



UPC Thesis Awards 2020

The UPC recognizes three ICFO PhD graduates with the Extraordinary PhD Thesis Award

October 26, 2020

The Extraordinary PhD Awards, given annually by the Technical University of Catalonia (UPC), aim to recognize the best doctoral theses which have obtained *à cum laude* in their final PhD defense evaluation. This year, the UPC announced the list of 13 awardees in the broad area of *Sciences*, which include the theses of ICFO PhD graduates Dr. Carlos Abellan, Dr. Ivan Supic and Dr. Joanna Zielinska among the list of extraordinary doctoral works for the academic period 2017/2018.

Dr. Carlos Abellan received his Master degree in Photonics from the Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya before joining the Optoelectronics research group at ICFO. He centered his doctoral work on studying and developing quantum random number generators, by using hardware methods, and searching for applications, e.g. within the field of quantum cryptography and communications. Carlos's thesis, entitled *Quantum Random Number Generators for Industrial Applications*, was supervised by ICREA Prof. at ICFO Dr. Val

rio Pruneri and tutored by ICREA Prof. at ICFO Dr. Morgan Mitchell.

Dr. Ivan Supic received his Master's degree in Europhotonics from the Universitat Politecnica de Catalunya, the Universite Aix-Marseille and the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology before joining the Quantum Information Theory research group at ICFO. He doctoral work on developing device-independent certifications of various quantum resources. Ivan's thesis, entitled *Device-Independent Certification of Quantum Resources*, was supervised by ICREA Prof. at ICFO Dr. Antonio Acin.

Dr. Joanna Zielinska received her Master degree in Photonics from the joint program between UPC, UAB, UB and ICFO before joining the Quantum Information With Cold Atoms And Non-classical Light research group at ICFO. Her doctoral work was centered on studying and understanding High-coherence Quantum Optics, designing optical parametric oscillators as sources of atom-resonant quantum light. Joanna's thesis, entitled *Spontaneous parametric down-conversion sources for generation of atom-resonant quantum light*, was supervised by ICREA Prof. at ICFO Dr. Morgan W. Mitchell.

Congratulations Carlos, Ivan and Joanna for this outstanding award!