



Press release

Feagin awarded SPIE Optics and Photonics Education Scholarship

BELLINGHAM, Washington, USA – 26 June 2015 – Benjamin Feagin Jr. has been awarded a 2015 Optics and Photonics Education Scholarship by SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics for his potential contributions to the field of optics, photonics or related field.



Feagin is a PhD candidate in the Center for Architecture, Science and Ecology (CASE) at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (USA). Advised by Professor Anna Dyson, his research focuses on sentient systems that utilize sensors, photonics, electronics, and mechanics to automatically maintain phytoremediation systems, permitting continuous monitoring of pollution remediation strategies via bio-electromechanical hybrid building systems. Feagin is particularly interested in the use of lasers as a general illumination source for architecture and agriculture applications, providing low profile emitters, high source efficacies, reduction of copper and other heavy metal use in building materials, and adjustable illumination akin to LED technology.

In 2015 SPIE awarded \$353,000 in education and travel scholarships to 126 outstanding individuals, based on their potential contribution to optics and photonics, or a related discipline. Award-winning applicants were evaluated, selected and approved by the SPIE Scholarship Committee, Chaired by SPIE volunteer Cristina Solano.

Through 2014, SPIE has distributed over \$4.5 million dollars in individual scholarships. This ambitious effort reflects the Society's commitment to education and to the next generation of optical scientists and engineers around the world.

To view press releases of the scholarship recipients as they become available go to <http://spie.org/x1737.xml>. Contact scholarships@spie.org if you have any questions. Learn more at <http://spie.org/scholarships>.

[SPIE is the international society for optics and photonics](#), a not-for-profit organization founded in 1955 to advance light-based technologies. The Society serves nearly 264,000 constituents from approximately 166 countries, offering conferences, continuing education, books, journals, and a digital library in support of interdisciplinary information exchange, professional networking, and patent precedent. SPIE provided more than \$4 million in support of education and outreach programs in 2014.

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