

Chapter/Affinity Group: PHO36

Reported by: Richard Pitwon



Key Achievements & member services in 2023

- **European Conference on Optical Communication (ECOC 2023) in Glasgow, September 2023.** ECOC is the largest optical conference and exhibition in Europe. PHO36 and Quantum group logos prominently displayed on website and all ECOC communication
- **9th Symposium for Optical Interconnect in Data Centres**
 - R. Pitwon (symposium chair) promoted the Photonics Chapter and Quantum Group verbally, which was the first officially gender-balanced optics conference in history.
 - **Carol Monaghan MP** opened the conference and publicly lauded the event
- **European Optical Society Annual Meeting (EOSAM 2023).** R. Pitwon promoted PHO36 in two invited talks
- **Photonics Ireland conference 2023** (University of Limerick). R. Pitwon was invited to speak on a panel about engineering careers as chair of PHO36 and strongly promoted IEEE UK and Ireland section STEM activities in Ireland
- **OCP 2023** (18th October 2023). R. Pitwon promoted PHO36 and Quantum Group in invited talk on quantum standards to Open Compute Summit

Plan of activities for 2024

- Technical support for **12th IEEE CPMT Symposium Japan (ICSJ2023)** conference, 15th – 17th November 2023
- Support for **IEEE ECTC 2024** in May 2024. R. Pitwon is the current chair of the ECTC 2024 photonics subcommittee tasked with increasing the impact of photonics.
- **IEC TC86 (Fibre Optics) general meeting** in November. R. Pitwon will promote IEEE UK and Ireland section and PHO36 activities.
- Joint STEM event at NPL in Teddington (under discussion)
- Big Bang Fair engagement (under review)
- **British Standards Institute.** R. Pitwon is chair of Fibre Optics standards committee (GEL 86) and optical connector subcommittee (GEL86/2) and will create a liaison for UK&I IEEE to BS

Focus areas (2023-2024)

2023 Goals	2022 KPIs met?	2024 Goals	Challenges to reach KPIs/ Resources
ECOC 2023 support	Yes	Photonics STEM outreach plan in STEM deprived areas of Ireland	Local government engagement
Organisation of first gender balanced photonics conference	Yes	Event support	ICSJ 2023, ECTC 2024
STEM activity with patent firm	Delayed to 2024	STEM activity with patent firm	Venue organisation and school engagement