Director's Matters

Guest column by Jason Socrates Bardi, AIP News Director

The International Year of Light ends

Hundreds of scientists, politicians, artists, humanitarians, and journalists gathered last week for a three-day ceremony in Merida, Mexico, to mark the official end of the International Year of Light. Sponsored by the United Nations, the yearlong event sought to celebrate light in art and science around the world and to raise global awareness of the role optics and photonics are playing in new medicines, technologies, paths toward environmental sustainability, and innovative ways of addressing light poverty and other disparities in poor, rural places all over the world.

IYL2015, as it came to be known, kicked off a year ago in Paris. AIP sent a delegation to Paris and another to Merida. Also at the closing ceremony were delegations from APS and The Optical Society (OSA). AIP, APS, and OSA are all founding partners of IYL2015 and helped organize elements of the yearlong event. A complete list of sponsors can be found here.

What we found when we got down to Mexico was a hot, sticky, historic, and beautiful spot bathed in all kinds of light. At night there were walk-through LED displays tourists delighted in taking pictures next to. We saw a movie projected onto a patch of the nearby museum so long that you could fit the entire screen into your field of vision. And the final night of the ceremony featured two archaeoastronomy lectures on site at Chichen Itza followed by a light show projected directly onto the great Castle Pyramid. Watch part of that light show.

Read more.

Physics Resources Matters

Want to learn the key to a successful poster presentation?
Career Network is hosting the first of three 2016 career development webinars on Thursday, February 18 at 2 p.m. ET.

Read more.

History Center acquires Alsos Mission and post-WWII Europe photograph collection and documents

The Emilio Segrè Visual Archives was thrilled to receive the donation of the Malcolm Thurgood photography collection in October of 2015. This new acquisition consists of 200 photos and 75 letters from Sergeant Malcolm Thurgood, who was assigned to the Alsos Mission as a documentary photographer in 1945.

Read more.

Coming Up

February 17

- “AIP Chatters” monthly staff gathering (College Park)

February 18

- Lynn S. Trimble Science Heritage Public Lecture (College Park)

February 21-24

- CESSE CEOs Mid-Winter Meeting (La Jolla, CA)

February 23

- AIP Investment Advisory Committee (Phoenix, AZ)

March 5-8

- AAPM Spring Clinical Meeting (Salt Lake City, UT)

March 13

- Journal Editors Spring Conference (JESC) (Baltimore, MD)

March 14-18

- APS March Meeting (Baltimore, MD)
March 16

- “AIP Chatters” monthly staff gathering (College Park)

March 23

- AIP Board of Directors meeting (College Park)

March 24

- Assembly of Society Officers (College Park)

March 25

- AIP Board of Directors meeting (College Park)