BUILDING A WORLD ALLIANCE FOR SIGHT

2015 Program Update
Register to Attend this Global Event in Guadalajara, Mexico: woc2016.org

Host: Mexican Society of Ophthalmology
Co-Host: Pan-American Association of Ophthalmology

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Join us!

HOST: Spanish Society of Ophthalmology
CO-HOSTS: European Society of Ophthalmology and Spanish Society of Implant-Refractive Ocular Surgery

BARCELONA, SPAIN
JUNE 16–19, 2018

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Letter from the President

Dear Colleagues,

As President of the International Council of Ophthalmology, I am highly impressed when reviewing what the ICO has accomplished in the past year. This letter is an opportunity for me to point out a few of the highlights from 2015, and to thank all the outstanding individuals who play an essential role in implementing ICO programs.

The second phase of our Teaching the Teachers Initiative began in 2015, and ICO education volunteers have conducted in-person conferences and online courses, as well as developing new subspecialty curricula. The ICO envisions that eventually ophthalmic education will be recognized as a valid and appreciated subspecialty within ophthalmology.

Additionally, we established an online ICO Fellowship Group for past and present ICO Fellows to connect with each other and share resources. And thanks to generous donations from the David Pyott Foundation and others, we were able to offer eleven travel grants for ICO Fellowship alumni to attend WOC2016 in Guadalajara, Mexico.

We have been working closely with our society partners and an extraordinary group of ophthalmologist volunteers to create a cutting-edge scientific program for the 2016 World Ophthalmology Congress in Guadalajara, which will incorporate some really exciting new interactive formats in various clinical interest groups, debates, and case presentations.

I want to extend my sincere thanks to our ICO Officers and Program Directors for their tremendous efforts on behalf of the ICO. I would also like to recognize ICO Member societies whose membership is essential to the ICO’s vision to ‘build a world alliance for sight.’

Finally, a special thank you to our ICOFoundation donors. Donations to the ICOFoundation allow the ICO to grow and strengthen our programs in education, eye care, and leadership.

If you have questions or would like to get involved in the ICO’s efforts, please contact: info@icoph.org. If you would like to directly support the ICO’s programs and initiatives with a financial contribution, please visit www.icofoundation.org.

Best wishes,

Hugh Taylor, AC, MD
President, International Council of Ophthalmology
REFOCUSING EDUCATION

World Ophthalmology Congress of the International Council of Ophthalmology

The World Ophthalmology Congress® (WOC) of the International Council of Ophthalmology (ICO) dates back to 1857 and takes place in a different international region every two years. Each WOC delivers world-class education, insight, and inspiration to a global ophthalmology community for improving quality eye care and preventing visual loss.

The ICO is committed to “Building a World Alliance for Sight,” and revenues from the WOC support a wide range of ICO initiatives and programs.

WOC2016

Participants and speakers from over 110 countries attend each WOC. The program for WOC2016, February 5–9 in Guadalajara, Mexico, includes over 300 scientific sessions, 1,446 free papers and posters, and 26 subspecialty day sessions, with 70 ICO Members and other societies contributing. The Congress is hosted by the Mexican Society of Ophthalmology and co-hosted by the Pan-American Association of Ophthalmology.

WOC2018 and WOC2020

The ICO is taking an increased leadership role in WOC management, and following WOC2016 in the Americas, we are looking forward to successful Congresses in Europe and Africa. WOC2018, hosted by the Spanish Society of Ophthalmology (Sociedad Española de Oftalmología) and co-hosted by the European Society of Ophthalmology (SOE) and Spanish Society of Implant-Refractive Ocular Surgery (SECOIR), is June 16–19, 2018, in Barcelona, Spain. Furthermore, the ICO is pleased to announce that WOC2020 will be hosted by the Ophthalmological Society of South Africa (OSSA) and co-hosted by the African Ophthalmology Council (AOC) and the Middle East Africa Council of Ophthalmology (MEACO) in Cape Town, South Africa, June 26–29, 2020.
ICO EXAMINATIONS

The ICO Examinations are the only worldwide medical-specialty examinations. Ophthalmologists who pass the Examinations demonstrate that their knowledge and skills meet a high international standard. In 2015, candidates took 4,925 ICO Examinations at 115 test centers in 65 countries, with more ophthalmologists taking the ICO Standard Examination than ever before.

In 2015, the ICO began offering the ICO Exams App, which is a mobile knowledge quiz for medical students, allied health professionals, and doctors preparing for their ICO Exams. The app is currently free to download and use. Search “ICO Exams” in the iTunes App Store or on Google Play.

Standard Examinations
The ICO Standard Examinations are divided into three subject areas: Basic Science; Theoretical Optics & Refraction and Use of Instruments; and Clinical Sciences. The Clinical Sciences examination is offered to ophthalmologists who have passed the first two components, or an examination of similar standard recognized by the ICO.

Advanced Examination
The Advanced ICO Examination is offered to ophthalmologists who have passed all three parts of the ICO Standard Examination, or an examination of similar standard. Passing the ICO Advanced Examination, along with a local face-to-face examination, entitles the successful candidate to use the post-nominal acronym FICO (Fellow of the ICO).

Foundation Assessment
Available online, the Foundation Assessment is designed for those entering ophthalmology training and first-year ophthalmology residency trainees. Meant as a knowledge assessment and learning tool, the Assessment is accessible worldwide at all times and emphasizes basic and practical ophthalmology learned in the first year of training. ICO Examinations candidates whose societies are ICO Members receive a complimentary Foundation Assessment when applying for any of the ICO Standard Examinations.

Learn more about ICO Examinations: icoph.org/exams
ICO FELLOWSHIPS PROGRAM
Since 2000, the ICO has awarded more than 840 fellowships, allowing promising young ophthalmologists from developing countries with an urgent need for modern eye care to bring acquired knowledge and skills back to their home country and take part in programs to preserve and restore vision.

WOC2016 Travel Grants for Current and Former Fellows
In 2015, the ICO disbursed travel grants of 3,000 to 4,000 USD to 11 ICO Fellowship alumni for travel to the WOC2016 in Guadalajara, Mexico. Participation in the WOC provides these young ophthalmologists with invaluable educational and networking opportunities that should have a resounding impact on the developing countries where they practice.

The grants were made possible thanks to an initial gift from the David Pyott Foundation and contributions from Dr. Pinar Aydin, Dr. Akef El-Maghraby, Mr. William Felch, Jr., Dr. Kunle Hassan, Dr. Martine Jager, Dr. Bruce Spivey, and Prof. Hugh Taylor.

ICO Fellowship Group
ICO Fellowship Alumni comprise a remarkable community of ophthalmologists from throughout the world. This year, the ICO conducted a needs assessment to determine how we can best support the professional development of this global network of young ophthalmologists. Based on feedback, the ICO established an online ICO Fellowship Group for ICO Fellowship alumni to connect with each other, share resources, discuss career questions, and arrange events.

Dr. Lamichane
Gyanendra, ICO Fellowship Alumni Group Member. Dr. Gyanendra conducted diabetic retinopathy screenings in Nepal.
The ICO offers the following fellowship opportunities:

**ICO Three-Month Fellowships**
ICO Three-Month Fellowships are awarded twice a year to ophthalmologists from regions that have an immediate demand for trained eye-care personnel. Special consideration is given to ophthalmologists who have passed the ICO Examinations. The goal of these fellowships is to provide opportunities for young ophthalmologists from developing countries to improve their practical skills in subspecialties and broaden their perspectives.

**ICO-Retina Research Foundation Helmerich One-Year Fellowships**
These fellowships provide support for one year of subspecialty training to young ophthalmologists from developing countries. Since the program began in 2010, fellows from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Cameroon, Egypt, India, Iran, Mexico, and Turkey, Thailand, China, and Ethiopia have acquired subspecialty skills to advance patient care, research, and education in their home countries.

**ICO Fellowships Supporters**
The ICO Fellowships Program is supported in part by donations to the ICOFoundation and the International Ophthalmological Fellowship Foundation (IOFF) in Germany.

More information about how to donate may be found on the ICOFoundation website: icofoundation.org.

“Your generosity will mark a very big impact in the life of 15 million people, since I’m the first in Mali to receive training in oculoplastics. Your help will greatly influence the care of patients.”

Dr. Guirou Nouhoum
2015 Fellow

Learn more about ICO Fellowships: icoph.org/fellowships

See profiles of ICO Fellowships alumni at: icoph.org/fellow-alumni-profiles

See interviews with ICO Fellowships alumni members at: youtube.com/user/ICOandWOC
TEACHING THE TEACHERS

The ICO’s Teaching the Teachers initiative develops and implements a variety of high-quality, adaptable educational programs for anyone involved in ophthalmic education. Primary emphasis is on the needs of educators in developing countries. Resources are offered for free or at a low cost, depending on the setting and the teacher’s financial situation.

The initiative’s ultimate aim is to increase the quality of ophthalmic training around the world, resulting in more ophthalmologists and eye care professionals who are better equipped to provide eye care.

2015 Courses for Ophthalmic Educators

Residency Program Directors Courses: Emphasizing modern methods of instruction, assessment, and competency measurement, this year the ICO offered courses in collaboration with Member societies in Russia, Spain, and Mexico.

Eyexcel–Expanding Global Eye Care Workforce: The annual Eyexcel meeting was held July 2015 in Madurai, India. Eyexcel prepares eye hospital teams to deliver high-quality training for allied ophthalmic personnel, managers, or ophthalmologists. Eyexcel is a collaboration among Lions Aravind Institute of Community Ophthalmology (LAICO), the Seva Foundation, and the ICO.

Sign up for the Ophthalmic Educators Letter to receive education resource announcements, news, and updates: icoph.org/newsletters
In 2015, the ICO and partners offered four Conferences for Ophthalmic Educators:

- Guangzhou, China, with the Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology and the Chinese Ophthalmological Society;
- Vienna, Austria with the European Society of Ophthalmology;
- Bogotá, Colombia, with the Pan-American Association of Ophthalmology and the Colombian Society of Ophthalmology; and

The AIOS Teachers in Ophthalmology Central and Zonal Programs: The All-India Ophthalmological Society (AIOS) organized one of the first programs in ophthalmic education run completely by local educators, with local resources, using ICO guidance and educational principles.

The program was called “Teachers in Ophthalmology” and consisted of several one-day workshops in the five major geographical zones of India, and a Central Workshop, which was held on the day prior to the AIOS Annual Meeting in New Delhi.

Online Courses: In 2015, the ICO offered the online course, “Transforming Lectures for Effective Teaching Interventions,” focused on helping educators integrate technology into their teaching and improve their presentations.

Center for Ophthalmic Educators
The Center for Ophthalmic Educators (educators.icoph.org) offers a wide variety of resources to enhance teaching skills. The Center’s monthly e-newsletter, the Ophthalmic Educators Letter, highlights new resources, upcoming events for teachers, and other relevant news.

ICO Curricula and Assessment Tools
As part of its efforts to improve ophthalmic education around the world, the ICO develops curricula and assessment tools that reflect an international consensus on standards of ophthalmic knowledge and care. These teaching materials are designed to be translated and adapted to suit a region or an organization’s particular needs.

ICO International Guidelines for Accreditation of Residency Training Programs: The ICO believes a formal system for accreditation of eye care training programs is essential to ensure global improvement in eye care education, and ultimately, delivery of the finest eye care.

The ICO International Guidelines for Accreditation of Residency Training Programs are intended to facilitate the process of accreditation by suggesting benchmarks for program directors and departments and guidance for accrediting bodies. The Guidelines can be used as written or adapted for local needs.

“Although I have attended some courses and workshops in medical education before this one, the experience of online learning was unique. Thanks for such an excellent course.”
Dr. Mahmood Ali
Pakistan
ICO Subspecialty Curricula: ICO subspecialty curricula strive to present an international consensus on what ophthalmologic subspecialists in training should be taught, with the intention that the curricula be adapted and modified as needed. This year, ICO finalized a Subspecialty Curriculum for Training in Glaucoma. Other ICO subspecialty curricula include Cornea, External Diseases, and Refractive Surgery; and Neuro-Ophthalmology. Curricula for Ophthalmic Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery and Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus will be finalized in 2016. Two others under development are Ocular Oncology and Ophthalmic Pathology; and Vitreoretinal Surgery.

ICO Translation of Resources: The ICO encourages individuals to translate available resources and offers translated versions whenever possible. Through the help of volunteer translators, this year the ICO added translations of the ICO-Ophthalmology Surgical Competency Assessment Rubric (OSCAR) for Lateral Tarsal Strip Surgery in French, Small Incision Cataract Surgery in French and Spanish, and Phacoemulsification in Russian. Selected ICO-OSCARs are also available in Chinese, Portuguese, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

Download ICO-OSCARs: icoph.org/ICO-OSCAR

ENHANCING EYE CARE

Reducing Worldwide Vision Loss Related to Diabetes
The ICO Guidelines for Diabetic Eye Care provide recommendations for screening, assessing, and treating diabetic retinopathy, and are stratified for settings with high, medium, or low resources. They will continue to be updated on an ongoing basis, and are designed to be translated and adapted for local use by ophthalmologists and others who care for those with diabetes. Thanks to volunteer translators and reviewers, the ICO added French and Serbian translations in 2015. The Guidelines were already offered in Chinese, English, Portuguese, Spanish, and Vietnamese.

Download DR Guidelines: icoph.org/DRGuidelines

ICO and CBM/EMR Collaborate on Diabetic Eye Care Program and Manual
Using the ICO Guidelines for Diabetic Eye Care as a reference, the ICO is working with the Eastern Mediterranean Region of CBM (CBM/EMR) to define a diabetic eye care program and manual.

Representatives of CBM/EMR and the ICO are considering which aspects of the ICO Guidelines are most relevant for low and medium resource areas, and are outlining a program for implementation.
ICO Guidelines for Glaucoma Eye Care

The ICO Task Force on Glaucoma is developing guidelines to evaluate and manage glaucoma as part of a new initiative to reduce worldwide vision loss from this “silent thief of sight.” As part of this effort, the Task Force reviewed glaucoma guidelines from around the world. The Guidelines will be a technical consensus of this effort and will include recommendations for low, medium, and high resource settings.

WHO and ICO Renew Official Relations

The World Health Organization (WHO) has renewed official relations with the ICO. Significantly, the ICO is the only non-governmental organization that represents ophthalmology among the 202 organizations in official collaboration with WHO.

The overall goal of the ICO’s collaboration with WHO is to strengthen eye health systems with a view to reducing levels of avoidable blindness and visual impairment in the world. The ICO is working with Member societies to promote the effective implementation of the WHO’s “Universal Eye Health: a global action plan 2014–2019”: www.who.int/blindness/AP2014_19_English.pdf?ua=1.

ICO Working with WHO on ICD-11

The ICO International Classification of Diseases (ICD) Task Force is continuing their work with WHO to revise the ophthalmologic data in ICD-10 and create a new generation of classification, the ICD-11. The ICO Task Force serves as the Topic Advisory Group for ophthalmology. Testing and peer review of the new classification will commence in 2016. Endorsement by the WHO Executive Board and World Health Assembly will be sought in May 2018.
Magrabi–ICO Cameroon Eye Institute: Helping the Next Generation of Leaders Provide High-Quality Services in Francophone Africa

Construction is close to completion on the Magrabi-ICO Cameroon Eye Institute (MICEI). MICEI is the first not-for-profit subspecialty and training eye hospital in the Central Africa Region, and the expectation is that the Institute will be operational in early 2016.

A strong team is being built, with recruitment of the hospital CEO and other senior management. Key staff members have been participating in training facilitated by the Lions Aravind Institute of Community Ophthalmology in India, with the aim of transferring knowledge derived from successful eye-care delivery models.

In addition to training the next generation of eye health leaders, MICEI will provide high-quality subspecialty services and outreach programs to marginalized populations in Cameroon and outlying areas, ideally reducing the need to send patients abroad. MICEI will use a subsidized fee system to make comprehensive eye-care services accessible, affordable, and inclusive.

The Institute is being built and developed by the Magrabi Foundation, the ICO, and the “That Every Life May Count Foundation,” with formal affiliations with the Department of Ophthalmology of the University of Yaoundé and the Cameroon Ministry of Health. The project is supported by Seeing is Believing, CBM, Orbis, The Fred Hollows Foundation, and the ICOFoundation together with support from key industry manufacturers and suppliers.

ADVANCING LEADERSHIP

ICO MEMBER SOCIETIES

WORLD Considers What Innovations Will Change the Future of Eye Care Globally

Through presentations and interactive discussion, the 2015 World Ophthalmology Roundtable on Leadership Development (WORLD) in Las Vegas, Nevada, focused on how eye health will change through innovation, technology, and industry advances.
David Pyott, president of the ICOFoundation, spoke about how ophthalmology will change in the next 20 years, and Dr. Emmett Cunningham, a partner at Clarus Ventures LLC and Founder and Chairman of the Ophthalmology Innovation Summit, spoke on the technological innovations that will have the greatest impact on eye health around the world.

**Working Together to Create Leaders in Ophthalmology**

The ICO is working with society partners to increase global awareness of vision loss by supplying resources and working together on education and leadership programs. As examples, the ICO collaborated with the African Ophthalmology Council (AOC) and the American Academy of Ophthalmology (AAO) on two programs in Africa this year:

- At the March 2015 Ophthalmological Society of South Africa congress in Durban, South Africa, the AOC organized a conference on Ophthalmologic Society and Leadership Development in Sub-Saharan Africa, which addressed the needs of the public, the role of ophthalmology, and how ophthalmic societies can best serve regional needs.
- In August 2015, the AOC offered a two-day Leadership Development Program in Naivasha, Kenya, just prior to the College of Ophthalmology of Eastern, Central, and Southern Africa Congress. The Leadership Development Program aims to develop potential leaders who will advance ophthalmology locally, nationally, and across the African continent.

**Welcome New ICO Member Societies**

The ICO is composed of over 135 national and subspecialty Member societies from all over the globe. ICO Member societies are part of a community connecting the world’s ophthalmologists, working together to preserve and restore vision.

This year, the ICO welcomed the membership of six new ophthalmologic societies, as of October 2015:

- American Association of Ocular Oncologists and Pathologists,
- American Society of Retina Specialists,
- Bolivian Society of Ophthalmology,
- Burundi Ophthalmological Society,
- Ophthalmological Society of Jamaica, and
- Uruguayan Association of Ophthalmologists.

View ICO Member Societies: [icoph.org/ico-members](http://icoph.org/ico-members).

**Ophthalmologic Societies**

The ICO is committed to stimulating and supporting communication and collaboration among ophthalmologic societies and ophthalmologists globally, particularly on initiatives to preserve and restore vision. To see a list of ophthalmic societies, go to: [icoph.org/ophthalmologic-societies](http://icoph.org/ophthalmologic-societies).
ICO Overview

ICO Programs are supported by the ICO Foundation, Member organizations, and income from World Ophthalmology Congresses.

Visit icoph.org to:

- Learn more about ICO Exams and ICO Fellowships.
- Sign up for our the Ophthalmic Educators Letter, ICO Insight, WOC Updates, and Special Mailings.
- View upcoming ophthalmic events from around the world.
- Download educational, leadership, and eye-care resources.

ICO BOARD, ADVISORY COMMITTEE, AND TASK FORCES

The ICO would like to thank the ICO Board of Trustees and Advisory Committee, as well as Committee and Task Force members. Their expertise, commitment, and work make the ICO a strong and dynamic organization.

- Board and Advisory Committee: icoph.org/boardandadvisory.html
- Committees: icoph.org/committees.html
- Task Forces: icoph.org/task_forces.html
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With generous contributions from corporations, foundations, and individuals, the ICOFoundation supports ICO educational programs such as the Teaching the Teachers initiative and ICO Fellowships. Donations to the ICOFoundation also aid ICO activities in eye care, advocacy, and leadership.

Donations directly sustain programs working to improve eye health on a global scale. The ICO is able to maximize resources and keep administrative costs low because of our expansive network of volunteers.

For information on the ICOFoundation and to make a donation, go to: icofoundation.org.
Teaching the Teachers

The ICOFoundation depends on the generosity of corporations, foundations, and individuals to support the ICO’s Teaching the Teachers initiative, which provides ophthalmic educators with access to the latest curricula, tools, and materials, leading to enhanced training, and ultimately, improved eye care worldwide. We are honored to celebrate the founding supporters of the initiative: www.icofoundation.org/our-donors/teaching-the-teachers.html.

IN GRATEFUL RECOGNITION, ICOFOUNDATION DONORS

Corporations and Corporate Foundations as of October 2015

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Alcon, Inc.
The Allergan Foundation
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$100,000–$499,999
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$750,000–$1,000,000
Japanese National Society for the Prevention of Blindness

$500,000–$749,999
Lavelle Fund for the Blind

$200,000–$499,999
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Retina Research Foundation

$50,000–$199,999
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$25,000–$49,999
Dr. and Mrs. Kunle Hassan
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San Francisco Foundation

$10,000–$24,999
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CBM, Germany
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