

2026-2027 COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

All Committees are under supervision of Vice-President. Please [click here for committee descriptions](#)

If you are interested in joining a committee, please contact office@thevoa.org.

OVERALL GOALS APPLICABLE TO ALL COMMITTEES:

1. Decisions and actions of the Committee shall be made in the best interests of the VOA membership and the organization;
2. Committee chairs are to maintain written history of their activities including when, how, and time schedules which shall be provided to successor chairs of respective Committee to assist them in the future.
3. Whenever applicable, all Committee chairs shall have one Committee member serve as a protégé so that the Committee's work may continue without interruption should the chair ever be placed in a situation where the chair may not be able to continue service during his term.

EDUCATION DIVISION MEMBERSHIP DIVISION OPERATIONS DIVISION EDUCATION DIVISION

- Kristy Robinson-Lee, O.D., Chair

1-DAY CE CONFERENCE

- Michael F. Polo, O.D., Chair
- Lenna Walker, O.D.
- Sponsorships: Gerald R. Neidigh, O.D.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

- Joseph E. Droter, O.D., Chair
- Brent Segeleon, O.D., Co-Chair

- Paraoptometric Education Planning: Kristy Robinson-Lee, O.D., Speaker Education Planning: Walter O. Whitley, O.D., Sponsorships: Gerald R. Neidigh, O.D.
- Tenesha Bazemore, O.D., John Dragon, O.D., Tina Kelly, O.D., Roshni D. Patel, O.D., David Rose, O.D., Lisa Wallace-Davis, O.D.

CONTACT LENS SYMPOSIUM

- David R. Rose, O.D. Chair
- Sponsorships: Gerald R. Neidigh, O.D.

FALL CONFERENCE

- L. Mandy Pennington, OD., Chair
- Sponsorships: Gerald R. Neidigh, O.D.
- Brooke Conner-Tsang, O.D., Amber McCulley, O.D., Stefan K. Young, O.D.

IN-FOCUS QUARTERLY CE

- Jacqueline M. Theis, O.D, Chair
- Lenna Walker, O.D.; Sponsorships: Gerald R. Neidigh, O.D.

VOYAGES-IN-VISION CONFERENCE

- Robert M. Allen, O.D, Chair
- Catherine Batton, O.D.

MEMBERSHIP DIVISION

- Christine C. Paschal, O.D., Chair

AWARDS

- L. Mandy Pennington, O.D., Chair
- John Dragon, O.D.

MEMBERSHIP

- Christine C. Paschal, O.D., Chair
- John Dragon, O.D., Lisa V. Gontarek, O.D., Parwana Kabiri, O.D., Mandy Martin, O.D., Roshni D. Patel, O.D., L. Mandy Pennington, O.D., Katherine M. Rachon, O.D., Sarah Terlesky, O.D., Amanda J. Umlandt, O.D.

- Extern Taskforce
- Katherine M. Rachon, O.D., Chair
- Jessica A. Scheid, O.D., Amanda J. Umlandt, O.D.

PEER REVIEW

- Gene Sweetnam, O.D., Chair
- Lisa Gontarek, O.D., W. Scott Mann, O.D., Jacqueline M. Theis, O.D., Amanda J. Umlandt, O.D.

PUBLIC RELATIONS

- Catherine Batton, O.D., Chair
- Joseph Allen, O.D., Katherine M. Rachon, OD.
- Mascot - W. Scott Mann, O.D., Chair
- Kristy Campbell, O.D., L. Mandy Pennington, O.D., Jacqueline M. Theis, O.D.

- Newsletter - Jen Weigel, O.D., Chair
- Social Media - Catherine Batton, O.D., Chair
- Michael F. Polo, O.D., Katherine M. Rachon, O.D.

- Website - Adam P. Parker, O.D.

THIRD PARTY CARE

- Gene Sweetnam, O.D., Chair
- Jenny N. Alsop, O.D., Patrick Curran, O.D., Gray Friedrichs, O.D., Tina Kelly, O.D., W. Dodge Perry, O.D.
- Medicare CAC Rep - Brian Spittle, O.D.

OPERATIONS DIVISION

- L. Mandy Pennington, O.D., Chair

AOA PAC

- Patrick Curran, O.D., Chair
- Adam P. Parker, O.D.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES ORIENTATION

- Christine C. Paschal, O.D., Chair
- L. Mandy Pennington, O.D., Michael F. Polo, O.D., W. Scott Mann, O.D.

BUDGET

- Katherine M. Rachon, O.D., Chair
- Christine C. Paschal, O.D., L. Mandy Pennington, O.D., Kristy Robinson-Lee, O.D.
- David Rose, O.D. (at large)

CONSTITUTION & BY-LAWS

- Lisa Wallace-Davis, O.D., Chair
- George F. Brown, O.D., Jen Weigel, O.D.

ENDOWMENT

- Christine C. Paschal, O.D., Chair
- Joshua Black, O.D., W. Scott Mann, O.D., Katherine M. Rachon, O.D., Kristy Robinson-Lee, O.D.
- Bo Keeney & William Mann, O.D. (ex officio)

FEDERAL KEYPERSON

- Sushil K. Jain, O.D., Chair
- Adam P. Parker, O.D., Gene Sweetnam, O.D., Amanda J. Umlandt, O.D., Jen Weigel, O.D.

INDUSTRY RELATIONS

- Gerald R. Neidigh, O.D., Chair
- Joshua Black, O.D., Tori Pierce, O.D., Katherine M. Rachon, O.D.

LASER

- Amanda J. Umlandt, O.D., Chair
- W. Scott Mann, O.D., Katherine M. Rachon, O.D.

LEGISLATIVE

- Jeffrey C. Michaels, O.D. and Gerald R. Neidigh, O.D., Co-Chairs
- John Dragon, O.D., Lisa V. Gontarek, O.D., Sushil K. Jain, O.D., W. Scott Mann, O.D.,

William Mann, O.D., Roshni D. Patel, O.D., Michael F. Polo, O.D., Katherine, M. Rachon, O.D., Sarah Terlesky, O.D., Amanda J. Umlandt, O.D., Lisa Wallace-Davis, O.D.

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B. Bennett Keeney, Jr. (Ex Officio)

- State Keypersons - Jeffrey C. Michaels, O.D. Chair
- Lisa V. Gontarek, O.D., Adam P. Parker, O.D., Katherine M. Rachon, O.D., Amanda J. Umlandt, O.D., Jen Weigel, O.D.

NOMINATIONS

- W. Scott Mann, O.D., Chair
- Gene Sweetnam, O.D. and Jacqueline M. Theis, O.D.

PERSONNEL

- George F. Brown, O.D., Chair
- W. Scott Mann, O.D., Christine C. Paschal, O.D., L. Mandy Pennington, O.D., Katherine M. Rachon, O.D., Kristy Robinson-Lee, O.D., David Rose, O.D., Amanda J. Umlandt, O.D.
- Jeffrey C. Michaels, O.D. and Gerald R. Neidigh, O.D. (ex officio)

PHILANTHROPY

- Jacqueline M. Theis, O.D., Chair
- Tenesha Bazemore, O.D., Shawn Hobbs, O.D., Sushil K. Jain, O.D., L. Mandy Pennington, O.D., Lenna Walker, O.D., Lindsey Wetherby, O.D., Victoria Weiss, O.D.
- Optometry Cares
- InfantSEE

STRATEGIC PLANNING

- Jeffrey C. Michaels, O.D., Chair
- Gerald R. Neidigh, O.D., Vice Chair
- Catherine Batton, O.D., Joshua Black, O.D., John Dragon, O.D., Joseph E. Droter, O.D., Lisa V. Gontarek, O.D., Sushil Jain, O.D., W. Scott Mann, O.D., Adam P. Parker, O.D., Christine C. Paschal, O.D., L. Mandy Pennington, O.D., W. Dodge Perry, O.D., Katherine M. Rachon, O.D., Kristy Robinson-Lee, O.D., Gene Sweetnam, O.D., Sarah Terlesky, O.D., Stefan K. Young, O.D.
- Bo Keeney (ex officio)

VOPAC/LLF

- Lisa V. Gontarek, O.D., VOPAC Chair
- Adam P. Parker, O.D., LLF Chair
- Catherine Batton, O.D., Patrick Curran, O.D., W. Scott Mann, O.D., Stephanie Matsko, O.D., Katherine M. Rachon, O.D.
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B. Bennett Keeney, Jr., VOPAC Admin/Treasurer

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