

Monica Chaudhry, a passionate crusader for optometry

The dynamic Professor Monica Chaudhry is the recipient of the prestigious IACLE Contact Lens Educator of the Year Award for 2015 bestowed on her at a ceremony in Liverpool, the UK, on 30 May. In recognition of her contribution to the field of academic medical service, earlier awards have included the Shreshthshree Award by the Delhi

Citizen's Forum and the Australian Leadership Fellowship Award in 2011.

Monica Chaudhry, professor and head of the Department of Optometry & Vision Science, Amity Medical School in Gurgaon is also the chairperson of the Optometry Council of India and north representative of the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry (ASCO) in India. In both these roles, with such an esteemed university and influential association, Professor Chaudhry pursues her passion to enhance research in the field of optometry and vision science and take optometry to international standards.

Ms Chaudhry's dedication to research and quality in optometry education and her holistic approach has been more than amply established over the years. In a career spanning almost 25 years since graduating from the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) followed by an MSc in Clinical Optometry from the Vinayaka Mission Deemed University, she worked at AIIMS for more than 20 years, and was a consultant with the Indira Gandhi National Open University's (IGNOU) School of Health Sciences for their optometry programme for almost three years prior to joining Amity. She continues to be a member of IGNOU'S expert committee. In recognition of her hands-on academic and clinical experience, she was made a fellow of the International Contact Lens Educators in 1995, and has also been awarded a fellowship of the British Contact Lens Association.

Over the years she has been associated with leading eye care companies such as Johnson & Johnson, Bausch + Lomb, Alcon, Essilor, among others, as key opinion leader, faculty, consultant and advisor.



Recently she has been appointed by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to its task force on curriculum development.

Besides being on the executive/governing boards of leading associations of optometry in India, Ms Chaudhry has been actively involved in organizing conferences, seminars, national and international workshops, and faculty development programmes. She has been conducting training programmes for professionals and corporate training, and continues in her role as co-educator of the David Thomas Co (UK). She has chaired many scientific sessions and presented numerous papers at national and international optometry and ophthalmology conferences.

Professor Chaudhry has three books to her credit – Low Vision (2006), Contact Lens Primer (Jaypee Bros, 2007), Refraction and Prescription (CBS, 2010) – prescribed as text books in many optometry schools in the country, and sold across some Asian countries. She has also written many of IGNOU's optometry programme modules, has contributed chapters and articles to books and magazines, and is on the editorial board of Netra Darpan's magazines.

The Indian Optician congratulates Professor Monica Chaudhry for this latest honour – the IACLE Contact Lens Educator of the Year Award for 2015, and wishes her the very best in her endeavours.

Professor Monica Chaudhry receiving the prestigious IACLE Award from Gary Orsborn, Vice President, Global Professional & Clinical Affairs, Cooper Vision ▶

