



EDUCATION AND RESEARCH FOUNDATION

Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology®

2025 Woodlane Drive ♦ St. Paul, Minnesota 55125-2998 ♦ (651) 731-2944 ♦ (800) 284-3937
Fax: (651) 731-0410 ♦ E-mail: foundation@jcahpo.org ♦ Website: <http://www.jcahpo.org/foundation>

JCAHPO® Education and Research Foundation Announces Michelle Pett Herrin, COMT, as New Co-Chair of the Board of Directors.

Michelle Pett Herrin, COMT®



St. Paul, MN – April 4, 2022 – The Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (JCAHPO) Education and Research Foundation is pleased to announce Michelle Pett Herrin, COMT, as the new Co-Chair of the Foundation's Board of Directors. She is the first Allied Ophthalmic Personnel (AOP) to hold this position. Michelle has served on the Foundation's Board since 2012 as a Director and was the Vice President from 2015-2021. "I am grateful that we have Michelle as a leader in the Foundation, and as a great resource to IJCAHPO," said James C. Tsai, MD, MBA, FACS, IJCAHPO President.

Michelle has a master's degree from the University of Michigan and received ophthalmology training at the University of Florida for Ophthalmic Technology and Orthoptics. Her career began at the Kresge Eye Institute at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan, in 1977. Since then, she has held numerous positions in the field including Director of the Ophthalmic Technology Program at the School of Allied Health at Wayne State University. Michelle has been certified for nearly 45 years and achieved the highest level of core certification, Certified Ophthalmic Medical Technologist (COMT), in 1980.

Michelle received the prestigious JCAHPO Statesman of the Year Award in 2001, was appointed as a Fellow of the Association of Technical Personnel in Ophthalmology (ATPO) in 1990, and most recently was selected as the 2020 Virginia S. Boyce Humanitarian Award recipient in recognition of her many years of volunteerism. "We are pleased to have Michelle's expertise and experience to further the mission of the Foundation," said William Ehlers, MD, Foundation President.

Michelle has dedicated her time, talent, and financial resources to public service and volunteerism. She currently volunteers at the Florida Lions Eye Clinic, bringing her skills and enthusiasm to this free clinic. She has been deeply committed to volunteerism in this profession as an elected or appointed representative to several technician organizations, instructed for IJCAHPO, and has generously donated to the JCAHPO Education and Research Foundation.

[About the JCAHPO Education and Research Foundation]

The International Joint Commission on Allied Health Personnel in Ophthalmology (IJCAHPO®) established the JCAHPO Education and Research Foundation in 1990 to help fund the many needs within the ophthalmic medical assisting community. The mission of the Foundation is: To expand and strengthen the delivery of eye care.

Since inception, the Foundation has supported the expansion of training programs through scholarships; development of certification in sub-specialties; and continued research into psychometric methods of testing and simulation of critical tasks to ensure valid and reliable certification examinations. For more information, visit: <http://www.jcahpo.org/foundation/>.

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