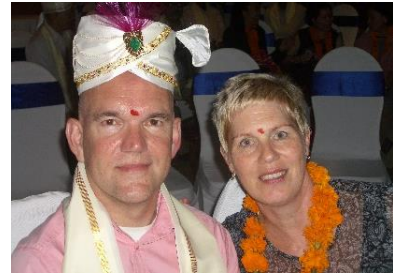


Dear Wim,

Maybe you are a little surprised why you are standing here, in a few minutes you will know why!

When IACLE asked me to organize something special for you today I felt really honored. It's a great pleasure for me talking to you now on behalf of them!



In January 2004 you became a member of IACLE, that means you're a member for more than sixteen years now. That's a really long time! In 2007 you passed the Fellowship Exam. Since then you have been a 'Fellow of IACLE'.

You have attended various instrumental IACLE events over the years. Several ones we attended together and I have really great memories to all of them. I'll mention some events here;

- The IACLE Regional Congress in India - 2006
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> IACLE World Congress in Manchester (UK) - 2015
- The IACLE Congress on Contact Lens Education in Hyderabad (India) – 2017

You have run, and contributed, to several IACLE member meetings in the Netherlands, for example the NCC. Some of them we have organized together. Although the 2020 edition has been postponed because of Corona I hope we can do this meeting together in September. With regard to those meetings you have also assisted with several reports.

You added several times educational material to the IACLE database, this material is available to members all over the world.

In the Netherlands you have contributed to the MBO Contact Lens Course for many years. You trained hundreds of students over the years and contributed to development and exams of the course. You also have been an active member of ExamenServices and the ANVC, the Dutch association of contact lens specialists.



The year 2018 has been very special for you, and to be honest, for me as well. In that year we both received the IACLE Award 'Fellow of the Year 2018'. We received the prestigious Award at an unforgettable celebration party at the A.A.O. Meeting in San Antonio. It's been a wonderful trip and event for me and I'm sure that your feeling about it equals mine!

So Wim, referring to all the things I've said before I completely understand that IACLE wants to award you now that you are going to retire. It's a great pleasure for me to hand over to you the 'Emeritis Membership in IACLE' Award. On behalf of IACLE I want to thank you for your effort during the past sixteen years. You've always remained a member in good standing throughout the entire duration of your membership. Because of the Emeritis status you can also hold lifetime FIACLE status now.

Finally there is one personal last wish from me. Although you are retiring now I really hope you will remain active for IACLE in the near future. It would be a great pleasure to me to visit and/or organize several more IACLE events or activities together with you in the upcoming years.

On behalf of IACLE, thanks for everything Wim!

Henri