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March 28, 2003

Donn Silberman
Optics Institute of Southern California
31 Blackbird Lane
Aliso Viejo, CA 92656

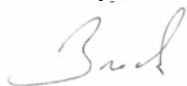
Dear Donn:

Congratulations on initiating the Optics Institute of Southern California! Your work on behalf of the Institute will benefit students and companies not only in southern California, but throughout the state and the country as people and ideas emanate from the Institute during the coming years.

The National Research Council's 1998 report, "*Harnessing Light*," emphasized the need for improvements in primary and secondary schools' presentation of subjects related to optics and photonics. Several projects since then have developed techniques and curricula for implementing such improvements, and I am delighted to see that the Optics Institute of Southern California will now attempt to utilize many of these approaches.

On behalf of all LEOMA companies, I wish you the best of luck with the Institute. Please don't hesitate to call on me if I might be able to assist with your noble undertaking.

Sincerely,



C. Breck Hitz
Executive Director

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