



Wolfgang Torge

GERMANY

TORGE, Wolfgang Reinhold Julius. Professor Emeritus, Leibniz University Hannover, Germany: born on June 4, 1931, in Laubusch, Germany. Studies of surveying engineering and geodesy at Technical University Hannover (1951-1955): Dipl.-Ing. degree (1955). Professional and scientific career (1956-1968) with positions in exploration geophysics, Lower Saxony State Survey Agency, Geodetic Institute Technical University Hannover, and Central American surveying and cadastral project: Higher Civil Servant examination (1961), Dr.-Ing. degree (1966). Appointment full professor for geodesy (1968), and Director of “Institut für Erdmessung”, Technical University Hannover. Dean “Faculty of Civil Engineering and Geodesy” (1972-1974), retirement (“Professor Emeritus”) 1996.

Teaching and research activities in geometrical geodesy (three-dimensional networks) physical geodesy (gravity field modelling through astrogeodetic and gravimetric methods) and gravimetry (absolute and relative techniques, gravity networks, earth tides and non-tidal gravity observations). Lecture courses at numerous universities and research institutes in Europe, Africa, Latin America, and China. Research projects on the establishment of fundamental gravity networks and observation of gravity variations with time (collaboration with agencies in Iceland, South America and China), and on modelling the “cm”-geoid in Germany and Europe. After retirement, concentration on the history of geodesy.

Publications: textbooks “Geodäsie” (1975, 2003) and “Geodesy” (1980, 1991, 2001, 2012 with co-author J. Müller, with translations into Spanish, Chinese, and Greek), and monographs “Gravimetry” (1989, translated into Chinese and Russian) and “Geschichte der Geodäsie in Deutschland” (2007, 2009). Author of more than 180 scientific papers and numerous technical notes, book reviews etc. On the occasion of the 65th resp. 70th birthday, honorary publications in “Zeitschrift für Vermessungswesen” vol.121(6):1996 and “Wiss. Arb. Fachr. Verm.wesen Univ. Hannover”, Nr. 241: 2001.

Memberships and positions held: membership “Deutscher Verein für Vermessungswesen DVW” (since 1965); membership “Deutsche Geodätische Kommission DGK”, Bavarian Academy of Sciences (since 1969, Chairman 1987-1990); scientific editor “Zeitschrift für Vermessungswesen ZfV” (1971-2002); Chairman “National Committee of Geodesy and Geophysics”(1979-1983); member “American Geophysical Union” (since 1985); Fellow “International Association of Geodesy IAG” (since 1991); Chairman Board “Vermessungstechnisches Museum Dortmund” (1997-2008). Service for *IAG* and *IUGG*: Secretary IAG Section “Gravimetry” (1976-1983); Congress Director XVIII. General Assembly IUGG, Hamburg 1983; President IAG Section “Gravity Field Determination” (1983-1987); First Vice-President IAG (1987-1991); President IAG (1991-1995); IAG representative to the Instituto Panamericano de Geografía y Historia (1991-2003).

Honours and Awards: Call to ETH Zürich (1978, declined); Corresponding Member “Braunschweigische Wissenschaftliche Gesellschaft” (since 1980); Honorary Member “Hungarian Academy of Sciences” (1990); Corresponding Member “Academia Nacional de Ingenieria, Argentina” (1990); “Helmert-Medal” “Deutscher Verein für Vermessungswesen DVW” (1991); Honorary President IAG (1995); “Schreiber-Medal” DVW Niedersachsen (2005), “Eratosthenes-Prize honoris causa” Förderkreis Vermessungstechnisches Museum Dortmund (2014).

W. Torge, February 2015