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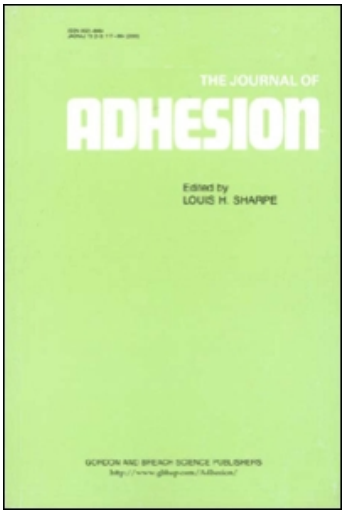

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In Memoriam

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In Memoriam

Hans-Jörg Jacobasch

On April 15, 1998, the surface science community lost a valued member in the untimely passing of Hans-Jörg Jacobasch, Director of the "Institut für Polymerforschung" in Dresden, Germany.

Born in 1936, Hans-Jörg Jacobasch graduated as a chemist from the Dresden University of Technology in 1962. The PhD degree from the Institute of Physical and Electrochemistry followed in 1966. He joined the Institute of Fiber Technology of the Academy of Sciences (later the Institute of Polymer Technology) in Dresden, where he built up a strong team of scientists working on interfacial phenomena in fibers and later on in polymers. Particularly noteworthy, however, is his work in the field of electrokinetic measurements. One result of this intensive research was the development of a novel electrokinetic analyzer, EKA. This became the basis for much applied research, for which, in 1989, he and co-developers J. Schurz and A. Paar (University of Graz, Austria) were awarded the van't Hoff medal of the German Academy of Sciences. More recently, the focus of Jacobasch's research has been on the characterization of phenomena in polymers and on correlations between interface phenomena and the properties of composites. Current interdisciplinary research has furthered the fundamental link between interfacial events and the successful application of polymeric materials in medicine.

The complicated period following German unification saw Jacobasch doing all in his power to ensure the survival of the Institute. In 1992, that survival was ensured and he became Director of the Institut für Polymerforschung (Polymer Technology) along with holding a Chair in Physical Chemistry of Polymeric Materials at Dresden University. He was a vigorous proponent of bridging the interests of industry and academe, and through his unfailing encouragement and direction of young scientists and engineers he enhanced the reputation and influence of the Institute he directed. His contributions to knowledge are embodied in 2 books, more than 150 papers and 40 patents. He was a member of the executive board of the Kolloid-Gesellschaft, served on editorial boards of several Journals relevant to the disciplines of his ac-

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tivities and was a frequent invited speaker at the international level. He will long be remembered by all who had contact with him as a man of exceptional integrity, of infectious enthusiasm for his science and of the highest competence as executor and director of research.

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