

March 2014

## IACLE helps celebrate Golden Jubilee in Hyderabad, India



**IACLE enjoyed a high profile at the 50th Indian Contact Lens Education Program (ICLEP) held at LV Prasad Eye Institute (LVPEI) in Hyderabad from 7<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> March, as Nilesh Thite reports**

The Golden Jubilee ICLEP program witnessed a build-up and excitement like never before. This program has been running successfully for 50 years, with over 20 years of support from Bausch + Lomb. Around 140 delegates from across India attended the program and had their knowledge of contact lenses updated.

The prestigious event was inaugurated by Dr G Chandra Shekhar, Director of LVPEI, followed by a warm and welcoming speech by Sanjay Bhutani, Managing Director of Bausch + Lomb India. The program was spread across three days and had three international and several national speakers.

International speakers were Judith Morris, IACLE's Regional President for Europe/Africa - Middle East, and Padmaja Sankaridurg and Jerome Ozkan from the Brien Holden Vision Institute at the University of New South Wales, Sydney, Australia. Among the national speakers were IACLE's Director of Educational Programs Nilesh Thite, and FIACLEs Shyam Sunder, Murali Aasuri, Srikanth D and Parthasarathi K. FIACLE Khemaraj Nackwal and IACLE member Trishmeet Dhawan were speakers from industry.

The first day covered topics such as basics of contact lenses, soft lens fitting, disposable lenses and silicone hydrogels. The day concluded with interactive sessions from Judith and Padmaja, covering different case discussions related to patient selection, contact lens fitting, clinical examination and fitting toric lenses. There was a hands-on session for interested delegates who could practise slit-lamp techniques, lens insertion and removal, and soft contact lens fits.

The second day had a wide spread of lectures on infections and complications with contact lenses, along with therapeutic applications. This session was followed by RGP lens fitting and complications, fitting keratoconic patients and a video demonstration of RGP fitting.

Simultaneously there was an instruction course on toric lenses led by Nilesh and Judith. Role play and live demonstrations made the delegates understand correct ways of communicating and assessing fitting of torics respectively.

Judith also took part in another instruction course, on fitting keratoconus patients. Delegates appreciated the case discussions and her practical tips to troubleshoot problems.

The final day included fitting of paediatric cases, presbyopic contact lenses, post-corneal surgery fitting, scleral lenses and orthokeratology. At the end of these sessions there was an interesting discussion on practice management facilitated by Nilesh Thite.

The 50<sup>th</sup> ICLEP program lived up to everyone's expectations and delegates and faculty alike enjoyed being a part of it. As Judith commented: 'The 50th ICLEP was impressive in that it managed, as a program, to deal with both basic and advanced knowledge without difficulty. The faculty of LV Prasad Institute were very enlightened teachers who used a variety of methods of learning, while the delegates soaked up all the knowledge with great enthusiasm.'