



Welcome Mohan; Thank You Lorretta

It is a great pleasure for me to welcome a new member of our *Optical Engineering* team and to introduce him to you, our readers.

Mohan G. Nair joined the editorial and management staff of SPIE's headquarters in Bellingham toward the end of March. He is our new manager of the SPIE Journals Department and managing editor of *Optical Engineering*. In this new role, for him, he will be reporting directly to Eric Pepper, who is the director of publications. Many of you know Eric, and you will have a chance to meet Mohan personally at future conferences. Of course I will be working closely with Mohan and his team to continue to produce and improve *Optical Engineering*.

Mr. Nair brings a strong set of experiences to bear. In his own words he writes, "My background covers all aspects of book and journal publishing, including acquisition, development, and management of scientific, technical and medical publications. I have expertise in the areas of editorial/acquisition/management, editing/design/production/manufacturing, and marketing/sales/promotion."

He received a B.A. in English from the University of Pennsylvania and an M.Phil. in English and economics from Mansfield College at Oxford University. He joins us from CRC Press where his most recent assignment was as journal manager (1989–1994).

Mohan replaced Lorretta Palagi, who has served the society with great energy, outstanding competence, and real dedication for many years. She was certainly a pleasure for me to work with and that pleasure is echoed by all the authors who have published in *Optical Engineering* since March of 1991. We wish Lorretta all the best in her new venture as a freelance book packager and copyeditor. She is already working with a number of major publishers to take a raw manuscript and turn it into a bound book, with all the

responsibility that that process entails of editing, designing, and printing. Thank you, Lorretta, and good luck in your "go-it-alone" venture.

Editor's Anecdote: It Happened in San Jose

My wife, Joyce, and I checked into our hotel for the SPIE international symposium being held there in early February. We noticed that the message light was flashing on our telephone. I picked up the messages, including this one:

"Brian, this is Lori. I am just going down to the gift shop and will be back in my room soon."

I assumed it must be a conference-related call, and my first thought was that Lori Jenkins, a staff editor in our journals department, was at the conference and wanted to meet with me. So I dialed the hotel operator and asked to be connected to Lori Jenkins' room. The operator responded that no one by that name was registered.

It occurred to me that Lorie Pancoe, a staff member who works with our Milestone Series, must be at the meeting, so I asked that I be connected with her. The response again was "No one by that name is registered." I must say I was rather embarrassed by this time and wondered what the operator thought! I then explained my dilemma, and she very kindly looked through the list of SPIE staff who were registered and found a Lori Paulette. Still a bit mystified, I left her a return message even though I didn't recognize her name.

The mystery was solved the next morning when I met Lori Paulette, who works in the SPIE Membership and Administrative Services Department. She thought she was leaving a message for Brian Thomas, SPIE's manager of New Media Development, because they had a meeting that evening!

Of course I promised not to tell the story to anyone—well, maybe a few close friends.

Brian J. Thompson
Editor

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