Dear Colleagues and Alumni,

We would like to invite you to the School of Optometry and Vision Science Alumni Continuing Education event on Friday 28th March, 2014, for a look into the future of low vision rehabilitation while enjoying cocktails and refreshments with your colleagues and staff of the School.

We are very fortunate to have Dr Russell Woods from the Schepens Eye Research Institute and Department of Ophthalmology from Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA, come to speak to us about the difficulties faced by our patients with low vision who try to watch television and the new methods which are being developed to assist our patients. We hope to see you there.

Professor Fiona Stapleton  
Head, School of Optometry and Vision Science

When: Friday, 28th March 2014

Where: School of Optometry and Vision Science, University of New South Wales, Kensington Campus (enter Gate 14, Barker Street)

Schedule: 6:30-7.10 pm: Registration / Cocktail Reception - UNSW Optometry Clinic  
7.10-7.15 pm: Official Welcome and Address  
Professor Fiona Stapleton  
Head, School of Optometry and Vision Science, UNSW  
7.15-8.15 pm: Presentation by Dr Russell Woods  
Watching television and vision with impaired vision  
8.15 pm: Close

RSVP: by Friday, 21st March, 2014 to optomalumni@unsw.edu.au
Enquiries may be directed to (02) 9385 5287.

CPD points applied for: 2
More about the speaker:

Dr Russell Woods

BOptom(Hons, UNSW), MCOptom (UK), PhD, FAAO, is a Scientist at the Schepens Eye Research Institute, Boston, USA and Assistant Professor at the Department of Ophthalmology, Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA. His previous positions include clinical practice at the Moorfields Eye Hospital and London Refraction Hospital in the UK, private practice in the UK and Australia. He has lectured at the Department of Vision Sciences, Glasgow Caledonian University, UK and has worked as a researcher at Queensland University of Technology and the Cornea and Contact Lens Research Unit, UNSW. He has won numerous awards including the Harvard Medical School 50th Anniversary Scholars in Medicine Alice J Adler Fellowship and the Pilkington Research Scholarship. He is presently working in the field of low vision rehabilitation.

Abstract

Watching Television and Video with Impaired Vision: People with reduced central vision often report difficulty watching television and video (e.g. on computer or portable device), yet they usually do not use any visual aid other than sitting close. Enhancement of the electronic image has the potential to improve the viewing experience. Contrast enhancement, edge enhancement and intelligent electronic magnification methods for people with central vision loss will be illustrated. Some solutions to the vexing problem of measuring benefit from video enhancements will be described. Recently, we have noted that people with hemianopia also report difficulties watching television. While they report less difficulty than people with central vision loss, our measure shows that they can have as much difficulty following the story. Preliminary results of a novel method to help people with hemianopia watch television will be reported.