

Asian educators inspired by IACLE Philippines meeting

With more than 20 new membership applications resulting, the recent IACLE Educators' Meeting in The Philippines was a major success. Asia Pacific Regional Coordinator Dr Cheni Lee reports



Seven schools in the Philippines, Indonesia and Thailand were represented at the IACLE Educators' Meeting conducted at the [Centro Escolar University](#) (CEU) in Manila, Philippines (14 and 15 November).

Dr Jessica Flor, Dean of the School of Optometry welcomed all local and international IACLE members and thanked IACLE for conducting the meeting at CEU. There were 52 attendees in total: 12 full members, 36 potential IACLE members and four industry representatives (one Alcon, and three local distributors).

Day 1 commenced with the introduction of all IACLE members and an IACLE Update presented by **Dr Cheni Lee**. Following the update, IACLE Director of Educational Development **Dr Lewis Williams**



(pictured left), the invited speaker for this meeting, presented on 'Current IACLE resources' with a demonstration of the IACLE Case Reports.

Lecture topics included 'How to make a good presentation', 'How to teach toric contact lenses' and 'How to teach lens care and maintenance'.



Next was a very interactive session where all attendees were divided into four groups and everyone shared their views on the challenges involved in teaching contact lenses. The challenges faced by the Filipino educators were related mainly to the student/clinician ratio, clinician expertise in managing contact lens patients in clinics, insufficiency of instruments and lack of contact lens parameters, and visual aids. Day 1 closed with an Industry presentation by **Dr Jeanette Romualdez** of Alcon Professional Affairs.

Day 2 commenced with Dr Lewis Williams presenting on 'Multifocal lens fitting', 'Orthokeratology' and 'Myopia control'. This was followed by a short sharing session to review what the educators had learned. An evaluation in the form of 15 MCQs was also conducted.

The day ended with the IACLE Meeting Survey. The results from the survey indicate 98% of the educators rated the meeting as excellent, with program topics, presentation of information and the level of information relevant to their needs.

IACLE would like to thank all attendees for making this meeting a success. A special thanks to **Dr Elena Borromeo** for coordinating the logistics and getting educators from all the Schools of Optometry in the Philippines to attend. Thanks also to Alcon and to local Philippines distributors for participating and sponsoring the dinner.

Here's what some of those attending had to say about the meeting:

'It was such a delightful feeling to have IACLE Regional Coordinator Dr Cheni Lee and Director of Educational Development Dr Lewis Williams visit the Philippines. The two-day program gave a bird's eye view of what to expect in the new IACLE resources and more. Cheni was inspiring and kept us engaged while Lewis's content was interesting and fun. Thank you for a dose of good learning!' **Dr Jeanette Romualdez** (Professional Affairs, Alcon)

'I was inspired by IACLE to make my contact lens class lectures simpler, more direct and to the point, and comprehensive in a way so that my students would not be bored, and at the same time gain the knowledge they need.' **Dr Justine Miles** (MMFC Davao)

'I am going to include ortho-K in the current curriculum. Thanks IACLE for the update,' **Dr Donnie Saludes** (Manila Central University)

'The program topics were relevant to my needs. I will correct my old practises of contact lens fitting and dispensing. Thank you IACLE!' **Dr Baluso Tarrah** (Centro Escolar University)

'We thank IACLE for the invitation and we hope IACLE will continue to provide us with renowned speakers who are at the top of this specialty field, to update and introduce new, current knowledge to Filipino educators and optometrists.' **Dr Divinia Reyes** (PRC)