

# Programme

## Guided by Light - Student Conference 2025

1<sup>st</sup> to 2<sup>nd</sup> 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).

## Student organisers:

Kaynat Alvi, Tyndall National Institute

Louise Frost, Tyndall National Institute

Jorge Lasarte, Technological University Dublin

Chiara Maria Mariani, University College Dublin



# Sponsors

This conference is made possible through the generous support of:







# PROGRAMME

**Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> 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**

**Coffee 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**  
Gavrielle Untracht  
Technical University of  
Denmark

**AI and Photonics**  
tbc

**Comfort break from 15:30-16:00**

**18:30**

**Conference dinner**

This programme may be subject to change.



Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025

### Industry visits

**09:00-13:00**

Participants will get to choose to visit one out of three companies to learn about their R&D work.  
Further details tbc

**13:00-14:00**

**Lunch**

### Panel discussion PhD and Beyond - Career Panel

**14:00-15:30**

**Panellists confirmed:**  
Cara-Lena Nies ,Tyndall National Institute  
Emer O'Shea, University College Cork  
Paul Beecher, Consultant Science Policy

**15:30-15:45**

**Break**

**15:45-16:30**

**Invited talk  
tbc**

**16:30-16:45**

**Break**

**16:45-17:30**

**Invited talk  
tbc**  
Brian Vohnsen  
University College Dublin

**17:30**

**Conference close**

**18:30**

**Post-conference pizza dinner and networking**