

Coalition for Photonics and Optics

c/o Optical Society of America
2010 Massachusetts Ave., NW
Washington, DC 20036-1023
www.cpo-optics.org

October 18, 2001

Mr. Daniel M. Hull
President, CORD
601 Lake Air Drive
Waco, TX 76710

Dear Mr. Hull:

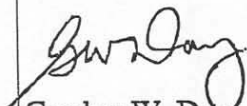
This is to encourage you in your efforts to continue the development of curriculum materials for Associate's Degree programs in photonics and optics.

As you know, CPO is an organization of the professional societies, trade associations, and local clusters that focus on the photonics and optics professions and industry. CPO allows us to work together on problems of broad concern in the field; workforce development is one of those.

In 2000, one of the major activities of the CPO was to organize and hold an industry workshop, called "So many jobs... So few people," at which representatives of major employers and educational institutions came together for a day to share concerns and best practices. Representatives of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy, the Department of Education, and the office of Congressman Vernon Ehlers also participated. You can find more information on the workshop at the CPO web site, given above.

We believe that the current slowdown in the photonics industry is just temporary, and that the critical lack of trained scientists and technicians in photonics will soon reappear. Now is the time to be focusing on education and recruiting into the field.

Good luck,



Gordon W. Day
Chairman

Member organizations: Optical Society of America ♦ IEEE Lasers and Electro-Optics Society ♦
Arizona Optics Industry Association ♦ Colorado Photonics Industry Association ♦ Laser Institute of America ♦
Laser & Electro-Optics Manufacturers Association ♦ Optoelectronics Industry Development Association ♦
Photonics Industry Association of New York ♦ SPIE - International Society for Optical Engineering ♦
American Precision Optics Manufacturers Association ♦ United States Display Consortium ♦
Penn State Electro-Optics Center ♦ New Mexico Optics Industry Association ♦