



Jorge Valdez, MD
Chair, Pan-American Ophthalmological Foundation



Dear Friends and Colleagues:

We are coming to the closing of 2018, and it has been an incredible year, full of new initiatives for the Pan-American Ophthalmological Foundation (PAOF) to support the educational programs of the Pan-American Association of Ophthalmology (PAAO). It is thanks to the generosity of our donors, large and small, that we are transforming the lives of so many talented Young Ophthalmologists in the Americas. One of our goals as the Chair of the Pan-American Foundation is to let the people of the Americas all the right things the Pan-American is doing.

Next year we will be having the 34th Pan-American Congress of Ophthalmology in Cancun, Mexico. We welcome you to come to our home country to enjoy Mexican hospitality. Will be an excellent opportunity to learn the latest advances in medicine and technology and to meet with old friends and to make new friends. We will be telling you in upcoming issues about the Pan-American Foundation ticketed activities we are organizing to help support the PAAO's educational programs: the PAOF traditional gala dinner, the golf tournament, and the Young Ophthalmologists Eye Ball Party.

It is our goal as Chair of the Pan-American Foundation is to keep growing and to make sure the Pan-American community knows and understands all the right things we

are doing. We are am going to strive to get more financial support so that the Pan-American Association can create more educational programs. We will keep you informed of our progress.

We want to continue to impact Ophthalmology of the Americas with targeted programs such as our Curso de Liderazgo, the Pan-American Research Day and the opportunity to get published in the Pan-American Journal of Ophthalmology. The Pan-American is not just for a few people: we want all ophthalmologists to find opportunities for networking, learning, and growth within the Pan-American programs.

Once again, we would like to thank all of our donors and volunteers for making the Pan-American what it is today. We want to thank our industry partners for their essential support. And finally, we I would like to thank the Board of Directors and Pan-American staff for all their hard work.

It is a privilege to serve our Pan-American community. would like to wish you all a happy and healthy Holiday Season. May your 2019 be filled with peace and prosperity.

Best regards,

Jorge Eugenio Valdez Garcia
Chair, PAOF