

IACLE welcomes new Fellows from three global regions

More than 70 members of the International Association of Contact Lens Educators (IACLE) from countries including Russia, Pakistan and Ecuador could soon be adding letters after their names after successfully completing the IACLE Fellowship Exam in November 2017. Those successful who have been members for a year or more can now apply for FIACLE status.

FIACLEs are seen as leaders within their field and are frequently invited to speak at educational meetings, providing practitioner and student education within their professional communities.

A total of 154 candidates sat the latest exam and 84 were successful, a pass rate of 55%. The Asia Pacific region fielded the most candidates (71), closely followed by the Americas (63), with 20 from Europe / Africa – Middle East. India was the country with the highest representation, with 27 candidates.

Although a majority of those sitting the exam were Educator Members, 33 Associate Members, including **15 from industry** and **seven Professional Affairs personnel**, took part.



The highest marks were achieved by UK optometrist and educator **Andrew Elder Smith**, a consultant to the contact lens industry, and by French educator **Marina Barthe** from the Institut Supérieur Optique in Bordeaux (both pictured). **Wei Ma**, an ophthalmologist from Sichuan Medical University, China had the next highest score.

Twelve existing FIACLEs resat the exam, including FIACLE **Ruben Velazquez**, an educator at the Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico who has taken part in a record 10 Fellowship Exams. FIACLEs **Rolando Rojas** from Perú and **Daniela Garesi** from Uruguay have passed the exam each of the eight times they have entered.

The next administration of the Fellowship Exam will be in November 2019.

Fellows of IACLE regularly have their work published in peer-reviewed publications. A group of Indian FIACLEs, led by IACLE Director of Educational Programs **Nilesh Thite** and Global Education Manager **Lakshmi Shinde**, recently had a paper on proactive prescribing of contact lenses accepted for publication in the journal *Contact Lens & Anterior Eye*. The study challenges traditional approaches to contact lens recommendation and highlights the immense potential for contact lens wear in India. Read the abstract [here](#).

Click [here](#) for full details of the IACLE Fellowship (FIACLE) Program

Information on all IACLE activities and membership benefits is available at www.iacle.org.

ABOUT IACLE

The International Association of Contact Lens Educators was established in 1979 and is a non-profit, non-political association. IACLE has 826 active members in 70 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 and information 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 Care, bronze sponsor Bausch + Lomb and donor sponsor Euclid.