



April 28, 2026

To the Society of Heed Fellows,

It is our pleasure to enthusiastically recommend Dr. Caroline Hyun Sue Kim for the Annual Heed Ophthalmic Foundation Residents Retreat. Dr. Kim is an exceptional physician-trainee who exemplifies the dedication to scientific rigor, clinical excellence, and health equity that defines the future of academic ophthalmology. The Resident Retreat would be an amazing opportunity to reinforce Dr. Kim's interest in academic medicine.

Currently an ophthalmology resident in good standing at the University of Wisconsin School of Medicine and Public Health, Dr. Kim brings a unique, multidisciplinary perspective to our field. Her background is notable for both breadth and depth, ranging from her achievement as Concertmistress in violin at Juilliard to her work during her undergraduate studies as a Health Equity Intern at Northeastern University. Following graduation, she completed an MSc in Epidemiology from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine. Her extensive experiences—spanning health equity and infectious disease research—allow her to approach ophthalmic challenges through the lens of population health and systems-based practice.

Dr. Kim's research portfolio is remarkably mature for a PGY-2 resident. She has demonstrated a consistent ability to translate complex data into actionable clinical insights, ranging from her work as a medical student at Virginia Tech on candidemia screening protocols to her current investigations at UW into longitudinal retinal layer analysis using large datasets. Her work has been recognized by national organizations, including the Infectious Disease Society of America (IDSA) Emerging Researchers/Clinicians Mentorship (G.E.R.M.) grant and a 2026 Knights Templar Eye Foundation ARVO Travel Grant.

Beyond her academic productivity, Dr. Kim is deeply committed to mentorship and service. Dr. Kim mentors several medical students who have already demonstrated accomplishments: one student presented a poster at the University of Wisconsin Global Health Institute in April 2026, and another will be presenting a poster at the American Academy of Ophthalmology's Global Ophthalmology Summit this August in Philadelphia, PA. Dr. Kim serves as a Global Ophthalmology Resident Representative for the UW Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences. In this role she has been instrumental in organizing vision screenings and supporting UW pre-medicine students, ensuring that the next generation of clinicians is equipped to provide equitable care. In addition, she has served as a department representative to multiple visiting residents and fellows from India and the Philippines. Her engagement with these trainees has led to lasting connections and an ongoing exchange of ideas.

Given her unique background and specialized training, Dr. Kim has an interest in combining retina and uveitis with a particular focus on infectious disease and global health. Her long-term goal is to expand access to advanced ophthalmic care for underserved populations. We believe she is an ideal candidate for the Heed Foundation Resident Retreat, which would provide essential exposure to different careers in academics and help her translate her current interests into meaningful action. We are confident that she will be an active, thoughtful, and contributing member of your cohort, and she will undoubtedly return to her training with new perspectives and tools to advance both her career and our field.

We offer Dr. Kim our highest recommendation for participation in the Heed Resident Retreat. Please feel free to contact us if you require further information.

Please note that our department has nominated two outstanding residents this year, if both are accepted, we would be delighted to fund the second resident.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Terri L. Young, MD, MBA.

Terri L. Young, MD, MBA
Peter A. Duehr Endowed Professor of Ophthalmology, Pediatrics, and Medical Genetics
Chair, University of Wisconsin-Madison Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences

Handwritten signature of Anna Momont, MD.

Anna Momont, MD
Associate Professor
Residency Program Director
University of Wisconsin Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences