



Press release

Faneca awarded SPIE Optics and Photonics Education Scholarship

BELLINGHAM, Washington, USA – June 4, 2019 – **Joaquin Faneca Ruedas** has been awarded a 2019 Optics and Photonics Education Scholarship by SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics, for their potential contributions to the field of optics, photonics or related field.



Faneca is a PhD student at the University of Exeter under the co-supervision of Professor David Wright, Dr. Anna Baldycheva and Dr. Frederic Y. Gardes. Faneca is interested in reconfigurable and programmable photonic integrated circuits based on phase change materials, liquid crystals and 2D materials for optical communications applications. He received several student awards as 1st technical poster prize and best student presentation in different conferences. He authored one paper on reconfigurable integrated photonics based on liquid crystals and several proceeding in 2D materials and phase change materials integrated in silicon nitride.

The Society awarded \$298,000 in education scholarships to 84 outstanding SPIE student members, 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 Jeremy Bos.

Through 2018, SPIE has distributed \$6 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 other 2019 press releases as they become available go to the [2019 Scholarship Winners page](#) or learn more about [SPIE scholarships](#) on [spie.org](#).

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 257,000 constituents from 173 countries, offering conferences and their published proceedings, continuing education, books, journals, and the SPIE Digital Library. In 2018, SPIE provided more than \$4 million in community support including scholarships and awards, outreach and advocacy programs, travel grants, public policy, and educational resources. www.spie.org.

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