



Maria J. Yzuel is Professor Emeritus at the Universitat Autònoma (UAB) de Barcelona, Spain.

Maria Yzuel has been a Professor of Optics at the Department of Physics, UAB from 1983 to 2011, where she is now Honorary Professor and Professor Emeritus. Formerly she was a Professor of Optics at the Universities of Zaragoza and Granada, Spain. She is a member of the Royal Academy of Sciences and Arts of Barcelona, Spain.

She earned her Physics degree and Ph. D. Degree from the University of Zaragoza, Spain. Dr. Yzuel had a British Council grant for a post doctoral stay (1967 and 1968) at the University of Reading (UK) under the supervision of Prof.

Harold H. Hopkins.

She has worked on diffraction image theory, image quality evaluation, image apodization, applications to photolithography, optical pattern recognition, color information in correlators, design of filters for image processing. She also worked in medical optics and, recently, she has been working in liquid crystal panels applied in diffractive optics and in polarization. She has published more than 300 scientific papers and she has supervised 20 Ph. D. Thesis.

She is Fellow member of the OSA (Optical Society of America), SPIE (The International Society for Optics and Photonics), the Institute of Physics (IOP), the EOS (European Optical Society), and Socia de Honor of the Spanish Optical Society (SEDOPTICA) and of the Royal Spanish Society of Physics. She served as President of SEDOPTICA from 1993 to 1996 and as Secretary General of the European Optical Society. She was Vice President of the Spanish Royal Society of Physics (2007-2011). She was a vice-president of the ICO from 1990 to 1996 and from 2011 to 2017. She served in the SPIE Board of Directors from 2001 to 2003 and from 2007 to 2011. Dr. Yzuel was the SPIE 2009 President. She received the SPIE Board of Directors Award in 2005 and the Medal of the University of Warsaw (2005). She became Doctor Honoris Causa from the University Miguel Hernandez, Elche, Spain in 2012 and from the University of Granada, Spain in 2017. In 2013 she received the high recognition of Commander of the Civil Order of Alfonso X the Wise from the Spanish Ministry of Education. She has received the 2014-Medal of Physics given by the Spanish Royal Society of Physics and the BBVA Foundation. In 2008 she received the UAB Prize in recognition of her academic work and for her activities in the field of women in science and she received the Equity Prize of the University of Alicante in 2016.

SPIE gave her name to the SPIE Education Award. The Walka Technologic Park in Huesca, Spain gave her name to a building. ICFO has given her name to the ICFO Maria Yzuel Fellowship Awards.

She was President of the Spanish Committee for the International Year of Light celebrations in 2015 and she is currently the President of the Spanish Committee for the International Day of Light.

Throughout her career she has promoted actions to support women in science, as founder of the Group "Mujeres en la Física" of the Real Sociedad Española de Física and through her work at the SPIE Women in Optics Committee and the Asociación de Mujeres Investigadoras y Tecnólogas.