



**For Immediate Release**

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**Michael L. Nordlund Awarded 2019 R. Townley Paton Award**

**WASHINGTON D.C. (November 27, 2017)** – Michael L. Nordlund, MD, PhD, Medical Director with Cincinnati Eye Institute, based in Cincinnati, Ohio received the 2017 R. Townley Paton Award during the Cornea and Eye Banking Forum, co-sponsored by the Eye Bank Association of America (EBAA) and the Cornea Society, in New Orleans, Louisiana, on November 10, 2017.

The R. Townley Paton Award is EBAA's highest honor for corneal surgeons, and is presented annually to an ophthalmologist in recognition of his or her contributions to EBAA and for exemplifying the precepts of R. Townley Paton, MD, a prominent corneal surgeon, the father of modern eye banking and the founder of the first eye bank established in the United States.

“Presenting Dr. Nordlund with this award was a formal way of recognizing him for his commitment to EBAA and the profession,” said Kevin Corcoran, President and CEO of EBAA. “He has shown exceptional dedication through leadership, volunteerism, and the contribution of his professional expertise.”

After receiving the honor, Dr. Nordlund presented the Paton lecture titled, “*Preserving the Success and Uniqueness of Eye Banking*” He also shared why he is passionate about working with the eye banking community and encouraged others to get involved in the EBAA and their local eye banks.

Dr. Nordlund has become increasingly involved with EBAA over the past few decades, currently serving on the Board of Directors and as chair of the Medical Advisory Board. He served as a long-time member of the Accreditation Board, and as its chair from 2006 to 2010. Dr. Nordlund has received many recognitions and has been elected into several honor societies including Alpha Omega Alpha and the Society for Heed Fellows. He has received the Junior Achievement Award from American Academy of Ophthalmology, and is active in the Cornea Society and the American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgeons.

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**About the Eye Bank Association of America**

*The Eye Bank Association of America (EBAA), established in 1961, is the oldest transplant association in the nation and sets standards, provides education, and engages in advocacy to support eye donation, and cornea transplantation and research. EBAA has led the transplantation field with the establishment of medical standards for eye banking and comprehensive training and certification programs for eye bank personnel. Over 90 member eye banks operate in the United States, Canada, and Asia. These eye*

*banks made possible 75,938 sight-restoring corneal transplants in 2016. To learn more, visit [www.restoresight.org](http://www.restoresight.org).*

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