



“The Time Has Come,” the Editor Said to the Society

I was appointed by the Board of Directors of SPIE in 1990 to be your editor and to start my responsibilities with Volume 30, to be published in 1991. The initial appointment was for three years with the option for three one-year extensions. I am completing my sixth year with this volume—1996. You should also know that more than a year ago I made the commitment to a seventh year, which will take me through 1997.

Editors cannot, and should not, go on forever, hence I decided that 1997 must be my last year as your editor—a position that I have found singularly rewarding and that has brought me into contact with a large number of colleagues around the world. But as the saying goes, “All good things must come to an end. . . .” My editorship was good for me and I hope that I, in my part, made it good for authors, reviewers, guest editors, readers, and editorial staff. I thank you all for the opportunity to work with you.

Rest assured that I will continue to press hard to make the journal even better before I pass on the editorial gavel.

The Publications Committee of SPIE has the responsibility to form a search subcommittee to assist in the selection of the next editor of *Optical Engineering*. The subcommittee is charged with making a recommendation to the Publications Committee and eventually to the Board of Directors of SPIE. The process is already underway. For your information I list the two committees involved in this search process—the Publications Committee and the Editor Search Subcommittee.

Publications Committee 1996

Mr. Daniel Vukobratovich, Chair
Dr. Katherine Creath
Dr. Edward R. Dougherty
Dr. James A. Harrington
Dr. Norman S. Kopeika
Dr. Joseph R. Lakowicz
Dr. Daniel Malacara-Hernandez
Dr. Brian J. Thompson
Mr. Paul R. Yoder, Jr.

Editor Search Subcommittee

Mr. Daniel Vukobratovich, Chair
Dr. Lionel R. Baker
Dr. Katherine Creath
Dr. Anthony J. DeMaria
Dr. Jack D. Gaskill
Dr. James A. Harrington
Dr. Roland Jacobsson
Mr. Eric Pepper
Dr. Theodore T. Saito
Dr. Richard C. Straight
Dr. Brian J. Thompson

Charge to the Editor Search Subcommittee: To identify and recommend to the SPIE Publications Committee and Board of Directors qualified candidates to be considered for the position of Editor of *Optical Engineering* for the term beginning in January 1998.

Members of the Publications Committee and the Editor Search Subcommittee welcome your input.

Brian J. Thompson
Editor