

# | The American Ophthalmological Society



Established 1864

## **AOS Membership Benefits**

### **Brief History of AOS:**

AOS is America's oldest medical specialty society, started in 1864 by a group of 18 ophthalmologists. The AOS is limited to 275 active members and has included most of the notable luminaries in Ophthalmology over the years. The revered traditions of the AOS include broad subspecialty representation, scientific excellence, ample discussion opportunities, and enjoyable social interaction. A new initiative of the AOS is to encourage international members.

The AOS is a member-led organization striving to be second to none. Steadfast in the requirement of peer-reviewed independent work for membership, the AOS remains free of the shackles of corporate sponsorship and is dedicated to an open exchange of scientific ideas relevant to ophthalmology.

Admission to membership in the Society continues to represent special recognition of personal achievement, and the Annual Meeting remains a unique opportunity for learning and fellowship.

### **AOS Mission:**

The mission of the American Ophthalmological Society is to promote excellence in patient care, education and research, to address essential issues in medicine, and to advance the art and science of ophthalmology.

### **AOS Membership Benefits:**

- ◆ Honor through selection for membership by one's peers of accomplished ophthalmologists
- ◆ Recognition by ophthalmology leadership of your independent peer-reviewed research (thesis)
- ◆ Publication of your complete peer-reviewed thesis (no page limit) in the Transactions of AOS
- ◆ Opportunity to publish same material or portion elsewhere after TAOS publication
- ◆ Annual Meeting --scientific presentations, networking, and social activities in beautiful, peaceful settings
- ◆ Knapp Symposium-- presentations on single topic by invited experts to provide current state of the art information with open discussion
- ◆ No corporate sponsorship--no bias such as "company sponsored" talks
- ◆ Diverse membership - both geographically and by subspecialty interests

- ◆ Opportunity for open discussion by all members after each Annual Meeting scientific presentation
- ◆ Fellowship of like-minded ophthalmologists wishing to preserve the tradition of advancing ophthalmic science and art, started in 1864
- ◆ Electronic newsletter
- ◆ Interaction with experts in all fields of interest in ophthalmology-- not a subspecialty society: opportunity for cross -fertilization of ideas and information to foster excellence in patient care and innovations in patient care and research
- ◆ Opportunity to maintain broad view of ophthalmology today (vs. typical specialty meetings or symposia)
- ◆ Enjoyable social interaction for members and spouses during annual meeting
- ◆ Transactions of AOS-- published since 1865 - listed in PubMed - includes all accepted theses and presentations at the Annual Meetings of AOS with comments from the discussion period; published yearly; entire Transactions from 1865 to present are available full text online through PubMed and PubMed Central; easily accessible and citable by worldwide readers
- ◆ Opportunity to nominate new candidates for membership in AOS to continue the tradition of recognizing excellence in ophthalmology and helping to forge future leaders for our profession
- ◆ Howe Medal awarded annually to a member for distinguished service to ophthalmology
- ◆ The Frederick H. Verhoeff Lecture delivered at the meeting every few years