Yoshiaki NAKANO is professor with the Department of Electrical Engineering and Information Systems (EEIS), Graduate School of Engineering, the University of Tokyo. He is also with the Research Center for Advanced Science and Technology (RCAST), the University of Tokyo. He received the B. E., M. S., and Ph. D. degrees in electronic engineering, all from the University of Tokyo, Japan, in 1982, 1984, and 1987, respectively. In 1984, he spent a year at the University of California, Berkeley, as an exchange student.

 In 1987, he joined the Department of Electronic Engineering, the University of Tokyo, became an associate professor in 1992, a full professor in 2000, and the department head in 2001. He moved to RCAST, the University of Tokyo, in 2002 as a professor, and served as the Director General of the center from 2010 till 2013. Then he moved back to the Engineering School to fill up the current professorship position with the Dept. of EEIS. Since 2010, he has also been serving as the co-director of Presidential Endowed Chair on Global Solar Plus Initiative attached direct to the University of Tokyo president office. His research interests have been physics and fabrication technologies of semiconductor distributed feedback lasers, semiconductor optical modulators/switches, monolithically-integrated photonic circuits, and high-efficiency heterostructure solar cells, as well as metal-organic vapor phase epitaxy of III-V compound semiconductors. In 1992, he was a visiting associate professor at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

 Dr. Nakano is currently VP of the Institute of Electronics, Communication, and Information Engineers (IEICE) and the member of Science Council of Japan (SCJ). He also is the chairman of the Optoelectronics Technology Trend Research Committee of the Optoelectronics Industry and Technology Development Association (OITDA), and the chairman of the Optical Interconnect Standardization Committee of Japan Electronics Packaging and Circuits Association (JPCA). He used to serve as the President of Electronics Society, IEICE, an elected member of the Board of Governors of IEEE LEOS, a member of the Board of Directors of the Japan Society of Applied Physics (JSAP), the Editor-in-Chief of Applied Physics Express (APEX) and Japanese Journal of Applied Physics (JJAP), and a member of the Board of Directors of the Japan Institute of Electronics Packaging (JIEP). He is Fellow of IEICE, Fellow of JSAP, and a member of IEEE EDS and OSA.

 Dr. Nakano is the project leader of the Grant-in-Aid for Specially Promoted Research #26000010, “Research on reconfigurable unitary optical mode converters and wavefront synthesizers using semiconductor photonic integrated circuits” sponsored by the Japan Society of Promotion of Science (JSPS). He in the past served as the project leader of Japanese National Project on "Photonic networking technology" organaized by the Ministry of Economy, Trading, and Industry (METI), and as the project leader of SORST Program on "Non-reciprocal semiconductor digital photonic integrated circuits and their applications to photonic networking" sponsored by Japan Sciency and Technology Corporation (JST). He also served as the project leader of METI National R&D Project on "Post-silicon solar cells for ultra-high efficiencies”.

 Dr. Nakano is the recipient of the 1987 Shinohara Memorial Prize from the IEICE, the 1991 Optics Paper Award from the JSAP, the 1997 Marubun Science Prize, the 2007 Ichimura Prize, the 2007 IEICE Electronics Society Award, and the 2007 Sakurai Medal from the OITDA. He was presented the Prime Minister Award in Collaborative Research between Academia and Industry in 2007. He authored and coauthored over 280 refereed journal publications and over 500 international conference papers, and holds 40 patents.