SPIE Student Chapter at University of Central Florida
CREOL/College of Optics and Photonics

Annual Report 2008

The SPIE Student Chapter at the University of Central Florida is a part of a unique collaboration of student organizations associated with the College of Optics. With the help of the umbrella organization CREOL Association of Optics Students (CAOS), the professional societies of SPIE, IEEE/LEOS, SID, and OSA work together to coordinate student and community events for student development, outreach, and education in the field of optics. Each professional society is a registered student organization at UCF, which provides additional funding for planned activities.

List of current student chapter members:

Troy Anderson          David Lee
Janghwan Bae          Kye-Sung Lee
Nathan Bickel         Yan Li
Ryan Boutwell         Ricardo Martins
John Broky            Panomsak Meemon
Radu Bunea            Muhammed Mustaqim
Ozan Cakmakci         ByungJoon Oh
Yun-Sheng Chen        Shirish Pethe
Josue Davila-Rodriguez Mohammad Umar Piracha
Sam Deriso            Linghui Rao
Kyle Douglass         Oleksandr Savchyn
Florian Fournier      Tobias Schmid
Amitabh Ghoshal       Larry Schneider
James Ginn            Mumtaz Sheikh
Eric Hahn             Leo Siiman
Toufic Jabbour        Amy Thompson
Apurva Jain           David Wayne
Meizi Jiao            Matthew Weed
Jimyung Kim           Stephan Williamson
Leonard Kisimbi       Chong Zhang
Peter Krenz           Yang Zhao

Total: 42
Awards:
The following SPIE students at CREOL won SPIE Scholarships:

Nathan Bickel  Supraja Murali
Florian Fournier  Alessandro Salandrino
Meizi Jiao  Olesandr Savchyn
Kye-Sung Li  Amy Thompson

Additionally, Ozan Cakmakci, a student in Jannick Rolland's research group has been selected to receive the 2008 William H. Price Scholarship in Optical Engineering in the amount of $3000.

Benjamin Wu, who was a summer intern in S.T. Wu's group, won a SPIE scholarship worth $4000. Ben is currently a junior at Duke University.

Chapter Activities for July 2007 – September 2008
This has been an active year for the SPIE student chapter, filled with event planning, outreach, and several invited speakers.

8/24/07: Orientation Seminar - An overview of our chapter's activities and information about joining SPIE was presented by Alex Savchyn, SPIE chapter president. Also, Amitabh Ghoshal presented a brief seminar titled “Choosing Your Advisor”.

9/5/07: Faculty Seminar – Dr. Shin-Tson Wu, a professor at CREOL, gave a seminar on “Research Highlights in Photonics and Display Group” to the CREOL student body. Pizza was provided by SPIE.

10/13/07: Fall Picnic – Helped organize the annual fall picnic for the College of Optics held as a welcome event for new students and a kickoff for the new schoolyear. The event includes prizes, games, a dunk tank, a bounce house, and food.

10/23/07: SPIE Distinguished Speaker – Dr. Harry Levinson from AMD gave a presentation on EUV Lithography using the SPIE visiting lecturer funds. Pizza and refreshments were provided by SPIE.

10/31/07: Halloween Costume Contest – Helped organize the annual CREOL Halloween costume contest. The event includes prizes for the first, second, and third place winners, voted by the student body.

11/20/07: Super Scientist Program - The Super Scientist Program is designed to connect college students in science and engineering disciplines with elementary school students. We typically spend a day leading the kids in hands-on science projects. The children rotate in groups, so they get to study 4-5 different science
concepts and they do the experiments themselves with guidance from adults. We had several SPIE members volunteer at Partin Elementary this year.

3/1/08: Expanding Your Horizons Tours – Expanding your Horizons in Science and Mathematics conferences nurture girls’ interest in science and math courses to consider careers in science, technology, engineering, and math. SPIE helped CAOS to provide tours of CREOL for participants as part of a UCF campus visit.

3/5/08: Optics Day ’08 – Optics Day is an annual outreach event where all UCF students are invited to learn about optics through interactive demonstrations and seminars by CREOL faculty and students. This is the primary outreach event at CREOL and had a budget of $3000 this year.

3/21/08: Professional Development Seminar – Dr. Jeff Saul, a professor in the FIU (and formerly UCF) physics department, gave a seminar entitled “What can Physics Education Research (PER) tell us about teaching physics?” This event was jointly sponsored by SPIE and CAOS with snacks and soda provided by SPIE.

3/28/08: Khet Tournament – Khet is a board game that is like chess, but with lasers. The goal is to hit your opponent’s pharaoh piece by moving and turning mirrors in the path of the laser beam. SPIE hosted a student Khet tournament with free pizza and prizes for the top 3 winners.

4/18/08: Spring Thing/Industrial Affiliates Day – This is an annual CREOL event in which CREOL Industrial Affiliates are invited to visit CREOL, view a poster session, and enjoy an alligator BBQ at MJ Soileau’s House.

Other: SPIE students helped with CREOL lab tours that occur periodically throughout the year and were involved with a major update in the demonstrations used for Optics Day. In addition, SPIE students participated in preparation sessions for students taking the qualifying exam. The student chapter website (http://spie.creol.ucf.edu) has been updated with all of our recent events.

**Future Planned Activities:**

Elections for new SPIE officers occurred in September. The new officers are:

- **President:** Amitabh Ghoshal (aghoshal@creol.ucf.edu)
- **Vice President:** Josue Davila-Rodriguez (josue@creol.ucf.edu)
- **Treasurer:** Kyle Douglass (kmdougla@creol.ucf.edu)
- **Secretary:** Troy Anderson (troy@creol.ucf.edu)

The following is a list of some of the events that the new officers plan to pursue during the upcoming year.

- **SPIE Distinguished Lecturer** – Current SPIE officers have contacted Dr. Katarina Svanberg to give a presentation on “Possible Third World Applications of Laser Spectroscopy in Medicine”
• We would like to make the Khet tournament an annual event
• SPIE will continue to help with all of the annual events (Fall Picnic, Optics Day, etc)
• An expansion of the outreach program to potentially work with the GK-12 education program here at CREOL
• SPIE will continue to work with CAOS on the tours of the CREOL building to interested parties.
• Further improvements to the hands-on demonstrations
• Potentially hosting an undergraduate optical engineering competition