The annual Ocular Surface Workshop (OSW), 12-14 January 2018, focused on the myriad aspects of Simple Limbal Epithelial Transplantation (SLET), the revolutionary home-grown technique of limbal stem cell transplantation. It had 125 delegates including 20 international delegates from USA, Mexico, Germany, Denmark, China, Ghana, Myanmar and Nepal. SLET addresses limbal stem cell deficiency by directly transplanting healthy stem cells to the ocular surface without requiring a clinical-grade laboratory for ex-vivo cultivation and can be performed with minimal donor tissue, making it an attractive alternative to existing techniques of limbal stem cell transplantation.

The second edition of A to Z External Dacryocystorhinostomy hands-on workshop on 12 January 2018 at the Vijayawada campus, included focused lectures, hands-on surgery, skull model demonstration and Lacri-quiz.

A workshop was organized on 18 January 2018 by the Vision Rehabilitation team at the Vijayawada campus, for parents of children with special needs and developmental delays, regarding the importance of group therapy sessions. Group activities and games were organized to demonstrate how well the children respond when they were part of a group.

The glaucoma exit competency program was conducted, 21 January 2018, for the first year comprehensive fellows from across the network and DNB residents from Hyderabad and Bhubaneswar campuses at LVPEI Visakhapatnam.

A leadership training workshop was organized, 23 – 24 January 2018, at LVPEI's Kismatpur campus for the coordinators of the vision centre network and optical staff of tertiary centres. 27 participants benefited from the training that focused on customer and media relations, and presentation and communications skills.

Awards & Honours

Dr Subhabrata Chakrabarti has been reappointed to the editorial board of Translational Vision Science & Technology.

Dr Inderjeet Kaur has been invited as Associate Editor, Journal of Genetics.

At the ERUDIO 2017 Allergan Quiz Contest on 6 January 2018 at Bangalore:
- Dr Goura Chattannavar bagged the third rank in the quiz competition, qualifying her for a sponsorship to the upcoming Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology (APAO) Congress in Hong Kong in February 2018.
- Dr Vivek Mahendra's presentation on Tubercular Choroiditis was recognized as the best case presentation.

Asia-Pacific Academy of Ophthalmology Council will be presenting the APAO Achievement Award 2018 to Dr Savitri Sharma, Dr Swathi Kaliki and Dr Jay Kumar Chhablani in recognition of their contribution and time dedicated to the scientific programs of the APAO Annual Congresses.

Project Management Institute (PMI) has extended Ramam Atmakuri's membership to the PMI Technology Member Advisory Group (TechMAG) for a year.

Students of LVPEI’s Bausch & Lomb School of Optometry who won the India Vision Institute (IVI) student research grants 2017-2018 for their respective projects:
- Rishabh Bharadwaj, Sai Sravanthi and Sneha Reddy
- Divya Sree, Sahithi Panthadi and Swati Panigrahi
- Jhansi Priyanka, Sampath Konda and Kolli Lakshmi Naveena

Dr Javed Ali’s first of its kind ‘Atlas of Lacrimal Drainage Disorders’ was released in Singapore. It has over 2300 illustrations and is published by Springer, Germany.

Dr Javed Ali described a new disease entity ‘Idiopathic Canalicular Inflammatory Disease (ICID)’, demonstrated 5 different stages of the disease, proposed diagnostic criteria and best possible management as per current understanding, published in the journal Ophthalmic Plastics and Reconstructive Surgery.

At the AIOS - IJO (All India Ophthalmological Society - Indian Journal of Ophthalmology) 2016:
- Dr Swathi Kaliki: Gold award for her paper ‘Recombinant interferon alpha 2b for ocular surface squamous neoplasia: An efficient and cost-effective treatment modality in Asian Indian patients’.
- Dr Javed Ali: Silver award for his paper ‘Outcomes of endoscopic DCR: Experience of a fellowship trainee at a tertiary care centre.'
The Eleventh Annual Antonio Champalimaud Symposium on 28 January 2018 marked 10 years of the LVPEI- Champalimaud Foundation collaboration. There were presentations by representatives of LVPEI's primary, secondary and tertiary centres, and the first overseas centre in Monrovia, Liberia. Updates on research activities were shared; the keynote was by Dr Masayo Takahashi of the RIKEN Centre for Developmental Biology, Japan; and special lectures by Nobel Laureate Prof Martin Chalfie, Biological Sciences, Columbia University, New York, and the Leibniz prize winner, Prof Rer Nat Brigitte Roeder, Head of Biological Psychology and Neuropsychology, University of Hamburg, Germany.

to create awareness about various eye diseases among the general public, specifically in the rural areas. The caller will be able to receive the first level of medical advice, available treatment options and details about the nearest eye care providers in their vicinity. This facility is now available in Nellore and Prakasam districts in Andhra Pradesh, and will be later extended to the other districts of AP and Telangana, and eventually across the country.

Four new primary care Vision Centres were inaugurated in Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh, supported by RayBan Sun Optics India Private Limited, and connected to the secondary care Madanapalle Eye Centre:

- #165 Thamballapalle Vision Centre on 1st January
- #166 Mulakalacheruvu Vision Centre on 1st January
- #167 Gurramkonda Vision Centre on 2nd January
- #168 Vayalpadu Vision Centre on 13th January

By Sri Chintala Ramachandra Reddy, MLA, Pileru, Chittoor. Also present were Smt S Srivalli, Zilla Parishad Territorial Constituency Vayalpadu; Sri Venkateswara Reddy, Sub Inspector of Police, Vayalpadu; Sri Shaik Mastan, Former ZPTC.

The Anniversaries

- 10th Anniversary - Sudhakar & Sreeramk Ravi Eye Centre, Markapuram, Prakasam Dt, AP; 3 January
- 5th Anniversary - Pedapadu Vision Centre, West Godavari Dt, AP; 4 January
- 4th Anniversary - Araku Vision Centre, Visakhapatnam Dt, AP; 5 January
- 3rd Anniversary - Edward & Soona Brown Eye Centre, Dhulipalla, Guntur Dt, AP; 12 January
- 12th Foundation Day - Mithu Tulsi Chanrai Campus, Bhuvaneswar, Odisha; 16 January
- 11th Anniversary - Telkapally Vision Centre, Nagarkurnool District, Telangana; 24 January
- 2nd Anniversary - Guduru & Rapur Vision Centres, Nellore Dt, AP; 29 January
- 7th Anniversary - Brown David Children’s Eye Care Centre, KVC Campus, Vijayawada; 29 January
- 2nd Anniversary - Kota & Naidupeta Vision Centres, Nellore Dt, AP; 30 January
- 12th Anniversary - Utnoor Vision Centre, Adilabad Dt, Telangana; 31 January

The first Krovvidi Family Endowment Lecture was delivered, 27 January 2018, by Dr DVR Seshadri, Clinical Professor, Indian School of Business (ISB) on “Reinventing through Intrapreneurial Leadership” at LVPEI’s Hyderabad campus. Initiated by the Krovvidi family in the memory of Sri Krovvidi Subbarao Rau, the lecture specifically focuses on management education and hospital management in particular.

The Eight Bijayananda Patnaik Memorial Lecture on 16 January 2018, on the occasion of the 12th Foundation Day celebrations of Mithu Tulsi Chanrai Campus, Bhuvaneswar, was delivered by Prof GVS Murthy, Director, Indian Institute of Public Health, Hyderabad, on ‘No North or South in contemporary eye care – Boundaries Redefined’. Dr Kalsi Patnaik, wife of the late Dr Bijayananda Patnaik, also graced the occasion.

Dr Steve Swioklo, Senior Applications Scientist, Atelerix Ltd, Newcastle Upon Tyne, UK; Guest lecture: ‘Atelerix: Storage and Transport of Human Cells at Room Temperature’; 19 January 2018.

Dr Erwin Neher, Nobel laureate in Physiology or Medicine 1991, interacted with LVPEI faculty on 3 January 2018.

Dr Kabilan Pichaimuthu, Post-doctoral Fellow, University of Hamburg, Germany; Guest lecture ‘Perceptual suppression mechanisms in healthy aging’; 16 January 2018.

Steve DeMars, Joel Igu and Grace Tsai, students from Johns Hopkins Carey Business School, USA, visited 4-19 January 2018 as part of the ‘Innovation for Humanity’ project.

A group of 16 students studying B.Ed (Special Education) at Andhra University visited, LVPEI’s Visakhapatnam campus on 25 January 2018, to learn about the vision rehabilitation and low vision services offered at the Institute.

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L V Prasad Eye Institute

The Eighth Bijayananda Patnaik Memorial Lecture

Events, Visitors & Updates

Inaugurations

‘Call Netra’ an eye care helpline with toll free number 18002002213, an initiative by LVPEI’s Tje Kohli Cornea Institute, was launched on 12 January 2018 at Nellore by Sri Muppavarapu Venkaiah Naidu, Hon’ble Vice President of India and Sri Banwarilal Purohit, Hon’ble Governor of Tamil Nadu. The helpline is meant to create awareness about various eye diseases among the general public, specifically in the rural areas. The caller will be able to receive the first level of medical advice, available treatment options and details about the nearest eye care providers in their vicinity. This facility is now available in Nellore and Prakasam districts in Andhra Pradesh, and will be later extended to the other districts of AP and Telangana, and eventually across the country.