

2022 Jenny Pomeroy Award for Excellence in Vision and Public Health



**Eye-conic
Approaches
to Eye Health**

SESSION 5



VOSH/International

Michael Ciszek, OD

President, VOSH/International



Michael A. Cizek, OD
President
VOSH/International



VOSH
INTERNATIONAL
Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity®

The Freedom To See



Provide the gift of vision and quality eye health to people who can neither afford nor obtain such care.

Facilitate the provision and the sustainability of vision care by supporting sustainable eye clinics, optometry schools and optometric educators in geographical areas lacking sufficient eye care

The Origins of VOSH



- 1970 Dr. Franklin Harms began building the base for a volunteer organization in Kansas
- 1972 The name “Volunteer Optometric Services to Humanity” was adopted by an organization committee of the Kansas Optometric Foundation.
- 1972 The first VOSH-Kansas project “Fly In” provided eye care to Montemorelos, Mexico.
- 1979 VOSH/International was incorporated in the State of Indiana, registered by Secretary Dr. Walter Marshall.
- 1984 The first Student VOSH Chapter was formed: SVOSH-NECO: New England College of Optometry

**The biggest
network of
volunteer
optometrists
in the world**

Over 5,000 Volunteers

99 US and International Chapters

140,000 patients annually

In 32 countries worldwide

Support Global Optometric Education



Quality education: Our new cornerstone

Educating our members and our organization.

Educating optometrists and optometry students around the world.

Educating others on the importance of optometry.

Educating children and young adults about the profession of optometry.

Educating other organizations on the role of VOSH in the global future of optometry

Global and Sustainable

International
and domestic
humanitarian
eye health and
vision clinics



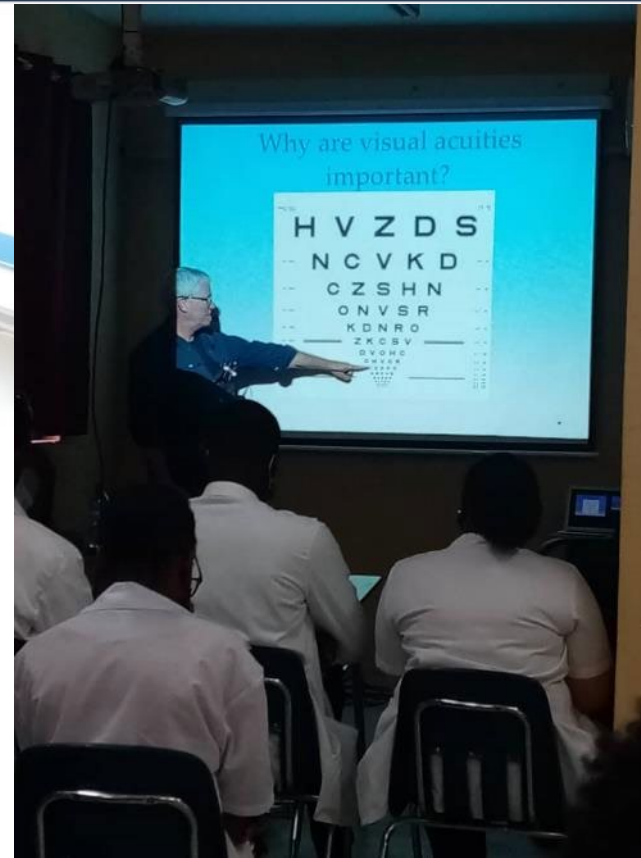
Global and Sustainable

Improve
local,
in country,
optometric
capacities



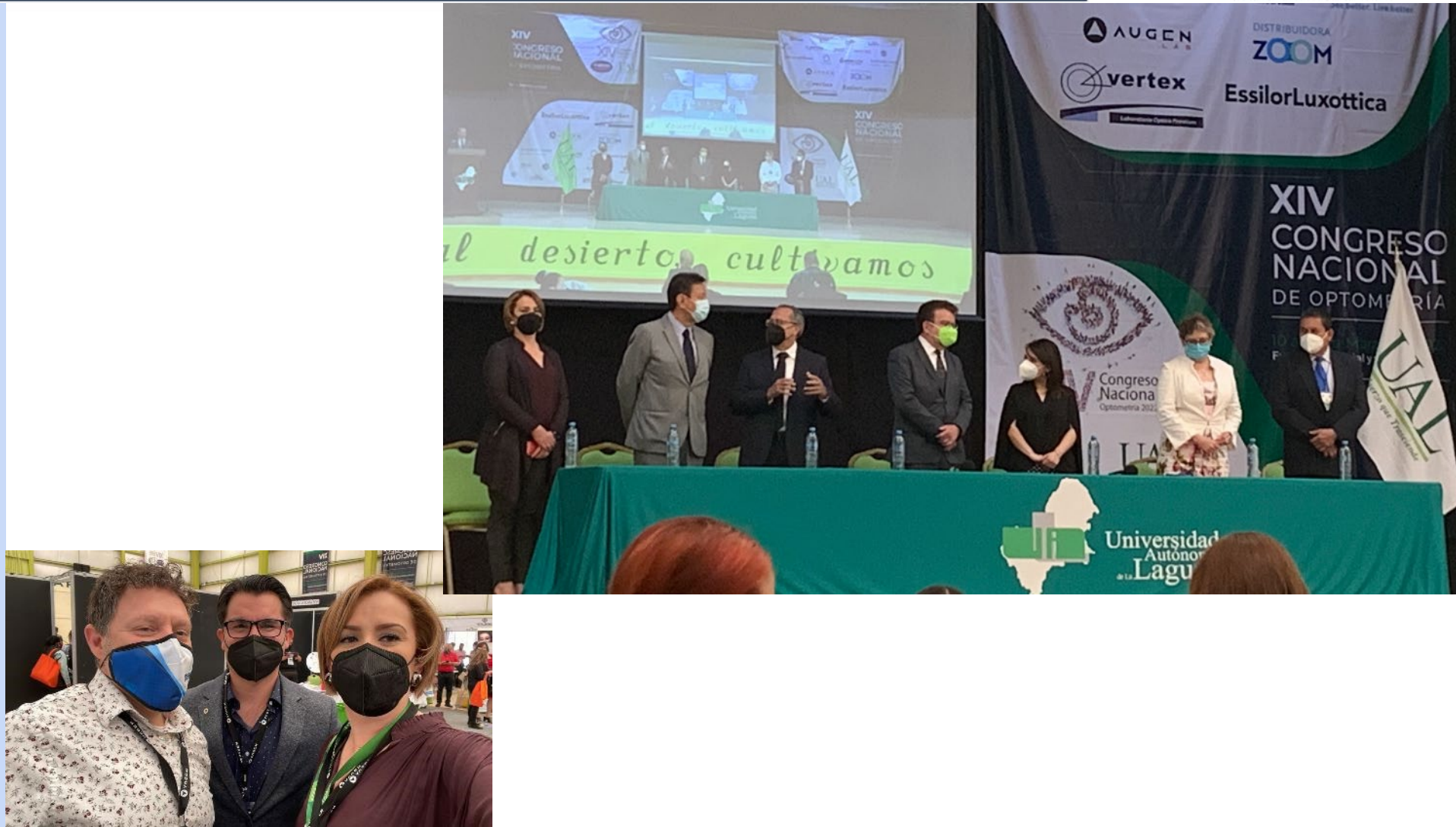
Global and Sustainable

Support
international
schools of
optometry



Global and Sustainable

Support
establishment,
recognition,
scope
advancement



Educating Future Generations

South - South Exchanges
A 2022 VOSH pilot program

Fellowships for development
of local training resources

VOSH Corps; recruiting ODs
to teach internationally



Support Global Optometric Education



Ambassadors' Program

US trained ODs lecture at international schools of optometry for short periods

The screenshot shows a Facebook page for 'Licenciatura en Optometria UES'. The profile picture is a logo with an owl and the text 'OPTOMETRÍA Universidad de El Salvador Escuela de Tecnología Médica Facultad de Medicina'. The page has a navigation menu with options: Home, Posts, Groups, Reviews, Videos, Photos, About, Events, and Community. A green 'Create a Page' button is visible. A post from 10 hours ago is titled 'Licenciatura en Optometria UES' and contains the following text: 'En esta semana tuvimos como profesor invitado en nuestra asignatura de Seminario de Clínica II al Dr. Michael Ciszek, Vicepresidente de VOSH International y director de los capítulos SVOSH, graduado cum laude de la Illinois College of Optometry. El doctor nos habló acerca de los lentes híbridos y nos presentó algunos casos clínicos. Está charla es parte del apoyo brindado por VOSH International a nuestro capítulo SVOSH-UES. Mil gracias por su apoyo!!'. Below the text is a video player showing a man speaking in a Zoom meeting. At the bottom, there are two thumbnails for other posts, one titled 'Presentando Microsoft Business Applications y Office' and another titled 'RV Hombre 47 años Queratocoma avanzado'.

Support Global Optometric Education

Mentorship Program



Foster relationships and mutual learning amongst our US chapters and international chapters

Support Global Optometric Education

Education and Research

Offering COPE accredited education

Development of research capacities
Of our international chapters

School Screening Working Group



Support Global Optometric Education

Technology Transfer Program

Refurbished equipment donated to international schools of optometry: Haiti, Mexico, Dominican Republic, Vietnam, Nicaragua

And to US chapters providing local care in Nebraska and Virginia



Vision Instruments Program



New pilot program

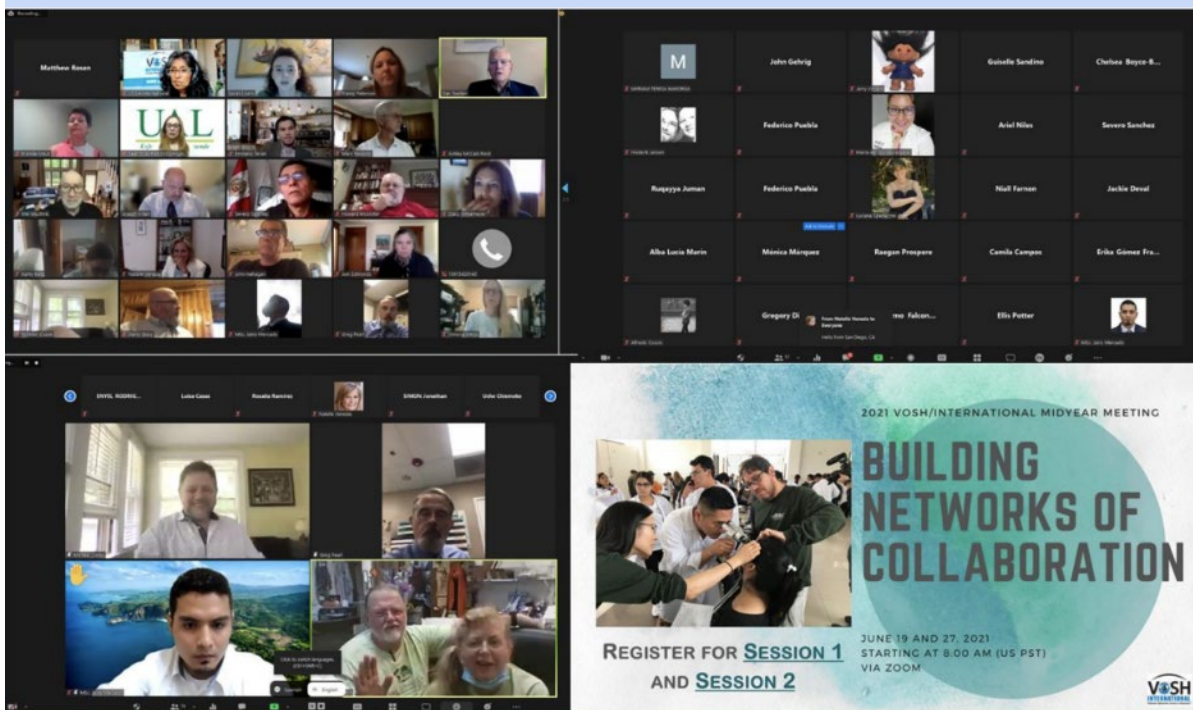
Supporting young
graduates in low- and
middle-income countries

Support Global Optometric Education



Meetings and Networking

Hybrid format allows for in-person networking while facilitating participation from our international chapters



The impact VOSH has had on me

