

Optometry Scotland Awards the Young Stars at Glasgow Caledonian University

This week the Chairman of Optometry Scotland, Peter Carson, rewarded two outstanding optometry students at Glasgow Caledonian University's prizegiving ceremony.

Optometry Scotland wanted to recognise and award the young rising stars for their commitment and excellence in their optometry courses. Lisa Mackintosh was awarded for Best Student in the First Year Optometry course and Mhairi Bryce was awarded for Best Student in Second Year Dispensing Optician.

Optometry Scotland is fully supportive of the optometric training that the Vision Sciences Department provide at Glasgow Caledonian University.

Peter Carson said: "Optometry Scotland wanted to recognise this with a prize giving to the hard working students. Optometry Scotland has a close working relationship with the Vision Sciences Department and we meet with the students regularly to keep them up to date on the work being carried out by Optometry Scotland, the profession and what to expect when they enter the industry themselves and become optometrists and dispensing opticians"

Niall Strang, Acting Head of Department for Visual Sciences, added: "I would like to thank Optometry Scotland for all its support and also for the provision of these prizes."

Both these students are highly committed to their courses and demonstrate a high degree of academic excellence, and while diligently studying they also hold down part time jobs at optometry practices.

Lisa Mackintosh received an ophthalmoscope, while Mhairi was awarded with a Nikon Coolpix camera. Both prizes were sponsored by Optometry Scotland in association with Nikon and Welch Allyn.

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Notes to Editor:

Optometry Scotland


Function

Optometry Scotland (OS) represents optometrists and dispensing opticians and is the first point of contact for all health officials and external bodies in Scotland. OS does this by lobbying for better support services, enhanced status for the Optometric and Dispensing professions and more funding for future fee increases.

Mission Statement & Objectives

Optometry Scotland's aim is 'to develop, maintain and promote a world class eye health and primary eye care service for the people of Scotland'.

OS will achieve this aim by:

- Striving for the highest possible standards of professional competence and care within the optometric professions.
- Securing funding to enable Optometrists, Dispensing Opticians and their staff to provide high quality equitable services across Scotland and thereby:
 1. Equipping practices to the highest practical standards and
 2. Enabling and encouraging ongoing training and personal development for Optometrists, Dispensing Opticians and their staff.
- Working towards the elimination of avoidable blindness through the early detection and appropriate management of eye disease, thereby complying with the [VISION 2020 directive](#) .
- Working with other relevant stakeholders, organisations, and the media, to raise awareness of the importance of regular eye examinations and extended specialist services provided within optometry practices.

History

Through extensive negotiations, meetings, lobbying and sheer will and determination, Optometry Scotland's previous Chairmen Frank Munro, Hal Rollason and Donald Cameron led the newly formed Optometry Scotland to the introduction of the new GOS eye examination in April 2006. The introduction of the new structure of fees and standards heralded new levels of professional eyecare which are the envy of the world. Professional health bodies across the globe have learned from Optometry Scotland's experience and as a result are now lobbying for similar levels of care.