



Optics and Photonics Highlighted by Cancer Moonshot Effort and in America COMPETES Legislation

It has been a busy start to summer as a number of the NPI's long-term projects reached significant milestones. Last month, the NPI Cancer Moonshot Task Force completed and launched a white paper and technology roadmap outlining the potential contributions of optics and photonics in the fight against cancer. The NPI continued to coordinate closely with the White House on this initiative, a fact that was recognized by the NPI's inclusion in a White House Fact Sheet on the Initiative and the participation of two members of the Vice President's Cancer Moonshot Task Force on a recent webinar for the optics and photonics community.

The NPI also achieved a big win on Capitol Hill with the inclusion of optics and photonics language in the Senate version of America COMPETES authorization. This was one of the major goals from this spring's Congressional Visits Day (CVD) and shows how effective our community can be when working together to advocate for optics and photonics. Learn how you can build on this momentum by hosting a visit for a member of Congress during the ongoing August recess period.

Finally, July 27 marked the one year anniversary of Vice President Joe Biden announcing that a New York-based consortium led by SUNY Polytechnic was the winning location for the country's first photonics IMI – now known as AIM Photonics. AIM Photonics marked the largest investment to date in President Barack Obama's National Network of Manufacturing Institutes (NNMI). We congratulate AIM Photonics on this milestone and will continue to support their efforts in the years ahead.

NPI Teams with National Cancer Moonshot Task Force to Eliminate Cancer

In June, through the leadership of Tom Baer, the NPI Cancer Moonshot Task Force finalized a white paper and technology roadmap that emphasizes the role of leveraging existing and new technology to improve the early detection of cancer and ultimately save lives. The paper was the culmination of months of work by the Task Force members with support from key allies. The final white paper included a commitment made by the scientific community, leading medical technology industry, over 350 hospitals and major patient advocacy groups across the nation to leverage the more than \$3 billion annual private investments in cancer research toward early detection technologies of the most aggressive cancers.



The NPI continues to work closely with the White House on the National Cancer Moonshot. The NPI's commitment to support the National Cancer Moonshot was included in the [White House Fact Sheet](#) released publically on June 29. Accompanying the Fact Sheet was a post by Tom Baer on [Medium](#) that appeared alongside one written by Vice President Joe Biden about reaching the goal of the Cancer Moonshot. Tom was also invited to attend the National Cancer Moonshot Summit hosted by the Vice President at Howard University in Washington, DC.

ICYMI: NPI Hosted Cancer Moonshot Webinar

The white paper and technology roadmap was the focus of a webinar organizing by the NPI Cancer Moonshot Task Force on June 30. Presenters included representatives from the imaging industry, hospitals, patient advocacy and two members of the Vice President's Cancer Moonshot Task Force. If you missed the webinar, you can view a recording on the NPI [website](#).

NPI Recommendation Included in America COMPETES

The NPI celebrated a big win in Congress last month: S.3084, American Innovation and Competitiveness Act, a bipartisan bill was [introduced](#) and marked up with an NPI provision that calls on federal science agencies, industry and academia to seek partnerships to advance optics and photonics technologies and capabilities. This provision, which was included in its entirety, was one of the items advocated for by society volunteers and NPI Steering Committee members during this year's Congressional Visits Day. Thank you to everyone who participated – you played a role in securing this victory!

"Our community is delighted and excited to see the senators recognize the important role of optics and photonics in US commercialization, innovation and technology transfer," said chairman of the NPI Steering Committee, Alan Willner in a [statement](#). "We welcome the opportunity to work with the Committee to pass and enact this vital legislation."

High Power Laser Task Force Unveils Recommendations

The NPI High Power Lasers (HPL) Task Force, which includes leading defense contractors, commercial laser companies and academia, recently announced recommendations to improve US defense operations and strengthen the United States' manufacturing capacity. Released in conjunction with the Directed Energy Summit in Washington, DC on June 23, the recommendations call for the establishment of a directed energy program office that will serve to coordinate US manufacturing of high power lasers.

Thank you to Eugene Arthurs and Scott Keeney, co-chairs of the NPI HPL Task Force, and all others who contributed for their work to produce this document. A copy of the recommendations are available on the NPI [website](#), as well as [more information](#) on the HPL Task Force's work.

Host a Congressional Visit

Congress is in the midst of a seven week recess period until September 5, which offers a great opportunity to build on our success with America COMPETES by hosting a site visit for your local congressional representatives. The NPI has prepared a [step-by-step guide](#) to walk you through the process of setting up a congressional visit, from the first steps of making the request all the way through promoting the visit afterwards.



The Florida Photonics Cluster, which recently hosted Rep. John Mica (R-FL) at BEAM Company, is a great example. Photos are available on the NPI [website](#).

If you are interested in hosting a site visit, do not hesitate to reach out to the NPI with any questions.

Contact Us

The NPI is interested in hearing from you. Are you interested in joining our efforts? Do you have questions? Need additional information? Please contact Laura Kolton at (202) 416 1499 or lkolto@osa.org, or Krisinda Plenkovich at (360) 685 5518 or krisindap@spis.org.

Please visit the NPI website for more information: www.lightourfuture.org.



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