

## IMPI's 56<sup>th</sup> Annual Microwave Power Symposium

Guido Link<sup>1</sup>, Molly Poisant<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Germany

<sup>2</sup> Executive Director, International Microwave Power Institute (IMPI)

Contact E-mail: [guido.link@kit.edu](mailto:guido.link@kit.edu)

On June 14<sup>th</sup> to 16<sup>th</sup> IMPI hosted the 56th Annual Microwave Power Symposium (IMPI 56) at the DeSoto Hotel in the lovely city Savannah, Georgia, USA. After the 2021 IMPI Symposium was held virtually for the first time due to pandemic-related travel restrictions and limitations on in-person meetings in 2020, the international microwave community was happy to meet in person again this year. The IMPI 56 Symposium gathered 115 participants (107 in person and 8 virtual), representing 18 countries. A record number of 16 companies joined the symposium and presented their products in the industrial exhibition area (see Fig. 1). Four out of them sponsored the symposium: Muegge Gerling and Microwave Techniques were Platinum and Silver Sponsors, respectively, Odyssey sponsored the Group Dinner and Leanfa the VIP Reception.



**Figure 1:** Hall for industrial exhibition and poster sessions

After an optional workshop on computer modelling on the first day, the Solid-State RF Energy Section met for a common lunch followed by an exhibitor showcase, where each exhibitor was asked to provide a short presentation/demonstration.

48 papers have been submitted and presented in 2 parallel sessions on a diverse range of topics including: Microwave Plasma, Computer Modeling, Microwave Processing of Material, Dielectric Properties & Materials, Solid State Technologies, Microwave Chemistry, Industrial Microwaves, Microwave in Food Engineering and Biological Applications. Two keynote speakers and 8 other experts presented invited talks and provide a little deeper insight/overview into their interesting research fields. (Fig. 2)



**Figure 2:** Main Ballroom at Desoto Hotel

The potential use of solid-state microwave generators in industrial applications is a topic of growing interest and was discussed in numerous contributions. This also motivated a panel discussion on solid-state rf energy on the second day evening, where ideas and opinions about the future of solid-state technology were shared with the audience. The panel discussion was then followed by the IMPI Business Meeting where the Bob Schiffmann Leadership Award and Scholarship was given to John F. Gerling, the new IMPI president and successor of Bob Schiffmann. Bob Schiffmann, a founding member of AMPERE, passed away last

year<sup>1</sup> after having been president for over 22 years. Bob Schiffmann’s wife Marilyn and several members of his family were also present and received a commemorative plaque from IMPI.



**Figure 3:** John F. Gerling presenting a commemorative plaque to Bob Schiffmann’s wife Marilyn

Later we all enjoyed a short walk through the lovely green downtown of Savannah to the Cha Bella Restaurant where we celebrated the Group Dinner.



**Figure 3:** Group Dinner at Cha Bella Restaurant

At the closing ceremony four students were awarded for Best Poster (Sean Brown, West Virginia University), Best Oral Presentation (Morgan Chen, Carnegie Mellon University) and Honorable Mention (Megan Robinson, University of Colorado Boulder & Alazar Araia, West Virginia University). These awards included a certificate, a one-year IMPI student membership and some cash.

Furthermore, several forthcoming events have been introduced. The Microwave Group at Cardiff University will host the next AMPERE conference in UK, in September 2023. Daniel Slocombe of that group promoted the event with beautiful pictures of Cardiff and surrounding areas and kindly invited the audience to contribute and join the venue. IMPI’s 57th Annual Microwave Power Symposium was announced to take place in Denver, Colorado on June 27-29, 2023. The call for papers is already open<sup>2</sup>

**About the authors**



**Guido Link** received the Dipl.-Phys. and Dr. rer. nat. degree in physics from the Technical University Karlsruhe, Germany in 1990 and 1993, respectively. His diploma thesis and graduate research was devoted to the frequency and temperature dependent dielectric characterization of low loss ceramics and ionic crystals.

Since 1993, he has been working at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology, Germany (formerly Forschungszentrum Karlsruhe) in the field of high-power microwave and millimeter-wave processing of materials, plasma chemistry, system and process design and dielectric characterization as a team leader at the Institute for Pulsed Power and Microwave Technology.



**Molly Poisant** has served as the Executive Director of the Int’l Microwave Power Institute (IMPI) since 2010. She has over 20 years of experience in event operations, business development, legislative affairs and sponsorship sales having worked for two former Governors and several U.S. and international technology conferences.

She received her Bachelor’s degree in Political Science from Longwood University.

<sup>1</sup> [https://impi.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/President-Bob-Schiffmann\\_Final.pdf](https://impi.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/President-Bob-Schiffmann_Final.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> [https://impi.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/2023\\_Call\\_for\\_Papers\\_IMPI57\\_Final.pdf](https://impi.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/2023_Call_for_Papers_IMPI57_Final.pdf)