

# GASTVORTRAG

**Mittwoch, 03. Mai 2017, 18 Uhr c.t.**

**Raum: VG 2.45**

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## **Interacting Fields: Analogy and Knowledge Transfer in Postwar Physics**

After World War II, physics grew bigger and new subdisciplines emerged. Methods and terminologies of particle, nuclear, and solid-state physicists began to diverge. Despite this diversification, the unity of physics as a discipline was rarely questioned. In my talk, I study this inner tension in postwar physics by examining the history of many-body physics in the 1950s. The field of many-body physics centered not around a shared object of study, but around a shared set of methods. It thus enabled knowledge transfer between subdisciplines, often through the establishment of analogies between models of different physical phenomena. I present selected case studies and discuss how processes of knowledge transfer affected the practices of nuclear and solid-state physicists- and, eventually, also those of particle physicists.

Christian Joas ist seit 2012 wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter am Lehrstuhl für Wissenschaftsgeschichte der LMU München. Nach der Promotion in theoretischer Physik forschte er von 2007–2012 zur Entstehung der Quantenmechanik am Max-Planck-Institut für Wissenschaftsgeschichte und am Fritz-Haber-Institut der Max-Planck-Gesellschaft in Berlin. 2015–2016 war er Fellow am Niels-Bohr-Archiv in Kopenhagen. Der Vortrag entspringt seinem Habilitationsprojekt an der LMU München, welches sich mit der Geschichte der Vielteilchenphysik in der Nachkriegszeit beschäftigt.

**Zum Gastvortrag ergeht herzliche Einladung.**