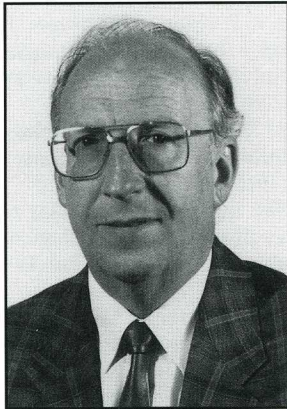


## IN MEMORIAM



*H. Anton Castenholz  
1930-1998*

Professor Dr. med. A. Castenholz died on December 5, 1998, soon after retiring after 41 years of scientific work. We mourn this creative spirit in lymphology. In the future, scientists working on physiology and morphology will have to compare and test the accuracy of their findings with the excellence in the field of microcirculation, the initial lymph vessels, and the interstitium that the work of Professor Castenholz encompassed.

Professor Castenholz was born in Bonn, Germany on April 25, 1930. He studied medicine in his hometown of Innsbruck and received his doctorate in 1957. After a short internship at the First Medical Clinic in Mainz, he became progressively more attracted to basic research. From 1964 to 1975, he worked as a scientific assistant and later as a lecturer at the anatomic institute of the Marburg/Lahn University where he ultimately qualified for anatomy and experimental morphology and later became the Head of the Department of Experimental

Morphology. He remained in Marburg until his appointment as Director and Professor of Human Biology in Kassel. In his position as Director of the Institute, he was a superb, up-to-date lecturer describing new and highly sophisticated histologic methods using the most advanced technology. His students were always enthusiastic about his neural anatomical demonstrations as he consistently presented in crystal clear fashion the inner workings and correlations of the highly complex human nervous system. At the International Symposium that took place in Zurich in 1984, organized by Professors Bollinger (Zurich) and Partsch (Vienna), Professor Castenholz startled the lymphologic world when he presented completely original scanning electron micrographs of initial lymphatics. At that time, these fine structural studies were a major step forward for characterizing initial lymphatic capillaries in the framework of newly developed clinical techniques such as indirect lymphography and microlymphography. Before then, initial lymphatics were recognized and cumbersome reconstructed solely by means of light and transmission electron microscopy using serial section preparations. By instilling fixatives and mould resin in the rat tongue, Professor Castenholz was successful in filling and dilating initial lymphatics for optimal scanning electron microscopy. The renowned display of initial lymphatics in human skin later done by D. Berens von Rautenfeld was based on Castenholz's original methodology.

In the early 90's, Professor Castenholz once again pioneered morphologic studies by depicting dynamic processes in initial lymphatics using fluorescence microscopy. These studies were and still are pivotal for

better understanding of the formation of lymph.

Professor Castenholz's groundbreaking research was contained in more than 163 papers published in leading scientific journals, and his presentations were always a high point of national and international congresses. In more than 116 lectures he described his sophisticated designs, and his superb communication skills were refreshing in disseminating fundamental knowledge about basic lymphology to the world community. He also produced 28 scientific videos.

Besides his academic achievements, Professor Castenholz had a life-long passion for music, keeping two pianos, which he played religiously in his study. He also was a superb craftsman, and he imaginatively designed and constructed his own domestic furniture and cabinets.

Many of us had the pleasure to accompany him to many different countries over the years at various national and international congresses. His commitment to learning about different cultures and exploring landscape photography were inspiring and entertaining and complemented his uniformly stimulating, enriching, and creative comments during scientific discussions.

The German Speaking Lymphologists and the International Society of Lymphology as well as the world scientific community at large have truly lost a dear friend and distinguished scientist and scholar.

**Dr. med. E. Földi**  
**President of the International**  
**Society of Lymphology**