

EOS Board Election - Roelene Botha candidate statement



Roelene Botha, 39 years old, received her BEng and MEng (electrical and electronic) and BSc (Information technology) degrees from the University of Johannesburg. She attained her PhD in 2008 from Ecole Polytechnique (France) while working on the deposition of dielectric thin films in a low-pressure plasma enhance chemical vapour deposition system. She has several years of experience working in the optical manufacturing industry as production and process engineer and manager as well as in the technology transfer field as research engineer and project leader.

Since September 2019 she manages the optical coatings division at RhySearch, a research and innovation centre located in Buchs St. Gallen, Switzerland. She has been instrumental in creating the yearly Symposium on Optical Coatings for Laser Applications, a collaboration between RhySearch, EOS, NTB University and Swissphotonics. The OCLA Symposium is now a well-established event hosting approximately 100 participants.

Dr. Botha is passionate about strengthening the optical manufacturing in her region and increasing interregional networking. She believes that the further development of the EOS is crucial to increase its impact and ensure the future strength of the European optical community. If elected, she will focus all her determination on helping to achieve the EOS goals and mission.