

[OSA Student News]



From Left to right: Virginia Tech student chapter members Jiajun Wang, Jihaeng Yi, Evan Lally, Yunmiao Wang, Baigang Zhang, Yaoshun Jia and Yunjing Wang.

Virginia Tech Chapter Reaches Out to Industry

In 2009, the OSA Student Chapter at Virginia Tech made a renewed commitment to cultivating contacts in the optics community. The chapter hopes to provide their members with optics career opportunities and show them how optics research is applied in industry. For example, they are planning a trip to visit local optical and electrical engineering companies. Luna Innovations, Inc., in Roanoke, Va., U.S.A., will be the first company with whom the chapter collaborates. Luna already has a close connection to Virginia Tech.

Students Gather for IONS in Glasgow

The sixth conference of the International OSA Network of Students (IONS) was held in July 2009 at the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, Scotland, United Kingdom. The conference brought together 45 students from many countries, including the United Kingdom, Ireland, Spain, France, Germany and Russia.

IONS gives students the opportunity to network and share research with their peers by presenting talks and posters. Students participated in a poster session for student chapter updates and a company showcase. OSA student members **Alexander Kuhlicke** and **Kevin Murphy** won the best talk and best poster prizes, respectively. Participants also enjoyed numerous social events, including a reception at Glasgow's City Chambers, a dinner followed by a traditional Scottish dance (ceilidh) and a trip to a whisky distillery and Loch Lomond. IONS7 will be held at the NUI Galway.

[Events and Meetings]



OSA Takes Part in CLEO Pacific Rim

OSA hosted a number of events in conjunction with the 8th Pacific Rim Conference on Lasers and Electro-Optics (CLEO/Pacific Rim 2009) in Shanghai, China, including a well-attended member reception and a full-day of programs for student members. Past and present OSA board members joined OSA for these events, including OSA President **Tom Baer**, OSA President-elect **Jim Wyant**, OSA Vice-President **Chris Dainty**, Board member **Thomas Elsaesser** and Past Presidents **Eric Van Stryland** and **Tingye Li**.

[Outreach & Education]



OSA Helps Girls GETSET for College

The OSA Foundation recently supported an outreach program focused on educating girls in optics. In Girls Exploring Technology, Science and Engineering Together (GETSET), girls participate in various experiments, ranging from lighting incandescent bulbs using microwave radiation to observing the emission

spectrum of gases to trapping laser beams in water streams. The girls even used super-cooled superconductors to levitate magnets. The most recent event was held in March at San Francisco State University. It brought together more than 50 girls from several economically challenged Bay Area high schools.

[Publications]

Welcome New Editors

OSA is happy to announce that **Julie Bentley** of the University of Rochester, **Bernard Kippelen** of the Georgia Institute of Technology, U.S.A., and **Adrian Stern** of the Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel, have agreed to serve as new associate editors for *Optics Express*. We thank these members of the optics community for their support of OSA journals.

New England Members Contribute to Cambridge Science Festival

Earlier this year, many universities participated in the 3rd annual Cambridge Science Festival. The opening day event—called the Science Carnival—was held at M.I.T.'s Kresge Auditorium; it featured science activities geared toward all ages.

OSA sections and student chapters were active participants. OSA's New England section presented *Optics: Light at Work* and the Tufts University student chapter contributed volunteers as well as activities, including an optically guided Lego car, diffraction gratings and polarizing filters to exhibit during the carnival alongside New England section members.

Susannah Lehman (slehma@osa.org) is OSA's publications coordinator.