

## Rice Photonic Owls Student Chapter

### Annual Activity Report November 1, 2015

Covering November 1, 2014 – November 1, 2015

#### 1. Student Officers:

President: Ben Cerjan,	Email: <a href="mailto:bwc5@rice.edu">bwc5@rice.edu</a>	Member #: 3651513
Vice President: Melia Bonomo	Email: <a href="mailto:mbonomo@rice.edu">mbonomo@rice.edu</a>	Member #: 3717323
Treasurer: Dayne Swearer	Email: <a href="mailto:Dayne.F.Swearer@rice.edu">Dayne.F.Swearer@rice.edu</a>	Member #: 3651514
Secretary: Adam Lauchner	Email: <a href="mailto:acl3@rice.edu">acl3@rice.edu</a>	Member #: 3650781

#### 2. List of Chapter Members:

Member Name  
Melia Bonomo  
Chandler Burke  
Benjamin Cerjan  
Kyle Chapkin  
Adam Lauchner  
James Matthews  
Ali Sobhani  
Dayne Swearer  
Mehbuba Tanzid  
Jian Yang  
Yue Zhang

#### 3. Chapter Activities:

1. **Rice Laboratory for Nanophotonics (LANP) Meetings:** We have continued our partnership with the Rice Laboratory for Nanophotonics to assist with their monthly meetings. Each month, a LANP poster seminar is held where members present elements of their research. There are typically a dozen graduate students presenting on various subjects concerning optics at the nanoscale. Being a regularly scheduled event, these lunches have become the standard meeting for presenting recent research to the club. Club specific information and tasks are addressed afterward or in smaller SPIE specific meetings.
2. **Tutorials:** We have continued our tutorials for Maya, a 3D rendering software package, to create figures and schematics of the nanophotonic systems studied in our respective experiments. The tutorials draw a large crowd of active researchers hoping to add some

flare to publication and presentation graphics. Food and soft drinks are provided as the tutorial is usually held at night to not interfere with work schedules.

3. **Featured Speakers:** The chapter organized lunch time talks by various professors from Rice to increase awareness of the research being done on campus. These talks were uniformly well-attended and we plan on continuing them in the future.
4. **Movie Night:** We started a new tradition of organizing informal social activities to help foster chapter cohesion. This event drew a smaller crowd than we originally hoped and plan to increase advertising of the event as well as ensure that it is held at a time when members are able to attend.
5. **Officer Elections:** Officer Elections were held on October 14, 2015
  - **Previous Officers** (2014—2015 academic year):
    - President:** Yao Cui
    - Vice President:** Ben Cerjan
    - Treasurer:** Dayne Swearer
    - Secretary:** Adam Lauchner
  - **Elected Officers** (2015—2016 academic year):
    - President:** Ben Cerjan
    - Vice President:** Melia Bonomo
    - Treasurer:** Dayne Swearer
    - Secretary:** Adam Lauchner

#### 4. Planned Future Activities:

1. **Rice Laboratory for Nanophotonics (LANP) Meetings:** We will continue assisting the LANP group in organizing monthly research poster presentations. These meetings are an excellent venue to share recent research and ideas with our club and expose SPIE to many graduate students that aren't SPIE member yet.
2. **Invited Talks:** Our previous invited talks by professors were uniformly well-received and we intend to continue to invite professors from Rice to come speak. Additionally, we are working to broaden our invitations to other nearby institutions such as the University of Houston.
3. **Tutorials:** We plan to continue our tutorial sessions on commonly used software packages and microscope basics. We plan to definitely continue the popular Maya 3D rendering tutorials. Other potential topics may include: Mendeley citation manager, introduction to 3D printing, microscope construction, OriginPro data analysis and plotting, IGOR data analysis and plotting, CAD modeling.

4. **Joint Events:** We are planning on organizing joint events with the Rice OSA chapter due to the large overlap between the interests of the groups. Such events include bringing in outside speakers, informal social gatherings, and volunteering opportunities.

5. **Finances:**

1. **Beginning Balance:** \$1659.62

2. Funds Raised/Expended:

**Funds Raised:** \$900.00

Activity Grant from SPIE: \$900.00

**Expenditures:** \$ 1459.04

LANP Meetings: \$204.38

Tutorials: \$65.48

Featured Speakers: \$1121.89

Movie Nights: \$67.29

**Ending Balance:** \$1100.58