



Programme

GUIDED BY LIGHT

STUDENT
CONFERENCE

1-2 September 2025

**Tyndall National Institute, Cork,
Ireland.**

Organisers

The student conference is organised by the Irish SPIE and Optica student chapters, and the Photonic Integration and Advanced Data Storage Centre for Doctoral Training (PIADS CDT).

Organising committee



Kaynat Alvi
Tyndall National Institute



Louise Frost
Tyndall National Institute



Chiara Maria Mariani
University College Dublin



Jorge Lasarte
Technological University Dublin



Sponsors

This conference is made possible through the generous support of:



EPSRC & Research Ireland funded Centre for Doctoral Training in

**PHOTONIC
INTEGRATION AND
ADVANCED
DATA
STORAGE**



Innovation Through Light

**CENTRE FOR ADVANCED PHOTONICS
& PROCESS ANALYSIS**



PROGRAMME

Monday, 1st September 2025

10:00-10:30

**Arrival of participants
at Tyndall National Institute**

10:30-11:00

Welcome

11:00-12:00

**Keynote
Photonics: Past, Present, and Most Importantly,
the Future**

Paul Townsend
Tyndall National Institute

12:00-12:15

Break

12:15-13:00

**Invited talk
Photonics technologies for real-world deployment
of quantum technologies**

Jennifer Hastie
University of Strathclyde, Glasgow

13:00-14:00

Lunch

14:00-17:30

Workshops for skills development

14:00-17:30

**Presentation skills and
the three-minute pitch**
Gavrielle Untracht
Technical University of
Denmark

**From Theory to
Practice: Hands-On
Machine Learning with
Real-World Data**
Salvatore Tedesco
University College
Cork/Tyndall National
Institute

Comfort break from 15:30-16:00

18:30

Conference dinner

This programme may be subject to change.



PROGRAMME

Tuesday, 2nd September 2025

Industry visits

Choose one of the following visits:

09:00-13:00

X-Celeprint (A6.G.34 Large)

European Space Agency (B0.17)

FiconTEC (A6.G.34 Small)

Alcon (offsite)

13:00-14:00

Lunch

Panel discussion

PhD and Beyond - Career Panel

Panellists confirmed:

14:00-15:30

Cara-Lena Nies ,Tyndall National Institute Emer

O'Shea, University College Cork

Paul Beecher, Consultant Science Policy

Kevin Shortiss, Senior Engineer, Tyndall

National Institute

15:30-15:45

Break

Invited talk

15:45-16:30

**The Future Depends on Optics – Insights and
Experiences from an Industry Perspective**

Raluca-Silvana Tudorache

Edmund Optics

16:30-16:45

Break

Invited talk

16:45-17:30

**From the near field and into vision: a personal
journey towards the understanding of light
from waves to photons**

Brian Vohnsen

University College Dublin

17:30

Conference close

18:30

Post-conference pizza dinner and networking