

Dr. Erin Draper Named President of the POA

When she was a student at the **Pennsylvania College of Optometry (PCO)**, **Erin Draper, OD '09, Resident '10, FAAO**, became involved with the **Pennsylvania Optometric Association (POA)**.

Now she's the organization's newest president. The term is for one year.

Dr. Draper is the second faculty member from PCO to serve as POA president, following **Satya Verma, OD '75, FAAO, DPNAP, Diplomate**, professor emeritus at PCO. Dr. Verma, who retired from PCO at the end of 2021, served as POA president in 1996 and is still active with the organization.



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Where Are They Now: Gayle Daniels, OD '88

Her father was an optometrist for the United States Army, but it wasn't until her third year at Oakwood College — now called Oakwood University — in Huntsville, Alabama, that **Gayle Daniels, OD '88**, started



Lea Rowe, MS '25, to lead Blinded Veterans Association

In North Texas, there are only two optometrists providing low vision exams. That's a huge void in a big space, one **Lea Rowe, MS '25**, a certified low vision specialist, recognized. Now she's recently been

to seriously consider a career in optometry.

named the new executive director of the Blinded Veterans Association.

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Tech Group Workshops

There was a time when Rhonda Johnson, MBA, had to constantly strain her eyes and struggle to read emails at work. But then she learned she could use her phone for more than texting and talking – she could use it as a life tool.

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Patient Dedication

During his time at the PCO, **Kendrick Crawford II, OD '25**, paid close attention to lessons on patient education - a hallmark of PCO's early and sustained clinical experience. And, that has already paid off in his career.

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Women's Eye Health

April is Women's Eye Health and Safety Month and includes a significant awareness campaign emphasizing how proactive eye care can greatly benefit patients and highlights the special vision needs of women in particular.

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Click here to register for a virtual town hall with PCO Dean Dr. Josephine Ibironke

Join us for a presentation from dean of the Pennsylvania College of Optometry, **Josephine Ibironke, OD '03, Resident '04, MPH, FAAO**, as she provides a six-month update from the College and answers questions that were previously submitted. When you register, be sure to submit your questions for the dean!



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