

In memoriam Werner W. Franke

Werner Franke's name is invariably connected with his numerous excellent publications which revealed new and detailed insights in the generation, architecture and physiology of animal cells, and their communication in tissues. Yet, for his many coworkers, friends and even scientific rivals, it was also highly fruitful and rewarding to have personal discussions with him. This was especially important in the following areas:

- His knowledge of structure and anatomy of different tissues was spectacular, especially within the vertebrate kingdom, but also reaching beyond. In many cases, he gave the right advice for the ideal object to use in solving a cell biological problem.
- In his function as Reviewer for funding Collaborative Research Centers (DFG Sonderforschungsbereiche, Forschergruppen etc.), he vividly supported Junior Group projects which he found designed in original themes and promised novel answers to cell biological questions.
- He also took his time to help his friends, coworkers and visitors in cases of health problems. He readily used his intensive and closely knotted network of experts in many medical fields. His unpretentious, warmhearted initiative to mediate the right contacts resulted in life-saving treatments of many.

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