

Professor Traian Chirila (FRACI 1992, FRSC 2016) holds a BEng in polymer technology and a PhD in organic chemistry. In 1986 he joined Lions Eye Institute in Perth as a Senior Scientist where he established a department for research and development of polymeric biomaterials for ophthalmic applications. In 2005, he joined the newly founded Queensland Eye Institute (QEI) in Brisbane, where he was offered a position of Senior Scientist to continue his research and to establish a department of ophthalmic biomaterials and tissue engineering. Currently, he is the Chief Scientist of QEI, and also holds three adjunct/honorary professorships at the Queensland University of Technology and the University of Queensland (in the Australian Institute for Bioengineering and Nanotechnology, and in the Faculty of Medicine), and a Honorary Research Fellowship at the University of Western Australia. He is a member of Australasian Society for Biomaterials and Tissue Engineering, and of American Chemical Society. He received the RACI Polymer Division Citation in 1993 and the RACI Applied Research Medal in 1999. He was awarded in 2014 the SRB Excellence Award by the Romanian Society for Biomaterials, and in 2015 he was awarded the title of Doctor Honoris Causa by the University “Politehnica” of Timisoara, Romania, his Alma Mater. In 2016, he was invited to become a Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry.

Professor Chirila’s main research interests currently include polymer science, hydrogels, ophthalmic biomaterials, tissue engineering, supramolecular polymers, surgical adhesives, and sustained drug release. His activity and publications have contributed seminally to the field of biomaterials and tissue engineering. He is the inventor of the AlphaCor™ artificial cornea and the AlphaSphere™ orbital implant, and his group at QEI was the first to use silk proteins as biomaterials in ophthalmology. Professor Chirila’s activity has resulted to date in about 200 journal articles and book chapters, about the same number of conference presentations, and he is a named inventor on 16 patents. He edited two books, and guest-edited two journal special issues. He has supervised to date 15 PhD theses.

Professor Chirila is the Founding Editor-in-Chief of *Biomaterials and Tissue Technology*, and an Associate Editor of *The Open Biomedical Engineering Journal*, in addition to membership on another dozen of editorial boards.