

JIM MCNALLY

CEO, StratTHNK Associates

Education

Ph.D., Optical Sciences, University of New Mexico

M.S., Electrical Engineering, University of California, Santa Barbara

BEE, Electrical Engineering, Manhattan College, New York

Technical Activities/Interests

- Free space optical communications technologies and systems
- Spectroscopy-based biomedical diagnostics
- Beam control and adaptive optics technologies
- Technology startup businesses, financing, and capital allocations

Services to the Technical Community

- Steering Committee Member, National Photonics Initiative
- Advisory Board for the University of New Mexico Optical Science and Engineering Program
- Advisory Board for the University of New Mexico Electrical and Computer Engineering Dept
- Photonics Advisory Board, Central New Mexico Community College
- Former Chair of the Board for the New Mexico Optics Industry Association
- Conflict of Interest Committee, University of New Mexico's Health Science Center
- Board of Advisors for University of New Mexico Honors College
- The University of New Mexico Business and Industry Advisory Cabinet
- Invited Lecturer, UNM, Anderson School of Business, Entrepreneurship Series
- Judge for the UNM Anderson School of Business Technology Business Plan competition
- Science Fair Judge - International Science Fair and Albuquerque Public Schools Science Fairs
- Special Olympics Volunteer
- Technology Ventures Corporation's Technical Executives Council

Service to SPIE

- SPIE Secretary/Treasurer (2023)
- SPIE Executive Committee (2023)
- SPIE Board of Directors (2019-21 and 2014-15)
- SPIE Board Advisor (2017-18)
- SPIE CEO Search Committee (2017-18)
- SPIE Corporate and Exhibitors Committee (2016-19, Chair, 2017-18)
- SPIE Engineering, Science and Technology Policy Committee (2013-20; Chair, 2014-16)
- SPIE Financial Advisory Committee (2016-present)
- SPIE Compensation Committee (2016-2020; 2023)
- SPIE Strategic Planning Committee (2014-17; 2023)
- SPIE Education Committee (2012)
- SPIE Scholarships and Grants Committee (2003-2004)
- Arthur H Guenther Congressional Fellowship Selection Committee (2017-present)
- Yaver Memorial Scholarship Selection Committee (2018-present)
- Presidential Task Force on Diversity and Inclusion (2016-17)
- Presidential Task Force on SPIE Code of Ethics (2019-2023)
- Presidential Task Force on SPIE Endowments (2021)
- SPIE Representative on Steering Committee, National Photonics Initiative (2022-present)
- SPIE **oe** Magazine Editorial Advisory Board
- Editorial Advisory Board for the SPIE Newsroom

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- Active participant advocating for SPIE policy positions including Congressional Visits Day
- Active participant at SPIE conferences as an exhibitor, presenter and with publications in SPIE proceedings

Professional Honors

- SPIE Fellow
- Distinguished Alumni Award, University of New Mexico School of Engineering
- *Who's Who in Technology* in New Mexico
- *2006 Innovate Albuquerque* Entrepreneur Small Business Award
- Recognized by **TIME**TM magazine for an *Invention of the Year* in 2006
- **Sigma Xi** Research Honor Society, **Tau Beta Pi** Honor Society, **Eta Kappa Nu** Honor Society
- Air Force Scientific Achievement Awards
- *F. J. Seiler Award for Research Excellence*
- *Excellent Dissertation Award*, University of New Mexico
- *School of Engineering General Excellence Medal*, Manhattan College
- *Alumni Society Medal*, Manhattan College
- Technical Fellow, Applied Technology Associates (ATA)
- President Award, Applied Technology Associates (ATA)

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Election Statement

I am honored to serve as your Secretary/Treasurer in 2023. SPIE was my first major technical conference more than 3 decades ago when I presented and published my first research results at an SPIE conference. In the ensuing time, I have very much benefited from the professional development opportunities and networking that our Society provides. SPIE serves as a forum for open communications and interactions among international academic institutions, research organizations and industry that leads to advances in photonics technologies and new products. My career has touched on all of those which is why SPIE has been my “home” professional organization.

SPIE advocates for the betterment of all citizens of the world through our Mission: “to advance light-based research and technologies for the betterment of the human condition.” Over the past many years while serving on the Board of Directors, as Chair and member of numerous Committees, member of the CEO Executive Search Committee, member of multiple Presidential Task Forces, and a conference participant and exhibitor, I have admired the dedication of the SPIE staff and all volunteers in the pursuit of this mission. I am honored to be part of our great international Society.

I have served on the Financial Advisory Committee for the past 7 years and am proud of how solid a financial foundation our Society maintains. SPIE has maintained an active leadership role in advocating for global policies (such as the successful International Year of Light) in support of the optics and photonics community, and provides outreach and education to the general public to raise awareness of the significance, impacts and beauty of optics/photonics in their lives. We are able to invest in students and academia that support the next generation of researchers and leaders for our community. The methods for technical interchange, information dissemination, publications and colleague networking are changing and evolving. SPIE has recognized these changes and invested in evolving its business methods. I support maintaining this momentum to permit SPIE to be as “open” as possible yet highly respectful of intellectual rights. I believe that the stewardship of the SPIE financial resources is critical to maintaining our robust support of continued outreach for the betterment of the human condition. As your Secretary/Treasurer, I will continue to serve as a good steward of your financial resources, and work with the SPIE leadership team to seek to increase SPIE resources that support the continued growth of our contributions to the international optics community through our scholarships, educational resources, travel grants, endowed gifts, and public-policy development.

SPIE is unique as it brings a wide spectrum of constituents together in a well-balanced, healthy manner of interdisciplinary exchanges of ideas, scientific findings, technologies, and products. It is this balance that has contributed to our Society’s success and world-wide recognition. Again, a true sense of service for all. Over the past 40 years I have developed a breadth of experience and understanding as a physics professor, a researcher and research group leader, a senior executive in small and large organizations, as an angel investor in multiple advanced technology start-ups, and as an entrepreneur (founder/co-founder of 4 start-ups). I see the parallels with the services SPIE provides to our community and would like to apply my experiences to support the continued international leadership that is at the core of SPIE’s success.

SPIE is a service organization – service to academia, researchers, industry, and students. Service to members and non-members. In fact, service to all citizens of the world. I would enjoy the opportunity to continue to be part of this service. I’d like to summarize by stating that if selected as your Secretary/Treasurer, I will seek to continue to increase our cultivation of young optics and photonics professionals, our outreach to students world-wide (via chapters, travel support, leadership guidance, and forums for the exchange of best practices), support the continued growth of our Digital Library, and our continued focus on improving the inclusive and diverse representation for committees, conference chairs, program committees, and membership.

I would be honored to continue to serve the SPIE community as your Secretary/Treasurer.