External

PCO WORLD

PENNSYLVANIA COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY

October 2026

West Coast Vibes: PCO Makes its Mark at Academy Meeting



The Pennsylvania College of Optometry (PCO) was front and center at the American Academy of (AAO) 2026 meeting in Anaheim highlighting opportunities for continuing education, professional networking and meaningful connections across the optometry community.

A highlight of the conference was the PCO Alumni and Friends Reception, where more than 150 alumni and friends gathered for a close-knit night of camaraderie. Attendees heard remarks from PCO's dean, **Josephine Ibironke, OD '03, Resident '04, MPH, FAAO**, and Drexel's executive vice president and Nina Henderson provost, Paul Jensen, PhD.

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Tim Sullivan: New Executive Director of The Eye Institute

Tim Sullivan brings more than two decades of distinguished leadership in academic healthcare, with extensive experience in clinical operations, strategic planning, financial management, and organizational transformation into his new role as executive director of **The Eye Institute (TEI)**. Throughout his career, he has successfully led large multidisciplinary teams, managed complex healthcare operations and multimillion-dollar budgets, improved operational performance, expanded clinical services, and built strong partnerships that advance both patient care and education. **Read More**

Give the Gift of Sight



For nearly two decades, the ***Looking Out for Kids*** vision care initiative has helped children across the Philadelphia region access essential vision care and eyeglasses to help transform how they learn, grow, and see the world and the classroom.

Since 2007, every dollar raised through this annual event has supported comprehensive eye care for children who need it most.

Join us on **Saturday, Nov. 14, 2026, at the Hafter Student Center** and help bring clearer vision and brighter futures to children in need. **More info here.**

Purchase tickets here.



PCO Alumnae Honored as Theia Award Winners by Women in Opometry

Two alumnae from PCO celebrated a major honor recently, earning 2026 Theia Awards of Excellence from Women in Optometry (WO). **Riya Paranthan, OD ‘14**, was named the Leadership Winner, while **Emilie K. Seitz, OD ’20**, **FAAO,** was named the Young OD Winner. Both were recognized at the 2026 Women’s



A Full-Circle Moment: From PCO Student to Resident

Rachel Brodt, OD '26, Resident '27, decided to pursue a residency at TEI because that's where it all started for her. It was one of the first places where she truly saw what comprehensive, medically focused eye exams look like in practice. It was her past experiences at TEI that motivated her to continue further specialty training with a PCO on-campus residency. She wants to continue developing in an environment that set the standard for

Leadership Conference on Sept. 29, 2026, in Anaheim, California.

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her, while taking on greater responsibility and refining her own clinical decision-making skills.

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The Value of a PCO Summer Clerkship

The Summer Clerkship is a two-week, optical rotation setting approved by **PCO**. The clerkship is an important step in students' hands-on training, is designed to reinforce skills acquired during the first year of coursework and to uphold the highest standards of clinical, moral, and ethical conduct.

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Partnership Provides Valuable Experience

PCO expanded its reach to West Chester and surrounding communities through its continued partnership with the Community Volunteers in Medicine (CVIM). Over five all-day events, PCO faculty, staff, and optometric interns provided comprehensive eye care and vision services to members of the Chester County community.

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Real World Diabetes Sessions Available

Education about how to live well with diabetes is invaluable to the community. At **TEI's** Real World Diabetes series, professionals are available to discuss how diabetes affects the entire body - physically and mentally, including vision and hearing. Optional HbA1c, weight, blood pressure, and hearing screenings are also available.

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What's New With You?

Have news to share with your PCO alumni community? We'd love to hear it!

Send us your class notes, career milestones, awards, promotions, new businesses, obituaries, personal updates - or any other tidbits you'd like to share with fellow alumni and friends.

Have a story to tell? Send it our way!
Email your news to Salus_communications@drexel.edu.

