



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 *Aksaithini*, 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.



## Optometry Professional Development Workshop: an ASCO - IVI initiative

ASCO and IVI jointly organized a three-day continuing professional development workshop for Optometry practitioners and educators at the Vidyaasar College of Optometry and Vision Science in Kolkata from 3-5 July.

The workshop focused on specialized areas including binocular vision therapy basics, low vision basics and dispensing optics led by a team of experts, including Mr Aditya Goyal, Sankara College of Optometry, Bangalore; Ms Prema K Chande, Lotus College of Optometry, Mumbai and Ms Paula Mehta, Lotus College of Optometry, Mumbai. The workshop received an overwhelming response with over 60 Optometry professionals including educators, and practitioners attending the workshop.

The second in the series of continuous professional development workshops organized in collaboration with ASCO, is scheduled for Sunday, 11 August 2013 at LVPEI Bhubaneswar Campus. Ms Mithali A. Paranjape, Paranjape Vision Care will lead the workshop on the theme *Refraction Techniques & Clinical Implications*.

IVI acknowledges the support of Optometry Giving Sight and Brien Holden Vision Institute Foundation for funding the workshop.



## Young Leaders Program

Focusing on Advocacy and the role of leadership in effecting change, the second workshop in the four-series Young Leaders Program was held in New Delhi on 27-28 July. Professor Kovin Naidoo, an internationally recognized leader in optometry and public health and CEO of the African Vision Research Institute led the workshop.

The other highlights of the program included a briefing on Diplomacy and leadership in international relations by Mr Bernard Philip, Australian Deputy High Commissioner to India. Padmashree Vipin Buckshey also hosted the 10-member YLP delegation at his world class Visual Aids Centre and shared real life experiences in leadership.



The third workshop is planned in Hyderabad on 3-4 October 2013, coinciding with the second anniversary celebrations of IVI.

IVI acknowledges the support of Optometry Giving Sight and Brien Holden Vision Institute Foundation for funding the workshop.

## 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 Jaggernath, 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.





IVI and Bansara Eye Care Centre signed a Memorandum of Understanding on 27 July 2013 to develop a strong optometry network for North Eastern India through a range of initiatives including creating awareness about optometry and continuous professional development for practitioners and educators.

### Faculty Support Program for Dispensing Optics

IVI is pleased to announce successful candidates for the inaugural round of Faculty Support Program, scheduled for 5-17 August 2013 at Bharati Vidyapeeth School of Optometry, Pune.

**Mr Chandan Jyoti Borah**, Optometrist and Academic Counsellor, Sri Sankaradeva Nethralaya, Guwahati, Assam

**Mr Md Mosaib Omaer**, Faculty & Consultant Optometrist, C L Gupta Eye Institute, Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh.

IVI acknowledges the support of NWO Group for funding the program, Essilor India for providing the dispensing kit and Bharati Vidyapeeth School of Optometry for hosting the program.

Applications are invited for the second round scheduled to commence in October 2013. To be eligible for consideration, applications must be submitted on or before Saturday, 31 August 2013.

### Update on IVI Research Initiatives

#### *JSW – IVI and L&M – IVI Higher Education Scholarships*

Interviews for the IVI Higher Education scholarship were conducted on 14 June 2013 and two scholarships have been awarded (subject to formal registration at their target University and modification of their research proposal).

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](mailto:ivi@indiavisioninstitute.org)

## Forthcoming Events

### National Optometry Awareness initiative

- Wizard of Oz tour featuring *Ollie the Optometrist*

IVI will present a four-city performance tour by the specially commissioned popular musical version of Australian production, *Wizard of Oz* during October 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 Nethralaya, Chennai



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



## 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



Brien Holden Vision Institute



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## IVI Workshop Schedule

11 August 2013	Optometry Professional Development Workshop	L V Prasad Eye Institute Bhubaneswar
16 August 2013	Online Student Seminar – <i>Everyday challenges in contact lens clinical practice</i>	Hyderabad
4 – 6 September 2013	Optometry Professional Development Workshop	Sri Ramachandra University & Research Institute, Chennai
September 2013	Optometry Professional Development Workshop	New Delhi
20 September 2013	30 <sup>th</sup> Low Vision Awareness Program	L V Prasad Eye Institute Hyderabad
October 3, 2013	Conference on <i>Optometry in India - Opportunities, Challenges and Solutions</i>	India Vision Institute Hyderabad
3 & 4 October 2013	Young Leaders Program (YLP) Workshop III	India Vision Institute Hyderabad
21 & 22 October 2013	EyeTeach <sup>©</sup>	New Delhi
24 & 25 October 2013	EyeTeach <sup>©</sup>	Chennai
22 & 23 November 2013	Workshop on Vision & Occupation	India Vision Institute Hyderabad

Applications are currently open for the following IVI programs:

Program	Deadline for submission
Faculty Support Program – II Round	Saturday, 31 August 2013
Student Research Grants	Saturday, 31 August 2013
30 <sup>th</sup> Low Vision Awareness Program	Saturday, 31 August 2013



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