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His main research interests include micro and nanomanipulation and automation methods. His work has been published in major international journals, including Nature Communications, Physical Review Letters, Advanced Materials, and the IEEE transactions. Prof. Zhou was the winner of the Anton Paar Research Award for Instrumental Analytics and Characterization.

He is currently the coordinator of the TG Miniaturized Robotics of euRobotics. He was also the General Chair of International Conference on Manipulation, Automation and Robotics at Small Scales, MARSS 2019. Prof. Zhou was also the coordinator of EU FP7 project FAB2ASM, the first PPP project of the European Economic Recovery Plan. He was also the Chair of IEEE Finland Joint Chapter of Control System Society, Robotics and Automation Society and System Man and Cybernetics Society.