

Editorial

Reviewer recognition and new plans for 2015

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In 2014 several scientists received the Nobel prize for findings in the field of optical technologies. They are the champions among thousands of creative and very engaged scientists. All of them do research, publish and review other researcher's work. Most of that work is not rewarded with prizes, but it is this patient continuous work that makes prize-worthy research possible. And within the daily scientific business peer review is probably the most hidden part.

But nevertheless, peer review is a corner stone of the scientific process! It acts not only as a constant quality control of a publication, it also provides the author with valuable feedback. And looking at the daily business within a scientific journal it can be said, that in many cases, the comments of the peer reviewers have led to a substantial increase of the paper quality in the revision process. All this would not happen without the careful work of the reviewers.

To give all the reviewers of *Advanced Optical Technology* a public acknowledgment, we intend to publish the names of all 2014 reviewers in a special address from the publisher

in *AOT* 1/2015. It will quote the names only, no affiliation and in particular, no relation to the articles they commented on. Still, we would like to give you the opportunity to keep your privacy, if needed. Please send us a short notice before Friday 23. January 2015 if you like to be excluded from the list.

Let's have a short look at the journal stats: The average processing time for a paper from submission to decision in *AOT* was 49 days. The average time reviewers needed for their work was 13 days (you should assume at least one revision for most papers). That's marvelous!

There is no Noble prize for peer reviewing, but still, there is much reason to honor the reviewers. And there is much reason to express the cordial gratitude of the editorial team, since there would be no journal without this voluntary service. The work of the reviewers and the feedback from the community is a constant impetus for the editorial team to keep thinking of how we can improve the service and finally, how we can make this journal an even more valuable resource for the optics community.

In the following we publish a list of last years' reviewers of *Advanced Optical Technologies* to give them public recognition.

2014 Reviewers in *Advanced Optical Technologies*

Masato Aketagawa
 Ismail Araci
 John Ballato
 Hartmut Bartelt
 Stefan Bäumer
 Matthias Beier
 Kallol Bhattacharya
 Dan Blanco
 Joss Bland-Hawthorn
 Jan Burke
 William Cassarly
 Gary Chanan
 Jason Chin
 Gaoliang Dai
 Daniele Dini
 Helen Ford

Carsten Gachot
 Achim Gandorfer
 Ralf Geckeler
 Nils Gerhardt
 Juan-Carlos Gonzalez
 Bill Goodman
 Katie Green
 Thomas Henkel
 Alois Herkommer
 Hans-Peter Herzig
 Jürgen Jahns
 Luke Johnson
 Yves Jourlin
 Bernd Kleemann
 Jürgen Koch
 Hans Kreuzer
 Marc Krug
 Roland Lachmayer

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Kafai Lai
 Robert Lamb
 Christian Larat
 Martin Laurenzis
 Richard Leach
 Gilles Lerondel
 Jianzhao Li
 Norbert Lindlein
 Gerhard Lindner
 Shibu Mathew
 Atsushi Matsubara
 Jerry Meyer
 Masaki Michihata
 Hiroshi Murata
 Cornelius Neumann
 Josep Nicolas
 Lothar Noethe
 Xiaodan Pang
 Alessandro Pesatori
 Christof Pruss
 Andrew Rakich
 Roberta Ramponi
 Francois Rigaut
 Martin Roth
 Philippe Roy
 Toralf Scharf

Michael Schaub
 Paul Schechter
 Marc Schnieper
 Heinrich Schwenke
 Ranjan Sen
 Stefan Sinzinger
 Ove Steinvall
 Andreas Stoehr
 Razvan Stoian
 Peng Su
 Toshikazu Suzuki
 Javier Vargas
 Reinhard Voelkel
 Stefan Welzel
 Axel Wiegmann
 Ulrike Willer
 Sheng-Lih Yeh
 Uwe Zeitner

It should be noted that the average time for an AOT review was 13 days in 2014. It helped us to improve the processing time from submission to decision to an average of 49 days. Essentially, this includes the time to find two reviewers, make a review, and find a first decision. In most cases, a revision and a second review plus decision is added.

New plans for 2015

First, we welcome to two new members to our Editorial board: Jan Burke (group leader “Geometrical Metrology”, Bremen Institute of Applied Beam Technology, Bremen, Germany) and Andrew Rakich (European Southern Observatory, Division of Technology, Munich, Germany). Both have done a marvelous job as guest editors for the focus issue on “Optics for Astronomy” and we are very happy to have their engagement secured for the further development of *Advanced Optical Technologies*.

Then we would like to turn your attention to the topics AOT will focus on in 2015. A list of topics has been fixed and all authors are welcome to submit related papers for the following topics:

- **Microoptics**
 Guest editors: Robert Brunner (University of Applied Sciences Jena, Germany), Tasso Sales (RPC Photonics, Inc., Rochester, USA)
- **Integrated Photonic Devices: Sensors, Materials, Systems**
 Guest editors: Meint Smit (TU Eindhoven, The Netherlands), Christian Koos (KIT, Karlsruhe,

Germany), Peter O’Brien (Tyndall National Institute, Cork, Ireland)

- **Mikrolithography**
 Guest editors: Andreas Erdmann (Fraunhofer IISB Erlangen, Germany), Masato Shibuya (Tokyo Polytechnic University, Japan)
- **Applied Computational Optics**
 Guest editors: Frank Wyrwoski (FSU Jena, Germany), Jari Turunen (UEF Joensuu, Finland)
- **Standards**
 Guest editors: Michael Pfeffer (University of Applied Sciences Ravensburg-Weingarten, Germany), N.N.

It should be mentioned that these topics will be treated as the main content for the respective issues, but as you may already see in this issue, this is by no means a limitation. Beside the focus topics AOT intends to publish papers from all fields of applied optics in a separate section in each issue. Furthermore, we have developed the format of VIEWS papers, where people from the academic community as well as from industry can publish essential

information that might not directly match the criteria of scientific publications. These are market reviews, interviews or even individual views on the development of topics relevant to the optics community.

After all, it is a challenge and a great pleasure to develop this publication platform with the optics community in industry and academia. For further improvements we appreciate all kinds of feedback, please do not hesitate to contact us. You may contact us via email, our website www.degruyter.com/aot or through various social media.



Andreas Thoss studied physics and received his diploma and PhD degrees from the Free University Berlin in 1995 and 2003, respectively. For both degrees, he did research at the Max-Born-Institute Berlin on the field of ultrashort and ultra-intense laser pulses. From 1996 to 1999, he worked as a development engineer for medical laser systems with Aesculap-Meditec (now ZEISS Meditec) in Jena. In 2003, he joined the international publishing house, John Wiley & Sons. There, he gathered comprehensive experience as publisher, editor, and commissioning editor in the areas of book, journal, and online publishing. Among others, he cofounded the journals, *Laser & Photonics Reviews* (2007) and the *Journal of Biophotonics* (2008). Since its foundation in 2010, he manages THOSS Media, where he cofounded *Advanced Optical Technologies*.

We are looking forward to hearing from you!

Yours sincerely,

Andreas Thoss
Publisher

Michael Pfeffer
Editor-in-Chief



Michael Pfeffer graduated in 1998 at the Institute of Applied Optics at EPFL (Switzerland), obtaining his PhD for a thesis in the field of optical nanotechnology. In 2002, after several years of working in the Swiss optics industry, he was appointed Full Professor of Optics and Engineering in the Department of Physical Engineering of Hochschule Ravensburg-Weingarten, University of Applied Sciences (Germany). Dr. Pfeffer teaches and researches in the field of optics, physical instrument design, and nanotechnology. Currently, he serves as Vice-Rector for Research and International Relations. In 2005, the General Membership Meeting elected him to the Executive Board and CEO for the DGaO Annual Meeting 2006. From 2008 to 2012 he served as President of the German Society of Applied Optics (DGaO). In 2012 he was elected as Secretary of the Board of the European Optical Society (EOS). Dr. Pfeffer is member of the German Physical Society (DPG), the German Society of Engineers (VDI), and the Standards Committee Precision Engineering and Optics of the German Institute of Standardization (DIN).