

OPEN Optics and Photonics Education News

Newsletter of the Optics and Photonics College Network

December 2018

Winner of 13th Annual OPN "After Image" Contest



A blue/UV laser pointer was coupled into the handle of a cup, which guides the light and feeds it into a fluorescing liquid that lights up in green colors. Visit www.osa-opn.org/home/gallery/photo_contests/2018 for a gallery of all the submissions to this year's After Image photo contest.

From the Executive Director



The lead picture in this month's issue displays the winner of the OPN After Image contest. I encourage you to click the link to the website and view all ten of the finalist images.

Copies of the new Fundamentals of Light and Lasers, 3rd Edition, have been mailed to the OPCN faculty members who are teaching from this text. If you have not received a copy, and are interested, please request a pdf version from the OP-TEC store <https://www.optecstore.org/products/course-1-fundamentals-of-light-and-lasers-3rd-edition-evaluation-copy/>.

OPCN members can begin planning to attend the CREOL Industrial Affiliates Symposium in Orlando, March 2019. See notice in right column.

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Upcoming Events

2/2/19 - 2/7/19

SPIE Photonics West
Conference
San Francisco, CA

2/28/19

Alcon Day at IVC
Tustin, CA

03/13/19 - 3/15/19

OPCN Meeting
CREOL Industrial Affiliates
Symposium
Orlando, FL

07/22/19 - 07/25/19

High Impact Technology
Exchange Conference
St. Louis, MO

Photonics West Events for OPCN Members

Indian Hills Community College along with IEEE and MPEC will be hosting the IHCC Alumni and Friends reception during Photonics West 2019. It will be held on Wednesday, February 6, 2019 from 5:30 - 8:00 p.m. at the same establishment under a new name, TABLETOP Tap House. All OPCN members and students are invited.

From all the staff at OP-TEC, I wish you a joyful and memorable holiday season!

Dan Hull



Advanced Manufacturing Day at Indian Hills Community College

The Midwest Photonics Education Center and Indian Hills Community College held their annual Advanced Manufacturing Day on October 5.



Nine companies representing nine Southeastern Iowa counties sponsored this event by hosting students at their facilities for tours and presentations. On their site visits, students were introduced to industrial operations while learning about various technological advances and manufacturing processes. Over 350 students from 15 schools participated in the 2018 event informing students about the opportunities that exist today in manufacturing, both locally and across the nation.

INDIAN HILLS
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

MPEC
MIDWEST PHOTONICS EDUCATION CENTER

High School Laser Science Fair at Central Carolina Community College

On November 27, the Central Carolina Community College Laser Club hosted a high school laser science fair in which six student teams from from area high schools competed for recognition and awards. Three of the teams were from the Integrated Systems Technology Academy at Jack Britt High School (Fayetteville, NC) led by technology teacher, Henrietta Jutson. The other three teams were from the Harnett County Early College (Dunn, NC) led by science teacher, Sherrie Ivey.

Each team showcased a laser themed science experimental project which they spent many after school hours developing to learn more about light energy properties and to compete for recognition and awards. The students followed scientific methods to develop, document, and present an experiment to demonstrate the measurement of one of the many properties of light energy, using a donated LASER-TEC Laser Educational Kit.

The projects were judged and scored by CCCC laser program advisory committee members who were also on campus for their annual meeting. The highest scoring team from each high school was recognized with a plaque and a LASER-TEC

Please RSVP either Greg Kepner or Frank Reed.

Also at Photonics West, IHCC and MPEC representatives will be attending the SPIE sponsored Happy Hour input session to address the photonics industry's shortage of qualified optics and photonics technicians. This event will take place at the Intercontinental Hotel, Suite #3103, Tuesday, February 5, 2019 from 5:15 - 6:30 p.m.

SPIE. PHOTONICS WEST

Alcon Day at Irvine Valley College



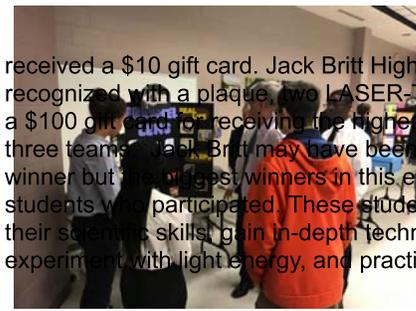
Irvine Valley College's new School of Integrated Design, Engineering and Automation (IDEA) is partnering with Alcon, the trusted leader in eye care, to provide an opportunity for students to experience new technology in education.

Students will experience a day in IDEA laboratories with IVC faculty to learn how the college's curriculum can prepare students to manufacture and maintain Alcon's cutting-edge products and breakthrough technologies.

Demonstrations will be conducted by faculty from Laser, Electronics, Manufacturing and Engineering technology departments.

February 28, 2019
8:30 am - 1:00 pm
IDEA Building at ATEP
1624 Valencia Ave.
Tustin, CA 92782

For more information, contact Neda Arab, Vital Link Career Exploration Program Coordinator, at 949-646-2520 or neda@vitallinkoc.org.



received a \$10 gift card. Jack Britt High School was also recognized with a plaque, two LASER-TEC Educational Kits, and a \$100 gift card for receiving the highest cumulative score for its three teams. Jack Britt may have been the overall high school winner but the biggest winners in this event were the high school students who participated. These students were able to develop their soft skills, gain in-depth technical knowledge, experiment with light energy, and practice their presentation skills

Educational Kit, and each member of the team to numerous visitors of their display.

The high school teams took advantage of the visit to the CCCC Harnett Campus to gain further technical education by coming early to learn the fundamentals of electrical energy by undertaking several electronics labs organized by 1st year CCCC laser program students, led by Skylar Overby. After participating in the electronics labs, the high school students were treated with tours of the high energy lasers conducted by 2nd year laser students.



The laser program students who form the SPIE Student Chapter organization, also benefited by learning about organizing and coordinating a large public event and building awareness about photonics careers, a major objective of the CCCC Laser Club. CCCC 2nd-year laser student, and Laser Club president, Isabelle Karis, said, "We were excited to welcome the teams and their families to CCCC, and we continue to look forward to hosting this laser fair as an annual event."

This science fair was funded in large part by a National Science Foundation grant to Indian River State College in Fort Pierce, Florida. The LASER-TEC NSF ATE program grant supports preparing students for the fast growing fields of lasers and fiber optics technology. Dr. Chrys Panayiotou, is the Principal Investigator of the LASER-TEC Center at Indian River State College. CCCC lead instructor, Gary Beasley, participates as a Co-Principal Investigator.



New LASER-TEC Posters

LASER-TEC has developed a series of classroom posters (24" x 36" size) on laser safety, diode lasers, and Nd:YAG lasers.

The laser safety poster identifies the laser classes, common hazards, safety work practices, common formulas and data used by students when introduced to laser safety. Each laser poster features general definitions, energy levels, advantages, common applications, and technical information specific to each type of laser. The Center is planning to expand the poster series to include additional types of lasers.

If you'd like to get a print quality electronic copy, please contact Natalia Chekhovskaya at nchekhov@irsc.edu or 772.462.7295.



OPCN Meeting Planned in Orlando, Florida, March 13-15, 2019

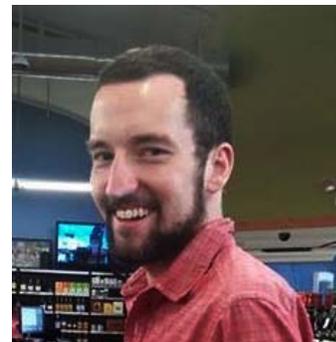
RSVP SOON!

OP-TEC will host in-person meetings of the Optics and Photonics College Network in conjunction with the CREOL Industrial Affiliates Symposium which will be held March 14-15 at the University of Central Florida in Orlando, FL.

Complimentary registration and hotel (nights of March 13 and 14) is included for OPCN members who reserve by February 1! OP-TEC is also offering reimbursement of eligible airfare or mileage for travel to Orlando on March 13 and return March 15.

Please contact [Christine Dossey](#) at OP-TEC for information and reservations.

PACT Alumni Spotlight



After earning a bachelor's degree in history from the University of Iowa, **Max Schiller** worked in a field related to his degree. Realizing he wasn't making much money, and didn't seem to be advancing, Max decided to try something new. The Indian Hills Community College Laser/Electro-Optics Technology Program "was always something I kind of had

**Committee
Chair TBD**

**Program Assistance
Committee
Gary Beasley, Chair
gbeasley@cccc.edu**

**Equipment Committee
Frank Reed, Chair
frank.reed@indianhills.edu**

**For Previous Issues of
the OPEN Newsletter
please visit [OP-TEC's
News Page](#).**

Join the Conversation

We hope you enjoyed this edition of the OPEN newsletter. We would really like to hear from you. If there is some subject that you would like us to discuss or look into, please let us know at prmanager@op-tec.org.

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