

ALDOO's approach to strengthen contact lens education in LA region

The [Latin American Association of Optometrists and Opticians \(ALDOO\)](#) is planning to form a Contact Lens Committee. **Dr Katerin Ortiz** from the [Interamerican University of Puerto Rico](#) and the board of ALDOO have invited the IACLE Latin America office to participate. Goals are focused on making improvements to the contact lens curriculum and standardizing learning objectives between institutions. ALDOO's President **Dr Alvaro Alcalá** is interested in changing the face of ALDOO to elevate the organization to a higher level.

IACLE Americas Regional Coordinator **Guillermo Carrillo** will meet with Dr Alcalá (México) during the [Asociación Boliviana de Optometría \(ASBOP\) Conference](#) on 19-21 November in the city of La Paz (Bolivia). They will discuss the opportunity to have well trained educators and high-quality contact lens resources for students and practitioners across the LA region. Dr Alcalá is interested in having IACLE involved in the next ALDOO Congress in Leon, Guanajuato (Mexico) in November 2018. IACLE would be in charge of the contact lens module within the congress. This kind of collaboration would spread the scope of contact lens education to locations where IACLE currently does not have influence, ie Central America, and this collaborative effort could encourage contact lens market growth.



Pictured above (left to right) are: Katherine Gonzales (Ecuador), Guillermo Carrillo (Perú), Carolina Hernández (Colombia), Ana Paola Mercado (Perú), Alvaro Alcalá (México) and Edward Carmona (Venezuela)

Dr Alcalá is a former President of the [Mexican Association of Programs and College of Optometry \(AMFECCO\)](#). This organization involves the main schools and colleges of optometry in Mexico. Topics discussed arose from the need to strengthen basic knowledge in contact lenses, due the nature of the Mexican contact lens market. The agenda will therefore have topics around contact lens basics and hot topics. In the short term, there is the possibility of an educational meeting at the [Autonomous University of Aguascalientes](#), Mexico as part of the revival of activities in Mexico.

IACLE Americas to have highlighted role in FEDOPTO Congress in Orlando, USA

A meeting with **Dr Johana Garzon**, President of [Colegio Federación Colombiana de Optometrías \(FEDOPTO\)](#) has confirmed IACLE's commitment to be actively involved in the next FEDOPTO Congress, to be held in Orlando, Florida (USA) from 29-31 March 2018.



IACLE will have high exposure with an 'IACLE Room' and an additional room for educational meetings with IACLE members the day before the congress begin. The main contact lens topics scheduled for development of sessions are: compliance, contact lens dry eye and comfort. These topics will contribute to improvements in contact lens management and reducing dropouts. FEDOPTO will be supporting IACLE speakers with accommodation.

Colombian university schedules November IACLE meeting

[Areandina University](#) Bogotá has scheduled its annual conference activity for 8 November and will have IACLE members highlighted participation. They invited IACLE Americas office to be part of the program. This is the institution that enrolled a large group in the Student Trial Exam (STE) held during last FEDOPTO Congress (August 2017).

STE results are already in and now we will discuss with IACLE members and heads of Institutions a plan for remediation and improvements. These results are relevant to have a better understanding of contact lens education in Colombia and the plan that will arise through Areandina could be useful for other institutions.



AREANDINA
Fundación Universitaria del Área Andina

"Una mirada a las nuevas tendencias en SALUD VISUAL"

2^o Seminario de actualización EN OPTOMETRÍA & Coloquio de INVESTIGACIÓN

Fecha
8 de noviembre de 2017

Horario
8:00 a.m. a 6:00 p.m.

Lugar
Aula Máxima Pablo Oliveros Marmolejo
Carrera 14^a No. 70^a - 34 / Piso 5

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LA members active in Argentina and Guatemala this month



IACLE members FIACLE **Sabrina Lara**, **Eduardo Salischiker** and **Guillermo Falconaro** led academic activities developed an updating journey for Argentinean practitioners in Córdoba (Argentina) on Oct join Colegio de Opticos de Córdoba. IACLE member **Aldo Ortiz** from Universidad Galileo Quetzaltenango

(Guatemala) organized soft contact lens workshops with students. Pictured are (left) the Argentinean group and (right) the students' workshop in Guatemala.



Web Lectures in Colombia

With the attendance of 26 and 28 IACLE members respectively (13 and 26 October), the IACLE office through **Guillermo Carrillo** offered two sessions of 1½ hours each of online Web Lectures. Topics were 'Contact lens fitting' and 'Contact lens management of adverse effects', and the use of IACLE resources for new members through FEDOPTO. The whole group is working hard to achieve a successful Fellowship Exam.



Find more information on IACLE's Web Lectures [here](#)