

Werner Uhlmann (1928–2011)

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Werner Uhlmann was born on September 30, 1928, in Hamburg. Supported by scholarship of the Bürgermeister-von-Melle-Stiftung, he studied mathematics at the University of Hamburg, finishing with the Diploma degree in 1952. In 1955, he was promoted to the Dr. rer. nat. with a thesis on differential equations under the supervision of L. Collatz. From 1956 to 1961, Werner Uhlmann was working as a researcher at the Institut für Versicherungsmathematik und Mathematische Statistik of the University of Hamburg. In 1961, he achieved the Habilitation with a thesis on stochastic processes under the supervision of L. Schmetterer. Werner Uhlmann continued his academic career at the Technical University of Braunschweig and the Technical University of Karlsruhe. In 1965, he was appointed as the chair of the Institute for Statistics at the University of Würzburg. Later, Werner Uhlmann rejected offers for chair positions at the universities of Bochum, Mannheim, and Munich, and stayed at the University of Würzburg.

Starting with topics of algebra and numerical analysis, Uhlmann's research interest moved to probability theory and statistics in the 1960s. Inspired by his stays at technical universities, Uhlmann became adopted to engineering related topics, in particular life time analysis and statistical quality control. His studies on economically optimum sampling plans pioneered the topic of economic statistical quality control in Germany. Uhlmann's textbook on *Statistische Qualitätskontrolle*, first edited in 1966, rapidly developed to a standard reference which was re-edited by Teubner over three decades. The book reflected Uhlmann's interest to join sound mathematical methodology with topics and presentations accessible for industrial practitioners. This basic objective oriented Uhlmann's teaching, research work, and the education of his academic scholars.

Over many years, Werner Uhlmann played an active role in the German statistical community. He has been regional editor of *Statistical Theory and Method Abstracts* for Germany and Austria, editor of *Metrika*, member of the board of the Gesellschaft für Angewandte Mathematik und Mechanik (1974–1977) and of the Deutsche Statistische Gesellschaft (1972–1980). Academic administration and science policy were further platforms of Uhlmann's activities. At the University of Würzburg, he served as Vice Rector and Rector. As the chairman of the Beirat für Wissenschafts- und Hochschulfragen at the Bavarian Ministry of Science, Education and Culture from 1973 until 1987, he took strong influence on the higher education policy and the development of new universities in Bavaria.

The German statistical community will remember Werner Uhlmann as one of the pioneers of industrial statistics and statistical quality control in academic research and teaching. After more than 30 years as a Chair of Statistics at the University of Würzburg, Werner Uhlmann retired in 1996. He died after a short but serious illness on February 11, 2011, in Würzburg.

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In Memoriam Werner Uhlmann

On February 11, 2011, Werner Uhlmann (1928–2011), former chair of Statistics at the University of Würzburg, Germany, passed away. For a long period, namely from 1973 until 1995, he has been Editor of *Metrika*.

For a detailed description and appreciation of his scientific career, we refer to the obituary written by Bernhard Arnold and Rainer Göb.

The Editors and former Editors of *Metrika* would like to express their kindest thanks and special gratitude for his outstanding editorial work and its lasting impact on this journal.

Dear Werner Uhlmann, may you rest in peace!

Holger Dette and Udo Kamps