

IACLE's Global Virtual Conference

Integrating research into education

Saturday 24 April 2021

12 noon - 3.00pm (BST)



IACLE President
Dr Shehzad Naroo



Conference Chair
Professor Philip Morgan





The International Association of Contact Lens Educators was established in 1979 and is a non-profit, non-political association. IACLE has 821 (as of February 2021) active members in 75 countries and welcomes contact lens educators from all eye care professions and related disciplines. IACLE is dedicated to raising the standard of contact lens education and promoting the safe use of contact lenses worldwide. It is the leading provider of educational resources essential to contact lens educators. IACLE is supported by leading global contact lens manufacturers: Platinum Sponsor Alcon, Gold Sponsor CooperVision, Silver Sponsor Johnson & Johnson Vision, Bronze Sponsor Bausch + Lomb and Donor Sponsor Euclid. Find out more at www.iacle.org.

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Welcome to IACLE's Virtual Conference



As the world starts to move out of the pandemic era, we reflect on the lessons that the lockdown situation has taught us. We certainly learned to appreciate our loved ones and we missed meeting our wider circle of friends and colleagues. As educators, we were forced online for most of our teaching and IACLE embraced that challenge. Aside from the webinar series and the great advancements of IACLETOP, we also brought you our first Virtual Conference in September 2020. It was an astounding success, so for 2021 we are having two Virtual Conferences with differing themes. I am sure you will enjoy the conferences and find interesting topics to help you in your teaching and contact lens practice. As ever, on behalf of IACLE, I would like to thank all who have worked hard to pull this conference together, and especially the sponsors of IACLE for their continued support.

Dr Shehzad Naroo
IACLE President



Welcome to our second virtual meeting! The three hours of the event are filled with outstanding speakers discussing topics on our theme of 'Integrating research into education'. These are important matters – it is vital that what we teach continues to be informed by current research findings, in order for our students of today to become the expert practitioners of tomorrow.

The first two presentations feature **Professor Craig Woods** providing his views on evidence-based teaching and our President **Dr Shehzad Naroo** reporting on how scientific journals determine which research is published. **Dr Etty Bitton** will give her advice on abstract writing before **Professor Pauline Cho** provides her insight into how to review a manuscript.

We then move to an important panel discussion with international educators giving their views on how to best conduct student research. Next, **Runa Mazunder** will report on how to set-up and manage a journal club before **Jennifer Whale** helps us understand how to properly cost a research proposal. Our final speaker is **Professor Lyndon Jones** who will reflect on his own great success in forging research collaborations.

We are all set for a great meeting. I am sure you find it informative and stimulating.

Professor Philip Morgan
IACLE Vice President
Conference Chair

Saturday, 24th April 2021: 12.00-3.00 pm BST		
Chair – Philip Morgan		
PRESENTERS	TOPICS	TIME
Shehzad Naroo and Philip Morgan	Introduction, tone setting and objectives*	12.00-12.05*
Craig Woods	Evidence-based teaching*	12.05-12.20*
Shehzad Naroo	Editor's perspective – what gets published?*	12.20-12.35*
Etty Bitton	Nail the abstract!	12.35-12.50
Pauline Cho	Critically reviewing a manuscript	12.50-1.05
All	Discussion	1.05-1.20
	Break	1.20-1.30
James Wolffsohn, Stefan Bandlitz, Monica Chaudhry, Yazan Gammoh, Orlando Neira	Panel Discussion – Students' research: challenges and potential solutions*	1.30-2.00*
Runa Mazumder	How to conduct a journal club*	2.00-2.15*
Jennifer Whale	Costing a research proposal	2.15-2.30
Lyndon Jones	Forging successful research collaborations	2.30-2.45
All	Discussion, feedback, closing remarks	2.45-3.00

** These sessions will be live streamed on the IACLE Facebook page for non-members and students*

Welcome and Introductions



Dr Shehzad Naroo is a Reader at Aston University, Birmingham, UK and teaches in the area of anterior eye. He has authored and co-authored around 150 publications and given over 200 international presentations. He is Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Contact Lens and Anterior Eye* and President of IACLE. Shehzad is a Visiting Professor to the King Saud University in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, the American University of Science and Technology in Beirut, Lebanon and the Al-Shifa Eye Trust in Rawalpindi, Pakistan. In 2015 he was given the International Optometrist Award by the World Council of Optometry.



Professor Philip Morgan is Professor of Optometry, Head of Optometry, Deputy Head of the Division of Pharmacy and Optometry, and Director of Eurolens Research at The University of Manchester, UK. Philip is Immediate Past President of the International Society for Contact Lens Research and Vice President of IACLE. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry and of the British Contact Lens Association, and a member of the UK College of Optometrists. Philip was the BCLA Medallist in 2014 and recipient of the 2019 Max Schapero Award of the American Academy of Optometry.

Presenters and Topics



Professor Craig Woods is adjunct Professor, School of Optometry, University of New South Wales, Australia and is currently manager of R&D at the Brien Holden Vision Institute, Executive Manager of Educational Development for IACLE, Vice President of the International Society for Contact Lens Research and a member of the editorial boards for both the *Contact Lens & Anterior Eye* and *Eye & Contact Lens* journals. Craig graduated as an optometrist from The City University (London, UK), was awarded his PhD while at Eurolens Research (UMIST, Manchester, UK) and gained his graduate certificate in Ocular Therapeutics from the University of Melbourne, Australia. He has authored more than 180 refereed and professional papers and text-book chapters in related fields to ocular dryness and contact lenses. In 2019, he was awarded IACLE Asia Pacific Contact Lens Educator of the Year.

Evidence-based teaching

Evidence-based education is the principle that education practices should be based on the best available scientific evidence, rather than tradition, personal judgement, or other influences. Optometry, like many medical sciences, relied on applying peer opinion and judgement. Here we review the journey to evidence-based teaching methods and how it has benefitted teaching and learning environments.



Dr Shehzad Naroo is a Reader at Aston University, Birmingham, UK and teaches in the area of anterior eye. He has authored and co-authored around 150 publications and given over 200 international presentations. He is Editor-in-Chief of the journal *Contact Lens and Anterior Eye* and President of IACLE. Shehzad is a Visiting Professor to the King Saud University in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, the American University of Science and Technology in Beirut, Lebanon and the Al-Shifa Eye Trust in Rawalpindi, Pakistan. In 2015 he was given the International Optometrist Award by the World Council of Optometry.

Editor's perspective – what gets published?

The art of publishing papers in scientific journals is an important aspect for researchers, academics and clinicians. There are some common mistakes that many potential authors make and some useful information that will help lead to successful publications. This short talk aims to offer helpful tips to authors. The pandemic era saw a massive increase in papers being submitted to most academic journals. Since journals have a limited page budget, the result of more submitted papers means a higher rejection rate. This talk will give authors advice on how to avoid rejection.



Dr Etty Bitton is Professor and Director of the Dry Eye Clinic at the École d'Optométrie of the Université de Montréal, Canada. She currently serves as IACLE Treasurer. Etty completed her optometry degree at the University of Waterloo (1988), followed by a Master's in Physiological Optics (1994) from the Université de Montréal in the area of tear film clinical physiology and its relevance in patients exhibiting dry eye. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry (AAO) and the British Contact Lens Association (BCLA) as well as a member of several regional and international professional organizations. Her research interests include tear film evaluation, dry eye and its effect on contact lens wear.

Nail the abstract

Most conferences and publications require an abstract as a brief summary to ascertain the topic being presented. Writing an effective abstract can enhance the acceptance of it by review committees. This talk will describe the overall contents of a scientific abstract (introduction, methods, results and conclusion) and a brief description of each section. Other tips will include word count, key words, language and syntax for the audience being targeted. The talk will also provide clinicians, researchers and educators with advice on how to compose an effective abstract.



Professor Pauline Cho, of School of Optometry at PolyU, Hong Kong, obtained her Bachelor of Optometry at the University of New South Wales, Australia and her PhD at the University of Bradford, UK. She has published over 180 papers and was also one of the winners of the 2018 GSLS Awards of Excellence (Pioneers in Myopia Control). She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry and British Contact Lens Association, and a founding member of The Hong Kong Academy of Orthokeratology. She is also an Associate Editor of the journal *Contact Lens and Anterior Eye*.

Critically reviewing a manuscript

Manuscript reviewing is a process where experts in the field are invited to evaluate if a submitted manuscript is suitable for publication, serves to filter out manuscripts of questionable quality or flawed science, hence maintaining the integrity and credibility of scientific journals. Academics also need to critically review their own manuscripts, or those written by their research team members, before submission to increase the chance of being published. Three key questions about this process will be discussed – What? Why MR? How? Manuscript reviewing is not just a professional service to help journals and authors; it also allows the reviewers to access the latest developments in the field and provides a good learning opportunity for the reviewers.

Panel Discussion – Students’ research: challenges and potential solutions



Following a First class Optometry degree from Manchester, a pre-registration year at Moorfield’s Eye Hospital, London, a PhD at Cardiff University and a clinical/research fellowship at the University of Melbourne, Australia, **Professor James Wolffsohn** was appointed by Aston University in 2000, where he

was Head of Optometry (2004-2009) and Deputy Executive Dean for Life and Health Sciences (2009-2016), being awarded a personal Chair in 2007. He is now associate Pro-Vice Chancellor. James has published over 235 peer reviewed academic papers and given numerous international presentations. His main research areas are the development and evaluation of ophthalmic instrumentation, contact lenses, intraocular lenses and the tear film. He is the academic Chair of the British Contact Lens Association, having been a past President, was a harmoniser and sub-committee Chair for TFOS DEWS II and joint-Chair of the International Myopia Institute reports, and is Chair of the BCLA Contact Lens Evidence-based Academic Reports (CLEAR).



Dr Stefan Bandlitz is an optometrist and received his Master of Science in Clinical Optometry from Pennsylvania College of Optometry in Philadelphia, USA and his PhD degree from Cardiff University, Wales, UK. He is a Senior Lecturer at the Höhere Fachschule für Augenoptik Köln, Germany (Cologne School of Optometry) with teaching areas including contact lens fitting and clinical optometry. Furthermore, he is a researcher at the School of Life & Health Sciences, Aston University in Birmingham, UK. He is a Fellow of the College of

Optometrists (FCOptom), of the International Association of Contact Lens Educators (FIACLE) and the British Contact Lens Association (FBCLA). Dr Bandlitz is a known speaker at national and international meetings and has authored and co-authored around 70 publications (including peer-reviewed and textbook chapters). His current research areas include contact lenses, anterior eye imaging, the ocular surface, and the tear film.



Professor Monica Chaudhry is currently serving as Director, Sushant University (Erstwhile Ansal University, School of Health Sciences). She brings with her more than three decades of academic and clinical experience. She has served at All India Institute of Medical Sciences in Delhi for over 20 years. She has been associated with leading eye care industries such as Johnson & Johnson, Bausch + Lomb, Alcon, and Essilor as a key opinion leader, faculty, consultant and an advisor. In recognition to her contribution to the field of academic medical service, she has been awarded the Shreshtshree Award, Australian Leadership Fellowship Award and the 2015 IACLE Contact Lens Educator of the Year. She

was the Chairman of the Optometry Council in India and has been actively involved in organizing conferences, seminars, national and international workshops, faculty development programs and many corporate training programs. Monica has chaired numerous scientific sessions and presented many papers at national and international optometry and ophthalmology conferences. She has written chapters in books and published three books in total – ‘Low Vision’, ‘Contact Lens Primer, and ‘Refraction and Prescription’.



Dr Yazan Gammoh, a Jordanian optometrist holds a PhD in Optometry & Vision Science and an MSc in Optometry from the University of Bradford, UK. Dr Gammoh is a Fellow of IACLE and was awarded the 2017 Europe, Africa and Middle East IACLE Educator of the Year. Yazan is the Chairman of the optometry department at Ahliyya Amman University in Jordan, and a Senior Optometrist at the Arab East Medical Supply in Jordan. Yazan represents the Eastern Mediterranean Council of Optometry (EMCO) to the board of directors of the World Council of Optometry (WCO). Yazan also serves as the EMCO representative of the legislation, registration and standards committee to WCO. In addition, he acts as a consultant for Lions Clubs Jordan for eye

health care. Yazan’s main clinical interests are management of keratoconus using scleral lenses and low vision rehabilitation.



Dr Orlando Neira received his optometry degree from Universidad de La Salle in Bogotá in Colombia and became a Contact Lens Specialist from Centro de Optometría Internacional, in Madrid, Spain. Orlando completed his Diplomaed in Primary Eye Care, from Areandina, Pereira in Colombia and his Magister in Creativity and Innovation in Organizations, from Universidad Autónoma de Manizales in Colombia. Orlando is a Fellow of IACLE and runs a private practice in Pereira, Colombia.



Runa Mazumder graduated in optometry receiving the University Academic Medal (2006) from Vidyasagar College of Optometry & Vision Science in Kolkata, India. Presently she is an Assistant Professor at her institute with 14 years' teaching experience specializing in contact lenses and clinical refraction. She became a Fellow of IACLE in 2008 and also received the 2018 IACLE Educator of the Year Award. She has presented papers in many national conferences and has been a part of the scientific committee of many national conferences. She has worked as an examiner and speaker for Bausch + Lomb and CooperVision and is also a contact lens practitioner in multiple optometry clinics.

How to conduct a journal club

Health care education has been transformed to a more evidence-based curriculum. Therefore, research has become an integral part of academia. Journal club is one of the components of integrating research into education by which students acquire knowledge that is based on the latest publications and can be applied in clinical practice. It can be used to enhance the analytical skills of students and make learning more interactive and fun. Journal clubs involve searching for relevant articles and presenting them in groups that generates discussion and overall understanding of the topic. If methodically and regularly incorporated in the curriculum, it will surely enrich the learning of students.



Dr Jennifer Whale is a research management professional with 15 years' experience supporting research development in the NHS and higher education institutions. Her current role as Strategic Funding Manager involves providing research support to academics at Aston University's College of Health and Life Sciences, facilitating the development and submission of high-quality grant applications to external funding bodies. She is responsible for supporting the development and implementation of the College's research strategy and delivering training to support researcher development. Jennifer originally trained as a scientist and has a PhD in molecular and cellular biology.

Costing a research proposal

Costings are an important part of research proposals and many funders include 'value for money' as one of their assessment criteria. The financial breakdown is determined by the resources required to undertake the proposed study, but different funding bodies have various rules about what funding may be requested and it can be challenging for researchers to strike a balance between ambition and value for money. This brief talk aims to demystify research costings, covering aspects such as cost categories and headings, funder rules, how to determine what resources you require, and practical advice on developing costings for research proposals.



Professor Lyndon Jones is a Professor at the School of Optometry and Vision Science, Distinguished University Professor and Director of the Centre for Ocular Research & Education (CORE) at the University of Waterloo. He has authored over 450 refereed and professional papers, one textbook and given over 1,000 invited lectures in over 40 countries.

Forging successful research collaborations

Research is increasingly performed in teams, and team research is more likely to produce exceptionally high-impact research. Networks and collaborative practices have long been a key to how people organize themselves for survival, and they remain critically important in academia. Building networks and working collaboratively makes a lot of sense and can deliver many things that are not possible by working alone. But collaborations do not happen organically or by magic; most are hard to create and even harder to sustain. 'Collaborate or die' truly is the modern way of doing things in universities, and increasingly this relates to developing both academic collaborations as well as those with industry. This presentation will review some 'golden rules' for developing, maintaining and optimizing collaborations with academic and industry partners and will highlight some of the essential things to do – and not do – if successful collaborations are to occur.

After the meeting

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