

Erich Leitgeb was born in 1964 in Fürstenfeld (Styria, Austria) and received his master degree (Dipl.-Ing. in electrical engineering) at the Technical University of Graz in 1994. From 1982 to 1984 he attended a training to an officer for Communications in the Austrian army, (his current military rank is Lieutenant-Colonel). In 1994 he started research work in Optical Communications at the Department of Communications and Wave Propagation (TU Graz). In February 1999 he received his PhD-degree (Dr. at the University of Technology Graz) with honours. Since January 2000 he is project leader of international research projects in the field of optical communications and wireless communications. In 2000 he established and leads the research group for Optical Communications (OptiKom) at TU Graz. He was the Austrian MC-delegate and project coordinator of the finalised COST 270 (Reliability of optical components and devices in communications networks and systems) and the sub-workpackage leader of "Clear Sky Optics" of the finished EU project SatNEx (a NoE on Satellites) and later sub-workpackage leader of "Optical Wireless" of SatNEx 2 (a follow-up of SatNEx). He was also Austrian MC-delegate of the finalized COST 291 and the currently finalized COST action IC0802 (where he was one of the Working group leaders). He was the project leader of the subcontractor for the ESA project "Optical Feeder Links" in 2008 till 2010. At the moment he is Austrian MC-delegate within the new COST action IC1101 "Opticwise".

End of 2003 he has submitted his research work for the Associate Professor (Habilitation) and after the positive review of his application he is currently Professor at the University of Technology Graz. He is giving lectures in Optical Communications Engineering, Antennas and Wave Propagation and Microwaves. Since 2011, he is the responsible Professor for the Optical Communications and Wireless Applications at the Institute of Microwave and Photonic Engineering at TU Graz.

He had research stays at the Institute of Telecommunications (FER) at the University of Zagreb (Croatia), at the University of Ljubljana and the Jožef Stefan Institute (IJS) in Ljubljana (Slovenia). He gave guest lectures in "Optical Wireless" in the frame of ERASMUS / SOCRATES lecture mobility at University of Patras (2008 and 2009) and at University of Zagreb (2010, 2011 and 2012). He is a Visiting Professor at the Northumbria University in Newcastle (UK) and he is a Member of IEEE, SPIE (the International Society for Optics and Photonics), OSA (Optical Society of America) and WCA (Wireless Communications Association). Since the EuCAP 2012, he is representative of "Optical Wireless" at EurAAP (the European Association on Antennas and Propagation) and since 2011 also the Austrian delegate of URSI (International Union of Radio Science) of Commission B (Fields and Waves).

Since 2003 he is reviewer for IEEE and SPIE conferences and journals and he acts as member of Technical Committees and Chairpersons on these conferences. He was guest editor of a special issue (published 2006) in the Mediterranean Journal of Electronics and Communications on "Free Space Optics – RF" and also of a special issue (published 2007) in the European Microwave Association Journal on "RFID technology". Since 2007 he prepared the international IEEE conference CSNDSP 08 (July 2008) in Graz as local organizer. In the ConTEL 2011 in Graz, he was acting (together with the colleagues at FER Zagreb) as Technical Program Chair. Since 2008 he is the local liason officer of EURASIP (European Association for Signal Processing) in Graz and since 2012, he is member of the Steering Board of CSNDSP. In 2013 he was organizing the NOC 2013 in July 2013, the first conference in the optical domain in Graz. In 2014 he was the local organizer for the ICTON 2014 (a large conference on transparent optical networks) in Graz. In the ConTEL 2015 again in Graz, he will act (together with the colleagues at FER Zagreb) as General Chair.

He is also reviewing and evaluating international PhD-theses, projects and co-operations. He is author and co-author of 5 book-chapters, around 40 Journal publications, 140 reviewed Conference papers, 60 presentations (including 40 Invited Talks) and around 60 international scientific reports. Further information see the TUG-Online system under "Leitgeb" and "Publications"
https://online.tugraz.at/tug_online/webnav.ini