

**The Australian College of Syntonics (ACS)**

**Annual General Meeting 2021**

Come Join us for the Australian College of Syntonics (ACS) Annual general meeting!

We continue to try and bring the latest research by world renown researchers to help you better understand the power of phototherapy its workings and applications not only in Optometry and Ophthalmology but Neuroscience.

We have a fantastic line up of guest speakers from all over the world.

**DON’T MISS OUT REGISTER NOW!**

**DATE: Sunday 25th July 2021. 9.00am to 5.00 pm AEST**

**Venue: Virtual Zoom meeting**

Here is a list of some of the speakers and topics.

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Professor Sarah M Haigh PhD

**Assistant Professor, at University of Nevada, Reno,**

**Department of Psychology and Centre for Integrative Neuroscience**

**Topic:****‘Chrominance and Discomfort’**

# **My main research interests focus on neurological responses to basic sensory stimuli and how they affect sensory-related cognition. Specifically, my line of research investigates what is responsible for sensory over-response or under-response (for which the terms hyper or hypo-excitability are often used), and what this can reveal about 1) early sensory processing in neurotypical individuals, and 2) the underlying pathophysiology in clinical conditions such as schizophrenia, autism, migraine, and traumatic brain injury. My aim is to establish whether methods for improving sensory processing result in cascading improvements in complex cognitive processing.**

**I have used a mixture of techniques to measure sensory sensitivities, including psychophysics, functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI), near-infrared spectroscopy (NIRS), electroencephalography (EEG), EEG and NIRS simultaneously, and the auto-refractor (to measure ocular accommodation). I also use diffusion tensor imaging (DTI) to measure the structural correlates of abnormal functioning. My future studies will use multimodal imaging to help understand some of the causal mechanisms underlying sensory abnormalities in neurotypical and in clinical populations.**

**She has co-authored several papers with Arnold Wilkins**

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Professor Eric Papas

***PhD BSc (Optom) BSc (Physics) DipCL***

**Topic:** *“***Photobiomodulation (low light therapy) and dry eye disease”**.

**Abstract**

Dry eye is becoming increasingly recognized as a major complaint in clinical practice with evaporative disorders considered to be the main contributing factor. Among the array of proposed treatments in this space, a recent addition has been photobiomodulation, also known as low-level light therapy. This purpose of this presentation is to review the available literature on the use of photobiomodulation in treating dry eye, highlighting the potential mechanisms underlying its action and safety profile, before focusing on the evidence for its efficacy during use.

**Biography**

Eric Papas is Professor in the School of Optometry and Vision Science at the University of New South Wales in Sydney, Australia. He has spent much of his career in research related to the ocular surface and contact lenses and was formerly Executive Director of R&D at the Brien Holden Vision Institute. Known as one of the inventors of silicone hydrogels, he also discovered the link between limbal hyperaemia and oxygen. He has published over 120 refereed articles and book chapters, as well as 12 patents. An internationally known educator and lecturer, he is a former George Nissel Memorial lecturer to the BCLA, a recipient of the Max Schapero Award from the American Academy of Optometry, the Excellence in Postgraduate Supervision Award from UNSW and has been recognized by Contact Lens Spectrum as one of the 30 most influential people in the field of contact lenses.

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Dr Ann Liebert

**BApplSci, Grad. Dip Manip. Ther., PhD (Syd Uni)**

**Chief Scientist at SYMBYX Pty Ltd Adjunct Senior Lecturer, Faculty of Medicine and Health Sciences, Sydney University**

**Coordinator of Photomolecular Research, Sydney Adventist Hospital Group, Sydney.**

**World recognised as leading research on Photobiomodulation.**

**Topic:****“Photophysical mechanisms of photobiomodulation therapy, with implications for treatment of chronic pain, symptoms of Parkinson’s disease and Autism Spectrum Disorder”**

**Abstract**

Light is an allosteric switch for the regulation of biological systems in all phyla. Because of this, light is a powerful tool for the treatment of disease, body dysfunction and to optimize good health. The photophysical mechanisms of the interaction between light and cells, tissues and the whole body have been poorly explored until now, but with the increasingly improving technology to capture the minute changes in light, as well as the molecular and tissue oscillations in the body, it is now possible to extrapolate and interpret some of the photophysical mechanisms of light therapy. These technologies and the inferred mechanisms of light therapy will be explored, together with new and potentially important therapies for chronic pain, Parkinson’s disease, Alzheimer’s disease and autism spectrum disorder.

**Dr Ann Liebert** is the Chief Scientist at Symbyx Biome, a med tech start-up company that develops photobiomodulation therapies for neurological disorders. She is a clinician/scientist at the Sydney Adventist Hospital where she is Coordinator of Photomolecular Research, she is an Adjunct Senior Lecturer in the Faculty of Medicine, Sydney University, a Visiting Professor at The University at Buffalo and has been nominated for the Scientific Board of Shepard University (West Virginia, USA). Ann’s research is focussed on the molecular mechanisms of photobiomodulation and is implementing a number of clinical trials to assess the effectiveness of photobiomodulation, to treat symptoms of Parkinson’s and Alzheimer’s diseases, Autism Spectrum Disorder and other neurological and microbiome related diseases. Clinical trials for treatment of Parkinson’s disease have been carried out in Adelaide and Sydney, where Ann was chief coordinating investigator, funded by Parkinson’s South Australia and private donations. One manuscript has been published and a further four publications from these trials are currently under review. A number of randomized placebo-controlled trials to test the long-term effect of PBM on the signs and symptoms of Parkinson’s disease are planned for 2021. The first at the San Hospital, has ethics approval and has been funded to begin in July 2021. Ann has recently also completed a small clinical trial of PBM treatment of oral mucositis (including oral microbiome changes). Laboratory investigations include experiments into the mechanisms of photobiomodulation at the cell membrane using erythrocytes and the effect of photobiomodulation on the microbiome humans and in a mouse model. She has spoken at numerous international conferences on the topics of translational research and the proteomics of PBM. She currently is currently vice-president of the Australian Medical Photobiomodulation Association (AMPA), is a member of the Global Research Steering Committee for NAALT, is on the scientific advisory board of the WALT and is a session chair at SPIE Photonics West 2020 (Photobiomodulation Session).

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Dr Anita Saltmarche

“Cognitive function & Phototherapy.”

James Sleeman Optometrist.

**Topic:****“CONTEXT IS EVERYTHING! meeting clients where they are at.”**

Learning discernment and taking in the wider picture for our clients. Light is an underutilised factor in health as important as lifestyle factors such as exercise food and rest plenty of research in multiple areas to back this up not conjecture.

Hormesis,

Circadian biology,

General and specific treatments (N/ L and L)

Case study: convergence insufficiency

**CV**

James has 30 years’ experience as a clinician twenty of which are in private practise on the Central Coast NSW. Enjoys the challenges and flexibility of small business working productively with ophthalmology for the best outcomes for his for patients young, old, and in between.

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Richard Shanks, Optometrist

**Topic**: *I will present some cases from my years of practice as a syntonist, including some of the cases that improved and perplexed me, either with success, failure or a combination of the two.  I will include cases presenting with TBI, chronic fatigue and the occasional child.  Treatment will be presented with my current understanding as well as my historical perspective.*

He received his degree in optometry from Auckland University in 1990 and has been registered in New Zealand ever since. He gained membership of the New Zealand Association of Optometrists, where he has been an active member informally working on committees. Later in 1990 he joined the College of Optometric Vision Development (COVD), which is an organisation that has an interest in the visual performance and how it interacts with the academic and sporting potential of individuals, together with their quality of life. In 1991 he became a Member of the Optometric Extension Program which is a non-profit organisation promoting the understanding of the development of vision throughout both childhood and adulthood.

In 1992 he was invited to work under Professor Harry Wachs in the Reading Centre of the George Washington University in Washington DC. The program called the Vision and Conceptual Learning Program covered diverse aspects of learning including eye movement control, visually guided movement & general movement thinking, visual thinking, finger thinking, graphic thinking, auditory thinking, receptive/expressive language, speed & accuracy, logical reasoning and symbol-picture logic. He worked in a developmental and learning day care for 3 months, two days a week and ran a logical thinking program for 7-10 year old children on the weekends. Later that same year, and the following one, he continued working with Professor Harry Wachs as a Developmental Therapist under the auspices of Professor Hans Furth, the leading contemporary Piagetian theorist at the time, through the Life Cycles Department of the Catholic University of America.

After completing his training under Harry Wachs, he travelled throughout the USA, consulting with many optometrists who published in the field of vision and learning, visiting 35 optometric private practices including several weeks as a guest of the State University of New York Optometry Department Vision Training residency program.

After returning to private practice in New Zealand for a year he was invited by Dr Wachs to work under contract, overseas as a Developmental Therapist, for 9 weeks and then for a further 9 months between 1994 & 1995. Finishing the overseas work he returned to the US to work as a Therapist for Dr Wachs for several months before heading back to New Zealand.

Since returning to Barry and Sargent Optometrists in New Zealand he has completed the Certificate of Ocular Pharmacology at Auckland University in 1997 and the Behavioural Optometry Masters Paper at the University of New South Wales

in Australia 1999. He has continued his studies under the Australasian College of Behavioural Optometry and has finished his Fellowship for the College, by publishing a standardised test of visual spatial thinking for children between 6 and 10 years of age. He completed his Therapeutics qualification in 2013.

For many years he encouraged speakers to come from the USA to visit both New Zealand and Australia.

Since first visiting the United States he has practiced Syntonics, following the advice and leadership of a few optometrists but particularly the teachings of Simon Grbevski, Jacob Liberman and John Searfoss.

**Name**

**Address**

**State**

**Postcode**

**Country** **Phone**

( )

**Email**

**PAYMENT DETAILS**

**Registration Fee ACS OR CSO member AUD $300.00 Non Member AUD $400.00**

**Please make payment by** ***Direct Deposit -* or PAYPAL**

**Annual Membership fees**  **AUD$195.00**

Total: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**PAYPAL:** [**syntonicscollegeaustralia@gmail.com**](mailto:syntonicscollegeaustralia@gmail.com)

**Bank Transfer:**

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**BSB**: 062-235 **Acc Number**: 10201249