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# ***Integrated Optics: Devices, Materials, and Technologies XVII***

**Jean Emmanuel Broquin  
Gualtiero Nunzi Conti**  
*Editors*

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## Introduction

Whether you are a confirmed scientist or a student, whether you are an academic or working for a company, you will find in these proceedings of the seventeenth Photonics West conference on Integrated Optics a picture of this still evolving, dynamic and exciting field.

When building this year's conference, we tried to reflect that aspect by keeping a great diversity in the session topics as well as in the technologies and concepts presented. Indeed, if polymeric waveguides and glass ion-exchanged ones were treated with the same interest as the new fast-developing Silicon Photonics devices, it is because we believe that the cross-fertilization of ideas is one of the keys to major breakthroughs in science.

In these proceedings, the reader will therefore see a wide range of exciting advances ranging from new optofluidic devices for nuclear waste management, to different approaches for exciting efficiently plasmonic waveguides, as well as resonators or rare-earth-doped lasers for airborne lasers.

He will also find articles written by students, who quite often gave their first international talk at this conference, together with papers from renowned scientists of the field. It is indeed because today's students are tomorrow's scientific leaders that our conference always promoted their participation and will keep on doing so thanks to the SPIE student grant policy.

If Integrated Optics: Devices, Materials, and Technologies is one the oldest conferences of the SPIE OPTO symposium, it is, of course, because of the quality of the scientific work that had been presented through the years, but it is also because of the dedication of all the members of the program committee who accept willingly to spend a part of their summertime in building this conference and finding all the exciting invited talks that we see every year.

To them, to all the speakers and authors, to all the SPIE staff who makes the logistics run so smoothly, we would like to say thank you very much and we long to see you next year.

**Jean Emmanuel Broquin**  
**Gualtiero Nunzi Conti**