Optical Networking:
Connecting You to Your Career

In today’s competitive job market, simply having an MSc or PhD may not be enough to get you where you want to go. In this talk, Arlene will share her experiences as an early career professional in the optics industry, including making the jump from academia to industry and the value of establishing and growing a professional network.

Arlene Smith is a Product Engineer and Program Manager at Avo Photonics, Inc. in Horsham, Pennsylvania, USA. After receiving a BSc in Physics and Astronomy at the National University of Ireland, Galway, she started to specialize in Optics by earning an MSc in Photonics and Optoelectronic Devices from the University of St Andrews. After returning to Galway to research partially coherent light sources used in lithography, she graduated with a PhD in 2011. More recently, Arlene worked as a Postdoctoral Fellow in Biomedical Imaging at the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor before moving to Avo Photonics in 2015.