

OBITUARY



PROFESSOR EMERITUS GÖRAN SCHILL (1918–1992)

Professor emeritus Göran Schill passed away on 19 March 1992. Göran Schill, who was born on 21 July 1918, gained his M.Sc. in Pharmacy in 1943, and accepted a position in 1948 as Senior Lecturer at the Royal Pharmaceutical Institute in Stockholm, with responsibilities for teaching and examination in analytical chemistry within the Department of Pharmaceutical Chemistry. He became Licentiate of Pharmacy in 1952 and obtained the degrees of Doctor of Pharmaceutical Sciences and Docent in 1965. When the Royal Pharmaceutical Institute in 1968 was transformed into the Faculty of Pharmacy of Uppsala University, Göran Schill was appointed professor and chairman of the new Department of Analytical Pharmaceutical Chemistry. Some years later he served as Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy for a period.

Göran Schill was highly dedicated in all his activities and he had a remarkable ability to fill his co-workers with enthusiasm. He was an excellent teacher, who devoted much time to writing literature for the student courses, and to

preparing lectures, seminars and laboratory exercises. Those activities resulted in a large number of Ph.D.s in Analytical Pharmaceutical Chemistry: 35 during the period 1971–1984. Göran Schill was a most inspiring, enthusiastic and supportive research supervisor, putting in prodigious efforts into scientific activities.

He held a leading position for about 15 years within the Swedish Academy of Pharmaceutical Sciences, where he was a driving force regarding the programme for advanced education of pharmacists and for scientific activities. The latter initiative has now resulted in about 40 scientific International Symposia under the aegis of the Academy. Those activities have been very important for Swedish scientists within the pharmaceutical field in order to keep in touch with the latest developments in the pharmaceutical sciences and to establish contacts with distinguished foreign researchers.

Göran Schill was one of the initiators supporting the scientific journal *Acta Pharmaceutica Suecica* (1964), an important

source for the development of pharmaceutical sciences in Sweden. On his initiative, the scientific Section for Drug Analysis within the Academy started its activities in 1978. Göran Schill was also active for many years within the Board of the Division for Analytical Chemistry in the Swedish Chemical Society.

Göran Schill's thesis in 1965 dealt with liquid-liquid extraction chemistry, especially ion-pair extraction, a technique which has been firmly associated with his name. When modern liquid chromatography (HPLC) started to develop into a dominating analytical methodology around 1970, he transferred his deep knowledge in ion-pair equilibria to this technique, as described in a number of his pioneering scientific articles. After the development of reversed-phase liquid chromatography as the dominant separation technique in the mid-70s, the technique of ion-pairing was spread almost worldwide, a development that not even Göran Schill could have predicted.

He was especially interested in applications in the bioanalytical area, i.e. the quantitative analysis of drugs and related compounds in biological materials. During the 80s he made important contributions to the theory and applications of indirect detection techniques in reversed-phase LC; and in the field of enantiomer separations. In the latter area, he worked mainly with chiral ion-pair systems. After his retirement in 1984, he became especially interested in proteins as chiral recognition agents, looking upon

the elucidation of the separation mechanism in such systems as a special challenge. During this period he was also invited as a guest researcher in the USA (FDA in Washington, DC) and in Switzerland (Sandoz in Basel).

His successful research activities led to him being frequently invited to speak at many major international symposia, at different universities, institutions and industries in Europe, Japan as well as the USA. He was a member of the Permanent Committee in the Symposium series especially devoted to the science of column liquid chromatography. In this way Göran made many contacts and friends all over the world. Indeed, some of them accompanied him and his wife Brita on their walking-tours in the Swedish mountain area, which became a tradition during the summer season.

Göran Schill has left us and a remarkable career is over. For his Ph.D. students he wished to be a companion and not a teacher, he wanted friendship and not gratitude; he never neglected an opportunity to promote his co-workers. He always had the faithful support of his wife. The loss of Göran Schill will be deeply felt within the community of separation and pharmaceutical scientists. Our thoughts and our sympathy go to his wife and their three children and grandchildren.

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