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## FOREWORD

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### Special Section on Recent Advances in Integrated Photonic Devices

Since communication traffic is still continuing to grow, a large increase in transport capacities in optical fiber networks for long haul, metro and access systems is strongly required. Integrated photonic devices play important roles to improve characteristics in optical transmitters and receivers, which are deployed in those systems. In addition to the telecommunications, very short distance and very large capacity transmission (optical interconnection) is also demanded in data center networks. Integrated photonic devices have also been steadily developed for the optical interconnection networks. It should be noted that technologies of analysis, assembling, measurement, and reliability have been intensively developed to support the progress of those integrated photonic devices.

The purpose of this Special Section is to explore recent research progress related to the subjects. This section contains 9 papers including 2 invited papers.

I would like to express my appreciation to all the authors for their contributions to the special section. In addition, I sincerely thank to the editorial committee members and reviewers, who spent their precious time for editing and reviewing the papers. Without their efforts, we could not complete this invaluable special section.

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**Takeo Shimizu** (*Member*) received the B.E. and M.E. degrees in applied physics from University of Tokyo, Japan, in 1979 and 1981, respectively. After joining Furukawa Electric Co., Ltd., he has been working in the research and development fields of optical components and semiconductor devices. Currently, he is the general manager of Yokohama R&D Laboratories. He was the Chair of Technical Committee on Opto-Electronics in Electronics Society of the IEICE for one year starting from May 2012.

