



**INSTITUT
ET CENTRE
D'OPTOMÉTRIE**
INTERNATIONAL COLLEGE
OF OPTOMETRY

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Optometry Colleges Sign MoU At SILMO 2014



A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Institut Et Centre D' Optometrie, France and Lotus College of Optometry, India on September 26 at Silmo Paris. Prema Chande, Incharge, Lotus College of Optometry and Claude Delhomme, Director of ICO signed the MoU.

The objective behind signing the MoU is to provide Master of Optometry in India for students from France, and in future, to facilitate a PhD programme there. The programme will be offered in collaboration with Chitkara University, India. The objective is to promote clinical optometry and higher education in India and France, and ensure that students have a global exposure and learn from best practices.

ICO and Lotus College have had a partnership programme since 2007. The colleges have renewed the same with a target of higher education this time.

Talking about the future plans of Lotus College, Prema Chande said that a PhD programme with a good research

facility in Vision Sciences is in the offing for interested students in India. This initiative will open up more scope for further research and development in the field.

Stating that the experience at Silmo is always overwhelming, she added, "Our students participate every year at the Academy as part of the ICO partnership since 2011, and the experience is wonderful. Thanks to Silmo, ICO and Visionsolidev for facilitating it."

Claude Delhomme explained that the MoU provides an opportunity for their students to specialise in clinical optometry with a rich international experience, and the possibility to discover another culture. She added, "In France, the government is introducing reforms in the professions linked to Vision Health, which the health practitioners want to turn to a collaborative work. At the ICO, we are waiting for changes in legislation and are preparing our students for these developments."

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