Name: Peter Schupp

Position: Professor of Physics

Research Field: Theoretical and Mathematical Physics

* What is your favorite movie?
* Pulp Fiction.
* Suppose a new element was discovered and called "Schuppium", what would you like its properties to be?
* That's a ridiculous name for an element, so let's make it a very rare heavy metal found only in the hardest rocks.
* Tea or coffee?
* Coffee.
* What's your answer to the question "Why did the chicken cross the road"?
* Beats me. No ducks around? Conservation of misery?
* You taught us that to conserved quantities correspond symmetries by Noether's theorem. You have also told us that misery is conserved. What's the symmetry associated with misery conservation?
* That's in fact a deep mystery. We expect that the temporal component of the conserved misery four-current density can be integrated and the corresponding quantum operator then generates the symmetry. It could also be a Yin Yang or Zen life balance or light versus dark side of the force thing. Perhaps the chicken knows more? If we knew the answer, we'd break the symmetry and save the world. There is also a principle of maximal misery closely related to Murphy's law, minus signs and finals period.
* What do you think you would have been if you weren't a physicist/what other interests do you have besides physics?
* A chemist (but: see below). I like traveling, playing guitar (in a rock band), classic cars, art and photography, cooking.
* What's your favorite way of transport?
* Bike, shank's pony, MG midget.
* What attracted you to physics/was there a particular topic that made you choose physics as your career?
* A chemistry accident when I was 12. I find the intrinsic beauty and elegance of nature fascinating and studying the underlying structures is a way to look beyond what is directly observable. Furthermore, one gets to travel a lot and theoretical/mathematical physics research is one of the the few jobs that can in principle be done at the beach since only paper, pencil and patience are needed (surfing was not an option).
* What's your favorite music/song?
* Little Wing.
* When presented with a mixed meal consisting of both delicious and okay type of food, do you start with the delicious food or do you keep the best for last?
* I'd go for the delicious part.
* Name three things you suck at.
* Filing, French, surfing, chalk conservation, counting.