

Jakarta hosts first full IACLE meeting in Indonesia in 20 years

A recent IACLE Educator Meeting in South East Asia attracted contact lens educators from eleven schools across Indonesia, Malaysia and the Philippines to share their teaching methods and learn from each other. Cheni Lee reports on a great learning experience



Calls for regular IACLE events in Indonesia followed a successful Educator Meeting in Jakarta this month (16-17 April), the first full IACLE meeting in the country in 20 years. **Dian Leila Sari**, chairman of the Academy of Refractionist Optician Leprindo Jakarta welcomed all local and international members and thanked IACLE for conducting the meeting. There were 34 attendees: 20 full members, nine potential new members and five industry representatives (two from Alcon, two from Johnson & Johnson and one from Bausch + Lomb), plus two presenters.



What's new?

Day 1 began with the introduction of all IACLE members and an IACLE Update presented by Asia Pacific Regional Coordinator **Cheni Lee**. IACLE Director of Educational Development **Dr Lewis Williams** (pictured left), the invited speaker for this meeting, lectured on 'Current IACLE resources' with a demonstration of the IACLE Case Reports, and gave a second presentation, on 'Silicone hydrogels – what's new?'



and students, the hours of teaching, the contact lens curriculum, and limited resources in Bahasa. All agreed that the priority now was to form an IACLE local community group in WhatsApp or Line.

Sharing challenges

Next came a very interactive session where all the attendees were divided into groups and everyone shared their views on the challenges facing contact lens education. From the international group, the challenges were mainly from government regulations, young lecturers who did not have enough clinical experience, limited clinic times and the number of contact lens patients. For the local group, issues were the ratio between instruments



Personal feedback

Day 2 commenced with a recap and summary by Cheni Lee (pictured left) on what members had learned in the first day. Dr Lewis Williams then presented on two other topics: 'Lens care – where are we?' and 'Soft multifocal lens fitting'.

Next came the sharing of teaching methodology where attendees each gave a 10-minute presentation and the other delegates evaluated and provided feedback on the following:

- Overall content, structure and sequence of the topics
- Verbal communication (clarity, volume, tone and pitch)
- Effective use of questions
- Non-verbal communication skills (gestures, facial expression)
- Appropriate use of visual presentation aids

This interactive and discussion session went very well. Everyone was enthusiastic and agreed that this was a great learning experience. Delegates considered the feedback as a great way to improve their teaching and become better educators.

IACLE would like to thank all attendees for making this meeting a success. A special thanks to Alcon and Johnson & Johnson for participating in this two-day meeting and sponsoring the dinner.

Feedback from members included...

'We thank you IACLE for the invitation and providing us with a platform to interact with educators from other universities. Throughout the two days, we have learned and discussed. By sharing, we become better educators because of IACLE. We hope IACLE can conduct this type of meeting on a regular basis.'

And from industry...

'It was a good meeting and this is needed in Indonesia to help raise the standard of contact lens education and keep members updated. This should be a regular event.'