



Most of the papers that we publish in *Optical Engineering* are those that are submitted to the editor by researchers and engineers from around the world. Those that pass the scrutiny of the reviewers and the editor then appear in the pages of the journal. This process is somewhat uncontrolled in the sense that the editor has no control over when and how many papers will arrive; the editor has some control over the refereeing process as far as the timing is concerned. The editor again loses control of the time if the paper has to be revised by the authors. When the final manuscript is received, then the editor, in conjunction with the managing editor in Bellingham, can schedule the paper for publication. We do try to group papers by subject matter but try not to hold up papers for this purpose because our aim is to publish the papers as soon as possible. This process yields a rich variety of worthy papers that add to our knowledge and the application of that knowledge.

A number of times each year we designate an issue to be a "special" in that it will have a focus on a particular topic. All, or a significant part, of the particular issue will be devoted to papers on that topic. The process for these specials is somewhat different. The editor is responsible for selecting the subject matter of these specials and for choosing a special editor or

editors for that issue. These special editors are then responsible for that issue, including the receipt of the papers and the review process. Once the papers have been reviewed and accepted by the special editor, they are sent to the editor of the journal for formal acceptance. From then on, the papers are processed at SPIE headquarters by the managing editor and her staff.

An *Optical Engineering* Editorial Schedule is published in each journal and lists the month in which the special will be published, the topic(s), and the editor(s). If you refer to that schedule on the following page, you will see that we have a number of specials planned through 1992.

I am always interested in suggestions for special topics and, of course, recommendations for the names of possible editors for these volumes. Let me know if you have ideas.

Finally, I should comment that the process for papers for special issues is the same as for "regular" papers except that the guest editor handles the reviewing process. Authors should prepare their papers according to the guidelines contained in the "Information for Contributors" published in each journal.

As editor, I look forward to receiving your contributions whether for "regular" or "special" issues.

Brian J. Thompson
Editor

July 1991

Visual Communications and Image Processing III

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August 1991

X-Ray/EUV Optics

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205/544-7617

November 1991

Infrared Imaging Systems

Mohammad A. Karim
University of Dayton
Center for Electro-Optics
Dept. of Electrical Engineering
300 College Park Ave.
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January 1992

Smart Materials and Structures

Richard O. Claus
Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
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Fiber and Electro-Optics Research Center
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March 1992

Optics in Poland

Romuald Jozwicki
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Institute of Design of Precision and Optical Instruments
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April 1992

Optical Methods and Means of Information Processing

Mikhail M. Miroshnikov
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May 1992

Optical Implementation of Information Processing, Pattern Recognition, and Neural Networks

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This special issue will cover the following areas: optical information processing, including linear and nonlinear operations and transforms; pattern recognition, correlation, filters, distortion invariant object identification; applications of holography in information processing; feature extraction and classification; associative processors and neural networks; and applications of spatial light modulators in one- and two-dimensional information processing.

Authors are invited to submit manuscripts on any of the above topics for inclusion in the special issue. Manuscripts should be sent to Bahram Javidi before August 1, 1991.

June 1992

Adaptive Signal Processing

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This special issue will cover the following areas: historical perspective of adaptive signal processing, fast algorithms for adaptive filtering, blind deconvolution, chaotic models, wavelet transforms, and neural networks. The emphasis will be on theory and applications.

August 1992

Progress in Optics in the United Kingdom

Lionel R. Baker
Sira Ltd.
South Hill, Chislehurst
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This special issue will represent a typical cross section of current applied research taking place in the United Kingdom in the field of optics. We invite those who would like to submit manuscripts to notify L. R. Baker of the title and principal author as soon as possible. Those papers that receive provisional acceptance will begin the refereeing process in early September 1991.

We regard this as an excellent opportunity to promote the best in U.K. optics research worldwide and sincerely hope you will be among those able to offer a title for consideration by our Papers Committee.

January 1993

Optical Research in Asia

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This special issue will present innovative research and development results from Asian countries. Every field of photonics will be considered. Prospective authors are invited to submit manuscripts for consideration. Manuscripts should be received by Chung J. Kuo or Toshimitsu Asakura before Feb. 1, 1992.