

## **Additional IMPRS curriculum for MSc students**

*(excerpt from the agreement of fellowship  
within the International Max Planck Research School  
Physics of Light (IMPRS-PL))*

- (1) Besides their own scientific research as part of master thesis and its defense, the students are obliged to complete a training programme. This additional curriculum encompasses courses and workshops on soft or research skills, scientific and public outreach, as well as seminars and retreats. These activities are meant to improve the student's scientific knowledge as well as her/his personal skills. Such events should foster collaborations and the exchange of experience among master and PhD students and broaden their horizon within the field of physics and the science of light.
- (2) In the course of the two-year master programme, all three parts of the IMPRS master curriculum have to be fulfilled.
- (3) The master curriculum is comprised of three parts as listed below:
  - a. *Annual meeting.* A 4- or 5-day annual meeting will be held once a year at a location outside Erlangen. Annual meetings feature lectures by invited speakers, postdocs and advisors. IMPRS PhD students will have to present a poster (1<sup>st</sup> year) or present a poster and deliver a talk (2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> year). The best student poster and best student talks will be elected by the PhD and master students and awarded with a certificate. The annual meeting will include block-lectures provided by invited lecturers or advisors. Every IMPRS master student is required to attend one annual meeting in the two years of master studies.
  - b. *Monthly meetings.* IMPRS master students are expected to attend at least 12 monthly get-togethers during their master studies, held at one of the institutes or laboratories participating in IMPRS, and organized by the IMPRS PhD students. The duration of these meetings should be 1-2 hours. Talks may be given by local researchers, postdocs and IMPRS students. Also speakers from other institutions may be invited. Those monthly meetings might also be combined with talks of IMPRS alumni who give scientific and practical insight into their career. A sign-in sheet will monitor the students' participation.
  - c. *Block lectures.* Master students are required to attend two block-lectures during their master studies. A single block-lecture consists of three blocks on topics related to their master research. Such lectures may be specialized stand-alone sets of three lectures taken at any time, or they can be the last three advanced lectures of a regular University lecture course, held during the semesters. After each block, the student must obtain an attendance certificate, signed by the lecturer, and present it to the IMPRS coordination office. As an alternative, it is possible for students to fulfill these requirements by attending two block-lectures during the IMPRS annual meetings.