

IOW press release, October 7, 2015

New department head for “Physical Oceanography and Instrumentation” at IOW

On October 1, 2015, Prof. Markus Meier started in his new position as head of the department “Physical Oceanography and Instrumentation” at the Leibniz Institute for Baltic Sea Research Warnemünde (IOW). Previously, the expert for theoretical oceanography and climate modelling headed the oceanographic research unit of the internationally renowned Swedish Meteorological and Hydrological Institute (SMHI). With his move to IOW Meier will also assume a professorship for oceanography at the University of Rostock.

“As a researcher, I have been fascinated by the Baltic Sea my whole life, especially because it is such an excellent model for many climate and marine physical processes. I am therefore all the more delighted to be able to shape the physical oceanography research of one of the key players in Baltic Sea research,” Markus Meier comments on the occasion of assuming his new office. He expects the greatest advancement of knowledge in his field to develop from the interplay of novel modelling and measuring techniques. According to Meier, this will result in a new generation of increasingly reliable models that will yield viable explanations for changes in the past and sound predictions for future developments – for regional seas such as the Baltic Sea as well as for global climate systems. “Especially in this area I’d like to continue and further develop IOW’s excellent practice,” the new department head concludes.

Markus Meier, who studied physics in Kiel, has been active in theoretical oceanography research for more than 20 years. In 1997, one year after finishing his PhD in this field, he became a senior scientist at SMHI’s Rossby Centre, which specializes in climate systems and climate process research. In 2006 Meier assumed the position as head of the oceanography research unit of SMHI’s research department. He also held an adjunct oceanography professorship at Stockholm University. Focal fields of his expertise are, amongst others, paleoclimate studies as well as the numerical modelling of the Baltic Sea and the Arctic Ocean regarding water masses, circulation, sea ice, nutrient cycles, and algal blooms as a consequence of climate change.

Contact Prof. Dr. Markus Meier (secretary's office: Berit Recklebe):

Tel.: +49 (0)381 – 5197 111 | berit.recklebe@io-warnemuende.de

Press and Public Relations at IOW:

Dr. Kristin Beck | Phone: +49 (0)381 – 5197 135 | kristin.beck@io-warnemuende.de

Dr. Barbara Hentzsch | Phone: +49 (0)381 – 5197 102 | barbara.hentzsch@io-warnemuende.de

The IOW is a member of the Leibniz Association with currently 89 research institutes and scientific infrastructure facilities. The focus of the Leibniz Institutes ranges from natural, engineering and environmental sciences to economic, social and space sciences as well as to the humanities. The institutes are jointly financed at the state and national levels. The Leibniz Institutes employ a total of 18.100 people, of whom 9.200 are scientists. The total budget of the institutes is 1.64 billion Euros. (www.leibniz-association.eu)