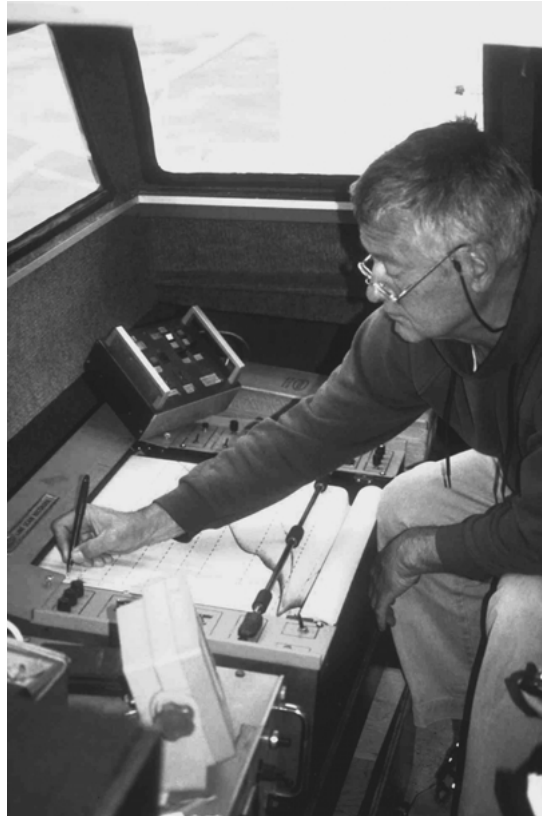


OBITUARY



Jens MÜLLER
24 April 1942 – 7 May 2002

Jens Müller died on May 7, 2002 in Munich. His sudden death has deeply concerned colleagues and friends. He studied geology at the University of Tübingen from 1961–1965, and mineralogy at the University of Heidelberg from 1965–1970. Under the supervision of Prof. Herman Müller, he finished his studies on bank-sediments of the Florida Bay in 1968, and in 1970 his thesis (Mineralogisch-sediment-petrographische Untersuchungen an Karbonatsedimenten aus dem Schelfbereich um Fuerteventura and Lanzarote, Kanarische Inseln). With a NATO-fellowship, he stayed at the Oceanographic Institute (WHOI) at Woods Hole, USA (Dr. J.D.



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Milliman) for one year (1971/72). Upon his employment (1973) at the Institute of Geology at the Technical University of Munich, he began to apply techniques, first developed for marine environments, to non-marine sediments from lakes, rivers and reservoirs. Several of his studies combined sediment echo-sounding with geochemical analyses of sediment cores which, in his opinion, is a successful way to obtain sufficient information about sedimentological dynamics in space and time. One stream of interest, funded by the DFG (Deutsche Forschungs Gemeinschaft), focused on recent sedimentation processes and the sedimentation history of the large pre-alpine Bavarian lakes during the Holocene. With his continuous attempts to improve the knowledge of climate-driven lake processes, he integrated disciplines other than mineralogy and sedimentology into his studies. As such, he inspired students at the Technical University of Munich to undertake multidisciplinary studies, resulting in several remarkable publications on the effects of Holocene climate changes on central European lakes. Because of the enormous experience he accumulated in his field, his enthusiasm, his exact fieldwork, critical thinking and his sense of humour, he was an invited partner in several international projects in places such as the Antarctic, the Amazon, Lake Tanganyika, Spitzbergen and Chile.

At Traunsee, Jens Müller was engaged in the first seismic and coring campaign during the 1970s, which first indicated the dimensions of industrial waste deposition in this lake situated in the Austrian Alps. From this time onward, an intensive co-operation took place between him and the palaeolimnological working-group at the Institute for Limnology in Mondsee, Austria, resulting in several joint projects in the Austrian Alps, the Adriatic and outside Europe.

He left a big impression on the minds of those fortunate enough to have known him.

ROLAND SCHMIDT
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