

General Information

IONS Name: IONS Scandinavia 2018

Location: Copenhagen, Denmark and Lund, Sweden

Date of Event: 05.06 - 09.06

Attendee Summary

Total attendees: **107**

How many countries were represented: **13 (based on attendee university affiliation)**

How many were male: **89**

How many were female: **18**

How many were undergraduate students: **5**

How many were graduate students: **70**

How many were Post Docs: **2**

Lecturer Summary

In no more than two paragraphs, please highlight the lecturers that attended, what their role was, and if they were well received. Please list all lecturers who attended and note which ones were used as part of the Traveling Lecturer Benefit.

IONS Scandinavia featured 7 plenary speakers, 6 of which spoke at DTU, and 1 at Lund University. At DTU the first day of the conference included **Ursula Gibson** (NUST, Norway), **Nir Rotenberg** (KU, Denmark), and **Jes Broeng** (DTU, Denmark), while the second day included **Siddharth Ramachandran** (BU, USA), **Katarina Svanberg** (LU, Sweden), and **Sune Svanberg** (LU, Sweden). For the third day, at Lund University, we had **Anne L'Huillier** (LU, Sweden). Among these, Ursula and Siddharth were on the OSA travelling lecture program, and the Svanbergs were paid for by the SPIE travelling lecture program (the short travel from Lund to Copenhagen). All the plenary talks were mainly of a technical character, apart from Jes Broeng who is within entrepreneurship and gave a 45 min inspirational talk just before the industry session.

All 7 talks were very well received by the attendees and stimulated a lot of discussion both during and after the presentation. Jes Broeng and Nir Rotenberg stayed for the first day, Siddharth Ramachandran, Katarina and Sune Svanerg stayed for the first two days, Anne L'Huillier were there for the last day, and Ursula Gibson attended the entire conference.

Event Summary

In no more than two paragraphs, please summarize what the program for the conference looked like.

The conference program was essentially divided into three parts: one technical part at DTU (5-7 June) one technical part at Lund University (8 June) and one social day in Denmark (9 June).

Denmark

The conference started out with an evening on the 5th of June for welcoming and registration at the venue at DTU. Around 40 attendees showed up for this evening, which was used for initial socializing with barbequing and beers.

On the 6th of June, the program started out with initial remarks from chair Dagmawi Bekele and OSA's Terrence Rooney. The day continued with 13 student talks (15 min) and 3 plenary talks (1 hour), while the evening was allocated for industry networking (with the four companies NKT, OFS, Ekspla, and Finisar) and socializing with pizza, beers, and board games.

On the 7th of June, the program contained a professional development talk (from the EPS), 8 student talks, 3 plenary talks. Late afternoon we had a 1-hour poster session with around 30 posters, followed by a 7-course conference dinner in the center of Copenhagen.



Sweden

On the 8th of June, the conference's attendees were picked from DTU and brought to Lund by bus. After the ride, the morning started with a plenary talk and 4 student talks. After lunch students were brought to the synchrotron MAX-IV where, during around one hour and a half, they could join two of the five guided visits organized by the facility in groups of between 5 to 15 people. During the coffee break in the afternoon, past, present and future IONS organizers, and anyone interested, discussed the details of the IONS organization in a round table. The Lund Laser Center Female Research Network organized the last activity of the day, a Panel Session on Equality on Optics, that took one hour. Finally, the prizes to the best Poster and Oral Presentation were held by plenary speaker and OSA president elected Ursula Gibson during the closing ceremony and dinner, before the bus took students back to Copenhagen.



Social day

On Saturday the 9th of June, we had invited the attendees on a social day consisting of a trip to the worlds oldest running amusement park (Bakken) and a canaltour in Copenhagen. Remarkably, 42 people showed up, and we ended up also going to the beach, which is very close to Bakken.



Budget Summary

Please show the breakdown of income vs expense. You may copy this information from the Budget tab of the IONS Logistics Spreadsheet.

Successes

In no more than two paragraphs, note which areas of your conference you thought were successful.

- A very broad conference program, including much more than just high-level technical talks, such as: a diversity discussion session, an entrepreneurship talk, industry networking night, multiple social events, conference dinner, visit to the MAX IV facilities, and more.
- Diversity among participants in terms of origin.
- Many ½ hour coffee/fika breaks (which meant that full schedule seemed less full).
- Attendees from many different topics within optics, and plenary speakers that well suited these topics.

Improvements

In no more than two paragraphs, note which areas of your conference you thought could have been improved. You do not need to list any if you choose not to.

- Carefully check for overlap with national holidays! We unluckily placed the industry networking event the same day as a Swedish National holiday, which meant that it was unnecessarily more difficult to get Swedish sponsors and participants.

Suggestions

Let us know if there are areas where the process for hosting an IONS can improve. Are there things you wish the chapter had? Could OSA have done something differently? We will review this information to assist with future IONS programs.

- Maybe OSA could secure a regular IONS sponsor such as Thorlabs, Newport or another huge Photonics related company. Our conference was quite close to not receiving the necessary amount of funds, which was at some point close to being stressful. As securing funds is one of the most critical, and most difficult, parts, OSA could maybe play a larger role here.
- It would have been great if we had had the Logistics Excel sheet from the beginning. We could then have filled it in along the way.