

September 2018

IACLE Board visits Optometry Program in Barranquilla, Colombia

IACLE Executive Board members visited the Optometry School of [Universidad Metropolitana](#) (UniMetro) in Barranquilla, Colombia last month (8 August) during their stay in the region. IACLE Assistant Secretary **Gina Sorbara** and Secretary **Janice Jurkus** held a meeting with the Dean of Optometry Program, **Manuel Lora**, along with IACLE Americas Regional Coordinator **Guillermo Carrillo** (Perú).

The group (pictured left to right) discussed how IACLE could collaborate in the contact lens field and support education. Dr Lora was very enthusiastic about enrolling optometric educators with IACLE. He had previously agreed with the IACLE office to host an IACLE Educator Meeting at UniMetro.



During the visit the group had the opportunity to tour the university facilities. UniMetro has a hospital facility where students attend clinics and have the chance to share interdisciplinary experience. Pictured (left) are some of the students in clinical practice.

IACLE Educator Meeting focuses on clinical assessment

IACLE members, staff and Executive Board members joined an Educator Meeting at UniMetro the following day (9 August). A total of 21 attendees represented six institutions, from different cities: UniMetro (Barranquilla, Colombia), [U La Salle](#) (Bogotá, Colombia), [Areandina](#) (Pereira, Colombia), [U Sinú](#) (Cartagena, Colombia), [U Antonio Nariño](#) (Medellin, Colombia) and [U Villa María](#) (Córdoba, Argentina). The IACLE office offered a two-hour meeting.



Topics were around clinical assessment and competencies. **Gina Sorbara** (Canada), **Janice Jurkus** (USA), **Guillermo Carrillo** (Perú) and **Martin Giraldo** (Colombia) were facilitators and the group were very enthusiastic and receptive. Feedback from attendees was very good and they requested

more interactive sessions in the near future. Pictured speaking are **Gina Sorbara** (below left) and **Martín Giraldo** (right).



Our thanks to the Optometry Program of UniMetro and to Dr Lora for their collaboration in this successful meeting.

IACLE Travel Award recipient presents at FEDOPTO Congress



FIACLE **Sabrina Lara**, from the [Universidad Nacional Villa María](#) in Córdoba, Argentina, is the recipient of the latest 2018 [IACLE Travel Award](#). Sabrina attended the [29th National Optometry Congress](#) in Barranquilla (9-11 August) courtesy of sponsorship by IACLE and the support of [FEDOPTO](#). She is pictured delivering a lecture on 'Tips for pediatric contact lens fitting' at the congress.

Sabrina is very passionate about contact lenses and a very active and enthusiastic IACLE member. She is very grateful to IACLE for honoring her with this award.

IACLE maintains high profile on FEDOPTO's main program



IACLE Americas had a highlighted participation on the main program at the 29th National Optometry Congress. **Gina Sorbara** (Canada), **Janice Jurkus** (USA), **Jorge Vargas** (Colombia) (pictured left), **Guillermo Carrillo** (Perú), **Orlando Neira** (Colombia), **Martin Giraldo** (Colombia), **Daniela Garese** (Uruguay), **Luis Barba** (Mexico), **Sergio García** (Colombia), **Héctor Velazquez** (Venezuela) and **Rosario Vidal** (Colombia) were members who took part. IACLE provided more than 3 hours of education for over 1,100 attendees at this congress.

- Access the FEDOPTO Congress agenda and profile of the speakers [here](#).

FIACLEs provide continuing education in FEDOPTO Contact Lens Section...

Once again, IACLE Americas offered a Contact Specialist Section during the National Optometry Congress (10 August). In charge of this section were FIACLEs **Nelson Merchan** (Colombia), **Martin Giraldo** (Colombia) and **Guillermo Carrillo** (Perú). Topics were around: 'Safety, health and contact lens strategy for clinical management of dropouts', 'Silicone hydrogels: 20 years after' and 'Changes in wetting angle due to contact lens solutions'. This section was attended by 200 enthusiastic practitioners. Pictured are **Nelson Merchan** (below left) and **Martin Giraldo** (right).



...and join speaker line-up for Medical Technology Congress in Perú

Elsewhere in the region, FIACLEs **Rolando Rojas** (Perú) and **Guillermo Carrillo** (Perú) were in charge of the contact lens section of the program at the Medical Technology Congress held in Perú. Topics discussed were around the use of technology to improve the clinical management of ocular surface changes and the potential role for contact lenses in treating myopia.

The 2-hour contact lens program reached more than 100 attendees.



IACLE Regional President appears on Bolivian TV



IACLE Americas Regional President **Dr Sergio García** was interviewed on Bolivian television recently (31 August). Sergio was attending a conference in Santa Cruz, Bolivia and was invited to take part in the TV program, where he spoke about the professional role of optometry and eye care practitioners in myopia control with contact lenses.

IACLE LA Office on Radio – IACLE in the World



Visual Radio. Members from different parts of the region are participating, and share with colleagues and other members their experiences and comments about their educational markets.

This month topics were around: contact lens education; clinical management of contact lens complications; contact lenses and sports; and how important is nutrition in contact lens wear. IACLE members who took part this month were **Ma Dolores Velasco** (Mexico), **Giovanny Rojas** (Colombia), **Marco Reynoso** (Mexico), **Luis Villar** (Mexico), **Lyda Granados** (Colombia), **Arturo Aguirre** (Mexico), **Patricia Magnelli** (Argentina) and **Ernesto Valdenegro** (Uruguay).

IACLE in the World has so far reached 10 countries: Colombia, Perú, Mexico, Ecuador, Argentina, Guatemala, Bolivia, Chile, Nicaragua and USA.

[Franja Visual Radio](http://www.franjavisualradio.com) is web-based radio with an audience of more than 100 eye care practitioners.

The program goes every Wednesday from 9:30 to 10:30 am (UTC-5). Recorded programs can be accessed via the following link:

<http://www.franjavisualradio.com/index.php/programas-especiales/iacle>

The FEDOPTO Congress provided an opportunity to conduct some live interviews to include in the IACLE in the World radio program. Pictured is IACLE Secretary **Janice Jurkus** interviewed by **Javier Oviedo** from [Franja Visual Radio](http://www.franjavisualradio.com). Jan spoke about education and topics related to her lectures offered during the congress.

The weekly IACLE radio program is still ongoing, having been on air for 30 weeks to date.

Every week a couple of IACLE members are part of the program through the support of Franja