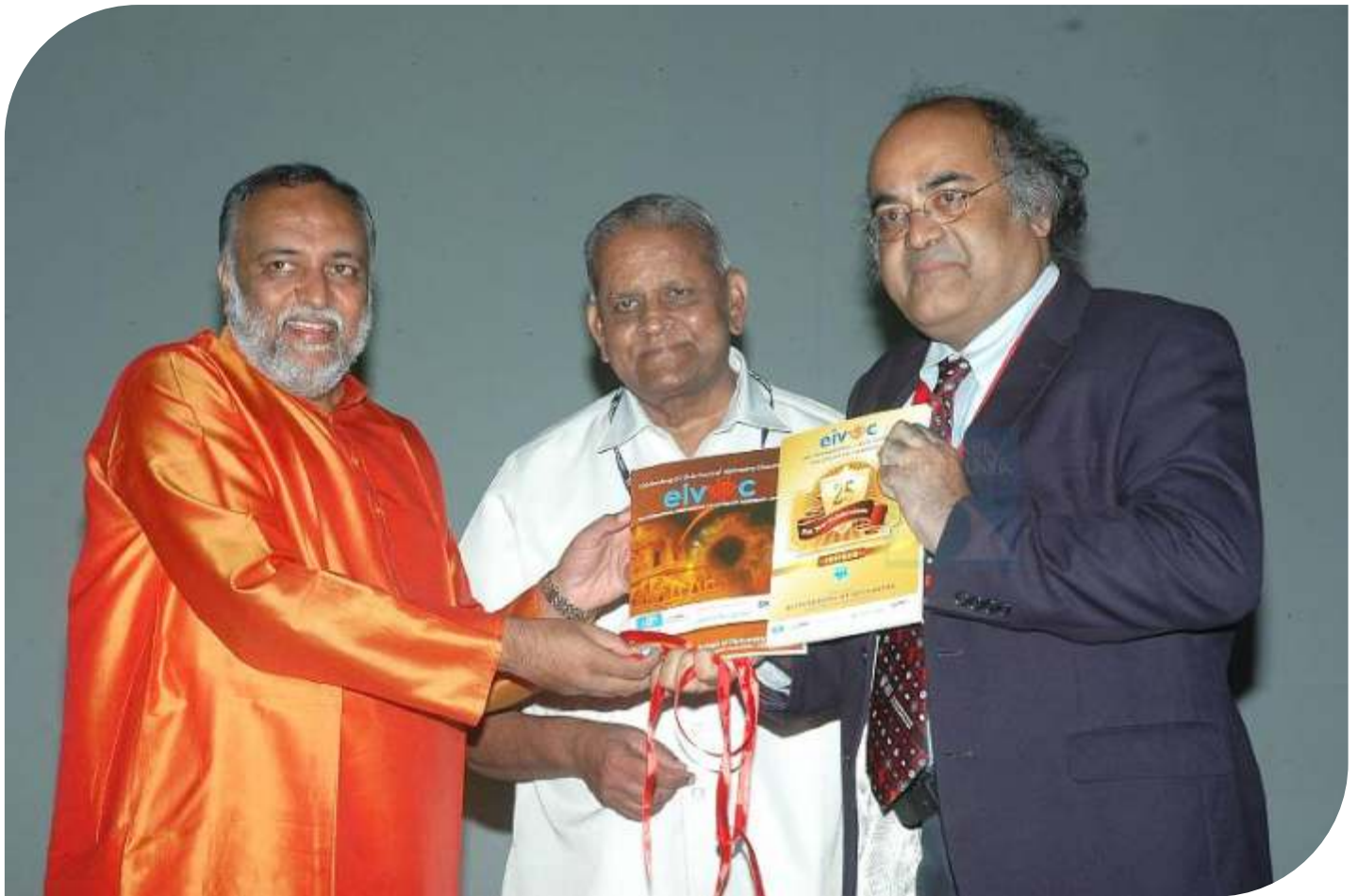




Elite School Of Optometry NEWS LETTER



CONTENTS

EIVOC 2010

GRADUATION CEREMONY

ELITE SCHOOL OF OPTOMETRY'S QUESTION BANK

THE SANKARA NETHRALAYA ACADEMY

ESO'S COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES OF THE PAST

ESO COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES - THE PRESENT

WHATS NEWS IN ESO?

SUPPORT REQUIRED FOR A BLIND - FREE INDIA

ELITE SCHOOL OF OPTOMETRY INTERNATIONAL VISION SCIENCE AND OPTOMETRY CONFERENCE EIVOC 2010

ESO International Vision science and Optometry Conference 2010 was conducted during 12-14 August 2010. The event was a grand success with over 700 delegates attending the conference and about 170 scientific presentations. In addition to sensitizing the professional fraternity on the recent research in various optometric sub-specialties, the conference also had various symposia and workshops on various clinical skills and standards. Status of Optometric Education and Scope of Optometry in India were special sessions conducted for focus group. EIVOC Grand Optometry Quiz was also conducted for Optometry Students and Practitioners. The conference paved the way for the practitioners, vision scientists and academicians to meet under one roof and share their expertise with others.

Release of Elite School of Optometry logo, launch of project "SIGHT 2010" and inauguration of FBDO programme are the salient areas of the conference. Prof Jay M Enoch's Plenary talk on "Optometry and its Future in India, Elite School of Optometry- 25 years later" (rendered by Prof. Vasudevan Lakshmi Narayanan) and Dr. S. S. Badrinath's "Optometry practice into rural areas- a dream or reality" instigated the audience.

Stalls exhibited new models of instruments and gadgets. But for the sponsors and donors, the success of the conference would have been far. We express our sincere thanks for all those who helped EIVOC 2010 achieve its goal.



GRADUATION CEREMONY

The students of the 21st batch of ESO pass out in flying colours. What is convocation without knowing the Best students of the year?

The Award List of the students of the graduate and post graduate programmes:

BEST STUDENTS

Best Student	FIRST YEAR	Sumhithaa Sriram Award	Ms. K Meenakshi
Best Student	SECOND YEAR	Bausch & Lomb Eye Care India Pvt Limited Prize	Ms. Sonal A Vyas
Best Student	THIRD YEAR	Bausch & Lomb Eye Care India Pvt Limited Prize	Ms. Madhumitha S Mahadevan
Best Student 2010	FINAL YEAR	Sri V Venugopal Memorial Prize	Ms. Nandhini



M PHIL OPTOMETRY

Research Methodology	Luxottica Excellence Award	Ms. Manju J
Best Research Project	Sri R Sivaraman Memorial Endowment Prize	Ms. Manju J

BESTS IN...

Clinical Examination	Sri Sugalchand Jain Prize	Ms. Nandhini G
Community Vision Care Service	Shree Banaskantha Palanpur Jain Association Award	Mr. Sabarrish S
Optometry Clinical Excellence Award	Mrs Shakeron Nissa NP Jamal Award	Ms. Hameeda Bibi A M S
Optometry Clinical Excellence Award	Mrs Shakeron Nissa NP Jamal Award	Mr. Lijo Ben Henry

Best Junior Faculty
Ms. Anuradha N



Best Senior Faculty
Dr. S Ramaswamy



ELITE SCHOOL OF OPTOMETRY'S QUESTION BANK

Elite School has been a pioneer in Optometric education and training. ESO is always in the forefront when it comes to world class optometric training and structured curriculum. ESO is looked upon by all other optometry institutes in the country for its eminent faculty, expert research guidance and extraordinary clinical training. It is also the backbone in formulating and guiding various optometry schools for their syllabus and course structure. Having been a leader in the significant contribution towards the optometric knowledge base of the society, a question bank on the various Optometry subjects was created to help the students revise and know where they stand in their academic knowledge.

Optometrists from Sankara Nethralaya are the backbone of many of the clinical departments. A team of Optometrists from Sankara Nethralaya was involved in the preparation of the question bank. 4829 questions from 24 subjects were banked from Jan to Sep 2009. Selected questions from eight crucial optometry subjects will be published as the first volume with JAYPEE publishers. This will also be a useful tool for the faculty to evaluate the students and improve or enhance training needed in a particular subject.

The Sankara Nethralaya Academy — a one-of-its-kind academy — with a distinctive series of programmes and expert faculty, aims to create a pool of well-trained eye care professionals competent to meet the challenges in Ophthalmology. The institution offers wide-ranging certificate and fellowship programmes to train ophthalmologist, optometrists, nurses and administration personnel. It provides ophthalmologists, optometrists, researchers and other eye care practitioners around the world an opportunity to enhance their knowledge and skill.

Optometry courses are offered as Certificate and Fellowship programmes from the month of May 2010. Continuing Optometric Education Certificate programme and Vision Therapy and Contact lens Fellowships are offered in optometry. Continuing optometric education aims to refresh and update the knowledge of the practicing optometrists and students. Four sessions are completed with good response from the candidates.

Diploma in Ophthalmic Dispensing and Diploma in Optical Dispensing are offered in collaboration with Association of British Dispensing Opticians. The programme inaugurated during the EIVOC 2010, will train students in advanced optical dispensing techniques and managerial skills to be a qualified professional in the optical industry.



For more details please log on to www.thesnacademy.ac.in

ESO is involved in vision screening for school children, spreading awareness about eye care and creating resources for effective and efficient vision screening, which is similar to the vision 2020 initiatives.

A. Vision screening of school children: In 2009-10, ESO conducted vision screening programmes in 19 schools in the north and south zones of Chennai joining hands with Shree Banaskantha Palanpur Jain Association and Cantonment Health Office, Pallavaram and St. Thomas Mount. It was found that 11.8% and 7.8% are suffering from refractive errors and other eye problems respectively.



B. Vision charts:

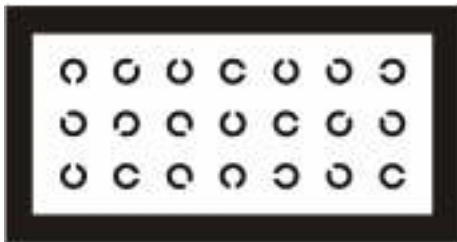
B.1. Tamil log MAR chart Realizing the need for a chart for vision testing in our vernacular language, ESO came up with an initiative to scientifically construct a log MAR chart in Tamil language. It is an appreciable effort to bring out a portable, relatively cost-effective log MAR chart that can be used as a mass vision-screening device in rural camp settings. The newly constructed Tamil log MAR chart is being used among the Tamil population especially in rural areas where the subjects are mainly Tamil literate. As the next step in reaching out to the community, the Tamil log MAR chart has been fixed at the entrance of Elite School of Optometry.



Inauguration of Tamil Log MAR chart

B.2. Pocket Vision screener

One of the other major contributions of ESO in community activity is the design of a Pocket Vision Screener (PVS). It has come to become very useful in school and general vision screening especially if the population to be screened is huge. The simplicity of the chart makes it easy to use even to teachers and students of a school, who can help the clinicians during huge screening sessions. Since this is a "pass or fail" kind of a screening test, a large number of people can be screened within a short time. It is portable and is externally illuminated. The PVS can even be distributed to the public, where they can self screen for ocular problems and if vision is decreased, they can consult an eye care practitioner.



ESO Pocket Vision screening letters showing symbols for the illiterate

C. Vision Ambassadors

Nearly 80 vision ambassadors were trained for doing the basic vision screening during the year 2009-10. The ambassadors include the schools and college students and the teachers.



Vision Ambassador's training

D. Lectures on eye care

Information about various eye ailments and taking care of eyes were taught to the school students through a power point presentation. All the school teachers felt that the session was an eye opener. Students fired the optometrists with lot of questions after the session which showed the keen interest of the students in understanding their eyes. These sessions were conducted in an innovative method by using cartoon characters which would attract school children.



E. Campaigns and Competitions

Emphasizing primary eye care concepts by walk, rally or human chain and competitions is also one of the strategies followed. Competitions make the participants remember the facts on eye care for longer because of their involvement. Various innovative ways of competitions were conducted during many occasions like World Sight Day, World Glaucoma Day and prizes were distributed.



School children rally during an Eye care awareness program



Student receiving award during the World Sight Day celebration

ESO COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES - THE PRESENT SIGHT 2010

SIGHT 2010 is an initiative of Elite School of Optometry to the fight against blindness. The campaign, launched on the occasion of ESO's International Vision science and Optometry Conference (EIVOC) 2010 will work to corner visual impairment from all dimensions. SIGHT 2010 aims to attain a visual acuity of 6/3 (better than normal vision) for all in Tamil Nadu by the next decade.

ESO joins hands with LIONS club EDEN for vision screening of the primary school children of the 10 zones of the Chennai Corporation. Zone 1 was started on 18th Aug 2010 and nine schools got the vision screening done as the first phase in four days time. Similar models could be evolved for the rest of the zones in Chennai and other districts of Tamil Nadu. Such projects will definitely aim to reduce the burden of avoidable blindness in the country.



Optometrists performing vision screening in a school.

WHATS NEWS IN ESO?

AWARENESS SESSION

An awareness session on eye care by ESO and CUSHAH was planned along with the Development Team on 23/ 24th Jan 2010 in Dr. V. G Appukutty Campus. It was an event which received great response from the school students as well as the general public. A chain of events grabbed the attention of all on the two days.

19 teachers and 57 students underwent training on Basic Vision Screening with ESO Pocket Vision Screener. These teachers and students will be 'Ambassadors for Vision care' and they were all given certificates for the training session. 460 students participated in all the competitions and won prizes in the different categories. All the winners received certificates and prizes. Chess competitions and cricket competitions for the visually impaired were conducted and were given prizes and certificates.



EVENTS

Jameel H Rizwana, Optometrist, Sankara Nethralaya and doctorate student presented a paper titled "Visual deficit in the better eye of the Amblyopes" on the Asia Pacific Optometry Conference in March 2010 in Hongkong



PASSED OUTS

Of the 29 candidates who successfully completed BS Optometry, 18 joined Sankara Nethralaya. The others are working in other eye hospitals, into private practice and in the teaching profession while few have opted to pursue higher studies.

NEW BIRDS

Thirty seven students have been selected after an entrance examination and interview in the month of June 10. The selected students attend the college from the month of July after an orientation programme. Students were briefed about the Medical Research Foundation, Elite School of Optometry, the faculty and grading system

ESOAA GET TOGETHER

Seeing old friends after 20 years! Does that sound nostalgic?

Yes. The scene at ESO on the 16th evening of August was one fine memory for all its alumni. Nearly 250 people including the present students gathered and fun activities and culturals brought back memories of the college days. 25 tree saplings were planted by all the alumni in batches celebrating 25 years of excellence!



ESO STUDENTS IN QUIZ COMPETITION

Final year students Ms. Madhumitha S Mahadevan, Mr. Abhay D Shah and Ms. Karpagavalli participated in the intercollegiate Optometry Quiz competition conducted by L V Prasad Eye Institute in the Bausch and Lomb School of Optometry in Kismatpur, Hyderabad on 4th September 2010. ESO was the winning team. Kudos to the team. The quiz was conducted on the 10th anniversary of the Bausch and Lomb School of Optometry.



ESO LOGO

ESO logo was released on the occasion of EIVOC 2010. The logo represents 25 years of excellence in optometric education by 25 stars. The logo also represents primary eye care role as an eye.



SUPPORT REQUIRED FOR A BLIND - FREE INDIA

ESO takes up vision screening activities for school children, general vision screening for the public, screening for the aged (cataract screening for Diabetic Retinopathy, Glaucoma and vision screening for special children. To carry on with the activities and to cover the population in a large scale donations are welcome. Donations are tax exempted.

For details contact

The Principal

Elite School of Optometry

For private circulation only

ELITE SCHOOL OF OPTOMETRY

No.8, G.S.T. Road, St.Thomas Mount,
Chennai-600 016 India

Ph: 044 2234 9269, 2234 6023,

Email:elite@snmail.org, eso@snmail.org

website:www.eso.sankaranethralaya.org