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**Jean Emmanuel Broquin
Gualtiero Nunzi Conti**
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Introduction

Whether you are a confirmed scientist or a student, whether you are an academic or working for a company, you will find in these proceedings of the sixteenth Photonics West conference on Integrated Optics a picture of that still evolving, dynamic and exciting field.

This year's conference reflected that aspect by its diversity in terms of applications: telecom of course but also a huge diversity of sensors as well as nonlinear optics. Moreover, this variety of uses has also been completed by a great variety of technological and design approaches. From the well-known "silica-on-silicon" based waveguides to new plasmonic devices, from erbium-doped glass waveguides to polymer ones, our conference covered a technological spectrum as wide as possible since we believe that the cross-fertilization of ideas is one of the keys to major breakthroughs in science.

In these proceedings, the reader will therefore see a wide range of exciting advances ranging from new optofluidic devices to different approaches for obtaining magneto-optic waveguides, as well as state of the art photonic integration on silicon chips.

He will also find articles written by students, who quite often gave their first international talk at this conference, together with papers from renowned scientists of the field. It is indeed because today's students are tomorrow's scientific leaders that our conference always promoted their participation and will keep on doing so thanks to the SPIE student grant policy.

If "Integrated Optics: Technology, Devices and Materials" is now one of the oldest conferences of the SPIE Optoelectronics symposium, it is, of course, because of the quality of the scientific work that has been presented through the years, but it is also because of the dedication of all the members of the program committee who accept willingly to spend a part of their summertime in building this conference and finding all the exciting invited talks that we see every year.

To them, to all the speakers and authors, to all the SPIE staff who make the logistics run so smoothly, we would like to say thank you very much and we long to see you next year.

**Jean Emmanuel Broquin
Gualtiero Nunzi-Conti**

