**Professor Amnon Yariv: Biography**

Born in Tel Aviv in 1930, Amnon Yariv is the Martin and Eileen Summerfield Professor of Applied Physics and Electrical Engineering at the California Institute of Technology (CalTech). His research foci include quantum electronics, applied physics and engineering, lasers and fiber optics; he is also a foremost world authority on optoelectronics. Prof. Yariv pioneered the integrated optics technology, the backbone of the optical communications industry, which enabled the transmission of mass data via phone, video, cable and the Internet – and thereby profoundly influenced society and culture across the globe.

Prof. Yariv fought in Israel’s War of Independence from 1948-1950, before leaving for the US. He completed his BSc, MSc and PhD in electrical engineering at the University of California, Berkeley, taking on his first role as Research Associate there in 1958. He then spent five years on the technical staff of Bell Telephone Laboratories, before returning to academia in 1964 as a professor of electrical engineering at CalTech, where he still remains today. He has garnered extensive honors for his research, including the National Medal of Science awarded by President Barack Obama in 2010, the Harvey Prize, the Frederic Ives Medal, the IEEE Quantum Electronics, and the Harold Pender Award by the University of Pennsylvania. Prof. Yariv is a member of the US National Academy of Sciences, a fellow of the IEEE and an OSA Honorary Member.