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DPG

## Scientific Evening Talk

**Monday, 5th May 2014, 6:30 pm**  
Magnus-Haus Berlin, Am Kupfergraben 7, 10117 Berlin

**Gerry H. Lander, Ph.D.**  
Grenoble, France

## Discoveries that changed the world: 1932 – 1942 James Chadwick & Lise Meitner

The discussion will be chaired by  
**Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Eberhardt**  
Scientific Director of the Magnus-Haus Berlin

'Nachsitzung' with food and drinks in the 'Remise' sponsored by the WE-Heraeus-Foundation.

**To attend the Scientific Evening Talk please register:**

[http://www.dpg-physik.de/dpg/magnus/formulare/formular\\_2014-05-05/anmeldung-2014-05-05.html](http://www.dpg-physik.de/dpg/magnus/formulare/formular_2014-05-05/anmeldung-2014-05-05.html)

### Gerry Lander

grew up in South Africa and went to Cambridge University (UK) on an 1851 scholar-ship to do a PhD (1967). He then went to Argonne National Laboratory (near Chicago), where he worked for 19 years. From 1981-1986 he was Director of the Intense Pulsed Neutron Source, one of the early machines in this field. He joined the European Institute for Transuranium Elements in Karlsruhe in 1986, and spent the last 4 of his years there as Director. He retired in 2006, but continues to work on the physics of actinide materials, as well as history. He has a long association with Los Alamos National Laboratory, where he was a Visiting Fellow in 2001. He is a Fellow of the APS, and was awarded the Walter Halg Prize by the European Neutron Scattering Association in 2011.

### Abstract:

From the discovery of the neutron (1932) to the first demonstration of controlled fission (1942) was just ten years; a period that took physics from an occupation of a small number of eccentric gentlemen and (even fewer) ladies to something of concern to, and funding decisions of, Governments all over the world. The shadows of those tumultuous years are still with us, for better or worse. This talk will recount those ten years through the lives of James Chadwick (1891-1974) and Lise Meitner (1878-1968), contemporaries who played pivotal roles in the events, even though, partly because of their retiring personalities, they are often over-shadowed by "larger" figures.