



2013 will be a very exciting year for both Indian Optometry and IVI. The year ahead promises to be ripe for implementation of a number of projects identified through *Aksauhini* to meet the broader needs of the Indian optometry community.

Activities in the eastern and northern part of India will be the focus of IVI educational initiatives for the early part of 2013. Optometry educator capacity building workshops are planned in Kolkata and Shillong in March 2013, followed by workshops in New Delhi.

We are also excited about announcing two new programs: the Faculty Support Program for optometry educators and IVI Young Leaders Program.

We have always valued feedback from all you friends and colleagues during the past year, and do please continue to write to us at ivi@indiavisioninstitute.org. We are thankful for the generous support we have received from Optometry Giving Sight, Alcon Foundation, Brien Holden Vision Institute Public Health Division, Lawrence & Mayo and JSW Foundation and very much look forward to working with other corporates and foundations as we strive to make a difference to the lives of about a 100 million Indians with uncorrected refractive error.

Vinod Daniel
CEO

Workshop on Biostatistics and Scientific Writing

A three-day intensive workshop on *Biostatistics and Scientific writing* was organized at IVI, Hyderabad, from 6 - 8 December 2012.

21 Optometric professionals including educators, practitioners and post graduate students from 12 Optometry institutes across India attended the workshop. Led by biostatistician, Mr Farai Chinanayi and social scientist, Dr Tom Okello, both from the African Vision Research Institute (AVRI), Durban, South Africa, the workshop was very well received.

The workshop focused on several introductory topics in biostatistics which form the basis for further methods such as linear regression, logistic regression and survival analysis.

The workshop also intended to help eye health cadres and researchers develop skills in written communication to enable them to effectively share knowledge through scientific papers, reports and peer reviewed articles. The participants also received generic training on research skills.



IVI gratefully acknowledges the support of Optometry Giving Sight (OGS) for funding the workshop. Special thanks are also due to Mr Farai Chinanayi and Dr Tom Okello from AVRI for conducting the workshop, drawing excellent comments from the participants, including:

"It was a wonderful experience being there at IVI. The workshop was really helpful and up to the expectations" - Prasad Sawant, Sawant Optometry Clinic, Mumbai.

"That was a fantastic experience of a workshop I had ever attended" - Uday Kumar, LV Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad.

Workshop on Non Strabismic Binocular Vision Anomalies highlights the role of Optometrists in vision care

Workshop on Non Strabismic Binocular Vision Anomalies in Hyderabad saw participants from eight optometry schools deliberating the role of optometry in treating perceptual disorders – an area that requires further exploring in India. Organized by IVI on 19-20 November, the workshop helped inculcate a practical approach to identify and deal with simple though wider range of complaints starting from headache to inability to walk, signs often ignored during routine clinical eye examination. It highlighted the importance of approaching the binocular vision anomalies holistically, working in collaboration with other medical streams like neurology.



The workshop was led by Mr Aditya Goyal and Mr Diwakar Rao from Sankara Eye Hospital; Dr Shrikant Bharadwaj from LVPEI; Ms Jameel Rizwana from Sankara Nethralaya and Ms Sunita Agarwal from Drishtikone.

International NGO, Optometry Giving Sight, supported the workshop and Sankara School of Optometry assisted with concept development.

Announcements

Faculty Support Program for Eastern India

IVI is pleased to announce a **Faculty Support Program** for optometry educators. In the inaugural round, the program is being offered for educators in Eastern India. A grant of up to INR 15,000 each would be provided on merit basis to select faculty members from emerging optometry schools in Eastern India to gain first-hand experience in a core optometry specialty subject, for a period of up to 15 days, with an established optometry school or eye hospital in India.

Deadline for submission: *Thursday, 28 February 2013*

IVI Young Leaders Program

IVI is pleased to announce the **IVI Young Leaders Program (IVI-YLP)** to inspire youngsters to take up a leadership role in achieving excellence in eyecare delivery. With India having one of the largest populations of avoidably blind and visually impaired people, young leaders have a significant role to play.

The program will provide to participants, at an early juncture in their career, a holistic view of the eyecare scenario in India and worldwide; help develop leadership skills; enhance career prospects and provide mentorship and networking opportunities.

Deadline for submission: *Friday, 15 March 2013*

Higher Education Scholarships

Following the announcement of the inaugural round of the Lawrence & Mayo and JSW Foundation - IVI Higher Education Scholarships to six Optometry professionals in September 2012, IVI welcomes applications for the next round of scholarships.

Scholarships are open for optometry educators, students and practitioners to pursue post graduate and doctoral studies in India.

Deadline for submission: *Saturday, 30 March 2013*

For further information, please write to us at ivi@indiavisioninstitute.org

Upcoming Workshops

Capacity Building Workshops for Optometry Educators in Eastern India

4 - 8 March 2013	Vidyasagar College of Optometry & Vision Science, Kolkata
7 - 11 March 2013	Bansara Institute of Ophthalmic Sciences, Shillong

Proposed Workshops

April 2013	Workshop on Myopia – research areas & latest developments
July 2013	Workshop on Grant proposal writing
July 2013	Workshop on Research Methodology

Job Opportunity

IVI is currently looking for a Senior Program Manager. The candidate should be an optometry graduate or a public health professional with over six years of work experience, preferably in the retail sector. Project management, presentation and communication skills would be an added advantage.

Interested candidates may forward their resume to niranjan.yenamala@indiavisioninstitute.org

IVI acknowledges ongoing support from

- Optometry Giving Sight
- Alcon Foundation
- Lawrence & Mayo
- JSW Foundation
- Brien Holden Vision Institute Public Health Division



Brien Holden Vision Institute

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