

BECOME A MEMBER!

I would like to join the AKC.

First and family name: _____

Date of birth: _____

DPG membership number: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Membership in the AKC is free of charge.
Only members of the Society of Physicists in Germany (DPG) may join.

Please send your subscription to
Deutsche Physikalische Gesellschaft e.V.

Mitgliederverwaltung

Hauptstr. 5

D - 53604 Bad Honnef

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You can also join the AKC by using the web form at
<http://www.dpg-physik.de/mitgliedschaft>

Just add the AKC as a working group to your personal data. You can make this change via the Änderungsformular.

WORKING GROUP EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES (AKC)

OF THE SOCIETY OF PHYSICISTS IN GERMANY (DPG)

Representing the interests of female physicists within the DPG and in the public.

GOALS OF THE AKC

Improved working conditions for female physicists

Equal opportunities for male and female physicists

More female physicists in leading positions at universities and in industry

Support for female students and young physics professionals

In case of questions please contact

Deutsche Physikalische Gesellschaft e.V.

Speaker of the Working Group Equal Opportunities

Hauptstraße 5

D - 53604 Bad Honnef

Email: akc@dpg-physik.de

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Deutsche Physikalische Gesellschaft  DPG

WORKING GROUP EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES (AKC)

GERMAN FEMALE PHYSICISTS CONFERENCE (DPT)

The AKC supports the annual conference of German Female Physicists (www.physikerinnentagung.de). In addition to the scientific program, this conference offers talks on the career situation of female physicists and other themes concerning women in physics. This special program enables physicists of different fields and professions, from different regions and with different qualifications, to establish contacts and create networks.

SURVEY ON THE OCCUPATIONAL SITUATION OF FEMALE AND MALE PHYSICISTS

An AKC-initiated survey documented the personal and occupational situation of 3600 (male and female) members of the Society of Physicists in Germany (DPG). It revealed that a larger percentage of the female physicists had a single-sex school education. The probability that their mothers had graduated from university was higher for female than for male physicists. Female physicists often are part of a dual career couple, 85 % of their spouses are university graduates. In contrast, the spouses of male physicists often have lower educational levels and leave their jobs temporarily or permanently to raise their children.

Few female physicists have children, and those who do take less time for parental leave (which can be up to 3 years in Germany). Nevertheless, men reach higher qualification levels. Even at the same level men earn more than their female colleagues, regardless of whether they have kids or not. Available childcare which covers a full working day would improve the situation for men and women alike, as would more flexible working hours. Furthermore, the limits for legal age discrimination should be reduced by times spent to care for children or elderly people.

WORKSHOPS

The AKC regularly offers workshops on different subjects (in German). Examples are:

Soft skills and career planning for female physicists

Both workshops are designed for young physicists (bachelor, master, and PhD students as well as entry-level professionals). The career planning workshop samples different areas in which physicists can pursue a career. In talks and discussions, senior female speakers from universities as well as industry introduce different career fields and opportunities on the basis of their own experience.

A short theoretical introduction followed by practical exercises enables the participants of the soft skills workshop to improve their rhetoric and communication abilities, to deal with workplace conflicts, and to think about their attitude towards power.

Projects for school girls

Many German universities offer programs designed to encourage girls to study natural sciences, engineering, and physics. However, the design as well as the quality of these projects can vary enormously. To support and improve these programs, the AKC offers a networking workshop at larger time intervals. Its aim is the exchange of expertise and experiences among the organizers.

Networking with other STEM field organizations

In collaboration with other female scientists' organizations in the STEM fields (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), the AKC performs networking workshops. Their long-term goal is an interdisciplinary collaboration and a common representation of the interests of female scientists in Germany.

REPRESENTATION AT ANNUAL DPG MEETINGS

The AKC regularly contributes to the annual meetings of the Society of Physicists in Germany (DPG) by organizing a session. Furthermore, the AKC works to increase the percentage of women giving invited talks or acting as chair persons at this conference to reflect the proportion of the women present at the meeting.

HERTHA-SPONER-PRIZE, RESEARCH PRIZE FOR FEMALE PHYSICISTS

The Hertha Sponer prize has been created by the DPG upon an AKC initiative. Annually since 2002, a young female scientist is rewarded for her excellent scientific work in the field of physics. The objective of this award, which is valued at 3000 Euro, is to support and motivate a young scientist and increase her profile in the academic community. A candidate can be nominated by her employer, supervisor, or anyone familiar with her work. Self-nominations are possible as well. The nomination contains a 1-2 pages describing why the award is deserved, a short CV and the names of possible referees. They typically have to be submitted to the DPG headquarters at Bad Honnef by mid June.

HOMEPAGE AND MAILING LIST

At the AKC homepage www.physikerin.de you can find information about the AKC, its activities as well as general information on female physicists in Germany. For networking and internal communication, the AKC runs a mailing list (mostly in German). Please subscribe via our homepage.