Dr. Cooper is a proud Aggie, having received his undergraduate B.S. degree in Genetics from the University of California, Davis in 1976. He and his wife, Nanci (B.A. ’76) both met and were married while undergraduates at UC Davis. He then went on to earn his medical degree from the University of California, Irvine School of Medicine. Specializing in Ophthalmology, he did his residency training at UCI, followed by a fellowship in pediatric ophthalmology and strabismus at the Jules Stein Eye Institute at University of California, Los Angeles.

Following his training, Dr. Cooper moved with his family to Thousand Oaks where he practiced Pediatric and Adult Ophthalmology for 31 years. Throughout his career, Dr. Cooper has been active in training residents, holding a faculty appointment at UCLA. In 2016, Dr. Cooper retired from his career practice and along with Nanci returned to their Northern California roots to live near their two children and families, settling in San Francisco. Once back in the area, Dr. Cooper was eager to reengage with UC Davis and became a volunteer clinical faculty with the UC Davis Eye Center. With that volunteer role ending, he looks forward to being involved with the Campaign Leadership Council.