

Dear colleagues,

With this edition of the BP newsletter, we would like to **call for proposals for the upcoming annual DPG spring meeting 2016 in Regensburg** and look back on the DPG spring meeting 2015 in Berlin.

### 2016 DPG Spring Meeting in Regensburg

Our next annual meeting will take place from **6–11 March 2016** in Regensburg. Please save the date, we are looking forward to seeing you all in Regensburg! Like every year, **abstract the deadline** will be **1 December 2015** and we will remind you of this date in the next newsletter.

The planning for the Regensburg meeting already started and with this newsletter, we call for proposals for the following categories:

- **Plenary talks** of well-known speakers addressing a large general audience; if you suggest someone, please provide a short explanation and indicate if you could help with the invitation.
- **Symposia** (one every day, “Fachverbandsübergreifende Symposien”) and **tutorials** addressing general current issues in physics involving biological physics; each suggestion should come with an up to one-page description including title, short explanation, names of the organizers and potential speakers.
- Special **focus sessions** either within BP or jointly with one or two other divisions, e.g. with CPP, DY or SOE; again we need similar information as for the joint symposia, but these suggestions can be less general.

Please note that the first two types of events will be selected in a competitive procedure from all suggestions made from within the condensed matter section, thus they should be attractive not only for researchers from biological physics, but also for a general physics audience.

Please send your suggestions to Helmut Grubmüller [hgrubmu@gwdg.de](mailto:hgrubmu@gwdg.de) until **20 May 2015**. All proposals will be discussed during a joint SKM meeting on 26 June 2015.

### 2015 DPG Spring Meeting in Berlin

BP is part of the Condensed Matter Section (SKM) of the DPG, which held its annual spring meeting 2015 at the TU Berlin from 15–20 March 2015. Within the SKM section, BP had 374 talks and posters—the largest number ever! We thank all participants for their contribution and for making this meeting again a great success. This includes the SKM speaker, Klaus Richter (University of Regensburg) and the local organizer, Eckehard Schöll (TU Berlin). In addition, we gratefully acknowledge the company **JPK** for sponsoring the poster sessions.

The already traditional **Europhysics Letters (EPL) poster prize** was awarded this year to Mirjam Schürmann & Jakob Tómas Bullerjahn (first prizes each, certificate + 350 Euro prize money) and Julia Strübig & Simon Christoph Stein (second prizes each, certificate + 175 Euro prize money) – see also: <http://www.dpg-physik.de/dpg/gliederung/fv/bp/posterpreis.html>. We congratulate the four winners for their excellent contributions and thank EPL again for this wonderful support!

Other **highlights** of the meeting were the plenary lecture by Hermann E. Gaub (LMU Munich), the special talk by Stefan Hell (MPI for Biophysical Chemistry, Göttingen), the public evening lecture by Theo Geisel (Göttingen) at the Urania, the “Neurophysics” symposium organized by Theo Geisel and Gernot Güntherodt as well as the topical sessions “Superresolution Optical Microscopy” (organized by Jörg Enderlein and Philip Tinnefeld) and “Modelling of Non-Linear Dynamics in Biological Movement” (organized by Syn Schmitt).

The **General Assembly** on Wednesday evening was very well attended. The short presentation of the speaker team can be found at <http://www.dpg-physik.de/dpg/gliederung/fv/bp/2015%20BP%20General%20Assembly-2.pdf>. The number of BP member is constantly growing; we currently count 1306 members, compared with 1269 members in 2014 and 1094 in 2013. This year, new BP chairpersons for the upcoming period 2015–2017 were elected: Helmut Grubmüller (Göttingen), Sarah Köster (Göttingen) and Matthias Rief (Munich). We thank Stefan Diez and Claudia Veigel for their four year service as chair and co-chair very much!

As result of the lively discussion, the newly elected chair team will look into: (I) extending the poster session time, (II) inviting more people as poster jury, (III) awarding a participant's poster prize in addition to the prize awarded by the poster jury, and (IV) establishing regulations concerning unauthorized filming of presentations and taking photos of posters without author's agreement.

One discussion item was—and is—the number of parallel sessions: two or three? There are, of course, pros and con's to both, which was also reflected in the discussion. It is quite clear that for most of us—including the speakers—it feels more comfortable to have to 'skip' only one parallel talk rather than two, and to have a larger audience, too. Having looked into the Berlin numbers, however, we feel that reducing the number of talks we will be able to accept by 1/3 would be very harsh, given that already in Berlin, with three parallel sessions, the committee was not able to accept all submitted talks. A reduction to only two parallel sessions would also mean to transfer the decision which talk to skip (i.e.: not accept) from the participants to the selection committee in many more cases, which we feel is not what most of us really want.

There is one more aspect: it has become (unwritten) tradition to suggest two talks per research group. We feel this guiding principle, resting on the assumption that the PIs are in the best position to judge whom they send, has indeed worked very well. Cutting down to two parallel sessions would somehow cut into this idea. For these reasons, we have decided to stick to three parallel sessions, and to re-emphasise the responsibility of the PIs in the process of pre-selecting the best speakers. To that end, we encourage the PIs to discuss within their groups, which contributions are best suited for talks (max two) and which are best suited for poster presentations.

#### Conference Announcements (Germany)

- **10th European Biophysics Congress (EBSA 2015)**, 18.–22.7.2015 in Dresden  
<http://www.ebsa2015.com>
- **Physics of Cells: From Molecules to Systems (PhysCell 2015)**, 30.8.–4.9.2015 in Bad Staffelstein  
<http://events.embo.org/15-physcell/>
- **Annual Meeting of the German Biophysical Society (DGfB)**, 25.–29.09.2016 in Erlangen  
<http://www.dgfb.org/web/>
- **Physics of Cells and Tissues 2015 - Modelling meets Experiment**, 30.9.–2.10.2015 in Heidelberg  
<http://www.embl.de/training/events/2015/BMS15-01/index.html>

#### Open Positions (Germany)

→ While the mailing list of the DPG cannot be used for direct announcements of conferences and positions, this newsletter (regularly appearing in May/June and October/November) is a suitable way to spread this information. Please let the BP speakers know in advance if you would like to advertise BP related events.

With best regards,

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For more information on BP, please visit our website: <http://www.dpg-physik.de/dpg/gliederung/fv/bp/index.html>