**Johan Nilsson** is a Professor at the Optoelectronics Research Centre (ORC), University of Southampton, UK, and head of the High Power Fibre Lasers research group. In 1994, he received a doctorate in Engineering Science from the Royal Institute of Technology (KTH), Sweden, for research on optical amplification. Since then, he has worked on optical amplifiers and amplification in lightwave systems, optical communications, and guided-wave lasers, first at Samsung Electronics and later at ORC. He has co-authored over 400 scientific articles, including three of the world’s four most cited papers on ytterbium-doped fibre devices. He is a fellow of the OSA and the SPIE, and a consultant and co-founder of SPI Lasers. He is a member of the advisory board of the Journal of the Optical Society of Korea and has served as a guest editor for IEEE Journal of Selected Topics in Quantum Electronics, Optics Express, Optical Materials Express, and Optical Engineering. He is a former chair of the Laser Science and Engineering technical group in OSA’s Science and Engineering Council and is currently a program chair for the Advanced Solid State Lasers conference and a member of the steering committee of the EuroPhoton conference.

