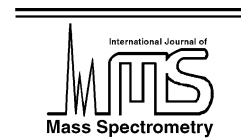




ELSEVIER

International Journal of Mass Spectrometry 223–224 (2003) xi–xii



www.elsevier.com/locate/ijms

Foreword

The concept of a special issue to honor the late Werner Lindinger arose spontaneously on both sides of the Atlantic, in Innsbruck and at the Gaseous Ion Chemistry Gordon Conference in Ventura, California, attended by both the U.S. and European senior Editors of this journal. The undersigned were invited to serve as guest editors of this special edition. The number and quality of the papers are themselves a testimony to the high esteem in which Werner Lindinger was held by his colleagues and the breadth of Werner's scientific interests. We are honored by the minor part we have played in collecting, editing and publishing this special issue.

The main events of Werner's life and scientific career are summarized in the obituary published below. Although each author in this volume has his/her own story to tell about Werner we think it fitting to add some personal remarks from the perspectives of both a personal, close colleague and coworker in Innsbruck and an occasional coworker from abroad.

Both of us recognize Werner as one of the three founders of the Institut für Ionenphysik, at the Leopold Franzens Universität, Innsbruck, Austria, which remains as one of his key legacies. It was his energetic leadership in the early days which embedded the former Institut für Atomphysik solidly as a unit of the Institut für Experimentalphysik in Innsbruck. This evolved later as the Institut für Ionenphysik, an independent entity for which Werner as the first Head established principles which guide it today.

As noted, Werner's Boulder experience had a profound influence on his scientific interests. Both the general scientific approaches and international standards of excellence that became part of the Innsbruck tradition were in some sense imported from Boulder.

The warm welcome he received was extended over and over again to visitors from throughout the world. Werner's extraordinary interest in travel and in collaboration with scientists from many places helped to make Innsbruck a magnet for ion chemistry and physics in central Europe.

One of us (J.H.F.) joined the Institut for the academic year 1980–1981 as a Fulbright Professor and got to know Werner and the other Founding Fathers, Tilmann and the late Professor Franz Howorka—ironically also a victim of accidental death in 1990. Their hallmarks on the Institut remain clearly visible and it was a special privilege to know all of them in the early pioneering years. The strength of the interaction led to annual visits for several years and Innsbruck remains a prime European destination for my scientific and personal travels. It is a further testimony that younger staff now taking leadership roles continue the same traditions of excellence in research and collaborations with a very broad range of scientists that pulls visitors to Innsbruck. Werner considered Utah, Delaware, and Washington, close enough to Boulder (and to his ranch in Durango, Colorado) to include us in his itinerary. Shortly before his death the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory had initiated the purchase of a PTR-MS instrument from his company, Ionicon Analytik GmbH. We were anticipating his close involvement with our atmospheric chemistry group involving static testing of urban environments and airborne sampling by our research aircraft that were carried forward but without his guidance.

For the other of us (T.D.M.) Werner was a great companion for 40 years, starting in 1962 together as students of physics at the University of Innsbruck, and

joining in 1968 together the newly founded Institut für Atomphysik and then pursuing our academic careers in parallel at the University of Innsbruck until his untimely death. Werner impressed me from the beginning by three character traits which made working together in an institute a rewarding experience, strong willpower, loyal friendship and deep insight into science. Most important of all he always had time or took time to have a coffee and to discuss things which mattered.

Werner's over-riding characteristic, manifested in so many ways, was his great zest for living. He truly

thought he could do anything he chose to do. He was almost correct.

Tilman D. Märk
*Leopold Franzens Universität
Institut für Ionenphysik, Technikerstr. 25
Innsbruck 6020, Austria*

Jean H. Futrell
*William R. Wiley Environmental
Molecular Sciences Laboratory
Pacific Northwest National Laboratory
Richland, WA 99352, USA*