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Lihong V. Wang
Editors**

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Introduction

This year, our conference on "Photons plus Ultrasound: Imaging and Sensing" once again confirmed its status as the largest conference within the Photonics West Symposium by boasting 184 presented papers and posters. Not only the quantity of papers, but also the quality attracted significant attention from symposium attendees.

The main progress was reported in two directions: (i) clinical applications and *in vivo* microscopy. In the area of clinical applications a dual modality optoacoustic–ultrasonic imaging system (developed by Seno Medical Instruments and their collaborators) demonstrated its utility in diagnostic imaging of breast cancer in the course of FDA guided studies. In the area of photoacoustic microscopy, multiple new designs were reported by the group from Washington University at St. Louis, showing resolution beyond the diffraction limits and scanning speed approaching the video rate for larger tissue volumes.

As in the past, the organizing committee recognized the leading researchers in the field by presenting the Best Paper Award and the Best Poster Award, sponsored by Seno Medical Instruments (San Antonio, Texas).

The Best Paper Award went to

Water-immersible MEMS scanning mirror designed for wide-field fast-scanning photoacoustic microscopy, by Junjie Yao, Chih-Hsien Huang, Catherine Martel, Konstantin I. Maslov, Lidai Wang, Joon-Mo Yang, Liang Gao, Gwendalyn Randolph, Jun Zou, and Lihong V. Wang

The Best Poster Award went to

Noninvasive photoacoustic computed tomography of mouse brain metabolism *in vivo*, by Junjie Yao, Jun Xia, Konstantin I. Maslov, Mohammadreza Nasiriavanaki, Vassiliy Tsytarev, Alexei V. Demchenko, and Lihong V. Wang

We would like to congratulate the winners and thank all the contributors of this conference and the Organizing Committee for making our conference a great success! This volume of SPIE Proceedings reflects the continuously increasing number of high-merit presentations and the high quality of basic research being conducted by our growing community.

**Alexander A. Oraevsky
Lihong V. Wang**

