ALC-ICFO Frontiers Research School: Modern Trends in Photonics

November 27, 2025 to November 28, 2025
Stellenbosch, South Africa

The **ALC-ICFO Frontiers Research School: Modern Trends in Photonics** aims to introduce participants to the fundamental principles of photonics and its modern applications. The program will feature lectures and discussions led by ALC project leaders and ICFO researchers. In addition, ICFO will host a dedicated session on **careers in photonics**, providing insights into professional pathways and opportunities within the field.

The school will be preceded by the **16th ALC Student Workshop**, which brings together ALC grant holders, partners from across Africa, and students from South African universities involved in ALC-sponsored projects. The workshop is designed to offer tutorial-style lectures on photonics, promote student presentations, and foster interaction with project leaders.

Together, these educational events will provide valuable opportunities for participants to connect, exchange ideas, and share knowledge within the photonics community.

Speakers:

Patricia Forbes, University of Peetoria
Daramola Olukemi, Federal University of Technology Akure
Pieter Neethling, Stellenbosch Univesity
Yaseera Ismail, Stellenbosch University
Veronica Ahufinger, ICFO
Federico Centrone, ICFO
Adam Valles, UAB
Anika Prtorius, ICFO

Location:

Stellenbosch Photonics Institute
Department of Physics
Stellenbosch University

Private Bag X1, Matieland, 7602, South Africa

Registration
Registration are open for ALC grants holders
Applicants should refer to the website.
About:

The Frontiers Research Schools aim at giving talented young researchers and students worldwide a first introduction to a thematic research area and a taste of an international research environment. These schools incorporate a dynamic and social learning environment beyond participating in lectures, including group discussions, direct interactions with the lecturers, student talks and poster presentations.

Participating Institutions:

ICFO - The Institute of Photonic Sciences, is a young research institution that aims to advance the very limits of the science and technology of light, tackling important challenges faced by society at large in all areas of life, including health, energy, information, safety, security and caring for the environment. ICFO is a member of BIST, the Barcelona Institute of Science and Technology.

Stellenbosch Photonics Institute is part of the Physics Department at Stellenbosch University. The physics department was established in 1903 and celebrated the centenary in 2003, making it one of the oldest Physics Departments in South Africa. The institute focusses on photonics related research and development in Southern Africa. The group boasts excellent laser facilities, world-class research projects, and a vibrant combination of students, lecturers and other staff members. These factors combine to generate a unique and high successful research environment.

Organising Committee:

Prof. Pieter Neethling, University of Stellenbosch; **Prof. Erich Rohwer**, University of Stellenbosch; **Prof. Andrew Forbes**, Wits University (16th ALC Workshop and ALC-ICFO Frontiers Research School); **Dr. Giovanna Petrillo**, ICFO; **Prof. Veronica Ahufinger**, ICFO (ALC-ICFO Frontiers Research School)

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