Potential Ophthalmologic Society Functions and Best Practices

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ICO/MEACO Advisory Leadership Group for SSA
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Ophthalmologic Society Development

- History of ICO, for example
- Possible society functions and development
- Examples
- Possible best practices
ICO History

- 1857: First International Congress of Ophthalmology, Brussels
- 1927: Formation of ICO, Scheveningen, Holland
- 1995: Basic and Clinical Assessments
- 1996: ICO Web site
ICO History

Vision for the Future:

International Ophthalmology Goals:

• Ophthalmic Education and Training
• Ophthalmology Continuing Education
• Eye Care Guidelines and Recommendations
• Advocacy for the Preservation and Restoration of Vision
• Research in Ophthalmology and Vision
ICO History

- 2000: IFOS/ICO Fellowships
- 2001: International Clinical Guidelines
- 2002: "Visual Standards - Aspects and Ranges of Vision Loss"
- 2002: Research Agenda for Global Blindness Prevention
- 2005: Director for Advocacy: Hugh Taylor, AC
New ICO Strategic Plan in 2007

ICO Goals/Primary Functions:

• Ophthalmic Education
• Ophthalmic Practice
• Research
• Advocacy
• Society Relations and Support
• Organizational Development
Ophthalmologic Society Functions

Ophthalmologic Education

- Continuing Education
  - Congress
  - Journal
  - Fellowships
  - Regional Meetings and Courses
  - Online:
    - Case studies
    - Other
Ophthalmologic Society Functions

Ophthalmmic Education

- Training
  - Ophthalmology Residency Training
  - Subspecialty Training
  - Allied Personnel/Eye Care Team
  - Medical Student
Ophthalmologic Society Functions

Advocacy

Goals:

- Increase support for eye care/prevention of blindness
  - Support for training of ophthalmologists and others
- Implementation of VISION 2020:
  - Regional
  - National plans
  - District plans
  - World Sight Day
- Education of the public about prevention and treatment of eye disease and visual loss
Ophthalmologic Society Functions

Membership/Ophthalmic Practice

- Clinical practice guidelines
- Standards for eye care and vision
- Ethics
- Equipment
- Communications with members
  - Journal/newsletter
  - Web site
  - E-mail newsletter
- Recruitment of new members
- Membership support
Ophthalmologic Society Functions

Governance/Organizational Development

- Governing board
- Organizational structure: Committees et. al.
- Management and Operations
  - Secretary General
  - Administrative support
- Leadership development
Ophthalmologic Society Functions

Governance/Organizational Development

- Statutes/Bylaws and Regulations
- Policies and procedures
- Strategic plan
- Annual plans and budget
- Financial management
- Membership records, dues collection, etc.
Example: PAAO

- Pan-American Association of Ophthalmology (1939)
- Annual Congress, Journal, Regional Courses
- PACUPO, Courses, Requirements for Residency
- National POB, Foundation, Research grants
- Vision Pan-America, “Buy Vision in Latin America”
- 18 Subspecialty Societies
- Web site, E-mail Newsletter and Discussion Groups
- Leadership Development Program
- Ethics --> National Codes
Other Strategies and Programs

- China: Clinical Practice Guidelines
- Nigeria: Vision for the Future/Foundation
- AAO/APAO: Online education
- Pakistan, Brazil, South Africa: community ophthalmology
- Australia: Pacific Island membership, cost benefit of eye care
- Saudi Arabia/EMRO: WHA Resolutions and advocacy
Possible Best Practices?

• Offer education between Congresses
• Define a curriculum for residency training
• Define a strategic plan once every three years
• Maintain a Web site and monthly e-mail newsletter
• Governing board representative of membership

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