

## PREFACE

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The Ophthalmological Society of the West Indies (OSWI) is delighted to host its 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting in Barbados.

This year's scientific programme contains an eclectic mixture of free papers, symposia, posters and videos, delivered by presenters from the Caribbean, North America and the United Kingdom. Abstracts from most of these presentations are included in this publication.

The eponymous Garth Taylor Memorial Lecture will be given by Dr Sherif El-Defrawy, Professor and Chair, Department of Ophthalmology and Vision Sciences, University of Toronto, and the Ophthalmologist-in-Chief at Kensington Eye Institute. He has volunteered many times, travelling with the Canadian National Institute for the Blind's "Eye Van", providing eye healthcare in remote northern Canadian communities. Dr El-Defrawy has served on the ORBIS Flying Eye Hospital to underserved areas of Mongolia, Syria and Ethiopia, among other countries. He will be giving his lecture on "Teaching Residents Phaco Surgery: Pearls and Pitfalls".

Attendees to the meeting will also be exposed to the latest technology in cataract and corneal surgery, glaucoma,

retina and in ocular imaging. Our industry partners will showcase their products in the usual manner. We hope that all will visit the floor and lend their support.

This year's meeting has its usual complement of social and sporting events. This gives participants the opportunity to interact in a more leisurely environment.

It remains my vision that OSWI will become the representative body for all things ophthalmic in the Caribbean region, along the lines of the American Academy of Ophthalmology. This vision includes establishing regional, collaborative training programmes for all ophthalmic personnel, providing human capital support to ophthalmic communities that are less resource rich from those that are, advocating and articulating ophthalmic policy for the present and the future, and continuing our legacy for many years to come.

**Dr Nigel Barker**  
**President**  
**OSWI**