

Scientific career

Heinz Gerhäuser was born in Munich in 1946. He studied at the Friedrich-Alexander University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Germany, receiving his degree in Electrical Engineering in 1973. From 1973 to 1980 he joined the Faculty of Engineering as a postgraduate scientist. After receiving his doctorate in Electrical Engineering he spent 14 months as a visiting scientist at the IBM San José Research Laboratory, USA.

From 1981 to 1985 he was responsible for the development of the Liaison Office for Research and Technology Transfer Group FFT at the Friedrich-Alexander University of Erlangen-Nuremberg.

He was appointed deputy director of the Fraunhofer Institute for Integrated Circuits IIS in Erlangen in 1985, since 1993 he has been heading Fraunhofer IIS as director. Under his leadership, the Fraunhofer IIS has grown into the largest of the 57 Fraunhofer Institutes, currently employing approx. 600 staff members.

On 1 August 1999, Heinz Gerhäuser was appointed university professor of the endowed Chair of Information Technologies with Focus on Communication Electronics at the Friedrich-Alexander University Erlangen-Nuremberg.

Activities

His main activities include audio and video coding, e.g. development of the MPEG Layer 3 (MP3) format, wireless telecommunications systems, digital broadcasting systems, net access technology, international standardization, microelectronic circuits and systems, communications technology in logistics, medical engineering and teleworking. Wide-ranging research has led to a total of more than 240 national and international patents.

Heinz Gerhäuser has published more than 20 conference papers and has given more than 100 international scientific presentations. He played an important role in the ISO standardization of MPEG 1-Audio Layer 3. This audio coding method has succeeded as MP3 system worldwide. Under his direction Fraunhofer IIS made outstanding contributions to the development of digital broadcasting systems

- In the past seven years (since 1998), Prof. Gerhäuser granted 190 million Euro third-party funds (public and industry) at Fraunhofer IIS and 700 thousand Euro at LIKE
- Program chairman and chairman of several international conferences and member of numerous conference committees (e.g. 6th German-American Frontiers of Engineering Symposium 2003, USA; Embedded World 2004, Germany; Perspective Technologies in the Mass Media – PTMM 2005, Russia, INC 2006-2009, AMI 08, Int. WSBC)
- Partner in the DFG Collaborative Research Center SFB 603 “Modellbasierte Analyse und Visualisierung komplexer Szenen und Sensordaten”
- FIT4AGE
- Participation in numerous European joint projects, very often with Fraunhofer IIS as coordinator

Interdisciplinary Activities

- Organization and administration of the "Zukunftswerkstatt Digitales Radio" ("Workshop to address Future Aspects of Digital Radio") cross-faculty seminar, which deals with aspects of media law and ethics, journalism, technology and marketing and is held jointly with the

Faculties of Theology, Languages and Literature, Economics and Social Sciences, Education, Law, and Engineering at Friedrich-Alexander University.

- Media Law Issues Officer for Friedrich-Alexander University's "bit eXpress" digital campus radio station.
- Coordination of "Telearbeit in ländlichen Regionen" ("Teleworking on the Countryside"), a project concerned with both economic and social sciences issues and supported by the Bavarian Ministry of Agriculture.

Memberships

- Member of the Wissenschaftlich-Technischer Beirat WTB der Bayerischen Staatsregierung (Science and Technology Advisory Panel of the Bavarian State Government)
- Member of the Jury for the "Deutscher Zukunftspreis" (German Future Award), which is bestowed by the Federal President of Germany
- Chair of the Bavarian IuK Cluster (together with Prof. Broy, Passau, Prof. Kempf, and Mr Achatz Nuremberg)
- Member of the "Münchner Kreis", an international association concerned with research in communications
- Member of the Academic Board of the Georg-Simon-Ohm Fachhochschule Nürnberg, University of Applied Sciences
- Member of the Academic Board of the Julius-Maximilians-University of Würzburg
- Member of the Executive Board of the Nürnberger Initiative für die Kommunikationswirtschaft NIK (Nuremberg Initiative for the Communications Industry)
- Chairman of the Fraunhofer Verbund Mikroelektronik (Fraunhofer Microelectronics Alliance)
- Member of Board of directors of the Fraunhofer Group for Information and Communication Technologies
- Senior Member of the IEEE
- Board Member of the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft
- Member of Deutsche Akademie der Technikwissenschaften (Acatech)
- Board member of Zentralverband Elektronik und Elektronikindustrie e.V. (ZVEI)

Awards and Honors

- Honorable Mention Prize in the Bavarian Innovation Award for out-standing innovative achievements. (Anerkennungspreis im Rahmen des Bayerischen Innovationspreises für herausragende innovative Leistungen)
- "Net 21" prize by "The Industry Standard" magazine, New York, "for the most influential software - MP3"
- Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany (Bundesverdienstkreuz 1. Klasse des Verdienstordens der Bundesrepublik Deutschland)
- Medal of Merit for Outstanding Services to the Bavarian Economy (Bayerische Verdienstmedaille für besondere Verdienste um die bayerische Wirtschaft)
- Honorary Professorship of Vladimir State University, Russia
- Medal of Honor by the IHK – Industrie und Handelskammer Nürnberg
- Citizen Medal City of Erlangen

- Honored with the Cultural Award of the Bayreuth district assembly as acknowledgement of outstanding achievements in the area of science
- Honored with the Bavarian Order of Merit
- Hall of Fame
- Most important award of Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft („Fraunhofer Münze“) by the chairman Prof. Bullinger