Meet Optica's 2026 Fellows

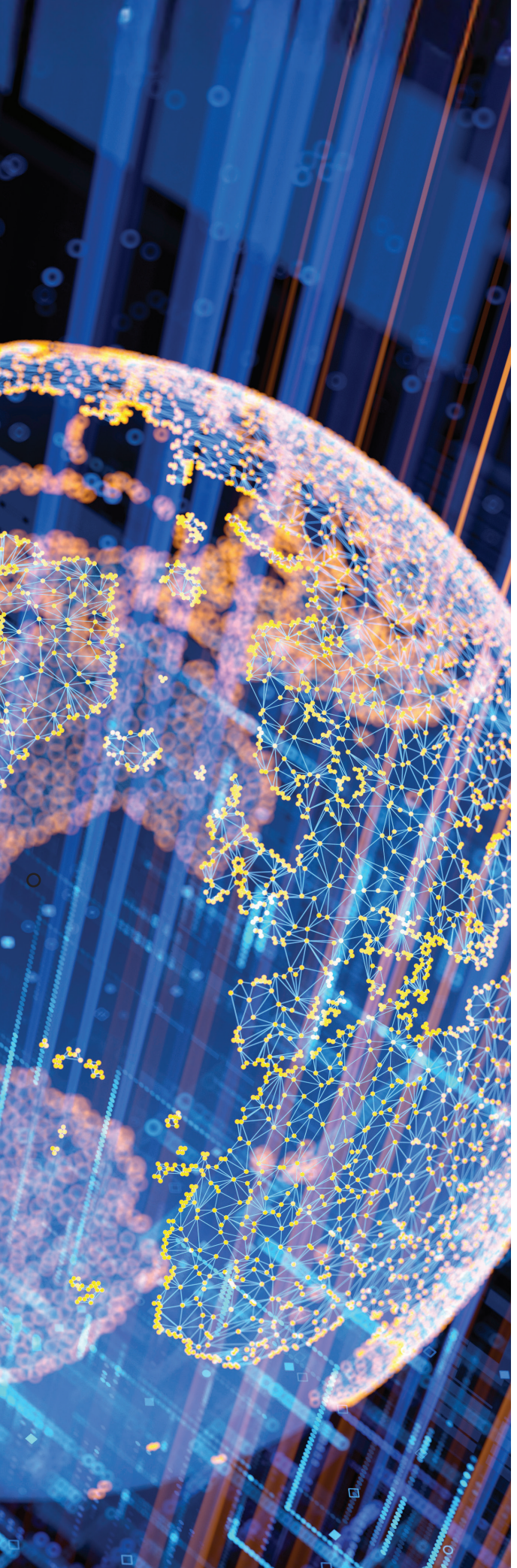


Congratulations to the 121 members elevated to the rank of Optica Fellow in 2026.

These members are honored for their significant contributions to our field through business leadership, education, engineering, research and service. Fellows are a vital part of our community, and we thank them for their ongoing support of Optica and our community.

For more information, contact the Optica Awards Office (awards@optica.org; +1 202.416.1960) or visit optica.org/fellows. Nominations for 2027 Fellows are due by 15 May 2026.

Background: Vertigo3d / Getty Images
Fellow Illustrations: Gluekit





Kaan Akşit

University College London, United Kingdom

For his pioneering achievements in the development of advanced 3D display systems and novel perceptually guided computer graphics techniques



Antonio Ambrosio

Istituto Italiano di Tecnologia, Italy

For contributions to near-field optical microscopy, structured light, and nanophotonics



Yasuhiro Awatsuji

Kyoto Institute of Technology, Japan

For technical innovation in digital holography for high-speed and ultrafast imaging, and for research leadership



Andreas Beling

University of Virginia, United States

For contributions to high-power, high-speed photodetectors for analog optical links, microwave photonics, and photonic integrated circuits



Yusheng Bian

GlobalFoundries, United States

For transformative contributions to silicon photonics, including innovations that underpin high-volume manufacturing on a scalable CMOS-silicon photonics platform



Andrey Bogdanov

Qingdao Innovation and Development Center of Harbin Engineering University, China

For numerous pioneering contributions to the physics and applications of bound states in the continuum in resonant dielectric photonic structures



Enrique Castro-Camus

Centro de Investigaciones en Optica AC, Mexico

For novel applications of terahertz techniques in multiple fields, particularly medical diagnostics, plant biology, and cultural heritage conservation



Guo-En Chang

National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University, Taiwan

For technical innovation and seminal work in Si photonics, particularly his pioneering contributions in SiGeSn materials and photonic devices



Edoardo Charbon

École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne (EPFL), Switzerland

For groundbreaking and pioneering contributions in the development of single photon avalanche diode cameras and sensors



Haoshuo Chen

Nokia Bell Labs, United States

For exceptional contributions in multimode and multicore communication technologies, and pioneering advances in cladding pumped optical amplifiers



Hsueh-Shih Chen

National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan

For contributions to the development and commercialization of quantum dot materials, color conversion films of display backlighting, and electroluminescent panels



Lian-Kuan Chen

The Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

For outstanding advances to the research of optical wireless communications for indoor, underwater, and water-air channels



Pai-Yen Chen

University of Illinois Chicago, United States

For outstanding contributions to plasmonics in 2D materials and photonic metamaterials for nonlinear nanophotonics, light manipulation, and sensing applications



Gary J. Cheng

Purdue University, United States

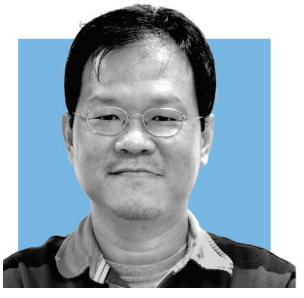
For pioneering laser-induced, scalable, high-precision optical fabrication and transformation with cross-cutting advances in semiconductor, quantum, aerospace, and energy industries



Julian Zhishen Cheng

Great Bay University, Dongguan, China

For fundamental theoretical and practical contributions in optical wireless communications



Elbert E. M. Chia

Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

For innovative ultrafast optical and terahertz spectroscopy studies of quantum and energy-related materials



Chih Wei Chu

Research Center for Applied Sciences, Academia Sinica, Taiwan

For advancing scalable, eco-friendly materials and device innovations enabling high-performance flexible photonic and electronic technologies



Matteo Clerici

Università degli Studi dell'Insubria, Como, Italy

For pioneering experiments in the field of ultrafast and quantum optics in the infrared part of the spectrum



Dennis Couwenberg

Publishing Editor NANOPHOTONICS, Science Wise Publishing, Netherlands

For outstanding contributions to the worldwide optics community through creative leadership in scientific publishing and advocacy for diversity and inclusivity



Dominique M. Dagenais

National Science Foundation, United States

For nation-wide scientific leadership and professional service in photonics and optoelectronics



Mini Das

University of Houston, United States

For pioneering contributions to low-coherence X-ray phase retrieval, imaging system development, spectral X-ray computed tomography, and image perception



Guilhem de Valicourt

Ciena Corporation, United States

For substantial contributions to the development and commercialization of integrated-optics communication devices



John Delaney

National Gallery of Art, United States

For the development of hyperspectral imaging techniques to investigate, restore, and preserve historical artworks



Fei Ding

Eastern Institute of Technology, Ningbo, China

For significant contributions to experimental nanophotonics, especially within the areas of broadband metamaterial absorbers, multifunctional/dynamic metasurfaces, and quantum metasurfaces



Jianji Dong

Huazhong University of Science and Technology, China

For pioneering work on integrated optics and photonic computing, particularly in the area of reconfigurable optical computing chips



John M. Doyle

Harvard University, United States

For developing pioneering methods enabling a broad range of spectroscopic studies, including cryogenic cooling of large molecules and radicals, novel probes of chirality, slow molecular beams, and laser cooling of large molecules



Lu FANG

Tsinghua University, China

For contributions to plenoptic imaging and integrated photonic neural computing



Ofer Firstenberg

Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel

For pioneering contributions to quantum nonlinear optics and for advancing optical quantum memories, synchronized photon sources, and long-lived spin-photon interfaces



David G. Fischer

NASA Glenn Research Center, United States

For foundational contributions to physical optics and space missions



Mable Fok

University of Georgia, United States

For seminal contributions to the adaptive and flexible use of fiber optics for soft material sensing and bioinspired microwave photonic systems



Hongyan Fu

Tsinghua University, China

For outstanding contributions to integrated photonics and their applications for communications and sensing, including optical wireless communications and LiDAR



Kelly Gaffney

PULSE Institute and SLAC National Accelerator Laboratory, Stanford University, United States

For ground-breaking contributions to the development of ultrafast x-ray methods and their use in the study of chemical and molecular dynamics



Patrice Genevet

Colorado School of Mines, United States

For advancing photonics with transformative metasurface innovations leading to breakthroughs in imaging, holography, and nanoscale light manipulation



Massimo Giudici

Université Côte d'Azur, France

For outstanding contributions in the experimental realization and analysis of nonlinear phenomena in semiconductor lasers and microcavities



Antoine Godard

ONERA, France

For outstanding research, technical, and program leadership in nonlinear optics for aerospace, including innovative applications of optical parametric oscillators for gas sensing



Tingyi Gu

University of Delaware, United States

For resolving material, nanofabrication, and systems challenges of silicon photonics with subwavelength design concepts and crystalline memory materials



Nathan Hagen

Utsunomiya University, Japan

For outstanding contributions to snapshot spectral and polarization imaging



Nicholas Harris

Lightmatter, United States

For transformative advances in programmable photonic integrated circuits and pioneering photonic AI acceleration technologies at the intersection of optics and machine learning



Mark A. Henesian

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory (Retired), Visiting Senior Scientist, United States

For pioneering advances in nonlinear optics, electro-optics, and modeling codes enabling modern, large aperture, high-energy laser architectures for inertial confinement fusion



Robert Herrick

Robert Herrick Consulting, United States

For advances in the reliability and failure analysis of semiconductor lasers and optoelectronics



Angela R. Hight Walker

National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST), United States

For pioneering application of Raman and photoluminescence spectroscopy to 2D materials such as graphene, transition-metal dichalcogenides, and hexagonal boron nitride



Anthony Hoffman

University of Notre Dame, United States

For pioneering contributions to mid-infrared optical metamaterials and sustained service to the photonics community



Lingling Huang

Beijing Institute of Technology, China

For significant contributions to multi-dimensional, large-capacity functional flat optics, especially metasurface wave-front engineering, holography, and optical encryption



Yen-Chieh Huang

National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan

For pioneering contributions to laser-driven accelerator on a chip, quasi-phase-matching nonlinear optics, intense far-infrared laser sources, and LED-pumped lasers



Rongqing Hui

University of Kansas, United States

For outstanding and sustained contributions to the research and development of optical communication systems, devices, and optical measurement techniques



Gereon Hüttmann

University of Lübeck GmbH, Germany

For pioneering dynamic OCT and optoretinography, enabling functional retinal imaging at cellular resolution and advancing clinical optical diagnostics worldwide



Deep Jariwala

University of Pennsylvania, United States

For his important contributions to understanding light-matter interactions in quantum-confined materials and pioneering excitonic metamaterials



Rajan Jha

Indian Institute of Technology Bhubaneswar, India

For pioneering contributions to fiber photonics devices through development of fiber interferometers, micro-nano structures, plasmonics systems, and advancing sensing technology



Nicolas Joly

Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg and Max Planck Institute for the Science of Light, Erlangen, Germany

For the invention of unique microstructured fibers, including gas- and plasma-filled fibers, with applications to supercontinuum generation and quantum phenomena



R. Jason Jones

University of Arizona, Wyant College of Optical Sciences, United States

For outstanding and sustained contributions to the development of novel frequency comb sources and applications including broadband high-resolution spectroscopy



Shumpei Kameyama

Mitsubishi Electric Corporation, Japan

For leadership in pioneering research and widespread application of fiber-based lidar instrumentation for sensing atmospheric wind and carbon dioxide



Alina Karabchevsky

Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, Israel

For pioneering leadership and contributions to integrated photonics, nonlinear fiber systems, and optoelectronic computing for neuromorphic and quantum technologies



Donghyun Kim

Yonsei University, Republic of Korea

For outstanding contributions to nanoplasmonic and metastructure-based biosensing and imaging technologies, and international leadership in optical science outreach



Young L. Kim

Purdue University, United States

For pioneering discoveries of light localization in biological media and outstanding achievements in computational spectroscopy for public and global health



Kenneth L. Knappenberger, Jr.

Pennsylvania State University, United States

For pioneering contributions to metal nanocluster photonics and magneto-optics including superatom spin-polarized emission and state-resolved energy flow



Sanathana Konugolu Venkata Sekar

Tyndall National Institute, Ireland

For pioneering equitable biophotonics technologies, advancing optical health monitoring, driving global biophotonics standardization, and demonstrating impactful leadership in biophotonics entrepreneurship



Michael R. Krames

Opnovix Corp, United States

For pioneering contributions to high-efficiency visible spectrum light-emitting diodes and energy efficient solid-state lighting



Santosh Kumar

Koneru Lakshmaiah Education Foundation, India

For pioneering contributions to optical fiber-based plasmonics biosensors (WaveFlex Biosensors) for clinical applications



Matthew D. Lew

Washington University in St. Louis, United States

For pioneering contributions to super-resolution microscopy, single-molecule imaging, and the development of innovative nanoscale sensing techniques



Peining Li

Huazhong University of Science and Technology, China

For pioneering contributions to near-field optics and polariton nanophotonics



Shien-Kuei Liaw

Taiwan Tech (NTUST), Taiwan

For brilliant contributions to optical communications, fiber-based devices, and fiber sensing, encompassing academic research and industrial applications



Chengbo Liu

Shenzhen Inst of Adv Technology, CAS, China

For his contribution to multi-contrast and multi-modality photoacoustic and fluorescence imaging



Jin Liu

Sun Yat-Sen University, China

For groundbreaking research on quantum light sources, orbital angular momentum generation, and dielectric metasurfaces



Andrew Lord

BT Research and Networks Strategy, United Kingdom

For sustained contributions, innovative research, and professional service to the field



Ruben S. Luis

National Institute of Information and Communications Technology, Japan

For groundbreaking contributions to high-capacity fiber-optic transmission systems



Ming Ronnier Luo

Zhejiang University, China

For important contributions in the fields of color, vision, and imaging science and engineering, and the establishment of international standards



Ren-Min Ma

Peking University, China

For his discovery of singular dispersion equation and pioneering contributions to nanolaser physics and devices



Yongfeng Mei

Fudan University, China

For pioneering contributions to three-dimensional nanomembrane photonic architectures and their applications in photonics and optoelectronics



Oleg Mitrofanov

University College London, United Kingdom

For pioneering and outstanding contributions to the field of terahertz photonics research, particularly in the development and application of terahertz near-field imaging



Omar F. Mohammed

King Abdullah University of Science & Technology, Saudi Arabia

For his exceptional leadership in materials engineering, and pioneering ultrafast imaging and spectroscopy, revealing key carrier dynamics in light-harvesting devices



Raul Muñoz

Centre Tecnològic de Telecomunicacions de Catalunya (CTTC), Spain

For pioneering contributions to the efficient orchestration of optical networking technologies



Jerome Neauport

CEA Cesta, France

For significant contributions to the development of optics for high-energy, high-intensity laser systems



Xingjie Ni

Pennsylvania State University, United States

For pioneering contributions to the areas of metasurfaces and nanophotonics



Ampalavanapilla Nirmalathas

University of Melbourne, Australia

For pioneering contributions to the design and demonstration of high-speed indoor optical wireless networks and enabling photonic technologies



Naveen Nishchal

Indian Institute of Technology Patna, India

For pioneering contributions in information optics and holography, including optical cryptography and structured light



Ioan Notingher

University of Nottingham, United Kingdom

For advances in optical spectroscopy for biomedical application, in particular Raman spectroscopy for cell imaging and tissue diagnostics



Yukihiro OZAKI

School of Biological and Environmental Sciences, Kwansei Gakuin University, Japan

For a lifetime of research accomplishments and breakthroughs across broad areas of Raman, resonance Raman, near-infrared, surface-enhanced, vacuum ultraviolet, 2-dimensional correlation (2D-COS) spectroscopies, and chemometrics



Yasuyuki Ozeki

The University of Tokyo, Japan

For pioneering contributions to the development of high-speed molecular vibrational imaging



Xiaodan Pang

Zhejiang University, China

For seminal contributions to optical communications in free-space and optical fiber, and dedicated service to the optics and photonics community



Francesca Parmigiani

Microsoft Research Cambridge, United Kingdom

For her pioneering contributions to the field of high-speed optical communications and optical signal processing



Alexander Payne

Silicon Light Machines Inc., United States

For extraordinary contributions to the development of high speed, high optical power handling, MEMS spatial light modulators



David Piehler

Dell Technologies, United States

For profound technical contributions and leadership in optical access network technologies and their successful widespread commercialization



Nicola Pinna

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, Germany

For seminal contributions to photonics using nanomaterials with tunable optical, plasmonic, and luminescent properties via shape control, assembly, and doping



Francesco Poletti

University of Southampton and Microsoft Azure Fiber & AI, United Kingdom

For fundamental contributions to the advancement of hollow core fiber technology from design to fabrication



Manojit Pramanik

Iowa State University, United States

For outstanding contributions in the field of low-cost, compact photoacoustic computed tomography, photoacoustic image reconstruction, and contrast agent development



Niels Quack

Institut für Mikroelektronik Stuttgart, Universität Stuttgart, Germany

For pioneering contributions to photonic micro- and nanosystems



Aaswath P. Raman

University of California Los Angeles, United States

For pioneering contributions to radiative cooling and thermal photonics



Victor Reshetnyak

Taras Shevchenko National University of Kyiv, Ukraine

For the pioneering work on photoalignment of liquid crystals and achievements in liquid-crystal lenses that led to widespread applications



Jacquiline Romero

University of Queensland, Australia

For her seminal contributions to quantum structured light and her pioneering role in promoting quantum science in the Philippines



Dibakar Roy Chowdhury

Anurag University, India

For innovations in passive and reconfigurable terahertz metamaterial devices and leadership in promoting terahertz activities in India



Thierry Ruchon

CEA, Université Paris-Saclay, LIDYL, France

For pioneering discoveries on angular momentum transfer in high harmonic generation, bringing structured light into the attosecond science toolbox



Vladimir Serkin

Benemérita Univ Autonoma de Puebla, Mexico

For ground-breaking ideas and concepts in the field of ultrafast nonlinear optics and photonics, often far ahead of their time



Laura Sinclair

National Inst of Standards & Technology, United States

For pioneering femtosecond free-space time-transfer, enabling unprecedented precision in the comparison of optical clocks over hundreds of kilometers



Ravindra Sinha

Delhi Technological University, India

For outstanding leadership roles in spreading optics and photonics education and significant research contributions in photonic crystal and metamaterial-based devices



Brent C. Stuart

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, United States

For groundbreaking innovations in high-intensity laser design, modernization and operation of laser facilities, and exceptional contributions to short-pulse laser science and applications



Judith Su

University of Arizona, College of Optical Sciences, United States

For pioneering work on label-free optical biosensing for fundamental science, translational medicine, and environmental monitoring



Qizhen Sun

Huazhong University of Science and Technology, China

For pioneering and outstanding contributions in fiber-optic acoustic sensing and its applications in earth exploration and medical monitoring



Chuanshan Tian

Fudan University, China

For his transformative advancements in nonlinear spectroscopy and THz science, revolutionizing interfacial dynamics in complex materials



Zhen Tian

Tianjin University, China

For pioneering and transformative contributions to the advancement of terahertz photonics, and groundbreaking achievements in optoelectronic device technologies



Renu Tripathi

Delaware State University, United States

For significant contributions in research and development of atomic magnetometry, optical coherence tomography, optical pattern recognition, and photorefractive phenomena



Kevin Kin-Man Tsia

University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

For pioneering contributions to high-speed optical microscopy and high-throughput imaging cytometry



Alfred U'Ren

Instituto de Ciencias Nucleares (UNAM), Mexico

For foundational contributions to spontaneous parametric down conversion, spontaneous four-wave mixing, applications of quantum optics, and outstanding service and leadership



Niklaus Ursus Wetter

Instituto de Pesquisas Energéticas e Nucleares - IPEN / CNEN, Brazil

For technical innovation in high-efficiency lasers and leadership in experimental research



Oliver Wright

The University of Osaka, Japan

For pioneering innovations in optical instrumentation and ultrafast optoacoustics, advancing diagnostics, photonics theory, and commercial applications



Lin Wu

Singapore University of Technology & Design, Singapore

For pioneering graphene-based plasmonic biosensors and quantum plasmonics, introducing plasma-inspired simulations that advanced quantum plasma modeling in solid-state systems



Peng Xi

Peking University, China

For outstanding work in optical super-resolution microscopy, including stimulated emission depletion, structured illumination microscopy, and dipole orientation imaging



Yanhong Xiao

Fudan University, China

For outstanding contributions to the development of quantum optics tools and quantum-enhanced sensors based on large ensembles of thermal atoms



He-Xiu Xu

Air Force Engineering University, China

For impressive breakthroughs in multiplexed metasurfaces for light/EM wave manipulations and their applications in photonic systems



Jian-Bin Xu

Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

For outstanding and sustained contributions to two-dimensional materials in optoelectronics, photonics, plasmonics, and near-field radiative heat transfer



Peng Xue

CSRC, China

For outstanding contributions to experimental quantum optics, including photonic quantum walks for non-Hermitian optics, quantum foundations, and topological phenomena



Bo-Ru Yang

Sun Yat-Sen University, China

For his contributions to the advancement and educational dissemination of e-paper, flexible, wearable displays, and optics of these novel technologies



Ge Yang

North Carolina State University, United States

For pioneering contributions to photon detection research and education, advancing compound semiconductor radiation detectors, and sensor materials



You Yang

Huazhong University of Science and Technology, China

For pioneering and sustained contributions to multi-view computational imaging and multi-modality visual information processing



Xiaoke Yi

University of Sydney, Australia

For outstanding and sustained contributions in microwave photonic signal processing and sensing



Hin-Lap Yip

City University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

For pioneering contributions to advancing the field of printable photovoltaic technologies, including organic, perovskite, tandem, and transparent solar cells



Luqi Yuan

Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China

For his contributions in developing synthetic frequency dimension in photonics as a platform for explorations of topological and non-Hermitian optics



Yang Yue

Xi'an Jiaotong University, China

For pioneering contributions to optical orbital angular momentum communications and technology innovations in coherent pluggable optics



Jimin Zhao

Institute of Physics, Chinese Academy of Sciences, China

For groundbreaking innovation in high-pressure ultrafast spectroscopy and seminal contributions to the understanding of ultrafast light interaction with quantum materials



Bo Zhen

University of Pennsylvania, United States

For pioneering discoveries of topological phenomena in photonics and advancing understanding of light-matter interaction in nano-photonic systems



Qunbi Zhuge

Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China

For exceptional contributions to the research and development of high-capacity optical communication systems and intelligent optical networks



Xihua Zou

Southwest Jiaotong University, China

For pioneering contributions to photonics-powered microwave sensing and communications, and featured applications for high-speed railway systems

Thank You to the Fellow Members Committee

Cristina Masoller, *Universitat Politecnica de Catalunya, Spain, Chair*
Alice White, *Boston University, USA, Past Chair*
Mete Atature, *University of Cambridge, UK*
Antonella Bogoni, *CNIT, Italy*
Yung-Fu Chen, *National Yang Ming Chiao Tung University, Taiwan*
Garrett Cole, *Thorlabs Inc, USA*
John Downie, *Corning Inc, USA*
Heike Ebendorff-Heidepriem, *University of Adelaide, Australia*
Simin Feng, *US Office of Naval Research, USA*
Pietro Ferraro, *Institute of Intelligent Systems ISASI, Italy*
Maria Angela Franceschini, *Massachusetts General Hospital, USA*
Andrea Fratalocchi, *King Abdullah Univ of Sci & Tech, Saudi Arabia*
Lakshminarayan Hazra, *University of Calcutta, India*
Seongsin Margaret Kim, *University of Alabama, USA*
Fumio Koyama, *Tokyo Institute of Technology, Japan*
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Wenhua Lin, *Intel Corporation, USA*
Amalia Martinez-Garcia, *Centro de Investigaciones en Optica, Mexico*
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Paolo Nussenzveig, *Universidade de Sao Paulo, Brazil*
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Ranjan Singh, *Nanyang Technological University, Singapore*
Eric Swanson, *USA*
Simon Thibault, *Université Laval, Canada*
Dora van Veen, *Nokia Bell Labs, USA*
Jun Shan Wey, *Verizon Communications Inc, USA*
Ulrike Woggon, *Technische Universität Berlin, Germany*
Hans Zappe, *Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg, Germany*
Xuezhe Zheng, *Innolight Technology (Suzhou) Ltd, China*