

IACLE 40 YEARS' CELEBRATION AT APOC



Dr Scott Mundle President of the World Council of Optometry, making his mark on the time wall of IACLE achievements



IACLE team raise their cupcakes to mark the 40th anniversary



IACLE TEAM IN DISCUSSION

The International Association of Contact Lens Educators (IACLE) celebrates 40 years of 'exceptional education' in the field with special events this year. The first was in the UK during the British Contact Lens Association Clinical Conference & Exhibition in Manchester, from 30 May to 1 June.

The second was at the Asia Pacific Optometric Congress (APOC) in Manila,

the Philippines, between 17 and 20 June, to be followed by celebrations at other major international meetings during the year: the Colegio Federación Colombiana de Optómetras (FEDOPTO) Congress in Bogotá, Colombia (8-10 August), and Academy 2019 and 3rd World Congress of Optometry in Orlando, Florida, USA (23-27 October) as well as with other national and local meetings around the world.

‘Optometry Refocused – Adapting to Disruptive Technologies and Heightened Consumerism’ was the theme of the 22nd APOC in Manila, co-organised by the Asia Pacific Council of Optometry and Optometric Association of the Philippines.

Members of the executive board of IACLE, staff, fellows and members were involved throughout the programme, delivering workshops, lectures and posters. The IACLE exhibition booth was abuzz throughout as delegates kept visiting to mark the time wall of milestones in the association’s history; non-members too dropped in to enquire about IACLE membership. The distinguished visitors included Dr Scott Mundle, president of the World Council of Optometry, who too made his mark on the time wall of IACLE achievements.

Dr Lewis Williams, IACLE director of Educational Development, who presented contact lens options in presbyopia and the various correction options, said that although a majority of CL practitioners recognised



▲ **PROF LAKSHMI SHINDE (RIGHT) AND DR CHENI LEE (LEFT), IACLE’S ASIA PACIFIC REGIONAL COORDINATOR CONDUCTING A WORKSHOP ON THE THEME OF BLENDED LEARNING**



◀ **DIRECTOR OF EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT DR LEWIS WILLIAMS (RIGHT) RECEIVING A SPECIAL AWARD FROM PROFESSOR SWEENEY TO MARK HIS OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO CONTACT LENS EDUCATION**

the potential for fitting more presbyopes to grow their practices, the reality was far less convincing.

Dr Luigina Sorbara, IACLE’s assistant secretary, who spoke on dealing with adverse events in contact lens practice, cited the recent outcomes from the Contact Lens Assessment in Youth (CLAY) study and explained how to manage complications in contact lens wear.

Director of Educational Programs Nilesh Thite and global director of Education Lakshmi Shinde

conducted an interactive workshop on proactive contact lens practice to improve business, how to introduce contact lenses and how to upgrade existing lens wearers.

In the ‘Technology in education’ workshop, Dr Williams detailed how technology could be used in different ways to make educational endeavours more effective and efficient. FIACLE Professor Prema Chande and Dr Ramesh S Ve shared their experiences of using various aspects of technology in their institutions.

In her ‘Blended learning’ workshop, Lakshmi Shinde detailed its various forms and the benefits of the flipped classroom. Dr Cheni Lee, IACLE’s Asia Pacific regional



PICTURED (LEFT TO RIGHT) AT THE IACLE AWARDS PRESENTATION AT THE GALA DINNER ARE: DR PETER HENDICOTT, WAN-YUN TSUNG, FAKHRUDDIN BARODAWALA, PROFESSOR DEBORAH SWEENEY, DR LUIGINA SORBARA AND MA YUYING



THE IACLE EDUCATION TEAM ENJOYING THE APOC GALA DINNER ALONG WITH 2019 TRAVEL AWARD WINNERS, STAFF, BOARD AND AP REGIONAL COORDINATORS

coordinator shared her experiences and encouraged the participants to share their views and how they could implement technology in their teaching. In a workshop on contact lens options in myopia control, Dr Sorbara covered all the available options along with their effectiveness.

Myopia control and optometry practice were in focus at the

conference. IACLE educators participated in some of the key sessions: Dr Luigina Sorbara (Canada) gave a lecture on evidence-based optometry practice; Lakshmi Shinde presented the current state of Indian optometry; FIAACLE Professor James Wolffsohn (UK) spoke on trends in myopia management at a symposium and on incorporating the TFOS Dry Eye Workshop II outcomes

into clinical practice. Fakhruddin Barodawala presented his research work as a poster. Indian FIAACLEs Prema Chande and Veshal Madan and member Somnath Ghosh also presented their work as free papers and posters.

During IACLE's 40th anniversary celebration and presentation of awards to the IACLE Travel Award winners at a gala dinner, Dr Sorbara gave a brief account of the association's journey. Three of the five 2019 recipients were present to receive their awards: Fakhruddin Barodawala, SEGi University, Malaysia; Wan-Yun (Connie) Tsung, Central Taiwan University of Science and Technology, Taipei; Ma Yuying, Wuxi Vocational Institute of Arts & Technology, China. Winners received their certificates from Professor Deborah Sweeney – past president of IACLE, Dr Sorbara and Dr Peter Hendicott, president of the Asia Pacific Council of Optometry.

Professor Sweeney acknowledged the contribution of Dr Lewis Williams to IACLE's resources, such as the IACLE Contact Lens Course (ICLC), Case Reports Series, Fellowship Examination and Distance Learning Program (DLP). Dr Williams, who worked on the very first module of the ICLC in 1995, received a special award for his outstanding contribution to contact lens education.

It was a hugely successful event for AICLE, says Lakshmi Shinde. "It was a wonderful three days. IACLE gained great visibility and many collaborative opportunities from APOC."