



The doctors and students attending the 23rd annual Joint Conference on Theoretical and Clinical Optometry (JCTCO) over an unseasonably cool June weekend (dubbed Juneuary by local bloggers), were happy to focus on the intense discussions taking



Steve Cool and Eric Hussey

place on the campus of Pacific University. This conference is jointly sponsored by Optometric Extension Program Foundation (OEPF) and the College of Optometry and known for a relaxed venue that allows educators and clinicians to join in dialog over a number of vision topics. Between lectures, discussion groups, social functions and comfortable dormitory rooms, the participants attained a level of collegiality not found at other conferences.

Eric Hussey, OD '75, and Scott Cooper, OD '90, serving as curriculum co-chairs, introduced the topic: "Vision in Early Childhood Development." The conference explored multiple sensory and motor development variables and how they impact vision development and how optometry can examine and intervene to guide that development. Speakers included Steve Cool, Ph.D.; Erica Kleinknecht, Ph.D.; Molly McEwen, OT; and Joe Sullivan, OD. Each presented the background information on a discussion topic, after which spirited examinations of those topics by the participants took place.



Robin Lewis, OD '81

Conference regulars Robin Lewis, OD '81, and Howard Bacon, OD '81, travelled from Chandler, Ariz, and count their attendance at this annual meeting as more than twenty since its inception. Lewis describes the JCTCO attendees as family and how it's always "nice to come home" to the conference each summer. They were pleased to see their former extern, Daniel Wright, OD '08, attending the conference. During the conference, Lewis' practice, Family Optometry, made a donation to the Vision Therapy Service.

At the Sunday night banquet, Bob Williams, Executive Director of OEPF, presented the College of Optometry Clinic with a Readalyzer. The gift was in honor of the late Dr. Craig H. Witte, who was a fixture at the JCTCO. Known for his work in vision development and vision therapy, his clinical perspectives (as well as his quick wit) were valuable contributions to the discussions.



Craig H. Witte, OD

Plans are underway for the 24th Annual JCTCO, tentatively scheduled for early June. For more information, contact: Sally Corngold, smcorngold@oep.org



A note of appreciation goes to Santha Zaik who spent many hours planning and implementing the on-site logistics for this and many previous JCTCO conferences.



