Get to know your YES Clinical Committee Member: Dagny Zhu, MD

Instagram, Twitter, Threads, TikTok: @DZEyeMD

**Do you have an OR quirk?** I’m probably one of the only ophthalmologists who operates with my shoes on! It’s ironic because I live in a shoes-off household, but I don’t like getting my socks wet and have gotten used to operating the pedals with my shoes on. I’m also 100% right handed, but have some ambidextrous tendencies as I always wash dishes and deal playing cards with my left.

**How do you unwind after a stressful day?** I like scrolling Pinterest to admire mid-century modern and minimalist Scandi interior designs. To the dismay of my husband, I’m always looking to start the next home renovation project. We recently redid our backyard, and he’s definitely enjoying the fruits of my labor!

**If you could only eat one food for the rest of your life what would it be?** Sushi! I eat it almost every week, but never get tired of it. Plus, it’s healthy!

**What is the most unique place you’ve traveled/visited?** Honestly, Death Valley is so underrated. It’s home to the lowest elevation in North America and just adjacent to the highest point (Mt Whitney). It also holds the record for the hottest summer on Earth, but when we visited this past January, it was very pleasant. There are parts with gorgeous colored hues along the canyons and huge salt flats where you literally feel like you’re on Mars!

**Who is your hero – in ophthalmology or personally?** Anyone who follows me on social media knows that it’s my mom. She raised me as a single mom in a foreign land when we immigrated to the U.S. from China for better opportunities when I was 3 years old. I remember being home alone often as she waitressed and cleaned motels day and night, but I never felt neglected because she always found ways to make me feel loved. She ended up learning English on her own, went to adult school for accounting, and was able to save up enough to buy our first “American dream” home. She’s the reason I’m here today.
What’s your favorite movie? It’s too hard to pick a favorite movie, but *La La Land* will always have a special place in my heart because we based our first-dance choreography on the soundtrack for our wedding. It was a most exciting mashup of jazz and Viennese waltz, which we had to learn quickly while long-distancing during my fellowship (Miami and Los Angeles!)

*P.S. Happy October birthday to Dr. Zhu!*

**Just a Few Days Left! Submit Your ASCRS 2024 Abstract**

Looking for an opportunity to present your research or technique in the field of ophthalmology? An opportunity to start making your mark? Step up to the podium at the **2024 ASCRS Annual Meeting**!

There are just a few days left to submit your abstract for courses, papers, films, and posters for the Annual Meeting, taking place April 5–8 in Boston, Massachusetts! The deadline is October 9.

**Submission Dates**

**Now–October 9, 2023:** Instructional courses, papers, films, posters  
**October 16, 2023–February 8, 2024:** Digital photographs

Visit the **Call for Submissions webpage** for more information about the submission process.

**YES Connect Webinars Return**

After a break for the summer, the YES Connect Webinar series has returned with “**Good to Great Surgeon: Working Through Complications.**”

Join moderators Beeran Meghpara, MD, and Kourtney Houser, MD, and presenters James Tian, MD, Matt Santos, MD, and Bonnie Sklar, MD, for the third episode in the “Good to Great” series. In this episode, three cornea fellows present challenging cases involving intumescent white cataracts, open sky penetrating keratoplasty, and cataract surgery with severe zonulopathy. The group discusses challenges and learning points with these difficult cases.

[Click to watch.](#)

**Expert Faculty Covers Complex Presbyopia IOLs—Join in Live!**

“**Complex Presbyopia IOLs**” a new educational event, will take place live Tuesday, October 24 at 9 p.m. ET
Join program chairs Kendall Donaldson, MD, and Doug Koch, MD, and faculty Kourtney Houser, MD, Cathleen McCabe, MD, Julie Schallhorn, MD, and Robert Weinstock, MD, they discuss how they use trifocal, EDOF, small-aperture, and adjustable IOLs.

Attendees of this virtual event will leave better able to compare available presbyopia-correcting IOLs, work with unhappy patients postop, and choose the best option of presbyopia correction for today’s cataract patient.

Save for your spot!

Take Advantage of These Educational Opportunities with ASCRS

- **YES Connect webinars**: Take in one, two, or three of these hour-long, binge-worthy webinars. Each webinar features YES members and experts speaking on a variety of clinical and non-clinical topics.

- **Ophthalmology Quicksand Chronicles Eureka Moments Podcast**: New episode coming out this month! Meanwhile, watch or listen to “Sticky Situation...No Problem!!”, episode 3 of OQC—Eureka Moments!, hosted by Nicole Fram, MD, and Elizabeth Yeu, MD, featuring expert Steven Safran, MD, as a guest.

- **ASCRS Grand Rounds**: Latest Grand Round episode, presented by Hamilton Eye Institute, is online now.

Helpful Links and Resources:

[ASCRS YES Membership](#)
[ASCRS YES Education](#)
[ASCRS Clinical Education](#)
[ASCRS Online Tools](#)

Official YES Hashtag: #ASCRSYES

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