

Editorial

In this special issue on “The optical near-field: super-resolution imaging with structure and phase correlation” in *Nanophotonics* the invited authors and myself present an overview on the developments in this field from the point of view of experimentalists involved with its application and its progress.

In the first overview article we try and present a perspective of the fundamental advances that have shaped the field over the last 30 years since its inception.

As Guest Editor of this Special Issue, I hope you appreciate the articles assembled on Near-Field Optics and I thank the contributors who accepted my invitation for the work and the effort involved in their individual contributions.

As I view the diversity of the subjects addressed and as one involved with the birth of this field it is an enormous honor to have been able to see its development and the explosion in the optical near-field as it has occurred. This is especially gratifying in view of my personal quest over the years to see how one could address issues that were preventing the generalization of application of this new and powerful field of optics.

Finally, I also thank the editors for their really excellent cooperation. Without their untiring and flexible efforts this issue would not be possible.

Sincerely,

Aaron Lewis
(Guest Editor)