Green careers guide

Professor Spiros Kitsinelis
Greece
The search for the best artificial light sources for the planet

Humanity has to deal with two main issues regarding energy. The first is the availability of non-sustainable energy sources and whether the global demand for energy can be met. This is due to their depletion in certain parts of the world or due to geopolitical factors and in any case the impact to the global economy is substantial. The second issue is one that deals with the environmental changes of the planet and the impact of these changes to our lives. The burning of fossil fuels as the most common energy generation mechanism results in the formation and emission of carbon dioxide as a byproduct which is one of the gases responsible for the greenhouse effect.

Considering than man is using about a fifth of the world’s generated electric energy for lighting applications it is easy to appreciate the importance of light source technology both on an economic and an environmental level. Light sources and lighting not only represent an economic market of billions of dollars but the consumption of energy for lighting is responsible for the generation of billions of tons of CO2 gas annually.

That was exactly the task at hand for a greek researcher that studied in GB and has spent his entire adult life pursuing and materializing new ideas for light sources and their applications.

Professor Spiros Kitsinelis is a researcher focusing on the development of novel and energy efficient light sources. He gained his master’s and PhD degrees in Chemistry from the University of Sheffield in England and has been a researcher and associate professor at Ehime University in Japan, Philips Lighting in the Netherlands, National Technical University of Athens and Paul Sabatier University in Toulouse France He has published many books and articles on the subject, invented new systems for various applications and has given many public talks on the importance of science, the impact of technology to our lives and his pursuit of the next generation light sources and their applications.

Dr Spiros Kitsinelis has been honored with numerous awards by the British Council, the British Embassy in Athens and the Association of British Science Writers for his lifelong contributions to science communication for the general public.
Books by Dr Spiros Kitsineis have been published and circulated all around the planet, giving new researchers the insight and fundamentals for the pursuit of new generation light sources.

Athens at night from above. The yellow emissions from Sodium lamps and the green emissions from the mercury lamps pain the scene. New generation LED lamps will last longer and consume less energy but will add blue light to the night skies.