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Prof. John Canning is with the School of Electrical & Data Engineering at the University of Technology Sydney (UTS), Australia and runs the interdisciplinary Photonics Laboratories (iPL) located at TechLab, a recently opened technology precinct of UTS. His research interests span fundamental material science to new technologies and physics across photonics, sensing and diagnostics and other applications. He is an adjunct professor at the School of Electrical Engineering and Telecommunications, University of NSW and an Honorary Professor at the University of Sydney. He is a Fellow of SPIE and OSA and has been an Expert Member of the University of Sydney's Latin Regional Advisory Committee and an Advisor to the China and India activities. He has been an Otto Monsted Professor at the Danish Technical University, Denmark 2004, and a Villum Kann Rasmussen Professor at iNANO, Aarhus University, Denmark 2007, Science Without Borders Professor at UTFPR, Brazil 2014-2017, is part of a Program 111 at UESTC, Chengdu, China since 2014 and has been a Guest Professor at the Laser Institute Shandong Academy of Sciences, China. He has cofounded several companies as well as helped to develop the technology of several others, including with Dr Sandra Ast Australian Sensing and Identification (AusSI) Systems Pty Ltd, an early stage start-up in medical and agricultural diagnostics. AusSI has been the successful recipient of two Government Priming Grants, partnering with Germany's BAM Institute to develop new medical strip diagnostics and New Zealand's Agritech sector, and has received Business Research Innovation and Initiative (BRII) funding in 2017-2018. He has over 700 peer reviewed journal and conference papers and has lodged more than 35 patents. He has acted on behalf of the tertiary community and government in a number of capacities and acted as a private consultant for various parties over the years including in the area of assessing patent technologies for commercial entities. He was awarded the 2017 Optical Society of America's (OSA) David Richardson Medal for seminal contributions across disciplines including those that have led to commercial outcomes and is an OSA and SPIE Fellow. His students have often won best paper awards and other prizes, including in 2007 the IEEE Photonics Society for top global students (Cicero Martelli) and a Hitachi Innovation Prize for Agriculture in 2016. He collaborates with a strong network of local and international partners across various disciplines and has given numerous plenary, keynote and invited talks over the years.