

Release Date: 9 Oct, 2025

Finalists: 2025 Rising Stars of Light



We'd like to first thank all of the nominators and applicants for their strong support. After careful selection by the Committee, we congratulate the finalists as below:

Faculty Track (in alphabetical order):

Chengying Bao, Assistant Professor from Tsinghua University, China

Inki Kim, Assistant Professor from Sungkyunkwan University, Korea

Aaswath Raman, Associate Professor from UCLA, USA

Yijie Shen, Assistant Professor from Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

Qinghua Song, Associate Professor from Tsinghua University, China

Haiding Sun, Professor from University of Science and Technology of China, China

Before Faculty Track (in alphabetical order):

Gonzalo Alvarez-Perez, Italian Institute of Technology, Italy

Xiangkun Cao, Imperial College London, UK

Dali Cheng, Stanford University, USA

Natalie Fardian-Melamed, Columbia University, USA

Qingxin Ji, California Institute of Technology, USA

Gun-Yeal Lee, Stanford University, USA

Tongjun Liu, Yale University, USA

Komron Shayegan, California Institute of Technology, USA

**Please note that due to equal average grades by committee, 8 finalists from Before*

*Faculty Track have been selected**

Committee Members

Committee of Faculty Track



Chair, Aydogan Ozcan,
University of California, Los
Angeles, Chancellor's Professor



Co-Chair, Moti Segev,
Technion – Israel Institute of
Technology, Robert J. Shillman
Distinguished Professor



Co-Chair, Lan Yang,
Washington University in St. Louis,
Edwin H. & Florence G. Skinner
Professor



Co-Chair, Min Qiu,
Westlake University, Chair Professor of Photonics and
Vice President



Co-Chair, Dragomir Neshev,
Australian National University, Professor and Director
of ARC Centre of Excellence for TMOS

Committee of Before Faculty Track



Co-Chair, Mark Brongerma,
Stanford University, Professor



Co-Chair, Na Liu,
University of Stuttgart, Professor



Co-Chair, Shuang Zhang,
University of Hong Kong, Chair
Professor



Co-Chair, Andrew Forbes,
University of the Witwatersrand,
Professor



Co-Chair, Mona Jarrahi,
University of California, Los
Angeles, Professor and Northrop
Grumman Endowed Chair



Co-Chair, Igor Aharonovich,
University of Technology Sydney,
Professor

Host



Dr. Xing Sheng,
Tsinghua University, Professor



Dr. Avik Dutt,
University of Maryland, Assistant
Professor



Dr. Chenzi Guo,
Deputy Head of Light Publishing
Group, Director of eLight & Editor
of *Light: Science & Applications*