



EUROPÄISCHE AKADEMIE

zur Erforschung von Folgen wissenschaftlich-technischer Entwicklungen
Bad Neuenahr-Ahrweiler GmbH
Direktor: Professor Dr. Dr. h. c. Carl Friedrich Gethmann

PRESS RELEASE

International Summer School “The Impact of Current Developments in the Neurosciences on the Concept of Psychiatric Disease”

From 2nd to 8th October a group of international junior researchers met in Bonn to discuss the impact of current developments in the neurosciences on the concept of psychiatric disease, neurosciences have experienced a spectacular boom during the past decades: new and improved methods in molecular- and cell-biology as well as imaging techniques have deepened our understanding of the nervous system and contributed to the understanding of neurological and psychiatric diseases. In addition, a range of novel interventional methods – e.g. from the fields of neuro-surgery, neuro-prosthetics and psychopharmacology – has been developed with partly impressive results. Despite of this considerable advance the relationship between neuroscientific research and the clinical disciplines neurology and psychiatry proves to be strained at times. Especially amongst psychiatrists it remains a hotly debated issue to what extent the neurosciences improve clinical practice or, to the contrary, amount to an undue “scientification” of psychiatry. A broad range of issues related to this thematic framework was discussed by the participants covering the fields of medicine, the neurosciences, psychology, philosophy, law, the social sciences, and theology. The discussions were augmented by several lectures by senior scientists and two field trips to the department of psychiatry and the Life & Brain Institute (both Universität Bonn). The Summer School – jointly organised with the department of psychiatry (Universität Bonn) – was funded by the German ministry of education and research (BMBF).

For further information see: www.neuroscience-psychiatry.de

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