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THE NATIONAL OPTOMETRY HALL OF FAME INDUCTS TWO NEW MEMBERS
Marshall and Mullen Recognized for Contributions to the Profession

ST. LOUIS, June 30, 2009 – The National Optometry Hall of Fame honored two individuals for their contributions to optometry on June 26, 2009 during Optometry's Meeting® held in Washington, D.C. Edwin C. Marshall, O.D., vice president for diversity, equity and multicultural affairs and professor of optometry at the Indiana University College of Optometry, and Charles Mullen, O.D., former president of the Illinois College of Optometry, joined 49 others who have been inducted to the Hall of Fame.

Dr. Edwin C. Marshall is an educator, administrator, clinician and public servant. With more than 35 years of service to optometry, he has worked to align with its mission to protect and advance the health of the public. In 1972, just one year out of school, Dr. Marshall helped found the Community Eye Care Center, Indiana University School of Optometry's first off-campus clinic. The clinic was designed to attend to the vision and eye care needs of the community's underserved population.

His public service work has included terms on the National Advisory Council on Health Professions Education and the Governor's Advisory Panel on the Indiana Children's Health Insurance Program.

Dr. Marshall is also the founding chair of the Indiana Minority Health Advisory Committee, eventually serving as advisor to three state health commissioners. In 2002, he was elected president of the Indiana Public Health Association, a position he used to establish effective avenues of communication in connecting resources and services with those who need them.

Currently, Dr. Marshall serves on the on the Board of Directors for the Bloomington Hospital and Prevent Blindness Indiana. He is also a member of the National Eye Health Education Program Planning Committee of the National Eye Institute and Co-Chair of the Indiana Interagency State Council on Black and Minority Health.

Dr. Charles Mullen has planned and redesigned optometry during his 33-year career. He has built institutions of quality education, formed national healthcare policy and strengthened urban communities through optometric and ophthalmic care.

Dr. Mullen began work in the president's office at the New England College of Optometry as special assistant for clinical development in 1970. He then served as executive director of the Eye Institute at the Pennsylvania College of Optometry from 1976 to 1990. Then, Dr. Mullen became director of the Optometry Service for the Department of Veteran Affairs in Washington, D.C. until 1996 when he became president of the Illinois College of Optometry. Dr. Mullen retired from the Illinois College of Optometry in 2002.

An instrumental figure in moving optometry to the forefront of primary eye care, Dr. Mullen understood that optometry and ophthalmology were complementary and worked to extend care to underserved populations.

Since his retirement, Dr. Mullen's has served on the Board of Trustees, Salus University; Chair, Board of Directors, New England Eye Institute; and on the Board of Trustees, New England College of Optometry.

The National Optometry Hall of Fame recognizes distinguished men and women who have made exceptional and enduring lifetime contributions to the profession of optometry.