

University of California, Irvine student chapter annual report 2016

- Names, email addressed and member numbers of elected officers as of January 2016 (to January 2017)

Name	Officer position	email address	member number
Laura Rios	President	lrios2@uci.edu	4022425
Nick Tallarida	co-VP/Treasurer	ntallari@uci.edu	3746055
Kate Rodriguez	co-VP/Secretary	kater@uci.edu	3745814

- Current members

- Brian Albee 30 October 2017
- Jason Chen 13 January 2017
- Jaedu Cho 25 January 2017
- Mahsa Darvishzadeh Varcheie 31 May 2017
- Joseph Jing 28 December 2016
- Yusi Miao 9 December 2016
- Yueqiao Qu 15 December 2016
- Shreyas Raj Ravindranath 12 September 2017
- Kate Rodriguez 8 February 2017
- Erica Su 13 January 2017
- Nicholas Tallarida 9 February 2017
- Mohammad Torabzadeh 17 December 2016
- Monique Wonderly 11 February 2017
- Qiang Yang 8 November 2016
- Buyun Zhang 27 January 2017
- Qiancheng Zhao 31 January 2017

- Details of Chapter activities since last report

In the beginning of the academic year–October 2015–we had a welcome event that totaled over 80 participants. We spent \$200 dollars from OSA/SPIE funds.

In November of 2015, we hosted the 8th Annual Art in science competition, an incredibly popular event that included over 100 participants from UCI campus. For the first time since we started the event, we were fortunate enough to have the Art department significantly interact and support us, with the Dean of the Art school attending as a special judge. Our very own VP Nick Tallarida won first prize! We spent a total of - on this event for printing the artwork, food and drinks for the reception, and advertising materials such as posters and invitation sitckers. Art in Science was partially funded by OSA.

In March 2016, we attended the San Diego Festival of Science and Engineering, where we handed out upwards of 800 Spectroboxes to children of all ages. Our booth focused on the properties of light, and we had various demos showing diffraction, refraction, Moire patterns, and the scattering of light. Thousands of young students pass by our booth and enjoyed playing with various aspects of light. We also reached out to teachers about using the Spectrobox in their classrooms, and have begun to coordinate creating online content for the teachers to access to accompany the Spectrobox.

We also invited Prof. Tom Brown to give a lecture on engineering optics. We used OSA traveling lecturer funds for this event.

In April 2016, we hosted a seminar entitled “How to be more effective during your PhD” by world-renowned science communication expert Jean-luc Doumont. We had 67 number of attendees (mostly graduate students from various physical science departments, a full house for our venue. We even had 5 students arrive from UC Riverside, a sister campus. The two-hour lecture served as a great starting point for discussion on time management, managing expectations and setting goals. We spent 2000 dollars for traveling and hosting fees, and 65 dollars for an intimate luncheon with the speaker and the SPIE group oncampus.

In September 2016, we hosted for one day the SPIE/OSA student chapter from the University of Fukui, Japan (6 members). We showed them our labs and campus, and went out to lunch to discuss graduate school and upcoming plans, as the students were mostly undergraduate students. It was an incredible exchange of culture and knowledge. We spent 80 dollars on lunch with the students.

In October 2016, we began a significant recruitment effort that involved attending the orientation sessions for all relevant departments–Beckman Laser Institute (BLI), Physics, Chemistry, and Electrical Engineering. We did not use an SPIE funds for this effort.

Most of these events were in our report from last year’s report, with the exception of Jean-luc’s seminar. Since it was too good of an opportunity to pass it, we sprang for it in January of 2016 when he contacted us.

- Expense report/Funds raised and expended: Funds Received: 900.00 12/22/16 OSA chapter activity grant  
600.00 02/29/16 SPIE chapter activity grant  
500.00 03/01/16 CaSTL; collaboration for SD Fair

Funds Expended:

Jean-Luc, 4/12/16

2050.00 Seminar

64.51 Lunch

14.00 Parking

Prof. Tom Brown 3/11/16

10.00 Parking

49.68 Lunch

7.98 Seminar Snacks

Misc

46.59 Laser Demo

76.72 Spectrobox assembly

314.00 San Diego Fair of Science, fee for booth and electrical

48.89 Fair preparation day (pizza)

26.96 Color Wheel - pencils

171.84 Color Wheel - CDs, labels, crayons

50.00 Spectrabox - envelopes

318.00 Spectrabox - lasers

12.99 Spectrabox - tape

Balance as of November 2016: 0.00

- Future activities For 2017, we already have a plethora of activities planned. In January, we will host Prof. Greg Gbur for an SPIE traveling lecturer seminar on cloaking and invisibility. We have already submitted the request, and contacted Greg Gbur for details. In February, we will host Prof. Nader

Engheta for the OSA traveling lecturer series. In March, we will once again take the Spectrobox to the San Diego Fair in collaboration with CaSTL to represent OSA/SPIE in our most extensive outreach project. In May, we will host Jean-luc Doumont, this time for a workshop instead of a seminar to put our learned skills to the test. In June, we will visit the SPIE group at CICESE, in Ensenada, Mexico, for cultural exchange and also to re-invigorate our chapter. Our membership has been dwindling for a while, and I hope the chance to see a very active, productive chapter will spur us to investigate the way we too can flourish more heavily.