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The Scientific and Award Committees of the biannual Bose-Einstein Conference Series are pleased to announce **Prof. Gora Shlyapnikov** and **Dr. Ian Spielman** as the recipients of the **BEC Awards 2011**. The awards will be presented to the recipients at the Bose-Einstein Conference in Sant Feliu, Spain, 10-16 September 2011.

**Prof. Gora Shlyapnikov** will receive the **senior BEC Award 2011** for *his outstanding contributions to the development of the many-body theory of trapped quantum gases of bosonic and fermionic atoms and molecules, theoretical work that is closely connected to experiment.*

**Dr. Ian Spielman** will receive the **junior BEC Award 2011** for *the first experimental realization of synthetic magnetic fields and spin-orbit couplings in atomic Bose-Einstein condensates.*

Prof. Gora Shlyapnikov is Director of Research at the Laboratoire de Physique Théorique et Modèles Statistiques (CNRS and Université Paris-Sud, France), and Professor of physics (part time) at the University of Amsterdam. Gora Shlyapnikov has made seminal contributions to the development of a many-body theory of trapped quantum gases of bosonic and fermionic atoms. In particular, he studied strongly interacting systems involving Feshbach resonances of fermionic atoms and molecules, quantum gases in low dimensions and exactly solvable models. His work has combined, in an interdisciplinary manner, concepts of condensed matter physics with a microscopic understanding of atomic processes. Gora Shlyapnikov's theoretical work has always had a direct link to experiments and it has influenced a whole generation of experimental and theoretical physicists in the new field of quantum gases.

Dr. Ian Spielman and his research group at the Joint Quantum Institute, Maryland, have succeeded in the first realization of pseudo-gauge fields and spin-orbit coupling with atomic Bose-Einstein condensates. The results have been published in two seminal papers [Y.-J. Lin, R. L. Compton, K. Jiménez-García, J. V. Porto & I. B. Spielman, *Nature* 462, 628-632 (2009), and Y.-J. Lin, K. Jiménez-García & I. B. Spielman, *Nature* 471, 83-86 (2011)]. Other recent influential publications on atomic BECs by Spielman include his work on 2D quantum phases in optical lattices. Ian Spielman obtained his undergraduate education from the University of Oklahoma and received his PhD from the California Institute of Technology. After a short postdoc period at Caltech, he went to the National Institute of Standards and Technology as an NRC Postdoctoral Fellow with W. D. Phillips and J. V. Porto. He is now a Fellow of the Joint Quantum Institute, a member of NIST's staff, and an adjunct Assistant Professor at the University of Maryland.

Committee Members of the BEC awards 2011: Jean Dalibard, Tilman Esslinger, Massimo Inguscio, William D. Phillips, Sandro Stringari and Peter Zoller

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