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Symposium  
**Optics in Industry**

Monterrey, March 2007

## Student Activity Report Tecnológico de Monterrey Student Chapter

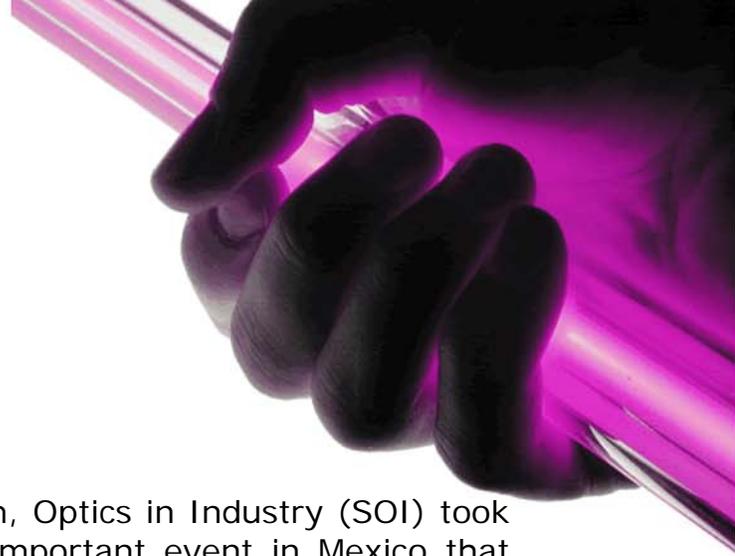


The International Society  
for Optical Engineering

**Tec de Monterrey**  
Student Chapter



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## **SOI 2007**

Last March 8 and 9<sup>th</sup>, the 6<sup>th</sup> Symposium, Optics in Industry (SOI) took place in Monterrey, Mexico. The most important event in Mexico that links Optics and Photonics Research with Industry, takes place every two years in one of the several Optics research centers of the country. This year, the venue city was Monterrey. More information on SOI 2007 can be found at: <http://optica.mty.itesm.mx/soi2007/>

## **Career Building at SOI 2007**

A series of student events took place one day before the technical conference of SOI at the alma mater of our Student Chapter. The Career Building day was organized by students with funding from SPIE through a Collaborative Grant initiative between the Tecnológico de Monterrey, the Universidad del Valle and the University of St Andrews Student Chapters.

The program for the day included a talk by SPIE Vicepresident María J. Yzuel about the importance of leadership skills when pursuing a career in science, the paradigm and success of women in Science and the significance of transforming good ideas into actions. Students also addressed a number of issues concerning life after college and the different paths that professional life can follow thereon.

This year, the now traditional SPIE-ITESM Scientific Photography contest award ceremony was held along with the Symposium, in order to showcase the fantastic depictions of natural phenomena captured in film or in electronic form by students from all over Mexico. The best submissions were exhibited throughout the duration of the conference along with winners from previous issues of the contest.

Finally, student attendants from fifteen different national institutions and three international institutions in Canada and Colombia



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enjoyed a student reception, where networking was actively encouraged.

Thanks to the Collaborative Grant, financial support from SPIE allowed for the organization of this series of student events. Funding was also used to partially support students traveling from abroad and to cover the registration of a limited number of student members presenting a paper at the conference.

The Career Building day was an excellent opportunity to gather with Chapter leaders from 4 different Student Chapters in Mexico, while simultaneously serving as an open forum to motivate the creation of newer chapters and collaboration amongst the existing ones. We look forwards to materialize all the plans for collaboration that resulted from this meeting with our fellow Chapter leaders.

Our Career Bulding day could not have been possible without the generous support from SPIE, not only financial but also in the form of logistics advice and promotional materials. In our experience, a colaborative grant is most likely the single membership benefit from which our chapter has profitted the most. We strongly advise other Student Chapters to take advantage of this possibility to enhance their Chapter's resources for organization and, at the same time, strenghten their collaboration links with other Student Chapters.

Sincerely,

Carlos Lopez-Mariscal  
Tecnológico de Monterrey SPIE Student Chapter



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**Students are welcome by  
Raul Hernandez, Chapter  
President.**



**Ice-breaking at the Career  
Building day.**



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### Who are we? Future Colleagues!

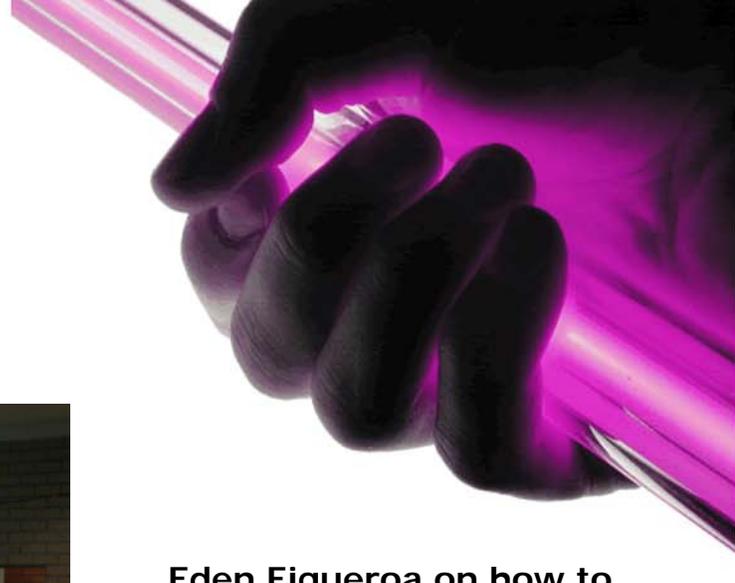
- 91 Student Chapters, 19 countries
- ~1300 students involved in chapters
- 18% of SPIE members are students (3600)
- 70% of chapters used their Activity Grant in '06



**Different aspects of Prof  
María J. Yzuel's address to  
students during the Career  
Building day.**



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**Eden Figueroa on how to survive graduate school while staying reasonably sane.**

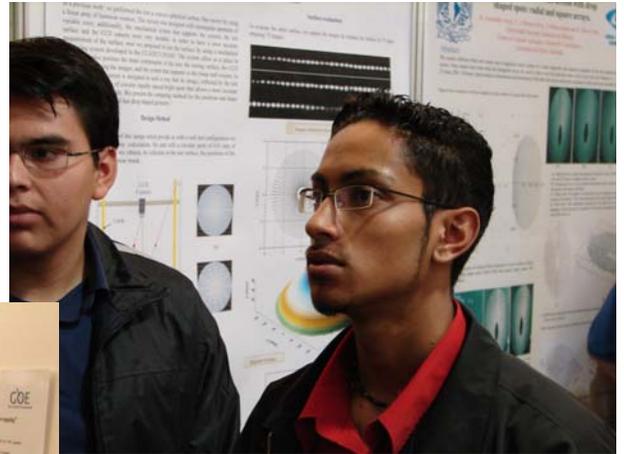


**Attending students and researchers gather together**





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**Poster sessions and plenary talks at the technical conference.**





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**Exhibit for the SPIE-ITESM  
scientific photography  
contest**



**This year's proud winners**



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**Students also worked on  
their social skills**

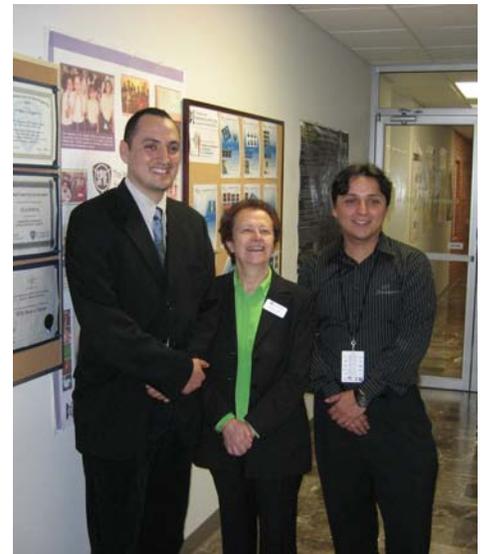




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Organizing a conference may have been somewhat more of an effort than just attending one, but the rewards are also greater.





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More pictures of SOI 2007 available at:

<http://6soi2007.googlepages.com/>