

New Tenured Scientist

Prof Robert Sewell awarded tenure at ICFO

February 05, 2021

We congratulate Dr Robert Sewell, Head of Academic Affairs, who has recently been awarded tenure by the Board of Trustees of the institute.

Dr Sewell is originally from Melbourne, Australia, where he completed a dual arts/science undergraduate degree majoring in Physics and Philosophy at the University of Melbourne. He went on to received his PhD in Physics from Imperial College London in 2009 working on precision measurements with ultracold atoms, where he helped develop a matter wave interferometer using atom-chip technology.

He joined ICFO as a Marie Curie Research Postdoctoral Fellow in 2009 in the group of Prof. Morgan Mitchell, leading a research laboratory in experimental quantum optics, developing new techniques for quantum-enhanced optical magnetometry with laser cooled atoms, and demonstrating how spin squeezing and entanglement generated by quantum non-demolition measurements can help improve precision measurements of magnetic fields.

In 2014 he was appointed Staff Scientist and Coordinator of Academic Programs at ICFO, responsible for graduate education and training programs, including the ICFO PhD program, engagement with local and international Maters programs, the Plus+ training program, and academic mentoring of students and postdoctoral researchers.

In addition to his leadership in the area of ICFO's Academic Programs, he is also Co-Director of the Master of Multidisciplinary Research in Experimental Sciences offered by the Universitat Pompeu Fabra (UPF) in collaboration with The Barcelona Institute of Science and Technology (BIST). Also, in 2020, he was appointed SPIE@ICFO Chair for Diversity in Photonic Sciences.