



For immediate release

Bai awarded an SPIE Scholarship in Optics and Photonics



BELLINGHAM, Washington, USA – June 14, 2012 – Neng Bai has been awarded a 2012 Scholarship by SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics for his potential contributions to the field of optics, photonics or related field.

Bai is a PhD candidate at CREOL, College of Optics and Photonics, at the University of Central Florida. He is a member of the optic fiber communication group directed by Professor Guifang Li. Bai's research focused on spatial division multiplexing in optical communication systems. His work on few mode fiber amplifiers is featured in the May issue of *Laser Focus World*. Bai will use the scholarship to support his participation at an international conference.

SPIE awarded \$350,000 in scholarships to 140 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 is the international society for optics and photonics, a not-for-profit organization founded in 1955 to advance light-based technologies. The Society serves nearly 225,000 constituents from approximately 150 countries, offering conferences, continuing education, books, journals, and a digital library in support of interdisciplinary information exchange, professional growth, and patent precedent. SPIE provided over \$2.7 million in support of education and outreach programs in 2011.

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