

Call for Abstracts: Large-Scale Experiments – Reflecting on Theories and Practices

2nd International Conference of the Research Unit “The Epistemology of the LHC”

Date: December 8-10, 2022

Venue: TRIANGEL Open Space, Kaiserstraße 93, Karlsruhe, Germany

Submission deadline: May 31, 2022

Website: <https://www.lhc-epistemologie.uni-wuppertal.de/lse>

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Large-scale experiments play an increasingly important role in the sciences. Large collaborations in particle and gravitational-wave physics, large numbers of research participants in clinical trials, large-scale technologies such as telescopes and detectors, extensively distributed research tasks in climate science, or long-term research projects can all be understood as instances of large-scale research. The conference aims to bring together researchers from the sciences as well as from history, philosophy, social studies of science, and neighboring disciplines to explore the scope and understanding of large-scale research and experimentation across the sciences, focusing both on theories that underpin it and practices it consists of. The conference will comprise invited talks, contributed papers, and symposia focusing on the following topics:

- Going Large: the Bigger the Riskier? Epistemic Risks in Large Scientific Research
- Large-Scale Experiments vs. Large-Scale Observations
- Creativity and Constraints in Large-Scale Collaboration
- Theoretical Expectations and Large Experiments
- Big Science and Democracy
- Histories of Large Experiments and their Methodological Challenges

Detailed symposia descriptions can be found [here](#).

Plenary speakers:

Hanne Andersen (University of Copenhagen)

Tiziano Camporesi (CERN)

Gerd Graßhoff (Humboldt University Berlin)

Martina Merz (University of Klagenfurt)

Kent Staley (Saint Louis University)

Janet Vertesi (Princeton University)

We invite interested speakers to submit an abstract of 500 words by May 31, 2022, via the conference webpage <https://indico.uni-wuppertal.de/event/152/abstracts/>. The submission should indicate the preference for one of the symposia or the session with contributed papers. The talks should be approximately 20 min long, leaving 10 min for discussion. Notifications of acceptance will be sent out at the beginning of July.

Registration of your e-mail address to <https://indico.uni-wuppertal.de/register/> is required to start the submission process.

The DFG-FWF funded interdisciplinary Research Unit “The Epistemology of the Large Hadron Collider” is a collaboration of seven universities (RWTH Aachen, TU Berlin, Univ. Bonn, KIT (Karlsruhe), AAU Klagenfurt, Univ. South Carolina, BU Wuppertal) investigating the philosophical, historical, and sociological implications of activities at the LHC.

Organizers: Sophia Haude (Bonn and RWTH Aachen), Rafaela Hillerbrand (KIT), Daria Jadreškić (AAU Klagenfurt), Marianne van Panhuys (KIT), Michael Schmidt (KIT), Michael Stöltzner (South Carolina), Christian Zeitnitz (BU Wuppertal).