

Finn Jacobsen, Associate Professor at the Technical University of Denmark (DTU), passed away in his home on Sunday June 30, 2013. Finn Jacobsen will be remembered for making significant scientific contributions in many areas of acoustics, but his main interest was in linear acoustics, sound intensity, acoustic measurement techniques, signal processing, transducers technology, statistical methods in acoustics, and active noise control.

Finn Jacobsen received a M.Sc. degree in electronic engineering in 1974, and a Ph.D. in Acoustics in 1981, both from DTU. In 1985, he became an associate professor at the Department of the Acoustic Technology, DTU, where he also served as head of the Department from 1989 to 1997. In 1996, he was awarded the degree of Doctor Technices by DTU, the highest academic distinction within engineering and technological science in Denmark. Since 2002 he has been the head of the Acoustic Technology group at the Department of Electrical Engineering, DTU. Finn Jacobsen was the head of the organizing committee for the 6th ICSV in 1999, and has organized many technical sessions at acoustics conferences.

Finn Jacobsen was an eager teacher, and insisted on deriving fundamental equations on the blackboard instead of using power point presentation. His course on advanced acoustics was very popular among the students for several reasons. One was the large amount of laboratory work that supplemented the theory and simulations. Another was that his door was always open for students, even late in the evening, and many students benefitted from his advice and help. During his time at DTU he supervised 12 PhD project and close to 100 M.Sc. projects.

Throughout his career he was extremely dedicated to his work, publishing nearly 100 journal papers and over 100 conference papers. In 2013, he finished the book "Fundamentals of General Linear Acoustics" co-authored by Peter Juhl. A key point for Finn Jacobsen's research was the experimental validation of theory. After students had gone home, he would often stay in the lab, performing measurements and testing new measurement techniques. As a colleague, Finn Jacobsen was always extremely kind and helpful. He would always take the time to discuss any issue, scientific or otherwise, and always gave his honest opinion on the matter at hand.

Finn Jacobsen spent most of his life on acoustics, but when he did not work, he would spend his time and money on travelling and enjoying the good food and wines of the world. He also had a strong interest in language and literature.

His overall contribution to the Acoustics Technology group at DTU and the influence he has had on the students and colleagues in acoustics is immense. For all of us, his passing is a great loss - both on a professional and a personal level - and we will miss him deeply.

According to Finn Jacobsen's own wish, there will be no funeral ceremony. Finn Jacobsen is survived by his sister, Lone Jacobsen.

Colleagues from the Acoustic Technology group at DTU

