As in past years, the timing of the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology’s (ARVO) January Program Committee meeting enabled an Advocacy Day of nearly 30 visits by researchers early in the legislative session—one of the first conducted by any organization with the 110th Congress. Several researchers were from key states/districts with new Members of Congress, while others met with Members who had recently assumed key leadership positions. For example, ARVO Executive Vice President Dr. Paul Kaufman met with the offices of Cong. David Obey (D-WI), Chair of the House Appropriations Committee/LHHS Subcommittee, and Sen. Herb Kohl (D-WI), Chair of the Senate Special Committee on Aging. The researchers had a two-part message—Congress should increase NIH/NEI funding in the FY2007 and 2008 cycles and complete the appropriations process on a timely basis so that research is not jeopardized by delays in grant awards (see Appropriations story).

**Participants included (from left to right)**
- Dr. Carol Toris (University of Nebraska Medical Center)
- Dr. Erik van Kuijk (University of Texas Medical Branch/Galveston)
- Dr. Jody Summers Kada (University of Oklahoma Health Science Center)
- Dr. Paul Kaufman (University of Wisconsin at Madison)
- ARVO Executive Director Joanne Angle
- Dr. Valerie White (Vancouver General Hospital)
- Dr. Ron Adelman (Yale University School of Medicine)
- Dr. Claude Burgoyne (Devers Eye Institute)
- Dr. Linda McLoon (University of Minnesota)

**ARVO Researchers Emphasize Amount and Timeliness of NIH/NEI Appropriations in Advocacy Day**

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