

INSTITUT FÜR FESTKÖRPERPHYSIK Institute of Solid State Physics

Wiedner Hauptstr. 8-10/138, 1040 Wien www.ifp.tuwien.ac.at

EINLADUNG zum IFP-SEMINAR

Superconductivity: Then and Now

Warren E. Pickett

University of California, Davis

Host: Jan Kuneš

Termin: Montag, 12. November 2018, 13:00 Uhr

Ort: Institut für Festkörperphysik, TU Wien

Wiedner Hauptstraße 8-10, 1040 Wien

Seminarraum DB gelb 09 (gelber Bereich, 9. OG)

This talk will begin with a brief overview of how the "high Tc superconductors" at a given time has evolved: some steady progress punctuated by unexpected spurts. In 2015 Eremets' high pressure group in Mainz reported Tc up to 200K at high pressure in hydrogen sulfide. For the first time, theory played a pivotal role in the process leading to and through this discovery, so this synergy will be discussed. The conventional pairing mechanism -- exchange of phonons -- belies the quite complex confluence of several unconventional aspects that arise in a realistic theoretical description of H3S. There will be brief speculation at the end about the likelihood of room temperature superconductivity in the foreseeable future.