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KLAUS H. MOSBACH, 1985 PIERCE AWARDEE IN AFFINITY CHROMATOGRAPHY

Professor Klaus H. Mosbach was the recipient of the 1985 Pierce Award in Affinity Chromatography. The Award, established in 1983 and presented for the first time at the 6th International Symposium on Bioaffinity Chromatography in Prague, acknowledges the important current contributions of Professor Mosbach in the field of affinity chromatography and their widely recognized impact in science and technology.

Professor Mosbach was born on November 26th 1932, the son of Hermann T. Mosbach and Katharina T. Mosbach. He received a Ph.D. in biochemistry from the University of Lund (Lund, Sweden). From 1964 to 1970 he was an associate professor and since 1970 he has been full professor and head of the Department of Pure and Applied Biochemistry at the University of Lund. Professor Mosbach held the position of Wacksman-Merck postdoctoral fellow at Rutgers University (New Brunswick, NJ, U.S.A.) in 1961; Humboldt assistant professor at the Max-Planck Institute (Munich, F.R.G.) in 1967; visiting professor at the Weizmann Institute of Sciences (Rehovot, Israel) in 1970; guest professor in Dallas, TX, U.S.A., in 1973; and guest professor at the Tokyo Institute of Technology (Tokyo, Japan) in 1978. Since 1982, he has been professor in biotechnology at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (Zurich, Switzerland) jointly with the Lund appointment. Professor Mosbach became a member of the European Molecular Biology Organization in 1981 and an honorary member of the American Society of Biological Chemists in 1982. He received the Arrhenius Medal in 1983. In 1985, he also received the Enzyme Engineering Award at the 8th International Congress on Enzyme Engineering. He is the holder of twenty patents and the author of over two hundred scientific publications including not only those in affinity chromatography but also those in enzyme technology, especially immobilized enzymes, cells and biosensors. Mosbach edited volume 44 of Methods in Enzymology (1976) and is an editor or advisory board member of thirteen professional journals and series. He is married to May E. Roslund and is the father of Petra, Katja and Vanja. His hobby of playing classical music on organ and piano has led to one recording.

Professor Mosbach has been active in the field of affinity chromatography for the past fifteen years. His insightful work in the development of general ligand affinity chromatography and enzyme analysis using affinity techniques is classical and has a continuing impact in these areas. During the last five years, the period considered by mandate for the Pierce Award, Professor Mosbach has made important contributions in the areas of high-performance affinity chromatography; biomolecular immobilization by sulfonyl halides, especially tresyl and tosyl chlorides; affinity precipitation; magnetic affinity chromatography; and molecular imprinting to prepare tailor-made affinity adsorbents. His wide-ranging current contributions and impact in the bioaffinity methods field make Professor Mosbach richly deserving of his selection as the 1985 Pierce Awardee.