



New Tenured Group Leader

Prof. Romain Quidant awarded tenure at ICFO.

July 30, 2009

Prof. Romain Quidant has been awarded tenure at ICFO by the Board of Trustees of the Institute.

Born in 1975, Prof. Romain Quidant received MSc (2000) and PhD (2002) degrees from the University of Dijon (France) in laser-matter interaction and nano-optics, respectively. For his research achievements during his PhD, he was awarded a prize in 2002 by La Fondation Carnot, which promotes scientific excellence in French scientists abroad. Since then he has worked in the field of nano-optics at ICFO-The Institute of Photonic Sciences in Barcelona. After a three-year postdoctoral position during which he initiated the plasmon optics activities at ICFO, he was appointed ICFO assistant professor and group leader of the Plasmon Nano-Optics group in 2006. The same year, he was awarded a five-year research fellowship by ICREA, the Catalan research agency, and became a fellow of the Fundacio

CELLEX Barcelona. He is one of the winners of the Fresnel Prize 2009. Prof. Romain Quidant is co-author of about 50 peer-reviewed articles in international journals, including Nature Physics, Phys. Rev. Lett. and Nanoletters. He has been invited to deliver over 20 talks at international conferences, including the Gordon conference, CLEO USA and FiO.

The main research activities of the group led by Prof. Romain Quidant focus on plasmon nano-optics. The intrinsic intensity and confinement of plasmon fields at the surface of noble metal nanostructures offer a great potential for the manipulation of light at the sub-wavelength scale. Through spatial and spectral engineering of plasmon properties, the group aims at extending down to the nanometer scale key concepts and functionalities of conventional optics required for the elaboration of future nano-optical devices. Research relies on a permanent interaction between modeling, nanofabrication and advanced optical characterization. Current activities range from enhanced light/matter, including sensing and optical manipulation, to the study of heat processes in plasmonic nanostructures for biomedical applications.