

# Optics in 2006

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**T**his special issue highlights the most exciting research to emerge in the preceding 12 months in the fast-paced world of optics. The areas covered in 2006 include array detectors, Bloch oscillations, coherent imaging, diffractive optics, imaging, metamaterials, nonlinear optics, optical beams, opto-mechanics, polarization, Raman spectroscopy, soft X-rays and ultrafast science.

This year's issue comprises 30 summaries that represent the work of 185 authors. There were 74 submissions from 374 authors representing 16 countries. Submissions were judged on the basis of the following criteria:

- The accomplishments described must have been published in a refereed journal in the year prior to publication in OPN.
- The work should be illustrated in a clear, concise manner that is readily accessible to the at-large optics community.
- The authors should describe the topical area as a whole and then detail the importance of their work in that context.

*OPN and OSA would like to thank all the researchers from around the world who submitted summaries to "Optics in 2006," as well as our panel chair and guest editors.*