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## Professor Werner M. Herrmann

Werner Martin Herrmann, MD, Professor of Clinical Psychophysiology at the Department of Psychiatry at the Free University of Berlin, Germany, died on May 6, 2002 at the untimely age of 60 after an operation. This is not only a great loss to his family, friends and the academic staff of the Berlin University, but also to many scientific societies around the world and specifically to the journal *Neuropsychobiology*, where he had been Main Editor of the Section of Pharmacoelectroencephalography for many years. Last but not least, his death will be felt with regret in economic circles, since as an advisor to the contract research organization Parexel Clinical Pharmacology International and as a founding shareholder and CEO of Somnologies, a corporation for electronics in health care, Werner M. Herrmann always tried to transfer scientific knowledge to fields outside the university and apply it in clinical practice.

During his much too short life, he had gathered valuable experience in general clinical pharmacology, CNS pharmacology including sleep research, experimental pain models and pharmacopsychology. He participated actively as clinical investigator in numerous phase I to III studies, in 75 of them as principal investigator. His expertise covered a broad field, reaching from psychopharmacological methodology to pharmacokinetics, pharmacodynamics and even non-invasive cardiology.

Werner M. Herrmann was born on June 4, 1941 in Bardenberg/Aachen, Germany. He earned his MD in 1968 and his PhD in 1969 from the University of Bonn, Germany. In 1970, he became a scientific assistant at the Department of Molecular Biology at the Max Planck Institute. In 1971, he moved to the Department of Clinical

Research at Schering AG, Berlin where he was engaged with establishing a research group for clinical neuropsychopharmacology. When the latter developed into a section, Werner M. Herrmann was appointed its Head. In 1973, he came to the Department of Psychiatry at the Missouri Institute of Psychiatry in St. Louis, Mo., USA, where I met him and worked together with him at the Section of Clinical Neurophysiology and Psychopharmacology, headed by T.M. Itil. After his return to Schering Berlin in 1974, Werner M. Herrmann was responsible for CNS clinical research worldwide. In 1979, he was appointed Head of the Psychiatry and Neurology Branch, Department of Experimental and Clinical Pharmacology, Institute for Drugs and Medicinal Products (BGA), Federal Health Office, Berlin (West), where he served for several years.

His academic career proceeded from University Lecturer (1981) to full Professor with part-time tenure (1987) at the Free University of Berlin. From 1983 to 1994, he was a visiting Professor of Psychiatry at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. In 1987, he was appointed Professor of Psychophysiology and Head of the Laboratory of Clinical Psychophysiology, Department of Clinical Psychiatry, Benjamin Franklin Hospital, a position he held until his death. During his career, Werner M. Herrmann had published 200 articles in peer-reviewed journals and 22 chapters in books and had accumulated more than 500 presentations and abstracts.

In 1982, Werner M. Herrmann became a co-founder, CEO and President of AFB Arzneimittelforschung GmbH in Berlin, a CRO with phase I to III and biometrics/data management units, which later merged with Par-

exel GmbH, where he worked as general manager, chief scientific officer and finally senior vice-president until his retirement in 2001. Nothing can better characterize his drive and commitment but that immediately after his retirement he was involved in the foundation of Somnologics, a corporation for electronics in health care with special emphasis on hard- and software development for sleep function analysis. Moreover, in 2001, he became a founding shareholder of our joint endeavour. The Siesta Group Schlafanalyse GmbH, whose aim is to perform and analyse studies on human sleep and develop software tools and appliances to measure and analyse sleep-related data in order to create standards for studies on human sleep.

Werner M. Herrmann was a member of a number of societies and committees, including the German Society of Neurophysiology, the Society of Neuropsychopharmacology, the German Working Group of Clinical Pharmacology, the German Society of Pharmacology and Toxicology, the Berlin-Brandenburg Society of Medicine and Sleep Research, the German Society of Sleep Research and Sleep Medicine, the European Sleep Research Society, the International Society for Brain Electromagnetic Topography, the International Psychogeriatric Association, the European College of Neuropsychopharmacology, the International College of Neuropsychopharmacology, the Berlin-Brandenburg Association of Clinical Pharma-

cology and the Brain Research Working Group. Together, we served for many years in the Executive Committee of the International Pharmacology-EEG Group (IPEG), an Association for Electrophysiological Brain Research in Pre-clinical and Clinical Pharmacology and Related Fields. As the current President of this society, I mourn the loss of our committed Member-at-Large and former President. In addition to the mentioned co-editorships of *Neuropsychobiology*, Werner M. Herrmann was also Co-editor of the Section of Neuropsychophysiology of *Pharmacopsychiatrie* and was on the editorial board of the *Zeitschrift für Klinische Neurophysiologie und Somnologie*.

Werner M. Herrmann was an active and cheerful man interested in life, culture, music and fine arts. He was a good father, husband and friend, who established contacts with different people from all over the world and was equally liked by colleagues and patients. His decease is a big loss – not only to pharmacoelectroencephalography, but also to the entire scientific community in the fields of psychiatry, psychophysiology, neurophysiology and sleep research. However, due to his scientific contributions to these fields and last but not least his outstanding personality, he will stay alive in our memories.

*Bernd Saletu, MD*  
Professor of Psychiatry  
IPEG President