

Welcome Message by PIERS 2019 in Rome General Chair

Rome, June 12th 2019

Dear PIERS 2019 in Rome Attendees,

I would like to personally welcome each of you to the 41st Photonics and Electromagnetics Research Symposium (PIERS), in the 30-year anniversary edition taking place in Rome, in the historical building of the Faculty of Engineering of Sapienza University of Rome, in the iconic centre of the city, directly overlooking the Colosseum.



With nearly 1.800 researchers from over 70 countries, this edition truly embodies an unparalleled global meeting of the brightest minds in photonics and electromagnetic research area providing an opportunity to share knowledge and to promote networking, and also the chance to explore one of the most fascinating cities in the world.

I would like to give you a preview of what you can expect and what we hope to achieve over the next few days, starting from Monday 17th June.

This year we have a record-breaking conference with more than 2.200 scientific works, selected by 5 technical scientific committees, that will give us a 360° outlook on the latest advancements in photonics and electromagnetics research and their applications. Topics, organized in 5 scientific areas, will be presented in 20 parallel sessions, taking place in the rooms around the Faculty from Monday 17th June to Thursday 20th June. Moreover 35 Keynote Speakers will inspire us in Focus Sessions and Special Sessions, giving a glimpse of cutting edge, state of the art issues. To get access of the program please refer to <http://www.piers.org/piers2019Rome/files/FinalProgram.pdf>. On my part I want to pay tribute to the high level of the submitted works that will be presented during the Symposium. They showcase what an exciting time it is for research and the importance of having opportunities like PIERS to share results, discuss and network.

We are all very proud of the importance in this conference of the young scientist programs. During the years, they confirm the importance of supporting and encouraging more young scientists and students to contribute to PIERS with their research results. During the Symposium, special awards - namely the Best Student Paper Award (BSPA) and the Young Scientist Award (YSA) - will be granted to those young researchers who have submitted the best papers.

On Monday's Welcome Reception at the ancient Cloister of the Faculty of Engineering, you'll hear some short words of welcome to set the tone and direction of the Symposium and enjoy a full buffet while you network with other attendees. A symphony orchestra will liven up the evening playing famous arias from well loved operas.

To celebrate our 30-year anniversary, on Wednesday evening, the Symposium Banquet will be held in the Palazzo Brancaccio, a fabulous Baroque-style palazzo, with Roman ruins, age-old trees and fountains. A jazz and swing band will brighten up the evening with italian and international music successes.

As the General Chair of this Symposium, I would like to thank the Electromagnetics Academy for sponsoring and supporting PIERS since its 1st edition in Boston in 1989. A very sincere thanks goes to PIERS 2019 in Rome General Co-Chairs, Technical Program Committee Co-Chairs and Scientific Committee Co-Chairs who made possible this extraordinary edition. Special gratitude goes out to our hosts, the Sapienza University of Rome, the Faculty of Civil and Industrial Engineering, the Faculty of Information Engineering, Computer Science and Statistics and the Department of Information Engineering, Electronics and Telecommunications for the given support. Last but not least, I would like to thank the members of the Local Organizing Committee and the PIERS Staff, all of whom have worked tirelessly on this conference. My personal respect and thanks goes out to all of you.

I hope that next week will be fruitful for all of us and whatever your expectations are, my personal wish is that each of you will feel PIERS 2019 in Rome is your very own Symposium and that you will bring your expertise to share and that you will take home ideas, contacts and opportunities to improve your research programs. You, as brilliant scientists, have the vision, the knowledge, the wherewithal and the experience to help to pave our way into the future of photonics and electromagnetics and.

Above all I hope that you will enjoy this Symposium and the wonderful city of Rome.



Prof. Rita Asquini

PIERS 2019 in Rome General Chair