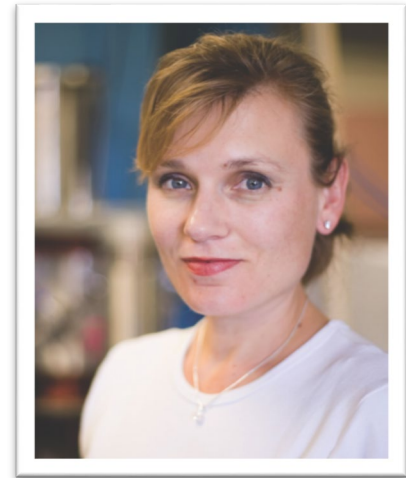


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**Marcela Bilek** is Professor of Applied Physics and Surface Engineering at the University of Sydney and leads the Applied Physics and Plasma Surface Engineering Research Group. She holds a B.Sc. (Hons I) from the University of Sydney, a PhD from the University of Cambridge, UK and an MBA from the Rochester Institute of Technology, USA. Prior appointments include Scientist at the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, USA; Professor at the Technische Universität Hamburg – Harburg, Germany; and Fellow, Emmanuel College, University of Cambridge, UK. She has published over 300 refereed journal articles, 1 book, 5 book chapters and 10 patents. Honours and prizes include the Malcolm McIntosh Prize for Physical Scientist of the Year (2002); ARC Federation Fellowship (2003); Australian Academy of Science Pawsey Medal (2004); Australian Innovation Challenge Award (2011); ARC Future Fellowship (2012); the inaugural Plasma Surface Engineering Leading Scientist Award for pioneering contributions in the science and technology of plasma & ion surface engineering (2018) and an Australian Research Council Laureate Fellowship (2019-2024). She was elected to the Fellowship of the American Physical Society (APS) and the IEEE in recognition of her work on plasma processes for materials modification and synthesis.