ophthalmic antiques to the E. LeRoy Ryer Museum through a network held together by Dablemont and Hofstetter.

Dablemont's work was the first leg of a long journey. During the course of the last five years, we have taken the baton, enlisting the help of our partners in academia to lay the groundwork for finally bringing these long-hidden collections into the light. Through our relationship with the University of Missouri – St. Louis' Museum Studies program, we have received invaluable assistance from graduate student interns in cataloging, photo-documenting, and rehousing the objects in our collections, reconnecting 50 years of donor records to objects, and developing a clearer picture of the breadth and depth of our holdings. With our goal to share our collections with the public in sight, we are ready to take the next step.

In the fall of 2018 we made another giant leap forward. On September 27, Optometry Cares entered into a collaborative agreement with the University of Pikeville and the Kentucky College of Optometry to transfer our general optometry collections—thousands of antique ophthalmic instruments and devices that document the evolution of optometric technology—to the Frank M. Allara Health Sciences Library.

Working with the dedicated and excellent, Edna Fugate, UPIke's archivist and special collections librarian, the first phase of this transfer was successfully completed in December.

In March 2019, Edna and her team put almost 200 objects online in the library's digital repository (bit.ly/AMOCollections). In the months ahead, Fugate will be installing exhibitions, using the collections to educate visitors to UPIke's campus about optometry's contributions to science and public health. At last, Dablemont's vision to make optometry's "glorious" history accessible to a national audience is coming to fruition in ways she never could have imagined, but through a partnership that she and Hofstetter pioneered. In the next two years, we will be working to complete the second phase of the transfer which will include small handheld instruments and, eventually, spectacles. Stay tuned for more updates and additions to the collections on their way into the public eye courtesy the University of Pikeville!

Kirsten Hebert, Heritage Services Specialist
The Archives & Museum of Optometry

GUEST EDITORIAL: AMO COLLECTION MOVES TO UPIKE

The University of Pikeville has had a wonderful experience working with Kirsten Hébert and the Archives and Museum of Optometry. While there is still much yet to be done, we are excited about our current progress.

The mission of the Archives and Special Collections at the University of Pikeville has been to preserve the history and culture of the institution and the Appalachian area from which it grew. Over the past few years, however, the institution has grown in amazing ways. One of the developments has been the opening of the Kentucky College of Optometry, the first optometry school in Kentucky. This addition added a new facet to the institutional history and has led to our partnership with the Archives and Museum of Optometry to provide more accessibility to a unique collection.

In addition to offering physical storage, the University of Pikeville has a digital library and a digital catalog of materials available for researchers. In almost any archival situation, making sure that good, searchable data is available for researchers is the most time-intensive part of the preservation process. Kirsten and her team have worked hard to collect information about the items, and my team is now working to get that information organized for use in research.

The process would not have been so seamless without all the hard work by the Archives and Museum of Optometry.

Now that the University of Pikeville has started the process of organizing the material here, we will soon be putting together exhibits. We have the space and the cases ready so that we can begin setting displays up once the organization is complete. The display space is a 675 square feet area in a well-trafficked section of the new Health Professions Education building. Free standing cases and wall mounted cases will provide a variety of display spaces, along with the possibility of a later digital component.

The University of Pikeville Archives and Special Collections, along with the Kentucky College of Optometry, are excited about the potential of this collection and honored by the opportunity to work with the Archives and Museum of Optometry. We look forward to sharing more about the development of the collection and its exhibition.

Edna Fugate, CA Archivist and Reference Librarian
Allara Library, University of Pikeville