

## WSPOS SECRETARIAT : Our People Behind the Scenes



**Deirdre Canning**

WSPOS Project Manager  
Dublin, Ireland



**Akhila Acharya**

WSPOS Executive Assistant –  
Administrative Services  
Hyderabad, India



**Kamilla Engen**

WSPOS Global Intern  
London, UK

While our Project Manager Deirdre Canning operates from Dublin, Ireland; our Executive Assistant – Administrative Services Akhila Acharya works out of Hyderabad, India. We also have a Global Intern Kamilla Engen, who volunteers her services from London, UK.

Our Project Manager Deirdre Canning has been working with WSPOS since July 2016. Deirdre's main responsibilities are to oversee the day-to-day tasks of WSPOS including managing both the WSPOS Sub Specialty days and the WSPOS World Congresses. A large part of this includes preparing the Scientific Programs, coordinating all invited speakers, Free Paper Presenters and Poster presenters. Her role also includes the overseeing of all congress related activities such as liaising with WSPOS exhibitors in relation to Industry representation at the WSPOS meetings, the strategical and logistical planning of events which includes all WSPOS congress related Advertisements, Graphics, Marketing, Logistics, registration onsite set up and attending to general queries that delegates have (if any). Deirdre also works alongside the WSPOS Executive and Scientific Bureau preparing Agendas, Minutes and all business related documentation.

Our Executive Assistant – Administrative Services Akhila Acharya has been with us since February 2016. Foremost among Akhila's roles is to help generate the content for the bimonthly WSPOS Newsletter. She also contacts ophthalmologists all over the globe with the intention of integrating eye care specialists for strabismus, children with eye diseases and adults with ocular motility problems the world over. If the country has a National Paediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus Organisation in addition to a National Ophthalmology Organisation, they are invited to join WSPOS as a Member Society. If they have a National Ophthalmology Organisation but no National Paediatric Ophthalmology & Strabismus Organisation, they are invited to become a Chapter with web hosting by the WSPOS. Akhila is instrumental in making sure the WSPOS website is up-to-date at any given point in time. She is in regular contact with representatives from all WSPOS's Member Societies & Chapters, urging them to send in any updates with regards to their local meetings, etc. & makes sure they are duly updated on the WSPOS website from time to time. Functioning in tandem with Deirdre, Akhila also helps coordinate WSPOS sessions at International Symposia in conjunction with the Scientific Bureau members, in addition to assisting with the development of Consensus statements issued by the WSPOS. Working

alongside the WSPOS Scientific Bureau members, Akhila helps coordinate Areas of Research Collaborations (aRcs) as well as contacts Key Opportune Global Hubs (KOGHs) to apply for Federal Wide Assurances (FWAs) in collaboration with Lauren Bolling, Research Assistant to Dr. Ken Nischal at UPMC.

Our Global Intern Kamilla Engen has been volunteering with the WSPOS since September 2016. Her role is to assist with researching and compilation of information required by WSPOS. She has so far been involved in procuring some extremely valuable information for us. She has helped locate ophthalmologists in each & every country of Africa. These ophthalmologists will be contacted by us in an attempt to integrate eye care specialists for strabismus, children with eye diseases and adults with ocular motility problems the world over. These countries will be invited to join the WSPOS as either Member Societies / Chapters with web hosting by us. She has also helped the WSPOS by acquiring a list of all the countries of the world with a special emphasis on war-torn countries. All the information provided by Kamilla will be used for purposes relevant to WSPOS' goals.