



The HBRS mourns the loss of its Dean Reinhold E. Schmidt who was also the founder of the MD/PhD Program *Molecular Medicine*.

We are deeply saddened to share with you the passing of our friend and colleague Professor Reinhold Ernst Schmidt who deceased on January 23rd, 2022 briefly after his 70th birthday. He founded the MD/PhD program “Molecular Medicine” and served as Dean of HBRS until 2022. He was chief emeritus of the Department for Immunology and Rheumatology at MHH after his retirement in 2020. Reinhold studied medicine and psychology in Bonn, where he started his clinical training. After completing a post doc at the Dana Faber Institute in Boston, he returned to Germany to become Professor in Internal Medicine and Clinical Immunology at Hannover Medical School. In 1995, he became Head of the Department for Clinical Immunology and in 2007 Head of the Department for Clinical Immunology and Rheumatology at MHH. He devoted his career to study the pathogenesis of immune deficiencies and of autoimmune diseases. He was a dedicated scientist and clinician.

Reinhold provided enormous contributions to MHH, HBRS and to the larger national and international scientific community. He was chair of Scientific Advisory Board for the Paul-Ehrlich Institute and member of the German National Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, and chair of the Clinical Immunology Committee (CIC) of the International Union of Immunological Societies.

In 2000, Reinhold was founding chair at MHH of the first international MD/PhD Program in Germany that he named Molecular Medicine. Soon after, under his leadership, the Hannover Biomedical Research School was born in 2003. Reinhold was a profoundly wise, committed, and compassionate Dean of HBRS for so many years. His unique qualities reemerged in his every interaction with his mentees, his passion for immunology and science inspired vast numbers of students, fellows, and clinician scientists. Particularly remarkable was Reinhold’s unique combination of humor, determination, and generosity as a leader. We will always remember him as a highly energetic and positive thinking person.

On behalf of the HBRS community, we offer our deepest condolences to his wife, Rita, and to his family, friends, and loved ones.