

2021 Midyear meeting

Building networks of collaboration

COPE Activity No 121948



Day 2

Sunday, June 27th 8:30 am –3:00 pm (US PDT)

8:30 am – 8:40 am (US PDT)

Welcome

8:40 am—9:40 am

A Practical and Evidence-Based Approach to Vision Screening of Children

COPE Course No 72553-PB

Bruce Moore, OD, FFAO

Professor Emeritus New England College of Optometry

Dr. Moore has devoted his career to studying the vision problems and therapeutic options for young children. His career began at the Boston Children’s Hospital Department of Ophthalmology and the Harvard Medical School, where he practiced, taught, and carried out research for 22 years. In 1997 he became Marcus Professor of Pediatric Studies at the New England College of Optometry and served as a Department Chair for over a dozen years. He is Co-Chair of the Children’s Vision Massachusetts Coalition and a member of the National Center for Children’s Vision and Eye Health. He has been working on a number of international vision care projects in Vietnam, Mongolia, Israel, Nicaragua, El Salvador, China, South Africa, Ghana and throughout Europe and leads VOSH/International Children’s Vision working group. He received the Jenny Pomeroy Award for Excellence in Vision and Public Health from Prevent Blindness in 2016.



9:40 am—9:50 am

Break

9:50 am—10:50 am

First panel: Dominican Republic

Ely Cruz

Vice Dean Administrative Affairs Universidad Tecnológica de Santiago

Ely Cruz is a business administrator with master degrees on university education and top management. Ely is involved in the financial and infrastructure management of UTESA and has been working with VOSH/International for the donation of equipment for the school of optometry. He also volunteers to make endoscopy and colonoscopy treatments available for low-income people in his country



Enyel Rodriguez

President VOSH-FUMVISION

Enyel is the founder and director of Fundación para una Mejor Vision (Foundation for a better sight) a Dominican NGO focused on the prevention of visual impairment through the organization of humanitarian clinics and the provision of eyeglasses for low income communities. They partner with SEE International and the hospital Moscoso Puello.



Dominican Republic Panel (cont.)

Bina Patel, OD, FAAO

Faculty adviser SVOSH-NECO and member of VOSH-ONE



Dr Patel is Professor of Biomedical Sciences and Disease and the director of the Center for the International Advancement of Optometry at the New England College of Optometry. She has significant international teaching experience in primary care optometry with an emphasis on ocular disease. Dr Patel is member of the education committee and of the World Council of Optometry (WCO), the International Optometric Education of the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry. Dr Patel was awarded the Dupuis-Pellerin Award for Faculty Excellence, the Carroll Martus Award for outstanding clinical instruction, the 2015 WCO International Optometrist of the Year and the 2016 Humanitarian of the Year Award by VOSH International.

Ellen Weiss, OD, FVI

Past president VOSH-NE



Dr. Weiss is a past-president of VOSH/International and of VOSH-Nebraska. She also served for seven years as the coordinator and continues to volunteer for the Special Olympics Opening Eyes program. Dr Weiss is past-president of the Heart of America Contact Lens Society, past-president of the Nebraska Optometric Association, and past-president of the Millard Lions Club.

10:50 am—11:30 am

Optometry in the Caribbean: the experience of Trinidad & Tobago

Niall Farnon

Head of Optometry, University of West Indies, Trinidad & Tobago



Niall is an Irish trained Optometrist who moved to Trinidad in 2001. He has worked in private practice and is the current Head of the Optometry Unit at the University of the West Indies and is overall responsible for curriculum, teaching and student matters. Niall has had several roles, including President, on the professional body of Trinidad, the Trinidad & Tobago Optometrists Association. He is also the Secretary of the licensing body, the Trinidad and Tobago Opticians Registration Council. He has spoken at several conferences locally, regionally and internationally. His lectures range from Contact lenses, Spectacle lenses, Myopia Management, Sports Vision and Patient management.

11:30 am—11:40 am

Break

11:40—12:40

Focus on Haiti

Jean Claude Cadet, MD

Dean School of Optometry, Université d'État d'Haïti



Dr Cadet is a Haitian ophthalmologist with a remarkable career. Since 1977 he has moved from being doctor on duty and head of ophthalmological services in several provincial hospitals to head doctor of ophthalmological services and medical director at the hospital of the Université d'État d'Haïti. Since 1977, Dr Cadet is professor of ophthalmology in several Haitian universities of medicine. He is a member of several associations of ophthalmology. Dr Cadet is currently the dean of the faculty of medicine and pharmacy, of the schools of medical biology and optometry at the Université d'État d'Haïti. During his second term as Dean of the faculty, Dr Cadet led the development of the optometry program within the faculty. He is author of several publications in Haitian and international medical journals.



Focus on Haiti (contd.)

Mark Rakoczy, OD

President VOSH-Pennsylvania

Dr. Rakoczy practiced privately until his retirement at the end of 2018. Since 2012 he has been President of VOSH PA and led several clinics to Haiti. He has been an active member of the Everett Lions Club for 28 years and has served in all board positions. He also has served on the board of the Southcentral Blind Association for over 25 years.

12:40 pm—1:40 pm

Third panel: Peru

Severo Sanchez Melgarejo, MSc

Faculty adviser SVOSH-Eurohispano

Dr Sanchez is the founder and director of the Eurohispano Institute. He holds a master's on optometry and visual therapy and is completing a PhD on public health. The Institute has educated hundreds of optometry technicians, offered thousands of free eye examinations to Peruvians in need and collaborated with several VOSH chapters visiting Peru. Dr Sanchez's humanitarian work was recognized with membership of the Franklin Harms Society with over 100 eye clinics in his record.



John Gehrig, Esq, FVI

Vice President of Professional Development VOSH South East

Mr. Gehrig graduated from Harvard University and the University of Michigan Law School. He has a Master's in International Law at the University of Miami. He practiced law in Cincinnati and Florida where he became County Attorney. John has participated in over 25 VOSH South East clinics. He served as VOSH/International Board member and since 2004 is the General Counsel to the Board of VOSH/International.



Adriana Garcia Aybar

President SVOSH-NOVA

Adriana leads this very active SVOSH chapter. She was awarded a student fellowship from AAO's 2020 meeting and a contact lens & cornea society honorable award in 2019. She is currently a member of Gold Key International Honor Society, a member of the Florida Optometric Student Association (FOSA) and a student ambassador at Nova, College of Optometry. Adriana has volunteered at the Orlando Special Olympics and is committed to leaving a legacy of continuous service at her school.



1:40 pm—1:50 pm

Break

1:50 am—2:50 pm

The internationalization of optometric education

COPE Course No 72572-GO

Timothy Wingert, OD, FAAO, FNAP, FEAOO

Dean, Rosenberg School of Optometry

University of the Incarnate Word, USA

Dr. Wingert is a *Founder Member* of the European Academy of Optometry and Optics and one of only three United States optometrists to have earned Fellowship in that organization. He was named a J. William Fulbright Scholar in 2005 and again in 2020 and has been named a Fulbright Specialist to Ghana.

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Timothy Wingert, OD, FAAO, FNAP, FEAOO (cont.)

Before coming to RSO, Dr. Wingert was a Professor at the University of Missouri-St. Louis College of Optometry, where he continues to hold the title of Professor Emeritus. While in Missouri, Dr. Wingert served as President of the Missouri Optometric Association, and was named Missouri Optometrist of the Year and St. Louis Optometrist of the Year. He is the Chair of the ASCO International Education Committee.

Dr. Carol Violet Pinzon

Head of Optometry Program

Fundación Universitaria del Área Andina, Seccional Pereira, Colombia

Dr Pinzón **holds** Master's degrees in Health Services Management and in Strategic Management of Health Organizations. She is a specialist in Health Auditing. She has 14 years of experience in AREANDINA, as a teacher, researcher and now as Program Director. She has extensive knowledge in academia contributing in the development of quality actions, self-evaluation processes and internationalization strategies to enhance mobility, cooperation, and internationalization of the curriculum of an academic program.



2:50 pm—3:00 pm

Closing of the day