Thomas L. Koch is the Dean of the College of Optical Sciences at the University of Arizona. He received an A.B. in physics from Princeton (1977) and a Ph.D. from Cal

Tech (1982). He then joined Bell Labs, where he led research and prototyping of semiconductor lasers and advanced photonic devices. From 1995 to 1996, Dr. Koch was VP of R&D at SDL; he then returned to Bell Labs/Lucent to become CTO of optoelectronic products and director of photonics research. In 2000, he became VP of technology platforms at Lucent and then Agere, where he managed the R&D of optoelectronics and integrated circuit devices during the telecommunications boom. Dr. Koch joined Lehigh in 2003 where he was the Daniel E. ’39 and Patricia M. Smith Chair and professor of ECE and of physics, as well as the Director of the Center for Optical Technologies. He is a member of the National Academy of Engineering and a Fellow of IEEE, the Optical Society, and Bell Labs. In 1991, he won the IEEE Photonics Society’s William Streifer Award for Scientific Achievement. He was awarded IEEE’s Eric E. Sumner Award in 2008, for pioneering contributions to optoelectronics and optical communications.