

### AEVR “RIDES THE NEW WAVE” IN OPHTHALMOLOGY

The aftermath of Hurricane Isabel last September 23 did not prevent the more than 65 Congressional staff members from attending the AEVR Briefing entitled *The New Wave in Ophthalmology—Making Sense of Wavefront Sensing and Customized Corneal Ablation* at which NAEVR member Alcon Laboratories, Inc., also provided LASIK (laser-assisted in situ keratomileusis) screening. Dr. Peter McDonnell (The Wilmer Institute/Johns Hopkins) provided an overview of refractive errors and acknowledged that the NEI provided support for many of the technologies underpinning LASIK, including eye tracking and corneal topographic measuring systems, as well as studies on

corneal wound healing. Dr. Terrence O’Brien, also from The Wilmer Institute, spoke about wavefront-guided technology’s ability to create a “fingerprint” of the eye, and described its use in custom refractive ablation with LASIK, noting its use in correcting refractive errors, erasing corneal scarring, and improving the shape of the cornea. Dr. McDonnell concluded by cautioning attendees that more Americans than ever face the threat of blindness and vision impairment. “Diabetic eye disease, age-related macular degeneration, cataracts, and glaucoma affect millions of Americans, and these conditions are growing at a significant rate as the baby boom population ages.”



Dr. McDonnell



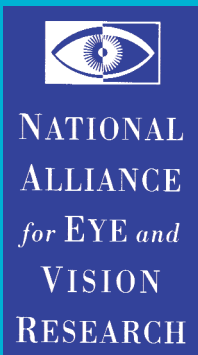
Dr. O'Brien



Congressional staff registering for the AEVR Briefing

### NAEVR at AAOptom

On December 4-7, 2003, NAEVR hosted a “Contact Congress” event at the American Academy of Optometry (AAOptom) annual meeting in Dallas, Texas. Attendees sent several hundred email letters through the “Contact Congress” section of [www.eyersearch.org](http://www.eyersearch.org). The timing of this campaign was right, as the House passed the HR2673 Conference Report on December 8.



NAEVR Board member Dr. Tony Adams (University of California at Berkeley) sends an email letter to Congress at the AAOptom meeting

