I had a great pleasure to spend the month of August at Iowa State University (ISU) in the Veterinary Teaching Hospital (Lloyd Veterinary Medical Center).

That was a fantastic ophthalmology training while I could deepen my knowledge and experience. During my stay, I could participate in everyday life of the ISU Ophthalmology service. As a referral veterinary hospital in Iowa, there were a lot of patients of different species including large and small animals, exotic pets and wild animals. The hospital has great diagnostic and surgical facilities that I was lucky to see for example: homologous penetrating keratoplasty or high-energy pulsed carbon dioxide laser effective in treatment of neoplasm.

Lloyd Veterinary Medical Center at ISU has impressive ERG laboratory with possibilities to perform scientific electroretinographic tests and clinical studies. It was a pleasure taking a part in these tests, get experience with new ERG equipment and learn more about electrodiagnostic evaluation of the visual system from Prof. Ben-Shlomo.

With a pleasure I was participating in weekly meetings focusing on different topics, for example ocular pathology or pharmacology. I did enjoy clinical rounds and journal club meetings with inspiring discussions. All these meetings run in cooperation with faculties, residents and students in a nice, warm atmosphere.

I do have to mention Ames, the city of ISU. It is a very nice calm place, with a beautiful river, parks and lovely down town with fantastic architecture, way different form European.

I am very grateful for the ISVO-Acrivet scholarship for this amazing ophthalmic journey. It is a great opportunity for everyone interested in ophthalmology and I do encourage others to apply for it.
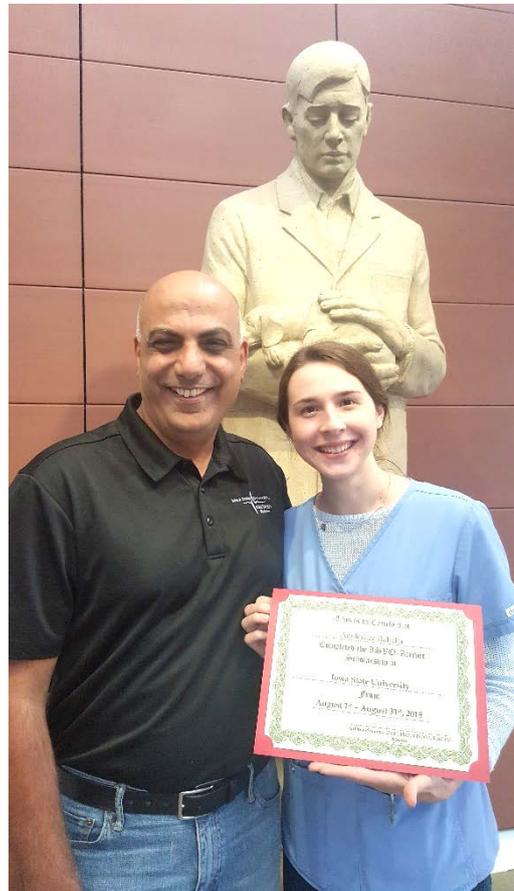
Dr. Balicka (right) receiveing her ISVO certificat from Dr. Ben-Shlomo (left)

Thank you ISU Ophthalmology Team for your nice reception. It was a great time for me and a lot of nice memories!

Agnieszka Balicka

Agnieszka Balicka (center) and members of the ISU Ophthalmology team