Representatives of the Global Alliance were invited speakers and session hosts at the ACS Meeting held in South Korea in December.

The Global Alliance would like to thank the ACS and AEBA for their invitation to participate.

As a relatively new Association, this opportunity was an honour and one we hope provided a valuable and varied exchange of ideas.

The hosts also arranged cultural displays including traditional South Korea drumming during the opening ceremony, and modern K-Pop at the closing dinner.

The hosts also successfully arranged live surgery demonstrations between the conference centre and a local hospital, which was supported by demonstrations from international ophthalmology experts.

Many presentations focused on service gaps, new technologies and a move towards collaborative sector engagement as a primary vehicle to tackling corneal related blindness. With such ethos in mind, the organizers blended ophthalmologists, eye bankers, scientists, optometrists, nurses and educators into a unique and progressive approach to tackling the issues as a team.
Global Alliance Representatives

Association of Eye Banks of Asia
Professor Donald Tan, and
Pang Chia-Li

European Eye Bank Association
EO Gary Jones, and
Andrea Gareiss-Lok

Eye Bank Association of America
CEO Kevin P. Corcoran, and
Assistant Professor David Glasser MD

Eye Bank Association of Australia and New Zealand
Dr Graeme Pollock

Eye Bank Association of India
Professor Radhika Tandon, and
Ganesh Ganapathy, ED

Pan American Association of Eye Banks
Dr Enrique Graue-Hernandez, and
Professor Mark J Mannis

Development
Heather Machin, RN, MBA

Please Contact the Global Alliance via:
info@gaeba.org or via www.gaeba.org

Save the Date—WOC/IOC GAEBEA Meeting—Barcelona 2018

The Global Alliance, now a member of the International Council of Ophthalmology, are proud to announce two scientific events for 2018, to coincide with the ICO’s 2018 World Ophthalmology Congress in Barcelona.

Firstly, GAEBEA will host their own independent GAEBEA meeting (similar to the San Diego 2015 format), in partnership with regional host EEBA, and local Spanish hosts the Barraquer Institute, and the Trias of the Banc de Sang i Teixits.

Secondly, GAEBEA are partnering with the IOC to host a new eye banking session within the formal WOC events.

Details to follow—please diary mark:

- GAEBEA Scientific Meeting—June 15th 2018
- WOC (with GAEBEA hosted Eye Bank symposium) - June 16—19 2018

The International Journal of Eye Banking – Volume 4, Number 3 publication is now available.

This issue focuses on EBAA’s Medical Standards. It includes the full text of the Standards, current as of the Medical Advisory Board’s October 2016 meeting, a review of the Standards’ development and an exploration of the interplay between the Medical Standards and EBAA’s Accreditation Board.

IJEB is a FREE open access journal. Simply visit eyebankingjournal.org

The Journal also welcomes submissions from around the world.
With the recent change of leadership at the EBAI, we welcome Dr Radhika Tandon as the new GAEBAB India Representative, alongside remaining Representative, Mr Ganesh Ganapathy.

In turn we say farewell and thank you to outgoing Representative, Dr Samar Basak, who has served as a founding GAEBAB Representative since our inception.

About Dr Tandon: Dr Radhika Tandon is a Professor of Ophthalmology at the Prestigious All India Institute of Medical Sciences, currently serving as head of an independent Unit, Chair of Low Vision Services and Co Chair of the National Eye Bank at the Dr Rajendra Prasad Centre for Ophthalmic Sciences at AIIMS.

Professor Tandon has an exemplary academic record with numerous accolades to her credit including the President of India’s Silver Medal for MBBS and the Muthusamy Gold Medal in Ophthalmology by the Royal College of Surgeons Edinburgh.

Apart from recognition in her own country, she has served as an examiner in Ophthalmology for the Royal College of Surgeons and the National University of Singapore. Her research interests have included a wide range of projects but in recent years her main focus has been on cornea, refractive surgery, eye banking, keratoprosthesis, corneal bioengineering epidemiology of anterior segment disorders low vision and rehabilitation services. A prolific researcher with several extra mural grants to her credit, she has served as member of the Ethics committee at AIIMS and was actively involved as member of the Indo-US Joint Working Group for DBT-NEI Vision Research Programme and has been a valuable asset to the project review board of the Indian Council of Medical Research and the department of Biotechnology.

She has served on the Executive Board of the Eye Bank Association of India for over a decade and has been a key influence in modernization of eye banking and corneal transplantation services in the country and has been elected President of the Eye Bank Association of India. Among her various responsibilities she also currently functions as a member of the Apex Technical Committee of the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization of India.

Nursing Guidelines Developed by EBAANZ

EBAANZ have developed new National Guidelines, Titled: A Resource for Australian Hospitals, Operating theatres and Day Surgery Staff Regarding the Care and Handling of Human Tissue for Ocular Transplantation.

This is a new tool providing specific guidance to facilities who provide ocular surgery, and care for tissue from the point of receipt to the point of transplantation, i.e. Operating Theatre (Operating Room) Nurses. It is designed to assist those providers with development of their own policies, practice and training systems.

The Guideline was developed in conjunction with a wide range of local experts including the Ophthalmic Nursing Association networks, Australian Day Hospital, Operating Room Associations, the Royal Australian and New Zealand College of Ophthalmologists, and representatives from healthcare facilities around the country.

EBAANZ will now explore developing a modified version for the New Zealand Audience.

Online Course for Eye Bankers—starts 2017

During the South Korean Meeting, EBAANZ announced that they had partnered with the University of Melbourne and other Australian Stakeholders, to develop a new online post-graduate professional qualification course specifically designed for eye bankers.

Available to international eye bankers and prospective eye bankers, the course awards an exit grade up-to a Graduate Certificate level, in eye banking. A special feature of the course will be a nesting exit grade of a Specialist Certificate (1 subject) which will become the new minimum qualification completion point for all eye bankers in Australia and New Zealand.

The course, will include international experts from a wide range of fields to ensure graduates are exposed to a wide range of practice options and ideas to allow graduates to support, enhance, evolve and strengthen the sector.

For further interest—and to submit an expression of interest to enrol in the course, please visit:

- Specialist Certificate (minimum 1 course subject): http://www.commercial.unimelb.edu.au/eyebankingsc/

GAeba attends the IAPB 10th General Assembly—Durban

GAeba’s Heather Machin represented the Global Alliance at the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness 10th General Assembly, held in Durban last October.

As a new member, this was the first time the Global Alliance and the sector were represented as a whole.

On behalf of the organization, Ms Machin presented early figures regarding global mapping of eye banks, which has been a key project for the organization as a precursor to global data tracking activities.

Ms. Machin reports that the feedback and interest from other attendees and organizations was extremely positive, and identified that the inclusion of eye banking representation—as a whole sector, is a welcome and vital aspect of blindness prevention strategies around the world.

EEBA Medical Standards Available

The active EEBA Minimum Medical Standards, reviewed by the EEBA’s Medical Special Interests Group are now available on the Global Alliance website as a free open access resource (alongside other documents shared by EBAA and EBAANZ).

Available via: http://www.gaeba.org/publications/

Registration for the EEBA’s XXIX Annual Meeting

The XXIX Annual Meeting of the European Eye Bank Association will be held at the Prague Marriott Hotel from January 19th to January 21st, 2017.

For further information: http://2017.eeba.eu/article/Information/c/6

Updates from Europe

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GAEBA supports


Share your story or event

The Global Alliance would like to share your stories, experiences and up-coming events with other members within your region and around the world. Please submit your story or event by February 2017 for submission in the March 2017 edition Email to: info@gaeba.org