



High Impact Technology Exchange Conference

Educating America's Technical Workforce

Fairmont Scottsdale (Arizona)

July 19–22, 2009

Title: Enhancing Technician Employment Opportunities in Photonics-Enabled Technologies

Date/Time: Sunday, July 19, 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM and Monday, July 20, 8:30 AM – 12:00 PM

Location: Fairmont Scottsdale Resort

Description: More than 1,800 new photonics technicians are needed in the U.S. next year. More than 1,000 will be needed each year for the next five years. These jobs require some background and proficiency in photonics such as lasers, optics, fiber-optics, electro-optics and displays. A portion of these jobs will require a full AAS degree in photonics; however, most will require a few courses added to existing technical education programs in the electronics, instrumentation and manufacturing fields. This workshop will describe photonics, the technical fields enabled by photonics and the curricula and courses needed for employment in these high-demand areas. Photonics retraining programs and courses for technicians employed in other fields will also be described. The workshop presenters all currently offer successful photonics technician courses and programs and will be able to share their personal experiences in working with photonics education, students and employers. This workshop will be conducted as two consecutive half-day workshops. Day one will cover current and emerging applications of photonics and its impact on technician roles. Day two will cover the education and training courses, curricula and strategies for photonics education. Participants should attend both half-day sessions of the workshop.

Presenters:

John Souders, OP-TEC
Fred Seeber, Camden County College
Feng Zhou, Indiana University of Pennsylvania
Greg Kepner, Indian Hills Community College
Gary Beasley, Central Carolina Community College
John Pedrotti, Texas State Technical College
Larry DeShazer, Irvine Valley College



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