

2011-2012 Research Review Committee

Alan Sugar, M.D., Committee Chair

Dr. Sugar is a Board member for Midwest Eye-Banks and volunteers his time and expertise as a Medical Director for the Michigan Eye-Bank. Dr. Sugar's areas of specialization include corneal transplantation, cataract and refractive surgery (LASIK, PRK, Intacs, conductive keratoplasty), and management of diseases of the cornea and conjunctiva. He graduated from the University of Michigan Medical School in 1969; then, in 1974, he completed his residency in Ophthalmology at Washington University in St. Louis. He completed his fellowship in Cornea and External Diseases at the University of Florida in 1975.

Jerome R. Kuszak, Ph.D., Committee Vice-Chair

Dr. Kuszak is an ultrastructural cell biologist who trained under Dr. Harry Maisel at Wayne State University's College of Medicine. After completing his postdoctoral training under Prof. James Rae, he was named Director of Electron Microscopy at Rush University Medical Center, where he is also a professor of Ophthalmology and Pathology.

Dr. Kuszak, is the recipient of numerous scientific awards including the prestigious Alcon Research Institute Award, has published more than one hundred scientific manuscripts and book chapters, and is a reviewer for many international scientific journals and granting agencies. He is also a key Scientific Advisor to vision science organizations and commercial enterprises.

Paul J. Bryar, M.D.

Dr. Bryar received his Bachelor of Arts degree in Government from Georgetown University in 1989. He graduated from the University of Illinois-Chicago College of Medicine in 1994, and went on to do his internship in internal medicine at Northwestern University, where he also completed his residency in ophthalmology. Bryar is an Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology and Pathology at Northwestern University Medical School, and serves as Director of the Ocular Pathology Laboratory.

Andrew F.X. Goldberg, Ph.D.

Dr. Goldberg received his Bachelor of Science degree in Philosophy and Biochemistry from the State University of New York, University Center at Binghamton, in 1985. He conducted graduate studies in ion channel biochemistry/biophysics within the Department of Biochemistry at Brandeis University under the tutelage of Dr. Christopher Miller, and received a Ph.D. in 1992. His postdoctoral studies in vision science were conducted at the University of British Columbia and at the University of Washington. Goldberg joined the Oakland University Eye Research Institute in 1999.

During the past 20 years, Goldberg has received funding and fellowships from the National Science Foundation, the Grass Foundation and National Eye Institute. His professional affiliations include the American Society for Biochemistry and Cell Biology, American Society for the Advancement of Science, and the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology.

Linda D. Hazlett, Ph.D.

Dr. Hazlett received her Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from St. Mary's College, Notre Dame in 1966. She received her Masters of Science in Anatomy from the Medical College of Georgia in 1968 and her Ph.D. in Anatomy from Ohio State University in 1971. Hazlett is a Professor at Wayne State University, where she also chairs the Department of Anatomy/Cell Biology.

Her major research interests include ocular infection, molecular and immunopathogenic mechanisms, contact lens-induced ocular infection, Toll-like receptors and neuropeptide regulation of the immune response.

Mark L. McDermott, M.D., MBA, CPE

Dr. McDermott attended medical school at the University of Wisconsin, where he also completed his residency in Ophthalmology. He completed a cornea fellowship at the Medical College of Wisconsin. In addition to his medical training, McDermott also earned a Masters of Business Administration from the University of Michigan. He is a Professor at the Wayne State University School of Medicine, Kresge Eye Institute's Department of Ophthalmology.

His major research interests include antimicrobial toxicity and epithelial wound healing. He is a member of the Alpha Omega Alpha Medical Honor Society, received an American Academy of Ophthalmology Honor Award and is a Beta Gamma Sigma.

Deepak Shukla, Ph.D.

Dr. Shukla received his Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from Banaras Hindu University, in India, where he also received his Masters of Science in Biochemistry. His Ph.D. in Microbiology and Immunology is from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Shukla is an Assistant Professor at the University of Illinois at Chicago's Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences.

His research has won numerous awards, including the American Herpes Foundation Research Award for Excellence in Meritorious Herpesvirus Research, the National Institute for Allergy and Infectious Diseases' Research Scholar Development Award and the Gramm Travel Fellowship Award, from the R.H. Lurie Cancer Center.

Debra A. Thompson, Ph.D.

Dr. Thompson received her Ph.D. in Biochemistry from Michigan State University. She completed her postdoctoral work at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, and is currently a Professor of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences and a Professor of Biological Chemistry at the University of Michigan.

Her major research interests include molecular studies of inherited retinal degeneration, Vitamin A metabolism, phagocytosis and protein transport.

Peter A. Ward, M.D.

Dr. Ward graduated from medical school at the University of Michigan, and completed a residency in Internal Medicine at New York City's Bellevue Hospital. He received his Anatomic Pathology training at the University of Michigan Hospitals and completed a postdoctoral fellowship at the Scripps Research Institute, in La Jolla, California. He has been Professor and Chair of the University of Michigan Medical School's Department of Pathology since 1980.

Ward has been President of a number of pathology societies, including the American Board of Pathology. He has also received numerous awards recognizing his scientific accomplishments and academic leadership skills. He has been the Stobbe Professor of Pathology at the University of Michigan for more than 20 years, and is a member of the Institute of Medicine.

Marco A. Zarbin, M.D., Ph.D., FACS

Dr. Zarbin received his M.D. and Ph.D. from the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine. He completed his residency at the Wilmer Ophthalmological Institute, part of the Johns Hopkins Hospital, where he also completed fellowships in Vitreoretinal Surgery and Retinal Vascular Disease. He is currently Professor and Chair, Institute of Ophthalmology and Visual Science, UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School, Professor of Neurosciences, also UMDNJ-New Jersey Medical School and Chief of the Department of Ophthalmology, University Hospital, Newark, New Jersey. His research interests include retinal cell transplantation and growth factors.