

# Wills Eye Hospital

**Julia A. Haller, MD**

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April 28, 2026

Heed Ophthalmic Foundation Residents Retreat Selection Committee  
Association of University Professors of Ophthalmology  
655 Beach Street  
San Francisco, CA 94109

Re: Minjia Tang, MD

Dear Colleagues,

It is a true honor to nominate Dr. Minjia Tang for the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Heed Ophthalmic Foundation Resident Retreat. Minjia is a brilliant young clinician scientist with academic goals, who would be a superb addition to the Heed Retreat ranks. She is ideally suited to benefit from the Retreat due to her sterling background, superlative accomplishments, and academic career goals.

Minjia graduated *magna cum laude* from Princeton University with a Bachelor of Arts in Ecology and Evolutionary Biology. While at Princeton, she was elected to Sigma Xi, coxed for the crew team, and received the Princeton Project 55 Fellowship. This fellowship provided a yearlong mentored clinical research coordinator experience at Mass General Hospital, working on childhood asthma prevention. She then went on to Northwestern University Feinberg School of Medicine where she graduated *magna cum laude* and AOA. While at Feinberg, she received the Research Intensive Scholarly Emphasis (RISE) Fellowship, which gave her an additional year of intensive research in the Department of Ophthalmology, under the tutelage of Dr. Angelo Tanna. She was also the recipient of a grant from the Illinois Society for the Prevention of Blindness to fund research investigating outcomes of early initiation of aqueous suppressants after Ahmed glaucoma device implementation in patients with uveitis. Scholar and athlete, she was a top draft pick at Wills, and we have been so proud of her further development as a clinician, leader, and surgeon here.

Minjia is an author of 9 peer-reviewed publications, 3 abstracts, and has traveled widely to present her research at the podium or by posters at 13 conferences. Her extracurricular activities are varied and myriad, including leadership in community health clinics, ophthalmology interest groups, COVID outreach efforts, designing and printing the Feinberg Art Book, serving as Community Outreach Director for the Feinberg Baking Group, youth tutoring, volunteering at free eye clinics, performing as a violinist in the Northwestern Medical Orchestra, and baking cakes for children with Cakes4 Kids. She also sits on the Wills Eye Program Evaluation Committee.

At Wills, Minjia has plunged into research with the Glaucoma Department, focusing on innovations in the field and their outcomes. For example, she used the FDA MAUDE database for an extensive project where she took responsibility “soup to nuts”, investigating adverse events associated with MIGS use.

She is also leading a prospective study investigating the new iDose's efficacy versus other approaches, as well as studying home monitoring with Ollyeyes: all work at the cutting edge of innovation in Glaucoma therapy.

Minjia would be a wonderful candidate for the Heed Ophthalmic Foundation Resident Retreat.

In the event two residents from Wills are selected, we are willing to fund the second resident.

Warmest regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Julia".

Julia A. Haller, MD