The 2015 Annual Meeting in Toronto, held jointly with the Canadian National Committee, marks the end of my term as CIE/USA president. When I assumed this role in 2011, the organization was struggling to survive after many years of living off our budget surpluses which were now depleted. Our failure to address serial shortfalls in income at a time of increasing dues obligations to CIE had left us without the means to pay our CIE dues and subject to suspension – which indeed happened for a short time. Fortunately, significant efforts from a number of CIE/USA leaders combined to enact a number of initiatives which have allowed us to remain in good standing with CIE. Among these were:

- Reorganizing the membership and dues structure to recognize changes in the lighting industry and professions;
- Adding leadership positions to focus on membership, communications and web-based information;
- Re-establishing the secretary’s position as a continuing office with enhanced resources and web-site responsibility (thank you UL and Randi Myers);
- Encouraging CIE to modify its by-laws to permit quarterly dues payments which allowed us to remain a full voting member;
- Negotiating the reinstatement of the member publication discount for CIE documents;
- Significantly enhancing our dues billing infrastructure to regularize our income stream (thank you Ron Gibbons);
- Instituting periodic Membership Committee meetings to address our need to maintain and increase our membership (thank you Jim Leland);
- Publishing a regular quarterly newsletter to maintain and inform our membership (thank you Kosta Papamichael).

We also were fortunate to have a CIE leadership team in place that recognized the need to find a way to maintain the membership of the United States. The personal efforts of Martina Paul (CIE General Secretary), Lorne Whitehead (CIE Treasurer), Ann Web (CIE President), and Yoshi Ohno (CIE President-elect) were critical in formulating and enacting changes, both in policies and in attitude, that paved the way for our ability to continue as a full CIE participant.

We heartily congratulate our own Dr. Yoshi Ohno who assumed the presidency of CIE at the 2015 Quadrennial Session in Manchester, UK in July. His election was in recognition of his
many years of technical and administrative contributions to CIE and the lighting world. It is a very well deserved honor.

Another hallmark of the Manchester Quadrennial Session was the selection of the United States as the site for the 2019 Quadrennial Session. This is largely due to the work of Dr. Ron Gibbons who not only prepared the invitation for presentation, but also has provided most of the preparation that served as the basis for our selection. We now need to begin the nuts and bolts planning for this important meeting which will bring CIE to our country for the first time since 1995.

I especially want to thank the outgoing officers and executive committee members who have provided such dedicated service to CIE/USA. I know they will continue to contribute to our work as they have done in the past. They include: Cameron Miller (Senior VP), Ron Daubach (VP Communications), Tom Lemons (Past President), Mark Duffy (Executive Committee), and Angelo Arrechi (Executive Committee).

It has been a privilege to serve as president of CIE/USA for the past four years and I thank all who have made my term both productive and enjoyable. We are in good hands for the future and I look forward to continuing to be an active member for years to come.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Laird Lewis, O.D., Ph.D.
President 2011-2015