CAO BIENNIAL CONGRESS IN PICTURES

Top: Congress Registrants ready for top calibre continuing education.

Middle left: Dr. Kirsten North presents the President’s Cup Golf Tournament to this year’s winner, Dr. Doug Cote, CAO Councillor from Newfoundland and Labrador. Congratulations!

Middle right: Incoming CAO President, Dr. Lil Linton and outgoing CAO President, Dr. Kirsten North, carry the Canadian flag in the Congress Opening Ceremonies. Provincial association presidents were flag bearers, carrying provincial flags with pride. The Opening Ceremonies were held at the Manitoba Museum.

Left: Staff at Henderson Vision Centre, left to right, Lara Otaki, Beverly Sadlowski, Samantha Markevich, Carolyn Reidiger, Sharon McAulay, Debbie Klepatz, Rose Boda, and Regina Konn.
Top: Drs. Jack Huber and Len Koltun, with the author, Susan Swedberg-Kohli, promote the sale of the history book of CAO and Canadian Optometry, Lucto et Emergo. Sales of the book were brisk and are now available from the CAO national office at Claudette@opto.ca.

Left: Drs. Irene Dao-Mestito and Michael Nelson, co-chairs, Congress Planning Committee, acted as masters of ceremony throughout Congress and were the consummate hosts!

A gallery of Congress photos are available on the CAO member portal. A quick link may be found on the home page. Member login at opto.ca. Also bookmark the 2013 CAO Congress page as one of your favourites. Information about the Congress program will be added as it becomes available. Mark the date! Escape to Edmonton, Experience it All – July 10-13, 2013. Visit: opto.ca/en/cao-2013-congress.html.
A New Director at École d’optométrie — Université de Montréal

On June 1st, 2011, Christian Casanova succeeded the outgoing Jacques Gresset in the directorship of the School of Optometry at the University of Montreal. The term of office is for four years. Dr. Casanova is Professor at the School of Optometry and Associate Professor in the Faculty of Medicine, University of Sherbrooke. Since 2004, he has headed the Research Group in Vision Science at U of M and served as Associate Director for Research and Graduate Studies at the School of Optometry. He played a decisive role, in cooperation with the Department of Ophthalmology, in creating the first Ph.D. program in Vision Science in the francophone world. Deputy Director (advertising, communication and promotion) of the FRSQ Vision Research Network, Dr. Casanova is also a member of several international research associations, including the Vision Sciences Society, the American Academy of Optometry, and the Society for Neuroscience.

“Casanova combines solid research experience and proven skills in academic management”, said the Rector, Guy Breton. “An excellent communicator and team player, he combines good listening skills with the ability to take action. I am confident that with all of our faculty members at the School, he will be able to adapt our programs to the new realities of Optometry in North America, ensuring the development of the Clinic, the advancement of the School along the lines of basic and applied research, and the promotion, beyond our walls, of a profession that is currently evolving in Quebec.”

The Rector also wished to express his appreciation to the outgoing director, Jacques Gresset. “The academic optometry community in Quebec, which celebrated its 100th anniversary last year, was privileged to have the informed, dynamic contribution of Jacques Gresset. During his two terms, Jacques has done much to develop programs in rehabilitation and visual impairment and was able to provide the School with the impetus that pushed it forward in the research domain and allowed it to gain international recognition. I thank him very sincerely on behalf of the university community.”

The School of Optometry is the only of its kind in Quebec and the oldest university department of optometry in North America. It has about 30 teachers and hosts 270 students, in addition to housing the University Vision Clinic that serves as a practical training for future optometrists.