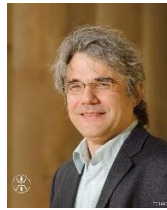


## **Short biography of Professor Alexander Quandt**

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Prof. Alexander Quandt obtained his doctorate in Physics in 1997 from the University of Tuebingen (Germany). He held academic positions as Assistant/Associate Professor at the University of Greifswald (Germany) and as Associate Professor at the University of the Witwatersrand (South Africa) before his current appointment as Full Professor of Theoretical Physics at the University of the Witwatersrand. Until recently, he acted as a Chair in Renewable Energy Research, Focus area coordinator of the (national) Centre of Excellence in Strong Materials and Deputy Director of the (international) ARUA Centre of Excellence in Materials, Energy and Nanotechnology. His main research interests are in computational and theoretical solid-state physics, optics/plasmonics and renewable energy research. He pioneered the field of boron nanomaterials as one of the first contributions to the fields of tubular and 2D materials, and he introduced first principles materials simulations in other fields like quasicrystals, plasmonics and photovoltaics. He is the author 8 book chapters and over 100 research papers, and an Editor of “Optical and Quantum Electronics” (Springer). In 2017 and 2019 he was a recipient of the NSTF-South 32 awards (“Science Oscars”) of South Africa.