A study published in the Bulletin of the World Health Organization (WHO) has found that while school eye health programs can reduce vision impairment in children in low- and middle-income countries, programs need policy-based support to be sustainable and effective. The systematic review and qualitative analysis of eye care interventions in the education sector, reveals that the integration of eye health strategies, within the national school health policy, is the primary facilitator for increasing availability of eye care to children. It also finds that success is dependent on multidisciplinary support from ministries of health and education.

Conducted by researchers at Brien Holden Vision Institute, and supported by the World Bank Group and Global Partnership for Education, the study identifies a key barrier for accessing eye care is the poor availability of systems (programs, training, referrals), infrastructure and human resources. Other barriers found include misconceptions around causes and treatment of eye disease and vision impairment, poor literacy, and the cost of children’s spectacles.

Lead author, Dr Anthea Burnett, says the research is vital for developing a sound knowledge base around the barriers and facilitators for school eye health. “This was the first study to comprehensively assess the effectiveness of interventions in the countries where the majority of childhood blindness occurs,” she says.
“There are many school-based programs being implemented globally – this research provides evidence on ways to make those programs more effective and sustainable.”

For full article, click here: http://www.who.int/bulletin/volumes/96/10/18-212332.pdf

Date: 30 October 2018
From: Essilor India Pvt Ltd
Subject: Essilor appoints professor Kovin Naidoo senior vice president of inclusive business, philanthropy and social impact

Professor Kovin Naidoo has been appointed as Senior Vice President of Inclusive Business, Philanthropy and Social Impact. In this newly created position, Professor Naidoo will lead the Group’s efforts to reach the 2.5 billion people living with uncorrected poor vision through inclusive business and philanthropy.

Essilor’s Chief Mission Officer, Jayanth Bhuvaragahan commented; “We’re delighted to welcome Kovin to the team. A longstanding friend of Essilor, Kovin has dedicated his professional life to delivering eye care to people in need. As one of the leading minds working in solving the uncorrected refractive error problem around the world, his unique and diverse experience will add further strength to our inclusive business and philanthropic efforts around the world as we strive towards our ambition of eradicating poor vision by 2050.”

Professor Kovin Naidoo said of his appointment; “All my life I have been driven by the passion to make a positive impact on the world’s vision. I have supported Essilor’s initiatives to reach those living with uncorrected poor vision for a long time both as a collaborator and independent adviser. Joining Essilor, an organisation that shares my commitment to the cause and personal values, gives me the opportunity to take my actions to a new scale and I look forward to working with such a dedicated team.”

Date: 5 November 2018
From: Sasipriya M Karumanchi (sashi@alinavision.com)
Subject: Required optometrist for short term at Vietnam

Alina Vision, a new social enterprise that aims to develop eye hospitals in underserved areas of India, Vietnam, etc. requires an expert optometrist for a period of 3-6 months at an eye hospital in suburbs of Hanoi city, Vietnam to train the refractionist in the out patients department.

Interested candidates, please contact Ms Sasipriya M Karumanchi at sashi@alinavision.com

Date: 6 November 2018
From: Shrikant Bharadwaj (bharadwaj@lvpei.org)
Subject: PhD Admission under AcSIR program at LVPEI

Admission for Ph.D. program of Academy Of Scientific & Innovative Research (AcSIR)

LVPEI enrolls students under the "Ph.D. in Vision Sciences" program in the January 2019 session.

This is open to all faculty, staff and fellows (basic and clinical sciences, optometry, public health, low vision, innovation and bio engineering) working at the LVPEI and others. Optometrists with a Master’s degree and who are interested in an academic career in Optometry and Vision Sciences should most certainly apply for this position.

Interested candidates who fulfil the requirements can email their latest bio-data to

Ms. Elena Roopchandra, Assistant Director-BHERC,
LV Prasad Eye Institute,
Road No.2, Banjara Hills,
Hyderabad-500034;
Email ID: elena@lvpei.org
Last date of application: December 5, 2018.

Selection for admission to the PhD program shall be on the basis of the interview of shortlisted candidates. Mere fulfillment of the minimum requirements stipulated in the notification would not automatically entitle a person for selection. The decision of the Institute in this regard shall be final.

Further guidelines are available at acsir.res.in/wp-content/uploads/2015/02/AcSIR-Handbook_2Feb15.pdf

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Date: 15 November 2018
From: Jyothy Balaji (jothybalaji@gmail.com)
Subject: 18th Dr. E Vaithilingam Memorial Scientific Session -The Imaging Conference 2k19

Elite School of Optometry (ESO) & Sankara Nethralaya invites all of you to the 18th Dr EV Memorial scientific session, in memory of the late Principal Dr. E. Vaithilingam. ESO initiated a national scientific session to encourage optometrists and optometry students from all over India to present their research work.

Dates: March 9 & 10, 2019 at Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai.

Who can pop in?
Undergraduate optometry students (III & IV year), postgraduate students, optometry practitioners, and academicians

Why should you attend?
The 18th Dr EV Memorial Session is focused on Imaging and Diagnostics themed as The Imaging Conference 2k19. We will have exemplary clinicians and researchers to enlighten our minds with their talks. Imaging workshops will help the optometrists and optometry students to master their skills on imaging and interpretation.
Highlights

- Exclusive workshops: Imaging in Cornea, Glaucoma & Retina; Dispensing skills
- Keynote: Leveraging technology for the eye
- Exciting contests: Ideas to Reality – For a new step in eye care, Ocular Photography, Model making, Social Accountability

Optometrists and optometry students are encouraged to present research work and grab a chance to be awarded for the best research.

Abstract submission closes on December 15, 2018.

For registration fee: visit -

Date: 19 November 2018
From: Alison Ewbank (a.ewbank@iacle.org)
Subject: IACLE salutes award winners at Academy 2018

The International Association of Contact Lens Educators presented the prestigious IACLE Contact Lens Educator of the Year Awards and IACLE Travel Award at the American Academy of Optometry's Academy 2018 meeting in San Antonio, Texas, USA (7-10 November 2018).

The ceremony took place on 9 November at an International Reception hosted by CooperVision, sponsor of the Educator Awards. The IACLE Contact Lens Educator of the Year Awards recognize and reward achievements in contact lens education worldwide. Each winner also receives a bursary of up to US$3,000 towards the cost of attending a major international conference.

2018 IACLE Americas Contact Lens Educator of the Year has been awarded to Professor Lyndon Jones, University of Waterloo, Canada, IACLE Asia Pacific Contact Lens Educator of the Year was awarded to Ms Runa Mazumder, Associate Professor, Vidyasagar College of Optometry & Vision Science, Kolkata, India. FIACLEs Wim Borst and Henri Eek are joint winners of the 2018 IACLE Europe / Africa – Middle East Contact Lens Educator of the Year.

Nominations and applications for the 2019 IACLE Awards will open in December.

For full details of the IACLE Contact Lens Educator of the Year, click here:
https://www.iacle.org/joomla/awards/iacle-contact-lens-educator-of-the-year-awards

Date: 10 November 2018
From: India Vision Institute (info@indiavisioninstitute.org)
Subject: Ms Mehal from Sankara Nethralaya wins the title of IVI Essilor Optometry Wizard of the Year 2018
Ms Mehal P Rathore from Sankara Nethralaya has been awarded the IVI Essilor Optometry Wizard of the Year. The announcement of the winner was made at the final round of the national quiz held in Chennai on November 8 at Shri Prakash Institute of Optometry. Ms PVN Suharsha, (University of Hyderabad) is the first runner-up and Ms Ketakee Jain, (Dr. Shroff’s Charity Eye Hospital, Delhi) is the second runner-up. The three finalists were each presented with a certificate and cash prize.

The three finalists emerged following two competitive rounds each comprising a web component and a phone-in component. The quiz was open to all eye care professionals and students across India. Ms Anathalakshmi, Head of Professional Services, Essilor India Pvt Ltd was the chief guest of the event and over 75 students and faculties of Shri Prakash Institute of Optometry witnessed the event. IVI acknowledges the support of Essilor India Pvt. Ltd. in funding the program.

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Date: 16 November 2018
From: India Vision Institute (info@indiavisioninstitute.org)
Subject: IVI Young Optometry Researcher Rolling Trophy 2018-19

IVI is pleased to announce the IVI Young Optometry Researcher Rolling Trophy for Undergraduate Optometry students in India for the year 2018-19.

The yearly award aims to improve the research capacity of optometry institutions by developing research interest among undergraduate optometry students. The award will recognize the winning institution and its student researcher for the best research proposal initiated as part of the course requirement

Institutions will nominate the best project undertaken among the currently enrolled students of Bachelors in Optometry. Only one nomination from each institution will be accepted. Multiple entries from the same school will not be entertained. The winner will receive the IVI Researcher Award and the Rolling Trophy will be sent to their school

**The last date of Application submission:** Friday, 14 December 2018

Applications are welcome!

For further details, please visit the link below:

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Instructions for DistList postings:
IVI invites contributions including latest updates and new developments in Optometry, innovative ideas, optometry job vacancies, conferences, links to interesting articles and other latest happenings. All contributions need to be in word format (not more than two to three paragraphs including a title). Send in your contributions with your name and contact details to info@indiavisioninstitute.org

DistList Archives:
All instances of the DistList are available (both for browsing by whole items and searching for individual messages): http://www.indiavisioninstitute.org/optdistlist.php

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