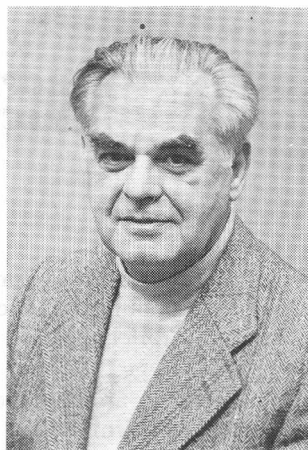


Oskar E. Polansky, 1919—1989

Professor Dr. Oskar E. Polansky died on 15. 01. 1989.

He was born on March 28, 1919 in Vienna, Austria. Oskar Polansky spent his early scientific years at the University of Vienna, under the guidance of F. Wessely. After receiving his Ph. D. in 1957 he qualified as a university lecturer in 1963 and served as the first Professor of the newly founded Institute for Theoretical Chemistry in Vienna from 1965 to 1973. Since 1965 he was also a regular part-time guest in the Max-Planck-Institut für Strahlenchemie in Müllheim a. d. Ruhr, FRG. From 1973 until his retirement in 1987



Professor Polansky was a member of the board of directors of this institute. He was Honorary Professor of the Universities of Vienna and Dortmund, FRG.

O. E. Polansky's scientific interests were remarkably wide. He published a large number of important papers in the fields of physical organic, theoretical and photochemistry. Most of his work is characterized by an effective link between experiment and theory. Important and highly recognized results of O. E. Polansky's work are the »Pars-orbital method« (1967), the benzogenic Photo-Diels-Alder reaction (1981) and the TEMO principle (Topological effect on molecular orbitals) (1982) — to mention just a few of his path-breaking contributions.

In 1975 O. E. Polansky founded the *Journal of Mathematical Chemistry (MATCH)* that he edited jointly with Professors A. T. Balaban, A. S. Dreiding and A. Kerber. The new journal was the first dedicated solely to research in the important and rapidly developing area of mathematical chemistry. An important monograph on »*Mathematical Concepts in Organic Chemistry*« (authored by I. Gutman and O. E. Polansky) appeared in 1986.

In addition to his wide-ranging scientific interests, Professor Polansky devoted much time and effort to scientific education. He lectured at the Universities of Vienna and Dortmund and was the supervisor of more than 30 graduate students studying for a doctorate.

In recognition of his scientific contributions O. E. Polansky received many honours, for example the medal of honour of the Bulgarian Academy of Science (1979).

He had friends all over the world. Professor Oskar E. Polansky was not just a fine scientist, he was an exceptional human being who will be greatly missed.

Our sympathy is conveyed to his wife and family.