



**For immediate release**

## **De Gracia awarded an SPIE Scholarship in Optics and Photonics**



BELLINGHAM, Washington, USA – June 25, 2012 – Pablo de Gracia Pacheco has been awarded a 2012 Scholarship by SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics for his potential contributions to the field of optics, photonics or related field.

De Gracia is a predoctoral fellow at the Visual Optics and Biophotonics lab led by Prof. Susana Marcos at the Institute of Optics, CSIC (Spain). De Gracia has contributed to the development of adaptive optics systems to manipulate optical aberrations in the eye, and developing new multifocal solutions for presbyopia. "It is a high honor and a tremendous support to my career to be included in this

elite group of researchers in optics and photonics," said De Gracia.

SPIE awarded \$350,000 in scholarships to 140 outstanding individuals, based on their potential contribution to optics and photonics, or a related discipline. Award-winning applicants were evaluated, selected and approved by the SPIE Scholarship Committee, Chaired by SPIE volunteer Marta de la Fuente.

To date, SPIE has distributed over \$3.3 million dollars in individual scholarships. This ambitious effort reflects the Society's commitment to education and to the next generation of optical scientists and engineers around the world.

SPIE scholarships are open to full- and part-time students studying anywhere in the world. All scholarship applications are judged on their own merit based on the experience and education level of the individual student.

To view photos and descriptions of the Scholarship Recipients go to <http://spie.org/x1737.xml>. Contact [scholarships@spie.org](mailto:scholarships@spie.org) if you have any questions. Learn more at <http://spie.org/scholarships>.

**SPIE** is the international society for optics and photonics, a not-for-profit organization founded in 1955 to advance light-based technologies. The Society serves nearly 225,000 constituents from approximately 150 countries, offering conferences, continuing education, books, journals, and a digital library in support of interdisciplinary information exchange, professional growth, and patent precedent. SPIE provided over \$2.7 million in support of education and outreach programs in 2011.

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