

The Biophysics Dispatch

Leipzig

Monday, 23 September 2024

Dear Participants of the German Biophysics Meeting in Leipzig,

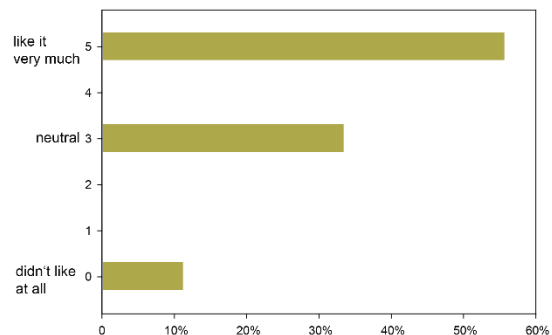
Welcome to the second day of the conference. We look forward to exciting science, interesting discussions and fruitful exchange. Today, and for the rest of the meeting, we will assemble in the Hörsaalgebäude of the University of Leipzig. Maybe a few words about the university. Founded in 1409, the University of Leipzig is one of the oldest in Germany. Famous alumni of the university include Johann Wolfgang von Goethe, Friedrich Nietzsche, Gotthold Wilhelm Leibniz, Christian Thomasius, Richard Wagner, Karl Liebknecht, Erich Kästner, Paul Ehrlich, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, and Angela Merkel. Biophysics in Leipzig goes back to Ernst Heinrich Weber and Gustav Theodor Fechner (Weber-Fechner law, 1860) and Wilhelm Friedrich Philipp Pfeffer, who published his famous osmotic cell in 1877, 10 years before he came to Leipzig. And Peter Debye of course, who was appointed here in 1927.

After the plenary session at 8:30 am, we will split up into 3 parallel sessions at 11 am. As you know, all participants who submitted an oral contribution could vote for abstracts being promoted to a short talk. We casted more than 90 votes and 33 short talks and 20 poster flash talks were selected according to the number of votes an individual abstract received. I consider this outcome a tremendous success to involve the participants of a meeting into organizing it. Let's see how we did in terms of gender measures: there were 33 slots available. Only 30% of these talks are given by female colleagues. Gender equality gets a little better if we also include the poster flashes, where we have 8 contributions from male and 12 from female scientists, so we have about 42% female speakers from the selection of the participants. Thank you all for participating in this process.

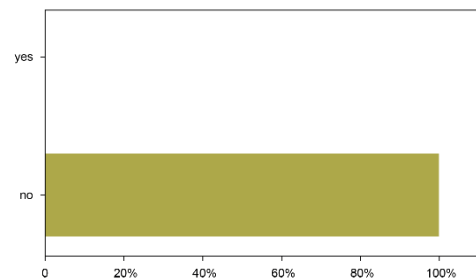
We also asked your feedback on this alternative way of selecting oral presentations and 9 individuals responded. The summary of the feedback is given below. Generally, people liked this idea but some improvements are recommended,

which mostly concern the number of votes a person could give. Thank you very much for supporting this new idea and sending your feedback.

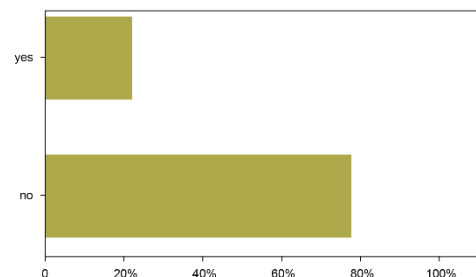
What is your opinion on voting for the parallel contributions?



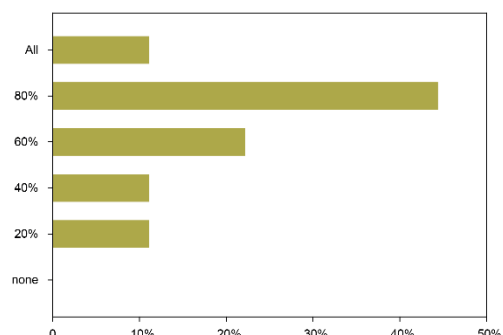
Should the names and affiliations of the people who submitted the abstract be disclosed?



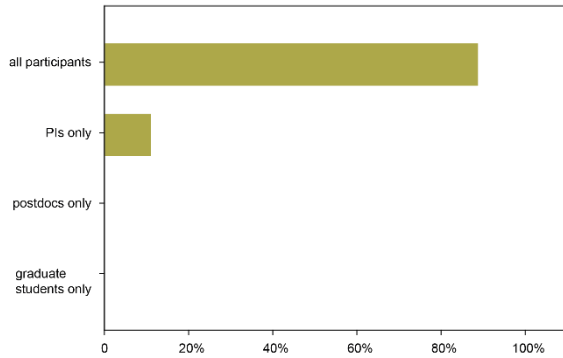
Is the system of 1 to 5 stars useful?



How many of the short talks should be selected by votes from the participants?



Who should vote for the abstract selection?



After the lunch break and the next plenary session, we will have 11 poster flashes at 2 pm. Please stick around for these presentations as it is often young colleagues giving their first presentation whatsoever. Yet, doing a good poster flash presentation is very difficult. We will award the best poster flash by a 100 € award which will be judged by a small committee and awarded on Wednesday.

After another coffee break, we will have the first poster session (3 – 4:15 pm), where we look forward to vivid discussions and active exchange. Please be back on time at 4:30 pm for the second

round of 3 parallel sessions. This will conclude the scientific program of the day.

We will then have the DGfB business meetings. Committee work for our society is important and we invite you to actively participate. At 5:45 pm, we will have the three subgroup meetings. Section I (Molecular Biophysics) will assemble in HS 8, section II (Membrane Biophysics) will meet in HS 10, and section III (Cellular Biophysics) will get together in HS 11. At 6 pm, we will have the general assembly of the DGfB in HS 8 with all the usual functions including the election of the new board.

The evening is free, check out Leipzig's night life on a Monday night..., there are plenty of restaurants and bars, if you are in need of information, contact me (I am representing the generation 50+), or ask the friendly staff from Event Lab or my group members or our student helpers for the cooler gigs.

Enjoy, have fun, and see you tomorrow!

Daniel on behalf of the organizing committee

German Biophysical Society Meeting

September 22–25 2024
Leipzig, Germany

