Kam Y. Lau is Professor emeritus in the EECS department at U.C. Berkeley. He received his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D degrees in 1978, 1978 and 1981 respectively; all in Electrical Engineering from Caltech. Upon obtaining his doctorate, he joined Ortel Corporation as founding staff/chief scientist. His research in semiconductor laser dynamics established fundamental limits in speed and linearity of directly modulated laser diodes, which contributed to linear fiber-optic transmission products for Hybrid-Fiber-Coax (HFC) infrastructure widely deployed today for CATV services and cable-internet access to homes and businesses worldwide.

He received the 1996 IEE Photonics Society William Streifer Scientific Achievement Award, the 1996 IEEE Photonics Society Distinguished Lecturer Award, the 2008 OSA Nicholas Holonyak Award, the 2009 IEEE David Sarnoff Award, the 2009 IET J.J. Thomson Medal, and the 2013 Pioneer Award from the IEEE Aerospace Electronics Systems Society. He was an Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering at Columbia University from 1988-90, and a professor of EECS at U.C. Berkeley since 1990. In 1997, he co-found LGC Wireless, Inc. ("L" of "LGC".) LGC Wireless delivers cost-effective in-building wireless coverage and capacity solutions around the world.