



Press release
28 May 2025

Zhiyuan Liu awarded an SPIE Optics and Photonics Scholarship

BELLINGHAM, Washington, USA — **Zhiyuan Liu** has been awarded a 2025 Optics and Photonics Scholarship by SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics, for potential contributions to optics, photonics, or a related field.



Liu is a PhD student in the CEMSE (Computer, Electrical and Mathematical Sciences and Engineering) Division at King Abdullah University of Science and Technology (KAUST), specializing in III-nitride semiconductor optoelectronics. He has published more than 30 peer-reviewed journal articles, including 10 as first author, and has won top awards at the International Workshop on Nitride Semiconductors in 2022, and at the 14th International Conference on Nitride Semiconductors in 2023 in recognition of his research. “I am deeply grateful to my advisor, Professor **Xiaohang Li**, for his continuous support throughout my doctoral journey,” said Liu. “Receiving this award is a great honor and a strong source of motivation, enabling me to further pursue cutting-edge research and professional growth in semiconductor photonics.”

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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