1st World Congress of Optometry - the essential event for the international eye health sector

The World Council of Optometry (WCO) and La Federación Colombiana de Optómetras (FEDOPTO) are delighted to announce the launch of the 1st World Congress of Optometry. This is the first global optometry conference and a unique and unmissable event for anyone in the eye health sector including community and hospital practitioners, researchers, academics and students.

For three days in August the world’s leading eye health experts will be gathered in Medellín, Colombia to share the latest ideas, research, knowledge and ideas from across the optometry sector. Delegates will have the opportunity to:

- learn more about differing approaches to optometry in a wide range of countries including the USA and the UK
- maintain and develop their professional and clinical knowledge and skills
- network with colleagues to share ideas and discuss key themes and topics

The Delegates
This is the ideal event for anyone studying or practising optometry including
- optometrists
- vision scientist researchers
- optometry educators and students
- other eye health professionals

The Venue
The Congress is being held at the Plaza Mayor Convention and Exhibition Center in Medellín, Colombia. The Center has an excellent reputation for hosting large scale, high profile events. The modern building combines state-of-the art accommodation and equipment, as well as a warm welcome and the very best in visitor care.

Medellín, Colombia’s second city, was awarded ‘World’s most innovative city’ 2013 and is internationally renowned for its hospitality, gastronomy and culture.

The Three Day Programme
- More than 50 presentations, lectures and seminars led by world-renowned experts and arranged into two programmes:
Clinical programme - providing expert opinion and latest developments on a wide range of key topics

Educational programme – supporting and promoting personal and professional development across all aspects of optometry

- Lectures and clinical workshops will be accredited by UK GOC CET and US COPE and there will be simultaneous translation into Spanish and English

- A poster and video display - with abstracts submitted from students, academics and professionals worldwide

- An exhibition - bringing together the world’s leading service and equipment providers to present and discuss the latest products and advancements within the industry

Call for Abstracts

Optometrists, vision scientists, optometry educators, researchers and students will be presenting a fascinating and diverse range of work on current clinical and basic science advances, research and education as posters or oral presentations.

The selected oral presentations are scheduled for a maximum of 15 minutes, with an additional 5 minutes for questions and answers. The posters will be displayed during the Congress and authors will be present at their posters at specified times to discuss content and answer questions. There is a limit of three abstracts an individual may submit as main author but no limit as a co-author. Members of WCO and FEDOPTO are particularly encouraged to apply.

Those interested in submitting an abstract should email: abstracts@worldoptometry.org by Monday 2 March 2015.

The Social Programme

Delegates will also have the opportunity to network with colleagues and catch up with friends at the welcome reception and gala dinner. Delegate’s friends and partners are very welcome and there will be a programme of tourist and social events to help them make the most of their time in the beautiful city of Medellin.

Travel and Accommodation

- Conference organisers are working closely with ProExport Colombia which will be able to assist with practical details such as visa procedures - www.colombia.travel. We are also working with a number of hotels to provide the very best in accommodation at exclusive delegate rates. More information on flights and hotels is available at www.worldcongressofoptometry.org
**Booking Tickets**

Booking will be opening soon and there are a number of discounted tickets available.

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New members of WCO can join for $100

**Staying Informed**

All the latest news and information about the Congress will be available at [www.worldcongressofoptometry.org](http://www.worldcongressofoptometry.org)

Look out for regular Congress updates and alerts for the latest news on ticket sales, presentations, speakers and exhibitors and much, much more. You can also follow us on Twitter and Facebook.

**If you only attend one optometry conference this year, make sure it’s the 1st World Congress of Optometry, 14 – 16 August 2015, Medellín, Colombia!**

[www.worldcongressofoptometry.org](http://www.worldcongressofoptometry.org)