



Left: Plenary speaker Margaret Murnane. Right: Speakers at the Optica Ambassador panel on working in academia, industry and government.

FiO LS and Laser Congress

From 23 to 26 September, the 2024 Frontiers in Optics + Laser Science (FiO LS) Conference, cosponsored by Optica and the American Physical Society, was held in Denver, CO, USA.

At two joint plenary sessions, **David Boas**, Boston University, USA, talked about measuring human brain function indicators by exploiting light absorption and speckle dynamics, and **Margaret Murnane**, University of Colorado, Boulder, USA, explored high-harmonic upconversion of femtosecond lasers as a high-resolution probe for assessing next-generation nano and quantum devices. Accessible “Visionary Speaker” sessions spanned topics including the changing landscape of augmented reality, optical guiding of ultra-high-intensity light, X-ray free-electron lasers for biological research, and quantum tech’s economic and societal value.

The weekend before the conference, the Optica Foundation hosted students from around the world at the Amplify Optics Immersion and Student Leadership programs. Other highlights included the annual FiO LS awards ceremony and reception; a “Career Zone,” which offered mock interviews, resume-writing assistance and LinkedIn profile reviews; and a panel of Optica Ambassadors from academia, industry and government, who had an animated discussion about working in the different segments of the optics community, moderated by 2023 Ambassador **Joshua Burrow**.

Attendees at both meetings also enjoyed opportunities to build relationships with their colleagues at networking activities and receptions.

2024 Optica Officer Elections

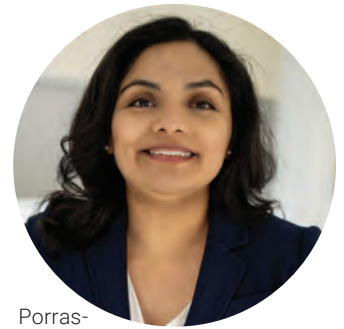
Optica members have elected **Turan Erdogan**, the president of Plymouth Grating Lab, USA, as the society’s 2025 vice president. **Christine P. Hendon**, Columbia University, USA, was elected as director-at-large for a three-year term starting January 2025. The election results were announced at the society’s annual business meeting, which was held on 23 September at the FiO LS conference in Denver, CO, USA.



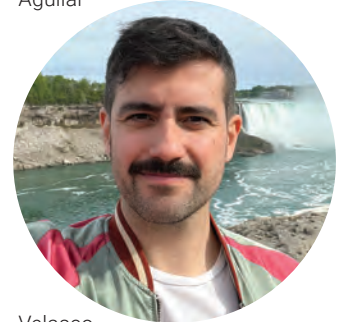
Erdogan



Hendon



Porras-Aguilar



Velasco

Celebrating Diversity and Inclusion

Optica has announced the 2024 winners of its Diversity & Inclusion Advocacy Recognition. **Rosario Porras-Aguilar**, University of North Carolina, USA, was cited for “her pioneering research in imaging techniques that will be more affordable and accessible to underserved communities and her impactful outreach and mentorship programs targeting communities under-represented in STEM.” **Aitor Villafraña Velasco**, Spanish National Research Council, Spain, won plaudits for “his tireless work to foster LGBTQIA+ awareness, provide mentorship, influence policy changes, and championing inclusive and equitable practices in research and industry.”

The recognition honors programs and accomplishments within the optics community that foster greater appreciation, advancement and celebration of diversity and inclusivity.

López-Casarín Named Advocate of Optics

Optica is pleased to announce that **Javier J. López-Casarín**, Mexican Federal Deputy, is the 2024 Advocate of Optics. López-Casarín has played an integral role in supporting and growing Mexico's optics and photonics community and industries. He has used his position as chair of the Science, Technology and Innovation Committee of the Mexican Chamber of Deputies to highlight the importance of optics as a key enabling technology for Mexico and the world.

The Optica Advocate of Optics global recognition is presented yearly to a public official who demonstrates leadership in support of the advancement of light science.



López-Casarín received the 2024 Advocate of Optics recognition from Optica Chief Scientist P. Scott Carney at a ceremony in Mexico City.



MAOP2024 in Armenia

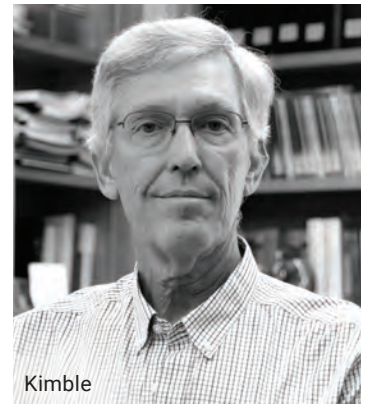
From 12 to 23 August, the Optica and SPIE joint student chapter at Yerevan State University, Armenia, hosted the first International College on Modern Applications of Optics and Photonics (MAOP2024). The event, which attracted 70 attendees from seven countries, included hands-on training and lectures in the optics labs of the university, plus panel discussions, invited and industry talks and a plenary address by **Ursula Keller**, ETH Zurich, Switzerland. Optica Ambassadors including **Tatevik Chalyan**, **Mateusz Szatkowski** and **Rodrigo Benevides** gave workshops on soft skills.

Optica Fellow Stories

Optica Fellow **Stephen T.C. Wong**, Weill Cornell Medicine, USA, has not followed a traditional career path. He has lived and worked in more than 10 countries in fields including optical communications, semiconductors, fabrication, biophotonics, medical imaging and even online brokerage. Wong has been driven by his ambition to excel as an engineer—and to address socioeconomically impactful challenges. Today, his research aims to enhance diagnosis and treatment in cancer, neurological disorders and metabolic diseases. Read more about Wong and other Fellows at optica.org/fellowprofiles.



Wong



Kimble

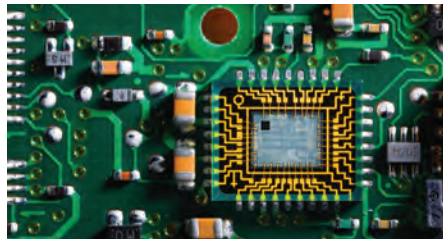
In Memoriam: H. Jeffrey Kimble

Optica mourns the loss of Optica Fellow **H. Jeffrey Kimble**, California Institute of Technology (Caltech), USA, who passed away on 2 September 2024 at the age of 75. Kimble's research focused on quantum information science and the quantum dynamics of open systems, including quantum measurement on various fronts, cavity quantum electrodynamics and the quantum-classical interface. He is noted for groundbreaking experiments, including one of the first demonstrations of teleportation of a quantum state and work on quantum squeezing. He also helped establish the Institute for Quantum Information and Matter (IQIM) at Caltech.

Kimble's numerous awards included the inaugural Leonard Mandel Quantum Optics Award, the Max Born Award, the Herbert Walther Award, the Einstein Prize for Laser Physics, the Albert A. Michelson Medal of the Franklin Institute and the International Award on Quantum Communication. He is survived by his wife, two daughters and three grandchildren, and is remembered as both a brilliant quantum scientist and devoted family man. For a full remembrance, visit optica.org/kimble-in-memoriam.

Digging into PICs

The Optica Online Industry Meeting “PIC Manufacturing, Packaging and Testing” took place on 27 August. Speakers including **Peter O’Brien**, Tyndall National Institute, Ireland; **Vikas Gupta**, Global Foundries, USA; and **Yasutaka Mizuno**, Sumitomo Electric Industries, Japan, delved into the significant transformations that packaging and testing of photonic integrated circuits (PICs) have undergone to align with mass manufacturing demands. They focused on exploring strategies for achieving high throughput and yield, which are crucial in today’s rapidly evolving technological landscape.



nikkytok / Getty Images



GEMM Initiative Expands

The **University of Waterloo**, Canada and the **Mexican Photonics Cluster** (Clúster Mexicano de Fotónica), Mexico, have joined the Global Environmental Measurement and Monitoring (GEMM) Initiative. This collaboration between Optica and the American Geophysical Union brings together scientists, engineers and policymakers to develop and implement cutting-edge photonics technologies for environmental monitoring. The partnership with

the University of Waterloo will leverage the expertise of its Waterloo Climate Institute research hub; the Mexican Photonics Cluster is the first organization in Latin America to join the network. Read more at optica.org/0924_gemm-expands.

Thank you, Optica Congress Strategy Committees

Optica Advanced Photonics Congress: **Lynda Busse**, US Naval Research Laboratory, USA; **Marija Furdek**, Chalmers Tekniska Högskola, Sweden; **Alexander L. Gaeta**, Columbia University, USA; **David Hillerkuss**, Infinera Corp., Austria (Chair); **Morten Ibsen**, University of Southampton, UK; **Jonathan Klamkin**, University of California, Santa Barbara, USA; **Winnie N. Ye**, Carleton University, Canada; **Seunghyup Yoo**, Korea Advanced Institute of Science & Technology, Republic of Korea; and **Qunbi Zhuge**, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China.

Optica Biophotonics Congress: **Kate L. Bechtel**, Triple Ring Technologies, USA; **Caroline Boudoux**, Polytechnique Montréal, Canada (Chair); **Paul M. W. French**, Imperial College London, UK; **Elizabeth M. C. Hillman**, Columbia University, USA; **Christine P. Hendon**, Columbia University, USA; **Xingde Li**, Johns Hopkins University, USA; **Jonathan Liu**, University of Washington, USA; **Laura Marcu**, University of California, Davis, USA; **Steven Neale**, University of Glasgow, UK; and **Maciej Wojtkowski**, Institute of Physical Chemistry, Poland (Chair-Elect).

Optica Imaging Congress: **Amit Ashok**, University of Arizona, USA; **Partha Banerjee**, University of Dayton, USA; **Gisele Bennett**, MEPSS LLC, USA; **James R. Fienup**, University of Rochester, USA; **Steven Fiorino**, Air Force Institute of Technology, USA; **Michael Gehm**, Duke University, USA; **Hong Hua**, University of Arizona, USA, (Chair-Elect); **Bahram Javidi**, University of Connecticut, USA; **Caroline Kulcsar**, Institut d’Optique Graduate School, France; **Dale C. Linne Von Berg**, US Naval Research Laboratory, USA; **Ram Narayanswamy**, Teaq Innovations, USA; **Pascal Picart**, Lab d’Acoustique de l’Univ du Maine, France (Chair); **Abbie T. Watnik**, US Naval Research Laboratory, USA.

Optica Sensing Congress: **Gilberto Brambilla**, University of Southampton, UK (Chair-Elect); **Adam J. Fleisher**, National Institute of Standards & Technology, USA (Chair); **Jianguo Liu**, Anhui Institute of Optics and Fine Mechanics, China; **Wesley Moses**, Naval Research Laboratory, USA; **Thomas Seeger**, Universität Siegen, Germany; **Kaley A. Walker**, University of Toronto, Canada; **Gerard Wysocki**, Princeton University, USA; and **Francis Vanier**, National Research Council Canada, Canada.

Optica Laser Congress: **Benoit Boulanger**, Neel Institute, Switzerland; **Francesca Calegari**, Deutsches Elektronen Synchrotron, Germany (Chair); **Scott Christensen**, IPG Photonics Corp., USA; **James Kafka**, Spectra-Physics/MKS, USA; **Greg Quarles**, Applied Energetics, Inc., USA; **Clara Saraceno**, Ruhr Universität Bochum, Germany (Chair-Elect); **Takunori Taira**, Institute for Molecular Science (IMS), Japan; **Johannes Trbola**, Trbola Engineering, Germany; and **Edward Watson**, University of Dayton, USA.

Thank You, Editors

We are happy to announce that the following individuals were recently appointed as new editors: *Biomedical Optics Express*—**Yu Chen**, Fujian Normal University, China; **Vivek Srinivasan**, New York University, USA; **Cuiru Sun**, Tianjin University, China. *Optics Continuum*—**Chih-Hsien Cheng**, National Institute of Information and Communication Technology, Japan; **Heejoo Choi**, University of Arizona, USA; **Richard Holmes**, Innoven Energy, Inc, USA; **Geminiano Martinez-Ponce**, Centro de Investigaciones en Optica AC, Mexico; **Charis Mesarikis**, University of the Aegean, Greece. *Optics Express*—**Weidong Chen**, Fujian Institute of Research on the Structure of Matter, China. *Optics Letters*—**Benjamin Brecht**, Paderborn University, Germany; **Matteo Clerici**, University of Insubria, Italy.

We would like to thank the following editors for agreeing to serve a second term: *Optics Letters*—**Karima Chah**, Université de Mons, Belgium.

We would like to thank the following editors, who have recently finished their terms, for their years of service: *Applied Optics*—**Liangbi Su**, Shanghai Institute of Ceramics, CAS, China. *JOSA B*—**Nahid Talebi**, Christian Albrechts University and Max Planck Institute, Germany; **Liangliang Zhang**, Capital Normal University, China. *Optics Express*—**Thomas Gerrits**, National Institute of Standards & Technology, USA; **Jose Sanchez-Gil**, Instituto de Estructura de la Materia, Spain. *Optics Letters*—**Javier A. Jo**, University of Oklahoma, USA; **Xun Li**, McMaster University, Canada.

Optica Events

Check event websites to confirm the meeting presentation format.

Industry Tutorial: Integrating Active Components in Low-Loss Photonic Integrated Circuits (PICs)

13 November 2024

optica.org/IndustryEvents

Optica Online Industry Meeting: LIDAR

19 November 2024

optica.org/IndustryEvents

Optica Quantum Industry Summit – Third Edition

19 – 20 November 2024

Bristol, UK

optica.org/IndustryEvents

Career Accelerator (Europe)

08 – 12 December 2024

Potsdam, Germany

optica.org/IndustryEvents

Optica British and Irish Conference on Optics and Photonics

18 – 20 December 2024

London, United Kingdom

optica.org/IndustryEvents

Optica Online Advanced Manufacturing Alliance Meeting

14 January 2025

optica.org/IndustryEvents

Optica Online Industry Meeting: Quantum Communication

21 January 2025

optica.org/IndustryEvents

Optica Industry VIP Executive Reception

27 January 2025

San Francisco, CA, USA

optica.org/IndustryEvents

Optica Online Industry Meeting: BioSensing

11 February 2025

optica.org/IndustryEvents

Optica Online Industry Meeting: PIC Packaging for Volume Production

25 February 2025

optica.org/IndustryEvents

Optica Online Industry Meeting: OLEDs, Micro & Mini LEDs

04 March 2025

optica.org/IndustryEvents

OFC Conference and Exhibition

Cosponsored by IEEE Communications Society, IEEE Photonics Society and Optica

Technical Conference:

30 March – 03 April 2025

Exhibition: 01 – 03 April 2025

San Francisco, CA, USA

OFCConference.org

Optica Executive Forum at OFC 2025

31 March 2025

San Francisco, CA, USA

optica.org/IndustryEvents

Optica Online Industry Meeting: Food Industry: Precision Agriculture and Food Safety

15 April 2025

optica.org/IndustryEvents

Optica Biophotonics Congress

20 – 24 April 2025

Coronado, CA, USA

optica.org/LifeSciencesOPC

CLEO Conference and Exhibition

Cosponsored by APS DLS, IEEE Photonics Society and Optica

Technical Conference:

04 – 09 May 2025

The CLEO HUB Exhibition:

06 – 08 May 2025

Long Beach, CA, USA

CLEOConference.org

Optica OIC – Optical Interference Coatings Conference

18 – 23 May 2025

Tucson, AZ, USA

optica.org/OIC

Optica Advanced Manufacturing Alliance 2025 at Heidelberg Instruments

21 – 22 May 2025

Heidelberg, Germany

optica.org/IndustryEvents

Optica Quantum 2.0 Conference and Exhibition

01 – 05 June 2025

San Francisco, CA, USA

optica.org/QuantumConference

Optica Design and Fabrication Congress

15 – 19 June 2025

Denver, CO, USA

optica.org/DesignFabOPC

European Conferences on Biomedical Optics

Presented by Optica and SPIE

22 – 26 June 2025

Munich, Germany

optica.org/ECBO

Optica Advanced Photonics Congress

13 – 17 July 2025

Marseille, France

optica.org/PhotonicsOPC

Optica Sensing Congress

20 – 24 July 2025

Long Beach, CA, USA

optica.org/SensingOPC

Optica Nonlinear Optics Topical Meeting

04 – 07 August 2025

Honolulu, HI, USA

optica.org/NLO

Optica Imaging Congress

18 – 21 August 2025

Seattle, WA, USA

optica.org/ImagingOPC

Optica Laser Congress and Exhibition

19 – 23 October 2025

Prague, Czechia

optica.org/LaserOPC

Frontiers in Optics + Laser Science Conference and Exhibition

Cosponsored by American Physical Society and Optica

26 – 30 October 2025

Denver, CO, USA

FrontiersInOptics.org

Request Information:

Receive notifications about meetings of interest, including reminders for Calls for Papers and registration.

optica.org/focus