

WORLD FOCUS

The Newsmagazine of the World Council of Optometry September 2017



Special Edition: World Congress of Optometry 2017

Welcome to the 2nd World Congress of Optometry!

Welcome to the 2nd World Congress of Optometry in Hyderabad, India!

The World Council of Optometry (WCO) continues to evolve as the voice of the profession globally. It continues to be the only optometric organization worldwide to enjoy official relations with the World Health Organization, giving it a significant status and role in the broader global public health community.

Optometry is stronger today than it has ever been, but with this expanded recognition and role comes greater responsibility. The WCO understands this and is continually working towards an expanded presence for optometry in areas that need it most. The work of the WCO's Regional Partners in Africa, Asia Pacific, Eastern Mediterranean, Europe, Latin America and North America has resulted in better access and quality of vision and eye health all over the globe. It is for this reason that the WCO is pleased to



host the 2nd World Congress of Optometry in partnership with the Asia Pacific Council of Optometry (APCO) and the India Vision Institute (IVI) in Hyderabad, India 11 – 13 September 2017.

Uncorrected refractive error (URE) remains a major cause of avoidable vision impairment

and the second most common cause of blindness in India and the developing world. The 2nd World Congress of Optometry theme, “accessible, quality vision and eye health” addresses this issue.

Congress attendees will be given the opportunity to come together as a profession, assess the progress and define, as well as advance, the future of the profession of optometry. This Congress will help us to highlight our goals



Dr. Uduak Udom, WCO President

and what optometry is achieving both globally and in India. The Congress will also offer opportunities for networking as well as learning and sharing with colleagues at continuing education sessions and workshops that will appeal to all.

On behalf of the WCO, I would like to personally welcome and thank you for attending our 2nd World Congress of Optometry. I would also like to extend a very special thank you to all our sponsors! We have put together a great program to suit all interests, in a beautiful location full of hospitable people that will make you feel at home.

Again, welcome to Hyderabad, and the 2nd World Congress of Optometry. I look forward to the opportunity of meeting you!

Yours in optometry,

Dr. Uduak Udom, WCO President

“Optometry is stronger today than it has ever been, but with this expanded recognition and role comes greater responsibility.”

Welcome to the 2nd World Congress of Optometry!

The growing burden of vision impairment requires the attention of the global optometric community, both public and private. The World Council of Optometry is best located to facilitate the strategies for responding to these issues.



Prof. Kovin Naidoo,
WCO Conference Chair

As part of the response, the World Congress of Optometry has been developed to create a platform for interaction and defining the key responses that are needed.

It serves as a platform to bring together all facets of our profession (private sector, public sector, researchers, educators and others) and encourage robust engagement towards a comprehensive eye health strategy.

It also serves to offer attendees a chance to update our knowledge and keep abreast with the latest approaches and techniques.

Our theme: “Accessible, quality vision and eye health” is not merely a slogan, it is a call to action that the global optometry profession needs to respond to. The 2nd World Congress of Optometry will advance this agenda.

The congress three-day programme will feature accredited clinical and educational tracks which cater to a broad range of delegates. The exhibition with some of the world’s leading service and equipment suppliers will highlight the latest in technological and patient care advances that will enable optometrists to maximise their potential to make a significant impact on patients and the vision impairment crisis.

The future generations of optometrists are acknowledged and highlighted in the many student presentations and posters. This congress provides them with a forum to network with corporations, educators and researchers and broaden their career aspirations. This conference also has the potential to influence your practice as well as access to eye care globally.

Again, welcome! Enjoy your time in Hyderabad, India, and we thank you for attending the 2nd World Congress of Optometry.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "K. Naidoo". The signature is stylized and written in a cursive-like font.

Prof. Kovin Naidoo
WCO Conference Chair



India Vision Institute: Proud to Co-Host 2nd World Congress of Optometry

On my personal behalf and as CEO of the India Vision Institute (IVI), a co-host to WCO 2017 along with the World Council of Optometry (WCO) and the Asia Pacific Council of Optometry (APCO), I am particularly delighted that the biennial global event is being held in the beautiful, culturally-rich heritage city of Hyderabad, September 11-13. It will no doubt prove to be a great opportunity to forge new connections in the optometry world at an international level, and learn about the latest developments and global efforts to address the issue of preventable blindness.

The conference could not have come to India at a more opportune time. Indian optometry is at an exciting stage and the conference will prove to be a good platform that will help promote and strengthen the profession in India. Many eminent eye care professionals from across the globe will be at the event, presenting the latest in optometry and developments in medical science.

‘The conference could not have come to India at a more opportune time.’

The global exposure to professionals will be invaluable, whether the subject is new research or innovative educational methods.

For the last five years, IVI has been involved in activities to strengthen optometry in India with industry-building initiatives such as seminars, workshops and training optometrists through leadership programs.

On public health initiatives, IVI has been undertaking vision screenings, distributing free spectacles to the needy, and organizing awareness activities, including ‘Walk in the Dark’ programs, to raise awareness of the importance of eye care.

One of our primary objectives is providing quality eye care to the underprivileged and disadvantaged sections of the people. Tens of thousands of underprivileged children and adults benefit from our outreach programs every year. Our goal is to elevate optometry in India and provide accessible and affordable eye care to all regardless of their location or socio-economic status.

Attending the 2nd World Congress of Optometry is also a wonderful opportunity to visit the beautiful and historic city of Hyderabad. We encourage you and our international attendees to tour the city, which was ranked the 2nd best place to see worldwide by National Geographic Traveler magazine in 2015.

Again, welcome to Hyderabad! We hope you enjoy this unique event and join us in helping shape the future of optometry in India and across the globe.



Vinod Daniel

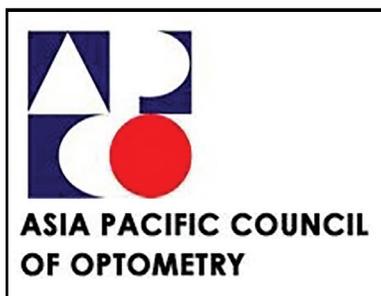


Mr. Vinod Daniel, CEO, IVI

APCO: Accessible, Quality Vision and Eye Health Holds Special Meaning for Asia-Pacific Region

The Asia Pacific Council of Optometry (APCO) represents the Asia-Pacific regions as one of the regional secretariats of the World Council of Optometry (WCO).

A biennial scientific meeting, the Asia Pacific Optometric Congress (APCO) has been held since 1978. The coming 21st APCO will be held in conjunction with the 2nd World Congress of Optometry hosted by the World Council of Optometry in Hyderabad, India from September 11–13 2017.



The theme: “Accessible, quality vision and eye health” is befitting the region in which this congress is held due to the fact that uncorrected refractive error (URE) remains a major cause of avoidable blindness

in the Asia Pacific region, as well as other areas of the world. Further, Non Communicable Disease (NCD) such as diabetes is a major concern to the health of the general public on a global scale.

Diabetic Retinopathy (DR) is a serious sight-threatening complication and has caused millions of people to go blind. Optometrists can limit the potential for

significant vision loss from DR by providing a comprehensive dilated eye examination and providing early detection, treatment and referral.

The 3-day programme will feature lectures by distinguished international speakers, workshops, poster presentations and seminars.

It will also include the KB Woo Lecture and a half day symposium comprising mostly of papers from the region, thus giving an opportunity for colleagues to showcase their advancements and standards in both clinical practice and research in optometry.

Some of the world’s leading suppliers of equipment will also exhibit the latest in technology.

On behalf of APCO, the World Council of Optometry (WCO) and the India Vision Institute (IVI), it is my pleasure to extend to you a sincere welcome to this great event.



Mr. Shameem Razak,
APCO President

Shameem Razak
President
Asia Pacific Council of Optometry

Say Hello to WCO Staff

With a meeting as busy as the World Congress, chances are you will often see WCO Managing Director Susan J. (Sue) Chiles and Administrative Assistant Lana Payton. Usually based in St. Louis, Missouri at the American Optometric Association headquarters, you can contact them at enquiries@worldoptometry.org.



Sue Chiles,
Managing Director



Lana Payton,
WCO Administrative Assistant

Dr. Chappell Earns WCO's Distinguished Service Award

Congratulations to Dr. Bob Chappell, 2017 Recipient of the WCO's Distinguished Service Award.

Dr. Robert Chappell (Bob) trained as an optometrist at City University London. He works in the U.K. as a community optometrist. Dr. Chappell has a lively interest in optometric professional and political matters.

He is a past president of the College of Optometrists and was also a member of the General Optical Council, the U.K. regulatory body for optometrists and dispensing opticians, for 25 years. Dr. Chappell's involvement in European and international optometry has been as President of the World Council of Optometry and President of the European Council of Optometry and Optics.

A past chairman of the Legislation, Regulation and Standards Committee of the WCO, he is currently Chairman of the Board of Management for the European Diploma in Optometry.

In 2006, he became a trustee of the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) and in 2009, a trustee of Sightsavers.

Dr. Chappell has a particular interest in the international mutual recognition of qualifications to facilitate the free global movement of professionals. A joint author of the WCO Global Competency model for optometrists and "Why Optometry," he has also been closely involved in the development of the European Diploma in Optometry and the ongoing work to recognise prior learning and achievement in Europe.

In the 1995 Queen's Birthday Honours, Dr. Chappell was awarded an OBE for services to optometry, in 2001 the degree of Doctor of Science (Honoris Causa) was conferred on him by City University, London and in 2017, Dr. Chappell received a Lifetime Achievement Award by the U.K. Association of Optometrists. Dr. Chappell was also the WCO Representative on the Global Board of Optometry Giving Sight from 2009 - 2015; and the head of the Board of Directors for Optometry Giving Sight U.K. from 2011-2016.



Dr. Bob Chappell

The Distinguished Service Award is given to an optometrist who has made an outstanding contribution over time to the achievement of WCO's Vision and Mission. This is the highest award that WCO can bestow on an individual. This award will be presented at the Governing Board & Awards Dinner on Sunday, September 10, 2017 at 8 p.m. in the Novotel Hotel, Hall 6.

Previous Winners of the WCO Distinguished Service Award:

Professor George Woo	2015
Dr. Antonio Josen, Jr.	2007
Dr. Anthony Di Stefano	2006
Dr. Francis Kojovi Monrny	2005
Dr. William Baldwin	2001
Dr. Henry W Hofstetter	1999

Priya Morjaria to Receive Paul Berman Young Leader Award

Congratulations to Priya Morjaria, 2017 Recipient of the WCO's Paul Berman Young Leader Award.

Ms. Morjaria, is a research fellow in Public Health at the International Centre for Eye Health (ICEH) based at the London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine (LSHTM). She trained as an optometrist from City University, United Kingdom (U.K.). She is a member of the College of Optometrists and the European Academy of Optometry & Optics. Priya completed the MSc in Public Health for Eye Care at LSHTM and joined ICEH as a researcher and is currently completing her PhD there and also teaches in the Master's programme.

Her PhD research focuses on improving the efficiency of school programs for uncorrected refractive error with a regional focus in India. Ms. Morjaria has a breadth of experience in eye research in developing countries including Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Ethiopia, Zambia, Bangladesh and Nepal. She is a member of the Refractive

Error Working Group, the School Eye Health Working Group with the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) and the Public Health Committee of the WCO. Ms. Morjaria also works for Peek Vision Foundation as a Research Lead. In addition to her passion for her work, she loves challenges such as running marathons and climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro last year.

The Paul Berman Young Leader Award is given to an optometrist who has made an outstanding contribution over time to the achievement of WCO's Vision and Mission and shows promising future leadership in world optometry.

This award will be presented at the Governing Board & Awards Dinner on Sunday, September 10, 2017 at 8 p.m. in the Novotel Hotel, Hall 6.



Ms. Priya Morjaria



Join the Celebration

2017 Marks WCO's 90th Anniversary

The World Council of Optometry was originally founded in Cologne, Germany in 1927 as the International Optical League—Ligue Internationale d'optique. In 1970 the name changed to the International Optometric and Optical League (IOOL) and was based in the United Kingdom. In 1996, the IOOL became the WCO, now headquartered at the American Optometric Association offices in St. Louis, Missouri. This marks the 90th year anniversary of WCO.

The WCO is the only global optometric body in official relationship with the World Health Organization (WHO) and partners with many eye care organizations that share the same goal of high quality eye health and vision care being accessible to all people.

Today, the WCO's mission is to facilitate the development of optometry around the world and support optometrists in promoting eye health and vision care as a human right through advocacy, education, policy development and humanitarian outreach. It remains an international organization dedicated to the enhancement and development of eye and vision care worldwide.

The WCO collectively represents over 200,000 optometrists in almost 60 countries through over 200 affiliate, associate, corporate and individual memberships across six world regions: Africa, Asia Pacific, Eastern Mediterranean, Europe, Latin America and North America.

Having a long, rich history of worldwide leadership from a global perspective, past WCO presidents have come from countries all over the world including Australia, Canada, Germany, Hong Kong, Nigeria, Norway, the United Kingdom, South Africa, Switzerland and the United States.

"Next to life itself is the gift of vision," WCO President Dr. Uduak Udom explained. "The beauty all around, which just amazes us, comes through vision. Most of our learning comes through vision."

For these and many more reasons, optometrists around the world are committed to the cause of a world where high quality eye health and vision care is accessible to all people."

Already a WCO member? Invite your colleagues to join.
Not a WCO member? Now's the time to become one.

WCO Membership Classifications

WCO membership is open to organisations and individuals around the world. There are four types of organisational membership: associate, affiliate, and corporate and individual membership.

Associate and affiliate membership applications require organisational approval. Corporate and individual applications will be processed immediately.

Associate Membership

For associate membership, organisations must:

- Represent optometrists in a country, or a state with national significance
- Have a written constitution or governing document
- Endorse the WCO Concept of Optometry
- Become a member of its regional organisation within three years of gaining WCO membership

Affiliate Membership

Affiliate membership is open to individual organisations and institutions that represent special optometric interests, but do not satisfy the conditions of associate memberships. Examples include universities and colleges of optometry.

Corporate Membership

Corporate membership is open to commercial organisations that are not otherwise eligible for Associate or Affiliate membership and have a recognised and approved business relationship with an Associate, Affiliate or Individual member. Corporate members must endorse the WCO concept of optometry and support WCO's vision and mission.

Individual Membership

Individual membership is open to individual optometrists (as defined by the WCO), vision scientists, faculty, researchers and eye care industry professionals.

For more information on WCO membership, send an email to ana.payton@worldoptometry.org or visit worldcouncilofoptometry.info/membership/join-wco

Did You Know? The Last Three WCO Presidents Have Been Women!



**Dr. Uduak Udom,
Nigeria, 2015- 17**



**Dr. Susan Cooper,
Canada, 2013-15**



**Mrs. Tone Garaas-Maudalen,
Norway, 2011- 13**

Today, there are 20 women serving on the WCO Governing Board and Committees. What a wonderful contribution women have made to optometry and the world's population in need of high quality eye care!

The WCO would also like to collectively recognize all of its past presidents over the past 90 years who have helped shape the WCO and the future of optometry worldwide:

John H. Sutcliffe (United Kingdom) 1927-1940

Sir William Champness (United Kingdom) 1947-1953

Mr. George Giles (United Kingdom) 1953-1965

Mr. Reginald Goode (United Kingdom) 1965-1971

Mr. George Wheatcroft (United Kingdom) 1971-1980

Dr. David Pickwell (United Kingdom) 1980-1986

Dr. G. Burt Holmes (United States) 1986-1992

Mr. Peter Roost (Switzerland) 1992-1994

Dr. Roland Des Grosseillers (Canada) 1994 -1996

Mr. Manfred Muller (Germany) 1996-1998

Mr. Peter Stevenson (New Zealand) 1998 -2000

Dr. Scott Brisbin (Canada) 2000-2002

Mr. Damien Smith (Australia) 2002-2004

Professor D.D. Sheni (South Africa) 2004-2006

Dr. Vic Connors (United States) 2006-2007

Mr. Bob Chappell (United Kingdom) 2007-2009

Professor George Woo (Hong Kong) 2009-2011

Mrs. Tone Garaas-Maudalen (Norway) 2011-2013

Dr. Susan Cooper (Canada) 2013-2015

Dr. Uduak Udom (Nigeria) 2015-2017

World Council of Optometry Fellowship Programme

The WCO invites applications for WCO fellowships. These fellowships are to support the goals and objectives of the WCO (see the strategic plan at <http://worldcouncilofoptometry.info/strategic-plan/>). The areas of priority are education, advocacy, public health, standards, and policy and legislation. Fellowship applications that are innovative and result in long-term sustainable results are desired. Projects that lead to other sources of funding are encouraged.

Typically the maximum amount of funding is \$2,000 USD, although for high priority projects the

funding may be more. In some cases multi-year projects may be considered.

Travel bursaries for the purpose of attending a meeting or for short term “mission” or “eye camps” for vision screenings are not considered a high priority.

More information and a fellowship application form can be found on the WCO website at: <http://worldcouncilofoptometry.info/membership/fellowship-programme/>.

For questions or help with the application email enquiries@worldoptometry.org.

Student at 2nd World Congress of Optometry: Part of WCO-AOSA Partnership

The WCO is proud to include Rachel Reed in our delegation. She is jointly hosted by the WCO and the American Optometric Student Association, as their first National Liaison to the WCO.

Reed is starting her third year of optometry school at the University of Houston College of Optometry. She obtained her Bachelor's of Science degree in Psychology, with concentrations in chemistry and neuroscience, from Denison University in Granville, Ohio.

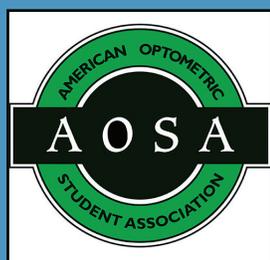
In addition to her role with the WCO and AOSA, she is the President of Student Volunteers in Optometric Services to Humanity (SVOSH) which organizes vision screenings in Houston and abroad. Reed is also the recipient of the Ocular Instruments Clinic award as the top clinician in her class.

She is interested in specializing in ocular disease or low vision and looks forward to making an impact on global optometric health by working with the WCO this year.

Reed will be reporting on the meeting from a student perspective and encouraging her fellow students to be involved global citizens.



Rachel Reed, Optometry Student





MEMBER BENEFITS

The World Council of Optometry (WCO) is an international optometric organization founded in 1927. We envision a world where high quality eye health and vision care is accessible to all people.

When you join the WCO, you join a group of more than 200,000 optometrists in almost 60 countries through more than 200 affiliate, associate, corporate and individual memberships across six world regions.



Join us.

Here is how the WCO is making a difference.

- Bringing the global voice of optometry to the highest levels of influence and decision making
- Advocating for the recognition and development of optometry across the world
- Increasing public awareness and celebrating the role of optometry and optometrists
- Developing strategic partnerships to support optometry at local and international levels
- Responding to our members and supporting their initiatives
- Assisting in optometry education standards and generating evidence
- Providing networking platforms through social media, meetings and committee participation
- Sharing information and communicating effectively with members, the optometric community and our partners



Let's work together.

The enormity of the need for worldwide eye care and expanding the role of optometry globally is a daunting task. However, by working together, we can have significant and meaningful results. The WCO works in partnership with our members and many global organizations that share our vision of high quality eye health and vision care for all people. Our partnerships include:

- Optometry Giving Sight (OGS)
- International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB)
- Our Children's Vision (OCV)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- Brien Holden Vision Institute (BHVI)

Together, we have seen the launch of "Our Children's Vision" (OCV), a worldwide initiative whose initial target is to provide eye care services to 50 million children by 2020. With the support of our members, we will be an integral partner in reaching this attainable goal.





You can make a difference.

Join the WCO, and help shape the future of eye care around the world.

- Improve the provision of eye and vision care for the world's population
- Gain access to online continuing education
- Stay up to date on issues that matter to you and the profession
- Apply for funding from the WCO Fellowship Program for innovative global optometric initiatives to improve vision and eye care
- Ensure that optometry is an autonomous profession



Member Benefits

Your participation in the WCO and other organizations shows your commitment to optometry, elevating you as a professional. After joining the WCO, you will be sent an **exclusive WCO member certificate** to print and display in your office for viewing by patients, colleagues and your local community.



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 St. Louis, MO 63141 USA
 Phone: 314.983.4196
enquires@worldoptometry.org
worldoptometry.org

As a WCO member you will also receive:

- Your name listed as a member on the WCO website
- WCO logo for your use on websites, stationery, electronic media and local advertising
- Worldwide networking opportunities with other optometric professionals through meetings and social media
- The opportunity to participate in WCO member committees
- Full access to WCO website content

With your support the WCO will be able to continue its work, focusing on:

- Meeting optometry's global response to the WHO's 25 percent reduction of avoidable visual impairment by 2019
- Supporting individual member country requests for optometry development and regulation
- Advocacy workshops, the next of which will be held at the 2nd World Congress in Hyderabad, India in 2017
- Expanding the World Continuing Education Alliance (WCEA), our online continuing education platform
- Increasing member outreach focusing on individuals, associations, universities and other organizations



Already a member? Invite your colleagues to join.

Not a member? Now is the time to become one!

For more information, visit worldoptometry.org

Connect with the WCO on:



[Facebook.com/WorldCouncilOpt](https://www.facebook.com/WorldCouncilOpt)



[Twitter.com/WorldCouncilOpt](https://twitter.com/WorldCouncilOpt)

Meet the WCO Governing Board



Dr. Uduak Udom
President



Dr. Susan Cooper
Immediate Past President



Dr. Scott Mundle
President-Elect

Treasurer

Dr. Peter Kehoe

Congress Steering Committee Chair

Professor Kovin Naidoo

Education Committee Chair

Dr. Gerald E. Lowther

Legislation Regulation and Standards Committee Chair

Mr. Nigel St. Rose

Public Health Committee Chair

Dr. Sandra Block

Africa Representatives

Mr. Anguyo Dralega
Professor Tuwani Rasengane

Asia Pacific Representatives

Mr. Peter Hendicott
Miss Victoria Law
Mr. Shameem Razak

Eastern Mediterranean Representatives

Dr. Hassan Awada
Dr. Ali Bukhamseen
Mr. Hasan Minto

Europe Representatives

Mr. Paul Folkesson
Mr. Jesus Garcia Poyatos
Dr. Cindy Tromans

Latin America Representatives

Mr. Ricardo Bretas
Mr. Alvaro Alcala Perez
Dr. Juan Vazquez

North America Representatives

Dr. Paul Geneau
Dr. Roger Jordan
Dr. Steven Loomis

WCO Managing Director

Ms. Sue Chiles

“The WCO collectively represents over 200,000 optometrists in almost 60 countries through over 200 affiliate, associate, corporate and individual memberships across six world regions.”

Retiring WCO Governing Board Members

A Sincere Thank You to the Following Retiring WCO Governing Board Members:



Dr. Ali Bukhamseen,
Eastern Mediterranean Representative,
2010-2017



Dr. Susan Cooper,
Immediate Past President,
2008-2017



Dr. Gerald Lowther,
Education Committee Chair,
2011-2017



Dr. Steven Loomis,
North America Representative,
2013-2017



Mr. Hasan Minto,
Eastern Mediterranean Representative,
2010-2017



Dr. Mitch Munson,
North America Representative,
2013-2017



Dr. Tuwani Rasengane,
Africa Regional Representative,
2014-2017

**Also thanks to our retiring committee members!
The WCO truly appreciates your dedicated service.**

AOA Completes Major Building Renovations as WCO Celebrates New Beginning in St. Louis and New Logo

The American Optometric Association (AOA) headquarters has been the WCO's home since relocating to the United States from the United Kingdom in 2015, when the AOA's building renovations had just begun.

It's amazing that since the fall of 2015, AOA renovations occurred without interruption to AOA members or the WCO. And in November 2016, the AOA completed its renovations, on time and under budget. Following completion, the AOA hosted a special celebration on February 1, 2017 at its newly renovated headquarters for its employees, board and other key stakeholders in the renovation, including the WCO.

WCO president, Dr. Uduak Udom said, "Thank you so much, AOA, for creating a home base for

WCO. You have done so much; and we at WCO are very grateful. Also, for the very great feat and landmark event of a brand new look office complex, we say: hearty congratulations!"

The AOA has occupied the building, which was constructed in 1968, since 1978. The facility had no major work performed since the AOA took ownership. The renovated building has already significantly reduced annual maintenance costs and improved the facility's infrastructure, which will allow AOA, and the WCO, to better serve its members. As the WCO celebrates its 90-year anniversary, we also celebrate a new beginning in St. Louis, and a new logo for 2018.



WCO Committees Form the Foundation

There are three distinctively active WCO Committees that, along with the WCO Governing Board, form the foundation of the World Council of Optometry. They are the Education Committee, Legislation, Regulation and Standards Committee and the Public Health Committee. Here is a summary of each committee's purpose and how the WCO is making a difference in optometry worldwide through its dedicated committees.

Education Committee

Responsible for advising the Governing Board on ways in which WCO can facilitate the advancement and enhancement of optometric education worldwide.

The committee does this by advising the Governing Board on matters relating to:

- Engagement with members and other education and training institutions internationally
- The establishment and promotion of educational priorities for the WCO
- The WCO's contribution to continuing education, training and continuing professional development
- The promotion of the Globalisation Model to develop common standards of qualification and to facilitate the international free movement of professionals
- The development of international accreditation of qualifications



Dr. Gerald Lowther
Education Committee Chair

Legislation, Regulation and Standards Committee

Responsible for advising the Governing Board on ways in which the WCO can assist member countries with legislative and regulatory matters affecting the public and the profession.

- To take responsibility for developing, maintaining and reviewing the WCO's annual online survey on scope of practice, and analyzing and disseminating the results
- To support the biennial world congress of optometry featuring international experts who address



Mr. Nigel St. Rose
Legislation, Regulation
and Standards Committee
Chair

the human resource, economic, interdisciplinary and educational dimensions that link globalization to public health

- To advise the Governing Board on the development and implementation of international standards of clinical practice

Public Health Committee

Responsible for advising the Governing Board on ways in which the WCO can assist member countries with public health matters affecting the public and the profession.

- Advising the Governing Board on public health matters relating to eye care in general and optometry in particular
- Advising the Governing Board on the maintenance of recognition of WCO by the World Health Organisation (WHO)

- Advising the Governing Board on ways in which WCO can work on projects and forge alliances with other organizations in support of Vision 2020: The Right to Sight and other vision-related projects

- The development, maintenance, review and dissemination of WCO public health, resources and guidelines

- Advising the Governing Board on the potential for major studies of populations in support of the WHO and Vision 2020 including the prevalence of vision impairment and associated refractive error, and the use of corrective spectacles with school children

- Developing and implementing training programs in Public Health and Advocacy relevant to the membership



Dr. Sandra Block
Public Health Committee
Chair



ALDOO to Host Latin American Meetings

The Latin American Association of Optometry and Optics (ALDOO) is the organization that represents national optometric organizations in Latin America and the Caribbean.



Its education committee has held three meetings with deans, directors, and coordinators of optometry programs from Latin America.

Leaders in optometric education, are inviting you to the Fourth Meeting of Deans

to be held at the University of the Americas in Panama City, Panama on Thursday, November 8, 2017.

The main topic of this meeting is the development of collaborations in optometric research. Spanish to English translation will be provided during the meeting. Attendance of over 30 representatives from schools and colleges in Latin America is expected. There is no cost to attend this meeting.

During the morning, there will be a 3-hour workshop on the basics of optometric research. The workshop will be in Spanish only.

It will be followed by lunch and a program with full translation from Spanish to English.

This meeting will be an excellent opportunity to network with optometric education leaders from Latin America.

The Third International Panamanian Congress of Optometry at the Megapolis Convention Center in Panama City featuring over 12 hours of continuing education lectures. The Congress will be held on Friday, November 9 and Saturday, November 10. The Congress will have an exclusive low cost of \$100.00.

You can access the program and lodging information at www.asoptopa.org.

If you need additional information, you may contact Héctor Santiago at hsantiago@opto.inter.edu or Dr. Katerin Ortiz at ortiz.vision@gmail.com.

Upcoming Regional Events

IAPB – 2017 Council of Members
Kathmandu, India
September 15-18

Great Western Council of Optometry
Portland, OR, USA
September 28-October 1

American Academy of Optometry
Chicago, IL, USA
October 11-14

East West Eye Conference
Cleveland, OH, USA
November 2-5

Latin American Association of Optometry and Optics
Fourth Meeting of the Deans – University of the Americas
Panama City, Panama
November 8, 2017

3rd International Panamanian Congress of Optometry
Megapolis Convention Center
Panama City, Panama
November 9-10, 2017

The WCO strategically partners with these world leaders in optometry as we envision a world where high quality eye health and vision care is accessible to all people.

OPTOMETRYGIVINGSIGHT
Transforming lives through the gift of vision



We thank these and all our members and colleagues for their continued support.

HERE'S TO THE NEXT 90 YEARS!



SEE YOU NEXT TIME!

Thank You to Our Sponsors

Gold

Alcon A Novartis
Division



ESSILOR
SEEING THE WORLD BETTER

Johnson & Johnson VISION

Silver



SEIKO



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