

Robert becomes Emeritus Member after 30 years in education

IACLE Emeritus Membership is awarded to those who have held active membership for 15 years or more and who have now retired. Here UK-based Robert Conway describes his experiences of IACLE over his 30-year career in contact lens education in the UK and Asia



'I was introduced to IACLE by my former lecturer **Richard Pearson** from City University, London, who was one of the founder members of IACLE.

'It was while I was teaching contact lenses at the [Hong Kong Polytechnic University](#) in 1990 that IACLE, steered by Brien Holden and Debbie Sweeney, formed the first of its regional groupings. I took up the role of founding President of the Asia-Pacific group of IACLE, a post I held until my return to the UK in 1992.

'Throughout my 30 years as a contact lens educator, I have found IACLE to be a major support to my contact lens teaching. The [IACLE Contact Lens Course](#) is a vast evidence-based resource, being continually reviewed to ensure that members have open access to the ever-growing body of knowledge that underpins our practice as educators.

'IACLE is truly unique in its ability to collaborate with existing regional professional bodies and academic institutions and, most importantly, industry partners to the benefit of educators, students and patients worldwide.

'One of the most impressive aspects of IACLE is its recognition that contact lens education and practice differs throughout the world. IACLE successfully works across all regions to raise the standards of contact lens education in a way that is inclusive and celebrates diversity.

'I would like to thank all members of the IACLE Board and secretariat for running the organization in such an efficient, yet overwhelmingly friendly, manner. As a member of IACLE over the years I have met some great people and had a lot of fun!'