

## Scientific Career

Undergraduate, Graduate: Biology (major in zoology) at the Karl-Franzens-University in Graz; first enrolment winter semester 1949/50. Dissertation (soil zoology) directed by W. KÜHNELT, Professor and Chairman of the Institute of Zoology. Dr. phil. granted 1954.

Research grants lasting for 1-5 months at Station Marine d'Endoume, Marseille, France (grant provided by the Institut Français d'Autriche); Laboratoire Arago, Banyuls-sur-mer, France (Institut Français d'Autriche); Biologische Station Neusiedl am See, Austria (Austrian Academy of Sciences), Max-Planck-Institute for Marine Biology, Wilhelmshaven, Germany (DAAD, German Academic Exchange Service).

Scientific Assistant (substitute), II. Zoological Institute, University of Vienna, total 8 months in 1955 and 1956).

1957-1962 as scientific assistant at the Zoological Institute of the Karl-Franzens-University, Graz, under the chairmanship of o.Prof. Dr. E. REISINGER. Postdoctoral thesis (Habilitation) in Zoology accepted by the Faculty of Philosophy of that institution in 1962.

1963-1967 as Dozent at the Zoological Institute of the Technical University, Braunschweig, Germany.

1967-1971 as Professor of Zoology at the Christian-Albrechts-University, Kiel, Germany, director of the Department of General Zoology and Zoological Museum.

From 1971 onward as Professor and Ordinarius of Zoology at the Karl-Franzens-University, Institute of Zoology, Graz, Austria. Chairman of the Institute 1971-1985 and 1987-1993. From 1982 onward Director of the Department of Morphology and Ecology.

## Laudatio

After his postgraduate thesis in 1962, his active scientific career covered three universities, i.e. Braunschweig, Kiel and Graz. The editor of this volume chose to ask personalities who had worked with Prof. SCHUSTER in Braunschweig and Kiel to comment on his activities at their institutions.

**The years in Braunschweig (1963-1967)** by F. SCHALLER, em.o.Professor of Zoology, former director of the I. Zoological Institute, University of Vienna.

It is my responsibility to remark on REINHART SCHUSTER'S time in Braunschweig, as I was the person who brought him immediately after his postgraduate thesis from the Mur to the Oker on January 1, 1963, where he worked quietly but productively in an academic position in Lower Saxony until 1967. At first there were only three of us as associate professors at the small but quickly growing Institute of zoology at the Technical University and so young SCHUSTER immediately had to take on a number of important subjects in the field of zoology. He enjoyed his teaching responsibilities and became more and more popular with the students. SCHUSTER lectured on special zoology for the entire animal kingdom, animal geography, marine biology, led classification exercises, and held an arthropod seminar and marine biology courses mainly in Rovinj and Helgoland. As a specialist for spiders, he co-directed theses and dissertations, especially with regard to morphology, systematics, ecology and ethology. The first student whose dissertation he directed on his own was MARTIN HOEBEL-MÄVERS, who did investigations on the functional anatomy of the intestines of oribatids and who later was C3 professor of biology education at the University of Hamburg; he is now already retired. (A number of later students of SCHUSTER have gone on to respected positions in science.) He made important contributions to the main zoology lab, because at the time I was often unable to help with that owing to my involvement in the development of the department and my work as director of the museum.

The fact that I wanted this young Austrian in Braunschweig was not just for the obvious reasons of how useful he would be there. I was familiar with the name of SCHUSTER and knew that he – like myself – had been a student of WILHELM KÜHNELT and had then spent on his own initiative a few “colourful” years at different departments of zoology and marine biology. He then became an instructor with ERICH REISINGER in Graz and did his postgraduate thesis there in 1962. I knew that these intellectual “godparents” provided their students and co-workers with a broad and solid basis in zoology. I thus knew SCHUSTER'S scientific face better than I knew his physical face, and I never regretted my choice later.

Scientifically, we complemented each other very well. We had both learned soil biology with KÜHNELT but SCHUSTER tended more to the eight-legged animals and geographically to the coast. In this period in Braunschweig he had productive encounters with mites and littoral soil fauna as he studied their ecology, animal geography, reproductive biology, nutritional biology and morphology. I especially enjoyed his reproductive studies on mites as he – often together with his wife Ingrid – found funny cases of indirect transfer of spermatophores. We shared another predilection, i.e. a predilection for the neotropics and the Amazonian jungle and in his case, he had brought that with him from Graz.

Already in 1966, after four years, I nominated him for professorship. Other German zoologists were getting interested in him. In my application I wrote that in 1964, SCHUSTER had presented a main paper at the annual meeting of the German Zoological Society in Kiel on his littoral-terrestrial fauna studies and that he had been very successful in the ethology of soil arthropods and their functional morphology. But if I remember correctly, this application was never actually granted because already in 1967 SCHUSTER was called to the University of Kiel as the successor to A. REMANE as chaired professor of zoology. But we had gone our separate ways before that happened as I left for the Amazon in 1966 and then went to Vienna in the spring of 1967.

From the quiet, productive zoological idyll in Braunschweig, SCHUSTER went on to the noisy and unpleasant confusion of the late 60s at the University of Kiel. A man who gave himself no airs of authority or leadership had to see himself being treated as an evil figure of capitalistic power. Even if the letter no longer dates from his time in Braunschweig, I would like to quote four sentences from a letter he wrote to me on December 6, 1969 in Kiel: ‘I often think back on the quiet, hardworking and nice time in Braunschweig although according to the ideology of the radical lefties I ought to have felt like a slave of capitalism. A non-professor here is nothing but a ‘frustrated something-or-other’ that has to work up through the ‘hierarchical structure of the totalitarian clique of professors and that is prevented from freely developing its own initiatives and thus its emancipation by the authority of an idiot savant (= the director of the institute)’ You can see that the students’ language has also changed remarkably since your leaving. In all fairness, it should be said that the percentage of extreme radicals isn’t all too high.’

But I would like to close with a few sentences from my birthday letter that I wrote to him on August 13, 1990: ‘It wasn’t ‘only’ science but also life that connected us. And I mean in a very pleasant and decisive phase. ‘Our’ time in Braunschweig really was that. I am absolutely sure that you agree with me. Then and also not too seldom afterwards, your calm way of seeing and judg-

ing things helped me in the development of the small but fruitful worlds that are the only places where science can prosper. The ‘noisy’ intermezzo in Kiel quickly showed you how sterile arenas are for that. And so I was all the happier with you about your successful change to Graz. And I know that you have not regretted that transfer, not any more than I regretted mine to Vienna. But the quiet knowledge of having had some little bit to do with it still pleases me today. We share the same interest for the fascinating world of the tropics, especially the neotropics, and down at the bottom of it, a love for the little shady creatures of the soil. You prefer the eight-legged ones and I go for the six-legged. But anyone who takes time for them will be rewarded, regardless of the number of legs. We have both come to realise that. You found your way into the water rather without my help, but ultimately it was the search for runaway edaphics that got you into it.

All in all, I would like to end this birthday letter with the wish that everything around us and between us stay as it is as long as it can. And I append to my thanks for what you have done for our science and also for me personally my warmest wishes for the future.’

These memories, remarks and wishes are still suitable, I believe, for this commendable retiree.

**The years in Kiel (1967-1971)** by G. ALBERTI, Professor of Zoology and director of the Zoological Institute and Museum, Ernst-Moritz-Arndt-University at Greifswald, Germany.

In 1967, Prof. SCHUSTER took office at the highly reputable Department of General Zoology and Zoological Museum of the Christian-Albrechts-University of Kiel in Northern Germany (ULLERICH, F. H.: Zoologie in Kiel. Verh. Dtsch. Zool. Ges. 85.2 (1992): 29-38). Succeeding Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. ADOLF REMANE as the director of the institute and museum was indeed a great and honourable, but also difficult task for the still rather young academic scholar. The Zoological Institute of the University of Kiel had been dominated for decades by the great scientific personality of REMANE, who had set milestones in the fields of morphology and systematics, but also in ecology, and was – as an emeritus – still active at the time in research and academic instruction. Important scientific fields had become established at this institute: besides morphology, embryology, and phylogenetics (mainly through REMANE, SIEWING, KORN), there was much and profound activity in ecology (through TISCHLER, REMMERT, HEYDEMANN, NOODT). The Department of animal physiology (PRECHT, JANKOWSKY) was mainly engaged in studying temperature effects on poikilotherm organisms. As a further site of zoological science in Kiel, the Institute for Domestic Animals, part of the so-called New University and headed by Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. WOLF HERRE, was predominantly studying prob-

lems of domestication as well as vertebrates in general. In the near vicinity of the Zoological Institute were located the Botanical Institute (director: Prof. Dr. F. OVERBECK, later Prof. Dr. W. HALBSGUTH), the Institute of Marine Sciences (director: Prof. Dr. G. DIETRICH, later Prof. Dr. G. HEMPEL), and the old Library of the University. Together with the Library of the University, the Zoological Institute in the Hegewischstrasse 3, which included a rather large Museum (managed by Dr. E. SCHULZ, later Dr. P. OHM), into which in turn a small Institute and Museum of Ethnology (head Prof. Dr. K. SCHLOSSER) were also integrated, belonged to the very few buildings in that area of Kiel that luckily remained fairly undamaged by the bombs of World War II.

Prof. SCHUSTER began to work with much engagement, psychological skill, and Austrian charm in these – concerning scientific standards – qualitatively high, yet – regarding rooms and equipment – generally obsolete surroundings. He was well supported by his vivacious wife.

Since these lines are written from the viewpoint of an advanced and later doctoral student, it is understandable that the heavy burden borne by Prof. SCHUSTER, who had to reorganise almost everything, was only partly recognised at the time. The climate within the institute was not easy and the tendency of many scientists to regard their own field of science as the most important was certainly not underdeveloped in the institute at Kiel. All the more remarkable was the fact that Prof. SCHUSTER focused on central demands. Within the short SCHUSTER-period, the problem of lacking space was quickly reduced when two large rooms were arranged for laboratory classes (one in the basement of the old library, the other in a reorganised storage room of the Museum). Furthermore, new programs of study had to be worked out (for masters degrees in biology as well as for teaching certificates for middle and higher schools). An institute's council was founded, which provided a forum for more and regular exchange of information as well as for discussion within the staff of the institute. New impulses were given to the museum. Finally, plans for a new Centre of Biology to be built in the New University had already been in development for several years, to which the Zoological Institute had to contribute, of course.

Further alterations in the staff of the institute accompanied the move of Prof. SCHUSTER to Kiel. Prof. SIEWING followed a call to the University of Erlangen, and, only shortly later, Prof. REMMERT moved in the same direction. Together with these scientists, several assistant professors and lecturers left the institute (KORN, DOHLE, SCHOLL). As a consequence, Prof. SCHUSTER was able to set new scientific emphases as these free positions became filled by new colleagues. As assistants, Dr. K. BÖTTGER, Dr. G. BRETTFELD, and Dr. J. MÖLLER joined the Institute. All three were experienced in the scientific

fields preferred by Prof. SCHUSTER: soil zoology, littoral biology, and acarology. G. WOLLANY and G. SCHULTE had followed Prof. SCHUSTER from Braunschweig as doctoral students. Both worked acarologically: G. WOLLANY investigated the reproduction biology and anatomy of *Collohmanna gigantea*, Prof. SCHUSTER's animal of fate, and G. SCHULTE studied the ecology of Ameronothridae, an oribatid family with predominantly littoral occurrence. Furthermore, H. SCHUBART, on scholarship from Brazil, prepared a systematic revision of the Ameronothridae as his doctoral thesis under the supervision of Prof. SCHUSTER. Thus, Prof. SCHUSTER could start his scientific work in Kiel with a small germ cell of a working group. Its members soon came into contact with other colleagues from Kiel, predominantly with those investigating littoral ecology (HEYDEMANN, NOODT) or, more exactly, with the doctoral students of these groups, e.g. G. WEIGMANN, who studied the microarthropods of salt marshes.

Besides the regular administrative work, normal troubles, and basic teaching activities, Prof. SCHUSTER also introduced new, more specific classes. For example, he gave the lecture Introduction to Arachnology, organised seminars, and provided peculiar animal material for laboratory classes. In the major zoological laboratory class, he himself demonstrated the dissection of an African lungfish. Furthermore, he continued the tradition of REMANE in conducting major excursions. Field trips with advanced students to Austria and to Rovinj in former Yugoslavia were exemplary and remarkable, due not only to their rich scientific content, but also to the warm and friendly atmosphere among the participants. During the excursion to Austria (Lunz, Neusiedler See/Seewinkel), the students frequently exercised various types of singing (preferably shanties).

Providing such a warm atmosphere was certainly a great advantage of the SCHUSTER-era and will be stressed whenever this period will be remembered. As one consequence, first potential doctoral students (master degrees did not exist at the time) from the University of Kiel soon approached Prof. SCHUSTER (in the sequence of their beginning work: G. ALBERTI, H. WITTE, R. EHRNSBERGER, G. THEIS, ST. WOAS), who later were frequently referred to as the "Kieler Truppe" within the SCHUSTER-School. Despite the considerable burden Prof. SCHUSTER had to manage, it always was possible for his doctoral students to receive kind and friendly advice.

Social events in the institute, such as the northern Julklapp or the institute carnival were highly appreciated by all since they were felt to enrich the institute's life. They were largely organised by Dr. L. SCHÜTZ, the motherly head of the institute's library. These parties took place in the entrance hall of the institute, supervised by a life-sized portrait of Prof. Dr. K. A. MÖBIUS, the

first director of the Zoological Institute and, e.g. founder of the term biocoenose. The atmosphere in this hall was furthermore influenced by the impressive heads of large mammals hanging from the walls and several aquariums.

Prof. SCHUSTER employed Dr. V. STORCH, the last student of Prof. REMANE, as an assistant and thus was able to keep Dr. STORCH, who later became one of the scientifically most productive German zoologists, at the institute. Dr. J. P. WOODRING (Baton Rouge, Louisiana, USA) worked together with Prof. SCHUSTER for some time in Kiel preparing material for his detailed studies on oribatid mites.

This period of positive development of the institute fell, however, within the well-known period of student turmoil, which was accompanied by very unpleasant occurrences. For example, lectures were not only struck (boycotts), but were also heavily disturbed by so-called sit ins. For a certain period, the introductory laboratory classes had to be performed externally, e.g. in schools, etc., and had to be kept almost secret, thus enabling those students (the majority) who were willing to continue their studies to proceed with their education. In several instances, part of the scientific material of Prof. SCHUSTER had to be removed from the institute to make sure that it would not be destroyed by progressive students, as had happened in other parts of the university. These troubles were certainly an additional burden and cast a cloud over the Kiel period for Prof. SCHUSTER.

Then, when we, as Prof. SCHUSTER's doctoral students, became aware of his receiving an offer from the University of Graz, located in his homeland of Austria and where he had spent his years as an assistant professor, it seemed very likely that he would soon move back to this university. We felt such a possible decision to be understandable, although we certainly deplored his departure. Yet again, this call as the successor of Prof. Dr. E. REISINGER, who was well known in Kiel, was also very honourable.

On February 28, 1971, Prof. SCHUSTER left the Zoological Institute and Museum of the University of Kiel. Because of our personal experience with Prof. SCHUSTER we were sure that we would not be forgotten in the far North. We were supported from the distant Graz as well as during visits to Graz. All of us readily recall these pleasant and hospitable stays and the excursions in the Styrian surroundings, which we then joined. Prof. SCHUSTER personally took part in all doctoral defences in Kiel (only G. THEIS had followed Prof. SCHUSTER to Graz). The Kieler Truppe was located for a certain period in a small building, the so-called KURDA house, close to the main institute. Here, we cooperated for several years in a very pleasant manner with the work group of Prof. BÖTTGER, who had established a strong group working on freshwater mites.

Despite the relatively short period Prof. SCHUSTER spent at the institute in Kiel and the difficult, troublesome time, he doubtlessly left an important imprint regarding administration as well as science.

**The years in Graz (1971-1998)** by E. EBERMANN, ao. Professor at the Institute of Zoology, Karl-Franzens-University Graz, Austria.

This contribution can only attempt to appreciate the work of Prof. REINHART SCHUSTER, who headed our department with vigour for 27 years and fulfilled an enormous variety of tasks in doing so.

In 1970, Professor ERICH REISINGER retired after chairing the department since 1954. With the retirement of this old-school scientific universalist, the turbellaria research in Graz that had been a tradition for more than sixty years came to an end. A number of appreciations of REISINGER's work indicate his international importance (CURT KOSSWIG, *Mitt. Naturwiss. Ver. Steiermark* 96, 1966; WOLF HERRE, *ibid.* 100, 1971; REINHART SCHUSTER, *ibid.* 109, 1979, *Verh. Dtsch. Zool. Ges.*, 1979). The call that followed upon this vacating of this chair in Graz did not remain unheard in Kiel. Returning to his hometown of Graz surely was not a problem for Prof. SCHUSTER and as I know from several conversations with him, he never regretted it. He left an orderly house in Kiel and even today speaks proudly of his "Kieler Truppe", a very successful generation of doctoral students in zoology that today counts among the best internationally. For a number of reasons, it was not difficult for R. SCHUSTER to take his leave of Kiel. For one there was the prospect of a honourable return to the Alma mater graecensis he had left in 1962, just after his postgraduate thesis was accepted, to wander through academia for nine years. For another, there was the exaggeratedly radical climate that had developed in 1968 and 1969 in German universities which made R. SCHUSTER's leave of Kiel easier. Long after his return home, he often mentioned in personal conversations the extremist academic political situation in Germany and spoke of his own near-traumatic experiences. He was always saddened about the way "a world fell apart" for some of the senior professors in Kiel. This storm that ravaged many European universities largely spared the Austrian universities.

Those of us who were advanced doctoral students after doing undergraduate work under Prof. REISINGER eagerly anticipated Prof. SCHUSTER's arrival. When we heard that not only Prof. SCHUSTER but also soil zoology would be coming to Graz, many of us put off beginning work on our dissertations for months. All our hopes centred on the new department head and no one was disappointed in the months that followed. The "SCHUSTER Era" began in Graz on February 24, 1971. His student GERDA THEIS, who had come with him to Graz, continued on her dissertation on calyptostomid mites and the first gen-



eration of doctoral students was equipped with subjects within the field of soil zoology within a few weeks. Those of us who were doing PhDs at the time noticed already at that time the wide scope of interests of the man who was directing our dissertations, with subjects ranging from “the bionomy of the soil living sphaerocid fly *Aptilotus paradoxus*” (H. HAUSCH) to “the role of oribatid mites as intermediate hosts of tapeworms” (E. EBERMANN).

Soon after Prof. SCHUSTER took up his duties in Graz, the first contours of the new speciality of soil zoology in Graz began to appear. In the winter semester 1971/72 Prof. SCHUSTER gave a first “Introduction to arachnology” and in the summer semester 1972 there was the first “seminar in soil zoology” as a requirement for doctoral students. The following years would see numerous lectures and seminars featuring all areas of zoology, especially general zoology, morphology and ecology. SCHUSTER’s ability to generate enthusiasm in his students for the “underworld of the animal kingdom” (after F. SCHALLER) is reflected in a large, though as yet uncounted, number of dissertations and, since 1975, when the BS degree was introduced, in numerous theses. Though his doctoral students designated him as a species in his own right, “*Morphoecopapa acarogaudens*“, the subjects that he gave out went far beyond the narrower limits of acarology and encroached into the fields of arachnology, entomology, wild-animal studies and avifaunistic studies. Prof. SCHUSTER was always a proponent of local fauna studies as a research subject and this interest produced a large number of mainly published works.

It should be noted that six of his doctoral students went on to do their post-graduate theses and now are professors in Germany and Austria. These are: G. ALBERTI (director of the Zoological institute and museum at the ERNST-MORITZ-ARNDT-University of Greifswald, Germany), E. EBERMANN (Karl-Franzens-University, Graz, Austria), R. EHRNSBERGER (University of Vechta, Germany), M. HOEBEL-MÄVERS (University of Hamburg, Germany, now retired), H. WITTE (University of Bremen, Germany) and G. SCHULTE (Westfälische Wilhelms-University of Münster, Germany). Others have continued in scientific research: G. KRISPER is a close associate of Prof. SCHUSTER in Graz, K. ADLBAUER is curator and scientific director of the zoological collection at the Landesmuseum Joanneum in Graz, G. RASPOTNIG is working on a postdoc project in a clinical lab in Graz, M. KIRCHENGAST is a leading scientist in pharmaceutical research in Germany, CH. KROPF is curator of the Arachnological Department of the Naturhistorisches Museum in Bern, Switzerland, H. SCHUBART was for many years vice-director of the INPA in Manaus (Brazil) and ST. WOAS is involved in research at the Staatliches Museum für Naturkunde in Karlsruhe, Germany.

Before the University Organization Law (UOG) came into effect in 1975, the Institute of Zoology in Graz included two chairs. One was that of Prof. SCHUSTER, for morphology and ecology and the other was that of Prof. H. HERAN for comparative physiology. The new law abolished these chairs and created five divisions. Prof. SCHUSTER headed that for morphology and ecology. In the years that followed and to date, research in this division has emphasised applied zoology (H. KAISER) and soil zoology with special consideration of arthropoda, especially arachnids. In the group of BS and doctoral students working on acarology, R. SCHUSTER, E. EBERMANN and G. KRISPER form the “hard core” of acarology in Graz. Acarology has been actively pursued in Graz since R. SCHUSTER took up his work here and the 4th International Congress of Acarology that he organised with late E. PIFFL in Saalfelden in 1974 carried that work to a wider audience for the first time. Prof. SCHUSTER was not only the president of this successful international meeting but also of the founding symposium of the European Association of Acarologists (EURAAC), held in 1988 at the Karl-Franzens-University in Graz and attended by scientists from 17 nations. His meritorious work in Acarology was especially honoured in July 1998 when he was elected a Honorary Lifetime Member of the International Congresses of Acarology at the Xth International Congress of Acarology in Canberra. His far-reaching international contacts and his long-term efforts on behalf of the acarological community are also reflected in the long list of new species that are dedicated to him. A summary of all that taxa that have been named after him is found in the appendix at the end of the eulogy.

In spite of his administrative duties, Prof. SCHUSTER found time to work on research projects that interested him. In recent years there was his favourite “pet” the alpine oribatid mite *Niphocephus nivalis*, to which he devoted time-consuming long-term observations, obtaining interesting results together with his wife. Numerous regional fauna studies resulted from material gathered on collecting excursions lasting several days that he went on alone or with G. KRISPER to warm sites in southern Styria and Carinthia as well as to Upper- and Lower Austria. His unbroken devotion to littoral research often gave him the opportunity to go on research and collecting trips outside Europe, too. Prof. SCHUSTER’s publications are listed, and his other scientific activities are summarised below.

His field trips were popular with his students in Kiel and he continued the tradition in Graz. There was a first high point with a trip to Ohrid Lake in 1976. His former students fondly remember trips that often took them beyond the borders of their own province, to Vienna and the Schönbrunn Zoo and

Museum of Natural History, to the House of Nature in Salzburg, to natural-history exhibits and sometimes to the Adriatic coast for marine biology.

R. SCHUSTER was chairman of the institute for 22 of his 27 years. He was relieved of this responsibility for two years, from 1985 to 1987 by the late Professor H. HERAN of the Department of Comparative Physiology. HERAN's successor since 1992, Prof. H. RÖMER, has chaired the institute since 1993. Thanks are seldom expressed for administrative work and it tends to be taken for granted as part of the job of chairman. For just this reason, this opportunity should not be missed to mention Prof. SCHUSTER's activities in this direction and his achievements in improving the infrastructure of the department. Shortly after taking on the position in Graz, he started working on important construction projects. Labs were modernised and re-equipped and new labs acquired along with workstations for students; the departmental library was relocated and modernised, the departmental collection was rebuilt and reorganised, seminar rooms were renovated or acquired and the lecture hall was renovated and provided with modern audio-visual equipment. Though it might today be taken for granted, it should not be forgotten that Prof. SCHUSTER took care early on that labs and workrooms be provided with excellent equipment and optical instruments.

Though it represented additional responsibility, in 1973 Prof. SCHUSTER gladly accepted the honour of being named Dekan of what at the time was the Faculty of Philosophy. Other Austrian and international honours are listed below.

All that remains is to say a few words about Prof. SCHUSTER as a person which is not difficult for someone who has worked with him for many years. I have been knowing him since his first day at our institute as a charming, humorous and always friendly gentleman who retains his poise even in difficult situations. Those who worked with him always knew they could not wish for a better boss. The high esteem in which he is held by the staff members and his students requires no further comment.

As a scientist for whom "organismic zoology" was close to his heart, R. SCHUSTER in recent years often expressed his regret that modern research methods, as desirable as they are, increasingly neglect the organism as a whole. In private conversation Prof. SCHUSTER has sometimes humorously but with a touch of resignation called himself a dinosaur "whose time has come to retire". This he mentioned also in the context of an unpleasant trend, that he has often criticised, to publish works fast and prematurely, even in international journals and even if they are imprecise and superficial. This form of scientific dishonesty must indeed be painful for one who is anything but superficial himself.

R. SCHUSTER started out as a young instructor who was popular with his students and now will be beginning an “active retirement” as professor emeritus on October 1, 1998. As a person who was always active, he has taken care that the transition to that position will not be an abrupt break. Happily, the university catalogue for 1998/99 lists a number of courses that he will be teaching.

At this point, it is my pleasure to express to Prof. SCHUSTER thanks on behalf of all of his former students for his achievements in teaching and research, and for his work at the Institute of Zoology in Graz. There are, of course, many details that cannot all be mentioned in this appreciation. All of us wish him health and strength and continued pleasure and success in his research work, as well as many happy years in his family that means so much to him.

## **APPENDIX**

### **Awards & prizes**

Theodor-Körner Achievement Award (1956, 1960);

Erzherzog-Johann Research Prize (1957);

Correspondent, Österreichische Entomologische Gesellschaft (1987 onward);

Corresponding Member, Naturwissenschaftlicher Verein für Kärnten (1996 onward);

Honorary Lifetime Member of the International Congresses of Acarology (1998)

### **Appointments (Austrian organizations and institutions)**

Dekan of the Faculty of Philosophy, Karl-Franzens-University, Graz, 1973/74;

President of the Naturwissenschaftlicher Verein für Steiermark, 1972/73, 1974/75, 1995/97);

President of the Österreichische Entomologische Gesellschaft, 1993-1996

### **Appointments in international organizations**

From 1986 onward, member of the International Commission of Zoological Nomenclature (nominated by the Austrian Academy of Sciences);

Board member, DZG (Deutsche Zoologische Gesellschaft), 1989/90;

Executive member, ICA (International Commission of Acarology), 1986-1994;

President, 4th International Congress of Acarology (Saalfelden, Austria, 1974);

President, EURAAC (European Association of Acarologists, 1987/88)

## Involvement in scientific publications

Long-term member of the international editorial board of the journal ACAROLOGIA (Paris) and the INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ACAROLGY (USA);

From 1972 onward referee for the MITTEILUNGEN DES NATURWISSENSCHAFTLICHEN VEREINES FÜR STEIERMARK (Graz)

## List of dedicated taxa

*Allocaeculus schusteri* n. sp. – Arachnida, Acari — FRANZ, H. (1960); Verh. Zool.-bot. Ges. Wien **100**: 83 – Former Yugoslavia.

*Scopaeus (Scopaeus) schusteri* n. sp. – Insecta, Coleoptera — SCHEER-PELTZ, O. (1964); Koleopt. Rundschau **42**: 38 – Rhodos Island.

*Microtritia schusteri* n. sp. – Arachnida, Acari — MÄRKEL, K. (1964); Zool. Verh. (Leiden) **67**: 49 – Brazil.

*Tydeus (Pertydeus) schusteri* n. sp. – Arachnida, Acari — ANDRÉ, M. & M. H. NAUDO (1965); Acarologia **VII**: 674 – Brazil.

*Staurobates schusteri* n. sp. – Arachnida, Acari — GRANDJEAN, F. (1966); Acarologia **VIII**: 696 – Brazil.

*Halachorutes schusteri* n. sp. – Insecta, Collembola — ARLÉ, R. (1966); Rev. Brasil Biol. **26**: 370 – Brazil.

*Halolaelaps (Halolaelaps) schusteri* n. sp. – Arachnida, Acari — HIRSCHMANN, W. (1966); Acarologie (Fürth) **9**: 33 – Italy.

*Parholaspulus schusteri* n. sp. – Arachnida, Acari — HIRSCHMANN, W. (1966); Acarologie (Fürth) **9**: 34 – USA.

*Holaspulus schusteri* n. sp. – Arachnida, Acari — HIRSCHMANN, W. (1966); Acarologie (Fürth) **9**: 34 – Brazil.

*Pseudoparasitus schusteri* n. sp. – Arachnida, Acari — HIRSCHMANN, W. (1966); Acarologie (Fürth) **9**: 35 – Brazil.

*Hypoaspis schusteri* n. sp. – Arachnida, Acari — HIRSCHMANN, W. (1966); Acarologie (Fürth) **9**: 35 – Greece.

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## Additional data on teaching and research activities

Teaching: All areas of zoology, especially general zoology, morphology and ecology.

Research: Main areas of emphasis: a) soil zoology, b) arthropods, especially arachnids. Subjects of research centre on morphology, systematics, ecology/bionomy, zoogeography, behaviour. Research expeditions: a) tropics (South and Central America, Bermuda, Mauritius, Hawaii); b) in other climatic regions (northern Europe, Mediterranean and others).



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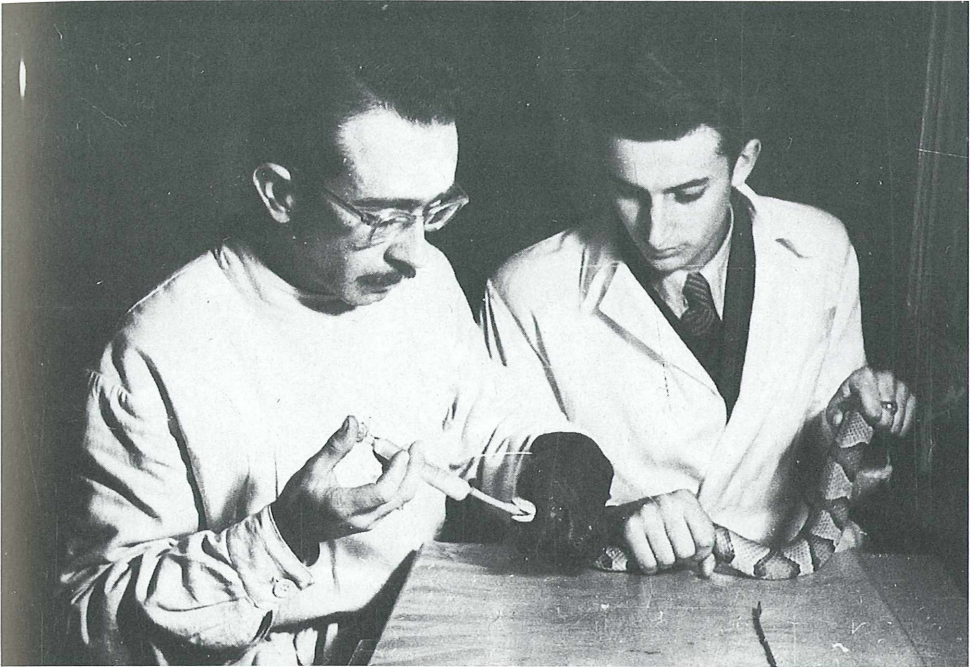
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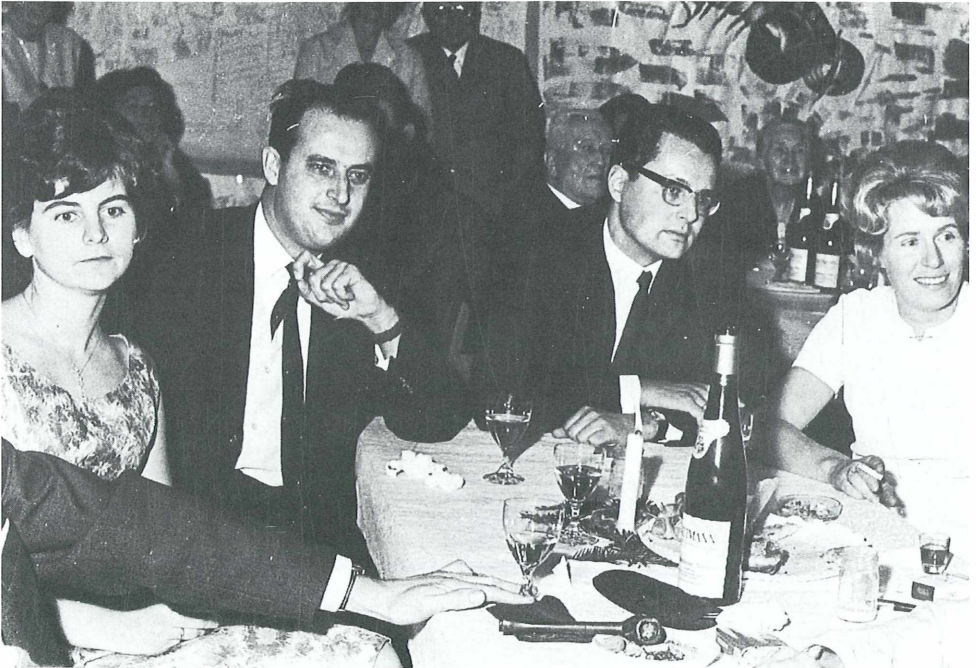
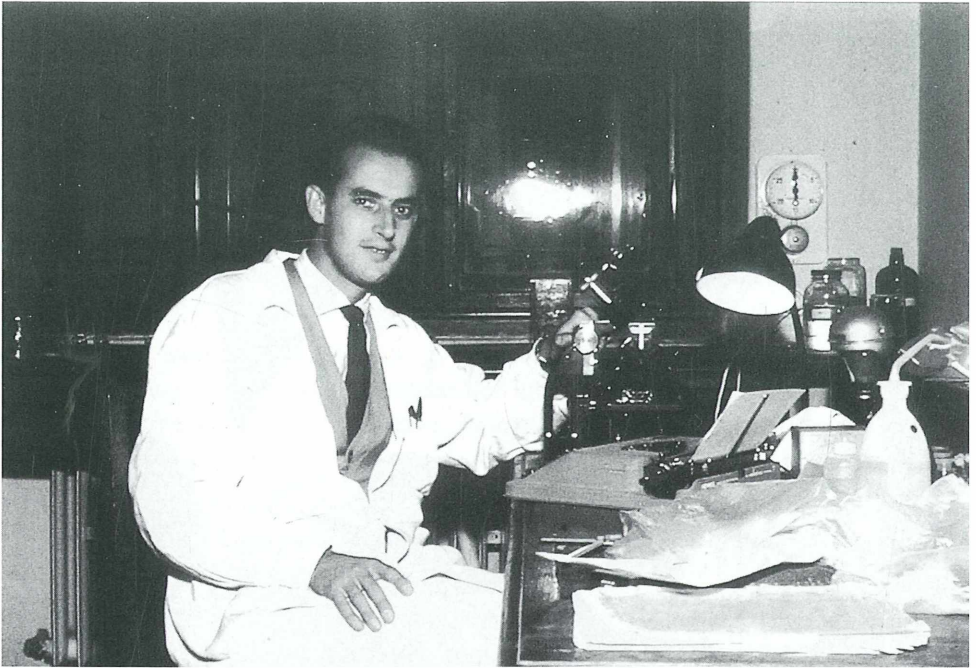
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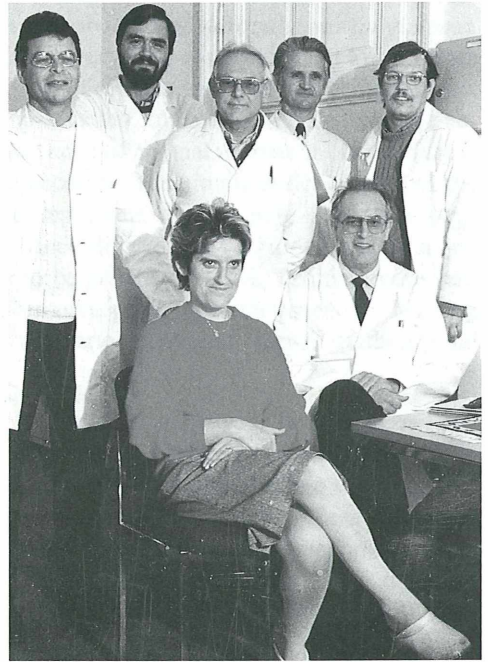
**Top:** The 20 year-old student R. SCHUSTER (r.), Graz 1950. **Bottom:** Awarded Doctorate (PhD), Karl-Franzens-University Graz, 1954





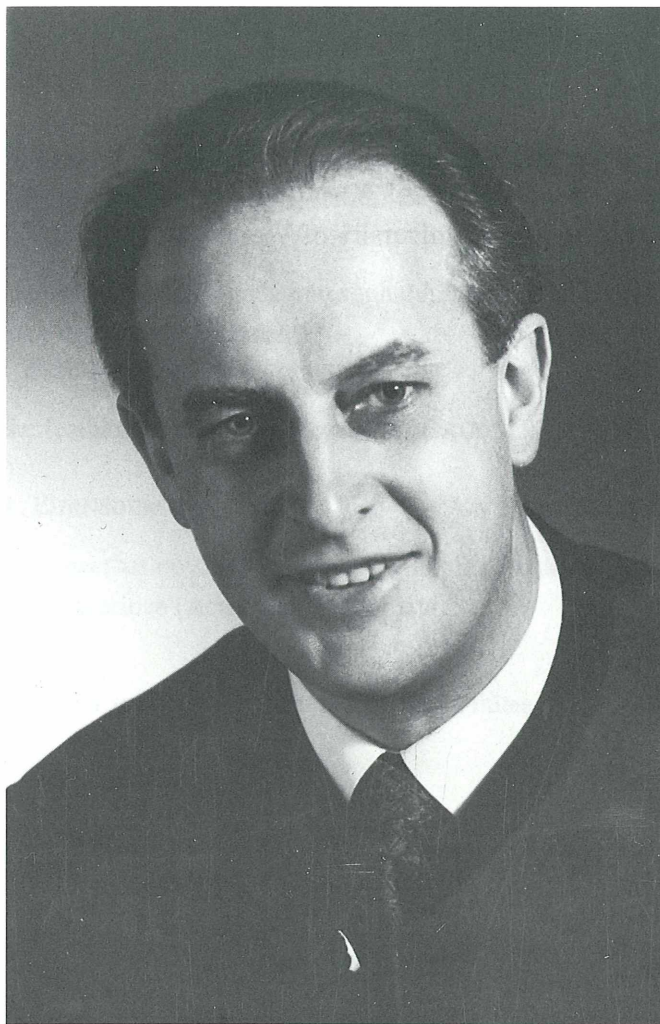
**Top:** The young Dozent at the former “Zoological Institute”, Graz 1959. **Bottom:** From l. to r.: Mrs. I. J. SCHUSTER, Doz. R. SCHUSTER, Doz. K. IMMELMANN (†) and Mrs. VON FRISCH; Zoological Institute of the Technical University Braunschweig, 1966





**Top:** Prof. SCHUSTER with students of the Kiel University on the Hackelsberg, Burgenland, Austria, 1968. **Bottom (left):** Prof. E. REISINGER (†) and his successor Prof. R. SCHUSTER; E. REISINGER's 75th birthday, Graz 1975. **Bottom (right):** Prof. SCHUSTER with some members of his staff, Institute of Zoology, Graz 1988. Left to R. SCHUSTER Mrs. R. SPANNINGER, secretary since 1974; background from l. to r.: H. KAISER, E. EBERMANN, O. KEPKA (†), G. FACHBACH, G. JURSCHITSCH

This volume is dedicated to Dr. Reinhart SCHUSTER, on his retirement as o.Univ.-Professor, former Chairman of the Institute of Zoology, Head of Department for Morphology and Ecology, Karl-Franzens-University, Graz, Austria, on October 1, 1998.



o.Univ.-Prof. Dr. Reinhart SCHUSTER, Graz 1980

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Jahr/Year: 1998

Band/Volume: [14](#)

Autor(en)/Author(s): Ebermann Ernst

Artikel/Article: [Prof. R. Schuster - a Laudatio. In: EBERMANN E. \(ed.\), Arthropod Biology: Contributions to Morphology, Ecology and Systematics. 1-25](#)