Come October and it will be two years since the launch of the India Vision Institute. Much has been achieved for Indian Optometry and the IVI team is very thankful for the continuing support of the Indian optometry community and industry.

Optometry in India - Opportunities, Challenges and Solutions is the theme of the half day IVI conference planned to commemorate our second anniversary on 3 October in Hyderabad. We will have the privilege of Professor Brien Holden, Dr G N Rao, Professor Kovin Naidoo and other key national and international eyecare and optometry leaders deliberating on the theme. A webcast of the conference is planned to enable optometry professionals from across the country to participate.

Lack of public awareness about Optometry has been a key stumbling block and as identified in Aksauihini, IVI is continuing to develop projects to promote Optometry. One of the exciting awareness initiatives planned to coincide with IVI’s second anniversary is a three-city performance tour by Australian production, The Wizard of Oz, introducing Ollie the Optometrist.

Having a committed group of trustees in Dr G N Rao, Prof Brien Holden and Ms Lakshmi Shinde; two visionary organisations in Brien Holden Vision Institute and L V Prasad Eye Institute; a dedicated and professional IVI team and a collaborative working relationship with key Optometry organisations in India have made the past two years for IVI very productive and exciting.

Vinod Daniel
CEO & Managing Trustee

Seminar on Ophthalmic opportunities in India

A seminar on Ophthalmic opportunities in India by Sylvie Franz, the then CEO, Brien Holden Vision Pty Ltd was held at IVI on 22 June 2013. The seminar introduced the participants to existing eyecare needs, opportunities in vision research and development and latest optical market trends in India.
**EyeTeach® Research Methodology and Public Eye Health workshops**

IVI conducted two national workshops: EyeTeach© Research Methodology and Public Eye Health from 29-31 July 2013 at Amity University, Gurgaon.

The workshops were led by internationally recognized public health leader, Professor Kovin Naidoo, CEO, African Vision Research Institute (AVRI) Durban and Dr Jyoti Jagarnath, Research Manager, AVRI, along with Dr Praveen Vashist, Head of Community Ophthalmology Department, All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS).

Over 28 optometry educators, practitioners and researchers from 25 optometry organizations across India gained insight into the role of research in optometry and the solutions to combat causes of avoidable blindness and visual impairment, particularly focusing on uncorrected refractive error.

IVI acknowledges the support of Brien Holden Vision Institute Foundation and Optometry Giving Sight (OGS) for funding both the workshops.

**IVI signs MOUs with Operation Eyesight Universal & Bansara Eyecare Centre**

IVI and Operation Eyesight Universal (OEU) signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 2 July 2013 to collaborate in developing targeted, sustainable and mutually beneficial vision care projects.

This will include training programs and continuing professional development initiatives for OEU’s partner institutions offering optometry courses.
The selection panel included Prof Eric Papas, Executive Director of Research & Development, Brien Holden Vision Institute, Vision CRC Limited, Dr Shrikant Bharadwaj, Scientist and Head of Optometry, L V Prasad Eye Institute and Vinod Daniel, CEO, India Vision Institute.

**Strategic Planning for Optometry Research**

IVI hosted a strategic planning session to further Optometry research in India on 21 June 2013. A panel of distinguished optometry professionals including Professor Kovin Naidoo, CEO, African Vision Research Institute; Dr Shrikant Bharadwaj, Scientist and Head of Optometry, L V Prasad Eye institute; Dr Ramesh S Ve, Assistant Professor, Department of Optometry, School of Allied Health Sciences, Manipal University; and Lakshmi Shinde, CEO, Optometry Council of India participated in the discussion.

Over the next twelve months, IVI will build on ideas that emerged during the discussion including: conducting webinars focused on research, short term training courses and workshops on research skills, facilitation of interdisciplinary research between Optometry and public health, and development of a mentorship program.

**Australian Leadership Award Fellowship (ALAF)**

Mr Soumendra Nath Ghosh, Head of Optometry Department, NSHM Knowledge Campus, Durgapur and Jayanta Bhattacharjee, Sr Faculty, Vidyasagar College of Optometry and Vision Science, Kolkata are additional recipients of the prestigious ALAF fellowship. They will join the group of 5 successful awardees announced previously including: Ms Jayarajini S, Ms Jyothi Thomas, Mr Kartheek Kumar Sangewar, Mr Nirav Kumar Mehta and Mr Shyam Sunder Tummanapalli.

The group will participate in ALAF round 13 Optometry Faculty Development Program scheduled for August 12-20, 2013 in Sydney. The program is anchored by Brien Holden Vision Institute, Sydney, with support from IVI.

**Online Student Seminar Series**

IVI will launch an Online Student Seminar series with the inaugural seminar focusing on Everyday challenges in contact lens clinical practice, delivered by Dr Kalika Bandamwar, Manager, Brien Holden Vision Pvt. Ltd, Hyderabad on Friday, 16 August 2013.

The seminar series would be webcast live to 15 Optometry colleges across India that have registered for the seminar series. IVI is further expanding this program and if your institute would like to participate, please write to us at ivi@indiavisioninstitute.org
What people say about IVI

I am delighted that IVI is undertaking this key “Young Leaders Program” for assisting Indian Optometry. My interaction with the ten participants of the inaugural young leaders program was very positive and I am pleased that they could visit my Centre. - Padmashree Vipin Buckshey, Optometrist and Contact Lens Specialist.

“I am grateful to IVI for organizing these workshops at our university with global leaders as resource persons. It has been a very useful initiative as it brought together educators and researchers on the same platform and gave them the opportunity to develop teaching skills in Research and Public Health. I am sure this will carve the future path for optometry in India. Amity University is proud to partner in such initiatives”. - Prof Monica Chaudhry, Head of Department of Optometry and Vision Science, Amity Medical School, Amity University, Gurgaon.

“It is not an exaggeration to say that IVI is much instrumental in developing Indian optometry education to the next level. I hope participation in the Australian Leadership Award Fellowship (ALAF) Program in Sydney would be extremely productive for my institution, staff and students”. - Soumendra Nath Ghosh, Head of Optometry Department, NSHM Knowledge Campus, Durgapur.

Our Supporters

Forthcoming Events

National Optometry Awareness initiative

- W izard of O z tour featuring Ollie the Optometrist

IVI will present a four-city performance tour by the specially commissioned popular musical version of Australian production, W izard of O z during O ctober 2013. Making his debut in the IVI India tour, Ollie the Optometrist will help create awareness about the important role an Optometrist plays in eye care delivery and preventing ‘preventable’ blindness.

Melbourne Cup Breakfast: a race that stops the nation

A Melbourne Cup breakfast is planned in Hyderabad on Tuesday, 5 November to let your hair down and watch a horse race that stops Australia. The ticketed event will be an occasion to raise awareness about eyecare and to generate support for various IVI initiatives.

New Staff at IVI

Ms Sailakshmi Sridharan has joined as Program Manager. She has previously worked with Bausch & Lomb India Pvt. Ltd., Aurolab; and more recently as Guest Lecturer at Bausch & Lomb School of Optometry.

Ms Selva Leela has joined as Program Officer and brings with her experience in organising eyecare workshops and training programs. Prior to joining IVI, Selva was associated with Sankara N ethralaya, Chennai

Ms Shenbaga Kanmani has joined as Program Assistant. Kanmani holds a Bachelors Degree in Computer Science and Masters in Social Work.
### IVI Workshop Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
<th>Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>11 August 2013</td>
<td>Optometry Professional Development Workshop</td>
<td>L V Prasad Eye Institute Bhubaneswar</td>
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<tr>
<td>16 August 2013</td>
<td>Online Student Seminar – Everyday challenges in contact lens clinical practice</td>
<td>Hyderabad</td>
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<tr>
<td>4 - 6 September 2013</td>
<td>Optometry Professional Development Workshop</td>
<td>Sri Ramachandra University &amp; Research Institute, Chennai</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 2013</td>
<td>Optometry Professional Development Workshop</td>
<td>New Delhi</td>
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<tr>
<td>20 September 2013</td>
<td>30th Low Vision Awareness Program</td>
<td>L V Prasad Eye Institute Hyderabad</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 3, 2013</td>
<td>Conference on Optometry in India - Opportunities, Challenges and Solutions</td>
<td>India Vision Institute Hyderabad</td>
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<tr>
<td>3 &amp; 4 October 2013</td>
<td>Young Leaders Program (YLP) Workshop III</td>
<td>India Vision Institute Hyderabad</td>
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<tr>
<td>21 &amp; 22 October 2013</td>
<td>EyeTeach©</td>
<td>New Delhi</td>
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<tr>
<td>24 &amp; 25 October 2013</td>
<td>EyeTeach©</td>
<td>Chennai</td>
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<tr>
<td>22 &amp; 23 November 2013</td>
<td>Workshop on Vision &amp; Occupation</td>
<td>India Vision Institute Hyderabad</td>
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Applications are currently open for the following IVI programs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Program</th>
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<tr>
<td>Faculty Support Program – II Round</td>
<td>Saturday, 31 August 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student Research Grants</td>
<td>Saturday, 31 August 2013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30th Low Vision Awareness Program</td>
<td>Saturday, 31 August 2013</td>
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</tbody>
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### Contact Details:

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