IVI's offer of higher education scholarships to eight Indian optometry educators has been a landmark moment made possible with support from Lawrence & Mayo and JSW. I look forward to further corporate support as we strengthen the optometry educational sector in India.

I am also delighted that the “All India Strategic Plan” will be launched on September 16th, 2012 in Hyderabad, a visionary business plan that will revolutionise the Optometry landscape in India and work towards eliminating uncorrected refractive errors that makes everyday life difficult for over a 100 million Indians. I look forward to once again working with the corporate sector, government and philanthropic sectors in making a difference for India.

I appreciate the strong support that all Indian optometry peak bodies especially ASCO and IOF have provided to IVI since its inception and very much look forward to continuing this productive collaboration. Please feel free to email me on <Vinod.daniel@indiavisioninstitute.org> if you have any thoughts or ideas that would help make a national difference.

Warm Regards,

Vinod Daniel
CEO India Vision Institute

Guest Lecture:

Dr P Sarita Soni, Vice Provost for Research, Indiana University USA visited IVI and delivered a lecture on “Fitting Children with Contact Lenses” on May 19th, 2012. Over 50 optometric practitioners, educators and students attended this very practical and interesting lecture.

Dr Soni’s research mainly focuses on cornea, contact lenses, development and correction of refractive errors.

IVI Travel Grants:

IVI provided travel grants to seven students to attend CME on Refractive Errors organized by L V Prasad Eye Institute on June 3rd, 2012.

The grant awardees are:

Mr Mantu Akon, Mr Fakruddin S Barodwala (Lotus College of Optometry), Ms Ekta K Mehta, Ms Siddhi Nandu, Ms Dolly Modi, Ms Jinal Pandya and Mr Vikrant Labishetty (ITM Institute of Health Sciences).

ASCO Representatives’ Visit to IVI:

Mr Vivek Mendonsa, Mr Aditya Goyal and Prof Sudarshan visited IVI on May 23rd, 2012 to review the All India Strategic Plan and discuss assistance in delivery of Professional Development Courses.

Kolkata and Chennai:

IVI CEO, Mr Vinod Daniel, presented a talk on “IVI and its Priorities” followed by an open forum focusing on specific optometry needs in the eastern part of India. Over 50 practitioners from West Bengal attended this interactive session at the Vidyasagar School of Optometry on May 6, 2012.

IVI Program Officer, Ms Jissa James visited a number of optometry schools in Chennai including the Ramchandra School of Optometry, Vasan Institute of Research and Ophthalmology and Shri Prakash Institute of Optometry during June 19 – 20, 2012.
BHVI Scholarships for IAPB 9th GA (Delivered through IVI):

The Scholarship committee comprising Prof Monica Chaudhry, Mr Rajbir Berwal, Mr Jayanta Bhattacharya, Mr Vinod Daniel and Ms Jissa James met at IVI on June 18th, 2012 and confirmed 278 registration scholarships and 180 travel/accommodation scholarships. Over 415 applications have been received with the last date for submission of application being June 30th, 2012. The next committee meeting scheduled on July 17th, 2012 will decide on the remaining applications.

Ms Jissa James attended the 8th Bi-annual conference of National Ophthalmic Association in Chennai on May 13th, 2012 and took the opportunity to promote the BHVI scholarships for IAPB 9th GA. Over 100 National Ophthalmic Association members will be supported through this scholarship programme.

IVI Higher Education Scholarships:

Names of eight successful Indian optometric educators were announced by the IVI Higher Education panel comprising Prof Brien A Holden, Dr Shrikant Bharadwaj, Dr Srinivas Maramulla, Mr Vinod Daniel and Ms Priya Gupta on May 30th, 2012. This round of scholarships specifically targeted Indian Optometric educators.

ICEE EyeTeach© Research Methodology Workshop:

We are pleased with the tremendous interest levels expressed to attend the ICEE EyeTeach© Research Methodology Workshop scheduled for July 6 & 7th, 2012.

This workshop will be led by Prof Kovin Naidoo and Ms Jyoti Jaggernath (African Vision Research Institute). IVI thanks OGS for the funding support for this workshop.

IVI Workshop on Public Eye Health:

We are also pleased with the tremendous interest levels expressed to attend the Public Eye Health Workshop scheduled for July 8th, 2012.

This workshop will be led by Prof Kovin Naidoo, Ms Jyoti Jaggernath (African Vision Research Institute) and Dr Srinivas Marmanula (ICARE, LVPEI).

IVI again thanks OGS for the funding support for this workshop.

IVI Workshops:

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>September 21, 2012</td>
<td>Demystifying Low Vision (in collaboration with LVPEI)</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 12 &amp; 13, 2012</td>
<td>Workshop on Non Strabismic Binocular Vision Anomalies</td>
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<td>January &amp; February 2013</td>
<td>Advanced Workshop on Teaching &amp; Learning</td>
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<td>Other planned workshops</td>
<td>ICEE EyeTeach© Workshop, Chennai</td>
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<td>October/November 2013</td>
<td>ICEE EyeTeach© Workshop, Kolkata</td>
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Visitors to IVI:

A senior management team from TTK Healthcare, Mr Vaidyanathan & Mr Kalyanaraman visited IVI on May 29th, 2012.

Ms Jenni Lightowers & Ms Sylvie Franz from Adventus Technology Australia and Ms Judith Hassila and Ms Evelyn Uy, BHVI, Australia and BHVI China respectively on June 2nd, 2012.

Interested in joining the IVI?

IVI is looking to recruit a Business Manager and a Project Officer. Interested candidates may send their resume to Mr Niranjan Yenamala (Niranjan.Yenamala@indiavisioninstitute.org)

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