

# Water Chemistry at the EBI

*Annual Report of the Chair for Water Chemistry and the  
DVGW Research Institute at the Engler-Bunte-Institut*

# 2010

Dear colleagues and friends,

Please take a short break and have a look at this newsletter. It will inform you about the activities and the research of our chair during the past year.

The young "Karlsruhe Institute of Technology", KIT, has gained momentum, resulting in many meetings, new structures and new dimensions in teaching and research. Chemical engineering is back as an attractive field in academic education, and water chemistry and water technology are at the centre of this development. Our lecture halls are filled with promising students, eager to learn about the uniqueness of water.

IWRM - integrated water resources management has become not only a magical and attractive concept, it also asks for solid information and facts about water quality and water treatment in connection with water usage and the global water cycle. Karlsruhe hosted an international conference devoted to this topic with participants from all over the world. A pre-conference workshop dealt with the specific aspects of IWRM in arid and semi-arid areas. This title is identical to the focus of a large coordinated research cluster in which our institute participates with a project on brackish water treatment with membrane technology and its application in countries of the Middle East.

The publishing activities of our group is another point which I want to mention. In addition to several papers on our research findings which appeared in peer-reviewed journals, there are two major works to which we contributed and which we co-edited. There is the book on "Nanoparticles in the Water Cycle" in which we try to focus on the "status quo" of assessing the "nano age" impact on aquatic systems. And there is the four-volume "Treatise on Water Science" with review contributions of the world's leading experts.

Unfortunately, Wolfgang Höll, who was affiliated to our institute for so many years, has left us forever. We will miss him as inspiring colleague, teacher and scientist.

Of course there were also reasons for joy over the year. Students and co-workers come and go to start their research activities and careers as scientists or engineers. The young families of our PhD students and post-docs grow. Life flows, and so does the time of active engagement in university life. For some of our group this means graduation and winning new research grants, for others the organisation of their stepping back and facing new challenges. Efforts are being made to appoint my successor, and we are all waiting for a good final result.

It is a great privilege for me to thank the staff, students and coworkers as well as the foreign guests for all the valuable work and sincere support. I also want to acknowledge the help of our funding agencies, the state ministries, the German Technical and Scientific Association for Gas and Water, DVGW, and our other partners, customers and friends. The members of the water chemistry group join me in looking forward to the next contact with you.

Best regards and all good wishes,

Fritz H. Frimmel



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