

# Not a Nobel

## ICFO alum recipient of Ig Nobel Prize

October 08, 2019

ICFO has its own Nobel laureate, although not the i¿½Swedishi¿½ kind. This past Septem er, ICFO alumnus Herbert Crepaz and collaborators received the 2019 Ig Nobel Prize in Biol gy, for discovering that dead magnetized cockroaches behave differently than...li ing magnetized cockroaches.

Each year, the Ig Nobel Prizes are awarded to "honor achievements that first make people laugh, and then make them think". These prizes celebrate unusual or trivial research, with the aim to spur people's interest in science and technology.

Dr. Crepaz pursued his PhD at ICFO and graduated in 2007, making him one the institute's first PhD graduates. His thesis, titled Trapping and cooling rubidium atoms for quantum informationi¿½ , was supervised by former ICFO Prof. Jürgen Eschner. i¿½Being the first in Spain to produce cold atoms was a great professional achievementi¿½, Herbert says, w o is now living in his home country of Bulgaria as an R&D engineer.