



For immediate release

Jiří Homola Elected SPIE Fellow



BELLINGHAM, Washington, USA – March 20, 2012 – Each year, SPIE promotes members as new Fellows of the Society. SPIE will honor 75 new Fellows of the Society this year. Fellows are members of distinction who have made significant scientific and technical contributions in the multidisciplinary fields of optics, photonics, and imaging. They are honored for their technical achievement, for their service to the general optics community, and to SPIE in particular. More than 900 SPIE members have become Fellows since the Society's inception in 1955.

"The annual recognition of Fellows provides an opportunity for us to acknowledge Members for their outstanding technical contributions and service to SPIE," says Eustace L. Dereniak, SPIE President.

Jiří Homola, Institute of Photonics and Electronics, Czech Republic, for achievements in optical biosensing.

Homola is a leading researcher in the area of optical biosensors and, in particular, biosensors based on surface plasmons. His expertise is multidisciplinary spanning the theoretical and experimental investigation of photonic/plasmonic nanostructures, design and development of novel optical sensor platforms, development of methods for interfacing optical sensor platforms with biological and artificial receptors, and development of detection methodologies for specific bioanalytical applications.

Specifically, Homola's breakthroughs encompass a myriad of optical sensor platforms including high-performance laboratory systems as well as compact sensor instruments for field use. These sensors have been used to detect many chemical and biological substances including pathogens and toxins for food safety applications, biomarkers of diseases relevant to medical diagnostics, and environmental contaminants. For his work, Homola has received honors such as the Premium Academiae award, the Roche Prize for Sensor Technology, the Otto Wichterle Award, and he was named Czech Head for Inventiveness and a senior member of IEEE.

Homola contributes to the optics community, from serving on advisory committees and on editorial boards to organizing conferences. For example, he is a member of the Expert Commission for Technical Sciences and Engineering of the Research and Development Council of the Czech Republic, serves on the editorial boards of the journal *Sensors and Actuators B* and the *Journal of Sensors*, and on the international advisory board of the journal *Analytical and Bioanalytical Chemistry*. Homola's work on conference organization is extensive, having served on the program committee for dozens of conferences such as the European Conference on Optical Chemical Sensors and Biosensors – EUROPT(R)ODE, IEEE Sensors and for the International Conference on Optical Fiber Sensors since 2009.

His contributions to SPIE are significant. He has been the chair of the Optical Sensors conference at the SPIE Conference on Optics and Optoelectronics since 2007, and a member of the program committee for many additional conferences such as Optical Sensing and Detection at SPIE Photonics Europe, Frontiers in Biological Detection: From Nanosensors to Systems at SPIE Photonics West, and Plasmonics in Biology and Medicine, also as part of SPIE Photonics West.

SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics, was founded in 1955 to advance light-based technologies. Serving more than 180,000 constituents from 168 countries, the Society advances emerging technologies through interdisciplinary information exchange, continuing education, publications, patent precedent, and career and professional growth. SPIE annually organizes and sponsors approximately 25 major technical forums, exhibitions, and education programs in North America, Europe, Asia, and the South Pacific, and supports scholarships, grants, and other education programs around the world. See www.SPIE.org for information.

###

Media Contact:

Stacey Crockett
Media Relations Coordinator
StaceyC@spie.org
Tel: +1 360 685 5458



###