

The World Council of Optometry

Meeting of the General Delegates to be held on 5 June 2009

Report of Education Committee

The Education Committee has been focused on WCOE6, to be held in Durban in 2010, alongside the World Conference on Refractive Error (WCRE). More details about the programme will be provided under item GDM09/16.

Dr. Bina Patel was appointed by WCO's Governing Board to chair the programme committee. Other members of the committee are:

Professor Kovin Naidoo
Mr Yigal Gutman
Dr Susan Cooper
Professor Jean Paul Roosen

Much of the work has been done via email and Dr Patel has been doing an exceptional job given the limitations of working electronically.

In terms of the logistics of the conference we were hamstrung by a delay in getting agreement with the Korean Optical Association and therefore lost a lot of time.

At the Governing Board meeting held in Anaheim in October 2008 it was agreed that if South Korea could not host the event, then it would run alongside WCRE. In February of this year, the President sought the approval of the Executive Committee to proceed with plans for Durban.

The Director of Member Services and Communications of the College of Optometrists, Ian Humphreys, is visiting South Africa from 21-24 May, and will at that meeting work out the logistics with the ICEE team who are co-ordinating the administration of the WCRE.

Once the logistics of the WCOE are sorted out, more effort will be put into activating other functions of the committee. However given the time and human resource restrictions it makes sense right now to focus on WCOE6.

Kovin Naidoo
Chairman, Education Committee