



Foreword

The International Symposium on Visual Physiology, Environment and Perception (VisPEP) is a collaborative project of scientists from three Baltic countries (Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania). The main aim of the Symposium is to promote cooperation and communication between researchers and research fields, as well as to exchange information on the state-of-the-art research and equipment in various topics of vision science:

- Visual physiology (accommodation, binocular eye movements, pupil physiology);
- Environment (lighting, visual fatigue, technology of visual stimuli);
- Visual perception (visual attention, colour perception, spatial vision);
- Clinical studies (clinical studies in optometry – clinical cases, diagnostics, and treatment).

VisPEP conference takes place biannually. Previous symposiums were held in Riga (Latvia, VisPEP2016) and in Vilnius (Lithuania, VisPEP2018). Now it was the turn for Tallinn to host the conference. The 3rd VisPEP symposium was held at Tallinn University on 12–13 November 2021, preceded by workshops on 11 November at Tallinn Health Care College. The workshops and conference were organized by the School of Natural Sciences and Health (Tallinn University) in cooperation with the Department of Optometry and Vision Science (University of Latvia) and the School of Optometry (Tallinn Health Care College). During the two days of the conference, oral contributions were delivered along with poster presentations. All the information about VisPEP 2021 is available at its homepage <https://konverentsikeskus.tlu.ee/en/vispep2021>

On behalf of the Organizing Committee of the VisPEP 2021 conference, we have the pleasure of introducing this special issue of selected papers presented at the symposium. The special issue of the *Proceedings of the Estonian Academy of Sciences* dedicated to VisPEP2021 consists of eight papers, five from the field of optometry and three relating to psychology.

Kristine Kalnica-Dorosenko with her colleagues from the University of Latvia examined the possibility of implementing a novel method, the use of a specialized computer game for amblyopia treatment. Alina Kucika and her colleagues from the University of Latvia were interested in the effect of distance on the accuracy of subjective refraction assessment. Linda Krauze and her research team from the University of Latvia investigated spatial perception in augmented reality depending on the consistency of depth cues. Evita Kassaliete with her colleagues from the University of Latvia conducted a study to measure accommodation response in various design soft contact lens wearers. Gatis Ikaunieks and his team from the University of Latvia focused on examining the effect of blue-light-blocking lenses on retinal straylight.

Valeri Murnikov from Tallinn University conducted an explorative study to examine the relationship between visual perception and word meaning structure. Kristjan Kask and his colleagues from Tallinn University conducted two different studies to examine aspects in accurate eyewitness identification.

The Organizing Committee would like to thank all the speakers, contributors, session chairs, reviewers of submitted manuscripts, and other involved staff for their efforts in making the VisPEP 2021 successful. We hope that the conference will strengthen international cooperation between scientists of the Baltic States and researchers from other countries. We would also like to acknowledge and thank all the sponsors who have contributed to the conference and the publication of the special issue of the *Proceedings of the Estonian Academy of Sciences*: Instrumentarium Eesti, KSA Silmakeskus, Eagle Vision, OC Vision, Pro Optika, Alcon, OXXO Optikatarvete OÜ and Estonian Optometrists' Association.

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