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**Mark R Parsons, OD, FAAO**

NYSOA- Secretary

markparsons422@gmail.com

4/24/2022

**New York State Optometric Association**

*Nominating Committee*

230 Washington Ave Ext Suite 101

Albany, NY 12203

To the NYSOA Membership and Nominating Committee:

I, Mark Parsons, OD, FAAO, an NYSOA member in good standing and current Secretary of the NYSOA, hereby declare my intent to run for the position of Vice President on the NYSOA Board of Trustees.

The NYSOA is membered by a strong constituency of optometrists who believe in the common goal to promote, protect, and strengthen our profession, allowing us to provide eye care at the highest level in the State of New York. It is of great honor and privilege to be considered for a position on the executive board among an esteemed group of optometrists who are passionate about the delivery of eye care and the importance of optometry's role in providing primary eye care to the citizens of New York State.

I believe my candidacy for Vice President on the NYSOA Board of Trustees is supported by my dedication to organized optometry throughout my entire career, highlighted by three years as the President of the Rochester Optometric Society, two years as Trustee of the Finger-Lakes Niagara Region, one year as the Treasurer, and one year as the Secretary on the NYSOA Board of Trustees. I have volunteered to attend AOA+ in Washington, DC in past years to discuss crucial state legislative matters, assisted in creating reopening protocols for optometric offices during the COVID-19 pandemic, and remain actively engaged with the NYSOA as the Secretary. Also, it is with great pride that I worked with the current board of trustees in seeing our oral therapeutics bill passed in 2021. Currently, I serve as the Director for Primary Eye Care of Rochester Regional Health | Reed Eye Associates, the largest OD/MD practice in the Greater Rochester Area, Residency Director for our Primary Eye Care Residency at RRH, and as Chair of the Alumni Board of Directors for St. John Fisher College. I find it to be my passion and duty to give back to others, serve my community, and support my profession.

From a colleague who practices with passion, currently serves in several leadership roles, and as past winner of the NYSOA Young Optometrist of the Year, I ask for your support to be given the privilege and honor to become the next Vice President of the NYSOA.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Parsons', written in a cursive style.

Mark R Parsons, OD, FAAO

# Mark R. Parsons, OD, FAAO

## Current Address:

19 Morningside Park

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## **Publications**

- Parsons et al.: Lights Out: An Unusual Case of Amaurosis Fugax- *American Journal of Medicine*
- Parsons MR, Whitley WO. The Role of Combination Therapy in Glaucoma Management. *Advanced Ocular Care*. April 2014

## **Papers/Posters**

- Asymmetric Diabetic Retinopathy: A Discussion of Co-Morbid Diseases  
-accepted as a paper presentation at American Academy of Optometry 2013 for Resident's Day

## **Lectures**

- Low Vision and Ocular Disease
  - NYS Vision Source Meeting October 2019
- Neuro-Ophthalmic Disease in Primary Care Optometry
  - NYS CE Approved
  - Vision Source Meeting, Rochester, NY- July 2016
- Metastatic Tumor of the Iris
  - *Grand Rounds- American Academy of Optometry Conference, 2015, New Orleans*

## Resident

- *Lamellar Macular Holes-* September 2013 at Wilmington VAMC, Wilmington, DE
- *Optic Nerve Assessment: The Abnormal Presentation of a "Normal" Nerve, A Case Report Series-* December 2013 at Wilmington VAMC, Wilmington, DE
- *Asymmetric Diabetic Retinopathy: A Discussion of Co-Morbid Diseases -* January 2014 at Salus University Grand Rounds
- *Targeting the Bull's Eye: A Unique Timeline to the Development of Plaquenil Toxicity -* May 2014 at Joseph Toland 24th Annual Excellence in Education Conference at Salus University

## **Awards/Memberships**

- St. John Fisher College Ten Under Ten Award- Fall 2019
- NYSOA Young Optometrist of the Year- 2018
- NYSOA/AOA Member- 2014-present
- Conforma Laboratory Award for Contact Lens- May 2013
- NAVAO Membership- September 2013-September 2014
- Beta Sigma Kappa Member- Spring 2012

## **Education**

### ***Post-Doctorate Affiliations and Titles***

- Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry (FAAO)- 2013-Present

### ***Post-Doctorate Education (July 2013-June 2014)***

- Residency in Ocular Disease at Wilmington VA Medical Center, Wilmington, DE

### ***Optometry Education (2009-2013)- Pennsylvania College of Optometry at Salus University***

- Doctor of Optometry Degree *with honors*
- Overall GPA 3.38
- Beta Sigma Kappa Society Member
- Recipient of Award of Excellence in Contact Lens Design and Management
- 2010 Winner of Petry-Lomb Scholarship from Rochester Optometric Society

### ***Clinical Rotations***

- February 2013-May 2013: Hospital Rotation at Salisbury VA Medical Center in Salisbury, NC (Dr. Joan Sears)
- November 2012- February 2013: Low Vision Rotation at The Eye Institute in Philadelphia, PA (Dr. Sara Shkalim)
- August 2012- November 2012: Ocular Disease Rotation at Virginia Eye Consultants in Norfolk, VA (Dr. Walter Whitley)
- May 2012-August 2012: Contact Lens Rotation at Family Vision Care in Charleston, SC (Dr. Mason Smith)
- February 2012-May 2012: Primary Care Rotation at Advance Eye Care in Charlotte, NC (Dr. Sarit Catchatoorian)
- Optical clerkship in June/July 2010 at Drs. Pritz and Gray Eye Care in Pleasantville, NJ

### ***Undergraduate (2006-2009)- St. John Fisher College, Rochester, NY***

- Bachelors of Science in Biology
- Completed a 3+4 program between St. John Fisher College and Salus University
- Overall GPA 3.46
- Dean's list Spring 2007, Fall 2007, Fall 2008, and Spring 2009 (3.50 requirement)

### ***High School (2002-2006)***

- Liverpool High School in Liverpool, NY
- Graduated with a NYS Regents with Distinction diploma
- All-Honors Student all four years of high school
- Ranked 44 out of 650 students
- Transferred 15 college credits to St. John Fisher College
- Dollars for Scholars recipient
- Silver medal winner at Greater Syracuse Area Science Project Event

### **Employment:**

- Rochester Regional Health (September 2020-present)
  - Optometry Residency Program Coordinator
- Reed Eye Associates | Rochester Regional Health (September 2019-present)
  - Director of Primary Eye Care
- Place Eye Care (July 2015- March 2020)
  - Staff Optometrist
- Reed Eye Associates (August 2014-September 2019)
  - Staff Optometrist
- Visionworks (July 2013-June 2014)
  - Part-time Optometrist 2 Sundays/month in Philadelphia area
- Salus University (2009-2012)
  - Tour Guide/ Admissions worker
  - Optics Tutor and Lab TA
  - Clinical Skills Lab TA
  - Tutoring Services Coordinator (January 2011-December 2012)
- Galson Laboratories (June 2006-December 2010)
  - Galson Labs is the largest air-only industrial hygiene-testing lab in the world.
  - Assisted with the preparation of orders, performed many projects that help the department run smoothly, and helped with shipping and handling. Their website can be seen at [www.galsonlabs.com](http://www.galsonlabs.com)
- St. John Fisher College
  - Student Ambassador (September 2007-2009)
  - Athletic Department (September 2006-2009)
    - SLC (Student Life Center) and Fitness Room
    - Athletic Events
  - Biology Tutor (September 2007-2009)
    - General Biology and Zoology

### **Extracurricular**

- *Treasurer*- New York State Optometric Association (NYSOA)
- *Trustee*- NYSOA Finger Lakes- Niagara Region (June 2018-May 2020)
- *President*- Rochester Optometric Society (July 2016-June 2019)
- *Chair*- St. John Fisher College Alumni Board of Directors
- *Associate Board Member*- Gilda's Club Rochester

- *Volunteer Optometrist*
  - “Promise in Sight” Nicaragua Medical Mission Trip- January 2015, 2016
  - “Project Eye Care” – Rochester, NY- Active
- Virginia Area 2 Special Olympics in Norfolk, VA- Fall 2012
- Member of Lions Club at Salus University- 2009
- Sports Management Club at St. John Fisher College
- Member of the Biology Club at St. John Fisher College
- Colleges Against Cancer Club at St. John Fisher College
- Vision screening at the Special Olympics at Villanova University (Lion's Club), Fall 2009
- Connie Mack Baseball Coach (16-17 year olds) during Summer 2009
- Mickey Mantle Baseball Coach (15-16 year olds) during the Summer of 2007 and Summer of 2008.
- Coached an AAU Basketball team (15-16 year olds) under the RAP (Rochester Area Players) Organization in the Spring of 2008.