

NAEVR at the PBA Annual Meeting

On November 13, NAEVR President Stephen Ryan gave a keynote luncheon presentation at the Prevent Blindness America (PBA) annual meeting, featuring advocates for vision research, screening, treatment and prevention from around the country. Dr. Ryan noted that “the NEI has a veritable pipeline of new discoveries from its basic research that should move to clinical trials more rapidly so that new treatments and therapies that can restore vision and prevent the onset of eye disease are available to benefit all Americans—and this requires adequate federal funding within the NIH, generally, and NEI, specifically.”



Left to right: Joanne Angle (ARVO), Dr. Ryan, Hugh Parry (PBA President/CEO), Rick Hart (PBA Board chair) and Dr. Tony Adams (University of California at Berkeley). Ms. Angle and Dr. Adams serve on both the NAEVR/AEVR and PBA Boards

Executive Director's Message: Thanks, and More Thanks!

In 2004, two long-time Directors rotated off of the NAEVR and AEVR Boards—Dr. Robert Kalina (University of Washington) and Tim Sear (Alcon Laboratories, Inc.). In a resolution, the Boards commended and expressed great appreciation to each for their service and contributions. I wish to add my thanks to them, and welcome and prospectively thank new Board members Dr. Bartly Mondino (Jules Stein Eye Institute/UCLA) and Cary Rayment (Alcon Laboratories, Inc.) for their commitment to the Alliances.



Left to right: Cong. Mark Foley (R-FL) with Dr. Mondino

Left to right: James Jorkasky with Cary Rayment



National Alliance for Eye and Vision Research/Alliance for Eye and Vision Research

12300 Twinbrook Parkway, Suite 250
Rockville, Maryland 20852-1606

Phone: 240-221-2905

Fax: 240-221-0370

Email: jamesj@eyeresearch.org

Web: www.eyeresearch.org



Left to Right: Dr. Ryan, Dr. Sieving and Dr. Cagle

NAEVR at Inaugural Meeting of the NNRI

On November 5-7, the National Neurovision Research Institute (NNRI) held the first *International Symposium on Translating Clinical Research for Inherited and Orphan Retinal Diseases*. The NNRI, whose mission is to accelerate the translation of laboratory research into clinical trials aimed at developing treatments and cures for retinal degenerative diseases, is a support subsidiary of The Foundation Fighting Blindness.

In the spirit of the *NIH Roadmap for Medical Research*, the symposium brought together six Institutes from within NIH, as well as other public and private research entities, to initiate collaborations and to discover new ways to expedite clinical trials and commercialization for therapies. In that regard, NAEVR President Stephen Ryan moderated a panel entitled *Fostering Partnerships*, featuring NEI Director Dr. Paul Sieving and Alcon's Dr. Gerald Cagle.



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