



**Hans Volkert,
IUGG Fellow**

GERMANY

Hans Volkert began inhaling the earthly atmosphere in summer 1955. As academic qualifications he received a diploma in meteorology (*Dipl.-Met.*) from the *Freie Universität Berlin* (1980), and an atmospheric physics doctorate (*Dr. rer.nat.*) from the *Ludwig-Maximilians Universität* in Munich (1983). His professional trajectory started in Berlin as a student assistant in 1977, led to Oberpfaffenhofen near Munich in 1980 as a post-graduate research associate, and became stationary from 1983 onwards. At the *Institut für Physik der Atmosphäre* (IPA) on the Oberpfaffenhofen campus of *Deutsches Zentrum für Luft- und Raumfahrt* (DLR), Hans Volkert advanced from junior to staff scientist (1986) and to senior scientist (2000). His research was, *inter alia*, concerned with mesoscale analyses of climate data, numerical model development, and the conduct and thorough documentation of measurement campaigns with international participation, including the *Mesoscale Alpine Programme* ([MAP](#); 1995-2005) and the *Convective and Orographically-induced Precipitation Study* (COPS; 2004-11) under the auspices of WMO's *World Weather Research Programme*. With the detection of polar stratospheric clouds by an upward looking airborne Lidar system, guided by tailored temperature forecasts at stratospheric levels in 1997, he demonstrated the strength obtained in mesoscale data acquisition when it is tightly linked with numerical weather prediction tools. Hans Volkert's often critical attitude is captured in the snapshot above, taken in his IPA-office overlooking the roof-terrace with a test-site for atmospheric Lidar equipment.

In Germany, Hans Volkert was engaged with a number of projects for DLR, the *Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft* (DFG), and the Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF). On a European level, he coordinated the nine-partner project *Heavy Precipitation in the Alpine Region* ([HERA](#); 1996-1999). Research stays brought him to Australia (1982), France (1992) and the UK (1987, 1990, 1992). For MAP, he developed name and acronym, and sat on committees for the entire duration, chairing some for certain periods. Within IUGG he served as Secretary-General of the *International Association of Meteorology and Atmospheric Sciences* ([IAMAS](#), 2007-15) and as a liaison to the *World Meteorological Organization* (WMO; 2011-15). Since 2018 he has been leading the SPARC-Office at DLR-IPA on behalf of the *World Climate Research Programme* (WCRP).

Dr. Volkert is a Fellow of the Royal Meteorological Society, was co-recipient of the Erich-Regener-Prize for atmospheric research and was awarded a DLR senior-scientist recognition. He also contributed to the creation of some atmosphere at the international MAP-meetings (1995, 2001), the *International Conferences on Alpine Meteorology* ([ICAM](#); 2005, 2007, 2009), and four *IAMAS Scientific Assemblies* from 2009 to 2015. The bulk of his publications as lead and as co-author is kept up-to-date at DLR's institutional repository [eLib](#) (interface in German, each publication carries a pdf-icon for download; all the above terms in [blue](#) can be clicked in order to get to active and permanent web-links).