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**Harvard Fellowship supports future direction of the Lions Eye Institute.**

Lions Eye Institute (LEI) Managing Director Professor David Mackey has joined not-for-profit sector leaders from around the world at the famed Harvard Business School to further hone his leadership and strategic skills.

Professor Mackey was awarded a Harvard Club of Australia's 2014 Fellowship to attend the *Strategic Perspectives in Non-profit Management* course in Boston last month.

"This was one of the best experiences I have had in my professional development," he said.

"The course covered a range of themes: formulating strategy in complex environments; achieving internal alignment with strategic vision; managing key inter- and intra-organisational relationships; bridging mission and market and leadership change.

"I returned with notes, books, ideas, new friends, but most importantly a renewed passion for leading strategy to enable the LEI to fulfil its mission 'to achieve excellence in scientific research and clinical practice to prevent blindness'."

Professor Mackey said the course would help him guide strategic direction for the LEI over coming years.

"Although the majority of the 159 attendees were Americans, international students accounted for 38 per cent with 15 Australians making the largest international contingent," he said.

"Backgrounds varied from the social services, arts, education and health sectors.

“Harvard Business School is famous for its case study method of teaching and of particular personal interest was a case study involving the Aravind Eye Hospital in India.”

The Harvard Club Fellowship also allowed Professor Mackey to visit comparable organisations in the United States.

He spent several days in Salt Lake City, Utah, visiting the Moran Eye Center, which is similar in size and structure to the LEI.

“This was highly informative and provided many ideas for renovating our clinics in Western Australia,” he said.

Professor Mackey also met with research collaborators from Boston and San Francisco.

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