



It is with great reluctance that the Physicians and Staff of Eye Center South in alliance with The Eye Education Foundation announce that we will not be hosting the 33rd annual continuing eye education seminar in February 2021 due to COVID-19 epidemiological projections and governmental public health restrictions and precautions.

This was a very difficult decision because it is the one time of year that we get to enjoy the camaraderie of so many great colleagues, friends, vendors and guest speakers being immersed in hours of continuing education.

We truly enjoy everything about that first weekend in February: Friday morning greeting friends and colleagues we may not have seen in a long time, meeting new colleagues, listening to the interesting speakers, the breaks when we get to share laughs and get caught up with everyone, the vendor booths exhibiting new equipment, technology and products, the long day Saturday when everyone is getting a little antsy and looking forward to the banquet Saturday night, to the sleepy guests that wander in a little slower on Sunday for the final stretch. We will certainly miss all of this and you in 2021.

Many of you have been attending this seminar for decades and there may be a few that have never missed a year. It deeply saddens us to think we will break this tradition and hope that you understand our decision.

Both universities that have accredited the meeting in the past have halted their staff and students from any school-related travel. They cannot even begin to guess when this will end.

We know that no matter the circumstances, we must prioritize the health and safety of all of you and our staff, vendors, and speakers. Our safest choice is to assume that the current social distancing protocols will still be necessary in February. Logistically - given the popularity of this event - it wouldn't be feasible for us to accommodate six feet of space between individuals. Given our current reality, we cannot guarantee the same in-person experience our attendees have come to expect.

We tried to conceive of a virtual option that would live up to our in-person seminar, but the famous quote by Catherine Bybee was our final decision maker: "Do it right or don't do it at all."

We wanted to get this information out early so that you can make alternative plans for your continuing education. As always, we remain committed to delivering the latest in research, education, and technology to our community of providers. We look forward to seeing you in 2022 and we promise to deliver a very special weekend to make up for 2021!

Sincerely,

Harsha Sen, MD  
Symposium Director