

Nancy M. Mackowsky, OD, FCOVD, FNORA

Dr. Nancy Mackowsky completed her undergraduate studies in physiology/neurobiology and graduated *magna cum laude* from the *University of Connecticut*. She obtained her Doctorate in Optometry from the *Pennsylvania College of Optometry*, graduating in the top 10% of her class. She completed an internship at the Pediatric Unit at *The Eye Institute* in Philadelphia and her residency at *Capital Eye Consultants* in Fairfax, Virginia. Training with top experts in the country, Dr. Mackowsky developed a special interest in visual efficiency/perceptual disorders and became dedicated to the advancements in improving these visual skills abilities through integrative training. In November 1995, she was one of the developers of *The Center for Visual Learning at Doctors Vision Center* and established a sterling reputation with both the medical and educational communities. In 1997, her article concerning retinal disorders was published in the *Southern Journal of Optometry*. In October, 1998, she completed her written and oral examinations and became a fellow in the prestigious national organization, *The College of Optometrists in Vision Development (COVD)*, one of only 15 optometrists in NC to have earned this national certification (as of September, 2020). On April 1, 2010, Dr. Mackowsky purchased the center and renamed the practice to **The Mackowsky Visual Learning & Rehabilitation Clinic**. In October of 2013, Dr. Mackowsky was elected to serve as secretary of the COVD International Certification and Examination Board after serving 3 years as a board member. In March 2014, Dr. Mackowsky completed her training with Dr. William Padula in order to provide the latest rehabilitation techniques, known as Neuro-Visual Postural Therapy, to her patients. In November 2014, she was asked by the NC State Optometric Congress to lecture about the field of Neuro-Optometry to over 400 optometrists at the Grove Park Inn, Asheville. The lecture was a success in educating primary eye care physicians about acquired brain injuries and the common visual deficits associated with these patients. On September 16, 2017, she completed the process of becoming a fellow in another highly recognized national organization, *The Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation Association (NORA)*, and received her FNORA award at the 26th annual meeting in Buffalo, New York. At this meeting, Dr. Mackowsky presented her research paper, "The Role of Gait Analysis, Egocenter and Yoked Prism in Parkinson's Disease". Her article has been published in the April 2018 edition of the *Optometry & Visual Performance* journal. In January 2022, she completed her training with Dr. Orlando Da Silva from Lisbon, Portugal in order to treat patients with Proprioceptive Dysfunction Syndrome. She was invited by NORA to lecture at the 2022 annual conference in Columbus, Ohio. She educated members about a systematic method she has developed for prescribing lens/prism corrections for patients with acquired brain injuries. On February 01, 2023, she became the Chair for the NORA Fellowship program.

Other professional activities included being the COVD Membership Keyperson and Practice Enhancement Chairperson. She has received the Doctor Vision Center President's and Optometric Professional Integrity and Excellence awards. Dr. Mackowsky's plans are to advance her research and development of her clinic's vision rehabilitation program in order to provide her patients with the newest advancements in vision care. Dr. Mackowsky continues to lecture and educate many area groups/hospitals about the specialty of neuro-optometric vision rehabilitation. She resides in Cary with her husband, Dr. Rich Mackowsky, her two lovely children, Emma, 21, and Evan, 16, and their beagle, Wilbur. Dr. Mackowsky enjoys playing golf, snow skiing and scuba diving.

Curriculum Vitae

Nancy M. Mackowsky, OD, FCOVD, FNORA

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PROFESSIONAL GOALS

To practice the specialty of neuro-optometry providing extensive evaluations and rehabilitation to the visually challenged population including patients with visually-related learning disabilities and traumatic brain injuries. To maintain training/education through affiliations with the College of Optometrists in Vision Development, the Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation Association and the College of Syntonics. To lecture locally to community groups.

PROFILE

Solid background in developmental/neuro-optometric rehabilitation and vision care. Consistently strive to gain further education and experience in the field of developmental/neuro-optometry and exceed patient care expectations. Experienced in handling learning-related, sports-related, brain injured/stroke-related and low vision-related problems. Experienced in the treatment of eye injury, eye disease, surgery co-management, refractive surgery. Experienced in prescribing cutting edge lens technology for difficult prescriptions. Licensed in the North Carolina, #1571.

EDUCATION

Brain Base Optometric Tool Box. 10 Modules

presented over the course of 10 months with monthly discussion groups reviewing brain-based therapy protocols. Presented by AmyThomas, OD.

June 2022 to present

Postural Deficiency Syndrome Course. Continuous

education over the internet, 6 Part Clinical Series of 42 hours. Presented by Orlando Alves Da Silva, MD, and colleagues.

January 2022

Fellowship in Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation:

Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation Association

Sept 2017

Neuro Visual Processing Rehabilitation: Neuro

Visual Postural Therapy. Padula Institute of

Vision/Shepherd Rehab Hospital/Western Univ. of Health Science College of Optometry 50 certificate course. Presented by W. Padula, OD and R. Munitz COVT, MS 2013

Sept 2013-Mar 2014

EDUCATION

(continued)

Fellowship in Developmental Optometry: College of
Optometrists in Vision Development

Oct 1997-Oct 1998

Residency in Retina/Glaucoma/Refractive

Surgery: Capital Eye Consultants
Fairfax, Virginia

Jul 1994-Jul 1995

Doctor of Optometry: Pennsylvania College of Optometry
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

May 1994

Bachelor of Science, Physiology/Neurobiology:

University of Connecticut
Storrs, Connecticut

May 1990

OPTOMETRIC EXPERIENCE

**The Mackowsky Visual Learning &
Rehabilitation Clinic**

Raleigh, North Carolina

Neuro-Developmental Optometrist

Owner Apr 2010-present

- Specialty neuro-optometric evaluations
- Neuro-optometric rehabilitation
- Low vision rehabilitation

Dr. Richard H. Mackowsky

Durham, North Carolina

Neuro-Developmental Optometrist

*Apr 2011- present
Saturdays Only as part-time help*

- Primary care
- Pre/post-op LASIK management
- Surgery co-management
- Glaucoma management
- Contact Lens management

Doctors Vision Center

Raleigh, North Carolina

Neuro-Developmental Optometrist

*Nov 1995-Apr 2011
(50% of time spent in specialty neuro-
optometric clinic)*

- Neuro-optometric rehabilitation (primary developer of specialty clinic The Center for Vision Learning & Rehabilitative Therapy 1995-2010, April 2010 purchased clinic and renamed)
- Specialty neuro-optometric evaluations
- Low vision rehabilitation Primary care
- Pre/post-op LASIK management
- Surgery co-management
- Glaucoma management

**OPTOMETRIC
EXPERIENCE**
(continued)

Eye Care Associates
Raleigh, North Carolina
Optometrist

Aug 1995-Sept 1995

- Primary care
- Vision rehabilitation
- Pre/post-op LASIK management
Surgery co-management

Fox Eye Care
Raleigh, North Carolina
Optometrist

Sept 1995-Oct 1995

- Primary care

Capital Eye Consultants
Fairfax, Virginia
Resident

Jul 1994-Jul 1995

- Vitreo-retinal disease management
- Glaucoma management
- Refractive surgery management
- Pre-/post-op cataract management
- Performance of fluorescein angiography
- Externship program management with weekly lecturing to students

The Eye Institute
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Externship

Spring 1994

- Primary care
- Pediatric specialties
- Orthoptic therapy

Newington VA Medical Center
Newington, Connecticut
Externship

Winter 1993

- Hospital-based primary care
- Ocular disease management

Hahnemann University
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
Externship

Fall 1993

- Hospital-based specialty care with OR exposure
- Retinal/Glaucoma/Corneal disease management

Middlesex Eye Physicians
Middletown, Connecticut
Externship

Summer 1991

- In-office based specialty care with OR exposure
- Retinal/Glaucoma/Corneal/ disease management

**OPTOMETRIC
EXPERIENCE**
(continued)

Dr. Jeffrey Palmer
Middletown, Connecticut
Externship

Summer 1991

- Optometric primary care training
- Business management

Spectacle Den
Middletown, Connecticut

Summer 1990

- Ophthalmic optical training

**HONORS AND
AWARDS**

Neuro-Optometric Association

- FNORA Award

Doctors Vision Center

- Optometric Professional Integrity and Excellence Award
- President's Award

Pennsylvania College of Optometry

- Beta Sigma Kappa International Optometric Honor Society
- Dean's List
- Dr. Dorothy Weitzner Kornblut Scholarship
- Alma Boden Scholarship

**LECTURES AND
PRESENTATIONS**

• **A Systematic Method for Prescribing Lens/
Prism Corrections**

Presented at the NORA 2022 Conference

Sept 2022

• **Neuro-Optometric Vision Rehabilitation: What
One Needs To Know**

Presented at the Andrews Center, WakeMed
Raleigh, NC

Jun 2019

• **The Role of Gait Analysis, Egocenter and
Yoked Prisms in Parkinson's Disease**

Presented at the 27th NORA general conference
St. Louis, MI

Sept 2018

• **Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation of the
Acquired Brain Injury Patient**

Presented as continuing education course for the Shine
Program WakeMed Hospital

Mar 2018

• **What to know about Neuro-Optometric Vision
Rehabilitation**

Presented at WakeMed PT Department
Raleigh, NC

Nov 2017

• **The Role of Gait Analysis, Egocenter and
Yoked Prisms in Parkinson's Disease**

Presented at the 26th NORA Level 3 Skills
Buffalo, NY

Sept 2017

LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

(continued)

- **Review of Vision Dysfunctions**
Presented at Lenox Baker's Children Hospital/Duke
Durham, NC

Feb 2017
- **Evaluating Vision Dysfunctions**
Presented to Abilitations Therapy Group
Raleigh, NC

Jan 2017
- **Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation of the Acquired Brain Injury Patient**
Presented to the Neuro-Rehab/Sticht Center
Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center

Jan 2015
- **Neuro-Optometric Rehab of the Stroke/TBI Patient**
Presented as a continuing education course for the
NCSOS Fall Congress, Asheville, NC

Nov 2014
- **Neuro-Optometric Rehab Workshop**
Presented as a continuing education course for the
NCSOS Fall Congress, Asheville, NC

Nov 2014
- **Paraoptometric Technician Workshop**
Presented as a continuing education course for the
NCSOS Fall Congress, Asheville, NC

Nov 2014
- **Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation of the Acquired Brain Injury Patient**
Presented as a continuing education course for the Shine
Program, WakeMed Hospital

Feb 2014
- **Guillain-Barré Syndrome**
Presented for the NORA Level 1 Fellowship Process,
NORA Conference, San Diego, CA

Apr 2013
- **Visual Disturbances in Parkinson's Disease & Neuro-Optometric Intervention**
Presented to the Hillsborough Parkinson's Support group,
Hillsborough, NC

Apr 2013
- **Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation**
Presented as continuing education course for the BIRS Program
WakeMed Hospital, Raleigh, NC

Jan & Feb 2013
- **Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation**
Presented to the Neuro-Rehab/Sticht Center
Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center
Winston-Salem, NC

May 2011
- **Vision Rehabilitation: An Answer to Visual Learning and Rehabilitative Needs**
Presented to area physical/occupational therapists through Meds
PDN, Raleigh, NC

Mar 2010
- **Vision, Learning and Rehabilitation**
Presented at Dorothea Dix Hospital, psychiatry department
Raleigh, NC

Dec 2006 & Apr 2009

LECTURES AND PRESENTATIONS

(continued)

- **Protect your Kids Promotion Training** Presented by E-blvd for staff of Doctors Vision Center *Jul 2006*
- **What is an Optometrist** Presented at Highcroft Elementary school, Cary, NC *Feb 2006*
- **Abducens Nerve Palsy, A Case Review** Presented at the Doctors Vision Center corporate meeting *May 2005*
- **The Relationship between Vision and Learning** Presented in-office at The Center for Visual Learning and various school workshops *1995 to 2010*
- **Anterior Ischemic Optic Neuropathy** Presented at Capital Eye Consultants, local optometric continuing education *Jul 1995*

PUBLICATIONS

- **The Role of Gait Analysis, Egocenter and Yoked Prisms in Parkinson's Disease** Optometry & Visual Performance Journal, Vol. 6, Issue 2 Apr 2018 *Jun 2018*
- **How to Build a Successful Vision Therapy Practice** COVD Practice Enhancement Manual *Fall 2005*
- **Histopathology, clinical course and treatment of choroidal neovascular membranes in presumed ocular histoplasmosis** Southern Journal of Optometry, Vol. XIV, No. 2. *Spring 1996*

BOARD CERTIFICATION

- **College of Optometrists in Vision Development Board Certification** *Oct 1998*

LICENSURES

- **North Carolina** *Feb 1995 to present*

ASSOCIATIONS

- **American Optometric Association** *1995 to present*
- **North Carolina Optometric Society** *1995 to present*
- **College of Optometrists in Vision Development (COVD)** *1996 to present*
- **Neuro-Optometric Rehabilitation Association** *1996 to present*
- **College of Syntonics** *2017 to present*

PROFESSIONAL ACITIVITIES

- NORA Fellowship Chair *Feb 2023 to Present*
- NORA Fellowship Committee, member *Jan 2018 to Present*
- Reviewer for Vision Development & Rehabilitation Journal *July 2019*
- COVD International Examination and Certification Board, Secretary *Oct 2013-2014*
- COVD International Examination and Certification Board Member *Jan 2011-2014*
- COVD Membership Keyperson *2002-2003*
- COVD Practice Enhancement Chairperson *2004-2005*

COMMUNITY ACITIVITIES

- Young Men's Service League, First in Flight Chapter *May 2019 to present*
- National Charity League, Carolina Lily Chapter Member *Apr 2011-May 2018*
- Highcroft Elementary School PTA, Chair of Spirit night *Aug 2010-2014 Nov*
- Mills Park Middle School PTA, Committee Member for Mills Park Madness Event *2012-Mar 2013*
- Subdivision Swim Team Concession Stand Manager *May 2011- Jul 2014*

REFERENCES

Peter Hollis, OD
Doctors Vision Center
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P.O. Box 7396
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