



Third Summit of Deans and Directors of Optometry and ALDOO in Brazil

Rio de Janeiro played host to the 3rd Summit of Deans and Directors of Optometry Programs (17 November). This activity was kindly sponsored by CooperVision. The program included presentations on each institution represented, explaining their achievements and needs.

The summit had 30 attendees from schools and organizations from Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Mexico, Perú, Puerto Rico and Venezuela.

[ALDOO](#) (Asociación Latinoamericana de Optometría y Óptica) will provide funds for facilitating mobility across the region and ALDOO's Educational Committee is proposing the formation of a committee to assign educational credits to future continuing educational activities promoted by ALDOO, similar to CET or COPE credits.

Dr Marcela Frazier from the US-based non-profit organization [VOSH](#) (Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity) offered information about its support for equipment donation and services focused in developing countries.

IACLE Americas Regional Coordinator **Guillermo Carrillo** explained how IACLE programs, such as IACLE Discussion Forums and Web Lectures, could be very supportive for institutions. He encouraged Deans and Directors to support IACLE members in achieving improvements to contact lens education, join programs such as the Student Trial Exam (STE) as an assessment tool, and adopt a more collaborative approach to local industry in each country. Dr Frazier offered to participate as a lecturer in an online lecture.

IACLE members take part in Mexico's National Contact Lens Symposium

The 3rd National Contact Lens Symposium took place in Mexico this month (25 and 26 November). This event was organized by [AMFECCO](#) (Asociación Mexicana de Facultades, Escuelas, Colegios y Consejos de Optometría). The program included FIACLE **Ricardo Pintor** (Mexico), IACLE member **Edward Carmona** (Venezuela), FIACLE **Fernando Ballesteros** (Colombia) and IACLE member **Javier Prada** (Costa Rica) (pictured below, left to right).



AMFECCO President **Alvaro Alcala** met with Guillermo Carrillo and agreed to collaborate with active participation in IACLE through its members. Future plans with AMFECCO are focused on enrolling new members and involvement in IACLE programs.

In 2017, IACLE Americas will have an important role in the next AMFECCO National Congress, to be held in Leon City, Mexico from 2-4 March.



Pictured (left to right) at the symposium are IACLE members: Javier Prada (Costa Rica), Edward Carmona (Venezuela), **Johana Garzón** (Colombia) and Fernando Ballesteros (Colombia).

Colombians students sit STE



A total of 48 students from the Optometry Program of [AreAndina Pereira](#) (Colombia) sat the Student Trial Exam (STE) this month (18 November). FIACLE **Orlando Neira** and **Ana María Agudelo** supervised the students during the exam.

Chilean educator makes waves in Guatemala



Chilean IACLE member **Dr Patricia Flores** recently gave lectures at [Galileo University](#) in Guatemala City. Patricia offered her knowledge of contact lenses and wavefront technology. Patricia is pictured (second left, front row) with the whole group in this nice picture!