Another Year in Review

It hardly seems possible that an entire year has passed since I wrote a similar editorial for the December 1986 issue of Optical Engineering. Perhaps the years seem to go by more quickly as we get older because each succeeding year occupies a smaller percentage of our total lifetime. Just a thought.

The journal underwent no major changes during 1987 like those made during the previous year regarding publication frequency, format, addition of authors' biographies and photos, etc. Consequently, I have nothing to report along those lines.

I would like to acknowledge the efforts of the guest editors for 1987, whose names are listed below with the titles of their very successful special issues:

Nasser Peyghambarian (Optical Computing and Nonlinear Optical Signal Processing; January)
Solomon Musikant (Optical Materials; February)
Eustace L. Dereniak (Infrared Focal Plane Arrays; March)
Joseph P. Kirk (Optical Microlithography; April)
Uzi Efron (Optical Information Processing: Systems, Materials, and Devices; May)

The time and energy expended by all of these individuals to ensure the success of their special issues is sincerely appreciated.

I would also like to give special recognition to the winners of the Rudolf Kingslake Medal and Prize for 1986: Arthur D. Fisher, Lai-Chang Ling, John N. Lee, and Robert C. Fukuda. Their paper, “Photoemitter membrane light modulator,” which was published in the February 1986 issue of Optical Engineering, was judged by the Kingslake Award Committee the most noteworthy original paper to appear in the journal that year. I congratulate the authors for their achievement.

The past year also brought sadness with the death of George O. Reynolds in February. George, who was a long-time member of SPIE and was serving as Chair of the Publications Committee at the time of his death, played an important role in the development of the journal. He was not only an engineer, an educator, and a leader in the Society, he was also a close personal friend. He is missed by his family, his friends, and his colleagues.

Finally, I once again wish to thank all of the authors who submitted manuscripts to be considered for publication in Optical Engineering and the referees who reviewed all of those manuscripts. As I have said before, we are in debt to these individuals because without them there could be no journal.

Future Special Issue (see p. 1290 for complete editorial schedule)

August 1988

Multiple-Aperture Optical Systems

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The August 1988 special issue of Optical Engineering will be devoted to multiple-aperture optical technologies. The issue will cover multiple-aperture optical system design, engineering, special components, control systems, implementation technologies, and applications. Emphasis will be placed on technologies supporting large effective apertures constructed from smaller optical systems with independent capability or from segments of a parent optical surface.

Topics of interest include multiple-aperture optical configurations, wavefront sensing and control techniques, active alignment and phase control, aperture synthesis, dilute apertures, multiple-aperture image processing, and special diagnostics. The scope of papers will encompass technology reviews, historical perspectives, innovative technologies, and recent advances in the field.

Authors are encouraged to submit manuscripts on any of the above topics for inclusion in the special issue. Manuscripts submitted for consideration should be sent to the Guest Editor before January 15, 1988.