



SHAPING THE FUTURE OF CONTACT LENS EDUCATION  
May 24-28, 2015 Manchester, UK

## Delegate feedback on the Third IACLE World Congress on Contact Lens Education

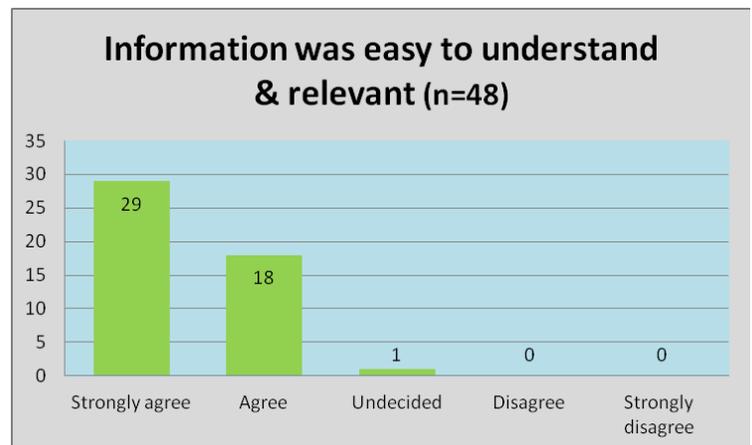
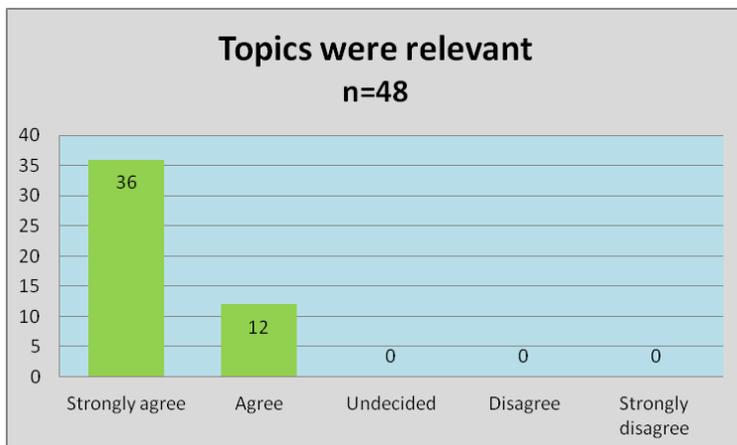
The Third IACLE World Congress brought together more than 100 contact lens educators from 30 countries worldwide. The aim was not only to shape the future of contact lens education, with a focus on innovation in teaching and learning. The meeting also provided opportunities for discussion during the program and at social events, and created lasting friendships and collaborations among educators from around the world.

The Congress was hosted by The University of Manchester, UK from 24-28 May 2015. A total of 107 educators came from all three of IACLE’s global regions: Asia Pacific (26), Europe / Africa – Middle East (15) and Americas (10). The Association of Optometric Contact Lens Educators (10), British Universities Committee of Contact Lens Educators (6) and Sponsors (11) were also represented, along with the IACLE Executive Board and Staff (18), speakers (10) and guest (1). Congress Sponsors were Alcon, CooperVision and Johnson & Johnson Vision Care Companies.

At the Congress, delegates were asked to complete a **short survey** on their experiences of the meeting. In all, 48 completed surveys were received (AP 15, Americas 16, EAME 17). A **second survey** was conducted a year after the Congress to measure its impact on global education. Results are presented here along with comments from individual delegates and other feedback.

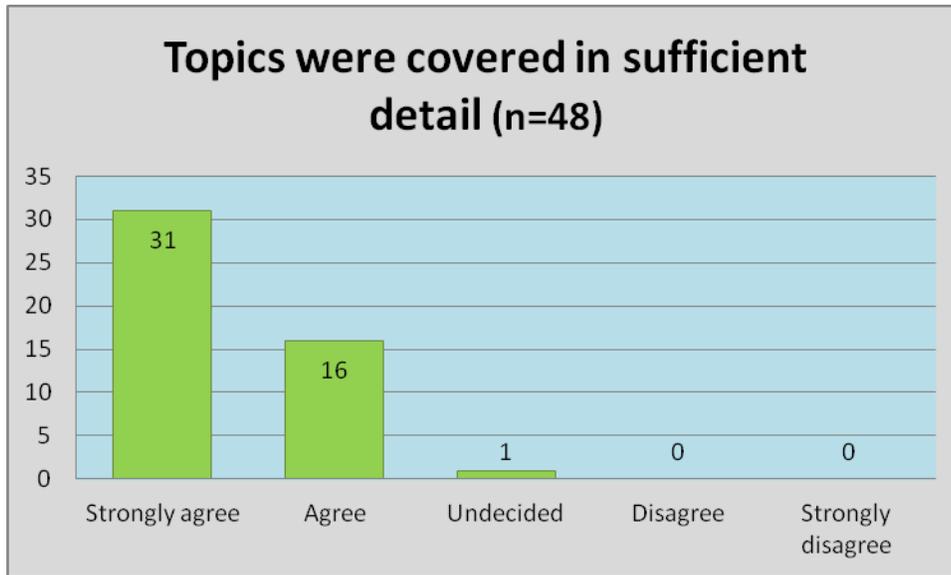
**All respondents (100%) agreed (‘strongly agree’ or ‘agree’) that, overall, the topics covered at the Congress were relevant to their needs.**

Almost all respondents (98%) agreed that the information was presented in a way that was relevant and easy to understand.

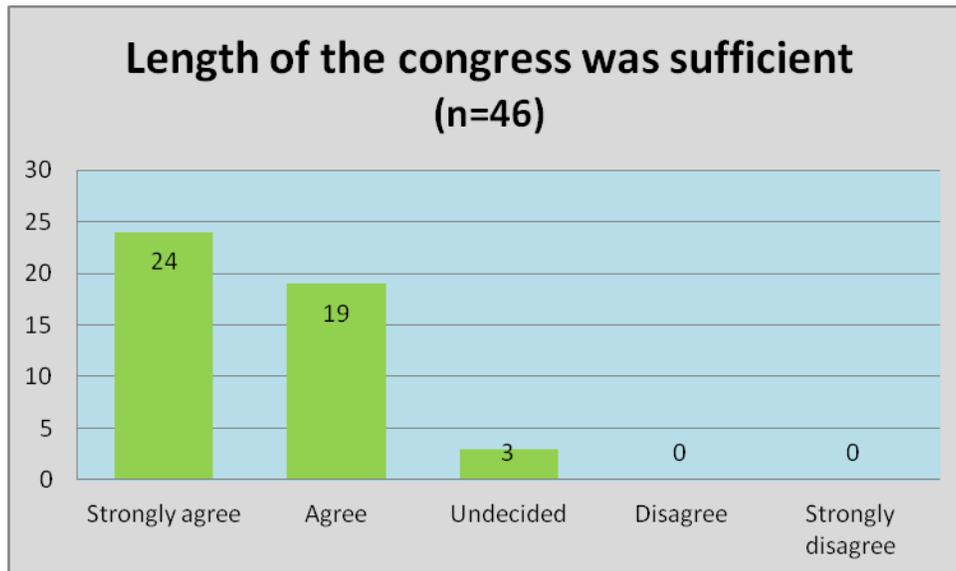




Almost all respondents (98%) agreed that, overall, each topic was covered in sufficient detail.

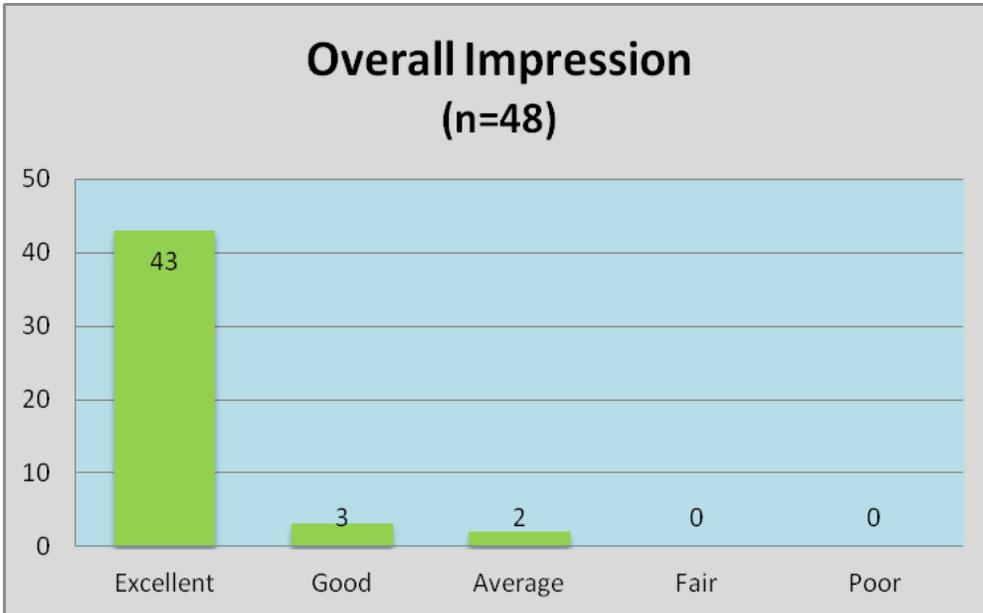


Most respondents (93%) agreed the Congress was long enough to cover the topics outlined.

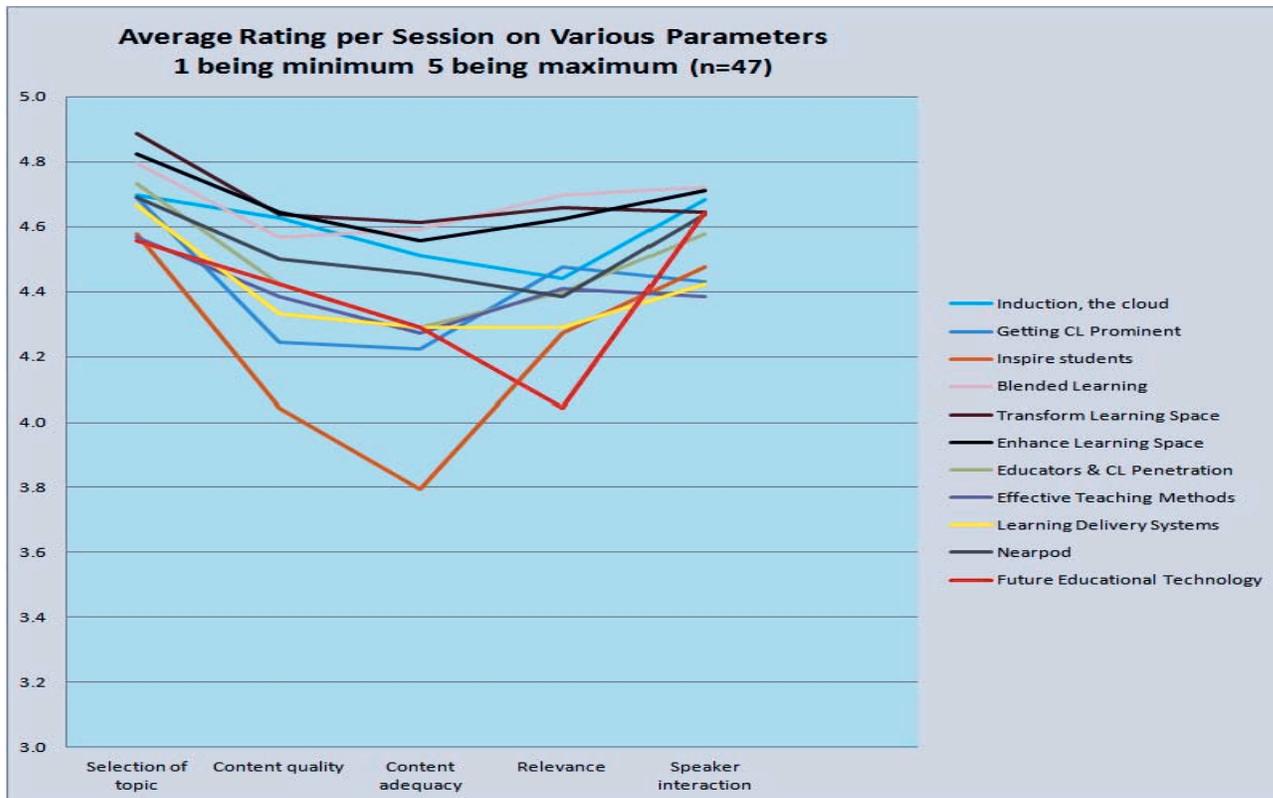




Most respondents (96%) rated their overall impression of the Congress as 'excellent' or 'good'



Delegates rated each session for selection of topic, quality of content, adequacy of content, relevance to practice and speaker interaction, on a scale of 1-5 (1 poor, 5 excellent)



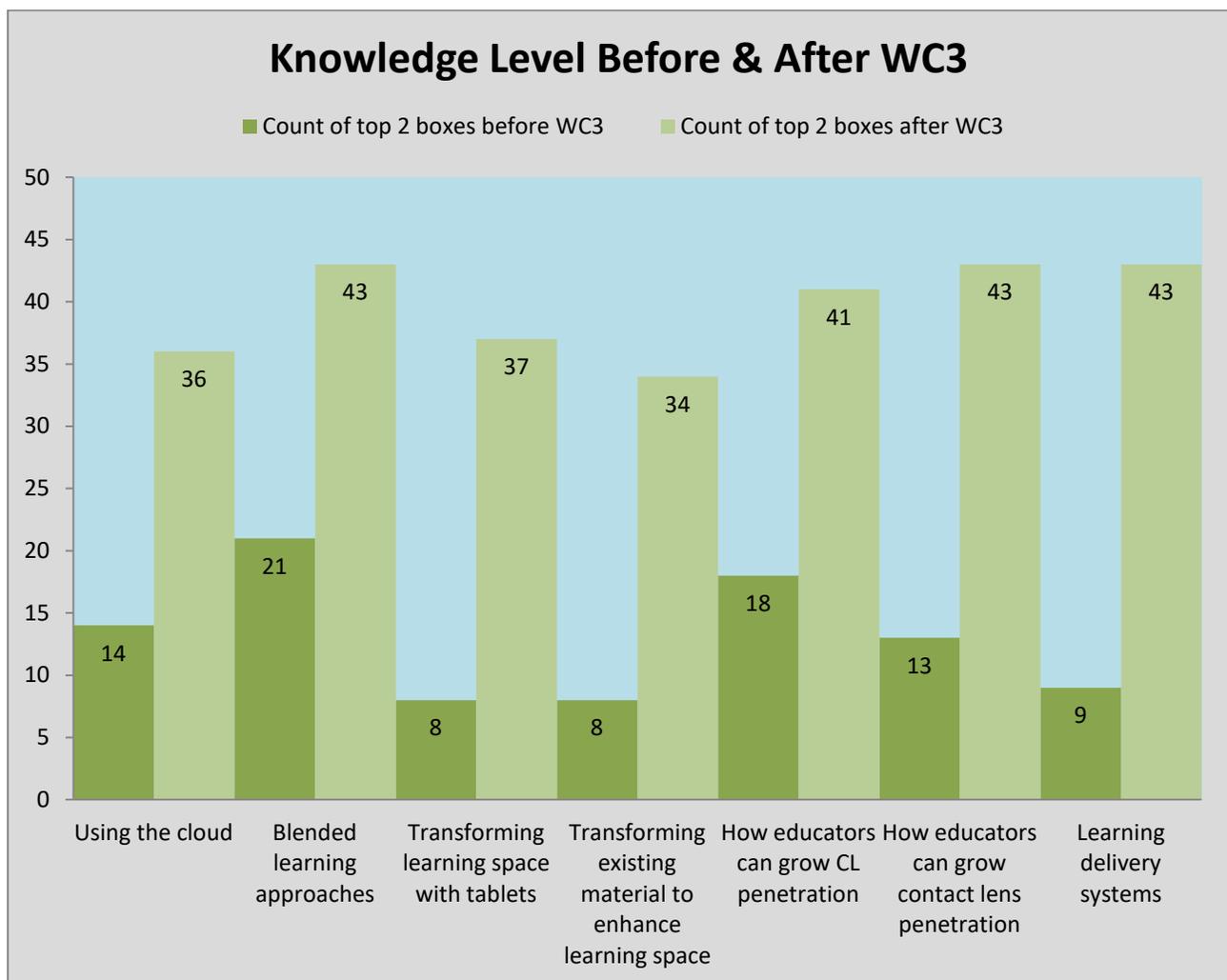
Sessions on blended learning, and on transforming and enhancing the learning space were generally the highest rated. Inspiring students and future educational technology were rated lower for content and relevance respectively.



The following two graphs depict knowledge level of delegates about session topics before and after attending the Congress. Rating was on a scale of 1-5 (poor, fair, average, good, excellent).

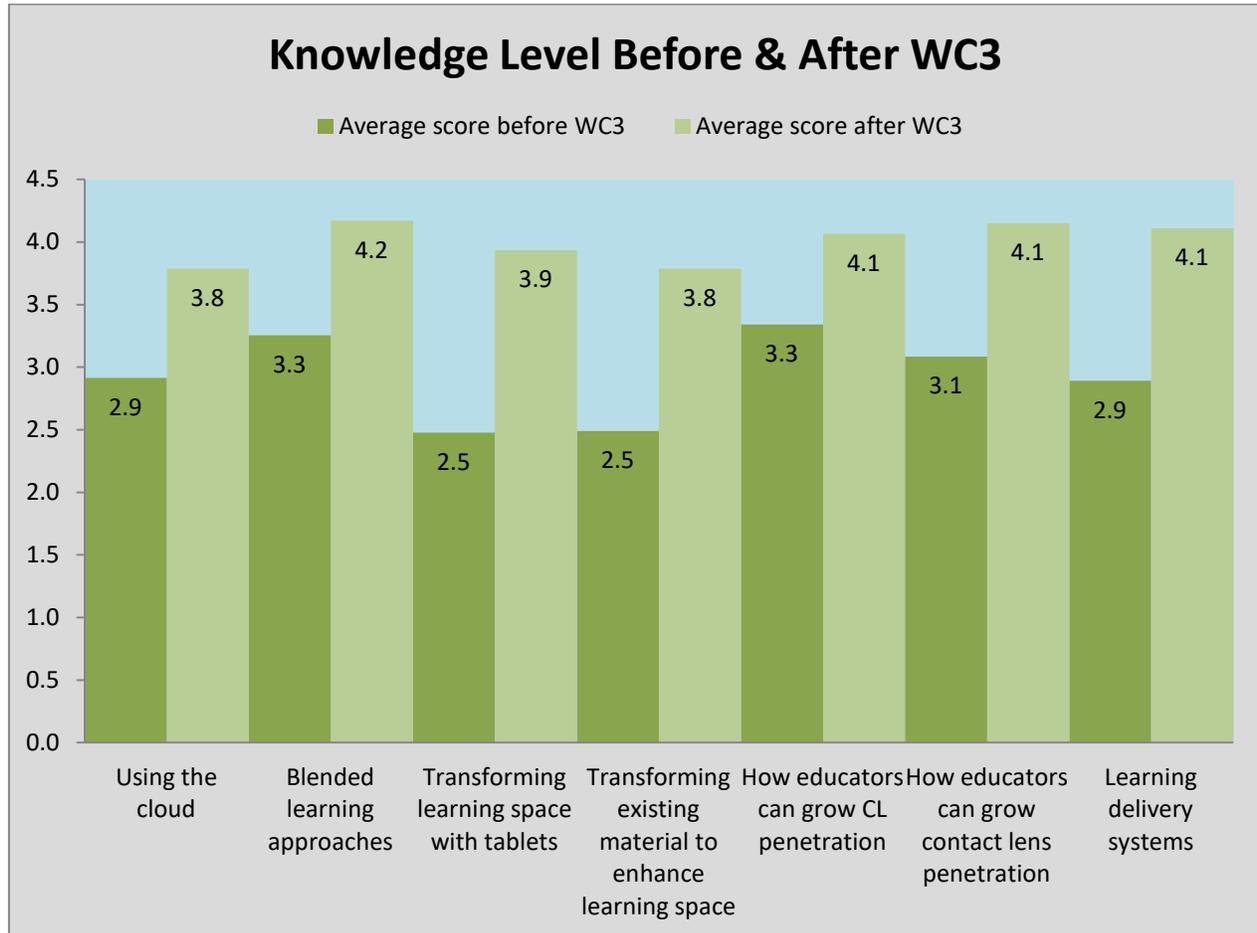
In the graph below, the number of responses in the top two boxes (good or excellent) before and after the Congress are compared.

**Knowledge levels in the top two boxes increased substantially for each topic after attending.**





And in the graph below, the average scores before and after the Congress are compared. Knowledge level increased for each topic.



**Delegates were asked ‘Will you make any changes to the way you teach contact lenses at your institution following your participation in Third IACLE World Congress?’**

**Of 46 delegates responding, all (100%) said they would**

The most common changes educators would make were to introduce technology to their teaching such as multimedia presentations, interactive lectures and pre-recorded sessions. Others said they would use technology for knowledge assessment.

Moving to paperless education and introducing evidence-based practice earlier in the curriculum were also mentioned.



## Delegate feedback – one year on



In May 2016 IACLE released a **highlights video** for all members featuring the exciting technology presented of the Third IACLE World Congress, key learnings from the speakers and delegate comments. The video was supported by our Congress sponsors – Alcon, CooperVision and Johnson & Johnson Vision Care Companies – and is available in Mandarin as well as in English. A Spanish version is planned. A link to the video was emailed to all IACLE members and to Congress delegates on the first anniversary of the meeting.

Click [here](#) to view the video in English and [here](#) for Mandarin

IACLE also conducted an **online survey** among Congress delegates to identify changes they had made to the way they teach contact lenses based on their learning. The survey was emailed to delegates in May 2016 and promoted via our Global Member Newsletter.

A total of 23 delegates responded by October 2016 (5 Americas, 7 AP, 11 EMEA). Results show:

- Key learnings were the variety of tools and technology available for teaching contact lenses, use of a blended learning approach and importance of evidence-based practice.
- **Almost all (96%) had made some change to the way they teach contact lenses as a result.** The most common changes were making their teaching more interactive and using video lectures. Two educators said they were introducing changes gradually.
- The level of practical application delegates had been able to achieve ranged from 1 (low) to 5 (high) on a 5-point scale, with an average level of 3.



- **Specific examples** of how they had used their learning from the Congress included:
  - More video lectures and webinars
  - Evernote to share articles, notes and comments, and manage assignments
  - Nearpod for undergraduate teaching
  - Evidence-based learning group discussions
  - Moodle software for didactic lectures and exams
  - Use of Explain Everything, Socrative and OneNote
  - Presentations at two conferences on use of technology in contact lens teaching.
- **Asked what changes they noticed in their students after the changes they implemented, 70% responded positively:** students enjoyed the lectures more, enjoyed the learning process and there was active participation by the students.
- Reasons for not incorporating changes after the Congress were lack of time and lack of support from management.
- Topics suggested for future IACLE events included research and contact lenses, business and contact lenses, assessment of students, contact lens-related dry eye and international collaboration.

## Comments one year on included:

Thanks to the World Congress I have changed my teaching of contact lenses using technology in the classroom, and my students are excited and motivated. *Aldo Ortiz, Guatemala*

It opened my mind not only to the new approaches and ways to get students' attention, but also the need to inspire them every day. *Orlando Neira, Colombia*

I have introduced innovations to teach optometrists how to increase and improve contact Lens wear in their practice and how to reduce dropouts. Very practical learnings and able to use them immediately in my teaching. *Carmen Abesamis-Dichoso, Philippines*

I have split the contact lens course into two semesters so more practical aspects will be covered in the first term to allow more clinical training in the second term. *May Bakar, Jordan*

I am encouraging students to search articles and research papers on different contact lens topics that I am teaching theoretically and discuss those in the class. *Runa Mazumder, India*

Keep on mixing people from different countries – it's a great idea, so thank you for the opportunity. *Katherine Oliver, UK*



## Overall comments after the Congress included:

I loved that this was about education not contact lenses. It was a completely ORIGINAL meeting. Great job! *Jeff Walline, USA*

This event was fantastic and I have learnt so much which I am really grateful for. It turned out to be so much more than I imagined. *Deanne Nicholas, South Africa*

Excellent learning – very useful. Eye-opening topics. Couldn't have been better. *Monica Chaudhry, India*

A wonderful experience. *David Berkow, Israel*

Well done to all your team on a fabulous meeting. Thank you to all. *Aoife Lloud Mckernan, Ireland*

## Other comments received about the Congress:

The most impactful thing was definitely educational technology tools and their application to the learning process. The immediate change in my teaching has been to purchase a tablet and install those apps that we tried during the session at the World Congress. In the long term, the effect will be to analyze technologies and evaluate how useful they are to be applied in my own lectures. *Edison Gamarra, Perú*

In general, educational technology is continuously changing, from a passive state to an interactive one. Although in many cases we know something about technology, it is most useful to learn about its use in education, opening a wider spread of possibilities for teaching and to assess the learning process. I will ask the Head of School for support in implementing some of the applications I learnt about at the Congress. Additionally, I will write a report for my professional association. I will ask the IACLE Americas office to perform a national educators meeting for Mexico in 2016. *Ruben Velazquez, Mexico*

This congress have been unforgettable. Sharing with colleagues with wider experience is very useful for me and for my professional career. On the academic side, I am now aware of the variety of educational tools that are easy to use and at our fingertips. It makes a difference to my educational journey. Additionally, information from manufacturers is very important to see



where we are and where the future leads. I was impressed how much IACLE is doing to bring together people worldwide, with different cultures but sharing the same language: contact lens education. *Aldo Ortiz, Guatemala*

The Congress marked a turning point in my thinking about education. I have learnt that the main role of an educator is to facilitate learning and we must be able to use all the educational tools available, such technology tools. Meaningful learning is the goal. Now I am working on tailoring a course to be delivered through Nearpod and measuring the impact on students. I have met other educators in my institution to share this information and to apply apps like Nearpod or Socrative. The impact has been very good and the group has a lot of interest in continuing to work on this. *Rolando Rojas, Perú*

All the apps we learnt about and used were very useful tools for working with students. I'll soon be beginning a new semester so I'm now thinking how to get students more involved through these tools. Fluorescein pictures, movement and centration of the lens, analysis of toric soft lenses are among the topics that could be involved. The most impactful thing was how we are wasting or misusing smartphones, tablets and computer technology, by not using these for improving our lectures. Also the presentations from contact lens companies and how they see a role for contact lens teaching in growing the market. *Jorge Vargas, Colombia*

The Congress organized under IACLE leadership was marvelous in all respects. I am especially grateful to you for enabling me to participate in this landmark event. I have already shared with my students the educational material provided by the Congress. I look forward to having more interaction between IACLE and my institution in future. *Tayyab Afghani, Pakistan*

Blended learning is an important topic at the schools where I work. I've learned a lot more about new (digital) methods for building blended learning than I'd ever heard of before I came to the Congress! We're going to try to implement some in our new curriculum for 2016. Another thing we're going to think about is how we can work in a paperless environment in the future. It's important to compare the presented programs (eg Evernote) with the (general) programs my schools intend to use. I've heard a lot about the curriculum schools all over the world use for contact lens education. Some use the IACLE program [ICLC], others don't. It's good to think about those things when we're going to design our new curriculum. The Congress made me think about considering the increased use of tablets or computers in our schools. Helen Crompton has shown me that we're only at the beginning when we consider innovation within education. The future will be inspiring and beautiful I think! *Henri Eek, The Netherlands*



It was a privilege to be at the Congress. It was a superb conference for educators. It was wonderful to meet so many enthusiastic colleagues from all over the world. Every day we had well known lecturers and very good lectures about usable apps for today and for the future. It will take a while to sort out which we're going to use on a daily basis but it broadened our minds and knowledge. And a superb lecture from Steve Martin about persuasion, for me one of the best lectures I have ever been to, and I've attended many. The future with virtual reality by Helen Crompton was the most fun and amazing. In all, I would not have missed it for the world.  
*Simone Stad, The Netherlands*

The meeting exceeded my expectations. I was thrilled with the personal learning outcomes I obtained. The next challenge is to make sure these meetings happen more frequently, every 15 years! Way too long. Should be no more than five years, more likely three. *Craig Woods, Australia*