

Orazio Svelto

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Short Biography

Orazio Svelto is professor of Physics of Matter at the Polytechnic Institute of Milan. He is also responsible for the Institute of Photonics and Nanotechnologies of the Italian National Research Council –Milano section. His research has covered a wide range of activity in the field of Laser Physics and Photonics, starting from the early beginning (1962) of these disciplines. This activity includes ultrashort-pulse generation and applications, physics of laser resonators and techniques of mode selection, laser applications in biology and biomedicine, and physics of solid-state lasers. Professor Svelto is the author of more than 200 scientific papers and holds 3 patents; his researches have been the subject of more than 60 invited papers at international conferences. He is also the author of the book *Principles of Lasers* (Springer, 5th Ed., 2009) which has currently been adopted at several universities in Europe and United States and whose previous editions were also translated in Russian, Chinese, Greek, Farsi and Arabic languages. He served as a Program Chairman, Conference Chairman or Honorary Chairman at several international conferences; in particular, he was program chair of the IX International Quantum Electronics Conference (Amsterdam, 1976), general co-chair of the first CLEO-Europe Conference (Amsterdam, 1994) and program co-chair for 2002 International Quantum Electronics Conference (Moscow). He has carried out evaluations for the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences. He is the recipient of several awards including the Quantum Electronics Prize of the European Physical Society and the Charles H. Townes Award of the Optical Society of America, which are, respectively, the most important European and International awards in the field. He is fellow of the Optical Society of America and of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and he is an elected member of several Italian academies including the National Academy of Sciences and the “Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei”. In the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the laser, occurring next year in San José, CA, in connection with the International Conference CLEO, Svelto has been selected as one of the 10 speakers, as laser pioneers, out of which 8 are Americans (including two Nobel prizes), one Russian (Nobel prize) and Prof. Svelto.