

Ad hoc Leipzig Symposium 24-26 Jun Orga



First invitation letter

>>In ancient Greece, the symposium, from sympinein, Greek "to drink together", was a drinking party.<<

-- Wikipedia

Yet this is not the main reason why we organise a small, spontaneous meeting in Leipzig (Germany) Fri-Sun 24th-26th June. Our aim is to build a friendly and joyful space to get in touch, offering a largely open schedule for everyone to fully participate, and to create a format that fosters creativity for all kinds of aspiration. As a result we hope to get valuable inputs for future activities of the BRCP and set foundations for an ongoing dialogue. The target audience are primarily members of the BRCP, potential future members, as well as friends and colleagues. If you wish (want) to contribute anything in a conceivable format, please inform us when signing up. There are no thematic restrictions, consequently, all inputs are suitable that could direct activities and form the prospective culture of the BRCP.

We plan to start on Friday around noon at our meeting spot Mariannenstraße 89 (Leo's place), continue on Saturday for the whole day, while leaving Sunday for leisure and departure. Accommodation will be provided -- depending on the number of participants -- privately without additional costs. Please give note of your expected arrival and departure time as soon as possible.

Registration: Markus (culwen@gmail.com / +436504299942)

Majordomo: Leo (leo.h@hotmail.de / +4917652377628)

Core Concepts

1. **This is *not* a conference.**
2. We start with a short **subjective history of the BRCP** and by laying down what we think its importance and its principles are, like “The BRCP *is* what it *does*.”
3. **Superfluid / superfluous schedule.**

The main part of the meeting shall be organised similar to an [OpenSpace](#), where in a first session we collect a limited number of rough ideas and suggestions for visions / projects / activities regarding the the BRCP as topics. We will then agree on a way how to develop those topics in further sessions, either in workgroups or as a plenum. Some effort should be put into choosing a working style and place fitted to the individual topic. The schedule must include lots of empty slots and free spaces, to foster individual, unstructured exchange. This exchange replaces any collective presentational meeting, which usually only serves as a kind of competitive show-off. Interesting results will perpetuate and even grow through conversation. Yet there should be documentation...
4. **Rapid documentation.**

Manuscripts of sessions should be produced on the fly or after only a short interval and be made available online (a suitable platform is already [set up](#)) for anyone to see, contribute, or comment. This should be supplemented by graphic illustrations done by a person who answers maximally *negative* to the question “Who is good at drawing?” and if feasible by artistic impressions.
5. **Self-organization / Self-sufficiency.**

Of course, we will not start growing our own potatoes (for now), however, instead of visiting a pricy restaurant we try to cook together, instead of going by public bus we walk to a location, etc. That this takes additional time is a virtue out of necessity, because those instances will provide valuable moments of connecting and communicating. Plus, in this way, we will keep expenses to a minimum.
6. **Funding by donation.**

The necessary expenses will be publicly announced and collected jointly, everybody shall give according to their respective possibilities.
7. **English is *not* a universal language.**

Still I use it here and now. Language is most useful if we are understood, yet for making a point not all languages are equally suitable for everyone. Thus anyone is free to choose the language he/she likes, which will result in an English dialogue/documentation most of the time anyway if this is the only common denominator. But please be prepared that some (or most, if everyone attending speaks German) talks or discussions might be held in German since we meet in Leipzig.

Collective Activities

Just collecting ideas...

- **Shitty (city) walk:** Guided walk to strange and inspiring location avoiding all the main city routes.
- **Mingling with the locals** (at a concert or something)
- **Long night of the sciences courtesy visit** on Friday:
<http://www.mis.mpg.de/wissenschaftsnacht>

Topics (Markus)

Wie schon mal erwähnt hätte ich auch schon ganze drei Vorschläge für Themen (topics), das ist fast schon etwas viel:

#iversity = Un-University, das Deschooling Konzept von Ivan Illich auf höhere Bildung in Physik/Mathe anwenden. Utopischer Plan für ein kombiniertes Wissenschaft- / Werkstatt- / Wohn-Haus.

#rhizomeproject: Eine Art Forum + Wiki + Autoren-/Versionssystem im Web um Wissen gleichzeitig zu produzieren und zu präsentieren (*knowledge base*), soll quasi Journale durch eine Community-Plattform ersetzen. (Die Plattform <https://github.com/jgm/gitit> kommt dem schon sehr nahe! Unterstützt auch LaTeX Seiten.)

#crisisprogramme: In der Art revolutionärer Flugblätter wesentliche Lücken und Probleme moderner und etablierter physikalischer Theorien aufzeigen, anprangern, und damit die Fragilität der Wissensbasis demonstrieren. Soll zum kritischen Denken anregen, und vor allem den Fortschritt fördern in dem solche Probleme nicht einfach ignoriert werden, sondern in neue Theorienbildung einfließen.

Topics (Leo und Mascha)

#workingmode: Leo und Mascha machen einen Exkurs in die Arbeitskultur von Visuellen Künstlern und Physikern aus der Moderne und der Gegenwart. Weder Physiker noch Künstler noch andere Menschen sind Maschinen und als nicht-Maschine gestalten sie ihre eigenen Rythmen. Wir möchten diesen Aspekt des Schaffens ausleuchten und fragen, wieviele Strukturvorgaben die Wissenschaftler brauchen.

Topics (Florian)

#communication I haven't prepared anything or so (and maybe I find a better hashtag ;)) but I would be very interested in communication between science and arts and generally in the problem of knowledge that is there but the people don't know and especially in terms of natural sciences is too deeply formulated in our own developed codes so that the people cannot understand it. To give an example: It already starts when a physicist tries to read a mathematical paper and cannot understand it although he knows about the mathematical concepts and therefore should understand it if the language would be the same (probably one can guess that I talk about experience). When we extrapolate this now to a historian, where can we start to explain at all? Maybe this is well related to #workingmode :)

Participants

Florian Buchholz - fbuchholz@fhi-berlin.mpg.de

André Mirtschink - andre.mirtschink@gmail.com

Markus Penz - culwen@gmail.com

Leo Horstmeyer - leo.h@hotmail.de

Wilhelm Bender - wilhelm.bender@gmx.de

David Licht - david-licht@web.de

Michaw Handzlik - 4hansu@gmail.com

Tobias Fritz - fritz@mis.mpg.de

Possible participants:

Mariya Vasilyeva - mariya.vasilyeva@mis.mpg.de - ab Saabend

Michael Gransee?

Ryszard Kostecki? - kostecki@fuw.edu.pl (I acknowledge that English is not a universal language, yet I am unable to understand communication in German, so my intellectual participation will be limited to contexts where I'll be able to communicate in those nonuniversal languages that I speak, including English, Russian, Polish, c++, some operator algebras, some category theory, and some differential geometry. I need to find the best solution between this and a hitchhiking trip through Balkans with my close friend; if I'd come, I'd be interested to arrange some discussion over the topical field scattered around relationships between information theoretic relativity theory, some topics in current foundations of mathematics /n-category theory, hott/, post-western cultural anthropology, Patanjali yoga sutras, microdosing psychoactive organic plants as facilitation of the development of focused awareness, and Spenglerian-Steinerian neogothicism - crafting something coherently tight out of this contextual field would be a matter of a multi-personal improvisation with feedback, given real-time action constraints.)