Simon Cooke received the B.Sc. degree (Physics) from the University of Strathclyde in 1988 and the D.Phil. degree from the University of Oxford in 1992. He continued research at the University of Strathclyde, University of Maryland, and SAIC Inc., investigating theory and computational methods for electron beam, plasma, and electromagnetic applications

In 2003, he joined the Naval Research Laboratory, Washington DC, where his current research interests include parallel particle-in-cell methods for GPUs. He is the primary author of the Neptune 3D Electromagnetic-PIC simulation code, enabling fast, accurate design of a broad range of advanced vacuum electronic amplifiers and sources.

Dr. Cooke has received several professional awards, including the IEEE NPSS Early Achievement Award in 2002, the Dr. Delores M. Etter Top Navy Scientists and Engineers of the Year Award in 2014 and the Naval Research Laboratory Edison Chapter Sigma Xi Award for Pure Science in 2016. He served as Guest Editor in 2005 for the IEEE Transactions on Plasma Science Special Issue on High Power Microwaves and in 2014 for the IEEE Transactions on Electron Devices Special Issue on Vacuum Electronic Devices.