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## College of Syntonic Optometry celebrated its 75th anniversary with its Annual Meeting

May 4–6, 2007, Kansas City, MO, USA

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The College of Syntonic Optometry (CSO) held its annual meeting in Kansas City (MO, USA) on May 4–6, 2007. International as well as US speakers shared the lecture podium and addressed attendees from not only the USA but also Australia, Belgium, Germany, Switzerland, Ireland, Canada and Brazil.

Pierre van Obberghenon from Switzerland spoke on 'Phosphenism: after-image treatment for reading problems'. The attendees participated in an interactive session utilizing candles as the source for the afterimage. Various members were asked to share their observations utilizing the created afterimage. This exercise is recommended as a tool to improve visual attention.

Stuart Hameroff, Professor Emeritus, Anesthesiology and Psychology Director, Center for Consciousness Studies, University of Arizona (USA), spoke on the quantum optics of the cilia and its role in vision and consciousness. Very detailed illustrations were given to explain the role of cilia throughout biology and how they act as photon detectors. The two distinct sets of laws governing matter and energy versus quantum mechanics were also explored.

Robert Crago, Psychologist (University of Arizona), shared the latest statistics and role of environmental toxins in health and neurobehavioral therapies. The role of various environmental toxins, such as pesticides, lead, mercury,

and mold, on cognitive behavior were illustrated with case studies. Quantitative EEG assessments with slides of brain mappings were discussed to show the correlation between brain function and behaviors. Case studies to further explain current treatment using neurotherapy for brain injuries were given.

Several members of the CSO board participated in teaching the workshop for the Basic Course in Syntonic Optometry for practitioners new to this field. Charles Butts, Dean Emeritus of the College and the father of modern optometric syntonic phototherapy, was on hand to personally explain the essential tests required for determining an accurate diagnosis and treatment plan. Butts demonstrated these tests with a special-needs patient so that the attendees could appreciate the nuances of administering these unique tests, as well as the importance and relevance of each test.

Butts began with having the audience observe the patient's gait and head posture to predict the patient's functional visual fields. The Butts String Test was used to expand on the prediction of the patient's functional visual field by observing the patient's fixation on the target and the loss of binocular function as the target approached the eyes. The  $\alpha\omega$ -pupil was demonstrated to show the initial pupil size, the briskness and size of the pupil when stimulated with a direct light and, finally, the time lapsed before the pupil failed to hold constriction.

Attendees new to optometric syntonic phototherapy then divided into groups for a hands-on laboratory to become more familiar with the clinical aspects of measuring the functional visual fields, the  $\alpha\omega$ -pupil, and the outcome of the Butts String Test. Mentors from the College, as well as trustees from the CSO board, were on hand to guide the new members during these exercises and to answer questions.

Pauline Allen, owner of the Sound Learning Centre (London, UK), spoke on 'AIT, Auditory Integration Therapy, and Syntonics'. Allen discussed some of the results from over 1000 cases in which syntonics was used with auditory integration therapy to improve visual fields, hearing profiles, social interaction and learning.

Ambika Wauters, homeopath and author of 15 books on holistic health, addressed the ten different color remedies made with light-infused water at homeopathic dilutions for treating emotional and physical conditions. She also discussed how these homeopathic color remedies could be used with syntonics.

Karl Ryberg, a descendent of Nobel prize winner Neils Finsen, who won the Nobel Prize in 1903 for his pioneering work in light therapy, is an architect, psychologist and color therapist. He invented the Monochrom Light Dome, which is now used in ten countries. He discussed how the Gonzo field projections of brilliant narrowband light in the visible spectrum work, who it helps and how it is used. Ryberg runs a center in Stockholm (Sweden) where patients receive Monochrom Light Therapy.

As is the custom, Larry Wallace, President of the CSO and Ray Gottlieb, Dean of the College, wrapped up the conference by reviewing the exciting research and leading ideas regarding phototherapy and syntonic optometry. Topics such as color vector analysis, illuminated physiology and

medical use of light, DNA, the information hub, photons and phonons, and bioholograms, were all summarized from the past research studies found worldwide.

Those interested in obtaining videos or audios from the sessions from the 75th anniversary of the College of Syntonic Optometry may contact Backcountry Productions, 4420 1/2 Driftwood Place, Boulder, CO 80301, USA; telephone +1 303 530 3153 or

email watersink@aol.com and request a listing of the CDs and DVDs from the conference.

Next year's CSO Annual Meeting will be held in Phoenix (AZ, USA). Look for future announcements as to specific dates and speakers.

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