WOMEN IN OPTICS

Did you know?

► Women make up nearly 50 percent of the U.S. workforce, but only 24 percent of the STEM workforce.

► Women with STEM jobs earn 33 percent more than comparable women in non-STEM jobs.

► Women with a STEM degree are less likely than their male counterparts to work in a STEM occupation.

► In 2013, only 12 percent of engineers and 26 percent of computing professionals were women.

► Worldwide, women comprise only 28 percent of researchers.

► Of the 590 Nobel Laureates awarded in the sciences, only 18 were awarded to women.

► In 2015, women were awarded just 18 percent of bachelor’s degrees in computer sciences, 19 percent in engineering and 19 percent in physics, despite comprising more than 50 percent of college students.

► By 2018, 71 percent of jobs will require STEM skills.

“...if you want a career in science, you have to just do it and put your blinders on. I knew what I was good at; no one could tell me to pursue something I wasn’t good at.”

Donna Strickland,
OSA Past President

“We need more of an emphasis on the breadth of possibilities for women in STEM — you can be an executive and have a background in science and engineering.”

Janet Fender,
OSA Past President