Editorial

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In this special issue of *Applied Physics B—Lasers and Optics* we present selected papers presented at the 2011 spring meeting of the German Physical Society in Dresden. More than 7000 participants joined from the Quantum Optics Division, from all other divisions within AMOP, and from the Solid State Divisions within SKM and discussed common and most recent topics.

The articles in this issue provide a cross section of the current activities of the Quantum Optics Division in the fields of quantum information, ultra-cold atomic gases, photonics, and precision measurements.

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