The World Ophthalmology Congress (WOC2018) will be held in our wonderful Barcelona next 16–19 June. This is the most comprehensive and global event of our specialty, sponsored by the International Council of Ophthalmology. With the joint collaboration of the Spanish Ophthalmological Society, the European Ophthalmological Society, the Spanish Society of Implant & Refractive Surgery, the Catalan Society of Ophthalmology, and the Barraquer Institute, we are working to make WOC2018 a lifetime experience for all attendants.

The city’s geographical position confers it a privileged mild Mediterranean climate, especially balmy in late spring. It also makes Barcelona easy to reach, with direct flights from most cities in the world. The congress venue, the Fira Gran Via Barcelona, is one of the largest and most up-to-date in Europe. Designed by the Pritzker prize-winner Japanese architect Toyo Ito, it is located in a new business development area, connected to the public transport network, close to the airport and a few minutes from downtown Barcelona.

The WOC2018 Scientific Program Committee is working to achieve an outstanding and innovative program with topics for everyone. I am very pleased and honored to welcome you in Barcelona to share knowledge, experience, and the latest technology in ophthalmology.

With warm regards,

Rafael I. Barraquer, MD, PhD
President, WOC2018