

# Gödel Einstein Mach

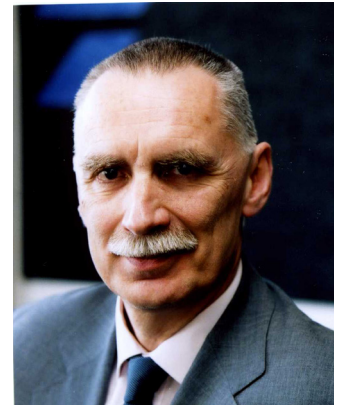
**Thursday  
April 21, 2016**

**Reception**  
3:30 - 4:00 pm  
ESB 4133

**Lecture**  
4:00 - 5:00 pm  
ESB 2012

Earth Sciences  
Building (ESB)  
2207 Main Mall  
Vancouver, BC

Albert Einstein is usually associated with Zürich, Bern, Berlin or Princeton rather than Vienna. However, his Viennese contacts were many-sided and highly relevant for his work. Ernst Mach had a major influence on the general theory of relativity (the “Mach principle”), and Kurt Gödel discovered its most paradoxical consequence (the possibility of time travels into the past). In addition, Friedrich Adler, Hans Thirring, Erwin Schrödinger and the thinkers of the Vienna Circle were important companions of Einstein. In this lecture, Dr. Sigmund will not only trace a highly dramatic story replete with murder and flight, fakes and nervous breakdowns, but also highlight a central topic of general relativity: the interplay of gravitation and inertia, and their effects on rotating bodies.



**Karl Sigmund**, Peter Wall International Distinguished Fellow and Math Professor at the University of Vienna (1974-2013), is well known for his work on the history of mathematics. In particular, he is a leading expert on the Vienna Circle - a group of revolutionary philosophers and mathematicians that met in Vienna in the years leading up to WWII.

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