The Don Wong Award

In 1990, the Ophthalmic Photographers' Society established a new award, intended to be given for the best paper presented at each annual meeting. The Don Wong Award was named in honor of an OPS founding member whose entire career exemplifies outstanding literary and academic professional achievement and exceptional dedication to this Society's objectives.

First proposed by J. Michael Coppinger, CRA, later developed by George F. Weir, CRA, and subsequently approved by the Board of Directors, the Don Wong Award is intended to recognize outstanding achievement in ophthalmic photography and to inspire excellence in the Society's open paper sessions. The presentations are to be judged by a panel of accomplished colleagues, on the basis of six criteria: quality of content, originality, organization, visual presentation, oral delivery, and importance of topic. At the 21st OPS Annual Meeting in Atlanta, the first Don Wong Award was presented to Randall E. Verdick for his paper, "Infrared Videography of the Eyes."

For nearly 40 years, Don Wong has been devoted to education in the field of ophthalmic photography. An author (Textbook of Ophthalmic Photography), accomplished lecturer, and educator of countless students, Don has served the Society in a number of capacities, including president, vice president, secretary, chairman of the Certification Committee, editor of the Newsletter, member of the Board of Directors and the Board of Certification, and coordinator of several fundus photography workshops. As the founder of The Journal of Ophthalmic Photography in 1978, a principal creator of the Certification Program, and the initiator of both the OPS Advanced Course on Ophthalmic Photography (Rochester, NY, 1985) and the OPS International Conference of Ophthalmic Photography (Rome, Italy, 1986), Don, through his

been inspirational in the development of the Society's educational programs. Today, Don continues to serve his Society as a member of the Board of Directors.

The Don Wong Award will be an enduring expression of collective thanks to the remarkably dedicated and generous individual for whom it was named, on the behalf of all past, present, and future members of the Ophthalmic Photographers' Society.

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