This time it is official! While rumour mills have always churned out that participating in the Interdisciplinary College (IK) in Günne is a fun thing to do, this year we have elevated fun to constitute the official focus theme of the IK 2010. Therefore, next year's special focus theme will be „Play, Act and Learn“, which takes an intensive look at the function of playing, fun and entertainment in humans and animals encompassing philosophical and biological perspectives as well as neuronal and computational ones. It will take place in March from the 12th through the 19th of 2010 in Günne (Möhnesee), a charming out-of-the-world conference site at the border of lake Möhnesee in central Germany.

There participants are given the option to choose from an initial set of basic courses in the fields of: Computational Neuroscience, Cognitive Science, Computational Linguistics and Neurobiology. Additionally the IK will feature several method courses on multi-agent systems, functional neuroimaging, language games and machine learning. Therein participants are offered hands-on experiences in state of the art approaches to research and implement different learning strategies and their motivational underpinnings. The central part of the spring school’s courses, of course, will be made up by five blocks of special courses which will deal more specifically with:

- Games in Artificial Intelligence
- Communication and Cooperation
- Play in Human and Animal Development
- Philosophy of Entertainment and Cooperation
- The Sociology and Pragmatics of Gaming

Last, but not least, the whole program will be rounded off by entertaining evening talks and practical courses surrounding next year’s playful focus theme.

For those interested in the IK 2010 more information can be found at: www.ik2010.de, where the complete course program is online together with all information regarding the school’s fees, opportunities for stipends and online registration. As always we also encourage participants to present their own work as a poster at IK’s poster session and in the corresponding book of abstracts. More information on how to submit a poster can also be found on the IK 2010 website.

As always the IK 2010 is organized under the auspices of the GI and is organized by:

- Ansgar Büschges (University of Cologne)
- Thomas Christaller (Fraunhofer IAIS Sankt Augustin)
- Henriette Engelken (EML Research gGmbH)
- John-Dylan Haynes (Bernstein Center Berlin)
- Christoph Hölscher (University of Freiburg)
- Herbert Jaeger (Jacobs University Bremen)
- Thomas Kammer (University of Ulm)
- Stefan Kopp (University of Bielefeld)
- Nicole Krämer (University of Duisburg-Essen)
- Berenike Litz (German National Library, Frankfurt a.M.)
- Rainer Malaka (University of Bremen)
- Vanessa Micelli (Sony CSL, Paris)
- Robert Porzel (University of Bremen (Chair))
- Gregor Schöner (Ruhr-University Bochum)
- Nalalie Sebanz (Radboud University Nijmegen (Chair))
- Manfred Spitzer (University of Ulm (Chair))
- Astrid von der Pütten (University of Duisburg-Essen)
- Ipke Wachsmuth (University of Bielefeld - ZiF)

In the name of all program chairs, I encourage you to join the fun and to participate in the Interdisciplinary College 2010. In case the information provided on our website does not answer all your questions, do not hesitate to ask me by sending an email to ik2010@tzi.de.

Hope to see you there, Robert Porzel

www.ik2010.de