

IACLE Virtual Conference

Saturday 14 May 2022



'Make students practice ready'

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12 noon - 3 pm UK (BST)



IACLE President
Professor Philip Morgan



Conference Chair
Dr Etty Bitton

In contact lenses, classroom teaching has an essential role to play. However, dealing with patients in a clinical setup poses different challenges. Hence, the focus of IACLE's fourth Virtual Conference will bridge the gap between academic teaching and contact lens practice requirements.

IACLE members, students, and eye care professionals will hear from a plethora of speakers sharing their knowledge and experience on relevant topics such as problem-based learning, practical skills, communicating with patients, and sharing best practices.

The day also features an interesting panel discussion on programs and activities to establish contact lens clinics in institutional settings.

We believe that IACLE members will find the conference relevant to their needs and will benefit immensely from it. We look forward to an insightful day and hope you are too!

The International Association of Contact Lens Educators was established in 1979 and is a non-profit, non-political association. IACLE has 771 (as of March 2022) active members in 80 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 Sponsors Bausch + Lomb and Ophtecs and Donor Sponsor Euclid. Find out more at www.iacle.org.

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Welcome to IACLE's Virtual Conference



IACLE President
Professor Philip Morgan

Welcome to our fourth Global Virtual Conference. We introduced these meetings in the early stages of the pandemic, perhaps assuming that they would be a temporary part of the IACLE range of offerings but found that they have been especially well received by our members, and something which we have decided should continue even though (hopefully) we are now emerging into a less COVID-ravaged situation.

Our next meeting is devoted to ensuring that when teaching our students about the science and art of contact lens practice, we ensure that they are ready to take their skills into the next stage of their career where they work as qualified eye care professionals. Our program features a range of educators from all over the world discussing how they train and enthuse their students, sharing their experiences across a range of educational approaches. The meeting will also feature a discussion about how to best establish contact lens clinics within teaching institutions – an area which I think will be of great interest to all IACLE educators. Many people have worked hard to bring this together. Thanks to our speakers for sharing their expertise with us. I am grateful to our Executive Manager of Educational Programs, Niles Thite, for his efforts in bringing together this fourth Global Virtual Conference. I would also like to thank and acknowledge the contribution and support of our sponsors for this meeting. Their long-term investment in 'educating the educators' allows us to host events like this.



Conference Chair
Dr Etty Bitton

I am thrilled to invite IACLE members to the 4th Virtual Conference on 14 May 2022. Speakers worldwide will discuss various topics around the theme of 'Making students practice ready'. As educators, we attempt to continually update our curriculum and courses to keep them current and challenge our students to prepare them adequately for practice. An introduction by IACLE President, Professor Philip Morgan, will begin the session by setting the conference's objectives. This will be followed by two speakers, Professor Craig Woods and Dr Cheni Lee, who will discuss integrating problem-based learning and case reports in teaching. The session will continue with Dr Maseedupally and Dr Ghorbani Mojarad, who will speak on the challenges and solutions of assessing students' practical skills, including how to conduct hands-on practical sessions.

The following session is a panel discussion moderated by Dr Byki Huntjens and several panellists to address how to establish a contact lens clinic and provide effective patient communication and counselling. We will also hear from Dr Mehta, who will demonstrate how to get the most out of the Student Area on IACLETOP. Finally, I will share the logistics of establishing and implementing an internship / externship program. The conference will end with a discussion section where you will have ample time to share your feedback.

'Making students practice ready' is a topic that we are all invested in, so I hope to see you in great numbers at the 4th IACLE Virtual Conference on 14 May. See you then!

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12.00 pm - 3.00 pm BST

Presenter	Topics	Time
PART ONE		
President and Chair	Introduction, tone setting, and objectives	12.00-12.05
Craig Woods	Problem-based learning	12.05-12.20
Cheni Lee	Incorporating case reports in teaching	12.20-12.30
Vinod Maseedupally	How to conduct practical sessions	12.30-12.50
Neema Ghorbani Mojjarrad	Challenges and solutions in assessing students' skills	12.50-1.10
All	Discussion	1.10-1.25
	Break	1.25-1.30
PART TWO		
Moderator: Byki Huntjens Panellists: Ithar Beshtawi, Uma Mageswari, Haiying Wang, Martin Giraldo	Panel discussion: Programs and activities to establish contact lens clinics in institutions	1.30-2.00
Sarah Morgan	Effective patient communication and counselling	2.00-2.20
Nirav Mehta	Making the best of IACLETOP – Student Areas	2.20-2.30
Etty Bitton	Internship and externship	2.30-2.45
All	Discussion, feedback and closing	2.45-3.00

Welcome and Introductions



IACLE President
Professor Philip Morgan

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 President of IACLE. He is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry and of the British Contact Lens Association (BCLA), 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.



Conference Chair
Dr Etty Bitton

Dr Etty Bitton completed her Optometry degree at the University of Waterloo (1988) in Canada, 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. Dr Bitton presently holds the rank of full professor and is the Director of the Externship Program at the School of Optometry at the Université de Montréal. She is a member of several national and international professional organizations. Her areas of interest are in the evaluation of the tear film, dry eye and contact lens wear. In 2012 she inaugurated and became the Director of the Dry Eye Clinic at the school, a first in an optometry school in North America. In 2015, Dr Bitton was invited by the Tear Film Ocular Society (TFOS) to participate in the TFOSDEWSII, a global initiative to redefine dry eye. She represents this organization as the ambassador for Canada. More recently (2019) Dr Bitton received a certificate on the Management of Dry Eye from the British Contact Lens Association.

Part One

Problem-based learning with Professor Craig Woods

It has been said that the problem with teaching is dealing with disinterested students, and the problem with learning is dealing with disinterested teachers! It sounds like a terrible situation for all to find themselves, especially when the reality really does not align with this statement but is often muted in conversation. Possibly the answer lies with engagement or perceived engagement; how can we get students to take ownership of their learning and see the teacher as a source of inspiration. This is the origin of problem-based learning, a teaching pedagogy that enabled a transformation and moved the mutual away from students being told facts, expected to memorize them in order to pass an assessment to a scenario where students made discovery a key part of their learning as well as how they could apply that knowledge. It brought real world scenarios into the classroom, and the teacher became the guide. So, let us understand how problem-based learning works and how it can be applied to the teaching of optometry and contact lenses.



Professor Craig Woods is an Adjunct Professor at the University of New South Wales School of Optometry, a Clinical Consultant for BHVI, the Executive Manager of Educational Development for the International Association of Contact Lens Educators (IACLE) and Vice President of the International Society for Contact Lens Research (ISCLR). He is also a member of the editorial boards for Contact Lens & Anterior Eye and Eye & Contact Lens journals. He graduated as an Optometrist from City, University of London, UK, awarded his PhD while at Eurolens Research (UMIST, Manchester, UK) and gained his graduate certificate in Ocular Therapeutics from the University of Melbourne. Professor Woods has authored over 190 refereed and professional papers and textbook chapters in related fields in the Ocular Surface Disease and Contact Lenses fields.

Incorporating case reports in teaching with Dr Cheni Lee

The IACLE Case Reports are one of the great resources to prepare students before they enter their clinical requirements. They are available in an interactive format to combine learning with confirmatory assessment. It helps reinforce logical, evidence-based processes, a step-by-step pathway towards a diagnosis and, subsequently, management of each condition. The Case Reports follow a sequential SOAPE format – Subjective information, Objective information, Assessment, treatment Plan, and patient Education. They can be used during classroom teaching and as assignments. In this talk, Cheni will discuss how she incorporates the different IACLE Case Report Series into the contact lens curriculum for her second year and third year students.



Dr Cheni Lee is the IACLE Asia Pacific Regional Coordinator. She has been involved in Optometric teaching, specifically teaching contact lenses, for more than 20 years. She was involved in developing the national contact lens curriculum to be deployed in all the optometry schools in Indonesia. Currently, she is the Head of the Association of Optometry School. Besides teaching, Dr Lee is a strong advocate for the Continuing Education Development in Indonesia and has been actively involved in planning, organizing, and delivering seminars and workshops to local optometrists.

How to conduct practical sessions with Dr Vinod Maseedupally

In this talk, Vinod will discuss how he uses a three-step approach to design practical classes, which involves pre-practical activities, hands-on activities, and reflection exercises. He will highlight how pre-practical activities prepare the students and set the scene for the actual hands-on practical sessions. He believes this approach allows the students to use practical class time efficiently. He will also discuss how he uses the reflection exercises to cement the practical concepts learnt through pre-practical and actual hands-on activities. Finally, the talk will highlight how he adapted his hands-on practical teaching during the COVID-19 pandemic.



Dr Vinod Maseedupally is a lecturer at the School of Optometry and Vision Science, University of New South Wales (UNSW) in Sydney, Australia. As an active researcher at the Research in Orthokeratology (ROK) Group, he investigates the effects of orthokeratology lens designs on corneal shape and the optics of the eye. Vinod received his basic optometry qualifications from L V Prasad Eye Institute and Bausch and Lomb School of Optometry, India. He was later awarded a PhD from UNSW in 2013 for his work on corneal shape changes, treatment zone decentration during overnight orthokeratology. Before earning his PhD, Vinod gained clinical and research experience in contact lenses at L V Prasad Eye Institute. He is now an Australian registered optometrist with therapeutic endorsement. Dr Maseedupally has published in peer-reviewed journals and presented his work as a speaker at various optometry and ophthalmology conferences. In addition, he extends his services as a reviewer to renowned optometry and ophthalmology journals. Vinod is recognized as a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry and a Fellow of the British Contact Lens Association. He is also a member of Australian contact lens professional bodies, including the Cornea and Contact Lens Society of Australia, Orthokeratology Society of Oceania, and the International Association for Contact Lens Educators.

Challenges and solutions in assessing students' skills with Dr Neema Ghorbani Mojarad

Ensuring that contact lens assessments accurately test students' skills and allow them to apply their understanding of the theory is not an easy task, particularly within the last few years in which direct assessment may not have been possible and hybrid teaching and assessment are more widespread. As a result, many educators have had to adapt and make compromises in assessing their learning outcomes, particularly for applied tasks or clinical skills. This has been further compounded by increasing student numbers and reduced opportunity to examine clinical skills ready for patient-facing clinics, which is particularly important for contact lenses, as practical learning usually cannot be done unsupervised. In this talk, we discuss some of these difficulties in assessment and present some solutions for digital and scalable alternatives that educators can implement to assess students' readiness for practice. This includes assessing communication skills, improving student satisfaction of assessments, and using alternative approaches to assess students' ability to perform complex slit lamp techniques.



Dr Neema Ghorbani Mojarad is an Optometrist and Assistant Professor at the University of Bradford, UK. His work involves teaching contact lenses for the university undergraduate programme and he is a Module Lead for the Contact Lens Practice module of the optometry degree. He is a Fellow of the British Contact Lens Association and Higher Education Academy for higher education teaching within the UK and recently obtained IACLE Fellowship. His research involves investigating genetic and environmental risk factors for myopia, myopia management interventions, and contact lens applications and practice.

Part Two

Panel discussion: Programs and activities to establish contact lens clinics in institutions

with Dr Byki Huntjens, Dr Ithar Beshtawi, Uma Mageswari Batumalai, Professor Wang Haiying, and Professor Martín Edison Giraldo Mendivelso

Establishing a contact lens clinic for higher education clinical training is essential to many optometric programs. However, this can also create multiple barriers and challenges. Academics from China, Colombia, Malaysia, and Palestine present their experiences running a student contact lens clinic focusing on learning activities and attracting more patients. The session, chaired by Dr Byki Huntjens, will also discuss challenges concerning these topics, including maintaining a functional clinic and professional standards.



Dr Byki Huntjens is a Senior Lecturer at City, University of London in the UK. Byki is a qualified optometrist from the Netherlands who obtained her MSc and PhD at the University of Manchester in the UK. Her current educational and research interests include contact lenses and dry eye, and she supervises multiple postgraduate students in these fields. She has presented at a variety of national and international conferences. Byki is a BCLA council member and Director of IACLE, holds a fellowship from the BCLA, IACLE and the Higher Education Academy, and is Chair of the British and Irish University and College Contact Lens Educators (BUCCLE).



Dr Ithar Beshtawi is an Assistant Professor in Optometry and the Head of the Optometry Department at An-Najah National University, Palestine. She holds an MSc and PhD in Optometry from the University of Manchester, UK. Dr Beshtawi has been teaching contact lenses at An-Najah's Optometry department since 2014, and she is also the director of the Optometry and Contact Lens Clinic, which offers contact lens fitting services to the university's students, employees, and the public. In the academic field, Dr Beshtawi has published many research articles in high-impact factor scientific journals, published a book entitled 'The Effect of Multifocal Contact Lenses on Peripheral Refractive Error' and has been invited to present research papers at numerous national and international conferences. She won the Daniel Turnberg UK/Middle East Travel Fellowship Scheme organized by the Academy of Medical Sciences. She also won An-Najah National University Award for Research Excellence and Quality of Publication in 2014, 2016 and 2017 for her excellent research. Dr Beshtawi has been active in many projects at the university. She is currently involved in numerous projects such as: 'Public health and human rights', 'Curriculum and skill development in vision rehabilitation', and the JUSUR programme for the vision rehabilitation of partially sighted and blind Palestinian youth, in addition to active involvement in child vision screening in Palestine.



Uma Mageswari Batumalai received the MHSc degree in Optometry from the National University of Malaysia in 2015. Since then, she has been working at SEGi University, Malaysia, where she is currently a lecturer and Head of Biosciences. She teaches contact lenses, advanced ophthalmic care clinics and ophthalmic drugs. Her research interests cover myopia and children, accommodation, and the anterior eye. Her recent publications include virtual reality on accommodation and convergence (Elias et al 2019), the prevalence of myopia among Indian school children in Kuala Lumpur (Madhavan et al 2018) and the peripheral refraction among myopic children (Batumalai UM 2015). She is currently in preparation to pursue her PhD in myopia.



Professor Martín Edisson Giraldo Mendivelso is an optometrist who graduated from De La Salle University in Manila, Philippines. He is a specialist in Anterior Segment and Contact Lenses from Santo Tomás University in Manila, Philippines, and received his Master's in Vision Sciences from De La Salle University. With teaching experience of more than 15 years, he currently works as an Assistant Professor of the optometry program in the Faculty of Health Sciences at De La Salle University. He is a member of the International Association of Contact Lens Educators (IACLE) and the National Network on Visual Disability. He has lectured at numerous national and international events. In 2015, he won IACLE's Americas Contact Lens Educator of the Year Award. His academic areas include the anterior segment, contact lenses, ocular surface, low vision, and research.



Professor Haiying Wang is the Dean of the School of Optometry at Tianjin Vocational Institute in China. She is also the China National Coordinator of the International Association of Contact Lens Educators (IACLE) and the Executive Deputy Secretary General of the National Optometric Industrial Steering Committee. Professor Wang is a senior visiting scholar at Nova Southeastern University and has a Master of Science in Clinical Optometry and a Medical Master in Ophthalmology. Professor Wang has been engaged in the teaching and research of contact lenses for a long time and is highly reputed in the field. She was awarded the Outstanding Teacher Award, and she has accumulated rich experiences in the prevention and control of myopia and binocular vision examination. In addition, she has authored more than seven books and published more than 40 papers on optometry in international and domestic conferences and academic journals.

Effective patient communication and counselling with Sarah Morgan

How can we help our students to communicate effectively with patients? There are many facets to becoming a contact lens practitioner, and while there is no substitute for the clinical opportunity of seeing a wide variety of patients, we can give our students the benefit of our experience in how best to build rapport and engage with patients. Not only are students making their first clinical steps, but they are yet to learn how to interact with different people. The greatest asset to helping a patient is understanding them better as a person, and this detail is often overshadowed by clinical information. Let's make our students more conscious about the context of contact lenses in the life of an individual patient. From this key background information, we can teach how best to introduce contact lenses to neophytes, revisit lens wear for lapsed wearers, as well as strategies for retention.



Sarah Morgan is an optometrist and has worked in clinical research at the University of Manchester, where she gained her MPhil – she continues to lecture and lead clinical sessions and holds the post of Vision Sciences Fellow. Her business consultancy includes a wide portfolio of projects, including staff development and training, advising professional organisations, and healthcare communication initiatives for manufacturers in the UK, Europe and globally. Sarah is an entertaining Key Note speaker and has lectured internationally across Europe, North America, South Africa, Hong Kong, Israel, Australia and New Zealand. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Optometry and the British Contact Lens Association. In addition to her work in Optometry, Sarah is a professional actress and musical comedian. In her spare time, she enjoys creating and editing short films, and The Myopia Control Song is an example of this work.

Making the best of IACLETOP – The Student Area with Dr Nirav Mehta

IACLETOP is one of the best learning management systems I have come across in recent years. The idea of IACLETOP was developed and implemented during the COVID-19 pandemic. I have observed that post-pandemic students' attention span has decreased, and offline classes have increased the challenge for an educator to teach students. The faculty and students can best utilize IACLETOP for learning. It provides facilities in the Student Area such as:

- Student Trial exam
- College Area
- Case Reports
- IACLE Webinars

We have incorporated the reading material, video lectures and assignments, and quizzes to be actively involved in contact lens education in our Student Area. This Learning Management System helps students and faculty track and monitor how individual students perform, and the grading system also allows faculty to plan their future classes based on their performance. Post-pandemic, the system can be used as a blended tool in the form of online and offline discussion.



Dr Nirav Mehta completed his undergraduate and postgraduate optometry degrees at Bharti Vidyapeeth University in Pune, India, in 2007 and 2009. He began work as an educator at Hari Jyot College of Optometry in 2009 and became Principal at the same institution in 2010. During his 10-year academic career, Dr Mehta has attended and presented papers at various national and international conferences. He became a Fellow of IACLE in 2011. Currently, Dr Mehta is a postgraduate educator and Associate Professor at Hari Jyot College of Optometry in Gujarat, India.

Internships and externships with Dr Etty Bitton

Developing and incorporating internships and externships in a clinical optometry program may seem daunting. This presentation will provide some tips on why and how to set one up and detail some of the logistics involved. A close partnership needs to exist between the institution, the student and the supervisor at the site. Internships and externships provide a clinical experience to enrich the curriculum and enhance your students' clinical exposure to make them more 'practice ready'.



Dr Etty Bitton completed her Optometry degree at the University of Waterloo (1988) in Canada, 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. Dr Bitton presently holds the rank of full professor and is the Director of the Externship Program at the School of Optometry at the Université de Montréal. She is a member of several national and international professional organizations. Her areas of interest are in the evaluation of the tear film, dry eye and contact lens wear. In 2012 she inaugurated and became the Director of the Dry Eye Clinic at the school, a first in an optometry school in North America. In 2015, Dr Bitton was invited by the Tear Film Ocular Society (TFOS) to participate in the TFOSDEWSII, a global initiative to redefine dry eye. She represents this organization as the ambassador for Canada. More recently (2019) Dr Bitton received a certificate on the Management of Dry Eye from the British Contact Lens Association.



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