

Gennady Zaikov

## DR. RER. NAT. WOLFGANG FRITSCHÉ – SCIENTIST AND ORGANIZER OF INTERNATIONAL SCIENCE

N. M. Emanuel Institute of Biochemical Physics, Russian Academy of Sciences,  
4 Kosygin st., 119991 Moscow, Russia  
Chembio@sky.chph.ras.ru

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Dr. Wolfgang Fritsche is a world-known organizer of Chemical Science in the framework of German Chemical Society and International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry (IUPAC). He was born on March 11, 1928 in Dortmund (Germany). His career has several important steps: doctorate in Inorganic Chemistry (University of Bonn) – 1954; Assistant to Technical Director Vereinigte Ultramarinfabriken Marienberg (Germany). Following that he was Deputy Secretary of Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker (GDC) – 1960–1967; Secretary of GDC – 1968–1971, and Secretary General of GDC – 1972–1991. Dr. Fritsche retired in 1991.

As a scientist he has reached considerable success in the field of inorganic chemistry.

His activity in the Federation of European Chemical Societies (FECS) included several very important steps: member of the Steering Committee (before 1970) and Founder member (after 1970). He was also a member of Executive Committee (1970–1976), Secretary General (1976–1988), and Chairman of the Council (1989–1992). Since 1993 Dr. Fritsche is a Lifelong Honorary President of the organization.

Dr. Fritsche was very active as a member of the Finance Committee as well as ChemRAWN (Chemical Research Applied to World Needs) of the IUPAC 1982–1989 (together with prof. G.E. Zaikov from USSR), member of European Community Chemistry Committee (1973–1991). Dr. Wolfgang Fritsche was nominated by UNESCO as Founding Member of the International Organization for Chemistry in Development (IOCD).

Below is the list of Dr. Fritsche's honorary activities in German scientific bodies:

1972–1996 – Member of the Supervisory Board of VCH-Publishers;

1981–1991 – Member of the Supervisory Board of Chemical Information Center in Berlin;

1972–1992 – Secretary of Deutscher Zentralausschuss für Chemie (National Adhering Organization of UPAC);

1972–1990 – Secretary of the Association of Professors of Chemistry at German Universities;

1990–1993 – Member of the Board of the German Association of Technical and Scientific Societies;

1984–1995 – Member of the German National Committee of the World Energy Council.

Dr. Wolfgang Fritsche has many medals and honors for his scientific and organizational activities.

We should firstly mention his Honorary medal of FECS “for outstanding services to the Federation and for furthering of international cooperation in the field of chemistry” (1985), medal of the Societe Royale de Chimie of the occasion of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Belgian Society (1987), Lavoisier-Medal of the Societe Francaise de Chimie “pour l'ensemble des eminents services qu'il rend a la Communaute Europeenne des Chimistes en sa qualite de Secretaire General de la Federation Europeenne des Societes Chmiques” (1987), nomination as Life-Long Fellow of the Institute of the Chemistry of Ireland (FICI) – 1987, Honorary Document of the Societa Chimica Italiana “ comme espressione di profonda stima e del piu vivo ringraziamento per l'opera svolta, originale e richissima, nella promozione della cultura chimica e nella collaborazione internazionale, ...” (1988), Gold Medal of the Federation of Technical and Scientific Societies of Bulgaria for the promotion of international cooperation in Europe (1990), Nomination as Honorary Fellow of the Royal Society of Chemistry on the occasion of the 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Royal Society of Chemistry – UK (1991), Honorary Document of the Chinese Chemical Society ‘for his great contributions in promoting friendship between Chinese and German chemical communities in the past decades’ (1991), Carl-Duisberg-Medal of GDC for his merits for the benefit of Chemistry and the GDC (1991), Honorary Document of the Gesellschaft Osterreichischer Chemiker (Austrian Chemical Society) “in acknowledgement of his great merits for the Society”

(1991), Hanus-Medal of Czechoslovak Chemical Society “for his merits in promoting cooperation in Europe and the furthering of the Czechoslovak Chemical Society effected thereby (1992), Thilo-Medal of Chemical Society of Germany “in acknowledgement of his contributions leading to the unification of the two Chemical Societies

after the re-unification of Germany” (1992), Nomination as Life-Long Honorary President of the FECS (1993).

Today Dr. Wolfgang Fritsche is 82. He is full of energy and ideas in the field of inorganic chemistry as well as eager to organize scientific activities and cooperation in the field of chemical science.