



Press release

DeMars awarded SPIE Optics and Photonics Education Scholarship

BELLINGHAM, Washington, USA – 20 May 2015 – Luke DeMars 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.



Demars is a rising senior in physics and a junior in electrical engineering at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities. His areas of interest are in communications and microscopy. His research has included using Light Sheet Microscopy to study mammalian cochlea under the supervision of Dr. Peter Santi, in the Otolaryngology Department. He also worked on diffractive optics development to study self-phasing fiber systems under the supervision of Dr. Jim Leger, in the Electrical Engineering Department. "This summer I will be working at 3M, and here I will be studying efficiency and sustainability of image displays. I will put the funding I received toward educational expenses," said DeMars.

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](http://spie.org), 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.

###

Media contact:
Stacey Crockett
Media Relations Coordinator, SPIE
+1 360-676-3290
staceyc@spie.org