



Press release

Uthoff awarded Optical Design and Engineering Scholarship

BELLINGHAM, Washington, USA – June 10, 2016 – Ross Uthoff has been awarded the 2016 Optical Design and Engineering Scholarship by SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics for his potential contributions to the field of optical design and engineering. This scholarship was established in honor of Bill Price and Warren Smith, both well-respected members of SPIE's technical community.



Uthoff is a PhD student in the College of Optical Sciences at the University of Arizona (USA). His research, advised by Dr. Rongguang Liang, focuses on developing mobile health (mHealth) biomedical instrumentation to improve sensing and diagnostics. Currently, he is developing a system for the detection of oral cancer using a smartphone platform. This device has the potential to save lives in low-resource communities through its inexpensive, non-invasive detection method. He plans to use the award to attend conferences to learn the latest developments in biomedical imaging, share his research, and collaborate with other experts.

In 2016 SPIE awarded \$351,000 in education and travel scholarships to 136 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. An additional \$45,000 in travel scholarships will be awarded later this year.

Through 2015, SPIE has distributed \$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, an educational not-for-profit organization founded in 1955 to advance light-based science, engineering, and technology. The Society serves nearly 264,000 constituents from approximately 166 countries, offering conferences and their published proceedings, continuing education, books, journals, and the SPIE Digital Library. In 2015, SPIE provided more than \$5.2 million in support of education and outreach programs. www.spie.org

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Media contact:

Stacey Crockett

Media Relations Coordinator, SPIE

+1 360-676-3290

staceyc@spie.org