

# The UC Davis Eye Center

## Advancing World-Class Vision Science, Restoring Sight



### A Vision of Eye Care for All

From discoveries in glaucoma that hold clues about Alzheimer's disease to stem cell therapies that restore vision loss, the UC Davis Eye Center is expanding the horizons of what vision science can do for patients.

The Eye Center is a hub of ophthalmic research and treatment at the West Coast's most comprehensive university. It brings together the leading expertise housed at the Center for Vision Science, the Center for Ocular Regenerative Therapy, and the new Ernest E. Tschannen Eye Institute Building, a state-of-the-art facility designed to be accessible to people with all levels of vision. There, stellar faculty and resident physicians work together to reimagine the possibilities for eye care. Our partnerships across fields at UC Davis — including our extraordinary collaboration with the country's best veterinary school, the Institute for Regenerative Cures, and the California National Primate Research Center — position us to accelerate groundbreaking science, innovative therapies and, ultimately, cures.

Your philanthropic partnership now will help to shape the Eye Center's future as a place for medical miracles — supporting the expansion of critical expertise as we set the platinum standard in eye care and vision research.

### Philanthropic Opportunities

From the lab bench to the patient bedside, there are many opportunities to support transformative vision science and care at UC Davis.

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Name the Department of Ophthalmology and Vision Science with a transformative gift  
**\$30 MILLION**

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Endow the directorship of the Center for Vision Science, empowering a multitalented leader to pursue critical research  
**\$2 MILLION**

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Endow a faculty chair or professorship to help recruit and retain top clinician-scientists  
**STARTING AT \$1.5 MILLION**

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Create a flexible fund to advance the study of specific diseases like age-related macular degeneration and glaucoma  
**STARTING AT \$250,000**

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Advance the Center for Ocular Regenerative Therapy by supporting research into treatments for neurodegenerative disease  
**STARTING AT \$250,000**

# The UC Davis Eye Center: Advancing Science, Restoring Sight

## The Power of Research

Through their ambitious research goals, teamwork, and passion for serving the greater good, our exceptional clinician-scientists push the boundaries of what medicine can do for patients and inspire tomorrow's ophthalmologists to reach for new treatments and cures.

Recruiting and retaining top faculty, whether they are established professors or early-career, is essential to advancing the Eye Center's path-breaking research and innovative care. A gift to name a research fund or faculty position can create a permanent resource for medical discovery that attracts the best people in the field to the Eye Center — and then supports them in making breakthroughs and guiding tomorrow's leaders.

Endowed faculty positions provide their holders with dedicated funds to research everything from stem cell cures for inherited eye diseases, to treatments that speed the complete healing of corneal wounds, to comparative ophthalmology that decodes the evolution of diseases from animals to humans.

With your philanthropic investment, together we can build the Eye Center's capacity for care and position UC Davis vision science programs to be the best in the world.

### Faculty Endowments: Taking Leading-Edge Science to the Next Level



Associate Professor **Glenn Yiu** is a UC Davis vitreoretinal surgeon. Yiu discovered a gene editing tool that could lead to a cure for wet age-related macular degeneration — a serious, often blinding form of the disease. Using state-of-the-art imaging to study the vasculature in the back of the eye, Yiu has developed a non-invasive way to deliver genes that aid healing. He is also researching methods for delivering drugs directly to diseased tissue.

Collaborations across the university are crucial for translating leading-edge discoveries like Yiu's into treatments and cures — and endowed faculty positions take those collaborations to the next level. "Endowed chairs and professorships allow researchers to pursue audacious ideas that make it possible for many more people to receive treatment and even cures," Yiu says.

### Giving children expected to be blind the chance to see

When Sophia was born with cloudy eyes, her parents David and Mary weren't surprised. David and several relatives were all blind due to congenital glaucoma. But blurry vision wasn't Sophia's only challenge: her parents ran a school in rural India hours away from medical care, and her risk for malignant hyperthermia meant she couldn't safely undergo surgery with anesthesia. David and Mary looked far and wide for specialists who could treat Sophia. Their search led them 8,000 miles away to the UC Davis Eye Center and pediatric glaucoma expert James Brandt. Brandt has spent decades honing treatments that help children preserve vision and has trained colleagues in more than a dozen countries in his innovative methods. Sophia's surgery was a success — and a marvel to her father. "I always knew I would have blind kids," David said. "The surprise for us now is that my daughter can see!"