

Biophotonics South America

**Cristina Kurachi
Katarina Svanberg
Bruce J. Tromberg
Vanderlei Salvador Bagnato**
Editors

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Introduction

SPIE Biophotonics South America was a joint-meeting with the 15th World Congress of the International Photodynamic Association (IPA) and took place on 23–25 May 2015, at the Belmond Copacabana Palace Hotel, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. The first edition of the SPIE-BSA conference had 107 registered attendees from 16 nations including: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, France, Greece, Japan, Mexico, Switzerland, Denmark, the United Kingdom, Ireland, Sweden, the Russian Federation, Spain, and the United States, contributing with 49 oral and 79 poster presentations. In IPA 2015, 200 participants from 27 nations were registered. Some attendees presented contributions in both conferences. Exciting and new research results were presented on topics related to tissue optics, plasmonic nanosensors, OCT, tissue microscopy, photodiagnosis, spectroscopy, nanobiophotonics, photonic instrumentation, and clinical applications.

The participants from both meetings could attend any of the SPIE and IPA sessions, resulting in a productive interaction. All tutorials, plenary lectures, and poster sessions were SPIE/IPA shared activities.

Cristina Kurachi