

January 2021

## Global Member Newsletter

Welcome to our monthly newsletter bringing you the latest news, resources and regional updates on IACLE activities around the world.

### WHAT'S NEW AT IACLE?

**NEW** ICLC exclusively available on IACLETOP



From this month, the [IACLE Contact Lens Course](#) has been made exclusively available via [IACLETOP](#) and is no longer available through our website to ensure members receive full benefits of IACLE membership. Our contact lens curriculum is available in English, Chinese (simplified), Spanish, Korean, French and Italian with some content in German, Portuguese and Russian.

[Access the ICLC via IACLETOP](#)

### NEW Worldwide Wednesday Webinars

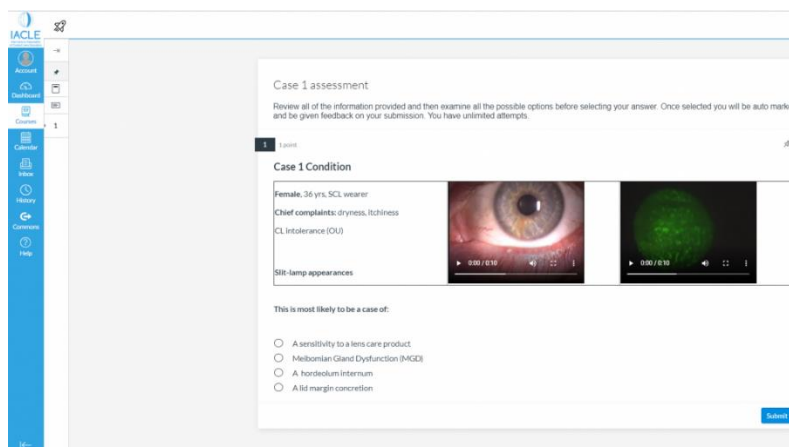


This month, we launched a new series of global webinars themed 'Goodbye 2020, hello 2021'. Executive Manager of Global Education **Lakshmi Shinde** and Executive Manager of Educational Programs **Nilesh Thite** started the series and discussed programs and resources

introduced in 2020, in addition to IACLE's plans for 2021. Look out for webinars in Chinese, Bahasa and Spanish in the coming weeks.

### [Catchup on IACLETOP](#)

## **NEW** Case Reports added on IACLETOP today



The [Case Report Series](#) has been restructured into a new flipped classroom format to provide learning opportunities for students, either as flipped classes or for self-directed learning. This format utilizes the Nearpod software and allows educators and their students to review each case using discussion boards and instant polling in an engaging online environment to stimulate conversation. Released today, the number of Case Reports has increased from four to 10.

### [For more information and to access the Case Reports](#)

## **NEW** Save the date for our second Virtual Conference



Following our first-ever [Virtual Conference](#)'s success in September 2020, the IACLE Education Team is hosting a global conference on **Saturday 24 April** themed 'Integrating research into education'. International experts will share their knowledge and experiences on how to combine research and education to become a successful academic.

### [Look out for more details](#)

## **NEW** Meet and Chat for EAME members



Attending conferences around the world allows members to meet others in their region, talk about how they use IACLE resources and to share teaching ideas they have put into practice. Due to congresses being unable to go ahead at this current time, EAME Regional President **Judith Morris** is introducing a 'Meet and Chat' initiative to connect members, to learn from one another and to discuss educational needs. The sessions will be conducted via Zoom and will take place four times a year for each part of the region – Europe, Middle East and Africa. The first Meet and Chat for our **European members** is on **Monday 25 January at 3.00 pm (GMT)**.

[EAME members – please see your email inbox for the details](#)

**Apply now for the 2021 Educator of the Year Awards**



Applications are still open for the [IACLE Contact Lens Educator of the Year Awards](#). The Educator Awards are sponsored by [CooperVision](#) and winners will each receive US\$3,000 towards the cost of attending a major international meeting and permission to use the title 2021 IACLE Contact Lens Educator of the Year for their region. Pictured (center right) is 2018 winner **Runa Mazumder** at the 2018 meeting of the American Academy of Optometry, with colleagues from the AP region. **Applications close on Sunday 31 January at midnight (EST)**.

[Apply now](#)

**Renew your membership to receive full benefits this year**



In November, we announced some changes to our terms and conditions of membership renewal. Please renew your membership now to ensure open access to all our member-only benefits continues. Access to full membership benefits will end on **31 January** if payment is not received.

[More information on membership renewal changes](#)

## MEET A MEMBER



Introducing **Jenny Sandh**, Professional Learning and Development Manager, Northern European Academy at Specsavers. Jenny is based in Stockholm and is a third-generation

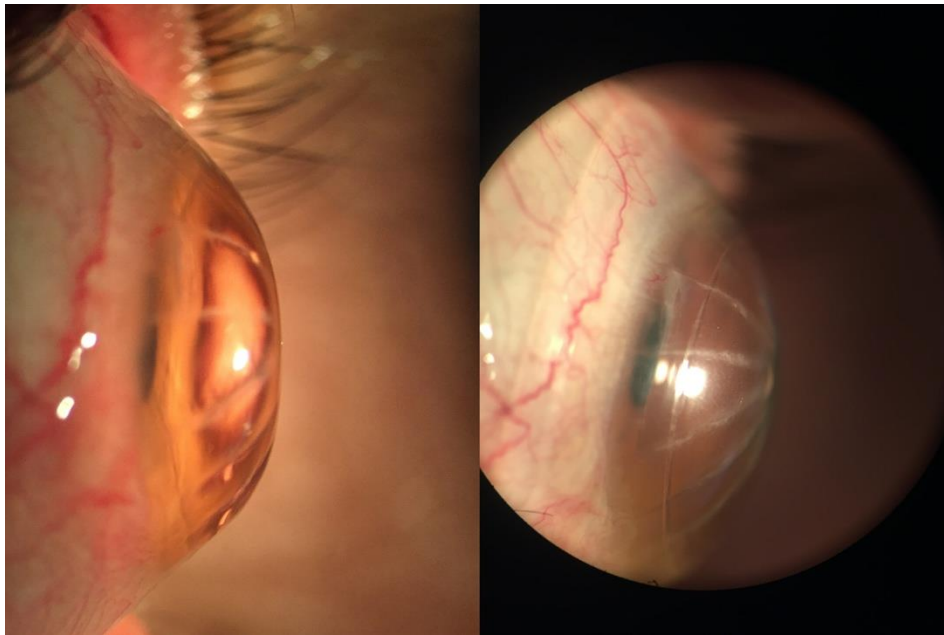


optometrist. Growing up in an optometry family created her curiosity for the profession. Jenny uses IACLE resources daily for finding information and to use as a reference when conducting training sessions. Outside of work, Jenny enjoys skiing, sailing and tracking. Creating ceramic objects and making silver rings out of antique silver spoons is another of her hobbies.

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO INTRODUCE YOURSELF TO IACLE MEMBERS WORLDWIDE? WE'RE LOOKING FOR MORE MEMBERS TO TAKE PART IN MEET A MEMBER.**

## IMAGE OF THE YEAR

### Norma takes the winning image



Congratulations to Colombian member **Norma Cárdenas**, winner of the 2020 IACLE Image of the Year. Norma receives one year of free IACLE membership, a US\$100 Amazon voucher and certificate. Norma captured these images of a female patient with a history of incisional keratotomy approximately 30 years ago. Five years ago, her visual acuity decreased progressively, and her best correction with glasses was 20/200 binocularly. Slit lamp examination showed marked radial incisions with corneal scarring, a flat cornea in the center and a steep periphery. Oblate scleral contact lenses were fitted, obtaining a VA of 20/40.

**SHARE YOUR PHOTOGRAPHS FOR THE 2021 IACLE IMAGE COLLECTION AND ENTER OUR IMAGE OF THE YEAR COMPETITION FOR THE CHANCE TO WIN A YEAR'S IACLE MEMBERSHIP AND A US\$100 AMAZON VOUCHER!**

[Submit your image](#)

## RESOURCES

### 2020 roundup of the contact lens industry



**Karen Walsh**, Professional Education Team Leader and Clinical Scientist at the [Centre for Ocular Research & Education](#) (CORE), Canada, authors an editorial in the latest [Contact Lens Update](#) titled 'A year in review: a global perspective on the most extraordinary of years in clinical practice. This report reflects on events throughout the year through the eyes of clinicians, researchers and educators.

[Read the editorial.](#) [Sign up to receive Contact Lens Update](#)

## Prescribing contact lenses in 2020



An article written by Vice President **Professor Philip Morgan**, Executive Manager of Educational Development **Professor Craig Woods** and FIACLE **Professor Lyndon Jones** (pictured above), and other colleagues including Lifetime FIACLEs **Eef van der Worp** and **José Manuel González-Méijome** and FIACLEs **Dr John Hsiao** and **Dr Ioannis Tranoudis** summarizes information for clinical practitioners, industry and academia about contact lens prescribing behaviours during 2020.

[Access the article](#)

## Predicting the future for contact lenses

**OPTICIAN**  
CAREER-LONG SUPPORT FOR OPTICAL PROFESSIONALS

FIACLE **Professor Lyndon Jones**, Director at the [Centre for Ocular Research & Education](#) and **Karen Walsh**, Professional Education Team Leader and Clinical Scientist, assess the accuracy of predictions 20 years after they were made for the new millennium, and explore where the contact lens industry will be in another 20 years' time.

[Read the full text](#)

## COVID-19 Resources

### Contact lens wear in Spain during the COVID-19 pandemic

A new study published by **Marta Vianya-Estopa** *et al* in [Contact Lens & Anterior Eye](#) emphasizes the importance of educating contact lens wearers to ensure safe wear.

[Read the full text](#)

### Ensuring safe clinical teaching at university optometry schools

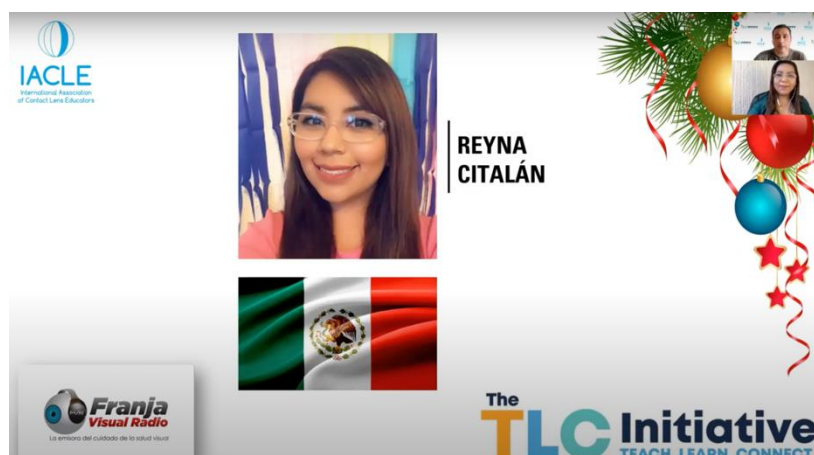
A new report outlines the challenges currently faced by optometry schools and describes strategies to minimize the risk of virus transmission to ensure safe clinical optometric teaching.

[Access the article](#)

## GLOBAL UPDATE

### Americas

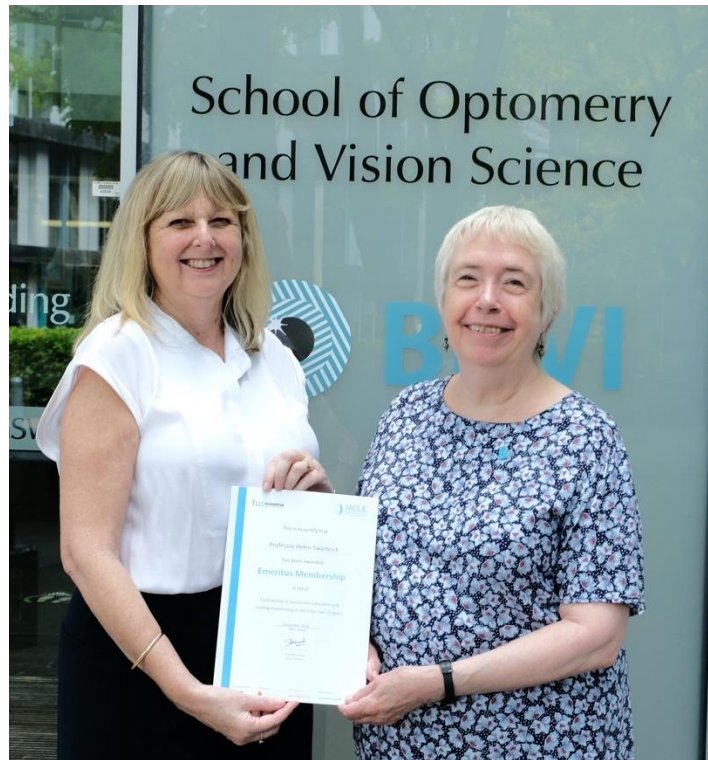
#### Latin America reports on the past year



In 2020, more than 50 IACLE members from the Latin America region took part in the radio program 'IACLE in the world', to discuss various contact lens topics. In total, the LA Team recorded more than 60 hours of content and over 6,000 ECPs tuned into the shows across Zoom, Facebook live and YouTube.

## Asia Pacific

### Australian member awarded Lifetime FIACLE



An IACLE member for 24 years, **Professor Helen Swarbrick** (pictured right with past IACLE President **Professor Deborah Sweeney**) has been awarded Emeritus Membership on her retirement from the [School of Optometry and Vision Science at the University of New South Wales](#), and Lifetime FIACLE status. As well as introducing undergraduate students to contact lenses, she also developed and ran two very successful postgraduate courses – Advanced Contact Lens Studies and Specialty Contact Lenses Studies, taken by many international students through the Master of Optometry course. Helen acted as Assistant Secretary for IACLE for many years and has always enthusiastically encouraged her students at all levels to utilize the resources of IACLE in their learning, and subsequent contact lens clinical practice and research.

[More information on the Fellowship Program](#)



## Korean university runs Student Trial Exam



Students from [Kukje University](#) in Seoul, South Korea recently took the Student Trial Exam (5 December). Korea National Coordinator **Professor Park Kyung-hee** said 'Students acquiring the IACLE STE certificate is a big part of their future employment. In the future, we will continue to do our best to ensure that more students acquire licenses and find employment smoothly.'

[Read the news article](#)

## Students successfully pass the STE in Indonesia



IACLE member **Sylvianti Simanjuntak** from the Academy of Optometry Leprindo in Jakarta conducted the [Student Trial Exam](#) on 28 October. Certificates were presented to all who successfully passed the exam (pictured above). **Dian Leila Sari**, Director of the Optometry School commented: 'Thank you **Sylvianti** and **Dr Cheni Lee** for conducting and facilitating this STE exam. It's a privilege that we are given this opportunity to gauge our students' contact lens knowledge.'

[Read the full Asia Pacific report](#)

## Europe / Africa – Middle East

## BCLA appoints new President



The [British Contact Lens Association](#) (BCLA) has appointed their new President-Elect, FIAACLE **Neil Retallic**. Neil hopes to push for advances in eco-friendly products and finding treatments for patients with ocular pathology. He will take over from current President, **Indie Grewal**, following the BCLA annual general meeting.

[Read a press release](#)

## **EAOO Helsinki2021 takes place in April**



The [European Academy of Optometry and Optics'](#) conference will now take place in the Finnish capital Helsinki from 23-25 April 2021. The congress will include keynotes, poster presentations, workshops, discussion groups and professional exhibitions, and will be streamed online for those who cannot attend.

[For more information](#)

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

### **Key dates for 2021:**

21-23 January – The Global Specialty Lens Symposium (virtual meeting). [Details](#).

23-25 April – European Academy of Optometry and Optics Annual (EAOO) Conference, Helsinki, Finland. [Details](#).

1-7 May – Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology (ARVO) Annual Meeting (virtual meeting). [Details](#).

20-23 May – Association of Optometric Contact Lens Educators (AOCLE) Annual Workshop, Fort Lauderdale FL, USA. [Details](#).

11-13 June – BCLA Clinical Conference and Exhibition, Manchester, UK. [Details](#).

3-6 July – 5<sup>th</sup> Asia Pacific Ophthalmic Trauma Society Meeting, Bali, Indonesia. [Details](#).

17-28 September – 49<sup>th</sup> European Contact Lens and Ocular Surface Congress (ECLSO), Paris, France. [Details](#).

29-30 October – New Zealand Association of Optometrists 90<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference, Christchurch, New Zealand. [Details](#).

3-6 November – American Academy of Optometry, Boston, USA. [Details](#).

23-24 November – 3<sup>rd</sup> Asia Optometric Congress and 8<sup>th</sup> ASEAN Optometric Conference, Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre, Malaysia. [Details](#).

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