

CIOMP: The Cradle of China's Optics

Ming Xuan



CIOMP

The Changchun Institute of Optics, Fine Mechanics and Physics celebrates 60 years of achievement.

The year 2012 marks the 60th anniversary of the Changchun Institute of Optics, Fine Mechanics and Physics (CIOMP), which is the largest institute of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS). From 14 to 19 September, the institute celebrated the occasion with a special program in conjunction with the International OSA Network of Students (IONS) meeting and the International Conference on Photonics Trends 2012. More than 300 internationally respected optical experts, young researchers and students attended the conferences, including a delegation from OSA.

Founded in 1952, CIOMP is a multidisciplinary institute that covers the research areas of luminescence, applied optics, optical engineering and precision mechanics and instruments. It has been led by a group of scientists represented by Wang Daheng and Xu Xurong.

CIOMP's scientists, engineers and students engage in fundamental and applied research, engineering and high-tech industrialization. They have developed more than a dozen advanced instruments that were firsts in China, including the first ruby laser and the first large theodolite.

Honored as "the cradle of China's Optics," CIOMP has organized and sponsored more than 10 research institutes, colleges and enterprises, including the Shanghai Institute of Optics and Fine Mechanics and the Xi'an Institute of Optics and Precision Mechanics. Among the many outstanding individuals

to come out of CIOMP is Jiang Zhuying, who became a model for Chinese intellectuals.

CIOMP has been involved in many important national projects, including space station engineering and the "Two Bombs, One Star" project on atomic and hydrogen bomb technology.

As it entered the new century, the institute merged with the Changchun Institute of Physics with the goal of integrating research, production and education. CIOMP has established five national key laboratories and two CAS key labs.

Among the many recent achievements of CIOMP scientists are an FY-3 solar irradiance monitor, a solar backscattered ultraviolet spectroradiometer, and important test equipment for the manual docking of the ShenZhou 9 spacecraft. The sales income of nine high-tech industries that CIOMP invested in has been over 30 billion RMB.

Moving forward, CIOMP will continue its efforts to build one of the best scientific institutions in the world. Its leaders plan to establish several new innovation units, such as branch institutes, core enterprises, professional training centers and postgraduate educational centers.

Following OSA's recent visit to CIOMP, OSA President Tony Heinz said, "CIOMP embarks on the next 60 years not only with excellent facilities, but with excellent young colleagues to define optical science and technology in the coming years." **OPN**

Ming Xuan is the president of CIOMP.

60 Years and ...

3,255 master's or doctoral degrees given

1,832 staff

1,700 research projects

965 enrolled grad students

900 patented research results

450 projects that earned awards

34 national awards

13 research departments, labs and centers

10 sponsored institutions

1 special national award