Prof. Dr. Ulrich Wiedner

(Ruhr University Bochum)

Basic Research in Nuclear and Particle Physics - Esoteric or Useful for Society?

About the guestlecture:

The importance of basic research for a society is not clear to most people. "Why do we need that, when there are other problems?" Particle physics and its search for the basic forces and building blocks of nature is a good example of this. It is known that the laws of quantum mechanics are so abstract that even Einstein had a saying "God does not play dice". Today, quantum mechanics and its application have enormous economic and social significance. These and other examples are presented in the lecture and provide a solid basis for justifying pure basic research, even if it does not appear to be practical.

About the speaker:

Ulrich Wiedner obtained his habilitation 1993 in Hamburg. Dr. Ulrich Wiedner has been professor of Experimental Physics at the University of Bochum since 2006. He conducts basic research on the topic of interaction, which is responsible for the diversity of the particle spectrum of the subatomic world. Prof. Wiedner is currently spokesman for the international PANDA Collaboration on Antiproton Physics at the GSI. He also participates in the BES experiment on the study of harmonium decay and is spokesman for the Crystal Barrel Collaboration at CERN. His commitment to various projects is also reflected in his participation in WASA-Celsius and the COMPASS experiment at CERN and many other projects.