

EDITORS' NOTE

In this issue, we would like to congratulate our longstanding friend and member of the Advisory Board, Dr. Hubert Klus, on receiving the TSRC Lifetime Achievement Award 2019 at the occasion of the 73th TSRC Annual Meeting in Leesburg, Virginia, in September of this year.

Hubert Klus served on the Advisory Board of *Beiträge zur Tabakforschung International* since 1981 making him the senior member of this panel of scientists. Even more important, he has been an author of *Beiträge* for almost four decades, publishing his first manuscript in our Journal in 1982. His output has been considerable, we have published eight of his manuscripts in our Journal, though his complete publication list is much more extensive. And we are very happy to report that he is not done yet. Next year will see an important publication on nicotine and alkaloids in tobacco.

Hubert Klus' connection to us, the editors, is even longer-lived, dating back almost 40 years when we first met over a project. Thus we are delighted that Hubert is the recipient of the 2019 TSRC Lifetime Achievement Award. An honour well deserved! Please find the laudatory speech from the ceremony in this issue.

On the other hand we are sorry to report that another longstanding member of our advisory board has decided to retire from this panel. Dr. Lutz Müller, formerly of R.J. Reynolds Tobacco and in later years of Japan Tobacco International, has been a member of the board since 1996. Dr. Müller was a dedicated and conscientious reviewer of manuscripts who has helped to improve scores of manuscripts for *Beiträge*. In matters of language editing and wording he has been the ultimate addressee for all manner of question from the editorial office – and he always gallantly put his scientific knowledge and his linguistic skills at our disposal. Furthermore we also count him among our studious and renowned authors, among his publications in our Journal are two major review articles, the most recent of which dates from 2016.

We would like to take the opportunity to express our sincere gratitude to Dr. Müller for all he has done for our Journal and its authors. We wish him and his family all the best for the years to come. It is our hope that he still might want to follow the development of the Journal in the future.

And last but not least we would like to inform our readers that our Advisory Board will be reinforced from 2020 by Dr. Thilo Paschke of Japan Tobacco International. We look forward to him joining the Advisory Board and we would like to welcome him to this panel of scientists.

We wish our readers a Merry Christmas and a prosperous and Happy New Year 2020.

Wolf-Dieter Heller

Gerhard Scherer