



June 2026 Newsletter

This month, we share the report from the VOSH meeting in Nairobi, an insightful article on the legacy of the VOSH Corps project, a brief update on the visit of VOSH/International leaders to the Kenyan Optometry Programme at MMUST, a highlight from the U.S. SVOSH chapters meeting, a request for volunteers to go to the Philippines, and an invitation to the third Global Summit of Optoglobe. Keep Venezuela in your thoughts.

President's Insights

President Weiss offers her reflections on the Nairobi meeting. An event that marks the beginning of an interesting process.

Read the article [here](#).

President's Insights

June 2026

The Nairobi meeting was a debut in many respects



VOSH in AFRICA
Strategic Meeting
June 2 – 3, 2026
Nairobi – Kenya

The VOSH Meeting in Nairobi

African VOSH and SVOSH chapters came together in Nairobi for a strategic meeting focused on strengthening optometric education, collaboration and primary eye health care across the continent. Bringing together 52 participants from 14 countries, the two-day gathering created space for educators, students, professional leaders and partners to share experiences, identify common priorities and explore practical ways to advance optometry's role within sustainable health systems. The meeting helped set the stage for continued collaborative action in the months ahead.

Read the report [here](#)

The legacy of VOSH Corps

Dr. Dan Twelker, Chair of the VOSH Education Committee, reflects on the legacy of **VOSH Corps**, a project that strengthened several emerging optometry programs around the world.

Read the article [here](#).



The Legacy of VOSH Corps



News from our chapters



**US SVOSH Chapters
Brainstorming Meeting**



For Students by Students in Arizona

A lunch meeting for US SVOSH chapters leaders was organised on June 18 during the AOA Optometry's Meeting in Phoenix, Arizona, Led by SVOSH-UPIKE leaders, Deanna and Laurence van Stavoren, the meeting was attended by leaders of 10 US SVOSH chapters and VOSH/International Board members Drs Weaver and Konig and chair of the SVOSH Chapters Relations Committee, Dr McAlister. The group identified areas for improvement to facilitate communication and connections with other SVOSH chapters in the USA and internationally.

Thanks for attending. The discussion will continue

VOSH-TWECS-BC goes to the Philippines in 2027

This active Canadian VOSH chapter needs volunteers for its 2027 humanitarian clinic.

Where: Mandaluyong Metro Manila, Philippines

Dates: Arrival in Manila February 14, 2027.

Clinic days: February 15-19

Accommodation including breakfast: -\$35-\$60/day Canadian (\$26-\$44 USD/day)

Space is limited to about 20.

If interested, contact the team leader, Dr. Roma-March, at admin@twecs.ca



OD volunteers are needed for the Philippines



VOSH/International leaders visit Kenyan MMUST Optometry Department

VOSH/International Board members visit the Kenyan Optometry Program at MMUST

Dr. Weaver and Prof. Rasengane visited the Department of Optometry at MMUST in Kenya, where they delivered lectures and met with members of the department.

Their visit also included discussions with the university leadership. Read the article published by MMUST [here](#)

News from our partners

The Third Optoglobe Summit is fast approaching

For the third year in a row, VOSH/International is partnering with Optoglobe—the global community of optometry students—to deliver **GOOS 2026: Global Optometry Student Summit**.

From **9–12 July**, this free online event will bring together the next generation of optometrists to connect, learn, and collaborate. The summit will feature **four regional virtual sessions**, ensuring accessibility across all time zones.

Register [here](#).





Earthquakes in Venezuela

On June 24, two deadly earthquakes hit Venezuela. The devastation is severe. Please help if you can. VOSH/International is in contact with the two Venezuelan SVOSH chapters and will support them after this critical stage.

Please help if you can. Several international agencies and organisations are helping with the immediate response.

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