



Press release

28 May 2025

Peigang Chen awarded the John Kiel Scholarship

BELLINGHAM, Washington, USA — **Peigang Chen** has been awarded the 2025 John Kiel Scholarship by SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics, for potential contributions to optics, photonics, or a related field.



Chen is a PhD candidate in electrical and computer engineering at Purdue University (USA), conducting groundbreaking research in quantum photonics under Professor **Vladimir Shalaev**. Chen's work focuses on two key quantum technologies: developing ultra-bright solid-state single-photon emitters using plasmonic nanostructures for scalable quantum computing and creating all-optical single-photon detectors and modulators based on electron avalanches for quantum-information processing. As president of the Purdue SPIE Student Chapter, Chen organizes seminars and networking events to promote knowledge-exchange in photonics. Committed to advancing quantum technologies, Chen aims to bridge fundamental research with practical applications that will shape the future of quantum computing and sensing.

This month, the Society is awarding \$323,000 in scholarships to 74 outstanding SPIE Student Members, based on their potential contribution to optics and photonics, or a related discipline. Successful applicants were evaluated, selected, and approved by the SPIE Scholarship Committee, chaired by SPIE Senior Member **Brian Primeau**.

Since this program began in 1978, SPIE has distributed more than \$7.5 million dollars in individual scholarships. This ambitious effort reflects the Society's commitment to education as well as to the future generations of optical scientists and engineers around the world.

To view other 2025 scholarship press releases as they become available, please visit the [2025 Scholarship Recipients page](#) or learn more about [SPIE scholarships](#) on spie.org.

SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics, brings engineers, scientists, students, and business professionals together to advance light-based science and technology. The Society, founded in 1955, connects and engages with our global constituency through industry-leading conferences and exhibitions; publications of conference proceedings, books, and journals in the SPIE Digital Library; and career-building opportunities. Over the past five years, we have invested more than \$25 million in the international optics community through our advocacy and support, including scholarships, educational resources, travel grants, endowed gifts, and public-policy development. www.spie.org.

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