



Ali M. Fard awarded an SPIE Scholarship in Optics and Photonics



BELLINGHAM, Washington, USA – June 14, 2011 – Ali M. Fard has been awarded a 2011 Scholarship by SPIE, the International Society for Optics and Photonics for his potential contributions to the field of optics, photonics or related field.

Fard is a PhD candidate in electrical engineering at the University of California, Los Angeles. He is currently a research assistant at the UCLA Photonics Laboratory led by Prof. Bahram Jalali. His primary focus is on photonics time-stretch technology for high-speed high-resolution analog-to-digital converter and high-throughput imaging.

“High-throughput real-time instruments are essential tools for applications in which rare events carry vital information with a major impact. Photonics time-stretch technology is a novel technique that can slow down, amplify, and capture such fast rare events,” said Fard. “It provides a powerful platform for analog-to-digital conversion, imaging systems, and spectroscopy.”

He is currently pursuing the applications of this technique to high-throughput biomedical sensing.

SPIE awarded \$350,000 in scholarships to 137 outstanding individuals, based on their potential contribution to optics and photonics, or a related discipline. Award-winning applicants were evaluated, selected and approved by the SPIE Scholarship Committee, Chaired by SPIE volunteer Marta de la Fuente.

To date, SPIE has distributed over \$3.3 million dollars in individual scholarships. This ambitious effort reflects the Society's commitment to education and to the next generation of optical scientists and engineers around the world.

SPIE scholarships are open to full- and part-time students studying anywhere in the world. All scholarship applications are judged on their own merit based on the experience and education level of the individual student.

To view photos and descriptions of the Scholarship Recipients go to <http://spie.org/x1737.xml>. Contact scholarships@spie.org if you have any questions. Learn more at <http://spie.org/scholarships>.

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.

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