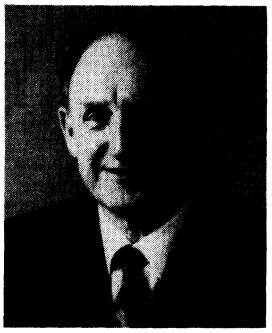

Just as we were going to press with this issue of *Optical Engineering*, we received word of Irving Spiro's sudden death on February 21, 1991. Irv had, of course, a special role with *Optical Engineering* as associate editor, in which position he was a "talent scout" for us, searching out important contributions to our field that were presented at SPIE meetings. He then urged those authors to submit their work for archival publication in *Optical Engineering* so that we could all benefit from a wider dissemination of this new knowledge.

Dr. Irving J. Spiro did much more for us than his work with *Optical Engineering*, however. I can do no better than to repeat part of the citation that was prepared and read when Irv received SPIE's President's Award in 1987. As most readers will know this award "recognizes unique and meritorious service of outstanding benefit to the Society." The award was made to Irv "for his exceptional leadership and service to the Society for over two decades. Irving Spiro has generously lent his counsel, resources, encouragement, and technical and managerial expertise during a crucial period in SPIE's history and helped point the Society toward a successful future. His twelve years as Governor of SPIE (1967 through 1972 and 1981 through 1986), his service as an associate editor of *Optical Engineering*, and his leadership as chairman of the Society's Infrared Technology Conference series for the past thirteen years have been instrumental in setting the technical standards of the Society's activities during the past twenty years. His commitment to making SPIE a responsive, innovative, and well-managed professional organization has seen SPIE through many important challenges and has helped to shape the Society as we know it today."[1]

He continued until the day of his death to provide those dedicated services to our Society. We will miss "his dedicated leadership and service for the betterment of the Society and (for) his continued support, encouragement, and wise counsel."

Irving J. Spiro was educated at the Illinois Institute of Technology and received his BS and MS degrees from that institution. He then went on to pursue graduate studies in mathematics and physics at the University of Chicago. Later he earned an MS in engineering from the University of California at Los Angeles and an honorary PhD degree. During Dr. Spiro's long and productive career he worked for Borman Engineering, Aerophysics Corporation, Space Technology Laboratories, and The Aerospace Corporation. He held positions as design analyst, design engineer, chief engineer, and chief optical-mechanical engineer.

My own interactions with Irv were extensive both in time and content. Our interactions go back to the early 1960s. He was very supportive in the launching of the Milestone Series of Selected Reprints in 1985. He contributed to the second volume in the series entitled *Infrared Design*,[2] edited by R. Barry Johnson and William L. Wolfe. These editors noted in their preface to that volume that "the development of this document represents the effort of a number of people. Of special merit were the contributions by Irving J. Spiro."[2] Irv later contributed his own edited volume to this series, *Selected Papers on Radiometry*,[3] which has been very well received. I would also like to record the pleasure I had in working with Irv on his volume coauthored with Monroe Schlessinger in the Marcel Dekker series on optical engineering. This book on *Infrared Technology Fundamentals* [4] will be a major source book for many years to come.

We all will have our memories of Irv as teacher, scholar, advisor, and friend. He will be missed. He will be well remembered.

Brian J. Thompson
Editor

1. President's Award Citation, SPIE (July 1987).

2. R. B. Johnson and W. L. Wolfe, Eds., *Selected Papers on Infrared Design*, 2 Vols., B. J. Thompson, Milestone Series Editor, SPIE Vol. 513 (1985).

3. I. J. Spiro, Ed., *Selected Papers on Radiometry*, B. J. Thompson, Milestone Series Editor, Optical Engineering Press, SPIE Vol. MS 14 (1990).

4. I. J. Spiro and M. Schlessinger, *Infrared Technology Fundamentals*, Optical Engineering Series, B. J. Thompson, Ed., Marcel Dekker, New York, Vol. 22 (1989).

Optical Engineering Editorial Schedule

June 1991

Optical Fiber Reliability

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July 1991

Visual Communications and Image Processing III

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August 1991

X-Ray/EUV Optics

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November 1991

Infrared Imaging Systems

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January 1992

Smart Materials and Structures

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March 1992

Optics in Poland

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May 1992

Optical Implementation of Information Processing, Pattern Recognition, and Neural Networks

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This special issue will cover the following areas: optical information processing, including linear and nonlinear operations and transforms; pattern recognition, correlation, filters, distortion invariant object identification; applications of holography in information processing; feature extraction and classification; associative processors and neural networks; and applications of spatial light modulators in one- and two-dimensional information processing.

Authors are invited to submit manuscripts on any of the above topics for inclusion in the special issue. Manuscripts should be sent to Bahram Javidi before August 1, 1991.

June 1992

Adaptive Signal Processing

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