

ASSOCIATION
OF OPTOMETRIC
CONTACT LENS
EDUCATORS

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Newsletter #28

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Message from the Chair

Happy New Year! I'd like to wish everyone a healthy and productive 2008. I can't believe that in only a few months, it will be time for this year's workshop, and my tenure as AOCLE Chair will come to an end. Reflecting on the past 2 years, I have to thank the members of the Executive Committee for making it easy to be Chair. They are the ones who keep this organization moving forward, and it has been my pleasure to have worked with them. I also thank the entire membership for all your hard work in teaching, conducting research, mentoring, and in many other ways moving contact lens education ever forward.

This year, I am very excited to host the annual workshop in Boston. We are planning a program centered on the topic of mentorship in optometric education. Thinking back on my career at NECO, I feel very fortunate to have had a handful of excellent mentors, without whom I would not have advanced as far as I have. Dr. Paul White in particular took me under his wing, and in his own unmistakable way, showed me

the ropes and gave me the opportunities to succeed as a contact lens educator. Paul is one of the original founders of the AOCLE, and we all have benefited from the efforts of Paul and other contact lens pioneers who laid the foundation for today's contact lens practice. I hope that you will enjoy our workshop and that you will take home something valuable that will help you and your colleagues at your respective institutions.

It has been my honor to serve as your Chair, and I look forward to seeing this group continue to grow and move forward for many years to come. See you in Bawstin!

Ron Watanabe
Chair, AOCLE



**2008 AOCLE Annual Workshop
The New England College of Optometry**



Tentative Agenda

Thursday, June 5

5:00 – 7:00 pm Reception at hotel
Boston Marriott Long Wharf
7:00 – 9:00 pm Business meeting at hotel

Friday, June 6

6:00 am Breakfast at hotel
8:00 am Buses to NECO
9:00 am Welcome at NECO
President Elizabeth Chen
Dr. Paul White & Dr. Cliff Scott
10:00 am Workshop session #1: Faculty Development at NECO
Dr. Bruce Moore
12:00 pm Lunch
1:00 pm Tour of Beacon Street campus
2:30 pm Industry sponsor presentations #1
3:30 pm Buses to NEE Commonwealth
4:00 pm Tour of NEE Commonwealth
5:00 pm Duck tour pick up at NEE Commonwealth
6:30 pm Dinner– Duck tour and clam bake at NECO

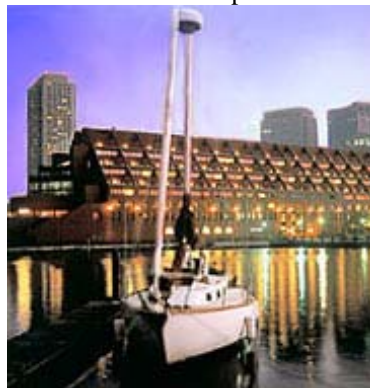


Saturday, June 7

6:00 am Breakfast at hotel
8:00 am Workshop session #2:
Mentoring
Dr. John Littlefield
10:30 am Industry sponsor presentations #2
12:00 pm Lunch at hotel
1:00 pm Workshop session #3:
Mentoring
5:00 pm Free time
7:00 pm Dinner – The Barking Crab

Sunday, June 8

Breakfast at hotel
Departures



Hotel: Boston Marriott Long Wharf
(photo: marriott.com)

IACLE INFO

IACLE Welcomes Janice Jurkus to Australia
Professor Janice Jurkus, long-time member of both IACLE and AOCLE, is currently on Faculty Development Leave from her position at the Illinois College of Optometry (Chicago, IL) and is spending approximately six weeks of that time in Sydney, Australia at the IACLE Secretariat. Jan's goals for her time with IACLE were to gain a clearer understanding of:

- international education
- examination organization and assessment, especially assessment remotely
- distance learning programs
- maintaining open, two-way communications between teaching staff, and students who are on externships

She and Lewis Williams (IACLE's Manager of International Education) have been working on developing teaching resources for contact lens educators - in particular a series of case studies that will supplement the IACLE Contact Lens Course.



Jan with Lew Williams, Angie Williams and Sonja Cronje

As Janice has also recently been elected to the IACLE Executive Board as the Assistant Secretary, this time with IACLE is giving her a closer look at the organization and how we can continue to work together in the future. Jan's vitality and experience will be missed when the time comes for her to return to the US.

IACLE Resources and Programs

Did you know that IACLE offers high quality educational resources and programs to our members?

Did you know that as a full or part time educator you are eligible for IACLE membership?

IACLE membership is open to Optometrists, Ophthalmologists, Opticians and Contactologists and current we have approximately 600 members in 338 institutions in 63 countries.

One of IACLE's most visible programs has been the development of the IACLE Contact Lens Course. This 10-module course is packaged to provide lectures (text, diagram and/or picture slides and related notes), practical sessions (discussion topics and exercises), and tutorials (quizzes and reading materials) - all of which can be tailored for basic through to advanced level courses.

The Course is now available in CD ROM format, which includes a black & white PDF of the entire module, as well as colour images and slides that can be easily inserted into your lecture presentations. The course is also an excellent resource for students and is currently the required course textbook for many schools - including the School of Optometry at the University of Waterloo.

If you would like additional information about IACLE membership, resources or programs, please visit our website at www.iacle.org or

contact the IACLE Secretariat at iacle@iacle.org.

Educator Meeting Report-GKC

The Second Annual Global Keratoconus Congress (GKC) was held in Las Vegas, Nevada on Jan 25-27, 2008. The GKC Education Committee included Joe Barr, Eef van der Worp, Ed Bennett, Pat Caroline, Carla Mack and was led by Craig Norman and the LWW Health Care Conference Group (Heather Seasholtz, Maureen Platt, Helen Solensky). The conference featured clinically relevant topics, the latest research, paper presentations, posters, and workshops on keratoconus and the irregular cornea. In attendance of this international forum were some 340 registrants from 24 countries and another 100 exhibit personnel from 28 companies.



This year's meeting included several well-known international speakers such as Charles McGee, Paul Rose, Charles McMonnies, Don Ezekial and Giancarlo Montani. These lecturers, along with specialists based in the U.S. such as Jan Bergmanson, David Schanzlin, Perry Rosenthal, M. Cristina Kenney, and Christine Sindt all helped to shed light on current theories about the pathophysiology of keratoconus and the different ways to manage the disease with specialty lenses and surgical techniques.

The winner of the poster competition was AOCLE member Norman Leach (along with others from the University of Houston College of Optometry) for the poster entitled, "A Topography Based Index to Aid in the Diagnosis of Keratoconus."



Second place went to Keshia Elder (and others from the University of Alabama at Birmingham, School of Optometry) for the poster, "Prototype Base Curve Attachment for Topographer."



Again this year, a special thanks goes to the CLMA for supporting educator's attendance by covering the registration fees. In addition, Bausch & Lomb paid the registration fees for the contact lens residents. This support of educators and future contact lens practitioners helps to disseminate important information to those not able to attend the meeting and impact the education of hundreds of optometry students.

In 2009 the event will be held at the same venue January 16-18 and incorporate the latest information on treatment strategies for astigmatism, presbyopia, keratoconus, post surgical and myopia management.

Campus News **NECO**

Dr. Alan Kwok will be taking a position with a new Los Angeles clinic site for the Boston Foundation for Sight. They specialize in scleral lenses and other specialty designs for irregular corneas and ocular surface diseases.

NOVA

NOVA is going to EMR (Nextgen) at the end of March, 2008.

OSU

Dr. Jeff Schafer has resigned and accepted a research position at Bausch & Lomb. Nicky Lai, OD, MS, has assumed Jeff's role of Chief of Contact Lens Service and Kelly Kingsbury, OD has been promoted to Associate Chief of the Contact Lens Service. Both doctors are involved in clinic, research, and labs and do guest lecturing for didactic courses. Julia Geldis, OD, MS was promoted to the Wilce Student Health Center Optometry Service Chief. Karla Zadnik, OD, PhD has been named Associate Dean of the college and is assuming the previous roles of Joe Barr, OD, MS whose title at B&L is Global Vice President of R&D.

GPLI Cornea and Contact Lens Resident Educational Program

The GP Lens Institute (GPLI) and the Contact Lens Manufacturers Association (CLMA) are pleased to announce that the annual GPLI Cornea and Contact Lens Resident Educational Program will be held August 22-24, 2008 in St. Louis, Missouri.

The weekend program, held at the University of

Missouri-St. Louis, College of Optometry, consists of a series of lectures and workshops presented by industry leaders. Topics include fitting GP contact lenses for patients with astigmatism, presbyopia and keratoconus as well as those with irregular corneas following surgery, disease or injury. Also included is a session discussing contact lens corneal reshaping.

Attendees should plan to travel Friday morning, August 22, arriving in St. Louis before 1pm. Alternatively, travel arrangements will be made for Thursday, August 21st if it's not possible to arrive early enough on Friday. Departure flights will be scheduled for Sunday, August 24 after 4:30pm.

Please let us know the name and e-mail address of your new 08/09 Cornea and Contact Lens Resident so we can send them an invitation. Any questions should be directed to Ursula Lotzkat at 574-277-0718 (ulotzkat@aol.com), or Dr. Ed Bennett at 314-516-6258 (ebennett@umsl.edu).

AAO Diplomate in Cornea and Contact Lens Section

What does it mean to be a Diplomate in an Academy Section? That one has elevated to a certain standard of practice? That one has gained the respect and admiration of their peers? That one has profited from the added knowledge of studies and achieved satisfaction in the recognition of their competency? The answer: All of the above. Achieving Diplomate status is a professional goal like none other in our profession. It recognizes commitment to excellence in knowledge & skill and makes those who attain this goal better practitioners for our patients & the profession.

The AAO Cornea and Contact Lens Section is

the oldest and largest Diplomate Section in the Academy, and we continue to encourage new applicants. By becoming a Diplomate you will join over 160 influential colleagues and fellow AOCLE and IACLE members globally who share mutual interest and concerns in contact lenses, the cornea, and refractive technology. This is the type of group with whom you may refer patients, and discuss research or teaching with confidence. For more information visit the Academy website or contact the Diplomate award chair at

Loretta.Szczotka@uhhospitals.org .

Photos from the GKC



The AOCLE
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