



Univ.-Prof. Dr. Helmut Sinzinger (1948–2020)

The College of Physicians in Vienna · Beatrix Volc-Platzer



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Fig. 1 Univ.-Prof. Dr. Helmut Sinzinger. (© privat)

The College of Physicians in Vienna mourns the loss of its president Univ.-Prof. Dr. Helmut Sinzinger (1948–2020) (Fig. 1) who passed away on 21 February 2020 after a long year of illness. In this time of grief, we extend our most sincere condolences to the bereaved.

For many years Professor Helmut Sinzinger was dedicated to advocating the treatment of lipid metabolic disorder as well as the research of the pathophysiology of atherosclerosis. In particular, he made fundamental contributions to the clinical understanding of prostaglandins.

He graduated high school in 1966 (Schottengymnasium in Vienna) and enrolled in the Medical School of the University of Vienna, earning his degree as a medical doctor in 1973. Even during his time as a student

he began conducting research under Wilhelm Firbas (anatomy) and Wilhelm Auerswald, then head of the Physiological Institute of the University of Vienna.

He specialized in nuclear medicine after gathering international experience in the USA at the Mayo Clinic and Yale University, among others, as well as in London, Basel and Rotterdam. Professor Sinzinger was an internist and nuclear medicine specialist and habilitated in the field of atherosclerosis, as well as nuclear medicine and clinical pharmacology.

A distinguished, internationally renowned specialist, he became a member of the College of Physicians in Vienna in 1975. In the year 1993, during the presidency of Wilhelm Holczabek, Professor Sinzinger was admitted into the supervisory board of the College. In 2011 he became undersecretary in the presidium of Franz Kainberger. Starting in 2015 he held the office of general secretary during the presidency of Walter Hruby. In the general assembly on 20 March 2019 Professor Sinzinger was elected president of the College of Physicians in Vienna, making him the 10th president in the post-war period history of the College.

During his professional career Professor Sinzinger was awarded numerous accolades, e.g. the Theodor Billroth Prize by the Medical Chamber of Vienna, the Award for the Advancement of Science by the City of Vienna, as well as the Scientific Prize by the International Union of Angiology. In 2016 Professor Sinzinger was awarded the Theodor Billroth Medal for distinguished services by the College of Physicians in Vienna.

Professor Sinzinger published about 800 scientific papers, and served as co-founder, president and board member of numerous scientific societies and on the advisory board of more than 30 academic journals. Furthermore, he was an honorary member of the Hungarian and the Polish Atherosclerosis Societies, as

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well as honorary president of the Danubian League against Thrombosis and Haemorrhagic Disorders.

Professor Sinzinger's life was characterized by his love for his profession, for his patients and for his students, and his international activities as a lecturer. His

ever critical and scrutinizing attitude was a trademark of his way of working. Professor Sinzinger has left his mark on Austria during the past few decades.

The College of Physicians in Vienna says farewell in awe and gratitude.