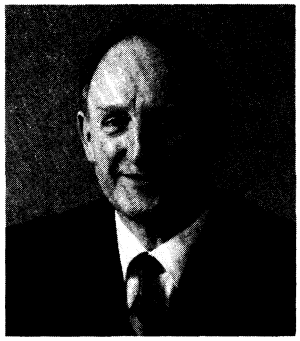

Special Issues, Special Sections, and Related Topics

Optical Engineering has made a point of providing its readers with a feature that gathers together a number of papers that are closely related on a timely topic of importance in optical engineering. As you know, these groupings of papers do not just happen—they are planned and scheduled. One of my responsibilities as Editor is to choose suitable topics and select a Guest Editor for each. Not incidentally, I am always interested in suggestions for both topics and Guest Editors.

Currently, the journal contains about 25 papers a month. If all the papers in a particular issue are devoted to that topic, then the issue is truly a special issue of the journal even though it is one of the regular monthly issues. This does not happen very often (in fact, it has not happened yet during my tenure). Usually the papers on the selected topic are grouped together in a "special section" at the front of that particular issue. Whether it is a special issue or a special section, it is preceded by an editorial prepared by the Guest Editor.

Once a special section is arranged and a Guest Editor chosen, we announce the topic in the editorial schedule, which appears immediately following my editorial in each issue. The Guest Editor will actively procure papers as well as receive those that are submitted in response to the information in the editorial schedule. The Guest Editor's task is to obtain a well-rounded set of papers that represents the state of the art of that topic. Often a special will be stimulated by one of the conferences run by SPIE—The International Society for Optical Engineering. However, it is not sufficient to include only papers from a conference, and those papers that are selected must meet the guidelines set forth for the publication of proceedings papers.[1]

The Guest Editor is responsible for receiving the submitted manuscripts, logging in the date received, and having the papers reviewed by at least two experts in the field. The Guest Editor returns papers to their authors if revisions are required by the reviewers. As the penultimate step, the Guest Editor checks that the manuscripts follow the guidelines set out in the "Information for Contributors" that appears at the end of each issue of *Optical Engineering*. To assist in this task, we provide the Guest Editor with a checklist, which includes such items as format, quality of illustrations, keywords, format of references, figure and table captions, authors' biographies and photographs, and publication charges. The final step for the Guest Editor is to mail the original manuscript with the checklist to me for formal acceptance. After a final check on the manuscript, I forward it to the managing editor's office in Bellingham, where the journals staff does the production work to turn out the issue.

So how well does this process work? Since I became Editor starting with the January 1991 issue, we have published some 13 special sections in the journal. These special sections have contained a total of 173 papers for an average section size of 13.3 papers. Of the 173 papers, 40 have been published in a different form in SPIE's unrefereed proceedings.

We look forward to bringing you future special issues and special sections and maybe one day even a "special supplement" to the journal. However, these can only happen with the dedicated efforts of our Guest Editors. I owe them a special thanks for what they do to help me, and I also pass on a thank you to them from all our readers. Thank you, Guest Editors.

Brian J. Thompson
Editor

[1] B. J. Thompson, "Editorial," *Opt. Eng.* **31**(6), 1141 (1992).

Optical Engineering Editorial Schedule

October 1992

Acousto-Optics

Ting-Chung Poon
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and
State University
Bradley Department of Electrical Engineering
Optical Image Processing Laboratory
Blacksburg, VA 24061
703/231-4876 • 703/231-3362 FAX

December 1992

Automatic Target Recognition

Firooz Sadjadi
Systems and Research Center
Honeywell Inc.
3660 Technology Drive
Minneapolis, MN 55418
612/782-7543 • 612/782-7438 FAX

January 1993

Optical Research in Asia

Chung J. Kuo
National Chung Cheng University
Department of Electrical Engineering
Chiayi, Taiwan 62107
886-5-272-0411, ext. 6210 • 886-5-272-0862 FAX

Toshimitsu Asakura
Hokkaido University
Research Institute of Applied Electricity
Sapporo, 060 Japan
81-11-716-2111 • 81-11-758-3173 FAX

Yong H. Lee
KAIST Department of Physics
Yusung-Ku, Taejon, Korea
82-42-829-2536 • 82-42-861-1458 FAX

Run W. Wang
Shanghai Institute of Optics and Fine Mechanics
P.O. Box 800-211
Shanghai, 201800 China

March 1993

Optical Fiber Reliability II

Hakan H. Yuce
Bellcore
445 South Street
Morristown, NJ 07962
201/829-4945 • 201/267-9753 FAX

Charles R. Kurkjian
AT&T Bell Laboratories
600 Mountain Avenue
Murray Hill, NJ 07960-1910
908/582-2378 • 908/582-2783 FAX

April 1993

Emerging Optoelectronic Technologies

Vijai K. Tripathi
Oregon State Univeristy
Dept. of Electrical and Computer Eng.
ECE Building 220
Corvallis, Oregon 97331-3211
503/737-3617 • 503/737-1300 FAX

May 1993

Phase Contrast Microscopy

Maksymilian Pluta
Institute of Applied Optics
ul. Kamionkowska 18
03-805 Warszawa, Poland
48 22 18 44 05 or 48 22 18 44 97
48 22 13 32 65 FAX
Manuscripts due Oct. 1, 1992.

June 1993

From Numerical to Symbolic Image Processing: Systems & Applications

G. Vernazza
Dipartimento di Ingegneria Biofisica ed Elettronica
Universita degli Studi di Genova
Via Opera Pia, 11a
16145 Genova, Italy
+39 10 353-2755 • +39 10 353-2777 FAX
Manuscripts due Oct. 15, 1992.

July 1993

Visual Communication and Image Processing IV

Cheng-Tie Chen
Bellcore
445 South St.
Morristown, NJ 07962
201/829-5151 • 201/829-5884 FAX

Hsueh-Ming Hang
Center for Telecommunication Research
National Chiao-Tung University
Hsinchu, Taiwan
+886/35-712121 x3298 • +886/35-723283 FAX

Kou-Hu Tzou
COMSAT Labs.
22300 Comsat Drive
Clarksburg, MD 20871
301/428-4663 • 301/428-7747 FAX
Manuscripts due Dec. 1, 1992.

August 1993

Electro-Optical Flight Systems

Amar Choudry
Science and Technology Corporation
101 Research Drive
Hampton, VA 23666
804/865-1894
Manuscripts due Jan. 1, 1993.

September 1993

Optical Science and Engineering in Canada

C.P. Grover
National Research Council
Institute for National Measurement Standards
Ottawa, Canada K1A OR6
613/993-2098 • 613/952-1394 FAX
Manuscripts due Feb. 1, 1993.

October 1993

Microlithography

James R. Sheats
Hewlett-Packard Company
2500 Deer Creek Road
Palo Alto, CA 94304-1392
415/857-5987 • 415/857-6241 FAX
Manuscripts due March 1, 1993.

November 1993

Acquisition, Tracking, and Pointing

Mohammed A. Karim
University of Dayton
Center for Electro-Optics
300 College Park
Dayton, Ohio 45469-0227
513/229-2241 • 513/229-3433
Manuscripts due April 1, 1993.

December 1993

Magnetospheric Imagery and Atmospheric Remote Sensing

Supriya Chakrabarti
Boston University
Center for Space Physics
725 Commonwealth Avenue
Boston, MA 02215
E-mail: supc@bu-ast.bu.edu
617/353-5990 • 617/353-6463 FAX
Manuscripts due May 1, 1993.

January 1994

Infrared Technology

Marija S. Scholl
Jet Propulsion Laboratory
California Institute of Technology
4800 Oak Grove Drive
Pasadena, CA 91009-8099
818/354-2313 • 818/393-6105 FAX
Manuscripts due June 1, 1993.

February 1994

Optical Interconnects and Packaging

Sing Lee
University of California/San Diego
E&CE Department
La Jolla, CA 92093-0407
619/534-2413 • 619/534-1225 FAX
Manuscripts due July 1, 1993.

March 1994

High Heat Flux Optical Engineering

Ali M. Khounsary
Argonne National Laboratory
Advanced Photon Source, APS 360
9700 South Cass Avenue
Argonne, IL 60439-4814
708/252-3384 • 708/252-3222 FAX
Manuscripts due Aug. 1, 1993.

April 1994

Micro-Optics

Chandrasekhar Roychoudhuri
University of Connecticut at Storrs
Photonics Research Center
MS-157, Room 312
260 Glenbrook Road
Storrs, CT 06269-3157
203/486-4816 • 203/486-3789 FAX
Manuscripts due Sep. 1, 1993.

June 1994

Optical Science & Engineering in India

Rajpal S. Sirohi
Indian Institute of Technology
Applied Optics Laboratory
Physics Department
Madras-600 036, India
044-2351365 ext. 221 • 044-2350509 FAX
Manuscripts due Nov. 1, 1993.