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By employing coupled photonic crystal cavities with dissimilar mode volume and quality factor, the spontaneous emission rate is controlled on timescales significantly shorter than the emitter's lifetime, allowing the real-time shaping of the waveform of the emitted photons. (See Jin et al., p. 44.)
[Image: R. John and Y. Liang/l2molecule.com]

Optics in 2014

This special issue of *Optics & Photonics News* highlights the most exciting peer-reviewed optics research to have emerged over the past 12 months.

Our panel of editors reviewed a record 200 research summaries from scientists all over the globe. They selected for publication 30 stories that they felt most clearly communicated breakthroughs of interest to the optics community. Some of the summaries have related multimedia that you can access at www.osa-opn.org/optics-in-2014. Thanks to all who submitted summaries as well as our panel of guest editors.