Since 2007 it has been my pleasure and honor to Chair The Department of Ophthalmology at Mount Sinai: a world-class Ophthalmology Center with a commitment to providing the highest level of diagnostic and therapeutic care to our patients. Through an integrated approach to clinical care and research, our physicians, surgeons, and technicians provide the latest therapies in treating eye disorders, while our team of investigators carries out both clinical trials and laboratory research. Below are simply a few accomplishments of our faculty who are making advances in cornea, glaucoma, Uveitis and stem cell research, among others.

In addition to a robust research portfolio, our acclaimed residencies and advanced subspecialty training programs capitalize on the expertise of our internationally recognized faculty, who are dedicated to training the next generation of physicians. We recently welcomed a new group of residents, who represent tomorrow’s future.

As chair of the department, I am deeply committed to building upon our long-standing tradition of excellence in patient care, education, and research in a state-of-the-art facility that emphasizes improved treatments and cures, as well as forward-thinking medical education. I am fortunate to be part of Mount Sinai’s innovative ophthalmology program and am excited about what lies ahead. On behalf of all of our faculty and staff, thank you for your dedicated interest and support of our department’s work.

Douglas A. Jabs, MD, MBA
Professor and Chair
Research Profiles

Penny Asbell, MD, MBA, FACS, Professor of Ophthalmology, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai, has developed a Cornea Service with a national and international reputation and has been principal investigator of over 50 research projects, including an evaluation of essential Fatty Acids in Dry Eye Disease, as well as a Refractive Surgery (PERK Study) and Herpetic Eye Disease Study (HEDS) sponsored by the National Eye Institute.

Janet Serle, MD, Professor of Ophthalmology has a several pre-clinical and clinical glaucoma studies that are ongoing. Dr. Serle's goals are to prevent vision loss and improve outcomes caused by glaucoma through innovative research to develop new medications and surgical treatments. Two of her projects were presented at both ARVO and World Glaucoma Congress.

Research News

New Grants – Congratulations!

Primary Cilia In Endothelial Morphogenesis – Carlo Iomini, PhD
Dry Eye Evaluation & Management (DREAM) Study – Penny Asbell, MD, MBA, FACS

Transitions

New Faculty

Welcome to Jacqueline Busingye, MD

Jacqueline Busingye, MD, joins us as an Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai as a Comprehensive Ophthalmologist with specialty in Uveitis. Dr. Busingye received her MD from SUNY Upstate Medical University, Syracuse in 2008, completed an ophthalmology residency at the same institution, and then a fellowship in Uveitis at Mount Sinai.

Welcome to Shreya Prabhu, MD, MPH

Shreya Prabhu, MD, MPH, joins us as an Assistant Clinician Professor of Ophthalmology at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai joins us as a Pediatric Ophthalmologist, primary working with children at our Eye Clinic and The Borken Neighborhood Health Center. After completing her Ophthalmology residency at W.K. Kellogg Eye Center in Michigan, Dr. Prabhu completed her Fellowship in Pediatric Ophthalmology and Adult Strabismus at the same institution.

Our New Residents

Dr. Janhavi Shirali, MD, is originally from India but grew up in England, the UAE, and Canada. She graduated from University of Toronto with a degree in electrical engineering and worked for Accenture as a software consultant for two years. She graduated from SUNY Upstate Medical College in Syracuse with an MD Honors and completed her internship year at Christiana Care Hospital System in Delaware.

Cristos Iafitidis, MD, MBA, grew up in Bedford, NY, before relocating to Cape Coral, FL, at the age of twelve. He attended the University of Florida, where he graduated summa cum laude and Phi Beta Kappa with a major in Classical Studies and a minor in Greek Studies. During this time, he was involved in vascular surgery research and completed summer research fellowships in Florida and Boston. He went on to complete a year of community service with AmeriCorps before entering medical school at the University of Florida. During medical school, he participated in basic science research projects investigating retinopathies in adults and newborns and graduated with honors in research. He also obtained an MBA during this time. He completed his transitional internship year at New York Hospital-Queens and spent a month internship with NASA in Houston, TX, investigating the effects of zero gravity on ICP, IOP, and visual acuity.

Transitions continued

Steven Naidu, MD, is from Huntington Valley, PA, a suburb of Philadelphia. He attended Muhlenberg College in Allentown, PA, where he graduated with a major in Biology. He completed his medical school training at Drexel University College of Medicine with an MD Honors, and interned at Abington Memorial Hospital in Abington, PA. During his training, he performed retinoblastoma with Drs. Jerry and Carol Shields at Wills Eye Hospital.

Karl Griffith, MD, grew up in Roanoke, VA. She graduated with distinction from Duke University with a degree in Biomedical Engineering. She was a Pratt Fellow at Duke with a project developing a high resolution interactive virtual model of neuroanatomy using an immersive 3D environment. She continued to work with her college mentor during medical school as a contributor to a Netter imaging atlas. She graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University School of Medicine in Richmond, Virginia, where she was involved in a project analyzing trends in ophthalmologic terms over time.

Among the 2013 residency graduates, Teddy Lyu, MD, will be doing a Glaucoma Fellowship at New York Eye and Ear Infirmary. Priya Sahu, MD, will be starting a two-year oculoplastics fellowship at a University of Southern California affiliated practice, Eyethetica, in Los Angeles, California. Brian Lehpamer, MD, will be doing a two-year retina fellowship at Baylor College of Medicine and Ruben Kornvillia, MD, will be pursuing a one-year fellowship in cornea and external diseases at Corneal Associates of New Jersey in Fairfield, NJ.

Invited Lectures

Penny Asbell, MD, MBA, FACS, has been invited to lecture in Brazil at the Pan-American Association of Ophthalmology meeting, the largest meeting of ophthalmologists from Latin America and will speak on ocular infections and allergies, special contact lenses and refractive surgery.