



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **OWL to Host Signature Event and Awards Ceremony at AAO 2018**

### ***OWL to Honor Recipients of the 2018 OWL Awards***

**Cary, NC– October 17, 2018** – OWL: Advancing Diversity in Leadership (OWL), an organization dedicated to driving innovation and patient care by advancing diversity in leadership, today announced that it will host its annual OWL Signature Event and Awards Ceremony at the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO). Full of inspiration and celebration OWL’s largest event of the year will take place on Sunday, October 28, 2018 from 5:30-7:00 p.m., at Revel Motor Row in Chicago.

Attendees can look forward to a discussion of “Perspectives on International Leadership” with Robert Dempsey, Group Vice President and Head of Global Ophthalmics Franchise for Shire and Dr. Aylin Kilic, Refractive & Cataract Surgeon and Associate Professor of Ophthalmology at Medipol University, Istanbul. The pair will be interviewed by Michael Onuscheck, President and General Manager of Alcon’s Global Surgical Franchise. Thanks to Premier sponsorship by Alcon, as well as support from major sponsors CorneaGen, Provident, Oyster Point Pharma, Ellex and Regeneron, this event promises an exciting range of insights on ophthalmic leadership.

OWL awards recognize those who best exemplify the organization’s core values and vision. During the OWL Awards Ceremony, OWL will announce recipients of its Visionary Leader Award, sponsored by Ziemer; the Catalyst Award, sponsored by CorneaGen; and the Rising Star Award, sponsored by Link Consulting. Following the awards, a networking reception will celebrate the 2018 recipients.

“Finalists for the 2018 OWL Awards are all transformative leaders who are making strides to advance diversity in the ophthalmic community,” said OWL President, Georgette Pascale.

During the event, OWL President Georgette Pascale will pass the torch to incoming President Beth Marsh, Global Product Strategy Lead at Shire. OWL also will pay tribute to all Georgette’s hard work and valuable contributions as President.

“I am thrilled to step into the role of OWL President and look forward to working with our dynamic Board,” said Marsh. “Georgette is a rock star, she’s all heart, and truly a visionary PR genius. She poured all of these gifts into OWL in the past year. We plan to harness the energy Georgette has sparked to enhance membership engagement. With around 1,000 members across ophthalmology, we

believe we can provide new and different ways to promote and develop diverse leadership through professional and personal development.”

For more information and to register for all OWL events, visit [www.owl-site.org](http://www.owl-site.org).

### **About Ophthalmic World Leaders**

The members of OWL: Advancing Diversity in Leadership represent a diverse group of accomplished professionals and practitioners from across ophthalmology. Based in the belief that diverse leadership results in better outcomes, OWL works across ophthalmology to provide professional and personal development and opportunities for collaboration through extensive programs, events, and online offerings.

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