

18th Dr E Vaithilingam Memorial Scientific Session

The Imaging Conference 2K19

March 09 & 10, 2019



Elite School of Optometry (ESO) has been encouraging research in Optometry and vision science past many years in many ways. Dr E Vaithilingam Memorial Scientific Session was one such great venture initiated by ESO as an annual conference focused on Optometry and Vision Science.

Dr. E. Vaithilingam, fondly called Dr. EV, was a pioneer in the field of optometry, who served as the Principal of the Elite School of Optometry from February 1991 to March 2001. He was an expert in multiple disciplines – clinical optometry, contact lens, and low vision care. Dr. E. Vaithilingam was the Head of Low vision services in Sankara Nethralaya and he authored a book titled as “Practice of Low Vision” which helps all the students and practitioners in the field of Low vision until date. He was a passionate teacher, ardent researcher and a pioneer with more than 100 publications to his credit. He was the first Indian to become a fellow of the International Association of Contact Lens Educators (FIACLE) and to be honoured as Fellow of American Academy of Optometry (FAAO). In 2002, in the font memory of Dr. E. Vaithilingam, ESO initiated a national scientific session to encourage optometrists and optometry students from across the country to present their research work.

This year ESO conducted the 18th Dr E Vaithilingam Memorial Scientific Session on the 9th and 10th of March 2019. This session was themed on Ocular Imaging & Diagnostics, hence entitled as ‘The Imaging Conference - 2K19’. This two-day event had a preconference session that included exclusive imaging workshops on various Optometry specialities, an elite workshop on ‘Spectacle dispensing’ followed by an expert lecture on ‘Empathetic Communication for Clinicians’.

With 53 participants, the imaging workshop instilled the basics and advancements in ocular imaging and diagnostics in the field of Cornea, Glaucoma and Retina, co-ordinated by the experts in the respective specialities, Ms G Aparna, Dr A Rashima and Ms S Ramya. ‘Spectacle Dispensing Skills’

workshop co-ordinated by Dr S Viswanathan facilitated the delegates to refresh the basics of spectacle prescription and to acquire valuable knowledge and clinical tips on spectacle dispensing skills.

'Ideas to Reality contest' was a specular highlight of this year's conference, which was initiated as a precursor to Hackathon in eye care. Seven entries were received from various institutions to deploy the next generation of eye care using the best possible technologies for the future. The expert panel members included Dr Ronnie George (President & Director of Research, Vision Research Foundation; Deputy Director, Glaucoma Services, Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai), Dr R Krishna Kumar (Principal, Elite School of Optometry), Dr Ramesh S Ve (Head – Optometry Department, School of Allied Health Sciences, MAHE), Dr Rashima Asokan (Assistant Professor, Elite School of Optometry; Senior optometrist, Glaucoma Project, Sankara Nethralaya), Dr Shenbaga Devi (Professor and Director, Centre for Medical Electronics, College of Engineering; Co-ordinator, National Hub for Healthcare Instrumentation Development (NHHID), Anna University), Mr Maruthachala Mandiram (Director, Srushty Global Solutions Pvt Ltd), Mr Ibrahim Gani (Department of IT, Sankara Nethralaya). The expert interaction focused on components such as novelty, feasibility, quality of design, clinical application, plagiarism, time for prototype/product translation and ethical consideration. Ms. Najiya Sundus and Ms. Ashwini V C moderated the session. The meeting received an overwhelming response from the participants as well as the experts and was praised as a groundwork for interdisciplinary initiatives for developing eye care innovations.

Dr Sumathi Narayanan - President, Creative Communication & Management Care and faculty member, ESO, delivered an enthusiastic lecture on 'Empathetic Communication to Clinicians' with an emphasis on the impact of effective communication while conversing with the patients in various clinical instances. The session was moderated by Dr Kalpa Negiloni. This workshop was initiated since 2015 and it continues to inspire the budding clinicians with Dr. Sumathi's three decades of expertise in the arena of communication. The day one evening ended with an interesting Clinician to Researcher session, which had nine participants to present their unique clinical cases with potential research questions.

The day two of the 18th Dr E Vaithilingam Memorial Scientific Session (10th March) began with the welcome address by Dr Girish Rao (Medical Director, Sankara Nethralaya) followed by a poignant start with the divine rendition by Ms. Lohitha Viswanathan, and lighting of Kuthuvilakku by the dignitaries. Dr S Viswanathan (HOD – Optometry & Optical Services, Sankara Nethralaya) presented the Chronicle of Dr E Vaithilingam memorial Scientific Session that narrated the awe-inspiring story of Dr EVM session followed by 'About our Dr E Vaithilingam' speech by Prof. Pitchaimuthu, Faculty

member, ESO. Following this, the release of Dr EV's figure mark as an honour to Dr EV for the EV Memorial session made an imposing start of the day.

The session was heightened by the key note lectures focused on current trends in ocular imaging and diagnostics and Leveraging technology for eye care. The key note speakers were the stalwarts in Ophthalmology/Optometry/Vision Science which included Dr Ramesh S Ve (Evidence Based Practice in Optometry), Dr Rajiv Raman (Current trends in Retinal Imaging & Diagnostics), Dr Rashima Asokan (Advancements in Glaucoma Imaging & Diagnostics), Dr Bhaskar Srinivasan (Technology in Cornea & Refractive Surgeries) and Dr R R Sudhir (Role of Artificial Intelligence in Electronic Medical Records).

This year, the 18th Dr EV Memorial scientific session received a remarkable response with participation of 340 delegates including optometry students, eye care practitioners and vision science researchers from all over the country. Every year, the quality and quantity of scientific presentations have been increasing exponentially and this year about 99 scientific presentations in various categories of original research free paper, e-poster, and Clinician to Researcher sessions were presented. As every year, this year beheld four innovative forums Ideas to Reality, Ocular Photography, Social Accountability and Model-Making contests for students and practitioners to display their innovative thoughts, community bond and photography skills.

Awarding Ceremony Highlights

Since 2013, Dr EVM scientific session supports students through travel grants and this year, 10 optometry students from outside Chennai received the ESO - Essilor student travel grant awards.

As a token of appreciation for maximum participation Vasan Institute of Ophthalmology & Research, Chennai received a set of academic books (Contact Lens, Occupational optometry and Low Vision Aids).

List of Awards

S No	Award Title	Winner	Institutions
1	Ocular Photography	Mr Pranav Sandam Mr Aniruddha Banerjee	Laxmi College of Optometry, Mumbai Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai
2	Model Making	Mr Abdul Subhan Mohammad	Sankara College of Optometry, Bangalore
3	Social Accountability	Ms Janani Suresh	Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai
4	Aspiring Researcher Award	Ms Archayeeta Rakshit	Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai

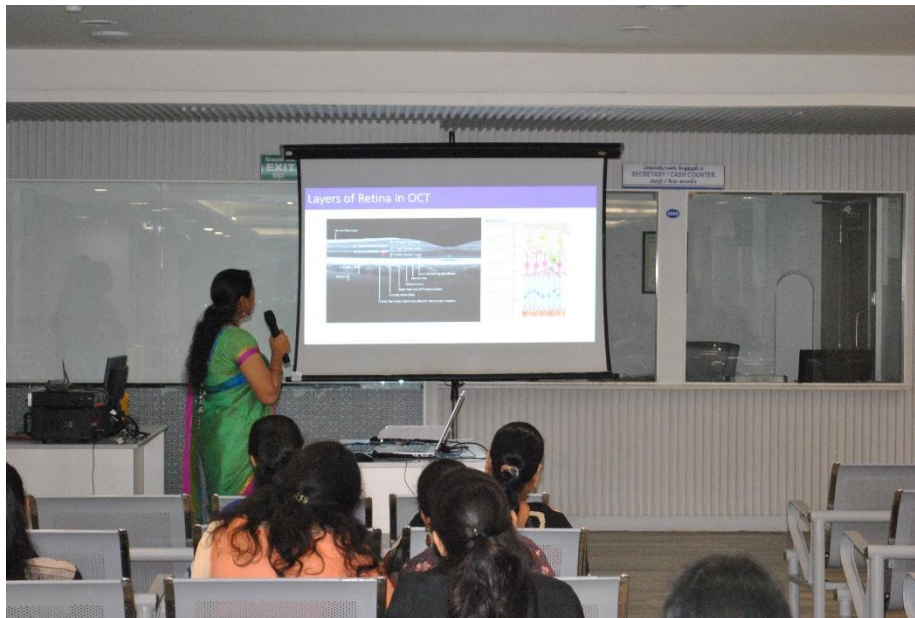
		Mr Aniruddha Banerjee Ms Deepmala Mazumdar Dr Kalpa Negiloni Ms Mithra A Ms Judy Jose Ms Radhika Ms Swetha Murari Mr Pritam Dutta	Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai Sankara Nethralaya, Chennai School of Allied Health Science, MAHE School of Allied Health Science, MAHE School of Allied Health Science, MAHE Sri Sankaradeva Nethralaya, Guwahati
5	Clinician to Researcher Best Paper Best Poster	Ms Swetha R Mr Bhumini Parekh	Elite School of Optometry, Chennai Elite School of Optometry, Chennai
6	Best Poster Presentation (Original Research) Student Category	Mr Ashwin Badrinath	Elite School of Optometry, Chennai
7	Best Poster Presentation (Original Research) Regular Category	Mr Siddharth K	Netra Jyothi College of Optometry & Para- medical Sciences, Udupi
8	Best Paper Presentation (Original Research) Student Category	Ms Sneha Nair Mr Ashik Anwar Basha	SRM Institute of Science & Technology, Chennai Shri Prakash Institute of Optometry, Chennai
9	Best Paper Presentation (Original Research) Regular Category	Ms Vijay Reena Durai	L V Prasad Eye Institute, Hyderabad

Dr Jameel Rizwana presented the highlights of EIVOC 2020 and officially invited all the delegates for the mega event that has been planned on August 13-16, 2020. The scientific session came to an end with the closing remarks delivered by Ms G Aparna. The e-abstract book introduced during the 2016 session was successfully taken forward this year as well. ESO and SN aspire for a promising future for Optometry and Vision Science Research in this country and will continue to uphold these kind of scientific interactive forums.

Abstract Book: http://www.eso.sankaranethralaya.org/dr_evm_e_abstracts_2019/index.html

A Glimpse of Day 1





A Glimpse of Day 2





Report prepared by Ms Najiya Sundus & Ms Ashwini V C on March 21, 2019

18th EVM Committee
