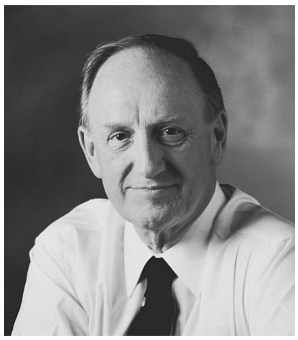

1995 in Review: Part I

It has now become a pattern, if not yet a tradition, to review the activities of your journal *Optical Engineering* at the end of each calendar year. Thus in this and the next month's editorial I will present the data in a format similar to earlier offerings. (See the editorials of the February and March issues of each year, except for 1992's data, reported in the January and February issue of 1993. There is also an erratum published in the December issue of 1994.) The presentation for Volume 34 follows the format of previous reviews to make the comparison easier for the reader. So, here goes with the statistics for Volume 34 (1995).

During 1995 the level of activity in the editorial office in Rochester was at about the same level as in 1994. However, for budgeting reasons the number of pages published was reduced by about 13%, as shown in Fig. 1. A small part of this was because we tried to control the number of special papers published. The result of these elements on regularly submitted papers has been to lengthen the time from acceptance to publication by between one and two

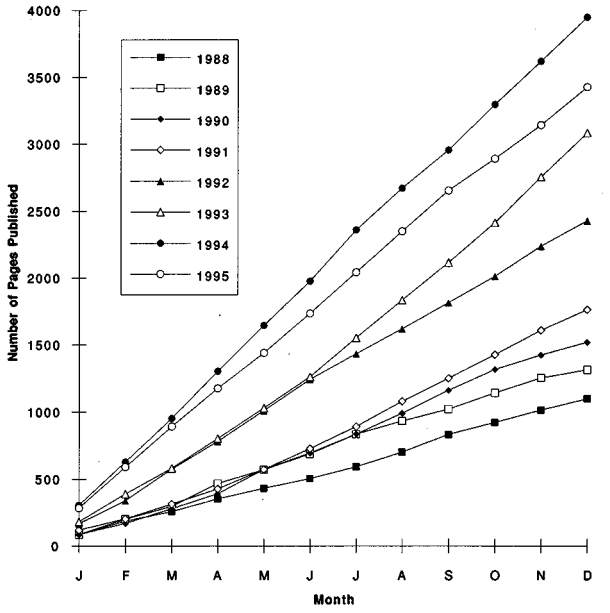

Fig. 1 Number of technical pages published by month 1988 to 1995.

Table 1 Major statistics and one- and two-year percentage changes.

		94–95	93–95
•Number of journal pages	3652	−12.7%	+7.4%
•Number of technical pages	3427	−13.2%	+11.1%
•Number of papers published	450	−14.6%	+6.4%
•Number of authors	1333	−20.2%	+5.0%

Table 2 Number of papers published by country of first author—1995

NUMBER OF PAPERS	COUNTRY
155	United States
71	Switzerland
24	China
21	Finland
18	Ukraine
17	Germany, Japan
14	Israel
13	Canada
12	France
9	South Korea, Poland
7	Spain, Taiwan
6	India, Italy, Singapore
5	Australia, England, Mexico
3	Austria, Czechoslovakia, Hong Kong, Sweden
2	Belgium, Russia
1	Argentina, Bulgaria, Netherlands, New Zealand, Scotland, Egypt, Thailand
450	

Table 3 Number of papers from the United States by state of first author—1995

NUMBER OF PAPERS	STATE
20	Alabama
17	California
13	Massachusetts
12	Florida, Ohio
9	Maryland
7	New York, Pennsylvania
6	New Mexico, Virginia
5	Arizona, Illinois, Indiana
4	Colorado, Louisiana
3	Nebraska
2	Connecticut, New Jersey, Texas
1	Alaska, Arkansas, District of Columbia, Georgia, Hawaii, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, New Hampshire, Oregon, South Carolina, Tennessee, Utah
155	

Table 4 Total number of authors by country—1995

NUMBER OF AUTHORS	COUNTRY
432	United States
234	Switzerland
89	China
69	Finland
57	Japan
54	Israel
49	Germany
45	Ukraine
35	France
33	Canada
26	Spain
25	South Korea
19	Taiwan
17	Italy
16	India, Poland
14	Australia, England
13	Singapore
11	Austria
9	Mexico
7	Belgium, Hong Kong, Sweden
6	Kuwait, Yugoslavia
4	Scotland, Russia
3	New Zealand, Argentina
2	Denmark, Egypt, South Africa
1	Bulgaria, Greece, Netherlands
1333	

Table 5 Total number of authors by state—1995

NUMBER OF AUTHORS	STATE
55	California
52	Alabama
35	Ohio
30	Massachusetts
28	Maryland
25	Pennsylvania
24	Florida
21	New York
19	Illinois
18	New Mexico
16	Arizona
15	Virginia
14	Indiana
11	Colorado
8	Louisiana, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska
5	New Jersey, Tennessee, Texas
3	Arkansas, Connecticut, Georgia
2	District of Columbia, Hawaii, New Hampshire, South Carolina, Utah
1	Kentucky, North Carolina, Oregon
432	

months. Our plans call for us to get back to our five-month period for that process by the end of the volume year (Vol. 35, 1996).

The basic facts are shown in the data of Table 1. I show here the one- and two-year percentage change.

Optical Engineering again featured some significant special sections; 201 special section papers were published representing 44.7% of the total papers published. This is slightly higher than last year's percentage (220; 41.7%), but still lower than the 1993 year (231; 54.6%). Publication of the regularly submitted papers was reduced to 249 for 55.3% of the total. (In 1994 we published 307 papers for 58.3% of the total).

During 1995, 10.2% of the papers published were revised versions of proceedings papers—revised in accordance with our guidelines. This is significantly less than the previous year, which was 16.1%.

The average length of a paper continues to stay at about the same level that it has been for a number of years. The 1995 number was 7.6 (for the last five years it has been 7.4, 7.6, 7.3, 7.5, 7.3, respectively, for the years 1990 to 1994).

Table 2 illustrates the international nature of *Optical Engineering* with 33 countries represented. Papers that came from outside the United States totaled 65.6%.

Tables 3 to 5 report on the country of origin of the authors and then present a separate breakdown of authors by state for the United States.

To be continued.

Brian J. Thompson
Editor