A Tribute to
Joseph W. Goodman

Professor Joseph W. Goodman's contributions celebrated by this conference extend not only to his writing, but also to his outstanding teaching and training of students who now range from academics through industry leaders to astronauts. His work has inspired contributions to this conference that range from applications in astrophysics to nanometer-scale devices, from theoretical developments to medical diagnostics.

Of course his best-known work is his book on Fourier optics, which has remained the standard bible on the subject for over 40 years. His seminal paper on speckle launched a whole new field and eventually led to his book on statistical optics, a field in which he is still active despite being retired from Stanford University. Many of his publications with his students were either major theoretical advances or the invention of devices or methods.

Most of the speakers at this conference were former students of Goodman's, or people who worked with him for a period of time. Certainly all claim to have been strongly influenced by Goodman's work.

Most of the publications from the conference have a common thread which is Fourier optics. The application areas of Fourier optics seem surprisingly wide; after all, who would have predicted that Fourier optics would have applications in medical diagnostics and in aircraft black boxes?

This collection of articles should be a gold mine not only for researchers interested in the applications of Fourier Optics and Statistical Optics, but also for those interested in finding and understanding the relationships between seemingly widely separated areas of knowledge.