

IEEE PHOTONICS SOCIETY

SUMMER TOPICALS MEETING SERIES 2021

Virtual Conference
19-21 July 2021
www.ieee-sum.org



General Chair:
Michael Brodsky,
U.S. Army Research Laboratory, USA

General Chair-Elect:
Cristian Antonelli,
University of L'Aquila, Italy



Welcome to the 2021 IEEE Summer Topicals Meeting Series!

The Summer Topicals is a premier conference for emerging areas in photonic science, technology and applications. Historically, the meetings are conducted in intimate resort environments and create opportunities to learn about new exciting areas from world experts and technology leaders during three days of talks, networking events, and unforgettable fun events.

We all would prefer to be meeting in person this year, however, while our return to normal seems to be just around the corner, unfortunately we are not there yet. The conference management and technical committees have put together a comprehensive virtual program, to be delivered through a new online platform with many Q&A sessions and panel discussions to be conducted live. Due to the virtual format the schedule of the conference is adjusted to spread the sessions throughout the day to better fit the daylight time around the globe.

The Summer Topicals' history includes topics ranging from bio-photonics and optical communications to quantum information science. The five topics for 2021 are:

- **Photonics for Information Processing (PIP)**
- **Reconfigurable Optics and Photonics (ROP)**
- **Silicon-Integrated Mid-Infrared Photonics (SIMP)**
- **Structured Light and Beyond (SLB)**
- **Ultra-wideband Optical Fiber Communication Systems (UWB)**

Each year the topics and organizers are brand new keeping the technical content fresh. The organizers have spent a full year in planning the topics from submitting a proposal to securing high quality plenary and invited speakers, as well as excellent contributed papers.

Networking, socializing, and mentorship are highly valued at the Summer Topicals. We hope that for the next year the conference will be back to its normal format – in person! And so we will be able to return to our valued tradition of having social events and special initiatives to complement the technical program, so as to allow all researchers, organizers, and the IEEE Photonics Society staff to meet: a get together reception, a Welcome/Poster Session on Monday, Automation Hackathon and Mentor Match program.

Whether you are a student, professional, or new to photonics, we encourage each of you to attend this and future Summer Topical series, and to build lasting relationships with colleagues, friends and collaborators.

See you next year at Summer Topicals 2022. Don't forget to submit your 2022 topic proposal!

Michael Brodsky, 2021 General Chair

Cristian Antonelli, 2021 Chair-Elect, 2022-2023 General Chair