

30 YEARS OF THANK YOUS

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We are fortunate to have someone as capable and dedicated as Jennifer Reilly take over as editor of *Hindsight*. I am pleased to transition to a contributing editor position after serving as editor for 30 years. There are many people to thank for their encouragement and assistance over those years.

First and foremost, I thank Henry Hofstetter for his confidence in me to edit the publication he started in 1970, for his inspiration, and for his excellent writings on optometry history that I have quoted on so many occasions.^{1,2}

The Optometric Historical Society (OHS) leadership has been very supportive of *Hindsight*. The OHS presidents/committee chairs during my years as editor have been Drs. Chuck Haine, Walter Chase, Doug Penisten, Jay Enoch, Melvin Wolfberg, Irving Bennett, John Amos, Ron Ferrucci and Lilien Vogl. In 2006, OHS board members Jerry Abrams, Enoch, Haine, Penisten and Wolfberg supported my idea of shifting *Hindsight* from newsletter to journal format.

Until 2017, *Hindsight* was printed at, and mailed from, the Indiana University campus in Bloomington. Indiana University School of Optometry secretarial staff, particularly Terri Greene and Cheryl Oldfield, worked with the campus printing office and mailed copies of *Hindsight* to OHS members. My wife Diane has helped prepare images for publication for many years and she drew an OHS logo that we used on the cover of *Hindsight* from 2007 to 2012.

In 2013, we were pleased to start working with IUScholarWorks, Indiana University's digital repository and online journal platform. They digitized all back issues of the OHS newsletter and *Hindsight* as PDF files and deposited them online. In 2015, *Hindsight* became one of IUScholarWorks' online journals with current issues published on their website.

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The association with IUScholarWorks has made it possible to track the numbers of online views of *Hindsight* articles. That number has increased from when that data first became available in 2019 to a total of 14,982 in 2023.

Soon after Kirsten Hébert's hiring as the Archives and Museum of Optometry Heritage Services specialist, she became an integral part of OHS and made contributions to *Hindsight*. In 2014 she started publishing articles in *Hindsight*. She worked with IUScholarWorks to improve the functionality of the online version of *Hindsight*, and in 2017, she arranged for layout and printing of *Hindsight* to be done at the American Optometric Association (AOA) headquarters. Chris Martin, AOA's Graphic Production specialist, designed a visually pleasing layout. Since Hébert's departure from the AOA, Molly Brown and the AOA staff have been essential to *Hindsight's* success.

I was fortunate to have skilled and prolific writers to serve as contributing editors. Enoch started writing for *Hindsight* when it was a newsletter and continued doing so after we went to a journal format, a total of 45 articles in all. Bennett contributed 27 articles and Hébert 18. John Amos has contributed 12 articles so far.

In 2018, we started publishing occasional theme issues. OHS Committee members have suggested topics, recommended and contacted potential authors, and reviewed and wrote papers. I would like to mention Ray Myers as being particularly involved in each of those functions. OHS Committee members who wrote papers for theme issues are Ray Myers, Ferrucci, Carol Parker, Linda Casser, Lynn Brandes, Heather Edmonds, Viktoria Davis, Vogl and Howard McAlister.

Thanks also go to reviewers and authors over the years. Since the switch

to journal format in 2007, we have had more than 100 different authors and co-authors. The majority of our authors have been American optometrists, but we also have had authors from Australia, Canada, the United Kingdom, Poland, Hong Kong, India, Iran, South Africa and Taiwan. In addition to optometrists, our authors have included vision scientists, ophthalmologists, archives and museum professionals, librarians, optometry administrative personnel, optometry students an optometrist's spouse, an English professor and an independent researcher.

The 53 volumes of the OHS newsletter and *Hindsight* from 1970 to 2023 now comprise more than 3,700 pages of information on optometry history. When I have an optometry history question, the first place I look is in those pages.³ I am very happy to have played a role in documenting what Hofstetter described as optometry's "truly proud history."⁴

REFERENCES

1. Goss DA. 20/20 hindsight: A history of the Optometric Historical Society as chronicled in its newsletter and journal. *Hindsight: J Optom Hist*. 2019;50:4-12.
2. Goss DA. OHS co-founder Henry Hofstetter (1914-2002). *Hindsight: J Optom Hist*. 2019;50:29-34.
3. Interspersed with the back issues of *Hindsight* on IUScholarWorks are indexes for volumes 1-10, 11-20, 21-30, and 31-40. They can be found by scrolling down through back issues on the *Hindsight* Archives webpage: <https://scholarworks.iu.edu/journals/index.php/hindsight/issue/archives>.
4. Hofstetter HW. The OHS mission. *Hindsight*. 1996;27:17-18.