

# Meeting Minutes



Meeting: FPC General Members Meeting & Annual Meeting  
Date: 11 December 2013  
Location: National Center for Forensic Science at UCF  
Attendees: FPC members, guests, presenters

## Minutes

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:15pm by FPC President, Alex Fong. Alex made some brief introductions and gave a short overview of the FPC, including 2013 results and 2014 plans, and results of the election for the 2014 Board of Directors (see <http://www.floridaphotonicscluster.org/board-of-directors/index.php> for the members of the 2014 Board).
2. Mr. Steve Anderson, SPIE Industry and Market Strategist, gave an update on the National Photonics Initiative (NPI) and a short overview of the global outlook for science and technology and photonics in particular. A PDF of his presentation is on the FPC website under "Events". A brief summary of the points in his presentation:
  - Global Outlook:
    - slow growth overall
    - squeezed science budgets
    - photonics can address many of the major global issues
    - much work is needed in Washington because too few decision makers know the impact and potential of photonics
  - NPI:
    - The Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) has set up a "Fast Track Committee" on photonics
    - Several industry-driven groups have met to look at the 5 broad areas defined in the NPI and to make recommendations on detailed actions
    - SPIE and OSA have contracted with the Podesta Group to help lobby Congress
    - NSF's 2014 Business R&D and Innovation Survey (BRDIS) will include photonics as a focus area
    - Some of the areas projected to see strong growth over the next few years include:
      - i) high-brightness LEDDs;
      - ii) Silicon photonics (particularly for data storage);
      - iii) 3-D laser printing (particularly for automobile and aircraft engine parts manufacturing)
    - 2015 is to be the "International Year of Light and Light-Based Technologies"
3. Mr. George Gordon, President of Anthem Ventures, gave a talk on "Establishing an Efficient Supply Chain With a Regional Focus". A PDF of his presentation is on the FPC website under "Events".

4. Dr. Michael Sigman, NCFS Director and Professor of Chemistry, provided an overview of NCFS – see <http://ncfs.ucf.edu/> -- followed by a tour of some of the NCFS facilities. A few of the points in his presentation are as follows:
  - The NCFS was established as a Florida Type II Research Center in 2001.
  - Initial research work was on physical fire and explosives forensics
  - Current research areas is in physical (fire & explosives), biological (DNA), and digital evidence.
  - The NCFS has connections with several other university centers, including Florida International University (FIU) and University of Florida.
  - The NCFS has partnerships in place with UCF Police, the FBI, and Orange County Sheriff.
5. The meeting concluded with a reception for networking, hosted by NCFS and the FPC. A no-host dinner was held at a local restaurant for further networking and discussions.