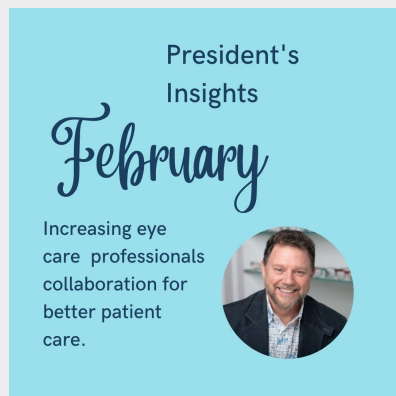




February 2023 Newsletter

This month we share examples of great collaboration among our chapters, President Ciszek considers how eye care professionals could work together and avoid turf wars, we announce our small grants for US SVOSH chapters, announce the date of our annual meeting, applaud the efforts to improve optometric education in Lebanon, and share a great offer from Plenoptika and show solidarity with the victims of the recent earthquake.



President's Insights

An article triggers President Ciszek to reflect on his professional relationship with ophthalmology, the expansion of the scope of practice and the importance of inter-professional collaboration. Read the whole article [here](#).

News from our chapters

VOSH-CT returns to Nicaragua

For 22 years VOSH-CT has offered optometric services to the people of San Juan del Sur in Nicaragua. This year between January 6th and 13th a 50 people team made up of VOSH-CT, SVOSH-UCBCO, and SVOSH-PCO members traveled to Nicaragua and offered their services to **3963 patients**. Read the whole article and enjoy a sample of beautiful pictures [here](#).



SVOSH-UAL joins VOSH-South Dakota in Gomez Palacios, Mexico

For 47 years, VOSH South Dakota has



partnered with the Lions Club of Gomez Palacio in the state of Durango, Mexico. This year, students and faculty of the SVOSH chapter at the Universidad Autónoma de la Laguna joined them and together served **1920 patients**. Read more about their experience and enjoy some pictures [here](#).

Four VOSH chapters join forces in the Dominican Republic

VOSH-NE, VOSH-IA, VOSH-PA, and VOSH-FUMVISION-DR served about **800 patients** in a true spirit of collaboration. Read more about this initiative [here](#).



BOOK THE DATE 2023 Annual Meeting NEW ORLEANS, USA SUNDAY

OCTOBER 15TH 7:30AM-1:00 PM

SATURDAY

OCTOBER 14TH NETWORKING DINNER

MORE DETAILS COMING SOON



Small grants available for US SVOSH chapters

We have **10 small grants of \$1000 each** to support US SVOSH chapters with their humanitarian clinics. Please apply by following this [link](#)

News from our partners

Supporting optometric education in Lebanon

Our friend, Dr Yazan Gammoh, chair of the World Council of Optometry education committee, Professor Vanessa Moodley, South Africa, and Dr Lina Hawat ran a workshop on Optometry

Curriculum Standardization and Quality Assurance for Lebanese government and university officials and other eye care sector stakeholders. The workshop was a collaboration with the Department of Optics and Optometry at the American University of Science and Technology ([AUST](#)) and the Vision Care Association ([VCA](#)), supported by a WCO educator grant. Attendees discussed the ethics in the health care system, the situation of optometry education in the MENA (Middle East and North Africa) region, and social accountability in optometry education. We look forward to hearing more about this important work.

Optometry curriculum standardization and quality assurance workshop Lebanon, January 2023



QuickSee Flip offer for US VOSH chapters

The QuickSee Flip is a one-optical channel device that provides the same ease of use and accuracy as the QuickSee. Plenoptika is offering the QuickSee Flip to US VOSH chapters on a first come first served basis for a discounted price of **\$3,000** instead of the standard of

\$5,000. The units come with the standard one-year guarantee and training. The specifications for the QuickSee Flip can be found [here](#). If your chapter is interested, please contact Oscar Lazaro at oscar@plenoptika.com



Türkiye and Syria earthquake

On February 6th, the devastating earthquakes in southern Türkiye and Syria devastated the lives, livelihoods, and heritage of millions of people. Please consider supporting organizations that are offering expert humanitarian and emergency responses to both countries. Our colleagues at the International Rescue Committee (IRC) can be found [here](#). Their office in Seattle, WA which is also a partner of VOSH-NW, is supporting [a fundraiser](#) by one of their volunteers here. The [White Helmets](#) can help Syria directly

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