



## Press release

### Carlse awarded SPIE Laser Technology, Engineering and Applications Scholarship

BELLINGHAM, Washington, USA – 15 May 2020 – **Gehrig Carlse** has been awarded the Laser Technology, Engineering, Applications Scholarship by SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics, for his potential contributions to the field of optics, photonics or related field.



Carlse is a PhD candidate at York University (Canada), where he is supervised by Professor A. Kumarakrishnan. He is currently working on performing precise measurements of gravitational acceleration using ultracold atoms. “This research has been made possible by the new class of high-power diode laser systems that I helped develop as part of an industrial project,” said Carlse. His other research interests involve optical trapping of micro-particles using tweezers and investigations into particle kinematics on fast timescales. He has also served as a teaching assistant for a unique upper-year laboratory course on laser spectroscopy.

In 2020, the Society is awarding \$298,000 in education scholarships to 78 outstanding SPIE student members, based on their potential contribution to optics and photonics, or a related discipline. Award-winning applicants were evaluated, selected and approved by the SPIE Scholarship Committee, Chaired by SPIE volunteer Kate Medicus.

Through 2019, SPIE has distributed over \$6 million dollars in individual scholarships. This ambitious effort reflects the Society's commitment to education and to the next generation of optical scientists and engineers around the world.

To view other 2020 press releases as they become available go to the [2020 Scholarship Winners page](#) or learn more about [SPIE scholarships](#) on [spie.org](#).

SPIE is the international society for optics and photonics, an educational not-for-profit organization founded in 1955 to advance light-based science, engineering, and technology. The Society serves more than 255,000 constituents from 183 countries, offering conferences and their published proceedings, continuing education, books, journals, and the SPIE Digital Library. In 2019, SPIE provided more than \$5.6 million in community support including scholarships and awards, outreach and advocacy programs, travel grants, public policy, and educational resources. [www.spie.org](#)

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Media contact:

Stacey Crockett

Media Relations Coordinator, SPIE

+1 360-676-3290

[staceyc@spie.org](mailto:staceyc@spie.org)