

Promoting positive Images of Women in Physics

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Outline

- Motivation
- Improving the image of women as physicists
- Attracting girls into Physics
- Workshop about projects for schoolgirls
- Conclusions

Results of „ Draw-A-Scientist“ Test

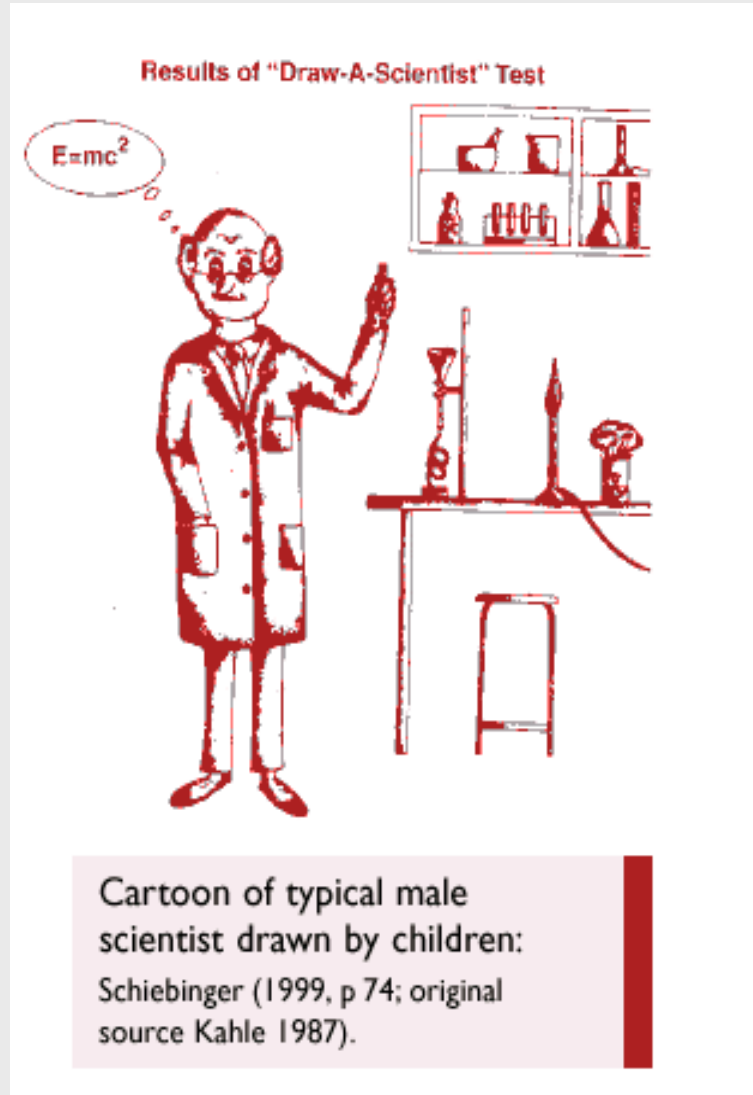
Eyeglasses 88%

Labcoat 63 %

Pencils/Pens 25 %

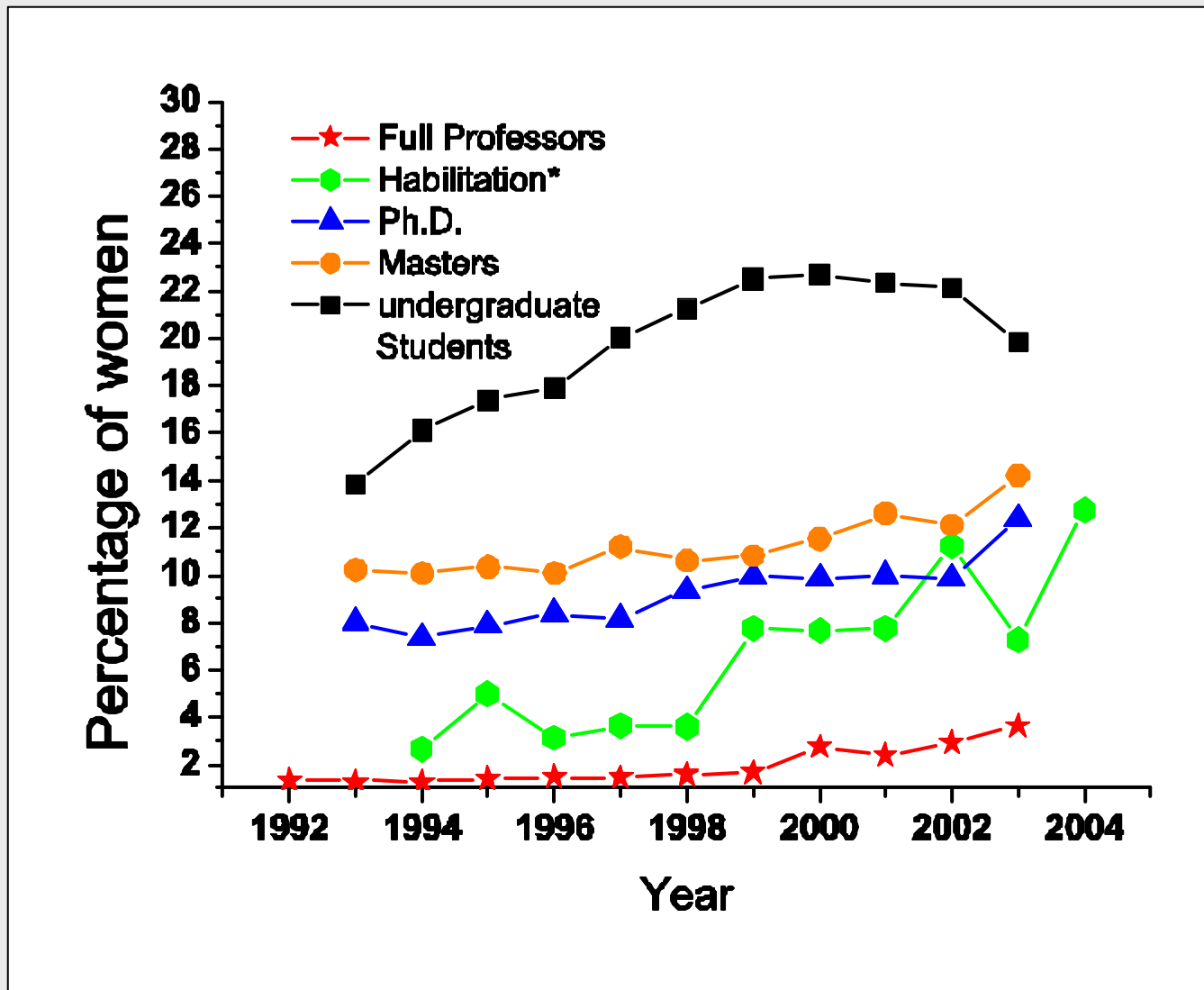
Male 100%

Facial Hair 48%



The same children reported that a scientist'..... neglects his family pays no attention to his wife, never plays with his children'

Percentages of Physics Degrees Awarded to Women in Germany in the last 10 Years



Improving the Image of Women as Physicists

1. Role models
2. Mentoring
3. Know the structures and go in
4. Active member in the society and the commissions

Activities in Germany

1998 meeting with the president of the DPG (German Physical Society) and in the end of this year a new Working Group was founded:

Committee for Equal Opportunities

Arbeitskreis Chancengleichheit Deutsche Physikalische Gesellschaft



Committee for Equal Opportunities
German Physical Society

<http://www.dpg-physikerinnen.de>

Purpose and basic guidelines



- The Committee for Equal Opportunities (AKC) is committed to **providing a new framework and new structures** which will improve the atmosphere for women in physics.
- The AKC wants to **achieve and maintain equal opportunities** for physicists, both female and male.
- The AKC will pursue activities which aim to **increase the number of female physicists** in leading positions at the universities, instituts and in industry and to improve their situation.
- The AKC will work to **increase the number of secondary school and university physics students**, both male and female, but particularly female.

Activities

2000

Year of Physics in Germany, Summer Event in Berlin with a discussion about:

Urgent changes in our society for a common future in Physics

2001 Surveys about women in Physics

2002 scientific prize for women '*Hertha Sponer*'

2003 Physik Journal about: Women in Physics

2004 Flyer and Poster

Projects every year



- German Conference for Women in Physics
- Sessions during the Spring meetings of the DPG
- Women Research Prize “Hertha Sponer”
- Workshops: Soft Skills; **Projects for Girls**
- High school student programs
- Networking: Homepage, Mail Forum, Meetings

Workshops: Projects for Girls

1. Workshop: 18.-20.04. 2002
2. Workshop: 23.-25.04. 2004
3. Workshop: 13.-15.06. 2006

Organizer:

Committee for Equal Opportunities of the German Physical Society

Workshop 2004

35 participants

- 17 talks
- Break-out Sessions



Project „Roberta“ :

<http://www.iais.fraunhofer.de/roberta-eu.html>

Logo: Girls conquer Robots

Roberta uses the fascination of robots to bring girls into Science, Technics and Computer Science, by hands-on work.



Funded by: Science and Society; Sixth Framework Programme; Fraunhofer Institute IAIS Forschung"

Mentoring Program

Ada Lovelace-Mentoring e.V. – <http://www.ada-mentoring.de/>

Aims of program:

Attracting girls into science by mentoring programs

The students present a role model and serve as contact persons.

This takes place over a longer period of time, so that an intensive contact can develop.



(1815-1852)

The community Ada-Lovelace-Mentoring e.V. was named after **Ada Byron, Countess of Lovelace**. She was the first programmer of computers.

Nat-Working-Labs: www.nat-schuelerlabor.de

Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz, Faculty of Chemistry

Activities:

- Science workshop
- Energy parcours
- Vacation academy
- Research weekend
- Simply cool!
- nanoCamp 2003
- Long Night of Science
- Primary and Secondary Level
- Lower High School Level
- Upper High School Level



Learning Site: Lab

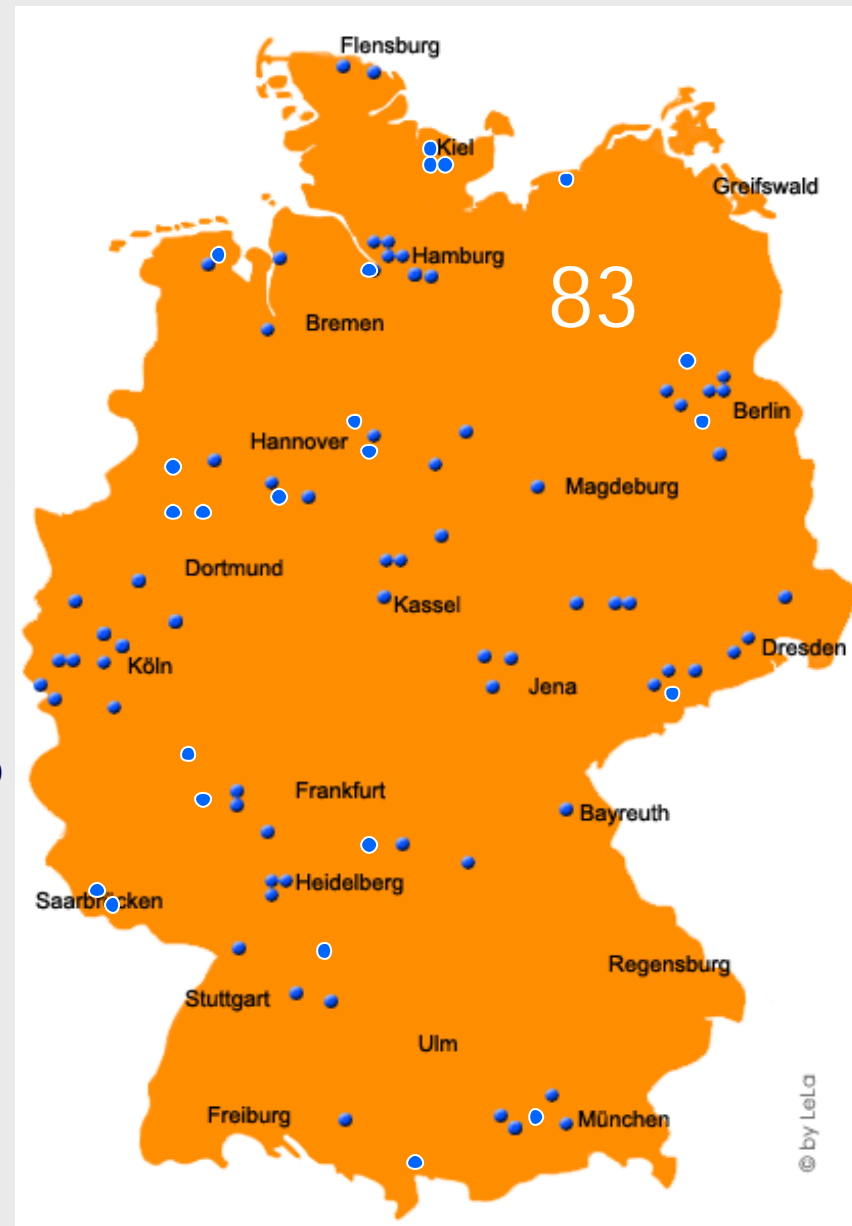
Overview of the 83 Physics-Laboratories in Germany



Website: Net for Labs

<http://www.lernort-labor.de/en/index.php>

Funded by Deutsche Telekom Stiftung:
<http://www.telekom-stiftung.de/home/>



Conclusion: **Projects for Girls**

- are necessary
- find great interest
- there exists already a number of projects in Germany and the EU
- the number of projects is still not large enough
- both sides have a lot of fun
- mainly organised by women
- many of the projects are organised voluntarily

Conclusion for us

