

DIPC: a World of Science, Science in the World

Donostia International Physics Center (DIPC) is a research center that started activity in the year 2000. Promoted and funded by public institutions (Department of Education and Department of Economic Development of Basque Government, Provincial Authority of Gipuzkoa, San Sebastian Town Hall, University of the Basque Country) and private companies (currently Kutxa, CAF, Telefónica, and EDP), DIPC is singular both in its institutional structure and in its flexible way of operation.

The main goal of DIPC is to generate new knowledge at the frontiers of physics and related fields. Since its creation, DIPC has been an open institution that welcomes visitors from all over the world, cultivates the free exchange of ideas, and fosters a generous collaboration among scientists.

For many years, the core of DIPC scientific activity was mostly focused on some aspects of condensed matter physics and materials sciences. The recent growth of DIPC activity, however, has been accompanied by an expansion of topics and research interests. A great part of this

The intellectual environment at DIPC leads to an exciting atmosphere that stimulates the creativity and performance of all researchers.

expansion has been pushed by the attraction of researchers hired through the Basque Agency for Science, Ikerbasque, which have complemented and enriched an already excellent community of researchers. Scientists at DIPC currently work on a large collection of topics, including advanced materials, attophysics, surfaces and interfaces, photonics, plasmonics, quantum information, polymers, soft matter, biofunctional nanosystems, computational chemistry, etc. We anticipate that this large variety of research lines will do nothing but grow in the near future, spurring the multidisciplinary view of research that characterizes the center.

DIPC encompasses a wondrous world of science within its walls.



Ricardo Díez Muiño
Director

At DIPC, we are convinced of the cultural, social, and economical worth of science. And we are also convinced of the necessity of moving science from academic environments to mainstream society, to the world. The scientific adventure needs to be prompted and enjoyed by all citizens. For this reason, and in addition to its scientific research, DIPC holds an intense activity in the public dissemination of science, including programs such as *Kutxa Lectures*, *OnZientzia*, *top@DIPC*, *nanoKOMIK*, *Mestizajes*, and the popular *Passion for Knowledge* festivals, among others.

All in all, we at DIPC believe that a world without science would be a much worse place to live.

But we also believe that science isolated from society would lose a substantial part of its relevance. Hence, we are as much committed to the generation of new knowledge as to sharing the joy of these discoveries with the world. ■



Pedro Miguel Echenique
President