

# Water Chemistry at the EBI

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

# 2011

Dear colleagues and friends,

A busy and memorable year is now coming to an end. You might be wondering about the news from Karlsruhe. Here it is:

First of all students are showing a strong interest in the KIT and its scientific institutions like the EBI. To face this challenge, a profound renovation of the whole EBI is on its way, including lecture rooms, technical halls, laboratories – and the professors.

There is also quite a fluctuation amongst PhD students and staff: Domnic Bandara reached his retirement age and left the institute. We thank him for his valuable work over decades and his integrative spirit. Carsten Jobelius and Markus Ziegmann joined companies or laboratories to apply the knowledge they gained in their PhD-related projects at the institute. Angela Klüpfel finished her PhD work and had a baby girl. Good luck to all and a sincere "thank you" for the great impact in our academic life. Coming and going is the heart of any active university institute. I am happy to welcome our new members: Alexandr Kondrakov from Lomonosov Moscow State University, Dr. Marios Drosos from the University of Ioannina, Greece, and Norman Hack and Johannes Ruppert, both Dipl.-Ing. from KIT. They will strengthen our research in the fields of analytics, humics, porous media and corrosion.

A special highlight of the year was the prestigious Sparkassen-Preis for outstanding environmentally relevant work which was awarded to Markus Delay for his PhD thesis on elution processes of contaminated recycling materials and the development of a standardized assessment procedure. Congratulations!

Our major applied research projects deal with nanoparticles and their environmental relevance (SIENA), membrane technologies as a tool for desalination of brackish water in semi arid countries (SMART), and the basics of a modern water management system for Brasilia (IWAS ÁGUA DF). These highly international projects

with a good deal of interdisciplinarity keep us busy and are a real challenge. As a reward we learn about the world's problems and make new friends through our collaboration. This will help to further educate our students in a open minded way and make them fit for the global needs of tomorrow. "Science for peace" is one of our major goals.

At the end of this year I will step down as the chairman of our department. I am happy that the faculty and the KIT could win Professor Dr. Harald Horn as my successor. I hope that you offer him the good friendship you offered me. The KIT has selected me for the Network of Excellent Retired Scientists (NES), and by this I will still be available for things which need my expertise.

What would my academic life have been without the support of the universities, the funding agencies, the scientific associations and societies, the foundations and, last but not least, all the co-workers, PhD students, colleagues and friends. Hearty thanks to all who helped to make my life successful and so enjoyable.

With all good wishes

Fritz H. Frimmel



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