OSA Congratulates 2012 Nobel Prize Winners in Physics

Wineland developed a method for using lasers to cool ions to absolute zero, which allows scientists to study atoms without disturbing their quantum states. His research contributed to the Nobel Prize-winning work in laser cooling and trapping by OSA members Steven Chu, William Phillips and Claude Cohen-Tannoudji in 1997, as well as that of OSA members Eric Cornell, Wolfgang Ketterle and Carl Wieman, who received the 2001 Nobel for creating the first Bose-Einstein condensate. Haroche is known for his work in quantum coherence; his experiments involve trapping photons between two mirrors to study their quantum state. The work of the two scientists has led to the development of extremely accurate atomic clocks and helped launch the field of quantum computing.

“The contributions by David and Serge are widely recognized in the optics community, and their work has had significant effects on our understanding of particles and their quantum states,” said OSA CEO Elizabeth Rogan.

Wineland received his Ph.D. in physics from Harvard in 1970 and received the National Medal of Science, the American Physical Society’s Arthur L. Schawlow Prize in Laser Science, and OSA’s Herbert Walther Award and Frederic Ives Medal. Haroche received his Ph.D. in 1971 from Université Pierre et Marie Curie in Paris. He received the Quantum Electronics Prize from the European Physical Society, and OSA’s Charles Hard Townes and Herbert Walther awards.

Congratulations to Tillyer Award Recipient

On 15 September 2012, Gerald H. Jacobs, University of California, Santa Barbara, U.S.A., was presented with the Edgar D. Tillyer Award at the OSA Fall Vision Meeting in Rochester, N.Y., U.S.A. The Tillyer Award is given in recognition of distinguished work in the field of vision. Jacobs was honored for his contributions to the fundamental understanding of the biological mechanisms underlying color vision, and for pioneering comparative studies that have revealed the nature, variations and evolution of primate color vision.

OSA-Sponsored Student Award Presented at ROMOPTO 2012

Congratulations to Liviu Duta of the National Institute for Lasers, Plasma and Radiation Physics in Romania, on being awarded an OSA-sponsored student best paper award at the Micro- to Nano-Photonics III - ROMOPTO 2012 held in Bucharest, Romania, in September.

Townes Receives Golden Goose Award

Laser pioneer and OSA Honorary Member Charles Townes was recognized on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C., recently at the first annual Golden Goose Awards. The awards, spearheaded by U.S. Congressman Jim Cooper [D-Tenn.], celebrate researchers whose federally funded research yielded significant benefits to society. Townes’ work in the 1950s led to the invention of laser technology and ultimately earned him a Nobel Prize in 1964. At the time of his initial discovery, the laser was considered a “solution looking for a problem”—today it is virtually everywhere.
Edward Leamington Nichols
Early Honorary Member

Seventy five years ago this month, OSA lost one of its first honorary members, but his legacy lives on.

The investigational work of Edward L. Nichols contributed to almost every branch of physics that was active around the Society’s founding in 1916. His early work was in physiological optics and illumination, and he later focused his efforts on luminescence of solids and liquids. In recognition for his tremendous contributions, Nichols received several awards, including the first OSA Frederic Ives Medal in 1929.

He was born in 1854 in Leamington, England, to American parents. He obtained his B.S. from Cornell University, U.S.A., in 1875, worked in Leipzig, Germany, from 1875 to 1878, and received a Ph.D. in Goettingen, Germany, in 1879. After a year as a physics fellow at Johns Hopkins University, U.S.A., he worked with Thomas Edison at his Menlo Park laboratory from 1880 to 1881. There, he developed the first commercial photometer to measure the candlepower of incandescent lamps.

At the first meeting of the newly organized Optical Society of America in December 1916, Nichols was selected by the 30 charter members to serve as one of three honorary members to the new society. The others were Charles S. Hastings and George Ellery Hale.

Nichols taught at several universities, including the Central University of Kentucky, from 1881 to 1883, and the University of Kansas from 1883 to 1887, before settling again at Cornell until 1919. He was one of the founders of the journal Physical Review. He wrote books on physics and electricity and articles on physiological optics, photometry and illumination—14 of which appeared in the Journal of the Optical Society of America.

His enthusiasm for the field inspired a new generation of researchers. —John N. Howard
PUBLICATIONS

OSA Launches Joint Journal with SIOM

On 13 September, OSA President Tony Heinz and CEO Liz Rogan attended the official signing ceremony for Photonics Research, OSA’s new joint journal with the Shanghai Institute of Optics and Fine Mechanics (SIOM), China. James Zhou of Peking University, China, has been named the inaugural editor-in-chief of the journal; he was presented with a plaque during the ceremony.

Photonics Research will primarily publish original research along with review articles. Topics will cover a broad range of areas within optics and photonics—from basic to applied research. The journal will follow a cascading peer-review system—a first for OSA journals—which will benefit authors who may have submitted to another OSA journal but whose paper or topic area is more suited for this new publication. The journal will be open-access with a print edition specific to China. It will launch next June.

Welcome New Editors

We are happy to announce that Po Dong of Alcatel-Lucent Bell Labs, U.S.A., recently became a new associate editor for Optics Express. Also, Almut Beige of the University of Leeds, U.K., has joined the editorial board of JOSA B as a new topical editor.

Finally, we’d like to thank Glenn Boreman of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, U.S.A., Adrian Stern of the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel, and Vasan Venugopal of the University of California – Irvine, U.S.A., for graciously agreeing to serve second three-year terms as associate editors for Optics Express. We thank these members of the optics community for their support of OSA journals.

Thank You John Howard

The team of Optics & Photonics News sends a heartfelt thank you to John N. Howard, who for over a decade has served as a contributing editor for the magazine’s History of OSA column. At 91, John has decided to move on from the column and perhaps enjoy some of the retirement time he earned a long time ago.

As anyone who has read his column knows, John is a superb writer and storyteller. Time and time again, he has brought the history of our society to life for OSA members both young and old. He has been one of the most prolific and popular contributors to these pages. John has a long history of giving to OSA, whether by serving on the history committee, the board of directors, the presidential advisory committee, or as a journal editor. He is the founding editor of the OSA journal Applied Optics and retired chief scientist of the Air Force Geophysics Laboratory. Please drop John a line to let him know what his contributions have meant to you. He can be reached at johnnelsonhoward@gmail.com.

Thank You John Howard

You’re Invited: Member Reception in Chennai

All OSA members are cordially invited to join OSA Past President Chris Dainty and OSA CEO Liz Rogan for a reception scheduled in conjunction with the Photonics 2012 Conference on the campus of the IIT Madras in Chennai, India, at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, 10 December 2012. The Photonics 2012 conference will be held from 9 to 12 December. Please confirm your attendance by sending an email to tdemoraes@osa.org.
GLOBAL NEWS

Spanish Optical Society Meeting a Success
In September, the Spanish Optical Society held its annual meeting in Zaragoza, Spain. OSA guest speaker Adrian Glasser from the University of Houston College Of Optometry, U.S.A., provided a keynote address on the physiological optics of accommodation. Carlos Hernandez-Garcia of the Universidad de Salamanca, Spain, received the OSA best student paper award for his paper, “Temporal structure of ultra-high-order harmonic generation in the keV regime driven by mid-infrared lasers.” OSA also hosted a networking reception for conference attendees.

CIOMP Celebrates its 60th in Style
OSA leaders were invited to join the 60th anniversary celebration of the Changchun Institute of Optics, Fine Mechanics and Physics (CIOMP), 17-18 September in Changchun, China. Many dignitaries gathered in Changchun for this two-day celebration. They represented the Chinese Ministry of Science and Technology, the Chinese Academy of Science, the Chinese Academy of Engineering, the Chinese Optical Society and various universities from around China. Founded in 1952, CIOMP is known for its significant contributions to China’s science and technology development, economic construction and social progress, and it is honored as “The Cradle of China’s Optics.”

“The 60th anniversary of the CIOMP was a special event for the optics community in China and worldwide,” said OSA president Tony Heinz. “I would like to thank the CIOMP for the invitation to join the anniversary celebration, as well as for the very warm welcome we all received in Changchun.”

JSAP Annual Meeting
In September, OSA President Tony Heinz and OSA CEO Liz Rogan attended the 73rd Annual Japan Society of Applied Physics (JSAP) Autumn Meeting in Matsuyama, Japan. For the first time, JSAP and OSA co-sponsored English-language joint symposia at the conference, with two parallel sessions held over four days. As part of the JSAP-OSA Joint Symposia, Tony Heinz presented an invited talk, “Seeing electrons in graphene: A model 2-dimensional material.” Liz Rogan and Tony Heinz met with JSAP Officers and hosted an OSA reception during the conference.

OSA and COS Officers Meet
A delegation of OSA present and former officers met with the officers of the Chinese Optical Society (COS) on Friday, 14 September, at Peking University. OSA and COS have a long-standing partnership to further communication and collaboration among their members.
CALENDAR

OSA Optics and Photonics Conferences and Meetings

2013

Optical Fiber Communication Conference and Exposition/ National Fiber Optic Engineers Conference (OFC/NFOEC)
17–21 March 2013
Anaheim, Calif., U.S.A.
www.ofcnfoec.org

Optics in Life Sciences Congress
14–18 April 2013
Kona, Hawaii, U.S.A.
www.osa.org/Life_Sciences_Congress

European Conferences on Biomedical Optics (ECBO)
12–16 May 2013
Munich, Germany
www.osa.org/ecbo

CLEO: 2013—Laser Science to Photonic Applications (CLEO)
9–14 June 2013
San Jose, Calif., U.S.A.
www.cleofociety.org

Optical Interference Coatings
16–21 June 2013
Whistler, British Columbia, Canada
www.osa.org/oic

Imaging and Applied Optics Congress
23–27 June 2013
Arlington, Va., U.S.A.
www.osa.org/Imaging_Congress

Advanced Solid-State Lasers Congress
27 October–1 November 2013
Paris, France
www.osa.org/assl

Renewable Energy and the Environment Congress
4–7 November 2013
Tucson, Ariz., U.S.A.
www.osa.org/Renewable_Energy

In Memorium

Hyatt Gibbs
Distinguished Optical Physicist, Tireless Researcher

Hyatt M. Gibbs, an OSA Fellow and a professor emeritus of optical sciences at the University of Arizona College of Optical Sciences, died Monday, 3 September 2012, in France, after a long battle with mesothelioma. He was 74. Gibbs and his group at the University of Arizona College of Optical Sciences (OSC), U.S.A., were the first to observe true strong coupling in semiconductor cavity QED with a single quantum dot in a photonic crystal slab nanocavity. These important findings, which were pursued with colleague Galina Khitrova, are being optimized for telecommunications applications.

Prior to joining the faculty at OSC, Gibbs worked with the technical staff at Bell Labs. He also served as an exchange scientist with Philips Research Laboratories in Holland and as a visiting lecturer at Princeton University in the United States.

He earned numerous honors, including the 1984 Franklin Institute Michelson Medal and the 1998 Humboldt Research Award. Gibbs remained active in his research even after his retirement, and he continued working until two days before his death.

Visit www.osa.org for a longer tribute to Hyatt Gibbs. If you would like to make a memorial donation to the OSA Foundation in honor of Gibbs, please visit www.osafoundation.org/give.