

# Hans Wolfgang Spiess

Professor Dr. Hans Wolfgang Spiess, born 1942, received his doctorate at the University of Frankfurt, Germany in 1968. He held positions at Florida State University, the Max Planck Institute for Medical Research in Heidelberg, the Universities of Mainz, Münster, and Bayreuth, before he became Director at the newly founded Max Planck Institute for Polymer Research in 1984. His group "Polymer Spectroscopy", which he headed until his retirement in 2012 quickly became a worldwide known center of Magnetic Resonance, in particular solid-state NMR as well as pulsed EPR and applications to unravel molecular motion in macromolecular and supramolecular systems.

He received several distinctions and awards, both nationally and internationally. Examples are the Leibniz Prize of the German Research Foundation (DFG), the Liebig Medal of the German Chemical Society (GDCh), the European AMPERE-Prize, the Walther Nernst Medal, Bunsengesellschaft Physical Chemistry (DBG), the Award of the Polymer Society of Japan, the Zavoisky Prize, Russian Academy of Sciences, the ISMAR Prize, International Society of Magnetic Resonance, and the Order of Merit of the State of Rhineland-Palatinate. He is Dr. h. c. of the Technical University Cluj-Napoca/Romania and the Adam Mickiewicz-University, Poznan/Poland.

In addition to his scientific career, Hans Wolfgang Spiess served the scientific community both in Germany and internationally, e.g., as President of the European Polymer Federation, the Groupement AMPERE, and the International Society of Magnetic Resonance. From 1999 to 2005 he was a member of the Scientific Council of the Federal Republic of Germany.

After his retirement, he shared his experience with the international scientific community as Chair of the 'Exploratory Round Table Conferences of the Max Planck Society and the Chinese Academy of Sciences, Chair of the 'Selection and Evaluation Committee' of IBS in Korea, and Life Time Member of the International Board of the Weizmann Institute of Science, Israel, see also <https://www.mpip-mainz.mpg.de/311010/Spiess>

