

Introducing the First APOA Newsletter

PURPOSE. The main purpose of the APOA is to unify all pre-optometric groups nationwide into one cohesive group, which will strive to build a network with other pre-optometric students, optometry students, optometrists, and eye care industries.

GOAL. Seeing the Future is designed to inform, educate, and motivate individuals interested in or pursuing careers in optometry, ophthalmology, and vision related career fields. This quarterly newsletter will keep readers abreast of current issues in optometry, provide information for pre-optometry clubs, and many other exciting areas.

Thanks for your interest in the APOA during our first year!

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Feel free to email the editors with any recommendations for future newsletters.



History of APOA

In October 2010 at Florida State University, Liza Hook led the foundation of the APOA along with Alex Falb and Danny Shea. Falb was specifically responsible for the original logo artwork, which included a single snake wrapped around a wingless staff. The original logo also included the Greek quotation "Lumen oculare tantum quis mens est paratus ut itellectum," which means "The eye sees only what the mind is prepared to comprehend."

The combined ideas and efforts of these three individuals materialized into what became the American Pre-Optometric Association.

Founding Officers

President: Liza Hook
Historian: Alex Falb
FSU Trustee: Danny Shea

Current Board of Directors

Executive Director: Dr. Angel Rivera
Executive Secretary to the Director: Jessica Chin
Chairman of the Board of Trustees: Kristopher Dowding
President: Chris Harlan
Vice President: Fatima Ibrahim
Treasurer: Nick Marso
Secretary: Namrata Patel
Historian: Larezia Williams

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APOA Logo

Original Logo Defined By Founders (below)



Colors: *Red:* Action

Black: Professionalism

Yellow: Sunny state of Florida
(where APOA founded)

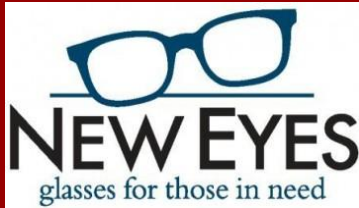
White: Optometrist hospital duties

Design: *Rod of Asclepius:* God of medicine and healing in ancient Greek religion

The Rod of Asclepius was chosen as opposed to the Caduceus, which is often mistakenly used to represent the god of medicine. The Caduceus is a staff with two snakes entwined about it with a pair of wings.

The current logo design (top left) was derived from the original logo (above) with input from current APOA Board of Directors and graphically designed by Lorri Gothard (lorrikay@att.net).

Eyeglasses Drive



APOA board members are also working with the New Eyes for the Needy organization and creating small collection drives for glasses, frames, and/or lenses.

If you would like to learn about starting your own collection drive, follow this link:

<http://neweyesforthenedy.org/how-you-can-help/sponsor-start-a-collection-drive/>

APOA in 2011-2012

Recruitment

In the past year, the APOA Board of Directors has been contacting pre-optometry clubs across the country and Canada to join in its pursuit of creating a vast network of future eye care professionals. This network will assist pre-optometry students with the optometry school application process, volunteer/job opportunities, and shadowing opportunities

Financial Support

Recently, APOA has been in contact with local and national companies willing to financially support its endeavor, including Walmart Opticals, 3M, Medtronic, Luxottica, and more. It is a goal of APOA to have financial supporters by 2013, so it can continue to provide leadership to pre-optometry clubs across the country.

Facebook Group

To better assist its members, APOA has created a Facebook page in which all members are eligible to join and can communicate with each other:

<http://www.facebook.com/groups/AmPOA/>.

Support

Make a donation and improve the lives of people in the U.S. and around the world.

Obtain

Learn how to receive assistance from New Eyes.

Engage

Volunteer to sort and test used eyeglasses or provide administrative support.

neweyesforthenedy.org