

On the History of the Chair of Forestry Economics and Forest Planning

Outline overview:

- I. Development of the professorship since 1945
- II. History of Forest Economic Research and Teaching in Southwest Germany since c. 1780
- II. The Professors of Forest Economics at the University of Fribourg
(Johann Jakob Trunk, Udo Müller, Christof Wagner, Karl Abetz, Gerhard Speidel, Gerhard Oesten)

I. Development of the Chair of Forestry Economics and Forest Planning (formerly Institute of Forest Economics, before that Institute of Forest Management) since 1945

a) Name of the Chair

Chair of Forestry Economics and Forest Planning
Tennenbacherstr. 4
79106 F r e i b u r g
Tel: + 49 (0)761- 203 3689
Fax: + 49 (0)761- 203 3690
e-mail: forecon@ife.uni-freiburg.de

b) Reconstruction after 1945, buildings, premises, present condition

"The bombing in November 1944 put an abrupt end to the entire teaching and research activities of the Forestry Department. All institutes were left homeless and lost almost all their valuable facilities, collections and libraries. After the upheaval, a new beginning was only possible through the personal commitment and sacrifices of the professors, some of whom even made their flats available to the institute... Finally, in the spring of 1949, the prospect of rebuilding the Old University could be held out. Since the summer of 1952, all forestry institutes..." and thus also the *Institute for Forestry Management and Forestry Business Administration* "..... have been united under the roof of the building in Bertoldstraße, which has been rebuilt in its external form completely according to the old model and within the old walls...." (Quoted from Mantel and Botter 1957:16).

The Institute experienced spatial expansion with the development of the Department of Aerial Photography and Remote Sensing (now the Department of Remote Sensing and Landscape Information Systems) since 1969 (cf. the report by FELIS). The Institute of Forest Economics was housed in the Old University in Bertoldstraße and Werderring 6 respectively until 1998. In 1998 the Institute moved with both departments to new premises in the so-called Herder building, Tennenbacher Str. 4. Since the restructuring of the current Faculty of Environment and Natural Resources in 2014, the Chair of Remote Sensing and Landscape Information Systems has been considered an independent professorship.

c) Structural change of the research profile

In the period from 1945 to about 1968, the profile of the Institute was decisively shaped by Prof. Dr. Karl Abetz (cf. Detten 2001). Research and teaching foci were forest management, forest business administration and forest administration.

The appointment of Prof. Dr. Gerhard Speidel in 1966 resulted in significant shifts in the research and teaching profile:

- The research and teaching area of remote sensing - hitherto part of the Department of Forest Management – was organisationally spun off in line with the growing importance of the subject (1969 official founding of the department by Prof. Dr. Gerd Hildebrandt).
- The weights of research and teaching in forest management and forest business administration shifted. Speidel interpreted forest management as a sub-field of forest business administration, which was now the focus of research and teaching in a neoclassical interpretation and oriented towards Gutenberg's research programme (cf. Oesten 1994).
- From 1989 to 2012, Prof. Dr. Gerhard Oesten continued this shift in emphasis in the research and teaching profile towards forestry economics, with increasing inclusion of the socio-economics of forest use in research & teaching.
- With the appointment of Prof. Dr. Marc Hanewinkel in October 2014, the professorship's research increasingly focuses on the topics of risk analysis (risk detection, modelling and assessment), impacts of climate change on European forests, development of adaptive management strategies, application of modern heuristics to problems of multifunctional forest management, and robust decisions in forest management under deep uncertainty.

d) Scientific profile

Current research focuses are:

1. Risk analysis (risk identification, modelling and assessment) and
2. Analysis of risk and uncertainty from a social science perspective
3. Multifunctional forest management
4. Global Change and Forest Economics
5. "Management change" - forest conversion

e) Development of teaching

After the war until about the mid-1970s, teaching was almost entirely geared to the job profile of the Higher State Forest Service. With the changes in the labour market and the increased number of students, the range of courses was systematically changed and expanded. With the 1994 study reform, there was a complete reorientation of teaching both in terms of content (conveying a stronger reference to a variety of different occupational fields) and in didactic terms (turning away from the classic lecture format, new forms of mixing between lectures, exercises, practical training, seminars and excursions).

f) Outlook on future development opportunities

The future development in research results from the currently turbulently changing issues of institutional change in the forestry and environmental sector in Central Europe as well as from the undiminished significant issues in the forestry sector in international contexts such as the effects of climate change on forests worldwide and the increasing uncertainty in the question of the further development of forests under global change.

g) List of professors

Director of the Institute and full professor for forest management and forest business administration:

1935 - 1964 Professor Dr. Karl Abetz (born 1896, died 1964)

1966 - 1985 Professor Dr. Gerhard Speidel (born 1929, died 1992)

1985 - 1989 Professor Dr. Gerd Hildebrandt (born 1923, acting director, died 2017)

1989 - 2012 Professor Dr. Gerhard Oesten (born 1947)

Professors for Remote Sensing and Landscape Information Systems (Abt- FELIS until 2014)

1969 - 1989 Professor Dr Gerd Hildebrandt (born 1923, died 2017)

1994 - today Professor Dr Barbara Koch

Professor of Forest Economics and Forest Planning

2014 - today Professor Dr Marc Hanewinkel (born 1963)

Literature on the history of the chair:

- Mantel, K. (1957): Die Forstwissenschaft an der Universität Freiburg i.Br. Herausgegeben anlässlich der 500-Jahrfeier der Albert-Ludwigs-Universität Freiburg i.Br. Freiburg.
- Mantel, K. u. Botter, R. (1957): The historical development of forestry education in Baden-Württemberg. (Offprint from the collective work "Aus der Geschichte der Naturwissenschaften an der Universität Freiburg i. Br. Edited by Zentgraf, E. Freiburg.
- Oesten, G. (ed. 1994): Gerhard Speidel. Aufsätze zur Forstlichen Betriebswirtschaftslehre 1949 - 1985. Schriften aus dem Institut für Forstökonomie der Universität Freiburg, Vol. 1. Freiburg.
- Detten, R. von(2001): Karl Abetz - a biographical sketch. In: Becker, M. (ed.): Dokumentation zur Verleihung der Karl-Abetz-Preise 2001. Freiburg: 48-50

II.

History of research and teaching in forest economics in south-west Germany since about 1780

1. Cameralistics period (ca. 1780 to 1800)

Vorderösterreich

1787 - 1794 Forestry Chair at the University of Freiburg:
Johann Jakob Trunk (1745 - 1816)

Württemberg

1781 - 1794 "Hohe Karlsschule" Stuttgart (former military academy)
Johann F. Stahl (1781 - 1790)

and almost simultaneously

1783 - 1793 *Hohenheim* Forest School, Hohenheim
Johann D. Reitter (1783 - 1807)

2. Period of Forest Classicism (ca. 1800 - 1830)

1817 - 1825 University of Tübingen - Subject Forestry at the Staatswiss. Faculty:
Johann Christian Hundeshagen (1818-1821)

3. Period of forest statics and forest profitability doctrines (ca. 1830 - 1920)

Baden

1832 - 1920 Forestry School at the Polytechnic Karlsruhe
Johann Klauprecht (1834 - 1867)
Karl Schubert (1867 - 1899)
Max Endres (1886 - 1895)

Udo Müller (1898 - 1920)
Hans Hausrath (1899 - 1920)

Württemberg

1825 - 1881 Hohenheim Agricultural and Forestry Academy (before 1847 Hohenheim Agricultural Institute)

Johann Melchior Leitter (1820 - 1826)
Wilhelm Heinrich von Gwinner (1826 - 1841)
Hermann von Nördlinger (1845 - 1881)
Carl Luis Tuisko of Lorey (1878 - 1891)

1881 - 1920 University of Tübingen

Hermann von Nördlinger (1881 - 1887)
Carl Julius Tuisko von Lorey (1881 - 1901)
Karl Friedrich von Graner (1887 - 1896)
Christoph Wagner (1903 - 1920)

1920 State treaty between the states of Baden and Württemberg:

Merger of university education from the TU Karlsruhe and the University of Tübingen to the University of Freiburg

4. Period: Education at the University of Freiburg (History of ideas: from the pure land rent (land expectation value) doctrines to modern forestry business management).

1920 - 1935 Chair of Business Administration at the University of Freiburg

Udo Müller (1920 - 1923)
Christof Wagner (1924 - 1935)

1935 - 1994 Institute for Forest Management and Forest Economics at the University of Freiburg

Karl Abetz (1935 - 1964)
Gerhard Speidel (1965 - 1985)
Gerd Hildebrandt (1985 - 1989)
Gerhard Oesten (since 1989 - 2012)

1994 - 2012 Institute for Forest Economics

Gerhard Oesten (1994 - 2012)

From 2013 Chair of Forestry Economics and Forest Planning

Marc Hanewinkel (since 2014)

III.

The Professors of Forestry Economics at the University of Freiburg

Johann Jakob Trunk

born 21 February 1745 in Hershheim near Worms

d. 30 March 1816 in Alsheim near Worms

Professional career

Until 1782	Studies of theology and law at the universities of Heidelberg, Mainz, Würzburg, Göttingen and Gießen; graduated as Doktor juris in Gießen
1777-1782	Senior civil servant in Amorbach in the service of the Electoral Mainz administration
1782-1787	Advocate at the Imperial Chamber Court in Wetzlar
1787-1792	Professor of Forestry at the University of Freiburg (at the same time chief forester for the entire Anterior Austrian provinces)
1792-1800	Professor for the political and cameral sciences at the Electoral Academy and University of Bonn
from 1800	Retirement in Alsheim

Outstanding achievements

- Holder of the first forestry chair at the University of Freiburg, (at the same time the first ever forestry chair at German universities).
- Intensive teaching activity in Freiburg with far-reaching influence on the development of forestry science and forestry in the entire Alemannic region.
- Influential forestry textbook: "Neues, vollständiges Forstlehrbuch, oder systematische Grundsätze des Forstrechts, der Forstpolitik und Forstökonomie" (New, complete forestry textbook, or systematic principles of forest law, forest policy and forest economy) (1788)
- many forestry papers
- Influential position in forestry practice as Chief Forester for the Anterior Austrian Lands

Sources

- K. Mantel und J. Pacher: Forstliche Biographie vom 14. Jhd. bis zur Gegenwart. Volume I. Hanover 1976: 112 ff.
- K. Mantel: Johann Jakob Trunk. His Life and Work. In: AFJZ, 128th Jg. (1957. H. 7: 139-146

Udo Müller

Born 09.11.1864 in Danndorf/Bavaria

Died 20.10.1923 in Freiburg i.Br.

Professional career

- until 1892** Studied forestry in Tharandt and Leipzig
Doctorate in Tübingen on questions of state forest disposal
Appointment as a. o. professor in Karlsruhe
- 1904** Appointment as full professor
- 1916** Election as Rector of the TU Karlsruhe
- 1920** Transfer to the University of Freiburg, Chair of Forest Management

Outstanding achievements

- As a student of Judeich and Kuntze, a staunch advocate of the soil rent doctrine
- Excellent teaching in forest management, forest valuation, timber market theory, etc. for more than 30 years.
- Research focus on wood metrology - outstanding the 3-volume "Lehrbuch der Holzmeßlehre" (3 editions)
- A wide range of publications on almost all areas of forestry management theory.

Source

- *Biography of important foresters from Baden-Württemberg. Published by the State Forestry Administration of Baden-Württemberg. Series LFV Ba-Wü. Vol. 35. Stuttgart 1980.*

Christof Wagner

Born 01.10.1869 in Michelbach am Wald

Died 24. 05.1936 in Stuttgart

Professional career

until 1892	Studied forestry at the University of Tübingen
1894	State Forestry Examination
until 1896	Forest judge in the Württemberg state forestry service
1896	Takeover of the management of the Gräfl. Pückler-Limpurgische Revier in Gaildorf
1902	Royal Head Forester and lecturer at the University of Tübingen
1903	Appointment as full professor of forestry science
1914-1916	Interruption of teaching and research activities due to the 1st World War
1920	Transfer of forestry education to Freiburg; Wagner takes over as head of the Württemberg Forestry Directorate
1924	Assumption of the chair of forest management in Freiburg (in succession to U. Müller)
1935	Retirement

Outstanding achievements

- Outstanding scientist of his time in the field of forest management
- Development of the Blendersaumschlag as a new silvicultural technique
- Influential forestry textbooks:
 - The Spatial Order in the Forest* (1907)
 - The Blendersaumschlag and its System* (1912)
- Many forestry treatises on almost all technical questions of forest management and forestry planning.

Sources

- *Biographie bedeutender Forstleute aus Baden-Württemberg*, Hrg. Landesforstverwaltung Baden-Württemberg. Series of publications of the LFV. Ba-Wü. Vol. 55. Stuttgart 1980.
- König, H.: *Christof Wagner, 1869-1936, ein bedeutender Forstmann*. Self-published by Hans König. Gaildorf, 1994.

Karl Abetz

Born 29.03.1896 in Bauschlott/Kr. Pforzheim

Died 28.01.1964 in Freiburg i.Br.

Professional career

- 1918-1922** Studies in forestry at the universities of Karlsruhe and Freiburg
- 1922** Promotion
- From 1923** Working in the Baden State Forestry Administration
- 1928** Director of the Forestry Research Institute in Braunschweig
- 1934** State Forestry Minister of the Brunswick State Forestry Administration
- 1934** Full professor at the Forestry College in Hann. Münden
- 1935** Professor of Forest Management and Forest Planning at the University of Freiburg
- 1942-1945** General adviser at the Reich Forestry Office
- 1947-1949** Badische Forstverwaltung; project yield assessment and utilisation planning for small private forests
- From 1949** Professor of Forest Management and Forest Business Administration at the University of Freiburg; at the same time Director of the University Institute of the same name and Head of the Business Administration Department at the Forest Research Institute (FVA) Ba-Wü

Outstanding achievements

- With Dieterich and Lemmel, one of the "Great Scientists" of modern forestry business administration
- "Pragmatic" view of science - extensive scientific work that can be characterised by the pursuit of practical application of scientific knowledge.
- Many important works on almost all questions of forest business administration and forest planning, some of which are still significant today, both practically and scientifically.
 - Understanding of forestry management as a business discipline is established (a milestone: the forest management instruction (FED) Braunschweig of 1931).
 - From 1947, research focus on rural forestry (compiled in the book "Bäuerliche Waldwirtschaft. Presented on the basis of the conditions in Baden")
 - Pioneering work on forestry income accounting and operating statistics
 - Influential activity in the field of forest bibliography and terminology
- Extensive and influential activities in policy and management consulting

Karl Abetz Prize

In recognition of Karl Abetz's outstanding services, Erbgraf von Waldburg zu Wolffegg und Waldsee endowed the "Karl Abetz Prize" in 1971 for outstanding contributions to the economic efficiency of private forest enterprises. This prize, as well as three promotional prizes for outstanding dissertations/diploma theses, are awarded by the Faculty of Forestry in Freiburg every two years to this day.

Sources:

Obituaries by ASSMANN in FwCbl 1964 :118-121; HILDEBRANDT in FA 1964:124-129; MANTEL, K. in FuH 1964:113-136 ; SPEER in AFJZ 1964:85-87.

Gerhard Speidel

Born 28.12.1923 in Züllichau (Mark Brandenburg)

Died 03.11.1992 in Freiburg i.Br.

Professional career

1943-1948	Studies, initially mathematics and physics, from 1945 forestry in Göttingen and Hann. Münden
1948-1953	Work in the State Forestry Administration of Lower Saxony
1952	Doctorate; dissertation topic "Stückmassgesetz in der Forstwirtschaft" (supervisor: Prof. Dr. H.H. Hilf)
1953-1957	Head of Division, Rhineland Chamber of Agriculture (Bonn); responsible for forestry planning and business management
1956	Habilitation; topic "Performance control in forestry operations".
1957	Professor of Forest Policy and Forest Business Administration at the University of Göttingen - Hann. Münden
1965-1985	Professor of Forest Management at the University of Freiburg; at the same time Director of the Institute of the same name

Outstanding achievements

- Fundamental new conception of forestry business administration based on neoclassicism - following the factual-theoretical approach of GUTENBERG and the decision-theoretical approach of HEINEN; this scientific programme was largely binding in research and teaching in the German-speaking forestry business administration for several decades.
- 2 Textbooks with far-reaching influence on science and practice:
 - Forest Management - 2 editions 1967 and 1983 respectively*
 - Planning in forestry operations - 1972*
- Over 100 scientific publications, some of which are still significant today.
- Supervision of over 60 dissertations (and post-doctoral theses)
- Extensive and versatile policy and operational advice (e.g. Valuation Advisory Board Federal Ministry of Finance, President DFWR)
- The main focus is on advisory work in the tropics and subtropics (especially Latin America):
 - FAO Project Manager Curitiba, Brazil, foundation and establishment of the first Brazilian forestry faculty 1962-1964 and
 - Co-director of the University Partnership Freiburg-Curitiba 1971-1974

Source

Gerhard Speidel 1923-1992. Commemorative volume published by the Faculty of Forestry in Freiburg on the occasion of a memorial service on 30 April 1993 at the University of Freiburg.

Gerhard Oesten

Born 22.05.1947 in Lübeck

Professional career

- 1968-1972** Study of forestry sciences in Freiburg
- 1973-1979** Doctorate; dissertation topic " Studies on the Socialisation of junior members for the forest administrations", "Summa Cum Laude".
1976-1978 Traineeship (Forstreferendar) at the State Forest Administration Ba-Wü
- 1978-1980** Forestry Inspector (Wehingen and Breisach Forestry Offices)
- 1980-1985** University assistant, Forest Sciences. Fac. Freiburg (Prof. Speidel)
- 1985-1986** Research Associate at the Department of Forestry and Resource Management, University of California, Berkeley, USA
- 1986** Habilitation on the topic "On forestry business administration as an applied social science. Ein Beitrag zu den methodologischen Grundlagen der Disziplin unter besonderer Berücksichtigung verhaltenswissenschaftlicher Forschungsansätze", Freiburg.
- 1989-2012** Professor of Forest Management and Forest Economics at the University of Freiburg, also Director of the Institute of Forest Economics (from 1994 on).

Outstanding achievements

- 1992 to 1994 Dean of the Faculty of Forestry at the University of Fribourg
- 1995 to 1999 Spokesperson of the DFG Research Training Group "Socioeconomics of Forest Use in the Tropics and Subtropics".
- 1999 to 2003 Vice-rector of the Albert Ludwig University Freiburg, Founding Director
- 2007 to October 2012 Executive Director of the Centre for Renewable Energies (ZEE) at the University of Freiburg and Head of the international Master's programme "Renewable Energy Management" (REM)
- many years of involvement in the "Association for" Ecological Economics, of which he was chairman from 2010 to 2012.
- 2004 Awarded the University Medal of the University of Freiburg
- 2005 Appointment as a member of the Polish Academy of Sciences 2005 and the award of the title Doctor honoris causa of the Warsaw Agricultural University
- Supervision of over 40 dissertations; many of his students are now professors themselves at universities and colleges at home and abroad
- In addition to numerous publications, the textbook "Management von Forstbetrieben. (Management of Forest Enterprises)" written by Axel Roeder and him in three volumes has had a far-reaching influence on science and practice to this day.

Source

Tribute on the occasion of his 70th birthday published by the Chair of Forest Economics and Forest Planning of the University of Freiburg.