-An OWL Magazine

Fall 2022

contents

2 come Together with Solution by Erin Schallhorn Powers Come Together with OWL

 $4\,$ OWL Champion Members

Finalists for the 2022 OWL Awards: Visionary Leader, Catalyst, and Rising Star by Jan Beiting



O Highlights from Ophthalmic Business and Leadership Trends Survey by Jon Heston, PhD





PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Erin Schallhorn Powers

Come Together with OWL

his summer, the OWL Executive Committee had the opportunity to come together and discuss the state of our organization, current needs, and long-term aspirations. It was an invigorating few days, and we all came to similar conclusions:

OWL is in an incredible spot.

We have the passion, drive, and potential to do even more.

We are hitting our short-term objectives in providing valuable programs, opportunities to network, resources and content to our members, while driving sustainable practices to ensure the health of our organization.

Reflecting upon our 2022 goals, we wanted to ensure a clearer understanding of our membership and their interests – along with the state of ophthalmology as a whole. Thanks to the work of our Membership Impact Committee and The Fundingsland Group, we received overwhelmingly positive engagement in our Ophthalmic Business & Leadership trends survey. Much of this data is highlighted in this magazine (see page 9), but moreover, key data such as the below will help us drive programs designed for our lifelong-learning OWL members.

≥ 44% of respondents said they have either changed jobs in the last 12 months or are actively looking to do so

⇒ OWL Members were more likely than Non-Members to have attempted to negotiate better compensation in their last employment transition

> Virtual presentations/meetings & public speaking were rated as the professional development areas respondents were most interested in

OWL Members were more likely than Non-Mem-

bers to be extremely satisfied with their industry network and organization/practice

As seen in our programming, we are at the forefront of important, sometimes controversial, topics in both ophthalmology and the greater global environment. Our ASCRS event highlighted the opportunity to find common ground in a divisive world, with our thanks to Donna Brazile and Sean Spicer for sharing their insights and perspectives with us. Our summer 'Eyes on Inclusion' webinar highlighted Dr. Vivienne Hau, who shared her incredible journey as a transgender retina surgeon, and provided tangible, actionable guidance for how we can all be more inclusive in the ophthalmic space.

Looking forward to the remainder of 2022 and beyond, our focus will be on continuing and expanding our impact in new environments. Specifically, we are thrilled to announce our foray into Europe with an event during ESCRS in Milan. Additionally, we are collaborating with key advocates in the optometric space, as we plan for a 2023 launch. More to come - but as always, if you would like to get more involved, please contact me directly!

OWL is an organization that drives leadership, diversity, and inclusion. We achieve such tremendous success TOGETHER: the support of our members, our company partners, and our fearless leaders in the Board and Executive Director, Gaynor Fries. Thank you so much for evolving the ophthalmic landscape. Together, we will all WIN!

Erin Powers



are hosting a joint Connect Event at



Our Connect events offer professionals like you a great opportunity to network and meet new colleagues - Register today to join us in Hawaii!

Find out more at owlsite.org

Location:

Grand Hyatt Kauai, 1571 Poipu Rd. Koloa, HI 96756

Date & Time:

Monday, January 16, 2023 4:00 - 5:00PM

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Champion Members are advocates and champions of the OWL Mission, Vision, and Values; they are leaders in their organizations; they actively recruit new OWL members; and they contribute significantly in OWL by attendance, and leadership at Board or Committee levels.

Learn more | www.owlsite.org

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Finalists for the 2022 OWL Awards

by Jan Beiting

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VISIONARY AWARD

OWL's Visionary Award honors an individual who has paved the way for diversity in their field through significant achievement. Nominees should have demonstrated leadership in their field through their careers.

(For example: mentoring/sponsorship of promising individuals; diversity advocacy; or creating a culture of equality)





Ieannette Bankes

is the President and General Manager of the Global Surgical Franchise at Alcon, where her responsibilities include strategic leadership and oversight of product development, portfolio management and commercialization of products. In more than 30 years in the healthcare space, she has served in many roles, including domestic/international marketing, sales, clinical trials, regulatory, medical affairs, medical education, operations, and manufacturing. She currently serves on the boards of the ASCRS Foundation, Apollo Endosurgery, and Aurion Biotech. "What makes Jeannette special is that she thinks beyond her team—she is genuinely interested in the community at large and the people in it," said one nominator.

Ms. Bankes is passionate about mentorship. She plays a critical role in supporting Alcon's employee resource groups (ERGs) and the company's relationship with Girls, Inc., which supports girls who are interested in STEM careers. "Jeannette is a visionary leader who always has a pulse on future trends and actively works to bring emerging technologies that will leave a lasting impact on ophthalmologists and their patients," a nominator said.

Eric D. Donnenfeld, MD

is a clinical professor of ophthalmology at New York University and in practice at Ophthalmic Consultants of Long Island. He is an internationally recognized expert with more than 215 peer-reviewed papers, 45 book chapters, and 3 books as well as many named lectures around the world. Dr. Donnenfeld is a past president of ASCRS and OMIG, Trustee of Dartmouth Medical School, Editor in Chief of EyeWorld, and the President of the International Intraocular Implant Club. He was an initial FDA investigator of Restasis, Xiidra, laser vision correction, the femtosecond laser and many refractive IOLs. Dr. Donnenfeld was named America's Best Eye Doctor in 2021 and 2022 by Newsweek and one of the 50 most influential people in ophthalmology for 2020, 2021, and 2022 by The Ophthalmologist.

"Dr. Donnenfeld is an incredible advocate and mentor for so many in ophthalmology," said his nominator. "He is a strong supporter of OWL and is a strong voice to support leadership and diversity in our industry." •



Nancy Lurker, MBA

has been CEO and Board Director of Eve-Point Pharmaceuticals, a NASDAQ-listed public company, since 2016. She previously held executive positions at PDI, a NASDAQ-listed healthcare commercialization company (now Interpace Diagnostics Group), Pharmacia Corporation (now part of Pfizer), and Novartis and has served on numerous boards. Her nominator describes her as a "mission-driven. science-focused leader and an outspoken advocate for women and diversity in STEM."

As one of only a small percentage of female CEOs in the biopharmaceutical and healthcare industry, Ms. Lurker has always felt an obligation to pay forward the insights and opportunities that she has fought for her entire career. She is deeply committed to inspiring and advancing women and diversity in STEM and mentoring young women. At EyePoint she has challenged leaders across the company to ensure that women are involved in all areas of the business and on speaker panels and advisory boards. "Rather than just talk the talk, she makes it a true priority to bring women's voices and leadership into every facet of the organization," her nominator said.



is President of Thea Pharma US, and serves on the boards of Ocuphire Pharma, Tarsier Pharma, and Ripple Therapeutics. She has more than 25 years of global commercial and business development experience in ophthalmic pharmaceuticals, formerly holding leadership positions at Shire, Bausch + Lomb, and Sirion Therapeutics.

As Ms. Benton's nominator said, "Her expertise is unmatched and her strong and empathetic leadership is legendary. She faced several challenges in a male-dominated corporate culture - and she dedicated her career to changing the game through mentorship, sponsorship, and cultivating female leaders. Without bold catalysts like Susan, I wouldn't have had the chances I have now...thank you for making it a little bit easier than you had it, Susan....and, more FUN!" •

Ranna Jaraha

has multiple roles at Bryn Mawr Com-

CATALYST AWARD

OWL's Catalyst Award honors an individual who has contributed significantly to helping others advance their career in eye care. Nominees should have demonstrated leadership in supporting the advancement of diversity.



munications (BMC), a multifaceted medical media company supporting print, digital, and live tactics. She is one of the Cofounders of YoungMD Connect, a membership-based mentorship and educational platform for aspiring and young ophthalmologists. She is also the Executive Director of New Media; in this role, she supports business development and works closely with physicians and industry leaders on targeted digital programs and strategic engagements. Additionally, Ms. Jaraha hosts a weekly news broadcast, EyewireTV, which reviews industry updates in eye care; she hosts similar programs in the dermatology and aesthetics specialties as well. "Ranna brings the industry together through her role at BMC and specifically through the insightful interviews she does of existing and emerging leaders. She helps us all to better understand and stay in touch with the rapidly changing landscape," says her nominator. •

Magda Michna, PhD

is the Chief Global Clinical, Medical and Regulatory Affairs Officer at Acu-Focus, Inc. Originally from Poland, she grew up in Australia, and received her PhD in optical physics from the University of Melbourne. Dr. Michna is co-chair of the Southern California OWL chapter as well as the national OWL programs committee.

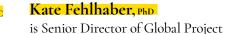
Having seen the huge impact that the Australian Institute of Physics' Women in Physics organization made on her as a young female physicist, Dr. Michna was an early advocate for mentoring and supporting others as they navigate their research careers. She has made it her mission to recruit promising individuals and help young professionals get a start in clinical research in eye care. "Magda has demonstrated a passion for supporting the advancement of diversity with OWL. She has been integral to selecting a diverse pool of speakers for OWL programs. Magda is an excellent leader and cares deeply about raising up those around her," said her nominator.

RISING STAR AWARD

OWL's Rising Star Award honors an individual who is an emerging leader in the ophthalmic space. Nominees should be in their early or mid-careers and demonstrate high potential for making an impact in ophthalmology.







Jacqueline S. Armani, od, FAAO, MSL-BO is the Regional Director, Medical Science Liaisons - East at Alcon, where she supports medical affairs and research. During optometry school, she externed at Bascom Palmer and, following graduation, did her residency at the VA as a primary care and ocular disease optometrist.

Dr. Armani has extensive clinical experience, has trained and mentored residents and students, and is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry. She has participated in medical mission trips in South Africa, Colombia, Jamaica, and Trinidad and is actively involved with the College of Staten Island Alumni Board and in WIN (Women Innovating Now), as well as participating in events for WIO, Women in Optometry and OWL.

As a young optometrist, Dr. Armani has demonstrated not only expertise in her field, but also management skills. "She will be a star in the ophthalmology community for decades to come," said one nominator. "She brings you up to her level and drives the entire ophthalmology community forward. She knows how to lead, whether that is from the cockpit or the rear of the air-CONTINUES ON PAGE 10 →

independent medical education company. In this role, she creates compelling, compliant, and effective peer-to-peer education. She believes that continuing medical education is fundamental to helping doctors make the best decisions for their patients. While studying the molecular mechanisms of the first synapse of sight for her doctorate in neuroscience, Dr. Fehlhaber founded Knowing Neurons, a creative education website dedicated to making neuroscience more accessible

Strategy for The Fundingsland Group, an

to the general public. Knowing Neurons won the 2016 Next Generation Award from the Society for Neuroscience, has been featured in Forbes magazine, and is currently listed as #3 on Feedspot's Top 90 Neuroscience Blogs.

Dr. Fehlhaber is an active member of OWL. She was selected as a 2020 OWL Fellow and is currently Co-Chair of the Membership Impact Committee. She has served on the SoCal Planning Committee since 2020 and served on the Marketing & Outreach Committee in 2019. She organized the 2019 and 2022 OWL Surveys

CONTINUES ON PAGE 10 →



Maáza Martin

is Senior Director of Marketing for Tarsus Pharmaceuticals, where she is a leader on internal teams responsible for the launch readiness of the company's flagship pipeline therapy for Demodex blepharitis, and three other pipeline indications in eyecare, dermatology and infectious disease prevention. She has played a critical role in championing diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) efforts at Tarsus, including helping to form the company's DEI council and spearheading the development and execution of Juneteenth programming and engagement. Ms. Martin has also served in marketing, strategic consulting, and analytics roles at Avanir, IMS Health (now Iqvia), and Allergan, where she helped to drive the company's Restasis brand to sustained blockbuster status.

Ms. Martin has co-chaired OWL's programming committee and led the programming for OWL's AAO Signature Events, most notably securing impactful speakers and developing dynamic program content designed to educate and enrich members' knowledge. "Maáza is a true advocate for diversity and inclusion

CONTINUES ON PAGE 10 →

A Snapshot of Respondents

- The average respondent is **50 years old** and has an estimated income of **\$198,000**
- **97%** of respondents reside in the US
- **57%** have more than 15 years of experience in the ophthalmic industry
- **50%** have post-graduate degrees
- **70%** of respondents are in the ophthalmic industry and are not doctors nor administrators/CEOs

51% are senior-level executives or higher

by Jon Heston, PhD

HE 3RD EDITION OF THE OPHTHAL-MIC BUSINESS AND LEADERSHIP TRENDS SURVEY was launched in May 2022 in collaboration with The Fundingsland Group (www.tfgeducation.com). This comprehensive survey assessed the current opinions and business prac-

Year-Over-Year Trends

INCREASED RACIAL/ETHNIC DIVERSITY The composition of the OWL Respondents has become more diverse as shown in Figure 1. The percentage of participants not identifying as white/Caucasian grew from 21% in 2019 to 32% in 2022 (p < 0.05). In particular, this is driven by an increased representation of Hispanic/ Latino (2019: 6%, 2022: 15%, p < 0.01) and Black/African (2019: 2%, 2022: 5%, p = 0.06).

White/Caucasian Black/African Hispanic/Latin Multiracial/Multiethid

Prefer Not to Disclose



tices of professionals across the ophthalmic industry and had more than 200 respondents including OWL members, practicing doctors, practice administrators/CEOs, and members of the ophthalmic/optometric industry. Similar surveys were conducted in 2014 and 2019 to use as a comparison of trends.



Increase in Negotiation

CHANGES IN NEGOTIATION BEHAVIOF

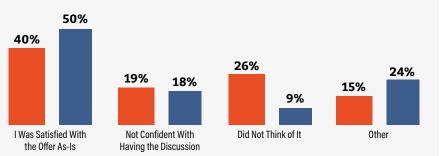
The surveys also found that there was a steady increase in the percent of respondents that attempted negotiation in their last employment transition as shown in Figure 2.

This figure also shows that when respondents did not negotiate it is increasingly the case that it is because they were satisfied with the offer as-is. Interestingly, those satisfaction levels from those negotiations did not change over that period.

Overall, these results highlight that OWL members are increasingly engaging in practices such as negotiation and mentoring, suggesting a positive impact of the programs, events, and assets created and hosted by OWL.



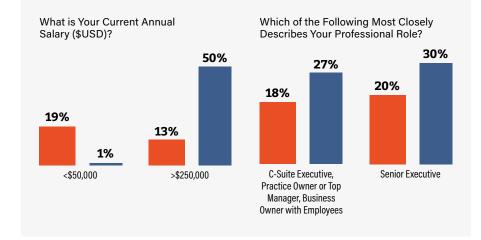
Among those that did not attempt negotiation, why not?



OWL Members vs. Mon-Members

INCOME AND PROFESSIONAL BOLES

There were many interesting findings when comparing respondents who indicated that they were OWL Members to those who indicated they were not. Figure 3 shows that OWL Members tend to have higher salaries and this is particularly evident at the lowest (<\$50,000; Non-Member: 19%, OWL Member: 1%, p < 0.001) and the highest (>\$250,000: Non-Member: 13%, OWL Member: 50% p < 0.0001) end of the range. This figure also shows that OWL Members are more likely to occupy senior level or higher positions (Non-Member: 38%, OWL Member: 57%, p<0.05). OWL Members and Non-Members Differ in Their Industry Network



CONTINUED FROM PAGE 8

craft." Another wrote that "Jackie is an example of what everyone would want to be. She represents Alcon with class, dignity and a smile at every event she attends." and hosted a webinar to examine the results last year. "Kate is amazingly smart and insightful," said a nominator. "With her leadership drive and ability, positive attitude, and willingness to go above and beyond, she is absolutely going to do great things in her career."

and is working to create and foster a supportive, dynamic culture and environment both in her role at Tarsus and through her volunteer role with OWL," said her nominator.

Summary of OWL Members vs. Non-Members

Analysis revealed a number of differences between these groups.

COMPARED TO NON-MEMBERS, **OWL MEMBERS TENDED TO:**

- have a **higher annual salary** and have achieved higher levels of education.
- work in the **ophthalmic industry**, work **remotely**, and/or be **top** executives/managers.
- attempt negotiation for higher compensation and when they did not negotiate it tended to be because they were **satisfied** with the offer as-is.
- have higher levels of satisfaction with both their job and their industry network.
- have found out about their most recent position through industry colleagues/ word of mouth whereas Non-Members were far more likely to find their position through a job posting via online search.

participate in **formal mentoring programs**.

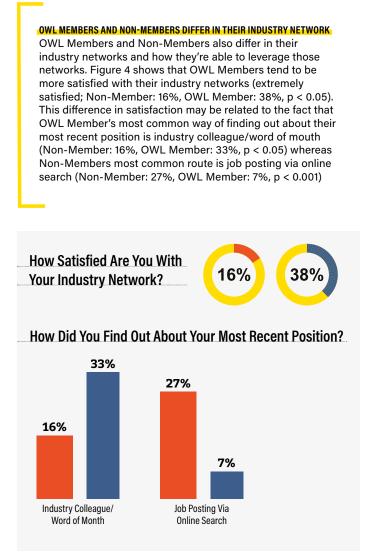


While the difference between OWL Members and Non-Members is unlikely to be causal, these results do highlight that membership in OWL connects individuals with the

kind of higher status that can elevate one's professional network.

CONCLUSIONS The 2022 Ophthalmic Business and Leadership Trends Survey revealed interesting behaviors

Industry Network & Connections



of professionals across the ophthalmic industry. The results highlight several positive findings including the fact that respondents to the OWL Surveys are becoming more diverse and more likely to attempt negotiation and OWL Members are seeing higher levels of success and enjoying strong, helpful industry networks. We look forward to future OWL events and initiatives to address these professional development areas and to continue to elevate members into strong world leaders in ophthalmology.

SPECIAL THANKS to The Fundingsland Group. For questions or further insight into the data, please contact JON HESTON, PhD at jon@tfgeducation.com



While content is produced independently by OWL, our programs are supported by industry partners. Their support means that OWL is able to provide an expanding menu of programs in the spirit of its mission, vision, and values of advancing diversity in leadership. We thank our financial supporters for their leadership and for the critical role they play in our organization.

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OWL STAFF & CONTACTS Gaynor Fries → EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR PMB 125, 3434-135 Kildaire Farm Road, Cary, NC 27518 info@owlsite.org | www.owlsite.org FOLLOW US

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