

# VISION DISCOVERY & EDUCATION CENTER

Through our proposed Vision Discovery & Education Center at the Eye Institute, Northwestern will:

- Educate and train the next generation of clinical and research specialists;
- Facilitate the collaborations of the Northwestern vision research scientific community across both campuses;
- Provide continuing education to our graduates and peers in the field; and
- Fulfill our responsibility to provide the general public with the latest education and knowledge regarding diseases and disorders of the eye.

## **Resident and Fellow Education Program**

At Northwestern, we are fortunate to have a strong educational program for our residents and fellows. Our faculty members have the expertise and commitment to develop the best methods for teaching medical and surgical care. Our Department of Ophthalmology attracts an impressive pool of applicants to its training programs. The combination of these two assets provides a strong foundation for the Department to advance its educational programs. Our goal is to build upon this foundation and become the nation's premier training ground for future ophthalmologists.

To advance our residency and fellowship programs, the Eye Institute would seek to increase the number of endowed professorships and distinguished educator positions available to our talented faculty. These positions provide our faculty with protected time to focus on the training of future specialists. We also plan to increase the number of educational opportunities available to our residents and fellows by creating endowed educational lectureships, scholarships, and research funds, and by purchasing simulation training equipment. Endowed lectureships provide reliable, annual support and enable us to invite visiting lecturers from distinguished peer institutions to share their knowledge and insights in the field and to spend substantive time with our faculty and trainees during their visit. Private support from committed individuals will make these goals possible.

## **Scientific Advancement Program (scientific symposia and travel funds for faculty)**

Each year, the Eye Institute would invite renowned researchers and clinicians from peer institutions across the nation to participate in our Scientific Advancement Program. Over a two-day period, this program would bring together the brightest minds in the field of vision medicine to share and exchange research ideas and directions with our faculty physicians, scientists, and trainees. There would be ample opportunity for peer discussions in one-on-one, small group, and larger meeting settings. The program would culminate in scientific presentations of exciting new research related to normal visual function and/or visual diseases.



### Community Outreach Program (lecture funds)

Through the Vision Discovery & Education Center, we would elevate our current community outreach efforts and launch a series of educational forums for the general public. These lay-friendly presentations would focus on topics in ophthalmology that interest and concern patients and the public the most. Topics would include the latest knowledge and recommendations regarding the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of macular degeneration and glaucoma, for example. We also would have the opportunity to present the latest research and approaches in ophthalmology that focus on sight restoration. Lectures and public forums provide invaluable opportunities to further education and share research ideas.

An endowed lectureship would enable the Department of Ophthalmology to host annual lectures or a series of lectures each year, depending on the giving level, which are open to the Department, the medical community, and the general public. Lectureships would provide reliable, annual support and enable us to invite visiting lecturers from distinguished peer institutions to share their knowledge and insights in the field of ophthalmology and to spend substantive time with our faculty and trainees during their visit.

#### Opportunities to Name:

Eye Institute	\$25 million
Vision Discovery & Education Center	\$10 million
Resident and Fellow Education Program	\$5 million
Scientific Advancement Program	\$5 million
Community Outreach Program	\$5 million
Endowed Professorship	\$3 million
Endowed Postdoctoral Fellowship	\$1.5 million
Research Innovation Fund	\$500,000
Endowed Lectureship	\$100,000

