

# Prof. Dr. Keram Pfeiffer – Curriculum Vitae

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**Work address:**

Behavioral Physiology and Sociobiology  
(Zoology II)  
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www.zoo2.biozentrum.uni-wuerzburg.de

## EDUCATION/EMPLOYMENT HISTORY

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| 04/2017 – present | Professor of Neurobiology<br>University of Würzburg, Germany   |
| 10/2011 – 03/2017 | Junior research group leader/Research associate<br>Philipps-University Marburg, Germany<br>Laboratory of Dr. Uwe Homberg                             |
| 08/2013           | Invited guest researcher<br>University of Lund, Lund Vision Group<br>Laboratory of Drs. Eric Warrant and Marie Dacke                                 |
| 01/2013 – 04/2013 | Parental leave (worked 10.7 hours/week)  |
| 11/2010 – 09/2011 | Postdoctoral Fellow:<br>Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada<br>Laboratory of Drs. Andrew French and Päivi Torkkeli                                 |
| 08/2010 – 10/2010 | Service contract for programming of an automated data<br>evaluation script:<br>Philipps-University Marburg, Germany<br>Laboratory of Dr. Uwe Homberg |
| 03/2010 – 07/2010 | Invited Guest Researcher:<br>The Graduate University for Advanced Studies (Sokendai),<br>Hayama, Japan<br>Laboratory of Dr. Kentaro Arikawa          |
| 10/2006 – 02/2010 | Postdoctoral Fellow:<br>Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada<br>Laboratory of Drs. Andrew French and Päivi Torkkeli                                 |
| 10/2001 – 09/2006 | Graduate Student:<br>Philipps-University Marburg, Germany<br>Laboratory of Dr. Uwe Homberg   |

10/1995 – 09/2001 Undergraduate Student:  
Philipps-University Marburg, Germany  
Laboratory of Dr. Uwe Homberg

## DEGREES

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2016	Habilitation in zoology and animal physiology
2006	Dr. rer. nat. (summa cum laude: with distinction) Title of thesis: Coding of sky-compass information in neurons of the anterior optic tubercle of the desert locust <i>Schistocerca gregaria</i> .
2001	Diplom in Biology (very good: 1.1) (equivalent to Master's degree in North America) Title of thesis: Characterization of interneurons with ramifications in the anterior optic tubercle of the locust <i>Schistocerca gregaria</i> .

## HONORS

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2021	Teaching prize of the Bavarian Ministry for Science and Art (€ 5,000).
2016	Teaching prize (1 <sup>st</sup> place) awarded by the student council and the Biology department, Philipps-University Marburg.
2015	Teaching prize (1 <sup>st</sup> place) awarded by the student council and the Biology department, Philipps-University Marburg.
2014	Teaching prize (2 <sup>nd</sup> place) awarded by the student council and the Biology department, Philipps-University Marburg.
2013	Teaching prize (2 <sup>nd</sup> place) awarded by the student council and the Biology department, Philipps-University Marburg.
2008	Grass Foundation Fellowship in Neuroscience, Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, USA
2007	Best Doctoral thesis in the department of Biology, Philipps-University Marburg in 2006. This prize was shared between two awardees.
1995	Scholar prize of the German chemical industry for the best final high school exam in chemistry at the Otto-Hahn-Gymnasium Saarbrücken.

## ADDITIONAL TRAINING AND QUALIFICATION

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2002	Participant in Neural Systems and Behavior Course, Marine Biological Laboratory, Woodshole, USA
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1998	Training on laboratory animal science (FELASA category B certification)
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## INVITATIONS FOR JOB INTERVIEW

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2015	W2 Professorship “Neurobiology”, University of Würzburg (Current position)
2013	W2 Professorship “Neurobiology of Arthropods”, University of Würzburg

## PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

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since 2013	Deutsche Zoologische Gesellschaft e.V. (German Zoology Society)
since 2008	Neurowissenschaftliche Gesellschaft e.V. Germany (German Neuroscience Society)
since 2007	International Society for Neuroethology

## PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

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since 2022	Member of advisory board: J Comp Physiol A
2015 – 2018	Spokesperson of the section Neurobiology of the German Zoological Society
since 2014	Member of Editorial Board: Frontiers in Invertebrate Physiology

## SCIENTIFIC MEETINGS

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2025	Organization of symposium “Neuronal representation of space, directions and goals in insects and vertebrates” (joint organizer with Dr. Hannah Haberkern) 16 <sup>th</sup> Göttingen meeting of the German Neuroscience Society, Göttingen, Germany
2016	Invited chair (joint chair with Dr. Esa-Ville Immonen) of symposium and panel discussion “Navigation and Orientation” Janelia Conference: Central Complex IV A New Hope to Understand a Multifaceted Brain Region, HHMI/JFRC, Ashburn, VA, USA
2015	Organization of symposium “Neural mechanisms underlying spatial orientation in insects” (joint organizer with Dr. Uwe Homberg) 11 <sup>th</sup> Göttingen meeting of the German Neuroscience Society, Göttingen, Germany

2012                      Invited chair (joint chair with Dr. Roy Ritzmann) of symposium and panel discussion “Visual Functions and sensory maps”  
Janelia Farm Conference: Towards a Common Framework to Study the Function of the Insect Central Complex, HHMI/JFRC, Ashburn, VA, USA

## **REVIEWER FOR SCIENTIFIC JOURNALS/FUNDING BODIES**

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Apicultural Science, Cell and Tissue Research, Current Biology, Current Opinion in Insect Science, eNeuro, Frontiers in Behavioral Neuroscience, Frontiers in Physiology - Invertebrate Physiology, German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), Graduate School of Life Sciences Würzburg, Grass Foundation, Insect Science, Journal of Apicultural Science, Journal of Comparative Neurology, Journal of Comparative Physiology A, Journal of Experimental Biology, Journal of Neurophysiology, Journal of Neuroscience, Journal of the Royal Society Interface, Oxford Research Encyclopedias, Proceedings of the Royal Society B, Trends in Neuroscience, UK Research and Innovation, Velux Foundation

## **MEMBERSHIPS IN UNIVERSITY COMMITTEES and PANELS**

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2023 – present	Member of the Permanent Tenure Track Commission 2019 (substitute)
2023 – 2025	Member of the Permanent Tenure Track Commission 2017 (substitute)
since 2021	Rapporteur for hiring committees
2021 – 2024	Member of the Board for Digital Innovations in Teaching ("Wue-Dive"), University of Würzburg
2020 – present	Member of the Common Graduation Commission within the Graduate School of Life Sciences, University of Würzburg
2014 – 2017	Committee for MSc program in neuroscience, University of Marburg
2014 – 2017	Examination board for MSc program in cognitive and integrative systems neuroscience, University of Marburg