



Editorial

H. J. Caulfield, Editor *Optical Engineering*

The Issue: Special Issues

The "special issue" has been a characteristic of *Optical Engineering* for many years. Under *Optical Engineering's* last editor, Dr. John DeVelis, special issues came to be a highly effective way of drawing fields together and drawing the attention of the optics community to those fields. In this editorial, I want to affirm my desire to maintain and strengthen what John has started. The particular questions I want to address are:

- How do special issues come about?
- How can interested readers become part of the process?
- How can we draw attention to new, rapidly developing areas?

In the past and for the foreseeable future, the editor is responsible both for the topic and for the special-issue editor. The special-issue editor solicits papers, has them reviewed and modified as appropriate, and then sends them to the journal's editor for final approval. Because the format requires time to block out, typeset, react to author comments on galley proofs, print, and distribute, the papers must be in the editor's hands four months before the cover date.

As of now, *Optical Engineering* will take several steps to open up the process to a broader constituency. First, we will publish a listing of special-issue topics and editors in each issue. Those wishing to have their manuscripts considered for such an issue should correspond directly with that issue's guest editor. Second, I issue now and will reissue periodically a sincere call for topic and guest-editor suggestions. Please tell me the topics which need to be covered and who knows each field best.

Third, some fields are too small or too young to support a full special issue (typically a dozen or more papers). For those fields I have formalized a practice, often used without label by John DeVelis, of having a "minispecial" of three to six papers in each journal issue.

Finally, in each *Optical Engineering* there are always ten to twelve contributed papers which are unrelated to the special-issue topics. My goals for these kinds of papers will be discussed in a forthcoming editorial.

Optical Engineering is your journal. I need and want your help and will try to make your part easy. Our ultimate success is up to you.

OPTICAL ENGINEERING EDITORIAL SCHEDULE

MAY/JUNE 1980

Digital Image Processing II

Andrew G. Tescher, David Casasent
Guest Editors

JULY/AUGUST 1980

Instrumentation in Environmental Optics

Tomas Hirschfeld, Guest Editor

Feedback in Optical Imaging

Stuart A. Collins, Jr., Guest Editor

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 1980

Holography

James C. Wyant, Guest Editor
Optical Sciences Center
University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721 (601/626-3144)

George O. Reynolds, Guest Editor
A. D. Little, Inc.
Acorn Park, Cambridge, MA 02140
(617/864-5770, Ext. 2307)

Electronically Tunable Optical Spectral Filters

I. C. Chang, Guest Editor
Applied Technology, Div. of Itek Corp.
645 Almanor Avenue
Sunnyvale, CA 94086 (408/732-2710)

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 1980

Novel Interferometry

George W. Hopkins, Guest Editor
521 Castle Rock Terrace
Sunnyvale, CA 94087 (415/493-1212)

Chris L. Koliopoulos, Guest Editor
Optical Sciences Center
University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721 (602/626-3020)

Optical Particle Measurement

James D. Trolinger, Guest Editor
Spectrum Development Labs., Inc.
3303 Harbor Blvd., Suite G-3
Costa Mesa, CA 92626 (714/549-8477)

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 1981

Optical Polarizing

R. M. A. Azzam, Guest Editor
Electrical Engineering Dept.
University of New Orleans
New Orleans, LA 70122 (504/283-0650)

Atmospheric Optical Communication

Prof. Cardinal Warde, Guest Editor
Room 13-3134
Dept. of Elec. Engineering & Computer Sci.
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Cambridge, MA 02139

MARCH/APRIL 1981

Optical Assembly & Tolerancing

Paul R. Yoder, Jr., Guest Editor
The Perkin-Elmer Corporation
Norwalk, CT 06856 (203/762-1000)

MAY/JUNE 1981

Optical Data Recording

A. Jamberdino, Guest Editor
Rome Air Development Center
Griffiss Air Force Base
Rome, NY 13441 (315/330-4581)