

To Professor Wolfgang Beck on the Occasion of his 80th Birthday



Wolfgang Beck, professor emeritus of the Ludwigs-Maximilians-Universität München celebrated his 80th birthday on May 5th, 2012.

Wolfgang Beck is an *alumnus* of the Technische Hochschule München where he obtained his Dr. rer. nat. degree in 1960 with Walter Hieber. In 1968 he moved to the then nearby Ludwigs-Maximilians-Universität to become a full professor of chemistry. Despite offers from the Universities of Marburg and Hamburg he has remained in Munich ever since, a remarkable example of the Benedictine *stabilitas loci*. Since 2000 Wolfgang Beck has been a professor emeritus.

Wolfgang Beck is known for his numerous contributions to inorganic and organometallic coordination chemistry. Being a prolific writer, his ample work is documented in more than 600 publications. He has been awarded a Karl-Winnacker Fellowship (1966), the Chemistry Prize of the Göttinger Akademie der Wissenschaften (1967) and the Liebig-Denk Münze of the German Chemical Society (1994). In 2011 his *alma*

mater, the Technische Universität München, awarded Wolfgang Beck the honorary doctorate, the Dr. rer. nat. h. c. degree.

Wolfgang Beck always has been, and still is, a frequent contributor to *Zeitschrift für Naturforschung B: Chemical Sciences*. Reflecting his long-term special interest in Bioinorganic Chemistry, as recently as 2009 he reviewed the role of metal atoms as protective groups of amino acids and peptides in this journal.

We, the editors, publishers and the editorial team would like to express our gratitude to Wolfgang Beck for his numerous achievements in chemistry and his ongoing service to the scientific community. We do so together with the friends, former students and colleagues who contributed to this special issue of *Zeitschrift für Naturforschung* dedicated to Wolfgang Beck. *Ad multos annos!*

Tamina Greifeld, Thomas Lindel, Gerhard Maas, Norbert Mitzel, Gerhard Müller, Rainer Pöttgen, Annette Schier and Hubert Schmidbaur.