

MICHAEL KIDGER MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP AWARD 2000

The Michael Kidger Memorial Scholarship Committee and SPIE, The International Society for Optical Engineering are pleased to announce the winner of the Year 2000 scholarship. Liying Chen, a PhD candidate at the University of Arizona, in Tucson, Arizona, USA is the first recipient of this prestigious award, selected from a field of exceptional applicants.

Ms. Chen started her PhD work in 1997. She worked as the research assistant in the interferometry lab with Professor James Wyant on the improvement of lateral resolution on interferometry microscopes. The current phase of her project began in June 1999 as the research associate in University of Arizona Health Sciences Center with Professor Harrison Barrett in Medical X-ray Imaging Systems. Liying's research will attempt to develop detectability as a function of tumor size and location when given the properties of the lens. The next step will be to use the detectability as the merit function and optimize the lens design accordingly. This project, which she hopes to complete in 2002, will facilitate exciting research developments and have many practical applications.

To honor Michael Kidger, a well-respected teacher and member of the international optical design community, his family, friends and colleagues established the Michael Kidger Scholarship in 1998. Dr. Kidger, regarded as an expert in all areas of optical design, taught lens design at Imperial College, UK, was a gifted lecturer, an innovative researcher and developer of optical design software.

David Williamson, a former student of Dr. Kidger, chairs the Kidger Scholarship Committee. In order to qualify for the scholarship, the candidate must be a student of optical design and must meet the entry criteria for the chosen course of study or research. The candidate must submit a technical summary of his or her academic background and demonstrate interest in pursuing optical design.

The committee invites contributions from industry and universities to the Kidger Memorial Scholarship Fund. The need to increase the number of students training in optical design is an industry-wide concern. The committee aspires to promote and encourage innovations in optical design applications. Continuing investment ensures that the Kidger Scholarship will be awarded annually.

For more information on The Michael Kidger Scholarship, go to <http://www.kidger.com>
To learn about SPIE's educational resources, scholarships and grants for optics, photonics and imaging technology, go to <http://www.spie.org/> click on Education & Scholarships