



Ohio's Aging Eye
Public Private Partnership



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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For more information:

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VISION RESEARCH SCIENTIFIC FORUM

Features projects from some of Ohio's most talented young scientists

Columbus, Ohio – A *Vision Research Scientific Forum* featuring presentations from recipients of Prevent Blindness Ohio's Young Investigator Student Fellowship Awards for Female Scholars in Vision Research will be held on Monday, November 10, 2008 from 1:00 pm to 4:30 pm at TechColumbus, 1275 Kinnear Road, Columbus. The Scientific Forum is co-sponsored by Ohio's Aging Eye Public Private Partnership and Prevent Blindness Ohio and is open and free to the public.

Dr. Caroline Whitacre, Vice President for Research, The Ohio State University, will give the keynote address, "*Bringing Research from the Lab Bench to the Public: A Challenge to Women in Science.*"

Student fellow presentations will be given by:

Katherine Trueblood Doreian, Case Western Reserve University: How high blood glucose levels and the initiation of an inflammatory response contribute to the development of diabetic retinopathy.

Reyna Martinez De Luna, The Ohio State University: Stimulation of regeneration in the diseased human retina.

Elizabeth McDonald, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Research Foundation: Dissecting the genetic pathways that play a role in retinal degeneration, a leading cause of blindness in adults.

Holly Moose, The Ohio State University: Understanding insulin signaling in the retina to better understand the pathogenesis of diabetic retinopathy.

Jennifer Stanke, The Ohio State University: Survival of neurons and preservation of vision in degenerating retinas which could be of importance in the treatment of both diabetic retinopathy and age related macular degeneration- the leading causes of vision loss among adults.

To register for the Forum, contact Laura Schwartz at 614-464-2020 ext. 112 or e-mail lauras@pbohio.org.

The Prevent Blindness Ohio Female Fellowship Award provides training support for future generations of outstanding female scientists committed to pursuing biomedical, behavioral or clinical research careers relevant to the mission of Prevent Blindness Ohio – to prevent blindness and preserve sight. To apply for the 2009 Young Investigator Student Fellowship Awards for Female Scholars in Vision Research, log on to: www.pbohio.org. Applications are due February 15, 2009.

The Award Program is supported by a grant from the Charlotte R. Schmidlapp Fund, Fifth Third Bank Trustee, The Reinberger Foundation, and The Sarah E. Slack Prevention of Blindness Fund Muskingum County Community Foundation.

ABOUT PREVENT BLINDNESS OHIO

Prevent Blindness Ohio, founded in 1957, is Ohio's leading volunteer nonprofit public health organization dedicated to preventing blindness and preserving sight. We serve all 88 Ohio counties, providing direct services to more than 800,000 Ohioans annually and educating millions of consumers about what they can do to protect and preserve their precious gift of sight. Prevent Blindness Ohio is an affiliate of Prevent Blindness America, the country's second-oldest national voluntary health organization. For more information or to make a contribution, visit our website at www.pbohio.org or call 800-301-2020.

ABOUT OHIO'S AGING EYE PUBLIC PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP

The Aging Eye Public/Private Partnership is an initiative supported by the Ohio Department of Aging whose mission is to develop a strategic plan of action to address issues relating to vision care public policy, vision care services, vision education, and vision research that impact the quality of life for Ohio's seniors now and in the future. The formation of the Partnership and its on-going work is supported by a Proclamation from the Governor of Ohio. Visit www.preventblindness.org/ohio/agingeye for more information.

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