

Speaker Info 10-18-25

Patricia Perez Cuesta, MD, Clinical Fellow 2025-26 Ocular Pathology, Wills Eye Hospital
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267-414-5230

“Understanding Dead Capsular Bag Syndrome: a clinical pathologic study”

Bio: Doctor Patricia Perez Cuesta graduated from medical school at the Iberoamerican University (UNIBE) in Santo Domingo, Dominican Republic. She went on to complete her ophthalmology residency at the renowned Dr. Elias Santana Hospital in Santo Domingo. Currently, she is pursuing a clinical fellowship in Ophthalmic Pathology at Wills Eye Hospital in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Sierra Foshe, neuroscience PhD student, University of Pennsylvania
sfoshe@pennmedicine.upenn.edu
310- 956-6781

“Pre-clinical investigation of a novel antioxidant therapy for retinal degeneration”

Bio: Sierra Foshe graduated from UCLA with a BS in Neuroscience. Her interest in the retina began as a lab tech at Johns Hopkins, studying optic nerve injury and regeneration. She is currently a Neuroscience PhD student in Dr. Josh Dunaief's lab at the University of Pennsylvania. Her projects investigate the role of ferroptosis in retinal infection and genetic disease.

Erin C. Jenewein, OD, MS, FAAO, Diplomate (BVPPO)
920.456.9105
ej468@drexel.edu

Coordinator, Pediatric/Vision Therapy Residency Program; Associate Professor, Optometry at Drexel University

Bio: Dr. Erin Jenewein is Drexel University's Principal Site Investigator for the multi-centered NEI-funded Pediatric Eye Disease Investigator Group and served as an investigator for the Convergence; Insufficiency Treatment Trial Attention and Reading Trial at Salus University.

She is an Associate Professor and Coordinator for the Binocular Vision Curriculum and Coordinator for the Pediatrics and Vision Therapy Residency.

She earned a BSc degree in Biology, Chemistry and Philosophy from St. Norbert College and then completed a Master of Science degree in Biology at the University of Wisconsin. Dr. Jenewein graduated with highest honors and professional distinction from Nova Southeastern University College of Optometry. Following graduation, she completed a residency at Nova Southeastern University in Pediatrics and Binocular Vision. Dr. Jenewein joined the faculty at Nova Southeastern University College of Optometry and from 2010-2015 served as an Assistant Professor, Chief of Service of The Eye Care Institute at KID, and as part of the faculty of the Master of Science in Clinical Vision Research program. In 2015, Dr. Jenewein joined the Salus University Pennsylvania College of Optometry faculty, now Drexel University.

Esma Yerlikaya
doctoral student

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Esma "SYK signaling protein and its newly discovered role in diabetic retinopathy"

Title: Ever thought your spleen could be behind vision loss?

Bio:

I am a fifth-year Biomedical Sciences PhD student and National Eye Institute predoctoral fellow at Penn State College of Medicine, working in Dr. Michael Dennis's lab. My research focuses on diabetic retinopathy. Particularly, cellular and molecular events leading to neural and vascular changes seen in the retina. I earned a Doctor of Medicine (MD) degree from Ankara University College of Medicine in Turkey, prior to pursuing my graduate degree here at Penn State.

Ethan Gerhard, PhD, Post Doctoral Fellow, Penn State University

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Title: Citrate-based Intracanalicular Implants for the Treatment of Cataract Surgery–Induced Inflammation

Bio: to come