

News from the European Academy of Optometry and Optics

June 2023

Message from the President

Dear Academy Members,
Founder Members and Fellows,

I am delighted to share with you the tremendous success of the EAEO 2023 Conference, which took place in Poznań from the 12th to the 14th of May. This event brought together the global optometry community and exceeded our expectations in terms of knowledge sharing, insights, and innovation.

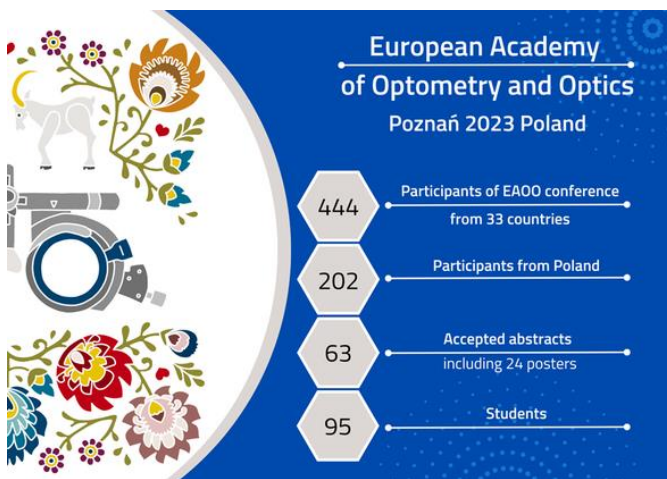
With an outstanding scientific program, the conference was jointly organized by the European Academy of Optometry and Optics (EAEO) and the Polish Optometric Association – Polskie Towarzystwo Optometrii i Optyki (PTOO). Alongside the event, the European Council of



On picture from left to right Dominika Olkowska (President of PTOO), Matjaž Mihelčič (President of ECOO) and Liliana Stankova (President of EAEO).

Optometry and Optics (ECOO) organized its Spring meeting, gathering representatives from optical and optometric organizations from across Europe. Together, we discussed the present and the future of practice in Europe, with a specific focus on “Eyecare in a changing world”.

I want to express my gratitude to all the participants, speakers, exhibitors, and partners who made this conference a resounding success. Your active engagement and contributions played a crucial role in creating a vibrant and dynamic atmosphere throughout the event.



During the four days of the conference, we had the privilege of hosting 444 participants from 33 countries, representing a diverse range of perspectives and experiences in the field of optometry. It was particularly inspiring to see the strong local interest, with 202 attendees from Poland, as well as the presence of 95 students who added a fresh perspective to the discussions.

The scientific program was truly exceptional, featuring a line-up of 45 speakers who shared their visionary insights and research findings. I would like to extend a special thanks to our four Keynote Speakers who captivated the audience with their thought-provoking presentations. Additionally, we had 24 poster presentations and 11 workshops, providing ample opportunities for hands-on learning and skill development.



Keynote Speakers



Prof. Kovin Naidoo



Prof. Joseph J. Pizzimenti



Dr Matt Jaskulski



Greg Caldwell OD, FAAO

The EAEO 2023 Conference received significant recognition and support from esteemed organizations, reaffirming its importance in the optometry community. We are grateful for the honorary patronages from the Mayor of the City of Poznań and the Marshal of the Wielkopolska Region, as well as the media patronage from Gazeta Optyka. The scientific patronage from Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań, Karol Marcinkowski Medical University in Poznań, and the American Academy of Optometry further solidified our position as a leading platform in the field. We were thrilled and honoured to welcome the address of the Ministry of Health of Poland during our opening session at the EAEO 2023 in Poznan.

Special thanks must go to our partners in the organization of the conference – [Polskie Towarzystwo Optometrii i Optyki \(PTOO\)](#), as well as to our sponsors.

I would also like to acknowledge the exhibitors who showcased cutting-edge products, services, and collaborations in the bustling exhibition area. Your



presence added tremendous value to the conference, providing attendees with valuable insights and networking opportunities. I am grateful for the support of our four special partners, whose contributions were instrumental in the overall success of the event.

Furthermore, I am pleased to announce that three of our members have been awarded the Fellowship of the EAOO this year. Their dedication and commitment to advancing the field of optometry are truly commendable.



The EAOO 2023 Conference has once again reinforced its position as a premier international gathering in the field of optometry. This conference not only serves as a platform for sharing expertise and exchanging ideas but also plays a vital role in shaping the future of our discipline.

In conclusion, I consider it both an honour and a great responsibility to lead the EAOO for the next one year, alongside my esteemed colleagues from the Board of Trustees and the Education Committee. Our collective success relies not only on our sponsors, whose invaluable support is crucial to the realization of our initiatives but also on the unwavering commitment of our current and future members.



On the picture from left to right: Nicholas James Rumney, Fiona Anderson, Elaine Grisdale, Eva Lazuka-Nicoulaud, Liliana Stankova, Dominique Meslin, Kristina Mihic, Rupal Lowel-Patel, José M. González Méijome, Sonja Zinken

Let us be driven by our shared passion for science and the unwavering belief that resides within each of our hearts. With this determination, we shall find the strength to forge ahead and further advance the EAOO. Together, we will continue to uphold the unity of our professional community, speaking a common language - the language of professionals.



EAOO members after AGM meeting at Poznan

I encourage all of you to visit the EAOO website for more information about our organization and upcoming events. Additionally, I urge all of you to stay connected with us through our social media channels. Follow us on Twitter (@EAOO_Official) and Facebook and LinkedIn (European Academy of Optometry and Optics - EAOO) to stay updated on the latest news, updates, and exciting developments within our organization. Engage with us, share your thoughts, and be a part of the vibrant online community dedicated to advancing the field of optometry. We look forward to your continued support and participation as we strive to advance the field of optometry together.

Thank you once again for your invaluable contributions, and I wish you all continued success in your professional endeavours.

See you next year at the **EAOO 2024 in Helsinki!**



Warm regards,

Liliana Stankova, FMEAOO, FEAOO

President of EAOO