



Leopoldina
Nationale Akademie
der Wissenschaften

Curriculum Vitae Prof. Dr. Dr. h.c. mult. Rüdiger Wehner



Name: Rüdiger Wehner
Born: 6. February 1940 in Nuremberg
Family Status: married to Sibylle Segesser von Brunegg

Academic and professional career

2008-2010 Guest Professor (Alexander von Humboldt Awardee) at the Biocenter of the University of Würzburg, Germany

2005-2008 Emeritus Research Professor, University of Zürich, Switzerland

1991-2008 Non-Resident Permanent Fellow at the Institute for Advanced Study (Wissenschaftskolleg), Berlin, Germany

1987-1993 Andrew Dickson White Professor (at Large), Cornell University, USA

1976-1980, 1986-2005 Director of the Institute of Zoology, University of Zürich

1974-2005 Full Professor, University of Zürich

1973-1974 Visiting Professor at the Department of Biology, Yale University, USA

1972 Associate Professor and

1970 Assistant Professor, University of Zürich

1967-1970 Senior Assistant at the Institute of Zoology, University of Zürich (under the supervision of Professor Ernst Hadorn)

- 1969 Habilitation at the Science Faculty of the University of Zürich
- 1967 PhD at the University of Frankfurt (Main), Germany (under the supervision of Professor Martin Lindauer)
- 1966 Civil-Service Examination (Staatsexamen) in Biology and Chemistry, University of Frankfurt (Main)
- 1960-1967 Studies in Biology, Chemistry, and Philosophy, University of Frankfurt (Main)

Additional offers received

- 1986 Full Professor, Yale University, New Haven, USA
- 1974 Full Professor (C4), Technical University of Munich, Germany
- 1974 Full Professor (C4), University of Cologne, Germany

Honors and Awarded memberships

- 2012 Fellow of the International Society for Neuroethology
- 2010 Associate of the Neurosciences Research Program (NRP), USA
- 2009 University Silver Medal, University of Tübingen, Germany
- 2008 King Faisal International Prize for Science
- 2007 Alexander von Humboldt Research Award
- 2006 Honorary Member of the German Zoological Society
- 2005 Honorary Doctorate (Dr. rer. nat. h.c.) awarded by the Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany
- 2005 Honorary Foreign Member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences
- 2003 Honorary Doctorate (Dr. sci. nat. h.c.) awarded by the University of Lund, Sweden
- 2002 Marcel Benoist Preis
- 2002 Honorary Doctorate (Dr. rer. nat. h.c.) awarded by the Carl von Ossietzky University, Oldenburg, Germany
- 2000 Member of the Royal Swedish Physiographic Society
- 1998 Corresponding Member (foreign countries) of the Austrian Academy of Sciences
- 1996 Distinguished Scientist Award of the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), USA
- 1996 Corresponding Member of the Academy of Sciences at Göttingen
- 1995 Member of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences

1994	Karl Ritter von Frisch Medal and Science Prize of the German Zoological Society
1993	Carus Medal of the German Academy of Sciences Leopoldina and Carus Prize of the City of Schweinfurt, Germany
1993	Honorary Foreign Member of the American Philosophical Society
1989	Member of the Academia Europaea
1987	Corresponding Member of the Bavarian Academy of Sciences
1985	Member of the German Academy of Sciences Leopoldina
1977	Corresponding Member of the Academy of Sciences and Literature at Mainz
1967	Annual PhD Award of the Johann Wolfgang von Goethe University of Frankfurt (Main), Germany
1960-1967	Member of the German National Merit Foundation (Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes)

Functions in scientific societies and committees (selection)

since 2010	Member of the Scientific Board of Humboldt University, Berlin, Germany
since 2010	Member of the Scientific Advisory Board and the Advisory Board in the Arts of the Institute for Advanced Study (Hanse-Wissenschaftskolleg) at Delmenhorst, Germany
since 2008	Member of the Austrian Science Council
2005-2006	Member of the Strategic Commission of the German Science Council (German Excellence Initiative)
since 2005	Member of the Search Committee Life Sciences, Koerber Foundation, Hamburg, Germany
since 2005	Adjunct Switzerland (and Senator) of the German Academy of Sciences Leopoldina
since 2001	Member of the Board of the Cogito Foundation, Switzerland
2000-2009	Member of the University Council, University of Tübingen, Germany
since 1999	Member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Senckenberg Research Institute, Frankfurt (Main), Germany
1997-2003	Member of the Steering Committee of the Neuroscience Center of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) and the University of Zürich, Switzerland
1996-2000	Member of the University Council, University of Zürich, Switzerland
1995-2005	Member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the Biocenter of the University of Würzburg, Germany

- 1995-1998 Member of the Steering Committee of the Sussex Centre for Neuroscience, Great Britain
- 1987-1990 Member of the Academic Advisory Board of the Institute for Advanced Study (Wissenschaftskolleg) at Berlin, Germany
- 1987-1989 Member of the Board of the International Society for Neuroethology
- 1984 Annual President of the Swiss Natural Science Society (henceforth the Swiss Academy of Natural Sciences)
- 1978-1980 Member of the Board of the German Zoological Society
- 1975-1978 Member of the Executive Committee of the Union of Swiss Societies for Experimental Biology (USGEB)

Named Lectureships (Selection)

- 2010 Siemens Lecture, Carl Friedrich von Siemens Foundation, Munich, Germany
- 2009 Raman Lecture, Indian Academy of Sciences, Platinum Jubilee, Bangalore, India
- 2009 The Alice and Joseph Brooks International Lecture on the Neurosciences, Harvard Medical School, Boston, USA
- 2008 Bernhard Rensch Lecture, University of Münster, Germany
- 2007 1st Honorary Masakazu Konishi Lecture, Marine Biological Laboratories (MBL), Woods Hole, Mass., USA
- 2004 Cajal Lecture, Instituto de Neurobiologia "Ramon y Cajal", Madrid, Spain
- 2003 Keck Lecture, California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, USA
- 2003 Robert J. Terry Lecture, Washington University, St. Louis, USA
- 2002 Bauer Lectures, Brandeis University, Boston, USA
- 2002 Keck Lecture, University of North Carolina, Raleigh, USA
- 2001 1st Karl von Frisch Lecture, Austrian Academy of Sciences, Vienna, Austria
- 2001 Official Speech at the Dies universitatis, University of Tübingen, Germany
- 2001 Official Speech at the Dies academicus, University of Zürich, Switzerland
- 2001 Givaudan Lecture, Annual Meeting of the Association for Chemoreception Sciences, Sarasota, USA
- 1999 Official Speech at the Dies academicus, University of Regensburg, Germany
- 1999 Stiles Lecture, University of London (UCL), Great Britain
- 1998 JSPS Lectureship Series of the Japanese Society for the Promotion of Science; Japan
- 1998 1st Walter Heiligenberg Memorial Lecture, University of California, San Diego, USA
- 1994 Dupont Neuroscience Lecture, University of Arizona, Tucson, USA

- 1992 Alexander Forbes Lectures and Grass Fellowship, Marine Biological Laboratories (MBL), Woods Hole, Mass., USA
- 1989 Michael Perkins Lecture, University of Cambridge, Great Britain
- 1988 Storer Life Science Lectures, University of California, Davis, USA
- 1975 Rand Lecture and Fellowship at the Marine Biological Laboratories (MBL), Woods Hole, Mass., USA

Freitext über die persönlichen Arbeitsschwerpunkte

Rüdiger Wehner's research revolves around the neuroethological analysis of insect vision and visually guided behaviour. His multidisciplinary approach combines neuroanatomical, neurophysiological and behavioural analyses with computer simulations and robotic implementations. By focussing on one group of organisms, the desert ant *Cataglyphis*, he has rendered this insect a model organism in the study of animal navigation. At Zurich University Rüdiger Wehner has served for more than two decades as the Director of the Institute of Zoology, which he converted into a well recognized multifaceted institution of biological research and teaching spanning the range from molecular developmental genetics in *Drosophila* to vertebrate behaviour. As a Non-Resident Permanent Fellow of the Institute for Advanced Study (Wissenschaftskolleg) at Berlin Wehner has established the Fellow programmes in the life sciences now common at this institution.