree research students

Khaled Al Rashah
Pradipta Bhattacharya
Dipesh Bhattacharya
Rebecca Cox
Samaneh Delshad
Mahesh Dev
Sunila Dumpala
Damien Fisher
Kate Gifford
Amithavikram Rugvedi Hathibelagal
Rohan Hughes
Durgasri Jaisankar
Dinesh Kaphle
Vinay Kumar Nilagiri
Hamed Niyazmand
Zachery Quince
Swee Chai Teoh
Sekar Ulaganathan
Ursula White
Seyed Hosein Hoseini Yazdi
Ilyanoon Zahari
Nanyu Zhou

QUT Optometry Student Society
Executive

Rory Dowdall (President)
Megan Finlay (Secretary)
Sarah Ha
Tina Hung
Rachael Larner (Treasurer)
James Lee
Danica Liu (Vice-President)
Jordan Marr
Beom Suk (Jake) Oh
Jessie Phan
Louis (Kryton) Skokidis
Amy Tan
Anita Tran
Shona Trang

Queensland Optometry Student Society
dodgeball event.