

Julius Wess Award 2014 Goes to Arkady Vainshtein

KCETA Honors One of the Most Renowned Theoretical Particle Physicists – Award Ceremony on December 5



Professor Arkady Vainshtein. (Photo: Marianna Kapitskaya-Dokshitzer)

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The KIT Elementary Particle and Astroparticle Physics Center (KCETA) of Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) grants the Julius Wess Award 2014 to the Russian-US American scientist Arkady Vainshtein. Professor Vainshtein is considered one of the most renowned theoretical particle physicists of the second half of the 20th century. Representatives of the media are cordially invited to come to the award ceremony on Friday, December 05, 2014, 15 hrs, at the assembly hall of the Center for Advanced Technological and Environmental Training (FTU) on KIT Campus North.

With a talk entitled “The Beauty and the Beast: Quantum Field Theory and the Real World“, award winner Vainshtein, who holds a Gloria-Lubkin professorship at the University of Minnesota/USA, will report about his scientific work related to quantum field theory. The KIT Vice President for Research and Information, Professor Detlef Löhe, will hand over the award. “Arkady Vainshtein did outstanding contributions to quantum chromodynamics,” KIT Vice President Löhe says, “which describes the interaction of the fundamental building blocks of atomic nuclei and is a major part of the standard

model of elementary particle physics.” The award ceremony will be framed by Susanne Wess, daughter of Julius Wess, on the piano. The day of the award ceremony coincided with the 80th birthday of Julius Wess, who deceased in 2007.

Arkady Vainshtein was born in 1942 and studied at the University of Novosibirsk and the Budker Institute for Nuclear Physics, Novosibirsk, where he was conferred his degree in 1964 and the Russian doctor’s degree in 1968 (corresponding to a post-doctoral lecture qualification (habilitation) in the western countries). He continued to work as a scientist at the Budker Institute and in the 1970s and 1980s, he cooperated with Valentin Zakharov and Mikhail Shifman of the Institute for Theoretical and Experimental Physics (ITEP) in Moscow. In 1990, he became professor at the University of Minnesota. In 1998, he obtained the US citizenship. Since 1997, he has been fellow of the American Physical Society.

Vainshtein is mainly known for his work on non-perturbative aspects of quantum chromodynamics (QCD), performed together with Zakharov and Shifman, an example being the concept of QCD sum rules. Later, he also conducted research on non-leptonic weak decays and supersymmetric non-Abelian gauge theories. In addition, he studied QCD contributions to precision quantities of quantum electrodynamics. In 1999, Vainshtein was granted the Sakurai Prize together with Zakharov and Shifman. In 2005, he received the Pomeranchuk Prize by ITEP.

About the Julius Wess Award

The Julius Wess Award commemorates Professor Dr. Julius Wess, who worked twenty-two years at Universität Karlsruhe, one of the precursory institutions of the KIT. His activities focused on theoretical elementary particle physics and he published numerous internationally highly acknowledged articles in this field. Field theory concepts, such as the Wess-Zumino anomaly term or the formulation of the first supersymmetric quantum field theory, the Wess-Zumino model, will always remain associated with his name. KCETA grants the Julius Wess Award to elementary particle and astroparticle physicists for excellent experimental or theoretical scientific achievements enhancing and deepening our understanding of the fundamental laws of nature.

Presentation of the Julius Wess Award to Professor Arkady Vainshtein

Program

15:00 hrs

Welcome Address

Detlef Löhe (Vice President, KIT)

15:10 hrs

KCETA Overview

Johannes Blümer (Scientific Spokesperson, KCETA)

15:20 hrs

Corpuscular Structure of Gravity

Giorgi Dvali (New York University)

16:10 hrs

Coffee Break

16:30 hrs

Piano

Robert Schumann, Arabesque op. 18, C major

Susanne Wess

16:40 hrs

Laudation

Kirill Melnikov (KIT)

17:05 hrs

Presentation of the Award

Detlef Löhe (Vice President, KIT)

17:20 hrs

Piano

Arnold Schönberg, Six Little Piano Pieces, op. 19

Susanne Wess

17:30 hrs

The Beauty and the Beast: Quantum Field Theory and the Real World

Arkady Vainshtein (University of Minnesota)

18:30 hrs

Reception

About KCETA

The KIT Elementary Particle and Astroparticle Physics Center (KCETA) bundles the work of 360 employees at KIT and elaborates the strategy for future developments. Under eleven experimental and theoretical topics, scientists study the fundamental structure of matter, forces acting among elementary particles, the development of the universe, and highest-energy processes of astroparticle physics. In addition, they develop the modern technologies needed for this work.

Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) is a public corporation according to the legislation of the state of Baden-Württemberg. It fulfills the mission of a university and the mission of a national research center of the Helmholtz Association. Research activities focus on energy, the natural and built environment as well as on society and technology and cover the whole range extending from fundamental aspects to application. With about 9500 employees, including more than 6000 staff members in the science and education sector, and 24500 students, KIT is one of the biggest research and education institutions in Europe. Work of KIT is based on the knowledge triangle of research, teaching, and innovation.

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