

## EDITORIAL

On the occasion of the start of Volume 8 by this issue, I want to take the opportunity to thank

Karel Culik II and Peter H. Starke

for their active work in the Editorial Board of this journal which they did since the edition of the first volume in 1996, not to forget that Peter H. Starke was already on the board of the predecessor journals. Both retired recently, and therefore have concluded their editorial work. I wish them further pleasure and success in both their scientific and private lives.

Furthermore, I regret to inform that Prof. Dr. Helmut Thiele, one of the founders of this journal deceased in January 2003 (see the following page).

Jürgen Dassow  
Editor-in-Chief

April 2003

## OBITUARY

We are regret to have to inform our readers that

Prof. Dr. Helmut Thiele,

one of the founders of this journal, passed away unexpectedly on January 10, 2003 in his home town Cologne.

Helmut Thiele, born in 1926, studied Mathematics, Physics and Psychology in Halle/Saale and Berlin. Already in his PhD Thesis and Habilitation Thesis he considered many-valued logics and their applicability to problems of programming languages. His main fields of work were non-classical logics, logical systems for Artificial Intelligence, non-monotonic deduction, dynamical logics and the relationship between them and Computer Science. He work as a scientist at the universities of Jena, Berlin and Dortmund.

Early in his career, Helmut Thiele directed his attention to Computer Science and his strong activities in this direction contributed greatly to shaping this new field in Germany, especially in the former GDR, and crucially contributed to its establishment as a new science. In 1965 Helmut Thiele, together with Wilhelm Kämmerer, founded the scientific journal *Elektronische Informationsverarbeitung und Kybernetik*, one of the first journals publishing original research papers in the field of (Theoretical) Computer Science. He worked as the Editor-in-Chief until the beginning of the nineties. The journal was renamed twice in order to reflect better the subjects and the readership and is now entitled *Journal of Automata, Languages and Combinatorics*.

Helmut Thiele will keep alive in the scientific community through his ideas and results, by our readings and discussions of his papers and by his students, some of them are today professors distributed over the whole Germany. We remember him as an extremely engaged and stimulating, and vivid person, always ready to talk and develop new ideas.

Jürgen Dassow  
Editor-in-Chief

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