

AIO Announces Full Conference Programme

- Vaughan Gething AM, Welsh Cabinet Secretary for Health, Well-being and Sport to address the Conference
- Over 20 CET points available

The AIO has now published the full programme for its 2016 Conference to be held at The Vale Resort in Cardiff on 9th and 10th October.

The main lecture programme includes Dr Chris Purslow speaking about Nutrition and the Eye, Prof James Loughman on Paediatrics and Myopia and Prof Andrew Quantock talking about Cornea Transparency and Structure. Dr Colin Chu will lecture on Ocular Gene Therapy and to round out the programme Ian Sexton F.B.D.O. CL will present on the 'Exciting New World of Mini Sclerals'

There will be a special feature event at this year's Conference that is specifically aimed at those who aspire to own their own Independent Practice. There will be a range of speakers talking about all the aspects of buying into a practice or setting one up from scratch, and one-to-one sessions available to speak to a number of experts on the subject. Three Independents who recently set up their own practices will recount their experiences and identify some of their learning points for delegates.

Students from the local Cardiff School of Optometry are also invited for a special Sunday afternoon session with speakers from The College of Optometrists explaining about work based assessment programs and the all-important OSCEs. Newly qualified AIO members will be there to answer any student questions about pre reg in Independent practice and a College representative will discuss any queries about supervising pre reg students. AIO certainly hopes to give the students a taste for future Independent Practice.

The Conference session on Monday will be opened by Vaughan Gething AM, the Welsh Cabinet Secretary for Health, Well-being and Sport who will present on Health and Eye care service provision policy for Wales. This will be followed by lectures on Electronic marketing and social media and Behavioural Optometry and a presentation on IC (the Independents Code).

With a range of workshops and break-out sessions offering over 20 CET points for both Optometrists and Dispensing Opticians, the 2016 Conference is a very wide ranging event. Add in the usual excellent AIO social programme, an extensive 2 day Sponsors exhibition and the excellent facilities of The Vale and there really is something for everybody this year.

Peter Warren, AIO Chairman said 'I am really looking forward to this year's Conference which will be the first time that we have ventured into Wales. I am delighted that Vaughan Gething has agreed to address the Conference to provide some insight into eye care provision in Wales. I would encourage all Independents throughout the UK to make a point of coming to the AIOs annual flagship event.'

For more information or to book your place call 0800 1300 486, e-mail admin@aiovision.org or visit www.aiovision.org