

PROCEEDINGS OF SPIE

Emerging Liquid Crystal Technologies VIII

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Editors

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Introduction

The 2013 SPIE Photonics West conference “Emerging Liquid Crystal Technologies VIII” successfully drew a large and enthusiastic audience who are interested in emerging liquid crystal materials, devices, and applications. The scope of two-day meeting took the form of a summit, bringing together prominent scientists as well as students and postdoctoral fellows. It was held in conjunction with the Exhibition, Career Workshop, and Outreach Day for Start-up business events. The main goal of the conference was to enable the researchers working at the forefront of materials science, optics, photonics, and engineering to discuss the current state and to explore promising future optic and photonic applications of liquid crystals. Strong contributions from conference co-chairs and program committee members were very important for the success of the conference.

The scientific sessions showcased the achievements in the research frontiers of liquid crystal science and technology. There was a keynote speech given by Prof. Shin-Tson Wu (CREOL, University of Central Florida), 10 Invited lectures, and the rest where oral contributed talks. The research topics discussed the most intensively were non-mechanical beam steering devices, tunable photonic crystals, spatial light modulators, emerging display technologies, and switching elements in optical telecommunication networks and sensors. There was a great deal of interest in the liquid crystals composed of or doped with nano-sized particles which are important for emerging new applications. Students participated at both the oral and poster sessions also drew large attendance and heavy traffic.

We look forward to hosting the next successful conference in this series, “Emerging Liquid Crystal Technologies IX,” in 2014.

Liang-Chy Chien