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# Introduction

We welcome you to the Seventh European Workshop on Optical Fibre Sensors, (EWOFS 2019). Following the successful events in Peebles (1998), Santander (2004), Napoli (2007), Porto (2010), Krakow (2013), and Limerick (2016), the Cyprus University of Technology has the privilege to organize the 2019 meeting. We are located on the southern coast of Cyprus, in the town of Limassol by the Mediterranean Sea.

As you are all aware EWOFS is a gathering of the key players in the field of optical fibre sensors, and offers a unique opportunity for the promotion, presentation, and discussion of academic and industrial developments that encompass research and commercialisation. EWOFS supports the establishment of new collaborations and networks, all undertaken in a compact two and a half-day forum. Indeed, EWOFS traditionally complements the International Conference on Optical Fibre Sensors (OFS).

By addressing scientific achievements, technological applications, and commercial exploitation, our goal has been to create a programme that will be attractive for researchers, academics, and professionals working in this area. This year we have an excellent contribution from plenary and invited speakers, acknowledged experts in their fields, from around the world. Their presentations will consider topics related to optical fibre sensors as well as other scientific domains that may impact their future development; all will provide challenging perspectives on the field of optical science.

In keeping with the EWOFS' unique features, there are no parallel sessions, so you will miss nothing. All presentations will kindle the discussions of the various technical groupings, offering technical contributions between early stage researchers and experienced practitioners, identifying and highlighting the most significant contributions. There will also be contributors from industry, highlighting the growth and development of optical fibre sensors in the commercial arena. Our poster sessions will offer plenty of time for questions and answers and the time required to rethink their content.

We intend to give EWOFS 2019 an informal atmosphere, enabling the ready interaction between early stage scientists, engineers, and mature experts in the field. We want to offer our young researchers unfettered access to the pioneers who have significantly contributed to the development of optical sensing. The workshop will include an invigorating and appealing social programme that will complement the scientific focus of the event and encourage real socialisation among all attendees.

EWOFS 2019 continues to support, encourage, and promote scientific and technological advances, providing a forum for accessible interaction between researchers at all levels and entrepreneurs. The long-term goal is the realisation of optical fibre sensors that will positively impact our society. Pursuing this central

objective, we are committed to giving our utmost for the delivery of the best possible technical and social atmosphere at EWOFS 2019.

We wish to offer special thanks to our Technical Chair, Gilberto Brambilla and our Vice Chair, Sinéad O'Keefe, and our hard-working committee members, both in terms of reviewing for, and promotion of, EWOFS. The exhaustive support of Alexis Mendez should also be highlighted. Our appreciation extends to our exhibitors, whose support is greatly appreciated. This service to our community is a testament to the continuing interest and quality of the EWOFS format, and our thanks go to SPIE who has assisted throughout.

Finally, I would like to thank the members of the International Steering Committee for their fantastic support and encouragement throughout the build-up to the workshop; I have learned a great deal.

Cyprus is an excellent place to enjoy this kind of meeting, and we suggest that you take advantage of the sea and sun, the rich night life, and local culture. You are our guests, and we look forward to making EWOFS 2019 a wonderful experience.

**Kyriacos Kalli**

## Plenary Speakers

### **Prof. Demetrios Christodoulides**

University of Central Florida (United States)

*Optical thermodynamics of highly multimoded nonlinear systems*

### **Prof. Yoel Fink**

Massachusetts Institute of Technology (United States)

*Moore's law for fabrics to fabrics as a service*

### **Prof. Dr. Philip St. J. Russell**

Max Planck Institute for the Science of Light (Germany)

*Optical sensors based on photonic crystal fibres*

### **Prof. David Sampson**

University of Surrey, (United Kingdom) and University of Western Australia  
(Australia)

*Tissue micro-imaging: how extensions of optical coherence tomography  
advance the field*

### **Prof. Mordechai (Moti) Segev**

Physics Department and Solid State Institute Technion, Israel Institute of  
Technology (Israel)

*Topological Photonics*

## Invited Speakers

- **Gilberto Brambilla**, University of Southampton (United Kingdom)
- **Markus Schmidt**, Leibniz Institute of Photonic Technology e.V.,  
(Germany)
- **Michel Digonnet**, Stanford University (United States)
- **Scott Foster**, Defence Science and Technology Group (Australia)
- **Walter Margulis**, RISE Acreo (Sweden)
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