



RESEARCH TO PREVENT BLINDNESS

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June 15, 2009

Paul Sieving, M.D., Ph.D.
Director, National Eye Institute
National Institutes of Health
Building 31 – Claude D Pepper Building, 6A03
31 Center Drive
Bethesda, MD 20892

Dear Dr. Sieving:

Research to Prevent Blindness congratulates the National Eye Institute on the eve of its 40th Anniversary. More than 40 years ago, Dr. Jules Stein, RPB's founder and first Chairman, spearheaded the charge to create the National Eye Institute within the National Institutes of Health. He often remarked how proud he was to have worked with such dedicated colleagues in seeing that effort come to fruition.

RPB continues to be proud to have played an initiating and coordinating role in the formation of what has proven to be an outstanding and effective national institute. Together, RPB and the NEI are committed to meeting the urgent needs of those affected by vision loss, and to maintaining quality of life and productivity for millions of Americans.

Sincerely,

David F. Weeks
Chairman