

HEFNER VA MEDICAL CENTER

OPTOMETRIC RESIDENCY IN
OCULAR DISEASE

SALISBURY, CHARLOTTE, KERNERSVILLE
NORTH CAROLINA

Supporting the
Veterans Health Administration's
Training & Education Mission

Clinical Overview

- ▣ Primary Care Clinics
- ▣ Specialty Contact Lens Clinics
- ▣ Advanced Low Vision Clinic
- ▣ Dry Eye Clinics
- ▣ Polytrauma/TBI Clinics
- ▣ Rotations with Ophthalmology Subspecialties
 - Glaucoma
 - Retina (both inside and outside VA)
 - Cornea

2024/2025
OPTOMETRY
RESIDENTS

Jordan Calayag, OD

- ▣ Hometown: Milaca, MN
- ▣ Undergraduate School: University of the Incarnate Word
- ▣ Optometry School: University of the Incarnate Word Rosenberg School of Optometry
- ▣ Outside Interests: reading, playing piano, drawing/painting, walks/hikes with my husband



Kara Dunkle, O.D.

- ▣ Hometown: Concord, NC
- ▣ Undergraduate School: University of North Carolina at Charlotte
- ▣ Optometry School: The Ohio State University College of Optometry
- ▣ Outside Interests: Running, hiking, trying new restaurants/breweries, reading



Donnie Koonce, OD

- ▣ Hometown: Charlotte, NC
- ▣ Undergraduate School: UNC-Charlotte
- ▣ Optometry School: Southern College of Optometry
- ▣ Outside Interests: restaurants, piano, cooking, basketball, tennis, video games



Bonnie Loh, OD

- ▣ Hometown: Charlotte, NC
- ▣ Undergraduate School: NC State University
- ▣ Optometry School: New England College of Optometry
- ▣ Outside Interests: Spending time with family, watching hockey, weight lifting, and painting



Brittany Morris, OD

- Hometown: Huntersville, NC
- Undergraduate School: Appalachian State University
- Optometry School: Kentucky College of Optometry
- Outside Interests: being on the lake, trying new restaurants/breweries, running



Katie Vang, OD

- ▣ **Hometown:** Hickory, North Carolina
- ▣ **Undergraduate School:** East Carolina University
- ▣ **Optometry School:** Pennsylvania College of Optometry at Salus University
- ▣ **Outside Interests:** Hiking and shopping. I also enjoy music concerts and spending time with my husband and family.



Academic Affiliations

- ▣ Residency Program in Primary Eye Care
 - Affiliated with Southern College of Optometry
- ▣ Six Affiliated Externship Programs
 - Southern College of Optometry
 - Salus University (PCO)
 - The Ohio State University
 - NOVA Southeastern University
 - University of Alabama at Birmingham
 - Illinois College of Optometry
 - Kentucky College of Optometry

About the Salisbury VA

- ▣ One of the top five fastest growing VAMCs
- ▣ Third largest Optometry program in the VA
- ▣ Optometry Service made up of over 40 staff based at four locations – including 21 Staff Optometrists
- ▣ On-Site Retina, Glaucoma, Cornea & Comprehensive Ophthalmology
- ▣ Optometry Service (Organized under the hospital's Chief of Staff):
 - Over 45,000 eye examinations

Clinical Experience

- Work with experienced providers from multiple disciplines
 - Residents rotate with retina, glaucoma & cornea specialists
- * Weekly case conferences and lecture presentations



Common Clinical Experiences

- ▣ Emphasis on Ocular Disease
 - Diabetic and other vascular diseases
 - Age-related macular degeneration
 - Glaucoma management
 - ▣ Almost 3,000 active patients with glaucoma
 - Ocular manifestations of systemic diseases
 - ▣ Extensive experience with posterior segment
 - ▣ On-site imaging & laboratory
 - ▣ All medical records, images and reports available on the electronic medical record

Expanded Clinical Experiences

■ Retinal Care

- Rotation with outside retinal specialist including surgical observation

■ Advanced Low Vision

- Staff doctors with extensive training and experience
- Wide range of low vision devices and equipment
- Multidisciplinary staff including certified staff in Low Vision Therapy, Orientation & Mobility, Vision Rehabilitation Training, and Computer Access

■ Neuro-Vision Rehabilitation

- Experience with Acquired Brain Injury (Trauma, CVA, etc)

Expanded Clinical Experiences

Specialty Contact Lenses

Medically necessary
contact lenses

- Keratoconus
- Post refractive
- Anisometropia
- High refractive error
- Glare protective
- Prosthetic lenses



Expanded Clinical Experiences

- Dry Eye Clinics
 - Including LipiFlow, BlephEx, Meibomianography
- Geriatric care
 - Extensive experience geriatric patients
 - Bedside eye exams (occasional)
- Research (*available upon request*)
 - Opportunity to collaborate with local VA optometry researchers with over \$1.8 million in funding for vision related projects

Facilities

- ▣ Salisbury VA Medical Center
 - Main hospital & Eye Clinics
 - Optometry & Ophthalmology specialty care
 - In-Patient, Long-Term & Most Out-Patient Specialty Care
- ▣ Kernersville VA Health Care Center
 - Optometry & Ophthalmology specialty care
 - Advanced Low Vision
 - Dry Eye Clinic including LipiFlow
- ▣ Charlotte VA Health Care Center
 - Optometry & Ophthalmology specialty care
 - Advanced Low Vision
 - Dry Eye Clinic including LipiFlow

Salisbury VA Medical Center



Salisbury Optometry Clinic

- ▣ 12 eye exam rooms (additional support rooms)
- ▣ 2 Cirrus OCTs
 - With OCT Angiography
- ▣ Humphrey field analyzer
- ▣ Digital retinal camera
- ▣ Digital slit lamp camera
- ▣ Micro Perimeter
- ▣ Octopus Visual field
- ▣ Pentacam

Kernersville VA Health Care Center

- ▣ 16 Exam Lanes
- ▣ 2 Cirrus OCTs
 - With OCT angiography
- ▣ Ocular Cameras
- ▣ Ocular Ultrasound
- ▣ Dry Eye Clinic
 - Including LipiFlow
- ▣ Advanced Low Vision



Charlotte VA Health Care Center

- ▣ 22 Exam Lanes
- ▣ 2 Cirrus OCTs
 - With OCT angiography
- ▣ Pentacam
- ▣ Ocular Cameras
- ▣ Ocular Ultrasound
- ▣ Dry Eye Clinic
 - Including LipiFlow
- ▣ Advanced Low Vision



Faculty



Jarett Mazzarella, OD, FAAO



- ❑ PCO graduate
- ❑ Residency, Salisbury VA Medical Center
- ❑ Optometry Service Line, Chief
- ❑ Author, Presenter, and Peer Reviewer
- ❑ Former NBEO examiner

Shradha S. Parikh, OD

- ▣ Optometry Assistant Service Chief
- ▣ U.C. Berkeley School of Optometry
- ▣ Residency, Kansas City VAMC
- ▣ Experience in vision rehabilitation for Low Vision and TBI



Melissa Chen, OD

- ▣ Charlotte Section Chief
- ▣ Pennsylvania College of Optometry
- ▣ W. G (Bill) Hefner Resident 2019-2020
- ▣ NBEO examiner
- ▣ Experience in OD/MD private practice



Philip Roels, OD, FAAO



- ▣ Michigan College of Optometry
- ▣ Residency, Kansas City VAMC
- ▣ Section Chief, Advanced Low Vision
- ▣ Private practice experience in multi-disciplinary practice
- ▣ Author & Lecturer

Lauren Hunt, OD, FAAO

- ▣ Section Chief- Kernersville HCC
- ▣ Illinois College of Optometry
Graduate
- ▣ Ocular Disease, Refractive and
Ocular Surgery Residency at
Jonathan M. Wainwright VAMC
- ▣ Past President of the Oregon Board
of Optometry

Jeff Joy, OD, FAAO

- ▣ Salisbury VA
Optometry Residency
Director
- ▣ IU graduate
- ▣ Residency, Baltimore
VAMC
- ▣ Author & Lecturer

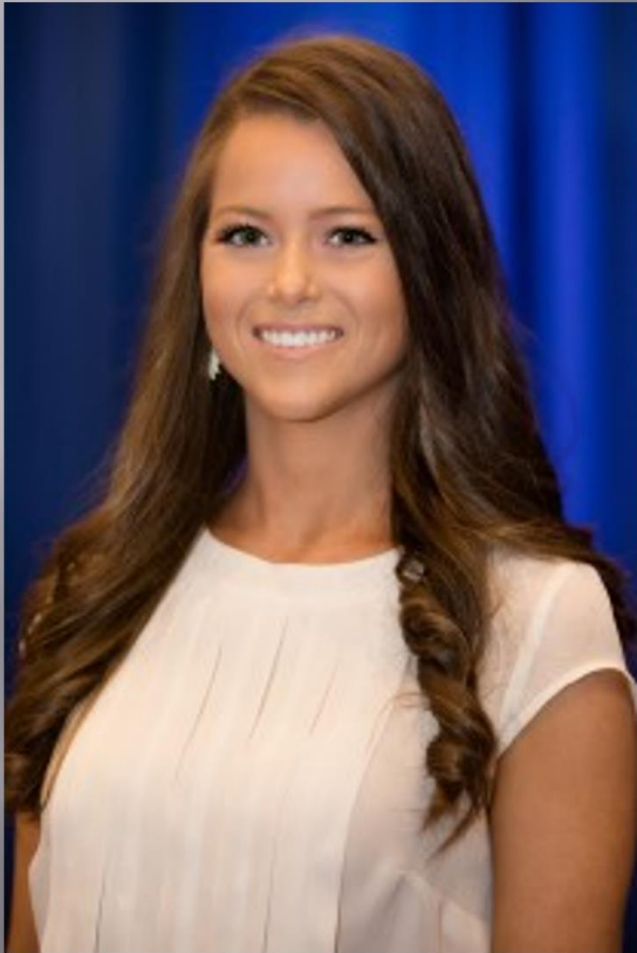


Diana Mah, OD, FAAO

- PCO Graduate
- Residency, Salisbury VAMC
- Private practice experience in a solo optometry practice
- Author & Lecturer



Theresa Jay, OD, FAAO



- ▣ Staff Optometrist KER/SBY
GAP Provider
- ▣ Private practice experience
in OD/MD practice
- ▣ Residency, Salisbury VAMC
Ocular Disease/Primary
Eye Care 2020-2021
- ▣ The Ohio State University
College of Optometry Class
of 2020
- ▣ UNC Chapel Hill Class of
2016

Susan Yee, OD, FAAO

- ▣ UAB graduate
- ▣ Residency, Salisbury VAMC
- ▣ Private optometry practice experience
- ▣ Author and Lecturer



Kristin Richwine, OD, FAAO

- ❑ IU graduate
- ❑ Residency, Danville, IL VAMC
- ❑ Private Practice Experience
- ❑ Specialty Dry Eye Clinic Experience
- ❑ Author and Lecturer
- ❑ NBEO Examiner and Committee Member
- ❑ AAO Regional Chair Fellowship Admittance Committee
- ❑ AAO NC Chapter Board Member



Aaron Tarbett, OD, FAAO

- ▣ Staff Optometrist
- ▣ Ohio State Optometry Graduate
- ▣ Former White House Optometry Consultant and Chief of Optometry at Walter Reed Army Medical Center
- ▣ Researcher, Author & Lecturer
- ▣ Private practice experience



Nancy Wong, OD, PhD, FAAO

- ▣ SUNY Graduate
- ▣ PhD in Vision Science, SUNY
- ▣ Residency, FDR VA, Montrose, NY
- ▣ Student Externship Director
- ▣ National Association of VA Optometrists, President
- ▣ NBEO
 - Committee member
 - Examiner
- ▣ AAO
 - Vice Chair, Fellowship Admittance Committee
- ▣ Researcher, Author & Lecturer



Matthew Levernosh, OD



- ▣ Salisbury Student Coordinator
- ▣ Residency, Salisbury VA Healthcare System, 2016-17
- ▣ Illinois College of Optometry Graduate
- ▣ Author & Lecturer

Rachel Werner, OD, FAAO

- ▣ Staff optometrist
- ▣ Low Vision Rehabilitation Residency at Boston VAMC, Jamaica Plain Campus
- ▣ Southern College of Optometry Class of 2020
- ▣ Experience in Low Vision and TBI/ABI Vision Rehabilitation



Timothy Shoff, OD

- ▣ Staff Optometrist
- ▣ Residency- Miami VAMC
- ▣ NOVA Southeastern University College of Optometry
- ▣ Saint Francis University



Eric Spotts, OD

- ▣ Staff Optometrist
- ▣ Former Chief of Staff:
Car R Darnall Army
Medical Center
- ▣ Salus University-
Pennsylvania College
of Optometry
- ▣ Residency- NSUCO,
Tahlequah, OK

Kristin McDougall, OD, FAAO

- ❑ Staff Optometrist
- ❑ Nova Southeastern University
College of Optometry
- ❑ Hospital-Based Ocular Disease
Residency - Albuquerque
VAMC
- ❑ Former adjunct faculty at The
Ohio State University
- ❑ Optometrist at the Wright
Patterson Air Force Base
Refractive Surgery Center
- ❑ Surgical co-management
within a private
ophthalmology practice



Simmy Panchal, OD, Dipl. ABO, FAAO



- ▣ Staff Optometrist - Salisbury
- ▣ Residency: Ocular disease/Specialty Contacts/Low Vision at Ralph H. Johnson VAMC, Charleston, SC
- ▣ Pennsylvania College of Optometry
- ▣ Undergraduate: American University in Washington, DC

Megan Doyle, OD

- ▣ Staff Optometrist
- ▣ Residency at WJB Dorn VAMC in Columbia, SC
- ▣ The Ohio State University College of Optometry, Class of 2022



Peter M Rogaski OD, MBA, ACMO



- ▣ Charlotte VA Staff Optometrist
- ▣ NECO Graduate
- ▣ Residency - NECO & Boston VA
- ▣ 25 years Multidisciplinary MD/OD practice
- ▣ 18 Years Consulting Optometrist Novant – Thomasville Medical Center
- ▣ Clinical data coordinator for FDA & NIH studies
- ▣ Vice Chairman Davidson County Board of Health
- ▣ NBEO Examiner
- ▣ MBA in Healthcare Administration and Finance

Beth Cody, OD, FAAO

- ▣ Staff optometrist (Part-time)
 - ECC Provider, Charlotte Clinic
- ▣ Illinois College of Optometry Graduate
- ▣ Residency Trained: W.G Hefner VA Medical Center
- ▣ Low Vision Provider
- ▣ NBEO Examiner and Previous Director of Clinical Testing



W. Lee Ball, OD, MPH, FAAO, FNAP

- ▣ Salisbury VA
Optometry staff
- ▣ UHCO graduate
- ▣ Residency, Bascom
Palmer Eye Institute
- ▣ MPH, Health Policy
and Management
UNC-CH



Jennifer Prunty, OD, FAAO

- ▣ Staff Optometrist
 - Kernersville
- ▣ Michigan College of Optometry Graduate, Class 2010
- ▣ Residency, Bascom Palmer Eye Institute
- ▣ Previous practice: private, hospital-based multidisciplinary ophthalmology center
 - With VA since 2017



William (Bill) Prunty, OD, FAAO

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 - University of Houston graduate
 - Residency : Bascom Palmer Eye Institute, Miami FL
 - 20 years experience across four different VA facilities, including 2 level 1 hospital facilities
 - Extensive neuro-ophthalmology experience, Miami VA
 - Father of 2.

Lyndon C Wong, OD, FAAO

- ▣ Staff Optometrist
- ▣ Graduate, SUNY-State College of Optometry
- ▣ Residency, Vision Therapy- SUNY-State College of Optometry
- ▣ Past Chief, Primary Care Services, SUNY-State College of Optometry
- ▣ Past Director, NBEO Part III Clinical Skills Testing



Ophthalmology Section Staff

- ▣ Rupal Chiniwalla, MD
 - Glaucoma Fellowship trained
 - Chief of Ophthalmology
- ▣ Chandra Altemare, MD
 - NEI Uveitis Fellowship trained
- ▣ Kristin Patel, MD
 - Comprehensive Ophthalmology
- ▣ Thomas Brewington, MD
 - Comprehensive Ophthalmology
- ▣ Pavan Angadi, MD
 - Comprehensive Ophthalmology

Salisbury VA

Residency Program Strengths

- ▣ Diverse backgrounds of staff ODs representing multiple optometry training programs
- ▣ Multiple specialty clinics
- ▣ Large patient volume
- ▣ Weekly educational conferences
 - Case presentations
 - ▣ Fluorescein discussion
 - ▣ OCT discussion
 - ▣ Lectures by Staff Doctors and Residents

Committed to Veteran Care and Educating Future Generations of Optometrists

- ▣ Contact:
 - Jeffrey T. Joy, OD, FAAO
 - Residency Supervisor
 - Jeffrey.Joy1@va.gov

