

Message from the President



Pedro Miguel Echenique, President of DIPC, opens **Passion for Knowledge** with an introduction to keynote speakers, Robert Langer and Aaron Ciechanover.

Since its very conception DIPC has stood for the promotion of high quality science. This tall order demands a platform in which ideas are freely exchanged, new objectives are set and shared, and new personal bonds are established; a space in which the enthusiasm for discovery reigns over bureaucracy, convention and routine.

The DIPC concept envisages gathering scientists from the University of the Basque Country (UPV/EHU) or the Materials Physics Center (CSIC-UPV/EHU), with visiting scientists from around the world in a boundless consortium: **The DIPC Community**.

Recently, DIPC has actively participated in securing the ranking as Campus of International Excellence (CIE) for the Euskampus project. The Euskampus CIE is a project led by UPV/EHU, in alliance with DIPC and TECNALIA, for the development of new projects on education, research, innovation and internationalization with its sights set on becoming a driving force in achieving improved competitiveness and socioeconomic growth of the Basque Country. DIPC is also a Founding Partner of the Euskampus Foundation, constituted to guarantee the governance and continuity of the CIE Euskampus Project.

PASSION FOR KNOWLEDGE

Celebrating 10 years of Donostia International Physics Center

2010

Many thanks to all



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The status of a center in the international scientific community depends on the impact of the work it publishes. The higher the impact, the greater the international exposure, and hence the luring effect on world-class visiting researchers and students.

DIPC is a center devoted to research at the cutting-edge of science, but DIPC also assumes the responsibility of conveying scientific knowledge to society. We believe that scientific culture contributes to the progress and freedom of society.

The center offers meeting spaces for scientists and organizes events that bring science to the citizen. We strive to generate an intellectual climate intended to awaken curiosity, interest, fascination and enthusiasm for knowledge, especially among the young. The DIPC Science Communication Program has helped achieve these objectives. In 2010, we celebrated our first decade by organizing Passion for Knowledge, a festival of activities for the scientific community and the general public all around the city of Donostia-San Sebastián, running from April to November. The format chosen for Passion for Knowledge was groundbreaking. The event was designed as a festival of knowledge with three major sections: The Lectures, to communicate science, The City, to raise the presence of science in the city itself —both of which were open to anyone wishing to attend—, and The Workshops, reserved for the scientific community. Passion for Knowledge proved a resounding success, not just because of the extraordinary quality of the invited speakers, but above all, because of the breathtaking response of the public. We are delighted and proud for the shared success of Passion for Knowledge in bringing scientists and citizens together.

I would like to finish by thanking the Board of Trustees, the staff and all the DIPC research associates for a job well done.

Pedro Miguel Echenique