

From the Editor

The *Journal of the Optical Society of America* has now been split into two journals, the *Journal of the Optical Society of America A* (JOSA A) and the *Journal of the Optical Society of America B* (JOSA B). Each journal has a group of topical editors who, using the advice of reviewers, accept and reject papers in their topical areas. My job is to coordinate their activities. JOSA has long been a premier journal for publishing basic material in classical optics. We are committed to maintaining this. At the same time we are working hard at widening the scope of the new journals. Our activities are detailed in recent articles in *Optics News*.

About 25% of the material submitted to JOSA has been transferred to JOSA B. This includes primarily the material in atomic spectroscopy and the optical properties of solids. JOSA B has been given the descriptor "Optical Physics" to describe the material being sought for this mostly new journal. The first issue will be published March 1.

As you can see on the cover of this journal, JOSA A has been given the descriptors "Optics and Image Science." The "Optics" is included to indicate that JOSA A will be the general journal of the OSA for basic material. The bulk of the material formerly published in JOSA will now appear in JOSA A. The descriptor "Image Science" indicates our strong commitment to expand the coverage of JOSA A in the area of image science.

Special launch committees were formed to review the material in each topical area and to define the scope of the new material to be sought. The members of the launch committees for JOSA A are listed on the facing page. These launch committees are planning feature issues and review articles. Also, when appropriate, they are directly soliciting articles. We will be seeking archival papers that are more related to theory, and new ideas/concepts/techniques, and less to specific applications and experimental techniques. Material on applications is definitely to be included if it is of a general enough nature.

We hope that JOSA subscribers will like these changes. We are trying to keep up with the rapid changes in optics research. Let us make JOSA A and JOSA B truly excellent research journals.

R. W. Terhune