

For further information, contact:

Jennifer Rubin
Foundation Program Manager
321-319-4870
Jenniferr@aaoptom.org

**AMERICAN ACADEMY OF OPTOMETRY FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES
2018-2019 ALLERGAN RESEARCH GRANT RECIPIENT**

ORLANDO, FL (October 23, 2018) – The American Academy of Optometry Foundation (AAOF), in partnership with the Allergan Foundation, is pleased to announce the 2018-2019 recipient of the Allergan Research Grant. The highly competitive grant is awarded to a talented optometrist and/or vision scientist, who is an Academy member, and is currently undertaking cutting edge research in the areas of glaucoma and/or the anterior segment. This is the fifth year the Allergan Foundation has sponsored this generous grant through the AAOF.



Congratulations to Alison McDermott, PhD, professor of Cellular and Molecular Sciences at Northumbria University. She has been awarded a \$60,000 grant for her project, “*Therapeutic Potential of Medicinal Maggot Secretions for Ocular Surface Disease.*” William Cheung, PhD, scientific officer of Metabolomics/Proteomics at Northumbria University, is a co-investigator on this project.

The American Academy of Optometry Foundation is pleased to partner with the Allergan Foundation to recognize individuals whose work will contribute to the future of optometric care. “We congratulate Dr. McDermott and her team on her award and cutting edge research that will improve our patients eye health,” said AAOF President David Kirschen, OD, PhD, FAAO.



Dr. McDermott and her team will be honored for their achievement at the annual AAOF Celebration Luncheon during Academy 2019 Orlando on October 23-28.

The American Academy of Optometry Foundation (AAOF) is a 501(c)(3) philanthropic organization that develops and provides financial support for optometric research and education in vision and eye health to improve patient clinical care. The AAOF is a proud affiliate of the American Academy of Optometry.