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## FOREWORD

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

Welcome to the Special Section on Recent Advances in Integrated Photonic Devices. This special section has been planned to introduce the latest advances on integrated photonic devices and related technologies which offer a wide range of applications and are increasing in their importance. These technologies, including integrated photonic circuits, OEICs, micro-optics, and optical MEMS, are increasingly important in the field of optical technology, as photonics become indispensable in our daily lives with the spread of fiber-to-the-home and DVD equipments.

The editorial committee was supported by the Integrated Photonic Devices (IPD) Technical Group of the IEICE Electronics Society, which has a long history for research on integrated photonic devices from 1986. The IPD organizes several technical meetings each year that cover the following research and development areas include; Integrated photonic circuits/devices (composed of glass, semiconductors, LiNbO<sub>3</sub>, polymers, etc.), Photonic crystal, OEIC, Micro-optics, Optical MEMS, Assembly/packaging, Applications, Theory (analysis/simulation), Design/fabrication, Fabrication processes and evaluation.

In this special section, seven of invited and three of contributed papers covers the state of the art technologies in materials, devices, and application for integrated photonic devices suggesting unique and interesting functions. Most of the invited papers are selected from many distinguished presentations given at recent IPD technical meetings. We expect the special issue to stimulate progress on integrated photonic devices and related fields. Finally, we would like to express our sincere appreciation to all the authors, the reviewers, and the editorial staff in IEICE for their great contribution.

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Yuzo Yoshikuni, Guest Editor

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**Yuzo Yoshikuni** (*Fellow*) received B.E., M.E., and Ph.D. degrees in Chemical Engineering from Tokyo University in 1977, 1979, and 1983, respectively. He joined NTT in 1982 and had worked in the area of semiconductor lasers for optical communications. From 1990 to 1991, he was a visiting associate professor in RCAST, Tokyo University. He is currently a Professor in Department of physics, School of science, Kitasato university.

