# Volunteering for scientific community services as an effective career boost in Optics and Photonics.



**Bernard Kress** Director XR engineering, Google 2023 President, the International Society for Optics and Photonics (SPIE.org)



Bernard.kress@spie.org

Politechnika Warszawska







Are volunteering scientific community services compatible with a successful career in high tech, and how can one nurture the other?

Reflections over my own experience in the International Optics and Photonics Community.

## What is a career?

#### Career actually has two definitions.

The word career is often used to refer to a profession, occupation, trade or vocation. A career could define what you do for a living and range from those that require extensive training and education to those you can perform with only a high school diploma and a willingness to learn.

Career has another definition as well. It also refers to the progress and actions you have taken throughout the working years of your life, especially as they relate to your occupation. It is comprised of the different jobs you have held, titles you have earned and work you have accomplished over a long period of time.



### There are several different kinds of career paths.

A) Multiple unrelated jobs: Your career could be made up of multiple jobs that are unrelated to one another. For example, you could work as a car mechanic, then as a chef in a restaurant and then as a receptionist in a veterinary clinic and perhaps eventually as an engineer at Google. Because each job is vastly different than the next, there is no way to predict what your next position will be. Because they have very little in common, you may not see significant pay increases from one to the next or significant increases in responsibility.

**B)** Advancing within the same level by changing industry/academia: This path involves advancing in the same occupation, whether you work for the same organization or at different successive companies. For example, you can be an engineer working on various projects at Apple in software, at Amazon in EE, at Microsoft in UX, at Facebook in ME and at Google in Optical Engineering. This can be amazingly fulfilling for many people who are not seeking increased responsibility or increased monetary rewards, but rather are eager to learn new things and get richer this way.

**C)** Advancing in the same industry or academia by increasing levels: For example, after your Master in EE, you may start as a junior engineer, then senior, then principal, then director, then General Manager and eventually VP. This can be as fulfilling as changing fields, with the added benefit of advancing responsibility and monetary rewards through early stock vesting. But beware of the "rest and vest" syndrome.

## The importance of networking

- intra-company networking (often falsely defined as "internal politics"),
  - inside your org: be prepared for re-orgs and mergers, intra-team moves,...
  - outside your org: helps in lateral moves
- extra-company networking, national and international
  - academic relations (industry affiliations)
  - international societies (scientific and others)
  - industry (large corporations, start-ups, university spin-offs,...)
  - venture capital world (providing due diligence services, ...)

#### **Network regularly**

Connecting with your peers and building / nurturing professional relationships can help you identify new directions for your career. You never know which connection will lead to a new opportunity.

#### Be a lifelong learner

The job market is always shifting and with technology continuously changing, it's important to always be in learning mode.

#### Pay attention to industry news

Read industry blogs, on line specialized web sites, or on line magazines to keep up with new technology trends.

## Triggered by networking: the importance of lateral moves.

#### Make plans but be flexible

When developing your career path, don't hold on too tightly to a specific plan. Be open to new opportunities that might present themselves and keep your goal in mind. Know what is important to you and what you enjoy about your job and your career. Also, be aware of what you would like in a future career that's different than what you're doing now.

#### Be ready for career shifts

If you've been in your position or are in an industry that is declining, it may be time to consider making a complete career change or at least shifting in a different direction.

#### Be open to lateral moves

Be open to the idea of a lateral move, or even a step backward, if it means you will have a chance to develop valuable skills or connections that can impact your career in the long term.

## We are in 2023:

## Career moves are triggered today faster than previously

LOGIN

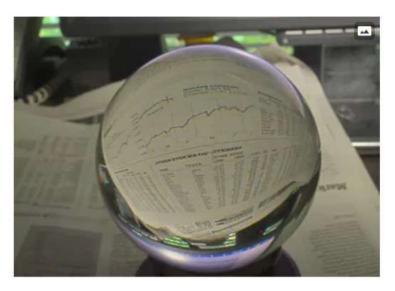


### Lingering challenges in the photonics industry

We are in the middle of very strange economic times: are we in a boom, a recession, or both?

Peter Fretty

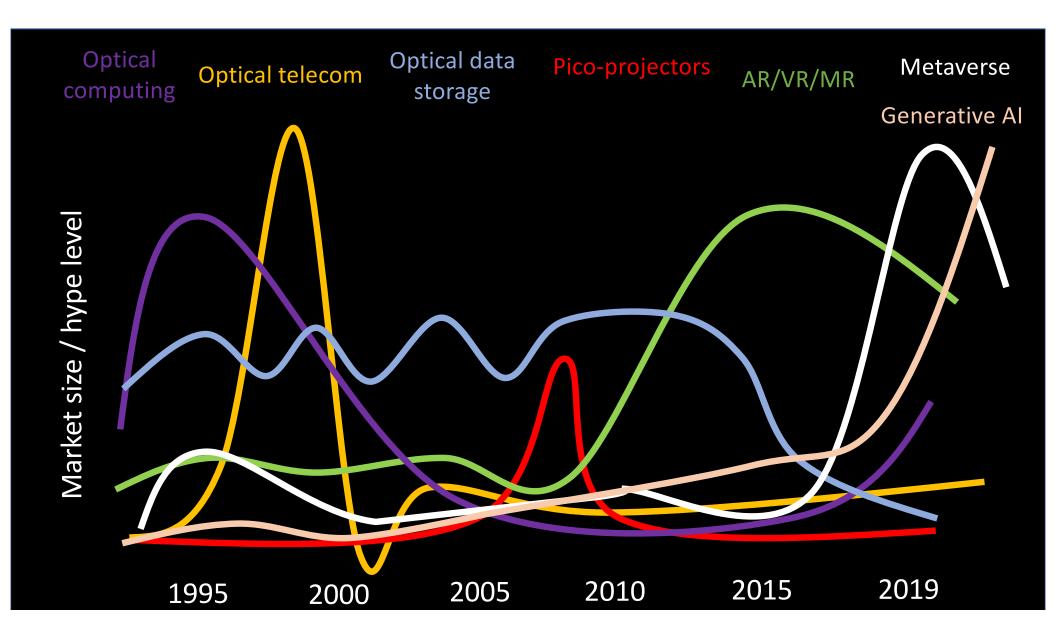
Nov. 17, 2022



We are in the middle of very strange economic times. Many of the traditional indicators are providing contradictory results. Are we in a boom, a recession, or both? Inflation is impacting **Optics and Photonics** are key enabling technologies that helped built up successive tech waves over the past decades, developing building blocks that are constantly re-engineered to be adapted to the next tech waves.

Very seldom does this strong engineering community produce a boom (or bubble) on its own, unlike other hyped tech sectors.





A few examples on how successive booms provided strong technology platforms to the current AR/VR field

## The long journey of LBS MEMS display

0

PicoP Enabled Projector Accessory

2010

2015

Projected

image

2019

#### News | April 20, 2000

#### 🕈 🗾 In 🔛

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#### MEMS Technology Grabs The Telecom Spotlight

#### Source: Lucent Technologies

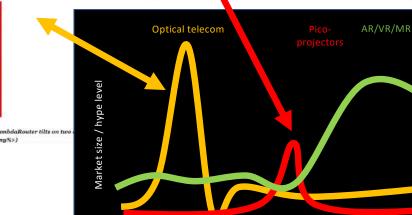
Lucent Technologies-electromechanical systems (MEMS) technology captured the limelight at OFC 'oo and has since been making headlines in a big way, particularly in switching applications.

Contents Size determines complexity Moving from n<sup>2</sup> to 2n Foundry for hire In the lab

#### Editor's Report

Once a laboratory curiosity, micro-electro-mechanical systems (MEMS) technology has come into its own, dominating the recent Optical Fiber Communications Conference (OFC '00; Baltimore, MD; March 5-10) with switching applications (see OFC 2000: Optical Switching Systems Stir Up Wavelength Management Debate).

Three start-ups made headlines during the conference: Sunnyvale, CA-based Xros Inc. (pronounced *Chi*ros, as in the Greek letter *chi*), Optical Micro-Machines (San Diego), and Cronos (Research Triangle Park, NC). Meanwhile, Lucent showcased its LambdaRouter, announced in October at Telecon '99 (Geneva).



2000

2005

1995

**PicoP** 

display engine

MEMS

## Intel made smart glasses that look normal

Exclusive first look at Vaunt, which uses retinal projection to put a display in your eyeball

By DIETER BOHN / (shecklon Photography by VJERAN PAVIO

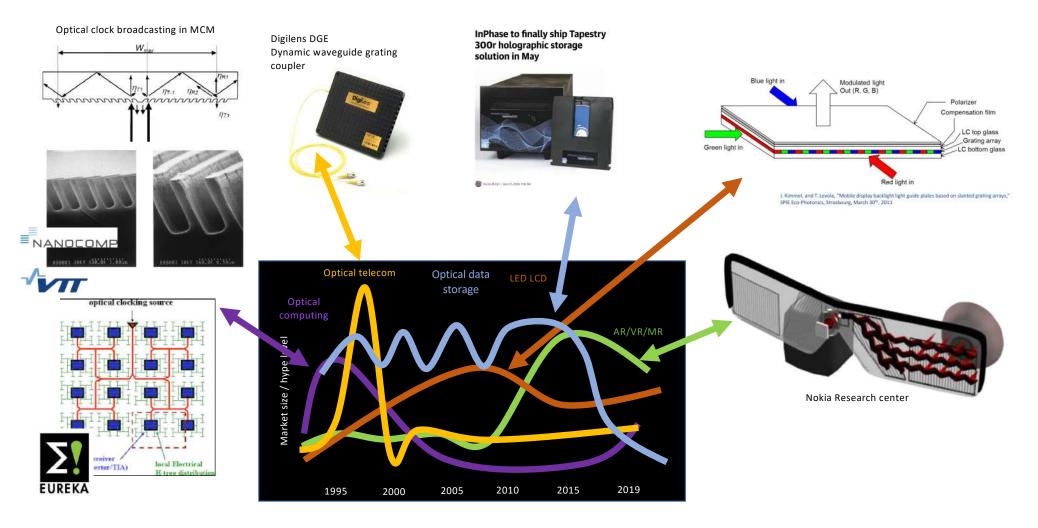


Figure 1. Part of a 16 x 16 element array, optical switch micromirror from LambdaRouter tilts on two redirect an optical beam. (Courtesy of <%=company%>)

## The long journey of volume holographic waveguide gratings



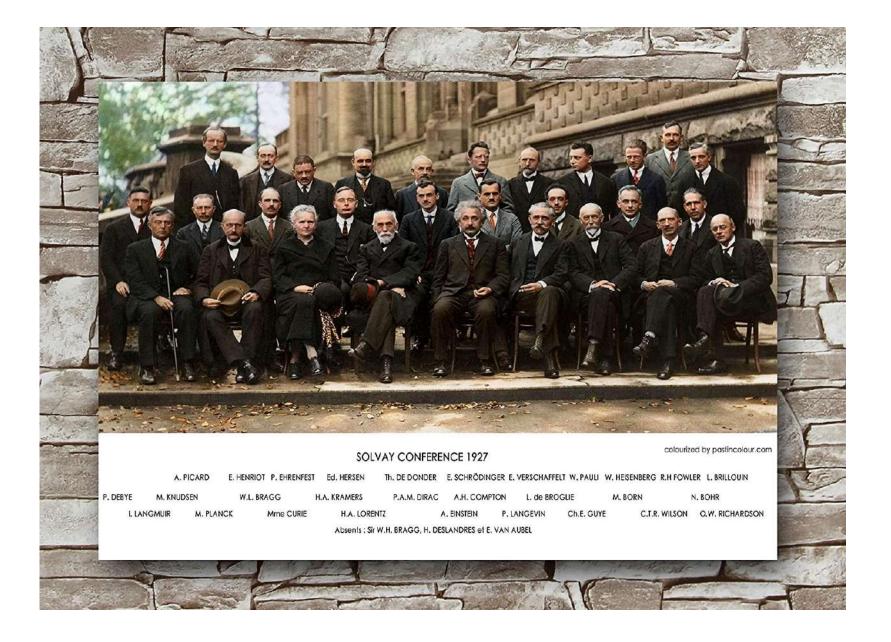
## The long journey of slanted waveguide gratings



Through past successive booms and bubbles, the Optics and Photonics community has proven to be a very resilient community, technologies developed and built by its exceptional engineers for one tech boom have been used to fuel the next one...

Why? ... simply because there is no alternative to optics and photonics today ...display, imaging, sensing, lighting, communication, IC fab, compute / quantum, biotech, transformation industry, and many more...

# What is a scientific society and a scientific community?









SCIEN The Stanford Center for

Image System Engineering



ONICS





OPTICA



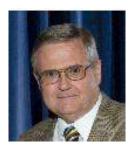


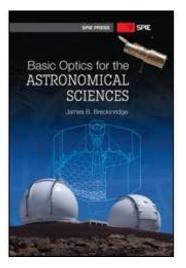
**Formerly OSA** 



This is my first SPIE membership (1994), I was freshmen student at the University in Strasbourg.

This membership was signed by then-SPIE-President James Breckinridge (Professor at JPL/CALTECH), a pioneer in optical design for astronomical observations.





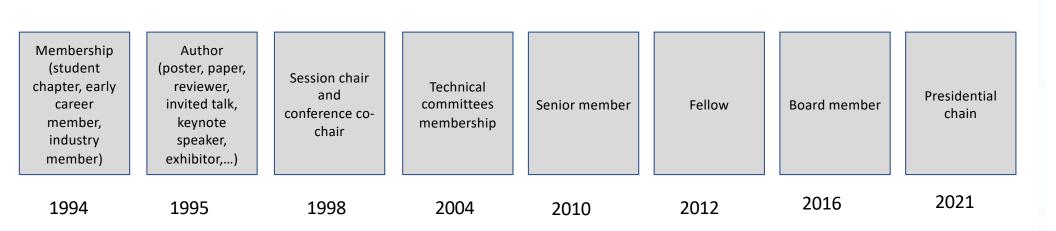
... I am signing the SPIE memberships this year as the new SPIE president, 30 years later. ;-)



Take responsibility in helping define and shape the future of your own field with international scientific societies.

There are many ways to get involved...

CONNECTING MINDS. ADVANCING LIGHT.

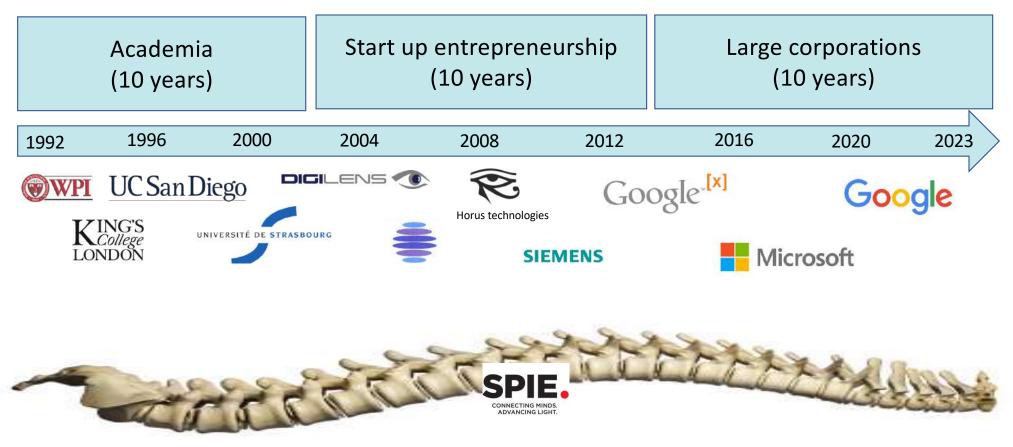


A Society is welcoming you no matter who you are or where you are, while a company is reviewing your background and legal / immigration status.

A Scientific Society will look at your effective scientific work and community contributions, not at your social and legal status, employment card, green card, visa, etc...

You can join a Society whenever you wish, you can leave a Society whenever you wish, you can re-join whenever you wish, you cannot get fired from a Scientific Society, however you can chose to stay your entire professional life with a Society,... if you wish so...

### My own journey over the past 3 decades



A very diverse path, but one single backbone over 30 years: **Optics and photonics** and one constant and same external involvement: **the International Society for Optics and Photonics (SPIE)** 

# Get involved in national and international events related to your field

## Take part at various events during the international day of light (May 16th)



## Take part in international events celebrating your field (UNESCO International Year of Light 2015)



11:20 ILTE < Mail  $\leftarrow$ Photonics Finland and 1,695 followers

1h • 🕲

+ Follow

...

#### OPD 2022 and full house listening Bernard Kress keynote presentation about metaverse and how optics and photonics is an enabling technology for it.

#photonics #optics #technology Google SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics #teknologia #fotoniikka #metaverse #opd2022 #virtualreality

## Take part in regional events

#### **Aachen Polymer Optics Days 2022**

#### Polymer materials engineering for novel AR optics and displays

🗟 Fraunhofer Bernard Kress

ain View, CA Google (M President-Elect 2022. Society for Optics (SPIE.org) Bernard.kress@gmail.com

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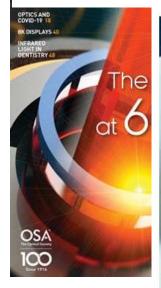


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Home	My Network	Post	Notifications	Jobs	

# Talk part at various technology milestones anniversaries celebrated in your field

## Happy birthday dear LCD, happy birthday to you!

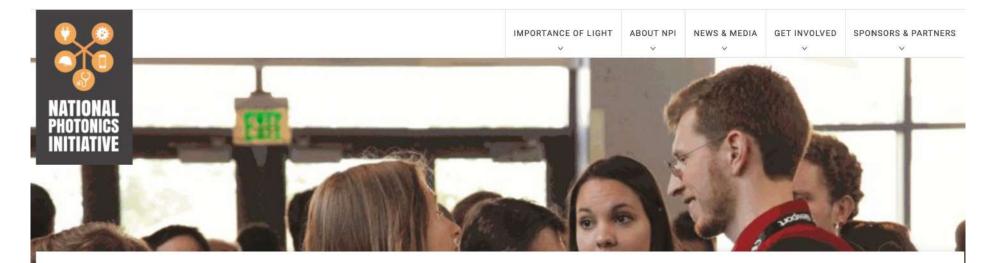
December 08, 2020







# Get involved in governmental institutions, national programs, congressional caucus...



Home / Get Involved

## **CONGRESSIONAL OPTICS & PHOTONICS CAUCUS**

### Support the NEW Congressional Optics & Photonics Caucus

A PRINT

< SHARE -

#### Click here to watch the Congressional Optics & Photonics Caucus Launch Event

The Bipartisan, Bicameral Congressional Optics & Photonics (O&P) Caucus is a Congressional organization that will be co-chaired by Representatives Joe Morelle (D-NY) and Brian Mast (R-FL) and Senators Kyrsten Sinema (D-AZ) and Steve Daines (R-MT). The O&P Caucus will work to educate members of Congress and their staffs about the importance of light-based research and technologies to the United States' economy, security, and scientific development. It will also advocate for federal investment in this innovative and exciting space. The O&P Caucus will serve as a positive, proactive voice for the optics and photonics community within Congress and as a bridge to the Administration.



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### NATIONAL QUANTUM INITIATIVE

THE FEDERAL SOURCE AND GATEWAY TO QUANTUM R&D ACROSS THE U.S. GOVERNMENT

We leave to quantum.gov, the home of the National Quantum Initiative and ongoing activities to explore and promote Quantum Information Science. The National Quantum Initiative Act was signed into law on December 21, 2018. The purpose of this Act is to ensure the continued leadership of the United States in quantum information science and its technology applications. It provides for a coordinated Federal program to accelerate quantum research and development for the economic and national security of the United States.

#### **RECENT REPORTS**

- A Coordinated Approach to Quantum Networking Research, January 19, 2021
- Annual Report on the NQI Program Budget, January 14, 2021
- Quantum Frontiers Report, October 7, 2020
- A Strategic Vision for America's Quantum Networks, February 7, 2020
- National Strategic Overview for Quantum Information Science, September 24, 2018

**MORE PUBLICATIONS** »

# Mingle with governmental agencies around hot topics (CHIPS act for photonics)

SPIE. PHOTONICS

Attend Program

Become a sponsor

27 September 2023 Washington DC, United States



Interface directly with key contacts at NIST, NSF, ARPA, OSTP, etc...

Q Search 📃 🗏 Menu

Home / Medical Devices / News & Events (Medical Devices) / Workshops & Conferences (Medical Devices)
 Public Workshop - Medical Extended Reality: Toward Best Evaluation Practices for Virtual and Augmented Reality in Medicine - 03/05/2020 - 03/05/2020

WORKSHOP

### Public Workshop - Medical Extended Reality: Toward Best Evaluation Practices for Virtual and Augmented Reality in Medicine

#### MARCH 5, 2020

Get involved in the right discussions to further AR products and their acceptance in enterprise, especially in the medical field (FDA).

Time	Event
8:30 AM	Opening Remarks Edward Margerrison (Director, OSEL/CDRH/FDA) Welcome and event introduction.
	Emerging Technology and Methods I Moderator: Aldo Badano (Deputy Director, DIDSR/OSEL/CDRH/FDA) This session will provide an overview of emerging augmented and virtual reality technology, current evaluation methods, and evaluation challenges.
8:40 AM	Rafael Grossmann, MD, FACS Keynote address on extended reality devices in medicine.
9:00 AM	Bernard Kress, Microsoft Advances in mixed reality devices and new evaluation challenges
9:15 AM	Hiroshi Mukawa, Sony Emerging technologies for addressing performance limitations in extended reality devices, such as motion-to-photon latency compensation, and retinal scan displays.
9:30 AM	Vinay Narayan, HTC Advances in virtual reality devices and characterization methods
9:45 AM	Don Gyou Lee, LG Advances in display technology and evaluation challenges
10:00 AM	Kevin MacKenzie, Facebook Reality Labs Next-generation extended reality devices and evaluation methods
10:15 AM	Panel Discussion Discussion on topics from Emerging Technology and Methods I

## Get involved in panels to define standards across your industry

#### Industry Event

### Sunday Panel: The Development of XR Hardware Standards

28 March 2021 • 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM PDT • LIVE EVENT

#### Panel Moderator

#### **Compound Photonics**



Co-CEO Compound Photonics (United States)

#### The Development of XR Hardware Standards

**Edmund Passon** 

The high demand for Augmented Reality and Mixed Reality are forecast to continue in the next five years. The adoption rate has been accelerated as the technologies became more valuable for companies to conduct business and operations during the pandemic. To realize the true potentials of AR, VR, MR, Edmund Passion will moderate a panel of industry experts and thought leaders on how the stakeholders in the ecosystem can work together on standardization that can cater to the multiple disciplines involved.



Lumus



Aviv Frommer Executive VP R&D Lumus (Israel)

Microsoft



Gary Sullivan Chairman ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 29 (United States)

#### Google





Niantic







NIST



Researcher NIST (United States)

John Penczek

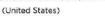
3M



Erin McDowell



AR/VR Business Development Manager



ColorLink



Yoshitaka Sato President ColorLink (Japan)

Microsoft



**Jeffrey Margolis** Principle Systems Architect Microsoft (United States)

Live Q&A with the speakers



# Contributing to book chapters and authoring scientific books

### Authoring books can be a very rewarding weekend activity

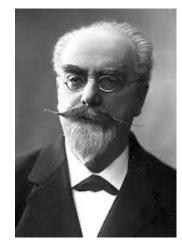
(...but ask your spouse, partner and/or kids first...)



Getting involved in international societies allows you to meet the pioneers in your field...

... and choose a great mentor... and prepare to be a mentor yourself...

## An amazing perk in being involved in international societies: mingle with your heroes!



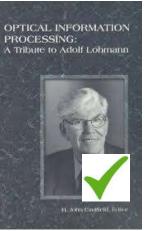
Gabriel Lipmann (Nobel 1908)



Denis Gabor (Nobel 1971)



Herwig Kogelnik



Adolph Lohman



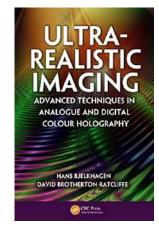
Steve Benton



Moharam & Gaylord

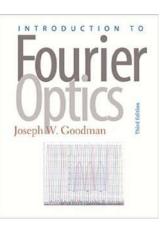


Hans Bjielkhagen "Hans-Holo"





Joe Goodman



# Give talks along giants in your field.

#### 20 October 2016:



### Michio Kaku

- Futurist and theoretical physicist, City College of New York, with Sir Peter L. Knight, emeritus professor, Imperial College, London, OSA Fellow,

"Optics of the Future: Exploring the Universe and the Brain" Frontiers in Optics Conference & Exhibition (FiO/LS), Rochester, New York, USA

This program also featured a special Ignite the Future segment where predictions of what's next in optics were be given by Nobel Prize winners, including Nicolaas Bloembergen, Robert F. Curl, Roy J. Glauber, John L. Hall, W.E. Moerner, William D. Phillips and David J. Wineland.

#### 24 August 2016:



#### Susana Marcos

- Professor of Research, Instituto de Óptica, Consejo Superior Investigaciones Científicas, Spain and OSA Fellow

#### "An Eye into the Future"

Latin American Optics and Photonics Conference (LAOP), Jartin Botanico, Orquideorama

#### 26 July 2016:



### Joseph Izatt

- Professor of Biomedical Engineering, Duke University, and OSA Fellow

"Lighting up the Future of Medical Imaging and Image-guided Therapy"



#### Bernard Kress

- Partner Optical Architect, Microsoft

"The Light Years Ahead: How Today's Promising Augmented and Virtual Reality Markets Help Shape new Optics Frontiers" Imaging & Applied Optics Congress, Heidelberg, Germany

#### 8 June 2016:



#### Ray Kurzweil

- Inventor, author, futurist, with Steven Chu, Nobel Laureate, former U.S. Secretary of Energy and OSA Fellow

"Business and Society in the Age of Accelerating Returns" CLEO 2016, San Jose Convention Center, San Jose, California, USA



Coherence for Europe

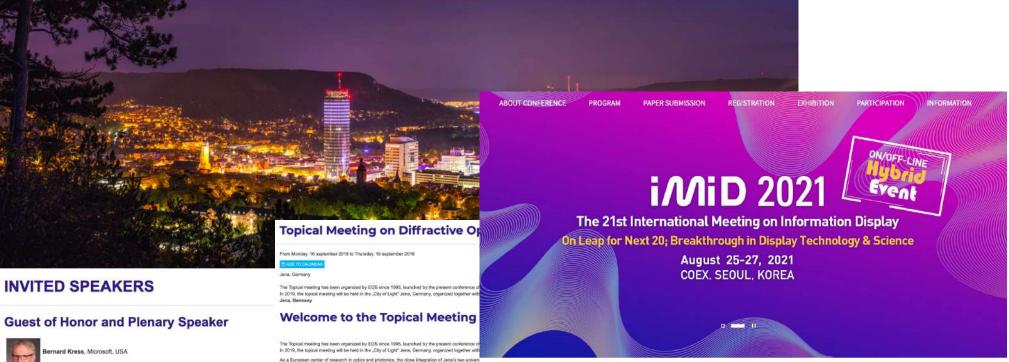
PROGRAM REGISTRATION SUBMISSION HOME ABOUT Y

INVITED SPEAKERS

progress, and as such, serves as a perfect location for this topical meeting. The such

We look forward to welcoming to Jena, the CITY OF LIGHT!

VENUE V SPONSORING CONTACT



s story of Jen



After 50 years in the making, nave diffractives finally captured the attention of mainstream industry?

WELCOME MESSAGE

On behalf of the organizing committee of the 21st International Meeting on Information Display (IMID 2021), I would like to sincerely appreciate your attention on the IMID 2021, which will be held at COEX in Seoul, Korea from August · · ·

### **KEYNOTE SPEAKERS**

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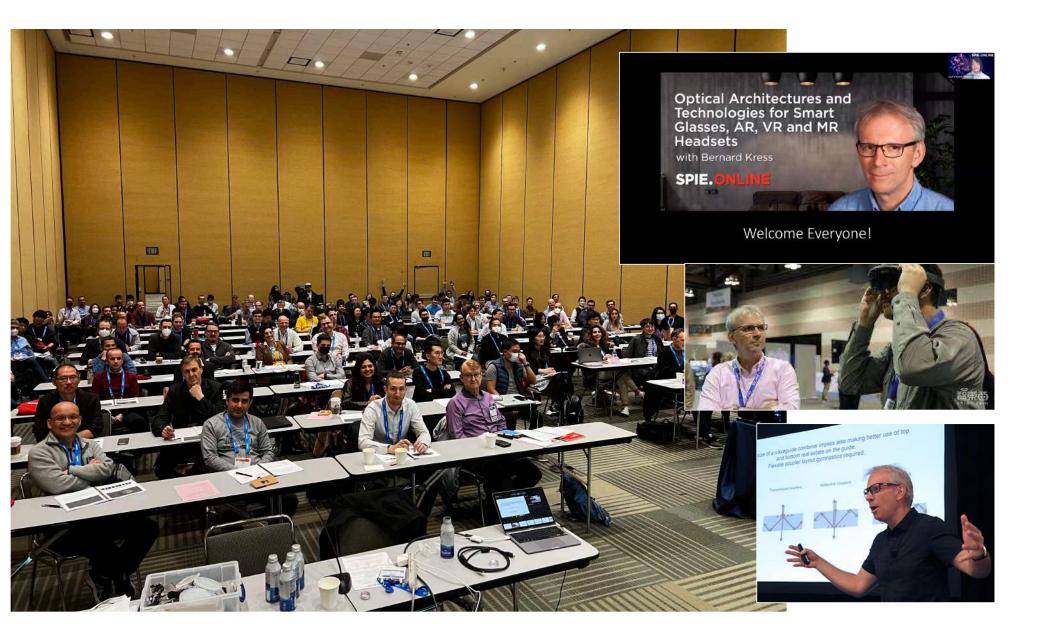


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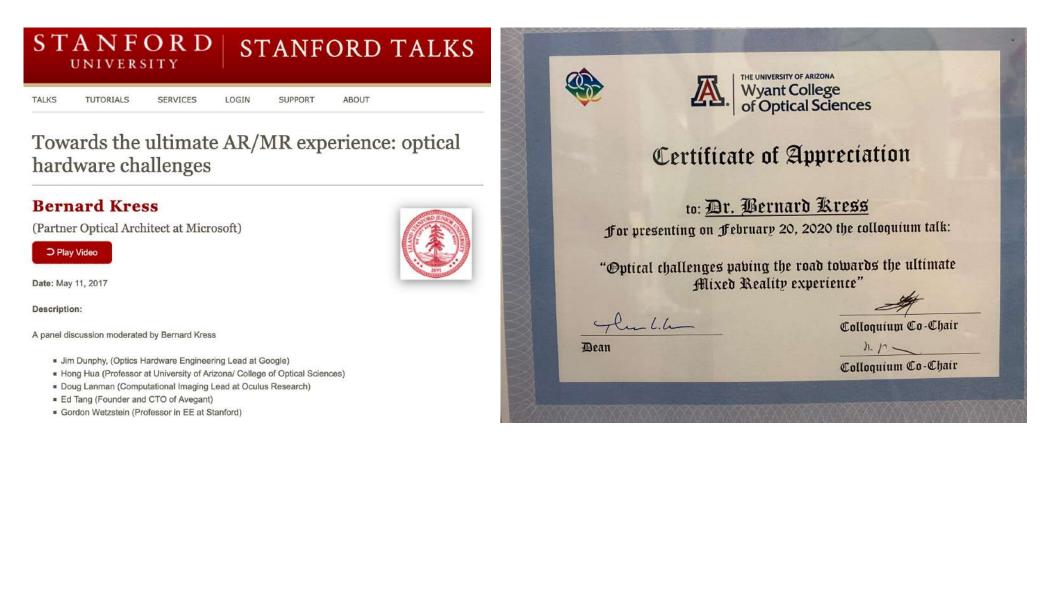




# Become a short course instructor (at conferences, intra-company, university,...)



Get students excited by giving talks at your Alma Mater,... and elsewhere...



## Get industry and potential partners excited by giving in-company talks

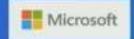


## Optical challenges paving the way to the ultimate Mixed Reality experience



Bernard Kress Partner Optical Architect

> Microsoft Holdiens bokrosst@microsoft.com





Zeiss @ Oberkochen, December 18<sup>b</sup>, 2018



# Become knighted in a secret scientific society!



In San Biego, California In the year of the Lord 2022 The knights of holography Declary and proclaim the immense contributions in 370 of Bernard Kress To the entire community of enlightened people And confer him all privileges and honors of flember of the Order And grant him the title Sir Bernard of Strasbourg By the hand of the knight Sir Partha of Dayton The birthplace of abiation Sir Partha of Stayton

Help nurture a community on line, especially useful during a pandemic era.

Be a community champion and create a dynamic that will help the project in the long term.



## AR | VR | MR 2021 highlights

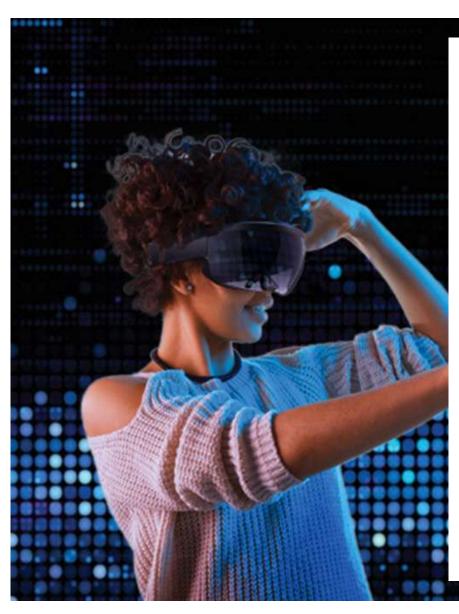
Stay up to date with the latest interviews, videos, and social-media activity



## **Fireside Chats**

Join us for our monthly webinar with hosts Bernard Kress (Microsoft) and Christophe Peroz (SONY). Each month they interview top speakers to explore important augmented, virtual, and mixed reality topics.

The series returns in April 2021, information coming soon. View past interview recordings below.



#### View 2021 webinar recordings



**Fireside Chat with tooz technologies** 

Small Form Factor Smart Glasses with Free Space Optics

Fireside Chat with tooz technologies

Interview with Chi Xu, Nreal CEO

1:11:15

1:07:38

Glass Technology for Waveguide-Based AR and Fin MR Devices - SCHOTT 1:0 1:06:57

SPIE.AR VR MR



Fireside Chat with Avegant



Emerging Global Trends in IP in AR, VR, and MR Domains 1:13:30

Closing the Loop: Connecting AR Hardware, Software and Content with Early Consumers

SPIE.AR VR MR

4



Fireside Chat with Digilens



Interview with Guido Groet, Luxexcel and Phil Greenhalgh, WaveOptics 1:12:48



Interview with Phil Greenhalgh, CTO, WaveOptics 1:01:37



Laser Beam Scanning for Near-to-Eye Display panel session 1:29:38



Interview with Ross Finman, Niantic

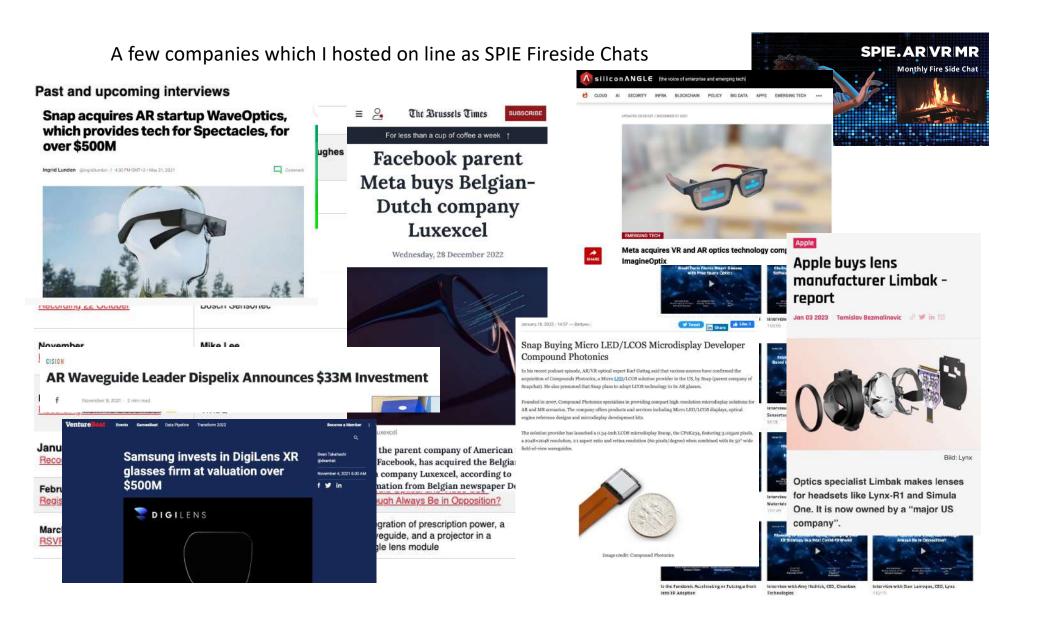
1:00:06

Interview with Lucas Ginzinger, VP, Bosch Sensortec 59:18

Load More

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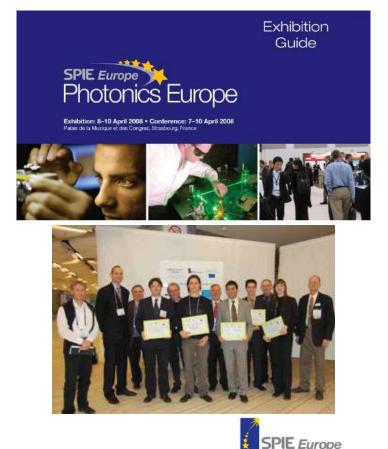
Interview with Compound Photonics 1:02:50



Show initiatives in creating new exciting events for students and early stage professionals to distill excitement and passion for your field.

# Help define and create new and exciting events in your field

example of the photonics Innovation Village for university spin-offs and pre-venture stage start-ups initiated in Strasbourg in 2004 and still running today!





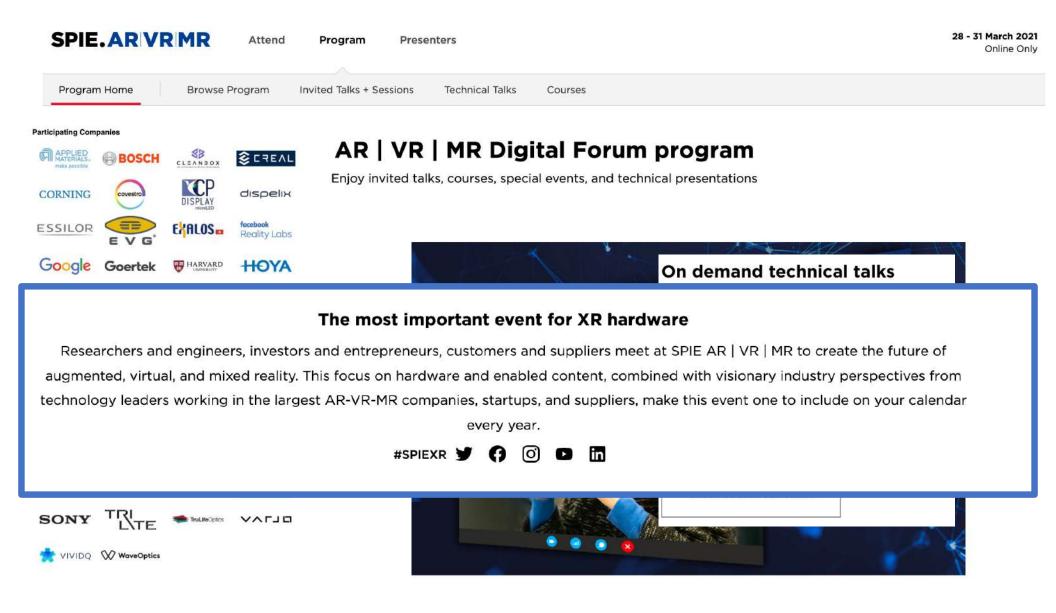
## Initiate students events to provide them industry exposure : Example of the Optical Design Challenge for AR/VR/MR (2018- 2023)



# Example of a direct impact for one laureate of the 2018 SPIE AR/VR/MR ODC challenge: Stan Larroque, now CEO of Lynx VR in Paris.



# Help organize and chair conferences in your field



Help organize and chair conferences in your field can become a great source of personal satisfaction, and satisfaction goes a long way... longer than a title, monetary rewards, stocks...



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Dr. Ulr

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Thank ST for event. being a





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well. Organiz

event like th

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Nice, I look forwar contributions fron metasurfaces or f

Michiel Callens • 1st 1w .... Senior Optical Scientist at Di...

Thank you Bernard and the entire team for organizing this event! It's hard to overstate how much value is created by getting everyone in the space together like this! Great work

lill

MEGAONE

1w ... Mega1 Co., LTD • 2nd Marketing Specialist at Meg...

It was a big pleasure to have a talk and exchange ideas together with fellows in this extraordinary AR/VR/MR ecosystem. MEGAONE looks forward to making more contributions. Congratulations on the big success with the US Army contract!

# uri Sarn



at job by er organ hake this nt.

George Palikaras • 1st 1w ... Deep Tech Entrepreneur | C ...

Congrats Bernard, very high guality presentations and great panel discussions. Kudos for all your hard work putting this together hope you enjoy a break now.



Vice President Supply Chain...

Very well done. APPLAUSE light is on.

- polight

# Participate in industry affiliates and centers of excellence in optics and photonics

# Join industry affiliations around specific technical topics





# Help setting up international industry affiliates to boost diversity and inclusion













Cultivate Extended Reality Talents! Yangming Jiaotong University and Google signed an academic industry alliance plan

Author Yao Huiru | Published on December 05, 2022 14:00 | Categories Google , Human Resources , Metaverse 🧧 🔉 🥑 🕅 🚺 🚺 🚺 🚺 🚺 🚺 🚺



Yangming Jiaotong University and Google today signed the Google Academic/Industry Affiliation Program (Google Academic/Industry Affiliation Program) to jointly cultivate Extended Reality (XR) talents and industry-university cooperation research. In the future, this academic cooperation framework agreement will be used to carry out more extensive cooperation with Google close international cooperation.

# Get involved in outreach activities to enable a more balanced gender representation in your field

## **Women in Photonics**

Date: Thursday, 28 January 2021 ULIVE EVENT Time: 10:30 AM - 12:00 PM PST Location: Live Event



Welcome an Bernard Kress

Partner Optical Archi Microsoft / Hololens

10:40 AM - Opening by the Chair, Maria Pace



Braini & Researcher on Brain-Computer Interfaces + Ethical Al General Manager and CEO Endeavor

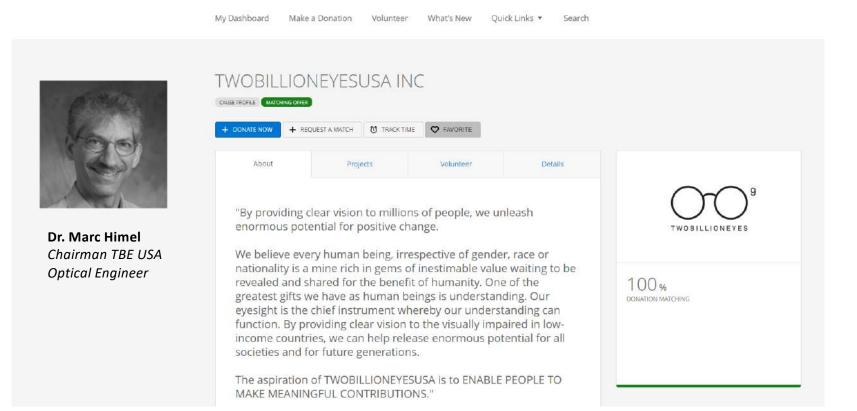


Caitlin (CK) Kalinowski Hardware Director Oculus VR



Svetlana Samoilova CTO NewSight Reality

# Last but not least: Get actively involved in charitable donation programs in the field of optics and photonics.



# Summary

Getting involved in international scientific societies is NEVER A WASTE OF TIME. It may take some time to show rewards, but IT WILL ALWAYS SHOW REWARDS, in ways you may not think of originally.

- 1- <u>Rewards</u> for the individual to advance one's personal skills
- 2- <u>Rewards</u> for the employee to advance one's career
- 3- Rewards for the employer (company, university, research institution...)

This is a letter I received from a student after **the 2020 SPIE AR VR MR (Photonics West)** event in SF, in which he participated for the first time **as an SPIE student volunteer**...

This student cultivated the passion for a technology and the passion for volunteering in the scientific community and saw rewards of his early volunteering in many different and unexpected ways.

Anyone can become a community champion, and as a result leverage one's personal and professional skills to further one's career.

# This is what I wish for all of you.

# BERNARD

This conference has been so inspiring for me. My last four years at uni have been focused on digital design, but now I have a newfound desine to learn about optical engineering and its application to system design!

Thank you for being so anniable to both Olivia and I mese last three days. Your passion for innovation and encouragement to pursue challenge Motivates my engagement in miss Industry.

I'm looking forward to the next time I hear your name associated with some crazy cool invention .

STEVEN

Thanks for all you do !

Volunteering for scientific community services as an effective career boost in Optics and Photonics.

