THORLABS: Meet the leadership team

September 22, 2026
12:00 to 13:00
Elements Room

Who in the world of Photonics has not worked with ThorLabs? Join us to learn more about the company and the people behind the products that we all use in our labs.

Jennifer "Jenn" Cable is the President of Thorlabs, one of the world's leading photonics and optical technology companies. She joined the company in 2015 and became President in 2021, helping guide the company's global growth and expansion into areas such as quantum technologies, optical telecommunications, automation, and environmental sensing.

She is recognized for her focus on operational modernization, sustainability, workforce development, and increasing diversity within the photonics industry. She also serves in advisory and board roles within several optics and photonics organizations.

Peter Fendel is the Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of Thorlabs, where he leads the

company's global R&D strategy, product roadmap development, and innovation initiatives across photonics, laser, and quantum technologies. He was appointed CTO in 2021, becoming the first person to hold the role at Thorlabs.
Dr. Fendel earned a Ph.D. in Physics from Ludwig-Maximilians Universitat München an conducted research at the Max Planck Institute for Quantum Optics under Nobel laureat Theodor Hansch. Before joining Thorlabs, he held positions at Menlo Systems and Coherent and co-founded Idesta Quantum Electronics, a company later acquired by Thorlabs.
Since joining Thorlabs in 2013 as Director of the Laser Division, he has helped expand the company's laser and photonics portfolio and has been active in the broader optics community through organizations such as Optica (formerly OSA) and CLEO. He is also an inventor with numerous patents and a widely cited researcher in the field of photonics

*** There will be coffee available in the room, but we ask that you bring your own mug.