This symposium is being held to commemorate eleven years of research conducted under the auspices of the Collaborative Research Centre (Sonderforschungsbereich) for Theoretical Biology. The primary goal of this consortium was to foster collaboration between theoretical and experimental biologists. All talks of our symposium have been designed to be instructive for a broad audience.

Thursday, April 18
Chair of the afternoon session:
Martin Vingron, MPI Molecular Genetics Berlin
14:00 Welcome addresses
14:30-15:00 Theoretical biology – is it really helping empirical science?
Peter Hammerstein, HU Berlin
15:00-16:00 Why are we always late?
Biological clocks govern our daily life
Achim Kramer & Hans-Peter Herzel, Charité Berlin
16:00 Coffee break
16:30-17:30 When drugs fail to work in cancer therapy – the ignored role of feedback
Christine Sers & Nils Blüthgen, Charité Berlin
17:30 Break
18:00 Evening Lecture
Getting the gift of gab – the evolution of speech
Tecumseh Fitch, University of Vienna

Friday, April 19
Chair of the morning session: Andreas Herz, LMU Munich
9:00-10:00 Economics in nature – the design principles of an efficient brain
Simon Laughton, University of Cambridge, UK
10:00 Coffee break
10:30-11:30 Where am I? A neural navigation system
Michael Brecht & Richard Kempter, HU Berlin
11:30 How to keep cool in hot situations – lessons from the grasshopper auditory system
Bernd Ronacher & Susanne Schreiber, HU Berlin

Chair of the afternoon session: Hermann-Georg Holzhütter, Charité Berlin
14:30-15:30 The immune system doesn’t forget – but where is its memory?
Andreas Radbruch, Deutsches Rheumaforschungszentrum, Berlin
15:30 Coffee break
16:00-17:00 When the guest becomes a pest – conflict between symbionts and their hosts
John H. Werren & Peter Hammerstein, University of Rochester USA, Wissenschaftskolleg zu Berlin; HU Berlin
17:00-18:00 In at the finish - can theory make sense of old age?
Tom Kirkwood, Newcastle University, UK
18:00 Final reflections on the interplay between theory and experimentation
Adam Wilkins (HU Berlin)

Location: Akademiegebäude am Gendarmenmarkt, Leibniz-Saal, Markgrafenstrasse 38, 10117 Berlin-Mitte.
Registration: Could those who are thinking of coming to the symposium please let us know by sending an email to Adam Wilkins at wilkins316@btinternet.com