

Careers and Awards

IEEE Photonics Society (IPS) 2011 Distinguished Service Award Recipient: Silvano Donati

The IEEE Photonics Society Distinguished Service Award was established to recognize an exceptional individual contribution of service which has had significant benefit to the membership of the IEEE Photonics Society as a whole. This level of service will often include serving the Society in several capacities or in positions of significant responsibility. Candidates should be members of the Society. The deadline for nominations is 30 April.

The IEEE Photonics Society Distinguished Service Award will be presented to Silvano Donati, “for continuous and wide-ranging contributions to the activity of the Society and for founding and developing the Italian Chapter.” The presentation will be made during the Awards Banquet at the 2011 IEEE Photonics Conference (IPC) formerly known as the IEEE Photonics Society Annual Meeting at the Marriott Crystal Gateway, Arlington, Virginia, USA on Monday 10th October, 2011.



Silvano Donati

Silvano Donati (M’75, SM’98, F’03, LF’09) is a full Professor of Optoelectronics at the Department of Electronics, Faculty of Engineering, University of Pavia, Italy, since 1980, where he leads the Group of Optoelectronics active on photodetector and noise, and electro-optical instrumentation (gyroscopes, interferometry, etc.). He is the credited inventor of self-mixing interferometry and of chaos-shift-keying (CSK) cryptography, the topic covered in his Distinguished Lecture given in 21 IEEE Photonics Society (formerly LEOS) Chapters in two terms, 2007/08 and 2008/2009.

Author of two books, ‘Photodetectors’ published by Prentice Hall, 1999, and ‘Electro-Optical Instrumentation’, published by Prentice Hall, 2004, this last translated in Chinese (Jiao Tong University Press, 2006) and available as paperback and e-book (2008). He authored or co-authored about 300 papers on peer-reviewed Journals. His seminal ten papers collected 500+ citations. His H factor is 24.

He was the founder (1996) and the past Chairman (1997–01) of the Italian IEEE Photonics Society (formerly LEOS) Chapter. He has been IEEE Photonics Society VP Region 8 Membership (2002–04), IEEE Photonics Society Board of Governors Elected member (2004–06), Treasurers of the Italian IEEE Photonics Society Chapter (2002–06), Counselor of the IEEE Student Branch in Pavia (2001–07) and IEEE Photonics Society Distinguished Lecturer 2007/08 and 2008/09. Has been the Vice Chair (2006/07) and the Chair (2008/09) of the 4500-member IEEE Italy Section, under which he started the new serial COMPENG Conference on Complexity in Engineering.

He acted as Guest Editor of several Special Issues, on Fiber Optics and Passive Components (JSTQE Sept. 1999), on Laser Interferometry (J. Optics A 1998 and 2002, Opt. Engineer. 2001) for a Feature Issue of IEEE Journal Quantum Electronics, Sept. 2002, on Optical Chaos and Applications to Cryptography and of one on Photodetectors (2004). He has been a Visiting Professor at National Taiwan University (2005) and National Sun Yat Sen University (2007, 2008, 2010). He is Life Fellow of the IEEE, Meritorious Member of AEIT, and Fellow of OSA.