1. **Student Officers**

President – Visar Ajeti  
Vice President – Kirby Campbell  
Secretary – Nathan Schumacher  
Treasurer – Heejun Choi  
Outreach Coordinator – Benjamin Cox

2. **Chapter Members**

Visar Ajeti  
Somenath Bakshi  
Kirby Campbell  
Heejun Choi  
Benjain Cox  
John Garrett  
Trillian Gregg  
Dong Gyun Ha  
Gunnsteinn Hall  
Nathan Schumacher  
Joseph Szulczewski  
Pascal Theriault Lauzier  
Karissa Tilbury  
Lianggong Wen

3. **Chapter Activities**

This past year has been a challenging year for our chapter due to the fact that our student chapter was stagnant for few months (January to June, 2011). There were many contributing factors such as poor student attendance to seminars and activities, lack of organization effort and etc. that resulted in a big hiatus in our chapter. This was a setback for our chapter and the new leadership team has come up with various guidelines to avoid such pitfalls in the future.

In August, Visar Ajeti received the SPIE Officer Travel grant to attend the SPIE Optics and Photonics Conference in San Diego, CA. There were many officers from SPIE chapters around the world who attended this conference and it was very beneficial for our chapter to have a representative at this conference to learn new approaches and ideas for
our chapter. We have learned how important an effective leader is in a team position as well as how the officers can be better leaders in the chapter. We have also learned that there are many approaches to recruiting new members to our chapter and increase the outreach program from our past year involvement. That is why we were urged to create a new chapter position of Outreach Coordinator whose sole responsibility would be to organize outreach events and get our group more involved with outreach. Furthermore, we got new insights on how to efficiently use and manage our chapter resources to create new activities for greater student involvement in the chapter and reaching out to other SPIE chapters for collaboration.

In October, we organized a kickoff meeting for the year that was well attended by student around the campus including undergraduates eager to participate in outreach activities. We prepared a presentation for this meeting informing new students of benefits of becoming and SPIE member and concluding the meeting with new officer elections.

In December, we began our new seminar series with student presentations. Our first student presenter was Somenath Bakshi and was well received by the student body. Instead of having only faculty members presenting their research work at these seminar series, we launched this new series where students can present their research in an informal setting where Q&A format is encouraged. We believe this approach stimulates student thinking and exchange of ideas as their peers are presenting research and problems similar to their own.

4. Chapter Plans for 2012

Our following goals are mainly based on the experience we gained from the previous year. We feel we need to build a stronger foundation for the chapter so that it can move forward.

Goals for 2012:
• Establish a sense of professionalism and networking on campus
  Monthly or at least bimonthly meetings to encourage student speakers
• Increase student members involvement in outreach programs.
• Send chapter representatives to the Optics + Photonics meeting in San Diego, to network and exchange ideas with other chapters.

To establish a sense of professionalism and networking on campus, we plan to have more of student speakers at the seminars to improve their research presentation skills. Furthermore, we plan to organize tours of research labs on campus and local companies to encourage networking among students and inform them of opportunities on campus.
In terms of outreach activities, we have plan on being involved with Wisconsin Institute of Discovery (WID) for lab tours and demonstration of optics and microscopy. We have plant to be involved with volunteering in events such as Science Nights and Science Olympics for young students around Madison.

Finally, we are keen on sending 1-2 members of the student chapter (officers) to the Optics + Photonics meeting in San Diego in August. Not only is it a great opportunity for our officers to present their research, but also to network with other chapters and learn more about what we could do to improve our chapter, and also share our experiences with them.

5. Expenses

- Starting Funds: $650.87
- Kick-off Event: $122.19
- Snacks and Refreshments for Meetings: $53.27
- Total: $475.41