Prof. Andreas Burkert

Andreas Burkert, who obtained his PhD *summa cum laude*, is Full Professor and Chair in Computational Astrophysics at the University of Munich, as well as a fellow at the Max Planck Institute for Extraterrestrial Physics, and Vice Coordinator of the Cluster of Excellence for Fundamental Physics, Garching. He is coordinator of the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) "Physics of the Interstellar Medium" priority programme, President of the German Astronomical Society and Member of the DFG Review Board.

Prof. Dr Ralf-Jürgen Dettmar

Ralf-Jürgen Dettmar is Professor of Astronomy at Ruhr-University Bochum. His scientific interest is the evolution of galaxies, with specialisation in the interstellar medium in spiral galaxies. He has used optical and radio telescopes all over the world, as well as astronomical satellites such as the Hubble Space Telescope and the XMM-Newton Observatory. As the current chair of the German Long Wavelength Consortium (GLOW), he is involved in the development of the international Low Frequency Array (LOFAR) telescope.

Prof. Dr Stefan Dreizler

Stefan Dreizler has since August 2003 been C4-Professor at the University Observatory, Georg August Universität, Göttingen. His scientific interests include the physics of stellar atmospheres and radiative transfer, extrasolar planets, stellar spectroscopy, robotic telescopes, time-resolved photometry and spectroscopy, late-phase stellar evolution and stellar pulsation.

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Christian Fendt has been a staff scientist at the Max Planck Institute for Astronomy since 2004, and is the coordinating scientist of the International Max Planck Research School for Astronomy and Cosmic Physics at the University of Heidelberg, where he is also Adjunct Professor. His research interests include star formation, active galactic nuclei, compact objects, magnetohydrodynamics, relativistic astrophysics and computational astrophysics.

Dr Joachim Max Reinhold Köppen

Joachim Köppen has been Privatdozent at the Universität Heidelberg (since 1986), Professeur associé en science et technologie at the Université Louis Pasteur, Strasbourg, France (since 1995) and faculty member of the International Space University, Illkirch, France (since 1995). He has been a guest researcher several times at both the Institut für Astronomie, Universität Wien, Austria, and at the Astronomical Institute, Academie of Sciences, Prague, Czech Republic.

Prof. Dr Martin M Roth

Martin Roth, is currently Professor (W2, joint appointment with Leibniz Institute für Astrophysik Potsdam (AIP)) at the Institut für Physik und Astronomie, Universität Potsdam. He is also Director of innoFSPEC, the Potsdam Innovation Centre for FibreOptical Spectroscopy and Sensing (AIP-ranch). His research interests include post- asymptotic giant branch (AGB) evolution and AGB mass loss, planetary nebulae in the Milky Way and nearby galaxies as tracers of stellar populations, resolved and unresolved stellar populations in nearby galaxies, and astronomical instrumentation and detectors.

Dr Gabriele Schönherr

Gabriele Schönherr is an astronomer who is committed to research and science communication. Since 2007, she has been working as scientific coordinator and head of public outreach at the Leibniz Institute for Astrophysics Potsdam. She was German co-coordinator and press officer for the International Year of Astronomy 2009. She has a PhD in Astrophysics and a degree in Science Communication and Marketing, and is actively engaged at the interface of science and science communication. Her scientific interests lie in X-ray astronomy.

Dr Cecilia Scorza

Cecilia Scorza obtained her PhD in Astronomy from Heidelberg University. She has been involved in the development of much educational material, including astronomy and physics curricula for schools. Since 2007 she has been research assistant at the German SOFIA Institute in the educational and public outreach fields, and since 2011 has been research assistant at Heidelberg University and the Haus der Astronomie. She has also been the German coordinator of the International Universe Awareness initiative since 2006.

Dr Christian Spiering

Christian Spiering, currently at the Deutsches Elektronen-Synchrotron DESY, Standort Zeuthen, is Chair of the Zeuthen astroparticle group and Deputy Speaker of the Helmholtz programme "Astroparticle Physics". He has worked on various neutrino telescopes (Lake Baikal, AMANDA and IceCube), as well as the Tunka air shower array, and since 2010 has been part of the working group on the large underground detector LENA. He is chair of the Komitee für Astroteilchen-Physik, KAT, and serves on PANAGIC, the CERN Science Policy Committee and the KM3NeT External Advisory Committee.

Dr Christian Fischer

Christian Fischer joined the German Aerospace Center (DLR) in 2006 and is now with the team of Applied Spectroscopy, part of the Land Surface Department at the German Remote-Sensing Data Centre. He was Project Coordinator on the German side of the Sino-German Research Initiative on spontaneous coal fires in China (2006-2010) and is currently working on national and international projects focusing on remote-sensing-based application development for environmental monitoring and natural resource management tasks.

Dr Andreas Müller

Andreas Müller is Head of the Land Surface Applications Department at the DLR Remote-Sensing Data Centre. He has more then 20 years of experience in the processing and evaluation of airborne and spaceborne imaging spectrometer and multispectral scanner data, atmospheric/geometric correction, and digital filtering. He is currently co-investigator on the German hyperspectral satellite mission EnMAP (Environmental Mapping and Analysis Programme) and a member of the EnMAP Core Science Team and the EnMAP Science Advisory Board. Since 1996 he has served as the chairman of the Special Interest Group "Imaging Spectroscopy at the European Association of Remote-Sensing Laboratories" (EARSeL).

Prof. Dr Stefan Dreizler

Stefan Dreizler obtained his PhD from the University of Kiel. He is currently Professor at the University Observatory, Georg August Universität, Göttingen, where he was Dean of the Department of Physics between 2007 and 2009. His scientific interests include the physics of stellar atmospheres and radiative transfer, extrasolar planets, stellar spectroscopy, robotic telescopes, time-resolved photometry and spectroscopy, the late phases of stellar evolution, and stellar pulsation.

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Prof. Dr Michael Kramer

Michael Kramer has been Professor of Astrophysics at the University of Manchester since 2006 and Director at the Max Planck Institut für Radioastronomie, Bonn, since 2009. He is also honorary professor at the University of Bonn. He is a member of the LIGO Oversight Committee, the CISRO/ATNF Steering Committee, the Gravitational Wave International Committee, the GLAST/FERMI LAT Science collaboration, and the LOFAR pulsar science team. He is an invited member of the SKA Science Working Group and leader of the SKA Key Science Project "Pulsars and Gravity".