

Dr P P Santanam and Mrs Jayalakshmi Santanam Endowment Award

Presents

## **ESO-VISTA**

(**Enhancing Scope of Optometry and Vision by Integrating Science and Technology  
Advancements)**

Dr P P Santanam is the first Principal of Elite School of Optometry. He introduced the course on Occupational Optometry to ESO and has been a guiding force related to all activities pertaining to occupational optometric services. ESO-VISTA is an endowment lecture instituted by Dr P P Santanam and his family.

As the name suggests, ESO-VISTA believes in integrating optometry and vision science with the latest advancements in science and technology. Based on this, the first ESO-VISTA introduced the basic concepts on Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning and its applications in optometry. This second ESO-VISTA was themed around Image Processing and technology. This session was opened to all optometry students, optometrists, vision scientists and doctoral scholars. This set of audience are quite new to this field. ESO thought that it would be a wonderful opportunity to explain the basics of image processing to optometrists and how clinicians can work with experts in the fields on its diverse applications. With this in mind, two experts were invited to render the key note lectures.

The session was held on January 7, 2023 at V D Swami Auditorium in Sankara Nethralaya. The session was attended by at least 75 members from all scopes of optometry. Dr P P Santanam and Mrs Jayalakshmi Santanam, and Dr Girish S Rao, President, Medical Research Foundation graced the occasion.

Ms Saara K, Optometrist, ESO, rendered the welcome address to the audience followed by an invocation song by Ms Priya N and Ms Soundarya Dharshini V, Undergraduate Optometry Students, ESO. Dr N Anuradha, Principal, ESO briefed the audience about the endowment awards instituted by Dr Santanam and his family.

The first speaker was ***Dr Girish Kumar*** who obtained his doctorate in Physiological Optics from the University of Houston. Following which, he was a postdoctoral scholar at the University of California, Berkeley. His research has included the use of image processing to extract ocular movements from retinal images. His lecture was on '***Introduction to Digital Image Processing for Optometrist***'.

The second speaker was **Dr Richa Verma** who is currently the Chief Scientific Officer at the Sudha Gopalakrishnan Brain Centre in IIT Madras. She completed her PhD in Retinal electrophysiology from the University of Melbourne. Her research areas include Human & animal research, retinal electrophysiology, System Neuroscience and Histology. Her lecture was on '**Technology enabled Neuro-Anatomy**'.

Finally the endowment awards were announced by Dr N Anuradha, Principal – Elite School of Optometry. Judge Shri P V Parameswara Iyer and Smt Kamal Bai Endowment Award for supporting PhD scholars was received by Ms Janani for her PhD work related to Colour Vision. Dr S Ramakrishnan and Smt Bhagavathy Endowment Award for research related to Occupational Optometry services was given to Ms Janani towards occupational optometry services for Thanjavur Veena workers. The session was well received by all the participants who made the session more interactive and dynamic with their enthusiastic participation and discussion. Ms Janani, Assistant professor, ESO delivered the vote of thanks. Here are a few glimpses from the session:

