

PORTRAITS



Professor Dr. Ing. OKTAY TABASARAN
born in Neveshir (Turkey) 1938

Education

- 1957 study of civil engineering at the Technical University Stuttgart
- 1967 Doctoral. Degree (Dr.-Ing.) "Options for the acceleration of sludge digestion"

Academic activities

Assistant of Prof. Pöpel at the Institute for waste water, water supply and water quality management, University Stuttgart. 1974 Full Professor for Waste management, (the first one in Germany).

Education activities

Implementation of the topics of waste management (basics, landfilling, biological and thermal treatment and recycling) in a special course in the study of civil engineering. He was playing an important role in creating and establishing a master course "Infrastructure planning" and a Master course "Air Quality Control, Solid Waste and Waste Water Process Engineering (WASTE)" (in English) and was Study Dean of the interdisciplinary Diploma study Course "Environmental Engineering" He was the first professor who covered all aspects of waste management by integrating his team for special aspects. Hundreds of Diploma and Master Thesis were elaborated under his supervision. Eighteen Doctoral thesis were successfully finished under his guidance. From his school at least now international eight professors were born and nine more in the second generation.

Scientific activities

He established four areas of research at his Institute:

- Landfilling (development of gas production, gas migration, construction of gas and leachate collection systems);
- Biological treatment (technical development, product quality definition, odour emission control);
- Thermal treatment: test and optimisation of pyrolysis plants;
- Hazardous waste. Leachate treatment from hazardous waste landfills).

In these areas more than 100 research projects were carried out for the German research Ministry, the EU, the German environmental agency, the Environmental Ministries of nearly all German countries, and industry.

Next to that in his Institute analytical methods for waste analyses the design for waste management concepts were developed. More than 50 Of these concepts were elaborated.

Main achievement

He provided important contributions to the preparation of the first German waste law in 1972. And, in the following years, he was permanently an advisor to the government not only in Germany as well as in other countries.

Knowing that it is important for such an emerging scientific field that the results from research must transferred into practice, he organized seminars for people from the administration and consultants to promote the knowledge about waste engineering.

Especially a seminar with Poland and Turkey were a great international success. 2009 he was the General Secretary of the World Water Forum in Istanbul and leading member of the executive committee of the international 3 W conference in Istanbul in 2013.

Others

To disseminate the results of his research and to get a better feedback from the practice he was involved in many waste management concepts and planning processes for waste treatment plants.

He has more the 100 publications, was the editor of the publication series "Stuttgarter Berichte zur Abfallwirtschaft" with 80 editions under his supervision. One of the standard book for students in Germany about waste management was edited by him.

Personal remarks: Professor Tabasaran established "Waste Management" as an academic field in environmental engineering in Germany. He is the first and last generalist at a German university regarding waste management with the talent to familiarize himself deeply in special topics.

He has the talent to motivate his coworkers in a warm and familiarly way giving them freedom in their research and backstopping whenever it is necessary.