

THE WILMER EYE INSTITUTE
THE JOHNS HOPKINS UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

**DR. FRIEDA DERDEYN BAMBAS
PROFESSORSHIP IN
OPHTHALMOLOGY**



WILMER
EYE INSTITUTE

Inaugural recipient

HENDRIK P.N. SCHOLL, M.D., M.A.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2011
11:30 A.M.

THOMAS B. TURNER BUILDING
TURNER AUDITORIUM



THE TRADITION OF ENDOWED PROFESSORSHIPS

The first endowed professorships were established nearly 500 years ago with the creation of the Lady Margaret chairs in divinity at Oxford and Cambridge. These chairs were sponsored by Margaret, Countess of Richmond, and grandmother of Henry VIII in 1546. Henry VIII established the Regius Professorships at both universities in five subjects: divinity, civil law, Hebrew, Greek, and physics—what we now know as medicine and the basic sciences. Later, private individuals joined in providing chairs, such as the Lucasian Chair of Mathematics, which Isaac Newton held beginning in 1669. The honor associated with appointment to an endowed position has remained unchanged since then.

At The Johns Hopkins University, endowed professorships are especially important to our ongoing mission of teaching, research, and patient care. Endowment that allows for the hiring and retention of the best faculty is the foundation on which our success is built.

Recognized as the highest honor Johns Hopkins Medicine can bestow upon a member of our faculty, the men and women who hold endowed professorships conduct some of our most significant research, attract bright and dedicated students, and bring considerable prestige to the Johns Hopkins name.

DEDICATION OF THE
DR. FRIEDA DERDEYN BAMBAS
PROFESSORSHIP IN OPHTHALMOLOGY
PROGRAM

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

Peter J. McDonnell, M.D.

*William Holland Wilmer Professor of Ophthalmology
Director, the Wilmer Eye Institute, Johns Hopkins Medicine*

PRESENTATION OF THE PROFESSORSHIP
TO THE UNIVERSITY

William A. Baumgartner, M.D.

*Vincent L. Gott, M.D. Professor of Cardiac Surgery
Vice Dean for Clinical Affairs
Senior Vice President, Office of Johns Hopkins Physicians*

ACCEPTANCE OF THE PROFESSORSHIP
FOR THE UNIVERSITY

Rajendra Singh, Ph.D., M.S.

*Trustee, Johns Hopkins University
Trustee, Johns Hopkins Medicine*

INTRODUCTION OF CONRAD DERDEYN

Peter J. McDonnell, M.D.

REMARKS

Conrad J. Derdeyn

Colonel, US Army (RET)

INTRODUCTION OF TRIBUTES

Peter J. McDonnell, M.D.

TRIBUTES

Philip Luthert, BSc FRCP

Director, UCL Institute of Ophthalmology, London, England

Jose-Alain Sahel, M.D.

Director, Institut de la Vision, Paris, France

Bernhard H.F. Weber, Ph.D

*Director, Institute of Human Genetics,
University of Regensburg, Germany*

INTRODUCTION OF EBERHART ZRENNER, M.D.

Peter J. McDonnell, M.D.

INTRODUCTION OF THE INAUGURAL
DR. FRIEDA DERDEYN BAMBAS
PROFESSOR OF OPHTHALMOLOGY

Eberhart Zrenner, M.D.

*Founding Director of the Institute for Ophthalmic Research, Center for
Ophthalmology, Eberhard Karls University, Tübingen, Germany*

REMARKS

Hendrik P.N. Scholl, M.D., M.A.

*Dr. Frieda Derdeyn Bambas
Professor of Ophthalmology*

CLOSING

Peter J. McDonnell, M.D.

FRIEDA DERDEYN BAMBAS, PH.D., M.A.



Frieda Gabriele Marie Joseph Derdeyn, who later became Dr. Frieda Bambas, was nine years old when she and her mother emigrated from Belgium to the United States prior to World War I to join her father, who had left earlier to establish himself in the U.S.

The family settled first in Illinois and then in Oklahoma, where Dr. Bambas graduated from the University of Oklahoma before going on to receive graduate degrees from Middlebury College (M.A.) and the University of Oklahoma (Ph.D.). According to her nephew, Conrad Derdeyn of Austin, Texas, Dr. Bambas, “fit in very well in the university environment. She has always been a very sociable person, full of personality, as well as a dedicated teacher.” During her academic career as a professor of French, Dr. Bambas taught at the University of Oklahoma and the University of Central Oklahoma before retiring in 1974.



Following the passing of her husband, Rudolph Bambas, a professor of English, in 1998, she established scholarships at a number of colleges, including the University of Oklahoma, Carnegie Mellon, and Middlebury College. The scope of her philanthropy has created an enormous impact at colleges and institutions across the country, including the Wilmer Eye Institute. Her remarkable journey ended in September 2005 at the age of 100.

In appreciation for the care she received at Wilmer during treatment for macular degeneration in 2002, Dr. Bambas made a provision in her will to establish the Dr. Frieda Derdeyn Bambas Professorship in Ophthalmology.

HENDRIK P.N. SCHOLL, M.D., M.A.

*The Inaugural
Dr. Frieda Derdeyn Bambas
Professor of Ophthalmology*



Hendrik P.N. Scholl, M.D., M.A., is considered one of the preeminent retinal dystrophy experts in the world. He came to Wilmer in 2010 from Bonn, Germany, after an international search. He leads the Retinal Degeneration Section within the Retina Division at the Wilmer Eye Institute and is head of the Visual Neurophysiology Service.

Dr. Scholl attended Eberhard Karls University of Tübingen in Germany where he studied both medicine and philosophy. In 1994, he was elected for a scholarship to join the medical program of Brown University, Providence, RI. Subsequently, at the Department of Ophthalmology, University of Tübingen, he pursued his thesis, “Motion thresholds of colored stimuli of different luminance contrasts are increased in ocular hypertension and early primary-open-angle-glaucoma” and presented to the faculty of Philosophy his thesis, “Remembrance and authenticity.” He graduated with the degree of Dr. med. (Medical Doctor) and Magister Artium (Master of Arts) in 1997.

He completed his residency at the University Eye Hospital of Tübingen. While there, he established the Laboratory for Cone Type Specific Electroretinography. The lab was connected to the Specialized Clinic for Inherited Retinal Degenerations at the Department of Ophthalmology, University of Tübingen, led by Eberhart Zrenner. Professor Zrenner is one of the top experts worldwide in this area.

In 2001, Dr. Scholl was awarded a Clinical Research Fellowship by the German Research Foundation and spent this fellowship with Alan Bird at Moorfields Eye Hospital and the Institute of Ophthalmology, University College London. Professor Bird is one of the most renowned experts outside of the U.S. in the field of retinal degenerations.

After his fellowship, Dr. Scholl joined the faculty of the Department of Ophthalmology, University of Tübingen. In 2004 he received the prestigious Heisenberg fellowship awarded by the German Research Foundation (DFG). Dr. Scholl has been the only clinician scientist in ophthalmology who ever obtained this honor. In 2004, he was recruited to the Department of Ophthalmology, University of Bonn, and joined the faculty as a Privatdozent (equivalent to Associate Professor). In 2008, he established the department as an international clinical trial center. Clinically, he served as a vitreoretinal surgeon and coordinated the Specialized Clinic for Inherited Retinal and Macular Diseases being a tertiary referral center in Germany. He was head of the Clinical Electrophysiology Unit and the Low Vision Center.

Dr. Scholl's work in the area of genetically determined panretinal and macular dystrophies and age-related macular degeneration, has substantially contributed to the understanding of the pathophysiology of blinding eye diseases. His research contributions represent an extraordinary advancement in the field and Dr. Scholl is internationally recognized for his innovative and pioneering work in this area. He presents a unique combination as being one of the few retinal dystrophy experts in the world who is also an accomplished surgeon.

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Translational research of ophthalmic neurodegenerative disorders has been the focus of Dr. Scholl's research activities. In a period of only 12 years, Dr. Scholl has published more than 90 peer-reviewed original and review articles. In the most cited journal in the field, *Investigative Ophthalmology*, Dr. Scholl has published 16 times. He also has published his work outside the eye literature in such journals as *Nature*, *Journal of Immunology*, *American Journal of Human Genetics*, *Human Molecular Genetics* and *PLoS ONE*.

As a result of his seminal works and international acclaim Dr. Scholl was able to obtain an array of grant awards. He has been a key player in large international multi-center projects funded by the European Commission. In his first month at Johns Hopkins, Dr. Scholl was awarded the Wynn-Gund Translational Research Acceleration Program Enhanced Research and Clinical Training Award by the National Neurovision Research Institute (NNRI). That same month he also received the Macular Degeneration Research Award by the American Health Assistance Foundation (AHAf).

Dr. Scholl has received numerous national awards in Germany. In 2008 he received the prestigious European Vision Award. He has been the only clinician-scientist to ever receive this honor.

