



November 2019

## IACLE gains exceptional exposure at Academy and WCO meeting

Global eye care, myopia management, infection control and scleral contact lens fitting were key topics at Academy 2019 Orlando and the World Congress of Optometry (23-27 October). Alison Ewbank reports on a meeting where IACLE again played a major role throughout the program



**AAO President Dr Barbara Caffery opens the plenary session at Academy 2019 Orlando**

With more 8,000 visitors across five days, the American Academy of Optometry (AAO) meeting exceeded last year's record attendance, aided by the first collaboration with the World Council of Optometry to hold the 3<sup>rd</sup> World Congress of Optometry. A program featuring up to 20 parallel tracks – and an Exhibit Hall – meant that careful planning was needed to make the most of the research and education on offer.

Highlights included the inaugural public presentation of the first-ever *World Report on Vision* by the World Health Organization (WHO). **Dr Alarcos Cieza** challenged the profession to help improve the availability, affordability and quality of vision care in underserved communities and developing nations around the world. We hope the eye care sector feels the same urgency for action that we at WHO feel,' said Dr Cieza. 'Eye care is very, very often not part of a health care strategic plan.'

### **Myopia control: risks vs benefits**

Super Sessions on Myopia and Contact Lenses featured a quantitative risk-to-benefit analysis of myopia control by **Dr Mark Bullimore**. The years of uncorrectable visual impairment that might be prevented by lowering patients' ultimate level of myopia by 1D was compared with the corresponding years of visual impairment associated with 5 years of contact lens wear, based on the risk of vision loss from microbial keratitis (MK). The benefits of myopia control outweighed the risks associated with daily wear of contact lenses, but increased incidence of MK associated with overnight wear and older children would alter this risk-benefit relationship, he said.



FIACLE **Dr Carol Lakkis** (pictured) joined the panel for the AAO Section on Cornea, Contact Lenses and Refractive Technologies Symposium on new International Standards Organization Guidelines on infection control. Guidelines on disinfection of multi-patient trial contact lenses were reviewed, and a summary of the key procedural steps (jointly prepared by the AAO and American Optometric Association) was distributed. This information is critical for trial lens fitting, particularly in specialty practice (RGP, scleral and hybrid lenses).

Elsewhere on the program, scleral lenses – said to be the fastest growing sector in the US – were prominent, with lectures and workshops covering both theoretical and practical aspects of fitting.

### Highlighted products

One of the most prominent new products in contact lenses was **Alcon's** Precision1 daily disposable with a layer of moisture on the lens surface that exceeds 80% water. **CooperVision** highlighted extended parameters for Clariti 1Day and **Johnson & Johnson Vision** focused on its first lens care product, the Acuvue RevitaLens multipurpose solution, as well as Acuvue Oasys with Transitions Light Intelligent Technology. **Bausch + Lomb** promoted the recently launched Ultra Multifocal for Astigmatism, and **Euclid Systems** used the opportunity to talk to customers from around the world about its Emerald orthokeratology treatment.

In education, the newly rebranded **BHVI**, formerly the Brien Holden Vision Institute, launched its Myopia Education Program, an online resource for eye care practitioners in three modules: managing myopia, complex cases and the business of myopia.

### IACLE's 40<sup>th</sup> celebrations

IACLE continued its 40th year celebrations in Orlando, the final destination for its interactive exhibition booth on the theme of 'Exceptional Education. Exponential Impact'. Hundreds of visitors at events around the world during 2019 have made their mark on a time wall of milestones in the Association's history. Members and guests joined board and staff for a 40<sup>th</sup> celebration at the Attendee Reception, and a poster from **Lakshmi Shinde, Dr Shehzad Naroo, Professor Philip Morgan** and **Bonnie Boshart** described IACLE's achievements over 40 years.



President Dr Shehzad Naroo (left) and Vice President Professor Philip Morgan cut a birthday cake during our celebration at the booth. Lakshmi Shinde shows Dr Debarun Dutta of Aston University, UK her poster on IACLE's 40 years of Exceptional Contact Lens Education

IACLE had a strong presence at this year's meeting and throughout the program. Here's a photo round-up of some key events in which our board, staff, members and Fellows were involved:



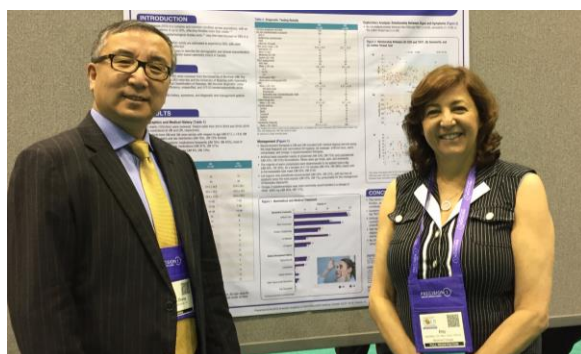
President **Dr Shehzad Naroo** was invited to take part in several special sessions on the Academy and WCO programs: the WCO 3rd President's Forum, Optometry's Role in Addressing the Changing Face of Technology, Public Health and Clinical Care; Joint PHEV and WCO Symposium: International Optometry: Public Health, Education, and Personnel Issues; and Joint Meeting ASCO, WCO, AAO Global Summit on Optometric Education. Shehzad also delivered a lecture on blended learning. He is pictured with chair of the PHEV/WCO Symposium, **Dr Karl Citek**.



IACLE Vice President **Professor Philip Morgan**, received the prestigious Max Shapero Memorial Lecture Award from the Academy's Section on Cornea, Contact Lenses and Refractive Technologies. Phil is pictured (center) with Section Chair **Dr Cristina Schnider** (right) and Immediate Past Chair **Dr Clarke Newman**. **Professor Nathan Efron** described the highlights of Phil's research career in a video introduction to the lecture.



IACLE Secretary **Dr Jan Jurkus** marked her retirement from the Illinois College of Optometry (ICO) with a 'going away' party at the ICO Alumni and Friends Reception. Jan (pictured center) was joined by a few of the 7,000 students she had taught during her 45 years at ICO, where she has now been appointed Professor Emeritus. Jan also delivered a lecture on contact lenses for the presbyope.



IACLE Treasurer **Professor Etty Bitton** presented four posters, lectured on dry eye and co-hosted a workshop on assessing student competencies with IACLE Assistant Secretary **Dr Luigina Sorbara**. Etty is pictured during the Academy poster session with **Steven Zhang** of exhibitor Kala Pharmaceuticals.





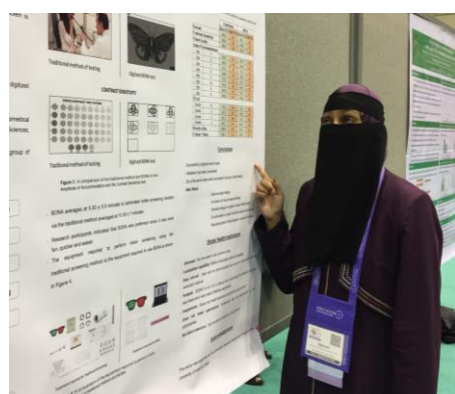
**Dr Sorbara** (left) and IACLE Director of Global Education **Lakshmi Shinde** delivered two lectures together, on proactive prescribing and fitting soft contact lenses in a commercial set-up, and on contact lens options for irregular corneas. Lakshmi also took part in the WCO 3rd President's Forum and presented in the WCO information poster session.



Winner of the 2019 IACLE Contact Lens Educator of the Year Award for Europe / Africa – Middle East, **Dr Fabrizio Zeri** (right), attended the meeting and is pictured at IACLE's booth with (left to right) previous Award winner **Professor Jan Bergmanson**, **Professor Ian Bailey** of the University of California Berkeley, USA and **Dr Naroo**. Another previous winner **Dr Yazan Gammoh** was appointed by the Eastern Mediterranean Council of Optometry (EMCO) to the WCO Board of Directors.

FIACLE **Professor Prema Chande** achieved Fellowship of the Academy and FIACLE **Nick Rumney** was awarded Diplomate in Public Health and Environmental Vision.

Members and FIACLEs also involved in lectures, workshops and posters included **Ian Davies** (pictured below, top left), **Dr Ithar Beshtawi** (top right), **Dr Renee Reeder** (bottom left), **Dr Naimah Ebrahim Khan** (bottom right), **Dr Elise Kramer**, **Dr Manbir Nagra**, **Dr Yazan Gammoh** and **Sebastian Marx**.



[Access the program, abstracts, speakers and exhibitors via the Academy.19 Meeting App](#)

Members, Fellows and guests from around the world visited our interactive booth to make their mark on a time wall of IACLE's achievements. Pictured (top left) are Indian delegates (left to right) Dr Stuti Mishra, Professor Prema Chande and Dr Anuradha Narayanan with Lakshmi Shinde, Greek educator Dr Dimitra Makrynioti (top right), Elihú Mexia and Giovanni Cruz (bottom left) from Mexico, along with Carmen Abesamis-Dichosa (bottom right) from the Philippines.



- Nashville, Tennessee will be the venue for the next Academy annual meeting, from 7-10 October 2020. The 4<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Optometry will be held in Melbourne, Australia from 2-4 September 2021.