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David L. Andrews
Enrique J. Galvez
Jesper Glückstad
Editors

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Introduction

The areas described in the title of the conference proceedings are, before you pair them together, two of the most rapidly developing topics in modern optics. The links between various forms of structured light and novel forms of optical force represent an obvious and well established area of overlap, yet each field is in its own right experiencing much wider development. Across this whole field, there is closely matched progress in theory, technical methodology and application. As befits the subject area, this itself can be identified as a singular feature. Consider, alone, the angular momentum of light. Who could have guessed that a topic briefly that was addressed in a couple of innocuous-looking pages in Mandel and Wolf's classic from 1995 would soon proliferate into a subject that is now the focus of conferences across the globe? This year, for example, in addition to the trend-setting annual Complex Light and Optical Forces conference in the United States, major meetings are also scheduled in Canada, Germany, Italy, Japan and Ukraine.

Complex Light and Optical Forces laid down an initial marker for this field; the diversity of techniques continues to grow, whilst fundamental issues in the theory continue to present a significant challenge on several fronts. In this its eleventh consecutive run, this annual conference continues to be the "go-to" forum for reporting the very latest research achievements, with a committed and enthusiastic audience, and presenters who regularly include many of the world's top researchers. As conference chairs we are delighted and grateful to the authors, old and new, who contributed this year—and especially to those who have provided written or recorded accounts for these proceedings. Amongst the uniformly high standard, several describe features that are entirely new in this field. We thank every member of the program committee for their support. We also acknowledge the unfailingly supportive SPIE staff for assisting the conference organization in every way, and for ensuring speedy and professional processing of these proceedings.

David L. Andrews
Enrique J. Galvez
Jesper Glückstad