

November 2018

## IACLE salutes award winners at Academy 2018

The prestigious IACLE Contact Lens Educator of the Year Awards and IACLE Travel Award were presented at the American Academy of Optometry's Academy 2018 meeting in San Antonio, Texas, USA (7-10 November 2018).



Pictured at the IACLE Awards ceremony at Academy 2018 are (left to right): President Dr Shehzad Naroo, IACLE Travel Award recipient Martha García, IACLE Contact Lens Educators of the Year Runa Mazumder, Wim Borst and Henri Eek, and Marcella McParland, Director of Professional Services EMEA CooperVision

The ceremony took place on 9 November at an International Reception hosted by CooperVision, sponsor of the Educator Awards.

The **IACLE Contact Lens Educator of the Year Awards** recognize and reward achievements in contact lens education worldwide. Each winner also receives a bursary of up to US\$3,000 towards the cost of attending a major international conference.

The 2018 winners are:



**IACLE Americas Contact Lens Educator of the Year**  
Professor Lyndon Jones, University of Waterloo, Canada



**IACLE Asia Pacific Contact Lens Educator of the Year**  
**Associate Professor Runa Mazumder**, Vidyasagar  
College of Optometry & Vision Science, Kolkata, India



**IACLE Europe / Africa – Middle East Contact Lens Educators of the Year**  
**Wim Borst**, Deltion College, Zwollen and **Henri Eek**  
Deltion College and Hogeschool Utrecht, the  
Netherlands

**Marcella McParland**, Director of Professional Services EMEA CooperVision, presented the certificates to winners from the Asia Pacific and Europe / Africa – Middle East regions. Professor Jones was unable to attend and will receive his award at a separate ceremony.

Ms McParland commented: 'It's very easy to partner with someone like IACLE because we have a common passion for educating the eye care practitioners of the future so they can have the skills to change lives with contact lenses.'

'I remember when I did my Fellowship [of IACLE] what fantastic materials were available, and the help and support I had from IACLE. I appreciated the passion of the people in IACLE, all those members in all those countries who every day try to support education. Great job IACLE – keep up the good work.'

'Thank you to the 2018 Award winners who are encouraging a new generation of scientists, clinicians and educators to push further, look deeper and consider how contact lenses really can have a bigger impact on the world we live in.'



The **IACLE Travel Award** is a travel bursary for IACLE Educator Members who would not otherwise be able to attend a major international conference. These annual awards are funded by IACLE and its global sponsors. Receiving her award at Academy 2018 from IACLE President **Dr Shehzad Naroo** was: **Professor Martha Lucila Márquez García**, Santo Tomás University, Bucaramanga, Colombia

2018 Travel Award recipient **Ahmed Sherry** of the Modern University for Business and Science, Beirut, Lebanon travelled to the Association of Optometric Contact Lens Educators' Annual Workshop in May (thanks to additional support from AOCLE), and **Professor Sabrina Lara** of the Universidad Nacional Villa Maria, Córdoba, Argentina attended the FEDOPTO Congress in Barranquilla, Colombia in August.

The Awards ceremony completed a successful week for IACLE that saw its members and Fellows involved throughout the program at Academy 2018, where the association also held a Strategic Planning Meeting and its Annual General Meeting.

Dr Naroo commented: 'Our thanks to CooperVision, all our sponsors, the Academy and the AOCLE for their support, and to all our members who applied for IACLE Awards this year.'

**Nominations and applications for the 2019 IACLE Awards will open in December.**