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**Prof. Dr. Burkard Hillebrands is a new member of the Academy of Sciences and Literature in Mainz**

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On June 18(th) 2010, the plenum of the Academy of Sciences and Literature in Mainz has elected Prof. Dr. Burkard Hillebrands, experimental physicist and Vice President of the University of Kaiserslautern, to a full member of the Academy due to his extraordinary scientific achievements. His focus of research is Magneto Electronics and Magnetization Dynamics, Solid-state Physics and Material Sciences.

**Profile:**

Burkard Hillebrands was born in 1957. He studied physics at the University of Cologne (1977-1982) and was awarded his PhD in 1986 at the University of Cologne working with Prof. Gernot Güntherodt, he then became a Research Associate at the Optical Sciences Center at the University of Arizona (USA). Hillebrands worked at the Institute of Physics II, RWTH from 1988-1994 where he was promoted to professor (habilitation) with his thesis "Brillouin light scattering in artificially layered magnetic structures." In 1994 he accepted an appointment as associate professor at the Institute of Physics at the University in Karlsruhe.

Already a year later he accepted a full professor position at the Department of Physics at the University in Kaiserslautern. Since September 2006 Hillebrands is Vice President for Research and Technology at the University in Kaiserslautern. From 2001 - 2006 Hillebrands was spokesperson for the State Research Center Material Sciences as well as for the subsequent State Research Center "Material for Micro and Nano Systems" (MINAS) at the University of Kaiserslautern and he worked at the same time (since 2002) as a coordinator of the EU-RTN networks "Ultrafast Magnetization Processes in Advanced Devices (ULTRASWITCH)" and "Spin Current Induced Ultrafast Switching (SPINSWITCH)".

Furthermore, he was spokesperson of the DFG Priority Program, "Ultrafast Magnetization Processes" (SPP 1133) and he is member of many national and international scientific advisory boards, e.g. he is member of the executive board of the IEEE Magnetics Society, the largest magnetics society in the world. Since 2002 he is also member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of physics D - Applied Physics. Hillebrands has published, besides patents and book contributions, more than 250 publications in peer-reviewed international scientific journals. His unremitting commitment in the service of science becomes also clear by his currently new memberships, such as the scientific advisory board of INNOMAG Inc. and his honoring as a Fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) this year.

The Academy of Sciences and Literature in Mainz was founded by scientists and litterateurs July 9(th) 1949. Its goal was to maintain science and literature and to preserve and promote culture. The Academy of Sciences and Literature is a corporation under public law. On the one hand, it is an academic corporation crossing national borders; on the other hand it is holder of various research projects and host of scientific conferences and symposia. The Academy's focus is on the field of long-term basic research. They are separated into three classes - mathematics and sciences, humanities and social sciences and literature. Each class

consists of 30 full members and up to 50 associate members; whereas full members are elected from the ranks of professors or authors from all over Germany and associate members are internationally renowned scientists.

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