

Wednesday, 23 October 2024 - Speakers



Lord Patrick Vallance

Minister of State for Science, Research and Innovation

Lord Vallance was appointed Minister of State for Science in July 2024, following his role as Government Chief Scientific Adviser from 2018 to 2023. Previously, he held senior positions at GlaxoSmithKline, including President of R&D, overseeing the approval of numerous groundbreaking medicines. With a background in clinical research and academia, he is also a Fellow of the Royal Society and the Academy of Medical Sciences, and has contributed extensively to the UK's life sciences and quantum technology sectors.



Sam EwuoshoFounding Director, The Next Lighthouse

Sam is a trusted adviser to policy makers and investors on the structural challenges they face. He helps institutional clients interpret the risks and opportunities arising from future scenarios, and provides them with roadmaps to help maximise their impact. Deeply embedded in the start-up land, he also helps tech founders craft compelling narratives to unlock their next phase of development.



Hazem Danny Al-Nakib

Member of BSI's Digital Strategic Advisory Group & Honorary Senior Researcher at University College London

Hazem is a digital technology expert, author, and investor, having supported the growth of numerous technology companies in sectors including AI and deep research-based technologies. He co-founded ICUBE, a leading research commercialization incubator in Canada, and the Centre for Redecentralisation at the University of Cambridge. Since 2021, Hazem has been a board member of the Digital Strategic Advisory Group at the British Standards Institution, with a strong focus on quantum computing.



Emma HaynesPartnerships Director, NPL

Emma is the Partnerships Director at the National Physical Laboratory (NPL), where she focuses on building strong partnerships and driving opportunities that address national challenges in collaboration with government, academia, and industry. Since joining NPL in 2016, she has led teams in the Environment and Quantum Departments and played a key role in launching the National Timing Centre programme. Emma is committed to fostering innovative, inclusive, and impact-driven teams.



Dan BylesChief Commercial Officer, UnifAI Technology

Dan is the Chief Commercial Officer at award winning AI SME, UnifAI Technology. A leading figure in the technology sector, Dan also chairs the British Standards Institution (BSI) Standards Policy & Strategy Committee, and their Digital Strategic Advisory Group. A former Member of Parliament heavily involved in sustainability and technology policy, Dan is a highly effective and experienced speaker and communicator.







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Julie Fitzpatrick
Chief Scientific Adviser, Scottish Government

Julie Fitzpatrick is the Chief Scientific Adviser for Scotland and holds a Chair in Food Security at the University of Glasgow. She champions the use of science to inform policy development and works closely with the Scottish Science Advisory Council to provide expert advice to the Scottish Government. With a distinguished career in veterinary science, livestock research, and leadership roles, she advocates for Scotland's world-leading science base to benefit the economy, people, and environment.



Tony HollandTechnical Relations Manager (UK & Europe North), IBM Quantum

Tony is IBM's corporate standards and regulations ambassador in the UK, focusing on international standards for Cloud computing, Artificial Intelligence, and Quantum technologies. He is IBM's global lead on quantum standardization and chairs the UK's mirror committees for ISO/IEC JTC 1 on ICT standardization and IEC/ISO JTC 3 on Quantum technologies. Tony is also an active member of various quantum standards groups, including CEN, CENELEC, and UKQuantum.



Dr. Petros Wallden,Reader (Associate Professor) at School of Informatics, University of Edinburgh

Dr. Wallden specializes in quantum algorithms, quantum cybersecurity, and the foundations of quantum informatics. He is Deputy Director of the Quantum Software Lab, leads the software work package at the UK Quantum Computing and Simulation Hub, and serves as deputy co-chair for the Collaborative Computational Project on Quantum Computing (CCP-QC). He is also an editor for Quantum and Cryptography journals and has chaired the International Conference on Public Key Cryptography twice.



Prof. David Cumming FRSE, FREng Director, QuantIC

David is Professor of Electronic Systems at the University of Glasgow and was the Head of the James Watt School of Engineering which he developed to have a 185 strong academic complement delivering world-class engineering research and education across multiple disciplines. He is also a co-Investigator on QuantIC with expertise in semiconductor and optical component technologies.



Anne HayesDirector of Sectors & Standards Development, BSI

Anne heads up the BSI teams that lead the sector strategies and standards development to ensure UK and global innovation and policy are supported with relevant standards. With over 20 years of experience in standardization across various industries, she has also led teams in governance, risk, resilience, healthcare, and sustainability. Prior to joining BSI, Anne was the Editorial Director at Sweet & Maxwell Ltd.







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David Balslev-Harder

Head of the Photonics Department, DFM the Danish National Metrology Institute

As the head of the photonics department at DFM the Danish National Metrology Institute, David is leading metrology and research activities within laser spectroscopy, fiber-based sensors, chemical sensing, and optical radiometry including development of single photon detector calibration methods. David has participated in normative work within AI and measurement data models and is presently contributing to Quantum Technology standardization within CEN/CENELEC JTC22 and IEC/ISO JTC3 where David is convenor of ahG7 on Quantum Enabling Technology.



Tobias Gehring

Associate Professor - Physics Department, Technical University of Denmark (DTU)

Tobias Gehring is an associate processor at DTU researching continuous-variable quantum key distribution systems and networks. He leads the Danish efforts in the European Quantum Communication Infrastructure initiative. In 2022 Tobias cofounded Alea Quantum Technologies, a company developing high speed quantum random number generators.



Vincent Ménoret

Senior Scientist - Quantum Systems Division, Exail

Vincent Ménoret is a senior scientist in the Quantum Systems division of Exail, where he jointly leads the team in charge of quantum instruments. His work focuses on real-life implementation of quantum sensors for geophysics and inertial navigation. He has led the development of the first industrial quantum gravimeters and his current research involves the development of hybrid classical-quantum sensors.



Martin Ward

Senior Research Scientist, Toshiba Europe

Martin is a Senior Research Scientist for Toshiba Europe working in their Cambridge Research Laboratory in the UK. He received a DPhil in Physics from the University of Oxford and has over 15 years of research experience on quantum photonic sources, quantum optics and quantum key distribution, including electrically driven quantum dot single photon emission and entangled photon pair sources at telecom wavelengths. He is currently Chair of ETSI ISG QKD and is also involved in QKD standards within ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 27/WG 3.



Tim Prior

Quantum Programme Manager, NPL

Tim Prior is the Programme Manager for the NPL Quantum Programme, focused on delivering impact aligned with the UK National Quantum Technologies Programme. With over 30 years at NPL, Tim has held various roles, from scientist in optical metrology to management and commercial positions, facilitating measurement science solutions for industry, academia, and government. He has been a strong advocate for scientific instrument development both in the UK and internationally.







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Dr. Alison McLeodDirector, Photonics Scotland

Alison has over 20 years of experience in academic, industrial, and consultancy roles, with a PhD in Photonics. She is currently responsible for the Photonics Scotland network at Technology Scotland, where she connects photonics organizations, fosters collaboration, and represents the sector's interests. Alison's expertise spans technical sales, project management, and proposal writing for EU-funded projects.



Sophia Gurtler Ambassador, Girls in Quantum

Sophia serves as the German Ambassador for Girls in Quantum, where she leads the programme planning team. Girls in Quantum is an international initiative aimed at students aged 15-25, encouraging them to explore science, with a particular focus on quantum technologies. In addition to this, Girls in Quantum offers a wealth of resources and programmes to help young women learn about quantum science.



Josh FedderDeputy Head of the UK Office for Quantum, Department for Science, Innovation and Technology

Josh is the Deputy Head of the UK Office for Quantum, where he leads the international, regulation, and standards portfolios to advance the UK's global leadership in quantum technologies. With over a decade of experience in civil service across New Zealand and the UK, Josh has played key roles, including overseeing the UK's Space Strategy and contributing to New Zealand's Canterbury Earthquakes Rebuild Programme. He is focused on fostering international collaboration and ethical quantum technology development.



