Editorial



Scholarly Publishing

I had the pleasure of participating in a conference recently on "The Politics and Processes of Scholarly Publishing" held at the University of South Florida's St. Petersburg campus, March 12–14, 1994. The attendees were from a wide variety of disciplines and the speakers and panelists reflected that diversity. For my part, I gave a plenary address on Sunday evening entitled "University Presses, Society Journals and Commercial Books: Ethics and Infrastructure." I also participated in a panel discussion on Saturday morning on "The Role of the Scholarly Editor: Managing the Academic Conversation."

The conference proved very interesting to me since I was able to get some insight into those problems that are common to all disciplines and understand those that appear to be discipline dependent mainly because of the history and traditions of these disciplines. I was surprised, for example, to hear of journals that require the "copyright transfer agreement" to be signed when the article is submitted, otherwise the editor believed he could not send the material out for review. There were several discussions about multiple submissions. In the scientific and engineering fields, it is usual to expect that a submission to a journal is exclusively to that journal. Many journals actually ask the authors to certify that the manuscript they are submitting contains new material not previously published or submitted elsewhere for simultaneous consideration. Other editors said that they would feel quite comfortable with multiple submissions if the authors stated that when they submitted their work for consideration. Some of the younger scholars present, and particularly those in the humanities, felt that it was a real hindrance to their programs as scholars to have to be constrained to go through a process of sequential rather than simultaneous submissions. Clearly, the point of view is very much determined by how long it takes for the review process. If the date of submission to date of decision is short enough (a few months) then sequential submission is not a big issue. If that time period is a year or more, then it really is a serious problem. So editors must get material out for review as quickly as possible and then press the reviewers to get their analyses and recommendations back as soon as possible. I always try to remind reviewers that they are authors too, and hope that they will process the paper as expeditiously as they would like to see their own submissions processed.

As the reader might imagine, there was a special session on "Electronic Texts and Journals" as well as considerable discussion throughout the conference on this important, but difficult, topic. I conclude that this is still a great topic for discussion, but the directions are still unclear with lots of experiments going on. One journal was making accepted papers available in electronic form until they were published. One conclusion that concerned me was that with electronic publishing there would be no need to restrict the length of any paper! That should produce some great writing and clutter up the record. I also learned a new word—"computeracy"—as compared to and parallel to "literacy"!!

In this short editorial I cannot cover all the fascinating aspects and topics of the conference but here are some that followed Robert Boice's excellent keynote address on "Programs that Enhance Writing and Teaching": defining and assessing scholarship; the academic journal as academic community; faculty development; computers and scholarship; publishing strategies; gender issues; creating and maintaining academic journals, mentor-student opportunities; ensuring quality, etc.

I thank Joseph Moxley and Lagretta Lenker for organizing this conference and for the hospitality extended by the University of South Florida. As a side benefit instead of having lunch on Sunday, I was able to spend some time at the Salvador Dali Museum which is adjacent to the St. Petersburg campus. As the brochure states, "The collection is unrivaled in scope and complexity." The complexity was wonderfully explained to the visitors by an outstanding docent (take a bow if you were the docent on duty at 12:15 on Sunday, March 13). Part of the collection is currently in London at a Dali exhibition so if you *have* to be in London

Electronic Submissions

In response to a number of requests, we will be adding the following section to our "Information for Contributors" that appears in each issue of *Optical Engineering*.

Electronic Submissions: Authors are encouraged to submit FINAL VERSIONS of their electronic manuscripts in the form of disks along with a printed hardcopy. (For the review process, hardcopy versions of the manuscripts are required.) Disks may be in any of the following formats: WordPerfect, Microsoft Word, TeX, or REVTeX. Please save an ASCII version of the file to disk also.

Figures must be submitted as camera-ready hardcopy. Encapsulated Postscript (EPS), Tagged Image File Format (TIFF), or Word or WordPerfect images on disk will be accepted but not necessarily used. Please contact the Office of the Managing Editor for details. *FTP Storage of Illustrations:* In addition to publication in the journal, if the author so desires, we will post figures on SPIE's anonymous FTP site for three months after date of issue. We encourage this in cases for which access to the original data would aid the reader's understanding of the paper content. Please contact the Office of the Managing Editor for details.

Editor's Anecdotes

I usually follow up with authors about the revised manuscripts. Here is one reply:

I am pleased to accept the direction suggested by the reviewers about revising my paper.... I am revising my paper hardly according to the requests of "Information for Contributors" and the reviewers.

I received a submission that had been sent to Dr. H. J. Caulfield, Editor, Optical Engineering, Aerodyne Research, Inc. John, even though you haven't been at Aerodyne for a dozen years, you are still the editor to some of our colleagues!

> Brian J. Thompson Editor

Optical Engineering Editorial Schedule

June 1994

Optical Science & Engineering in India

Rajpal S. Sirohi Indian Institute of Technology Applied Optics Laboratory Physics Department Madras-600 036, India 044-2351365 ext. 221 • 044-2350509 FAX

Optical Pattern Recognition

Joseph L. Horner Rome Laboratory EROP Hanscom AFB, MA 01731-5000 617/377-3841 • 617/377-5041 FAX

Bahram Javidi

University of Connecticut School of Engineering Department of Electrical and Systems Engineering Room 312, U-157 260 Glenbrook Road Storrs, CT 06269-3157 203/486-4816 • 203/486-3789 FAX

July 1994

Adaptive Wavelet Transforms

Harold H. Szu U.S. Navy Naval Surface Warfare Center Code R44 10901 New Hampshire Avenue Silver Springs, MD 20903-5000 301/394-3097 • 301/394-3923 FAX

August 1994

Digital Image Recovery and Synthesis Paul S. Idell

Rockwell International Rocketdyne Division MS SS46 P.O. Box 7922 Canoga Park, CA 91309-7922 818/586-8238 • 818/586-5295 FAX E-mail: pidell@windance.rdyne.rockwell.com

September 1994

Optics in South Africa

Hannes Markusse ELOPTRO Institute of Atomic Physics P.O. Box 869 Kempton Park 1620, South Africa

Maurice W. McDowell CSIR/Production Technology Div. Productiontek P.O. Box 395 Pretoria 0001, South Africa 27 12 841 3418 • 27 12 841 2131 FAX

October 1994

Optics in Russia V. Ya. Panchenko Scientific Research Center for Technological Lasers Russia Academy of Sciences B-333, Gubkina, 3 117971 Moscow, Russia E-mail: ilc@compnet.npimsu.msk.su (095)135-54-30 • (095)334-02-01 FAX

November 1994

Micro-Optics

Chandrasekhar Roychoudhuri University of Connecticut at Storrs Photonics Research Center MS-157, Room 312 260 Glenbrook Road Storrs, CT 06269-3157 203/486-4816 • 203/486-3789 FAX

December 1994

Optics in Ireland

John Hegarty C. D. Hussey University of Dublin Trinity College Department of Pure and Applied Physics Dublin 2, Ireland +353-1-7022019 • +353-1-711759 FAX

January 1995

X-Ray/EUV Optics Richard B. Hoover NASA Marshall Space Flight Center ES52 Space Science Center Huntsville, AL 35812-0001 E-mail: hoover@ssl.msfc.nasa.gov 205/544-7617 • 205/544-5856 FAX Manuscripts due June 1, 1994.

February 1995

High Heat Flux Optical Engineering

Ali M. Khounsary Argonne National Laboratory Advanced Photon Source, APS 362 Argonne, IL 60439 708/252-3384 • 708/252-3222 FAX Manuscripts due July 1, 1994.

March 1995

Optical Engineering in Ophthalmology

Suganda Jutamulia Kowa Company, Ltd. Silicon Valley Office 100 Homeland Court, Suite 302 San Jose, CA 95112 408/441-9300 • 408/441-0537 FAX

Toshimitsu Asakura Hokkaido University Research Institute for Electronic Science Sapporo, 060 Japan 81-11-716-2111 • 81-11-758-3173 FAX Manuscripts due Aug. 1, 1994.

April 1995

Optics in the Ukraine Oleg V. Angelsky Chernovtsy University Department of Correlation Optics 2 Kosyubinsky Street 274012 Chernovtsy Ukraine (03722) 44730 • (03722) 41314 FAX *Manuscripts due Aug. 15, 1994*

July 1995

Optics in Switzerland

P. K. Rastogi Swiss Federal Institute of Technology-Lausanne Laboratory of Stress Analysis CH-1015 Lausanne Switzerland E-mail: rastogi@elgc.epfl.ch (021) 693 24 45 • (021) 693 47 48 FAX Manuscripts due Nov. 15, 1994

September 1995

Optical Science & Engineering in Finland

Seppo Honkanen Nokia Research Center P.O. Box 45 FIN-00211 Helsinki Finland +358 0 437 6470 • +358 0 455 2557 FAX Manuscripts due Jan. 15, 1995

November 1995

Optical Remote Sensing and Image Processing Mohammad A. Karim Bradley D. Duncan

University of Dayton Center for Electro-Optics 300 College Park Dayton, OH 45469-0227 513/229-2241 • 513/229-3177 513/229-2471 FAX

Manuscripts due April 1, 1995

December 1995

Optics in Polymer Science and Technology

Maksymilian Pluta Institute of Applied Optics Kamionkowska 18 03-805 Warsaw, Poland (4822) 184405 • (4822) 133265 FAX

Andrzej Wasiak Institute of Fundamental Technological Research Polish Academy of Sciences Savietokrzyska 21 00-012 Warsaw, Poland (4822) 269815 FAX Manuscripts due April 1, 1995.