

Rice Photonic Owls Student Chapter of SPIE

Annual Activity Report

November 1, 2014

Covering November 1st, 2013 – November 1st, 2014

1. Student Officers:

President: Yao Cui,	Email: yao.cui@rice.edu,	Member#: 3650802
Vice President: Ben Cerjan,	Email: bwc5@rice.edu,	Member#: 3651513
Treasurer: Dayne Swearer,	Email: Dayne.F.Swearer@rice.edu,	Member#: 3651514
Secretary: Adam Lauchner,	Email: acl3@rice.edu,	Member#: 3650781

2. List of Chapter Members: 11 Members

<u>Member Name</u>	<u>Membership Expiration Date</u>
Benjamin Cerjan	26 October 2015
Yao Cui	22 October 2015
Alessandra Forucci	13 January 2015
Nicholas King	14 October 2015
Vikram Kulkarni	5 November 2014
Adam Lauchner	22 October 2015
Andrew MacInnes	24 February 2015
Andrea Schlather	5 January 2015
Dayne Swearer	26 October 2015
Fangfang Wen	27 October 2015
Bob Zheng	30 October 2015

3. Chapter Activities:

- Rice Laboratory for Nanophotonics (LANP) Meetings:** We have continued our partnership with the Rice Laboratory for Nanophotonics to assist with their monthly meetings. Each month, a LANP poster seminar is held where members present elements of their research. There are typically a dozen graduate students presenting on various subjects concerning optics at the nanoscale. Being a regularly scheduled event, these lunches have become the standard meeting for presenting recent research to the club. Club specific information and tasks are addressed afterward or in smaller SPIE specific meetings.

2. **Tutorials:** We have continued our tutorials for Maya, a 3D rendering software package, to create figures and schematics of the nanophotonic systems studied in our respective experiments. The tutorials draw a large crowd of active researchers hoping to add some flare to publication and presentation graphics. Food and soft drinks are provided as the tutorial is usually held at night to not interfere with work schedules.
3. **Officer Elections:** Officer Elections were held on October 23, 2014.
 - **Previous Officers** (2013-2014 academic year):

President: Bob Zheng
Vice President: Sam Gottheim
Treasurer: Andrea Schlather
Secretary: Nicholas King

- **Current Elected Officers** (2014-2015 academic year):

President: Yang Cao
Vice President: Ben Cerjan
Secretary: Adam Lauchner
Treasurer: Dayne Swearer

4. **Planned Future Activities:**

The Photonic Owls chapter is planning the following activities over the coming year:

1. **Rice Laboratory for Nanophotonics (LANP) Meetings:** We will continue assisting the LANP group in organizing monthly research poster presentations. These meetings are an excellent venue to share recent research and ideas with our club and expose SPIE to many graduate students that aren't SPIE member yet.
2. **Tutorials:** We plan to continue our tutorial sessions on commonly used software packages and microscope basics. We plan to definitely continue the popular Maya 3D rendering tutorials. Other potential topics may include: Mendeley citation manager, introduction to 3D printing, microscope construction, OriginPro data analysis and plotting, IGOR data analysis and plotting, CAD programming.
3. **Joint Social Event:** We are volunteering at a joint social event with the Rice University Physics & Astronomy Dept. Graduate Student Association and the Chemistry Dept. Graduate Student Association. The event will be held in mid-November 2014 and include barbeque-style refreshments. We hope that supporting such an event will increase the Photonic Owls broader campus visibility.

4. **SPIE Presentation Award:** Rice University Quantum Institute (RQI) hosts an annual colloquium at the end of summer for Rice undergraduates, visiting summer students, and graduate students to present progress in their research. This is a full day event with a selected group of oral presentations and a large poster session. Once again, unforeseen organizational change in 2014 prevented us from sponsoring a prize. We hope that the format will be standardized by next year to allow us to sponsor a poster presentation prize.

5. Finances:

1. **Beginning Balance: \$1248.61**

2. **Funds Raised/Expended:**

Funds Raised: \$700.12

- Activity Grant from SPIE:
Total: **\$700.00**
- Rice University Student Activity Fund Interest:
Total: **\$0.12**

Expenditures: \$

- Food and refreshments:
Total: **\$289.11**

3. **Ending Balance: \$1659.62**