



Resolution

THANKING DR. KELLY K. NICHOLS FOR AN EXEMPLARY YEAR OF SERVICE AS ASCO PRESIDENT

Whereas, Kelly K. Nichols, OD, MPH, PhD, Dean of the University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Optometry, has completed an exemplary term as President of the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry, the first ASCO President that also previously served as President of the American Optometric Student Association (AOSA); and

Whereas, Dr. Nichols, demonstrated thoughtful and decisive leadership while serving on the executive committee, during the COVID-19 pandemic, as ASCO navigated the transitions to fully remote work and later while guiding the return to in-person meetings, and provided outstanding leadership representing the Association through its role in addressing a multitude of serious challenges while prioritizing, consistent with available resources, the numerous existing and futuristic strategic opportunities and issues of great importance to optometric education and optometry as a whole; and

Whereas, Dr. Nichols' successful leadership of ASCO – as well as her previous contributions as a member of the Board of Directors and President-Elect – is rooted in her broad experience as an inspired educator, administrator, researcher and contributor to the professional community and scientific literature, all of which has been recognized with honors, including the 2022 Dr. Frank Fontana Career Achievement Award presented by the Southeastern Congress of Optometry (SECO), the 2019 Donald R. Korb Award presented by the American Optometric Association (AOA) Contact Lens and Cornea Section, election to Distinguished Fellow of the National Academies of Practice (NAP) in Optometry, one of 50 selected by Optometric Management in 2015 as Most Influential in Optometry, the 2013 Lifetime Achievement Award, from the Tear Film and Ocular Surface Society, along with many invited lectures ; and

Whereas, Dr. Nichols, personally devoted seemingly boundless energy to help further the promotion of the profession and research in optometry, serving on the board of directors and as secretary for National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research, as a member of the editorial board for six scientific and professional publications including Chief Medical Editor for Advanced Ocular Care and Topical Editor for Optometry and Vision Science, has been PI or Co-PI for over thirty high impact studies and clinical trials, and was among the twelve selected for the steering committee for the International Dry Eye Workshop (DEWS) and later for the International Meibomian Gland Dysfunction Workshop that together advanced our understanding for the diagnosis and management of those common age related ocular conditions; therefore be it

Be It Resolved, that the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry respectfully and wholeheartedly expresses its gratitude and sincere thanks to Dr. Nichols for her tremendous leadership and service during rapidly changing and challenging times; and be it further

Resolved, that the entire ASCO Board of Directors and professional staff look forward to continuing to work with Dr. Nichols in her role as Immediate Past President.