

## Obituary: Prof. Friedrich H. W. Heuck (1921 – 2019)



Prof. Friedrich Heuck was the first ESSR Honorary Member. He was born on 20 January 1921 in Glogau (Silesia). After studying in Berlin, Gdansk, Innsbruck and Vienna, he joined the X-ray and radiation department of the Surgical University Hospital in Kiel in 1947 and took over the management of the X-ray departments of the University Hospital in Kiel in 1951. In 1964 he was elected Medical Director of the Central X-ray Institute at the Katharinenhospital in Stuttgart and held this position until his retirement in 1986. With his numerous functions in German and international societies he was an ambassador of musculoskeletal radiology.

Prof. Heuck was co-founder of the German Society of Osteology and the Society for Biomedical Engineering. In 1974 he became a member of the International Skeletal Society (ISS), was president of this society 1984-1986 and member of 12 other national and international societies. He became honorary member of various medical societies as well as member of numerous boards and committees. In 2015 he joined the newly founded German Society of Musculoskeletal Radiology (DGMSR).

Prof. Heuck was president of many congresses and meetings. One of the highlights was “Radiology Today”, an annual meeting in the eighties in Salzburg/A, which he organized with his friends Martin W. Donner (Baltimore/USA) and Hellmuth Ellegast (Salzburg/A). In the course of his professional career, he has been awarded countless prizes and honours, including the Founders Medal of the International Skeletal Society, the Albers-Schoenberg Medal of the German Society of Roentgenology and the German Federal Cross of Merit.

His scientific work is also reflected in over 300 publications, 15 books and countless lectures. The older generation of radiologists remembers his motivating and inspiring lecture style, his never-ending knowledge and his scientific interest on sometimes less popular but in his eyes important research topics. He was editor of "Skeletal Radiology", "Der Radiologe" and many books including the "Handbuch der Medizinischen Radiologie" (Encyclopedia of medical radiology), "Frontiers in European Radiology", "Forschung mit Roentgenstrahlen: Bilanz eines Jahrhunderts" (Research with X-rays: summary of a century). Many of these publications contain in-depth information on radiological research, which even today give us more insight into some topics. In addition, he was one of the first radiologists with a keen interest in quantitative imaging, which, typical of Friedrich Heuck, resulted in a book entitled "Radiologische Analyse des Knochens". His commitment to radiology has been extraordinary.

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