

For Immediate Release:

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I. Howard Fine, MD Concludes Term as Chairman of the ASCRS Foundation

I. Howard Fine, MD, of Eugene, OR concludes his six year term as Chairman of the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery (ASCRS) Foundation. Under Dr. Fine's leadership the ASCRS Foundation has grown from a simple idea to a \$5 million organization with broad support and funding and a substantial list of programs and achievements.

Dr. Fine oversaw the ASCRS Foundation's humanitarian program which included the construction, outfitting and operation of the Robert Sinskey Eye Institute in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, a full-service medical/surgical eye care facility that employs a staff of seven and treats more than 7,000 patients per year.

The Foundation's Eye Surgery Education Council now serves as a leading voice for eye care education through its support of media and awareness programs for cataract, glaucoma, presbyopia, and refractive surgery. In addition, the Foundation's research arm has funded more than 40 independent studies designed to advance ophthalmic treatment and surgery and to foster an interest among young physicians in pursuing research as a part of their careers.

Dr. Fine, whose leadership and guidance was instrumental in building the Foundation, will continue to serve as a member of its governing board and humanitarian oversight committee.

Dr. Fine is among the cataract surgeons listed in all editions of *The Best Doctors in America*, and the first edition of *Marquis' Who's Who in Medicine and Healthcare*. In 1999 he was named one of the 25 most influential ophthalmologists of the 20th Century by a vote of 16,000 ophthalmologists worldwide, polled by the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery. Dr. Fine has been a visiting professor at 30 medical schools in the United States and abroad, and has delivered 18 named lectureships. He has designed instruments and implants and has innovated many surgical instruments and implants and has innovated many surgical procedures. He has contributed hundreds of publications to refereed medical journals and the medical press, written chapters in textbooks and surgical atlases, lectured and taught extensively throughout the world and demonstrated his surgical techniques with lens surgery in more than 20 countries.

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