



Optics in 2003

Courtesy of Gerhard Birkel

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The December *Optics & Photonics News* (OPN) is a special issue that highlights the most exciting research to emerge in the preceding 12 months in the fast paced world of optics.

"Optics in 2003" offers readers a unique opportunity to access, in a single source, descriptions of cutting-edge optics research reported in the peer-reviewed press. The areas covered in this year's special issue range from biophotonics and microscopy to optical engineering and quantum information systems. This year's issue comprises 29 summaries that represent the work of 92 scientists from around the globe.

Submissions to "Optics in 2003" are judged according to the following selection criteria:

- the accomplishments described must have been published in a refereed journal in the year prior to publication in OPN;
- the work must be illustrated in a clear, concise manner that is readily comprehensible to the at-large optics community;

- the topical area as a whole must be described, and the importance of the research must be detailed.

Although OPN makes every effort to ensure that achievements in all optics subfields are recognized, there are no requirements in the selection process for inclusion of specific topical areas. When a large number of submissions are received for a specific area it is taken as evidence that the topic has been fertile ground for activity and research. OPN strives to ensure that engineering, science and technology are all represented. The number of papers accepted overall is limited by space.

OPN and OSA would like to thank the hundreds of researchers from around the world who submitted summaries of their peer-reviewed publications to "Optics in 2003."

The OPN Editorial Advisory Committee and the staff of OPN would like to take this opportunity to express their thanks to Bob D. Guenther, a contributing editor of the magazine, for his careful oversight of this special issue and for his innumerable contributions to OPN.