

October 2021

Global Member Newsletter

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

MEMBERSHIP PERKS IN OCTOBER

Our Virtual Conference is fast approaching...



With just over a week until our third global [Virtual Conference](#) takes place (**Saturday 23 October**), we encourage all IACLE members to register for what's going to be an insightful event. The theme, '**Education and Practice: All CLEAR**', focuses on the [British Contact Lens Association's](#) (BCLA) [Contact Lens Evidence-based Academic Reports](#) (CLEAR) initiative to provide the latest research information across a wide range of contact lens-related topics for eye care professionals and educators. The program features several authors involved in writing these papers.

[Register here](#)

[Find out what time the conference begins in your time zone.](#) [View the program.](#) [Read the brochure](#)

Members receive discount for upcoming BCLA conference



We have teamed up with the [British Contact Lens Association](#) (BCLA) to provide our members with exclusive discounted tickets for their upcoming Vision Conference & Exhibition, taking place on **Sunday 7 November**. IACLE members can benefit from a 50% discount by entering in the code **BCLA_IACLE21** during registration. The code is valid until **31 October** and is for **non-BCLA member packages**.

[More information](#)

IACLETOP NEWS

Last minute Fellowship Exam essentials workshop

Professor Craig Woods is hosting a [Fellowship Exam workshop](#) as final preparation for members sitting the Fellowship Exam on **12 November**. Professor Woods will guide members through the exam process and invite any questions. Tune in on **Tuesday 2 November** at [11 am UK time](#).

Catch up on previous workshops in: [English](#) – [Chinese](#) – [Bahasa](#) – [Korean](#) – [Spanish](#)

Housekeeping notes for the Fellowship Exam

The [Fellowship Exam](#), taking place on **12 November**, will be conducted online via [IACLETOP](#). Members are required to download proctoring software which will run throughout the entirety of the exam. Photo identification, and the name on the identification, must match the name you have registered by, including first name, middle name, and surname. We encourage all members to complete the [Distance Learning Program](#) (DLP), a self-study program based on the [IACLE Contact Lens Course](#) (ICLC), designed to improve contact lens knowledge. The DLP divides the ICLC into four sections with 12 assessments, all with instant feedback.

We also suggest that members intending to take the Fellowship Exam review the monthly [Fellowship Exam Workshops](#) to prepare as thoroughly as possible for the exam. We request members to contact their [IACLE Representative](#) if they have not yet contacted you, or reach out to Executive Manager of Global Operations [Siobhan Allen](#).

Access the DLP in [English](#) – [Chinese](#) – [Korean](#) – [Spanish](#)

Did you know?

The [IACLE Contact Lens Course](#) (ICLC) is a complete curriculum to provide educators with all aspects of clinical science to support you and your students. Within [IACLETOP](#), the ICLC is available as online presentations, downloadable PowerPoint files or PDFs. If you have

registered for a [Student Area](#), educators can selectively release the ICLC modules to align with their teaching program.

[More on the IACLE Contact Lens Course](#)

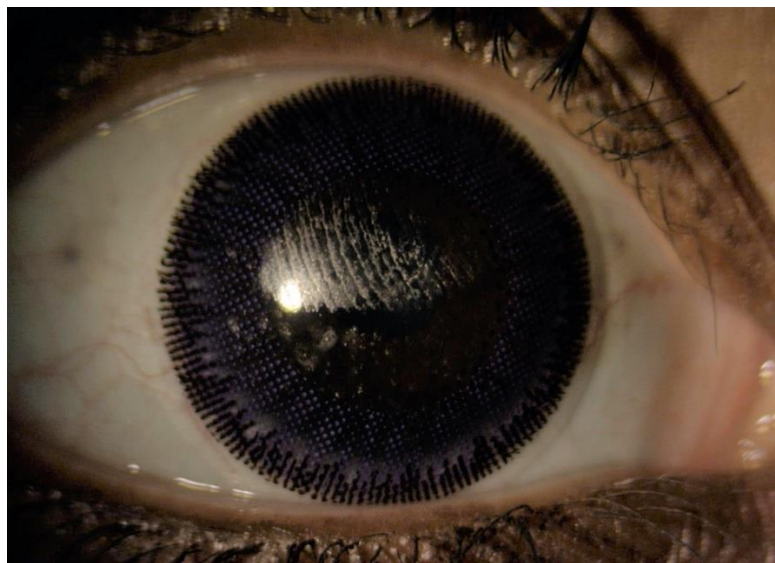
CATCH UP ON GLOBAL WEBINARS

IACLE's latest global webinar series featured a range of topics focused on the theme 'Advanced instruments in contact lens practice'. We heard from **Dr Keyur Patel**, winner of the [BCLA's](#) Dry Eye Practitioner of the Year Award, **Dr Stefan Bandlitz**, Senior Lecturer at [Cologne School of Optometry](#), **Professor Debbie Jones**, Clinical Professor at the [School of Optometry & Vision Science at the University of Waterloo](#), and **Prasad Sawant** Founder of [Sawant Optometry Clinic](#).

[Catch up on the full series via IACLETOP](#)

NEWS IN OCTOBER

IMAGE OF THE MONTH



Board Member and FIACLE **Fakhruddin Barodawala** from [SEGi University](#) in Malaysia captured this image using a Topcon slit lamp with an inbuilt camera under 10X magnification. The 23-year-old female patient visited the contact lens clinic for an aftercare examination. She was an occasional cosmetic contact lens wearer (bought online) and replaced the lenses every three months. Her current contact lenses were one month old, and she complained of dryness and blurred vision in the right eye (the image above shows the right eye lens). Upon examination, fingerprints were found on the lens which are indicative of lipid deposits.

[Feature in next month's Image of the Month by submitting your image here](#)

Activity survey results released

We last conducted a comprehensive membership survey in 2018. Since then, there have been significant changes to modes of delivering education as teaching moved online, accelerated by the COVID-19 pandemic that took effect from the start of 2020. The 2020-2021 activity survey aimed to determine IACLE members' use of / attitudes to IACLETOP resources and programs, online events, and communications. The results are compared with two other recent surveys: the [2018 IACLE Membership Survey](#) and [2020 Impact of COVID-19 on Global Contact Lens Education Survey](#).

[Read the full survey report](#)

AAO awards Dr ETTY Bitton



We are delighted to announce that the [American Academy of Optometry](#) has awarded IACLE Treasurer / Secretary **Dr ETTY Bitton** with the Michael G Harris Family Award for Excellence in Optometric Education. The American Academy of Optometry Foundation presents the award to an optometric educator who demonstrates ongoing and consistent excellence in educating optometry students and / or advances optometric education. Congratulations ETTY!

[Read more about the award](#)

South American member receives IACLE Travel Award



FIACLE **Professor Martín Guzmán** (pictured right) from [Universidad Nacional Experimental Romulo Gallegos](#) in Venezuela, South America, was awarded his 2020 IACLE Travel Award at

this year's International Congress of Scleral Lenses (23-24 July). Over 300 delegates from 42 countries attended the two-day meeting both virtually and in-person. Martin gives advice to members and says, 'I encourage all IACLE members to sit the Fellowship Exam and apply for Fellowship status as it gives a lot of leverage and networking capabilities, especially if you are involved in education. Thanks to IACLE for its support and for making it possible for me to attend this wonderful conference'.

[More information on the IACLE Travel Awards](#)

Renew your membership to receive all IACLE benefits

Members are reminded that access to our **full range of membership benefits** – including the resources and programs within [IACLETOP](#) and all resources and events under the [Teach. Learn. Connect. Initiative](#) – is exclusively available for IACLE members. Please note, IACLE membership runs on an annual cycle and expires when payment is not received. Please renew your membership by **31 December 2021**. If you have any questions about renewing your membership, please contact your [IACLE Representative Siobhan Allen](#).

MEET A MEMBER

Have you introduced any technologies or innovations to your curriculum recently? Have you received any awards or recognition for your teaching efforts? Do you have any goals or aspirations for contact lens education in the future? Has IACLE helped you in your contact lens teaching? If you answered yes to any of the above questions, we would love to hear from you! Share your achievements with other IACLE colleagues and inspire the future of contact lens education.

[View Meet a Member Infographic](#)

[Introduce yourself to other IACLE colleagues by completing this short form](#)

RESOURCES

Access free Alcon resources online



IACLE's Platinum Sponsor [Alcon](#) is offering educators, residents, students, staff and practitioners free access to the [Alcon Experience Academy](#), a site offering non-promotional training and educational resources for eye care professionals. Upon registration, you will be granted access.

[Register to gain access here](#)

New paper confirms important differences between soft contact lenses

IACLE President **Professor Philip Morgan**, Lifetime FIACLEs **Professor James Wolffsohn** and **Professor Lyndon Jones** and other contact lens experts have authored a paper titled 'All soft contact lenses are not created equal' that discusses the clinical significance of differences in a range of characteristics of soft contact lenses. The paper notes that the substitution of prescribed contact lenses with different products may lead to undesirable consequences for the lens wearer in terms of vision, ocular health, comfort, and cosmetic appearance.

[Access the paper](#)

COVID-19 RESOURCE

Myopia among school children during the COVID-19 pandemic

This recently published study conducted by Zhang *et al* included over 1,700 school children from Hong Kong. The results indicate a potential increase in myopia incidence, significant decrease in outdoor time and an increase in screen time. Authors recommend that collective efforts are needed to prevent childhood myopia – a potential public health crisis due to COVID-19.

[Read the study](#)

WHAT'S HAPPENING IN OUR REGIONS?

Americas

Journal Club launches in Spanish

As a result of the success of IACLE's Journal Club in India, IACLE Americas Coordinator Guillermo Carrillo has launched Journal Club in Latin America in Spanish. Journal club is a space for members to review some of the most interesting and recently published articles. At the end of every month, two IACLE members will present and discuss two papers. **Tune into the first Journal Club in Spanish on Wednesday 27 October at 11 am Peru (GMT-5).** For more information, please contact [Guillermo Carrillo](#).

[Read the full Americas meeting report](#)

Asia Pacific

China hosts multifocal soft lens fitting session

China National Coordinator **Professor Wang Haiying** conducted an online lecture on multifocal soft lens fitting (14 September). She discussed the status of myopia development, demonstrated different types of myopia control methods and the application of multifocal

soft contact lenses. Professor Wang also spoke on the need and seriousness of myopia prevention and control in China. Educators in vocational colleges are also looking to introduce the fitting of multifocal soft contact lens into their own curriculum.

[Catch up on the session](#) – [Read the full Asia Pacific meeting report](#)

Malaysian students awarded STE certificates in online ceremony



Students from the Faculty of Optometry and Vision Sciences (FOVS) at [SEGi University](#) in Petaling Jaya, Malaysia, successfully completed the IACLE [Student Trial Exam](#) (STE) with a 100% pass rate under the guidance of FIACLE and IACLE Board Director **Fakhruddin Barodawala**. A total of 17 students sat the exam in August this year, and a virtual certificate presentation took place on **30 September** (pictured above). President **Professor Philip Morgan** and Director **Fakhruddin Barodawala** represented IACLE at the event. 'FOVS is thankful for IACLE and their sponsors for their continued support in providing updated contact lens teaching materials to the faculty', says Fakhruddin.

[More on the Student Trial Exam](#)

Europe / Africa – Middle East

President addresses Italian Optometric Society

IACLE President **Professor Philip Morgan** delivered a presentation about IACLE and the benefits of membership to a meeting of the Italian Optometric Society, SOPTI (October 10-11). He described the development of the Association over the past four decades and IACLE's response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

[More info on SOPTI](#)

IACLE at VisionPlus Academy

From **26-28 October**, IACLE Executive Manager of Educational Programs **Nilesh Thite** and 2017 EAME Educator of the Year and FIACLE **Dr Yazan Gammoh** are speaking at the [Vision Plus Academy's](#) 3-day scientific event in Dubai. The theme of the exhibition is 'Vision care in the digital era', featuring the latest technology and healthcare solutions in optometry.

[View the flyer](#)

President speaks at BCLA webinar

IACLE President **Professor Philip Morgan** has been invited to speak at the [British Contact Lens Association's](#) (BCLA) latest webinar to urge eye care professionals to proactively address the issue of contact lens discomfort. The webinar is titled 'Let's get comfortable talking about contact lens discomfort' and takes place for BCLA members on **Tuesday 23 November** at **6:30 pm (GMT)**.

[Learn more](#)

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

IACLE TLC (Teach. Learn. Connect) WEBINARS

Visit the [IACLE Webinars](#) area on IACLETOP to view the schedule for upcoming webinars.

GLOBAL MEETINGS IN COMING MONTHS

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

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

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