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Tayyab Suratwala has been at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (LLNL) for the last 18 years and is currently the Program Director for Optics and Materials Science & Technology (OMST) in the NIF & Photon Science Directorate. Before that he also served as the Science & Technology Lead for the Lasers, Optics, & Targets (LSOT) group, APM for the Laser Materials & Optics Technology, as the Yield Improvement Group Leader, and as the Glass Optics Group Leader. Tayyab earned a B.S. in Ceramic Engineering from the U. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 1992 and a Ph.D. in Materials Science & Engineering from the U. of Arizona in 1996. His research interests include: grinding and polishing, deterministic finishing, laser damage initiation and growth, chemical and thermal based mitigation of damage precursors and damage sites, fracture behavior in glasses and ceramics, slow crack growth, glass chemistry, optical properties of glasses, and sol-gel chemistry. He has served as PI on a number of Laboratory Directed Research & Development (LDRD) projects focused on slow crack growth, optical finishing science, and laser damage precursor identification and mitigation. Tayyab has 60+ peer reviewed publications including 5 patents. He has given 15 invited conference presentations and has received 2 R&D 100 awards (2001, 2014) and two LLNL Science & Technology Awards (2001, 2012). He has served as program committee member for the Optical Fabrication & Testing Conferences for the Optical Society of the America, and as session chair for the Flow and Fracture of Advanced Glasses (FFAG) Workshops.

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