2010 – 2012 Officers

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Current Student Chapter Members (Total 30)

Neng Bai
Sharad Blooplapur
Casey Boutwell
Kristopher Davis
Alexander Dillard
Kyle Douglass
Sihui He
Jeff Junker
Apurva Jain
Dragana Jankovic
Pankaj Kadwani
Kumel Kagawala
Chatdanai Lumdee
Sergiy Maokhov
Nima Nader Esfahani
Himansu Pattanaik
Mohammad Umar Piracha
Mark Ramme
Larry Schneider
Monas Shahzad
Seyfollah Toroghi
Banjamin Webb
Matthew Weed
Ming Wei
Charles Williams
Christina Willis
Ronald Wolff
Cen Xia
Jin Yan

Chapter Activities for February 2010 – February 2012

Expanding Your Horizons
February 18, 2010 and February 26, 2011

This is an annual joint event managed by an external organization that features science and technology departments from UCF. CREOL students are traditionally a focus during the event and provide demonstrations, and other fun teaching and scientifically exciting experiences to the middle school aged girls in attendance. The UCF SPIE chapter has taken CREOL’s part of this event over in recent years. Funds spent on this event in 2010 were for ingredients for making liquid nitrogen ice cream and demonstration materials, no funds were spent in 2011.
CREOL’s LaserFest & Optics Day
April 2-4, 2010

The CREOL Association of Optics Students (CAOS) and the SPIE student chapter at UCF came together to host the three day event, CREOL LaserFest. In addition to celebrating the 50th anniversary of lasers, the purpose was to educate local K-12 students on optics and lasers; and to foster networking and research connections with students in related graduate programs in the southeast region.

Day one of the event was the Optics Day, a CREOL open house. Hosted by CAOS since 2002, Optics Day is targeted to a general audience of local students, parents, and educators. With the help student volunteers, we demonstrated general concepts of optics and lasers to over 200 guests. Visitors included K-12 students and teachers from three Florida counties as well as undergraduate and graduate students from various departments across UCF. These demonstrations included introductions to interference, polarization, holography, semiconductor optics, fiber optics, and most importantly, lasers and laser physics in its various forms. The Vice President of Research and Technology at Ocean Optics and a CREOL alumnus, Dr. Jason Eichenholtz, spoke on photonics technologies in our society and how they are being used to make world a better place. Guests were offered further in-depth discussions on specific topics through the CREOL laboratory tours.

Day two and three of CREOL’s LaserFest was the SPIE Symposium, hosted by the UCF SPIE student chapter in collaboration with CAOS and the UNCC SPIE student chapter. The symposium was targeted to senior undergraduate and graduate students in fields related to optics, and invitations were sent to the physics and electrical engineering departments of many major universities in the southeast US region. With the goal of stimulating discussions on laser technologies and future applications, the event was comprised of invited talks on various aspects of laser by established professionals and researchers followed by a panel discussion.

Speakers for the laser session of the symposium included Dr. Michael Bass, Emeritus Professor at CREOL, Dr. Martin Stickley, special consultant to CREOL and the scientist who built the Air Force’s first laser in 1960, Dr. Alex Vitkin, Professor of Medical Biophysics at the University of Toronto, and Mr. Amit Jain, President, CEO, and founder of Prysm Inc.
The panel discussion that followed the laser session included topics such as the future of lasers, the cultivation of ideas from conception to execution, interdisciplinary and collaborative approaches to problem solving, and to career counseling. A professional development seminar on the importance of communication, a poster session, and CREOL lab tours followed. The event, funded by the collaborative conference grant from SPIE, had 55 participants with about 40% coming from outside CREOL and about one-fifth representation by undergraduate students. Travel grants were provided to all students travelling from outside Orlando. A social networking activity at Kennedy Space Center was organized for the participants on the final day of the event.

Funding was acquired for this event from both our Student Government Association and an SPIE grant. Funding from SPIE was put towards breakfast and lunch for participants of the
symposium, printed materials such as badges and programs, awards for the poster presentation winners (2), speaker honorariums, subsidizing speaker accommodations and travel, travel grants for attendees, and for the Kennedy Space Center event.

**Optics and Donut Series**

The goal of the Donut Series was to offer short sessions on optics and career related subjects that would be of interest to students. All funds spent for Donut Series events were for breakfast foods (donuts!) and beverages.

*October 15, 2010 – Dr. Max Poole*

Dr. Poole, Sr. Associate Dean of the College of Graduate Studies at UCF, spoke on how we can best utilize the resources and services available to graduate students at UCF. The SPIE student chapter committee also discussed planned activities for the current academic year, and held an open forum to get feedback.

*November 19, 2010 – Dr. Winston Schoenfeld*

Dr. Schoenfeld, Associate Professor of Optics & The Florida Solar Energy Center, shared his experiences and career path from being a graduate student at UC Santa Barbara to becoming a faculty member at CREOL.

*February 18, 2011 – Dr. Glenn Boreman*

Dr. Boreman, Trustee Chair Professor of Optics, Electrical Engineering, Material Science and Physics at the College of Optics and Photonics (CREOL), spoke on the history and the early days in CREOL, the benefits of having a Ph.D., and what difference various career and life choices can make in a casual discussion-based session.

*April 7, 2011 – Mr. Courtney Lewis*

Tools for Effective Presentations

This workshop was a conversational tour of communication and technical presentations. Mr. Lewis, who formerly served as CREOL’s Assistant Director of Marketing Communication and is now a Professor of Communication at Valencia College, discussed the tools needed for effective delivery, from voice projection, easy to read slides, and engaging your audience.

**Fitness Hour**

*November 18, 2010*

To complement the career and science related material of the Donut Series, the executive committee thought of hosting a SPIE Fitness Hour for students. We hosted a one-time hour yoga session, but due to low turn-out no further sessions were hosted. Funds were spent on instructor fees.

**SPIE Symposium: Life After Grad School**

*May 20th, 2011*

This symposium was geared towards graduate students in Florida with an interest in optics related fields. The theme for the symposium was “life after graduate school” and focused
on issues like transitioning from grad school to industry, entrepreneurship and start-ups, career in academia and research labs, and the current direction of the optics industry. The symposium featured invited talks and panel discussion. The panel comprised of Dr. Andrea Armani (Assistant Professor at USC), Dr. Marc Himel (Senior Principal Engineer at Tessera), Mr. Jay Kumler (President of JENOPTIK Optical Systems) and Mr. Jeff Bullington (Owner of Raydiance and VaxDesign). The days’ events ended with a Social Hour (described below).

The SPIE Symposium 2011 was highly recommended for graduate students who were nearing graduation and on verge of starting their careers. Interested undergrads, grads, and research scientists keen on participating in the discussions were also welcomed. About 75 students participated in this symposium.

Funds for this event were spent on advertising materials, breakfast and lunch for the participants, social hour refreshments, and gifts for the speakers.
**CAOS, OSA and SPIE Social Hour**

In cooperation with CAOS, our umbrella CREOL student organization and our UCF chapter of OSA, we helped host a Social Hour event on several occasions throughout the year. On a rotating basis with the other organizations we purchased snacks and refreshments for these events. Dates when SPIE provided funds for the event: November 5th, 2011, December 3rd, 2011, and May 20th, 2011.

![CREOL students enjoy jointly organized Social Hour](image)

**Planned Future Events**

Our chapter has seen a phase of inactivity due to the seniority of the executive officers, but we are currently recruiting new and enthusiastic officers to take over and revive the chapter this fall. One of these students, Chatdanai Lumdee will be attending the SPIE Student Leadership Workshop at Optics+Photonics.

We will encourage the new officers to pursue events that our chapter has previously participated in, such as Expanding Your Horizons, Optics Day and the joint Social Hour. We also had good turn out and feedback for our Donut Series and Symposia, and we hope that these events will be continued in the future as well.
Financial Information

Starting Balance as of 2/1/2010: $1434.51

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>1  Expanding Your Horizons</td>
<td>-$93.52</td>
<td>2/18/2010</td>
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<td>2  Lunch Professional Development 2</td>
<td>-$213.00</td>
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<td>3  LaserFest SPIE Grant</td>
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<td>4  SPIE Collaborative Grant</td>
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<td>5  Townes Laser Institute Grant*</td>
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<td>6  Optics Day + Symposium**</td>
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<td>4/2/2010-4/4/2010</td>
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<td>7  Donut Series I</td>
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<td>8  Social Hour</td>
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<td>9  Fitness Hour</td>
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<td>15 SPIE Symposium</td>
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Ending Balance as of 2/1/2012: $1674.30***

* - The date provided for this item is the date the money was promised to our chapter. It was later deposited into a non-SPIE account due to the intricacies of how our accounts system functions (which is why it is not part of the starting balance). However, it was used by our SPIE chapter towards the symposium in 2010, and is therefore listed next to related line items.

** - The number given here is that which was projected in the budget. Unfortunately it was not possible to acquire the actual expenditures for this event as the student in charge of finances for that particular event has graduated and left Florida.

*** - Note that this value exceeds the amount that is to be found by tallying all of the line items given above by an amount of $439.09. This value is the actual amount we have in our accounts, while the tally of the line items above yields $1235.21. Considering the uncertainty regarding the final number for line item 6, it is a reasonable assumption that the actual expenditures for that event were closer to $2702.91, which would explain the surplus of funds.

For any questions regarding the financial section, please contact the Treasurer directly.