



The Glaucoma Research Society is deeply saddened at the loss of our colleague, R. Rand Allingham, MD, who passed away at home with his family at his side on August 27th, 2018.

Rand was a gifted physician and researcher with a unique talent for making connections and establishing collaborations. Born on June 2, 1953 in Iowa City, IA, he graduated from the University of Cincinnati School of Medicine and completed his ophthalmology residency at Eastern Virginia Medical School. Rand was a clinical and research fellow at Massachusetts Eye and Ear Infirmary in Boston (1987-1989) before joining the faculty there. Following a brief faculty appointment at Southwestern School of Medicine in Dallas, he joined the faculty of the Department of Ophthalmology of Duke University School of Medicine in 1993 and later became Director of the Glaucoma Service. Over the next 25 years, he became an internationally recognized glaucoma physician and researcher. Two years ago he became a member of the GRS, an accomplishment of which was especially proud.

Rand was passionate about glaucoma clinical care as well as understanding the basic causes of the disease. He was particularly excited about pseudoexfoliation glaucoma and the severe glaucoma affecting individuals of African ancestry, and had initiated novel research projects to better understand these conditions. He was a founding member of the NEIGHBOR and NEIGHBORHOOD consortia for primary open angle glaucoma genetics and also participated in a number of international collaborations. Rand's many colleagues in glaucoma genetics will miss his enthusiasm and 'can do' approach that was a tremendous benefit to these large multi-disciplinary studies.

Perhaps one of Rand's greatest gifts was his ability to enjoy life. Whether it was having dinner with colleagues in Singapore, fly-fishing in Montana, or traveling with his wife Anna, Rand knew how to have fun. His sense of humor and positive work-life balance helped him become an inspiring mentor to generations of residents, fellows and junior faculty and an excellent role model for clinician scientists. His optimistic outlook was a defining feature of his career and will be sorely missed by all who knew and worked with him.

Janey Wiggs, MD, PhD

Rand's career will be celebrated at special platform session and reception at the next ISER/BFF glaucoma symposium to be held October 23-26th, 2019 at the Emory Conference Center in Atlanta, Georgia, USA (www.iser.org/ISERBFFSymposium.html).

In recognition of Rand's contribution to the field of ophthalmology and his outstanding mentorship of young faculty, the Duke Department of Ophthalmology and the Allingham family recently established The R. Rand Allingham, MD Research Fund. This is a permanent endowment to provide research support for early career faculty in the Department of Ophthalmology, designed to continue Rand's legacy by supporting junior faculty at this key point in their careers. If enough funding is received to meet the amount required to create an assistant/associate termed professorship, it may then be used in that capacity. Rand was strongly supportive of the establishment of such a Fund. To make a gift or pledge go to <https://www.gifts.duke.edu/dukeeye> and select the R. Rand Allingham, MD Fund from the drop down menu. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact Jillian Ream, who may be reached at 919-385-3791 in the Duke Health Development Office or via email at jillian.ream@duke.edu.

C. Ross Ethier, Ph.D