Welcome New AOIP Members

-- August 1, 2016  

Summer brings a brand new group of dedicated people to the AOIP for research and learning whether beginning or enhancing careers. Their work is diverse, encompassing many aspects of vision research in an imaging lab. This year we introduce an outstanding group ready to become a part of the AOIP and the extended vision science community.

Pictured from left to right - Taly Gilat-Schmidt, PhD, Katie Litts, PhD, Anisha Arora, Daniel Lee, Maggie Strampe, David Gansen, Bartek Kowalski and Erica Woertz

Taly Gilat-Schmidt, PhD, Associate Professor of Biomedical Engineering, Marquette University - Taly joins the AOIP for a year long sabbatical from Marquette University where she is an associate professor of biomedical engineering in the Opus College of Engineering. Recently receiving the 2016-17 Way Klingler Sabbatical Award, Taly brings both industry and academic experience with medical imaging to the AOIP. Her sabbatical year focus will be on improving the image processing and analysis methods used for in-vivo ocular imaging. Read more about Taly’s sabbatical award.  [http://today.marquette.edu/2016/02/way-klinger-sabbatical-and-way-klinger-teaching-enhancement-award-winners-announced/](http://today.marquette.edu/2016/02/way-klinger-sabbatical-and-way-klinger-teaching-enhancement-award-winners-announced/)

Katie Litts, PhD - Katie Litts earned her PhD in Vision Science from the University of Alabama at Birmingham in the lab of Christine Curcio. In the Curcio lab, Katie worked on the histopathology and image validation of outer retinal tubulation in age-related macular degeneration. Katie attended University of Rochester as an undergraduate biomedical engineering major. In the AOIP, Katie’s current projects include imaging patients with achromatopsia and macular telangiectasia who are part of clinical trials.

Anisha Arora - After completing her first year of medical school here at MCW, Anisha joins us for the summer as part of the MSSRP program. She has an interest in ophthalmology and plans to work on imaging processing
specifically related to achromatopsia. From Appleton, Wisconsin, Anisha completed a bachelor’s degree in biological sciences at Northwestern University.

**Daniel Lee** - Joining us via the MSSRP program, Daniel just finished his first year of medical school at Medical College of Wisconsin. His undergraduate education in integrative biology was at UC Berkeley. Daniel will be working on projects related to the Henle fiber layer and other anatomical layers as well as the specialization of the fovea.

**Maggie Strampe** - Maggie will be with the AOIP for a full year in between her 2nd and 3rd year of medical school at the University of Minnesota as part of the Flexible MD Program. She plans to study retinitis pigmentosa while learning about imaging modalities and other retinal diseases. Maggie was a French major during her undergraduate years of University of Minnesota.

**David Gansen** - David, from Appleton, Wisconsin, joins the AOIP for the summer from Temple University where he is a junior majoring in biomedical engineering and minoring in computer science. Temple awards honors students a summer stipend to pursue a summer research program in their area of interest. We are glad David found the AOIP where he will use his knowledge to update a number of software programs used in the lab. He is creating a Volume Viewer enhancement for zebrafish OCT analysis and repurposing a Matlab cone counting program to become an ImageJ cone counting plugin.

**Bartek Kowalski** - Arriving all the way from Poland, Bartek joins the computer engineering group of the AOIP. He obtained his master’s degree in computer science from Czestochowa University of Technology in Poland. Bartek is currently writing C++ software to incorporate into Tsuami Wave which will improve processing time on advanced cameras used by our Adaptive Optics systems.

**Erica Woertz** – Erica is the newest MD/PhD student, joining after the completion of her first two years of medical school. Erica is a part of the Medical Scientist Training Program (MSTP) at MCW. She completed her bachelor’s degree in biology from Azusa Pacific University in California. She will be building upon the ocular albinism research taking place in the AOIP.