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Introduction

Whether you are a confirmed scientist or a student, an academic, or working for a company, you will find in these proceedings of the nineteenth Photonics West conference on "Integrated Optics: Devices, Materials, and Technology" a picture of this still evolving, dynamic and exciting field.

This year's conference once again reflected that aspect by its diversity in applications, from communications to sensing, as well as in technologies and materials, including not only silicon photonics, but for instance also glass and polymer technologies. Indeed, we believe that the cross-fertilization of ideas is one of the keys to major breakthroughs in science!

In these proceedings, the reader will therefore find a wide range of exciting advances from the most recent achievements in photonic integration, to the latest developments in plasmonic waveguides and in optofluidic devices, as well as sessions dedicated to high performance on chip resonators, or innovative rareearth-doped based devices.

One can also find articles written by students, who quite often give their first international talk at this conference, together with papers from renowned scientists in the field. Because today's students are tomorrow's scientific leaders, our conference always promotes their participation and will keep-on doing, so thanks also to SPIE.

If "Integrated Optics: Technology, Devices and Materials" is one the oldest conference of the SPIE Optoelectronics symposium (celebrating its 20th anniversary next year!), it is, of course, because of the quality of the scientific work that has been presented through years. It is also because of the dedication of all the members of the program committee who willingly accept spending a part of their time in building this conference and finding all the exciting invited talks that we see every year.

To the committee members, to all the speakers and authors, and to all the SPIE staff who makes the logistics run so smoothly, we would like to say thank you very much and we long to see you next year.

Jean-Emmanuel Broquin Gualtiero Nunzi Conti