



REFRACTIVE SURGERY
ALLIANCE SOCIETY

January 26, 2022

RE: RSA Fellowship Network 2022/2023 Invitation to Participate

TO: Select RSA Members for Consideration as Preceptor in the RSA Fellowship Network

I am pleased to invite you to participate in the **RSA Fellowship Network** as a Preceptor for the July 2022-June 23 year.

We believe the RSA Fellowship Network is the model for the future of specialist training. The program was designed by a committee of dedicated and highly experienced members of the Refractive Surgery Alliance who came together a few years ago to ask a simple question: ***What would it take to produce expert refractive surgeons who can lead the field into the future?*** The discussion led to a series of meetings over several months and the result was: The RSA Fellowship Network - a new and exciting approach to specialist training.

The RSA Fellowship Network is truly unique. The program is grounded in a standardized curriculum in which Fellows go through their fellowship as a virtual “class” with other Fellows from around the world over Zoom Conclaves that are held every other week. They receive the benefit of a carefully designed, standardized curriculum. Didactic instruction is provided by experienced Academic Directors and expert faculty. All host sites include high-volume private practices run by expert refractive surgeons, the Preceptors. The Fellows receive superior training, and the Preceptors enjoy the support of a rich curriculum with highly motivated fellows.

The RSA Fellowship Network launched in July 2021 and has been a great success, with 10 Fellows in 9 Preceptor sites, across four countries (United States, Germany, Ethiopia, and South Africa). The Fellows each complete a supervised research project, participate in the RSA Master of Refractive Surgery courses, visit other sites in the network to see different practice styles, undergo several evaluations to assess their progress, and much more. Full details are provided in the attached document.

Unlike many other fellowship programs, the overarching purpose of the RSA Fellowship is to **help the host practices scale and is designed to train your future associates so you can expand your practice**. Many of our first-year Fellows will complete the optional 2nd year of the program, working as an “Associate” to refine their skills. During the 2nd year of the RSA Fellowship, Associates add great economic value to the Preceptor practice, as well as participate in the acclaimed PHYSICIAN CEO® program at the Kellogg School of Management at Northwestern University.

The RSA Fellowship Network is extremely fortunate for the leadership of Helen Wu, MD from Tufts New England Medical Center, and Julie Schallhorn, MD from the University of San Francisco, as paid Academic Directors to oversee the program. Both Drs. Wu and Schallhorn are accomplished academic instructors and refractive surgeons who work directly with the invited faculty to plan and run the Conclaves, as well as working with the Fellows on their case presentations, research projects and evaluations.

Dan Durrie, MD oversees the Preceptor training. Dr. Durrie is an accomplished refractive surgeon, educator, researcher, and leader in the field. Preceptor training is an important component of the program.

Many will have identified a fellow for the 2022-2023 academic year. Others may not have done so at this point. The RSA Fellowship Network accommodates fellows from both within and outside the match, and all over the world. We will be happy to introduce you to potential applicants if you need to locate a fellow.

Funding for the program is crowd-sourced from the participating sites, making the program very affordable and the economic return to the practice is several times greater than the fee to participate. Fees are \$15,000 USD for first year Fellows and second year Fellows (“Associate Fellows”) participate for \$5,000. Details are provided in the accompanying document.

Target Dates for this invitation to participate are as follows:

Phase 1: By February 13, 2022 – Please Complete One (1) of the Following:

- 1). Preceptor Participation Confirmation – for Preceptors “New” to the RSA Fellowship Network who have already identified their Fellow, or who are hosting a single Fellow (not a Fellow and an Associate Fellow) for 2022/2023 - <https://RSAFellow.com/PreceptInfo/>
- 2). Preceptor “Interest” Group – for Preceptors who wish to participate in the RSA Fellowship Network 2022/2023 but have not yet identified a Fellow - <https://RSAFellow.com/PreceptInterest/>
- 3). Preceptor “Renewal” Group – for Current RSA Preceptors who will participate with both a Fellow and an Associate Fellow in the 2022/2023 RSA Fellowship Network - <https://RSAFellow.com/PreceptRenew/>

Phase 2: Between February 14, 2022 – March 31, 2022 – for Preceptor “Interest” Group Only:

- 1). Review/Find Applicants for RSA Fellowship
- 2). Select Fellow / Rule In or Out of Preceptor Participation

Phase 3: Beginning late April 2022 thru May 2022 – for All Confirmed RSA Preceptors:

- 1). RSA Preceptor Meeting (Virtual)
- 2). Academic Director’s Address (Virtual) (Helen Wu, MD, Julie Schallhorn, MD)
- 3). RSA Train-the-Trainers (Dan Durries, MD)

Phase 4: July 1, 2022 – Start Date RSA Fellowship Network 2022/2023:

- 1). Rollout RSA Fellowship Network 2022/2023 ...

“**Preceptor Enrollment**” is now open, and I hope you will accept this invitation to participate in this unique and valuable program! Please review the linked materials, visit the website at www.RSAFellow.com, and feel free to contact me with any questions. I look forward to hearing from you.

Best regards,



Guy M. Kezirian, MD, MBA, FACS
Refractive Surgery Alliance Corporation