

OBITUARY

FOR

PROFESSOR DR. JOHANN BODECHTEL

(* 27.12.1930 † 07.11.2019)

AND

PROFESSOR DR. GUNNAR MULDRUP ØSTREM

(* 25.03.1922 † 12.01.2020)

With our deepest regrets we have the sad duty to inform our members that recently two of our honorary members have passed away.

Professor Dr. Johann Bodechtel (* 27.12.1930 - † 07.11.2019)

Johann Bodechtel, professor in Geology at the University of Munich, was one of the founders of EARSeL. His Institute was one of the leading Remote Sensing laboratories in Europe and he has written very informative books on Remote Sensing.

He was a member of the Bureau from 1976 onwards:

- 1976 – 1977 Vice Chairman
- 1977 – 1982 Vice Chairman
- 1982 – 1984 Chairman
- 1984 – 1985 Chairman
- 1985 – 1987 Chairman



He also acted as the National Representative for Germany on Council for many years. Furthermore, he acted for many years as highly respected counsellor to ESA and the JRC Ispra of the European Commission to promote the young science of Remote Sensing towards an accepted tool with stable budgets in the geographical information of the European Union.

In 2004, he was rewarded Honorary Membership on the occasion of the General Assembly held in the frame of the Symposium in Dubrovnik from the president Eberhard Parlow.

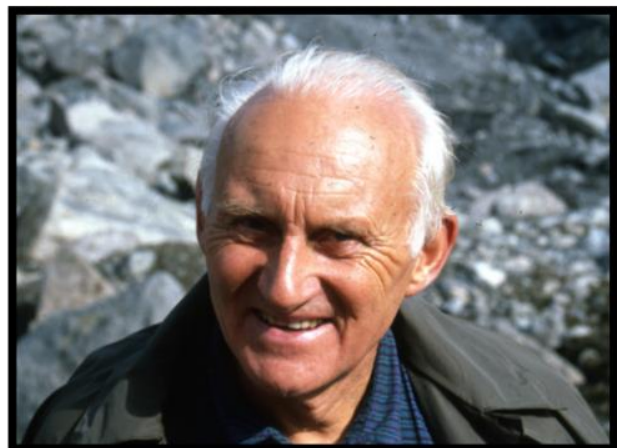


All Bureau members of EARSel's second General Assembly, held in Munich 1978: Johann Bodechtel, Gunnar Østrem, Preben Gudmandsen and Francis Cambou (left to right).

Professor Dr. Gunnar Muldrup Østrem (* 25.03.1922 – † 12.01.2020)

In several ways Gunnar was a very important person for the association. First, he was a founding member of the association in 1976 and became its first treasurer.

He organized the first symposium in Voss in 1981 and since that time he attended many of our symposia. During the early 2000s he was the driving force to convince the EARSel Bureau that it is time for a publication of the EARSel History, which finally was published in 2008. During that time, Eberhard Parlow was the president of EARSel and supported Gunnar's idea very much. During our 2004 symposium in Dubrovnik he was awarded an Honorary Member of EARSel. He quite often attended the symposia, last time in 2010 at UNESCO in Paris.



In 1966, Gunnar arranged for special air-photo missions over the western Canadian mountains resulting in 1:10,000 scale maps of the IHD glaciers and information about the snowline that could be compared to his calculated glaciation levels. The map of Place Glacier was the first metric map ever produced by the Surveys and Mapping Branch. He understood early that satellites and remote sensing would be important tools in glaciology and became an active

board member of the European Association for Remote Sensing Laboratories (EARSeL). In this vein, he collaborated with Richie Williams and Jane Ferrigno on the Glaciers of Norway chapter in the Satellite Image Atlas of Glaciers of the World.



Dubrovnik 2004 with
Johann Bodechtel,
Robin Vaughan,
Madeleine Godefroy,
Gunnar Østrem,
Peter Winkler and
John van Genderen
(from l. to r.)
Back row Eberhard
Parlow.

We shall remember Johann and Gunnar in best memory.
EARSeL President and Bureau