



Foreword

When Ingolf Lamprecht was elected Chairman of ISBC in May 1992, no one knew he would be 60 shortly before the conference he had to organize and which would mark his period in office. He must have thought he had been given a strange gift but, as his colleague of 30 years, Bernd Schaarschmidt, says “he is very kind, polite and obliging” and would not have complained, “even if angry, remaining decidedly considerate.”

When Ingemar Wadsö learned of Ingolf’s impending birthday from fellow Ulmer Wolfgang Hemminger, we decided to send him a large birthday card, signed in a limited time by as many as possible of his personal friends in science. Ingolf tells me this now hangs from the wall of his large and distinguished office in the Otto Hahn Building. It was from there that he indulged in what his colleagues call “his bad habit of working from before 7 o’clock until the nightshift arrives,” to plan the conference.

A card, large as it was, seemed hardly adequate for, as his long-time friend Tony Beezer, writes, Ingolf “has been responsible for inventive, imaginative work that ranges from oscillating chemical reactions, to organisms, to tissues, to plants, to whole organs, to small animals.” He had already asked me to join him as Editor of the Proceedings and I was looking forward to this collaboration, joining in his “jokes and puns” (to quote Bernd and see “FINISULM”) and learning more of, as Tony puts it, “his clever use of *my* language, continually to entertain with witty, intelligent conversation.”

With the indulgence of Elsevier, the Proceedings became a Festschrift and Bernd joined me in order to have this “spot” of editing the papers. He first met Ingolf 30 years ago in 1964, the year of the latter’s initial visit to Calvet in Marseille. There, he first made the acquaintance of the distinguished calorimetrist, Pierre Boivinnet, and a rewarding friendship ensued. So, it seemed entirely appropriate that he should be asked to make a dedication.

I first met Ingolf at a session he organized at the European Biophysics Congress at Baden in 1971. Bernd says he was light blond and lean in 1964; he was certainly that in ’71 and all of us know he is still the same, “not growing older, just more philosophical!” Despite several times sitting in his garden (inherited from his botanical father) and listening to Wagner or his tales of visits to Southwest Africa, I felt ill equipped to add a dedication. However, his affinity for the Ulm conference influenced me in turning to the two Hs for one.

As Tony Beezer wrote to me, Ingolf “is genuinely a renaissance man, intelligent, intellectual, urbane, witty and charming.” Bernd tells me that he started his public career early (four years old), serenading the famous German writer Gerhart Hauptmann while on holiday on the island of Hiddensee, near Rügen in the Baltic. Not for him *ante tubam trepidat*.

To Ingolf Lamprecht, this Festschrift is celebrated with the words,

Der alte Junge ist gottlob
Noch immer äußerst rührig;
Er läßt nicht nach, er tut, als ob,
Wen schon die Sache schwierig.
Gott zieht nur an der Hand, der einen,
Der Teufel zieht an beiden Beinen.

(Wilhelm Busch, ‘Kritik des Herzens’ und ‘Aphorismen und Reime’)

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