

In memoriam of our teacher Prof. Dr. Dr. h. c. Wolfgang Voelter



(1936 - 2021)

On January 22, 2021, we lost Wolfgang Voelter, professor at the University of Tübingen, Germany. With deep reverence, we bow our heads in the memory of the wonderful man and friend, erudite scholar and public figure! Gone is a person who was a model of innovation and reliability.

Prof. Dr. Dr. h. c. Voelter was a world-renowned scholar in the field of biochemistry of natural substances, internationally recognized with numerous awards for his contribution to science. His dedication, efficiency and principledness were exemplary, especially for young scientists. He was extremely modest and did his utmost best to the benefit of his colleagues and students, bringing academic spirit in scientific work, collegial relationships and public life!

Wolfgang Voelter (born in 1936 in Ludwigsburg) was professor of physics and biochemistry at the University of Tübingen. The positions he held were various: Director of the Central Institute of Chemistry and Deputy Dean of the Faculty of Chemistry and Pharmacy at the University of Tübingen, Head of the Board of the Institute for Scientific Cooperation, Tübingen, Permanent Member of the Board of Referees of the International Foundation for Science, Stockholm, Head of the Interdisciplinary Research Program of the Government of Baden-Württemberg "Isolation, Structure Elucidation and Synthesis of Biologically Relevant Peptides and Proteins", Coordinator of the EC/Jordan Cooperation Project in Science and Technology, Medicinal Plants; Catalysts; Natural

Products; Pollution Control, Member of about a dozen scientific organizations like the American Chemical Society, Royal Society of Chemistry, Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker, among others.

Prof. Voelter is the author of more than 1100 scientific publications in the field of natural products. For decades, he worked on the extraction of natural substances and their incorporation in medicinal products. Prof. Wolfgang Voelter and the team of Prof. Dolashka from Bulgaria collaborated in investigation of dosage forms based on mollusc and arthropod hemocyanins for cancer therapeutic applications.

Prof. Voelter initiated the Hussein Ebrahim Jamal Research Institute of Chemistry at the University of Karachi, Pakistan.

An exceptional merit of Prof. Voelter was his contributing to the academic growth of many Bulgarian scientists who specialized at the University of Tübingen for more than 25 years. He was also instrumental in providing a number of devices and apparatuses for the research laboratories in Bulgaria.

Prof. Voelter was awarded a multitude of honorary titles: Fellow of the Chemical Society London; Elected Member of the Art Foundation Baden-Württemberg; Elected Member of Bergmann-Kreis, Kneipp Award (for structure elucidation of natural products); Foreign Member of the Pakistan Academy of Sciences, Erich Krieg Award (for studies on drug metabolism); Member of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science Award; Special Award and Gold Medal of the President of Pakistan, Doctor of Science (Honoris Causa), University of Karachi; Sitara Award; Elected Member of the Third World Academy of Sciences, Trieste; Bundesverdienstkreuz of the President of the Federal Republic of Germany; Doctor of Science honoris causa of Hamdard University; Member of the Board of Prof. Dr. Harald Grüber Foundation; Member of the International Advisory Board of Dr. Panjwani Center for Molecular Medicine and Drug Research, Karachi University; Gold Medal, University of Jordan (Amman); Honorary Badge of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, etc.

Prof. Voelter was founder and active member of various foundations. He and his wife, Dr. Heidi Voelter, set up their Voelter Foundation and for public use. They have given their houses a family

center with a café and German language courses for immigrants. He and his wife donated their private collection of prints to the Institute of Art History at the University of Tübingen.

We, his colleagues and students from the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, had the exceptional opportunity privilege to work for years with this highly respected, universally recognized and prolific scientist, who was passionately devoted to science and its service to human health!

Goodbye, Dear Prof. Voelter!

We shall remember your human kindness and wisdom!

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Prof. W. Voelter with colleagues of the IOCCP-BAS.



Prof. W. Voelter with colleagues of the Institute of Microbiology – BAS.



Prof. Wolfgang Voelter among colleagues and students of the University of Tübingen.



Prof. Voelter and Dr. Alexander Dolashki and Prof. Pavlina Dolashka, on one of their visits to Tübingen.



Prof. Voelter with his Bulgarian PhD student Assoc. Prof. Alexander Dolashki in Tübingen.



Prof. Wolfgang Voelter on a visit to Bulgaria.



Research Institute of Chemistry "Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. Wolfgang Voelter", Karachi, Pakistan.



Prof. Wolfgang Voelter 's 80th birthday.