Bettina Langfeldt (Kassel, Germany)

Lecture series "Gender and Diversity in Physics"

Title: Remaining gender disparities in the academic career of physicists – empirical findings and potential explanations

Abstract

The presentation focuses on gender-related disparities within the academic field of physics regarding the application of career knowledge, career orientation, and the use of different career strategies. Beside these factors located on the individual level, the presentation reveals data-based a) which institutional frameworks have the greatest (gender-differentiating) influence on the career success of men and women in science, and b) what equality measures exist in the academic field of physics and how they are used and judged by physicists. Further on it will be shown, how strongly women and men differ concerning their experiences of disadvantage in relation to recognition of performance, assessment of professional competencies, and integration into networks. Apart the gender perspective, other factors potentially influencing academic careers of physicists, such as belonging to a certain age cohort or having children, are also considered. The empirical basis of this presentation is quantitative data collected through an online survey conducted between October 2012 and February 2013 as part of a research project funded by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) and the European Social Fund of the European Union (ESF). A total of 5,174 individuals with a degree in mathematics or physics took part in the survey.