New Mexico Tech Student Chapter
2017 Annual Report

The New Mexico Tech Student Chapter was established on the 28th of October, 2017. Last year was the first year for our Student Chapter. Although the EE department at New Mexico Tech was very excited to incorporate SPIE into the present communities, the officers of the Student Branch were all seniors and very busy for much of the semester. Because of this, our Branch has not grown much since its establishment. This is something we hope to change, and we are putting significant effort into forming close connections with the communities at New Mexico Tech and growing our student body.

Although the activity of the Student Chapter last year might give the impression that we are dormant, we have already seen significant growth as the new semester is picking up. This year’s efforts will further establish the SPIE Student Branch at New Mexico Tech and strengthen our ties to the students therein.

I. Elected Officer Roster

Chair: James Harris
james.harris@student.nmt.edu
ID: 4079671

Vice Chair: Vincent Grap
vincent.grap@student.nmt.edu
ID: 4080329

Treasurer: Jacob Schmelzel
jacob.schmelzel@student.nmt.edu
ID: 4080602

Secretary: Dominic Borunda
dominic.borunda@student.nmt.edu
ID: 4080869
II. Member Roster
The following list is a roster of current members attending SPIE member meetings. These students are very interested with the benefits of the SPIE and frequently attend the meetings and hosted seminars. We are excited to see a growing interest in the SPIE student branch at New Mexico Tech.

1. Adrian Hernandez 14. Kari Erickson
4. Austin Rudolph 17. Nikita Belousosov
5. Brendan Noone 18. Olivia Schmelzel
7. Craig Rasband 20. Steven Lukow
9. Duggan Matson 22. Tyler Buys
10. Enrique Sandoval 23. Vincent Grap
11. Jacob Schmelzel 24. Willie Lopez
13. Kaleb Bjorkman

III. Chapter Activities
The New Mexico Tech Chapter activities included bi-weekly member meetings, in which we discussed upcoming conferences opportunities. From the previous year, the New Mexico Tech Chapter never spent any chapter grant funding from SPIE. There was no funding request for any activities.

IV. Planned Future Activities
Much is in store for this year. Our bi-weekly member meetings are now used for planning collaborative projects, seminars, community outreach, and discussing conference opportunities.

1. Collaborative projects
The New Mexico Tech Student Branch is collaborating this year with three other student organizations, namely IEEE, Robotics Club, and ACM, to accomplish a large-scale project. Our goal in this collaboration is to strengthen the community of students at New Mexico Tech and to get more people interested in SPIE.
Our members will be tasked with implementing an image processing system to track predefined artifacts in a camera’s field of view and determine if specific events or requirements have been met by these artifacts. The Student Government Association has agreed to fund $200.00 towards this cause. We intend to use these funds to purchase a camera setup that can be adapted to suit a wide variety of tasks.

2. **Seminars**
   We are collaborating with the IEEE Student Branch and the Electrical Engineering department at New Mexico Tech to host a seminar series for our members and other interested students this year. We have had professionals from Purdue University as well as local organizations such as Sandia National Laboratories come talk to us about their field of study, line of work, and their path to success. We have speakers planned from other local organizations such as MZA from Albuquerque, New Mexico as well as out-of-state organizations such as Boeing.

   We are also planning on inviting a Visiting Lecturer through the SPIE’s directory to come speak to our Student Branch in early January or late February of 2018. We will have established significant student interest in our series by then and we expect the requested speaker to be received very well.

3. **Community outreach**
   The local middle school is reaching out to clubs at New Mexico Tech to participate in events revolving around math and science. We plan to represent SPIE as best we can at these events by demonstrating the basics of optics and image processing.

4. **Conference opportunities**
   The student officers would like to attend Photonics Europe in April 2018, and we are expecting to use the Officer Travel Grant on this conference to sponsor one of our officers to attend. The student members would like to attend a conference as well, and we are working diligently to collect funds from the school to help sponsor them. These members are also being encouraged to present a research paper in their topic at their conference of interest, and we hope that our collaborative project will give some that opportunity.
V. Financial Information

The New Mexico Tech Chapter did not request nor expend any funds from the SPIE chapter. Funds given by the Student Government Association were enough to pay for refreshments at the member meetings. The list below summarizes our financial spending for last year.

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