Joseph Fraunhofer Award

PARAMESWARAN HARIHARAN

CSIRO Division of Applied Physics

The Optical Society of America's 1989 Joseph Fraunhofer Award for distinguished contributions to optical engineering will be presented to Parameswaran Hariharan of the CSIRO Division of Applied Physics in Australia for his pioneering scientific and engineering contributions in interferometry, laser speckle, and holography.

Hariharan's early work in interferometry centered on three beam and double passed instruments. His multiple-passed Fabry-Perot interferometer has become a useful tool in spectroscopy and he has been a leader in the development of shearing interferometry for optical testing. In addition, he has developed a new technique for producing multicolor holographic images and has pioneered the digital technique that makes it possible to obtain very accurate measurements of mechanical vibrations and deformations.

Hariharan received his bachelor's and master's degrees from The University of Travancore in India, then went on to the University of Kerala to complete his Ph.D in physics in 1958.

Among his numerous professional activities and affiliations, Hariharan is a fellow of OSA, SPIE, the Indian National Academy of Science, and the Institute of Physics. He served as president of the Optical Society of India from 1973-74 and as vice president of the International Commission for Optics from 1984-1987. He is currently ICO treasurer and president of the Australian Optical Society.