

Light at the End of the Tunnel: Careers in Optics & Photonics

And Optical Levitation: Fundamentals of Optical Tweezers

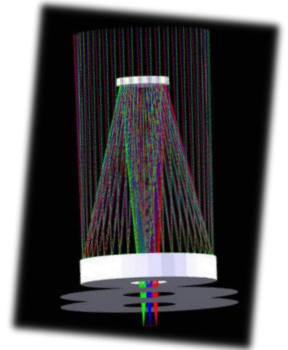
Donn Silberman, Fellow & Past President; Optical Society of Southern California

Donn M. Silberman is a [Fellow](#) and [Past President of the Optical Society of Southern California](#), where he has had active roles for over 25 years in many of the society's programs. Some of his most notable activities include STEM educational programs at all levels of our community. He has been involved with [Irvine Valley College's Laser Electro-optics Technology](#) programs since the early 1990s. In 2003 he founded and continues to lead all aspects of the Optics Institute of Southern California and in 2009 he founded the [UC Irvine Optical Engineering](#) and [Optical Instrument Design programs](#), where he serves as the Advisory Committee Chair and is an instructor. From 2006 to 2017, Donn was a Senior Applications and Sales Engineer for [PI \(Physik Instrumente\) L.P.](#); a world leader in the design, manufacture and provider of precision positioning and motion control systems for industry, research and academia. Many of these engineered products are used for the highest precision imaging and laser systems on earth, in space and even on Mars. In 2017 Donn founded [eLas Americas](#) to continue to support his educational customers with laser educational kits that were formerly distributed through PI (Physik Instrumente) L.P.



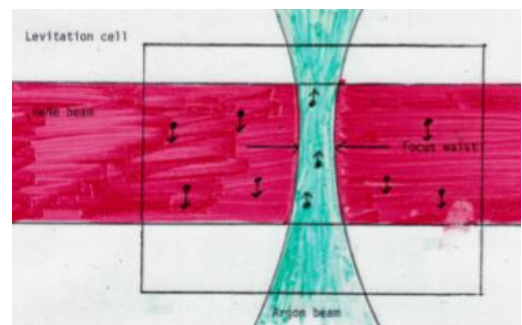
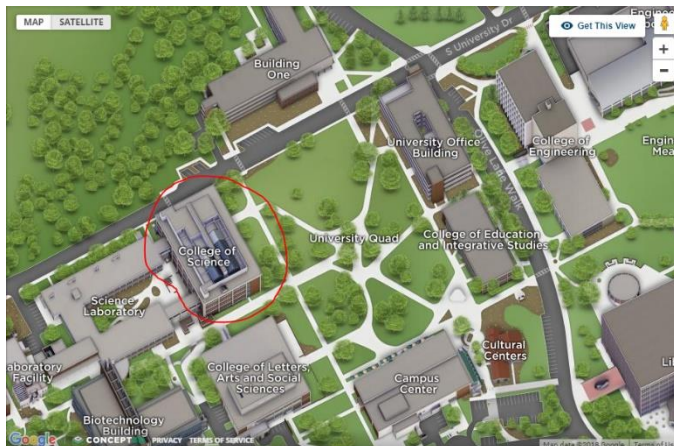
Since May 2017, Donn has been the Technical Services Manager for [Starrett Kinematic Engineering](#), where he is working with former colleagues designing, building selling and maintaining Video and Optical based metrology instruments for industry.

Donn received a [Bachelor of Science degree in Engineering Physics \(Honors in Physics\)](#) from the Univ. of AZ, where he also worked at the [Optical Sciences Center](#) and taught undergraduate physics labs. Donn served as the [Society of Physics Students](#) President from 1981 - 1983 and as an SPS Councilor from 1983 - 1984. In October 1983, [Donn published "Optical Levitation"](#) in the Journal of Undergraduate Research in Physics. He started this project 2 years earlier after attending a talk by [Arthur Ashkin](#); who won the 2018 Nobel Prize in Physics for his invention of Optical Tweezers.



Donn also received an MS degree in Technology Management from Pepperdine University in 1994.

Donn maintains a "Focal Point" web site for his Optics Education Adventures at www.OpticsAge.com.



12 Noon - Tuesday, Nov. 13th, 2018
Cal Poly Pomona Optics & Photonics Club
 College of Science, Bldg 8 room 248