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Introduction

This year marked the seventh edition of the conference on Complex Light and Optical Forces that is part of Photonics West. We again had a record number of submissions, indicative of the rising visibility and stature of this conference. Indeed, Complex Light and Optical Forces is still the only yearly venue worldwide for presenting research on complex light. Due to the increasing amount of research in using complex light in quantum information, we again organized successful joint sessions with the conferences 8635 and 8637.

This year the conference had for the first time three full days of sessions with the following 10 sessions: Optical Angular Momentum; Optical Forces; Dynamic Optics I; Dynamic Optics II; Quantum I; Quantum II; Complex Light Synthesis and Propagation; Light, Microstructures and Optical Robotics; Optical Energy and Momentum; and Complex Light Decomposition and Analysis. The conference featured more than 50 presentations, with numerous invited, contributed, and poster presentations.

Bringing these papers to the SPIE proceedings provides a welcome opportunity to thank all the contributors. In particular we gladly acknowledge the support of the members of our highly active and supportive Program Committee, whose sterling work underpins the success of this conference each

year. We remain indebted to the SPIE staff at every level, for reliable management and production processes, achieved with customary hallmark professionalism.

In summary, the present volume is representative of a strongly growing field of photonics that has contributed much to our understanding of light and its applications in manipulation, and which remains leaving much promise of more to come.

Jesper Glückstad David L. Andrews Enrique J. Galvez Marat S. Soskin