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## **Gerhard H. Jirka Memorial - Colloquium on Environmental Flui Mechanics**

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# Gerhard H. Jirka Memorial Colloquium on Environmental Fluid Mechanics

June 3 – 4, 2011, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT)  
Karlsruhe, Germany



Professor Gerhard H. Jirka

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The Gerhard H. Jirka Memorial Colloquium on Environmental Fluid Mechanics was held at the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Germany on June 3 and 4, 2011, in honour of Professor Gerhard H. Jirka who passed away unexpectedly on February 14, 2010. Prof. Jirka was widely known for his outstanding work in the area of Environmental Fluid Mechanics. 23 invited world-leading experts in this field presented keynote lectures in appreciation and recognition of Prof. Jirka's work and achievements. The lectures provided high-level state-of-the-art scientific information on several key areas of Environmental Fluid Mechanics such as Fluvial Hydraulics, Shallow Flows,

Buoyant/Stratified Flows, Gravity Currents, Mass Transfer and Small Scale Phenomena and included experimental, theoretical and numerical studies. A list of the lectures can be found in <http://jirka-colloq2011.ifh.kit.edu/>, and Memorial Proceedings containing the written papers will be published by CRC Press/Balkema (Taylor & Francis Group) in the IAHR series. In opening addresses before the scientific keynote lectures, Prof. D. Löhe, Vice President of KIT, acknowledged the important role which Gerhard Jirka played at KIT, in particular his engagement in the formation process of KIT (merging of University of Karlsruhe with the Karlsruhe Research Center), Prof. H. Kobus, University of Stuttgart, reviewed his contributions to German water research, J. Stocker, Technical Head of the Consorzio Venezia Nuova, reported on his advisory role in the Venice Lagoon project and Prof. N. Tamai, President of IAHR, recalled Gerhard Jirka's activities in IAHR, in particular

as Vice President during 2005-2009 and his lasting impact in introducing a new, modern structure in IAHR. Dr. Bleninger, presently at the University of Parana, Brazil, gave an overview of some of Gerhard Jirka's main scientific achievements. At the conference dinner, Dr. John Fenton, TU Vienna, presented personal reminiscences of Gerhard Jirka which, in a very entertaining way, highlighted the great human side of Gerhard.

120 participants (see group photo) from all around the world, with strong representation of former and present IAHR officials, attended the colloquium, paying tribute to the late Gerhard Jirka and his scientific achievements and learning a lot about recent developments in Environmental Fluid Mechanics.

