



Foto: Judith Affolter

Martin Grötschel

served as President of the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities (BBAW) from October 2015 to September 2020.

He was Vice President of the Konrad-Zuse-Zentrum für Informationstechnik (ZIB) from 1991 to 2012 and from 2012 to 2015 ZIB's President. From 2002 till 2008 he chaired the DFG Research Center MATHEON "Mathematics for key technologies", a scientific institution involving about 200 applied mathematicians from the three large Berlin universities and two mathematical research institutes.

Martin Grötschel's main areas of scientific interest are discrete mathematics, optimization and operations research. In his special focus was the design of theoretically and practically efficient algorithms for hard combinatorial optimization problems. He has deep interest in real applications. He has been working with scientists from other disciplines and, in particular, with engineers and economists from industry to mathematically model challenging problems of their domain of expertise. He has contributed to application areas such as telecommunication, chip design and very large scale integration, production planning and flexible manufacturing, logistics, planning of public transportation systems and energy. He also led several projects on electronic information and communication. After having moved to BBAW, he particularly investigating mathematical and IT aspects of digital humanities.

Grötschel was Full Professor of Applied Mathematics at Augsburg University (1982 – 1991) and held several visiting positions abroad. He received a Master's Degree in Mathematics from Bochum University (1973), a Doctoral Degree (1977) and a Habilitation (1981) from Bonn University.

Grötschel's scientific achievements were honored with several distinctions, including the John von Neumann Theory Prize (2006), the EURO Gold Medal (2004), the Leibniz Prize (1995), the Dantzig Prize (1991), the Beckurts Prize (1990), and the Fulkerson Prize (1982). He is a member of seven national and international scientific academies: the Berlin-Brandenburg Academy of Sciences and Humanities (BBAW), of acatech - the German Academy of Sciences and Engineering, of the German Academy of Sciences Leopoldina, of the National Academy of Engineering (NAE), USA, of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS), of The World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) and of Academia Europaea - the Academy of Europe. Furthermore, he is a SIAM Fellow. He received Honorary Doctorates from the University of Karlsruhe (2006), Magdeburg (2008), Augsburg (2011) and the Vietnamese Academy of Science and Technology (2007). In 2008 he received the Scientific Award of the Governing Mayor of Berlin; in 2015 he became TUM Distinguished Affiliated Professor (Technische Universität München), and in 2014 he received the Life Time Award der Stiftung heureka für Umwelt & Mobilität (HEUREKA, 2014).

Grötschel has written and edited about 20 books and published more than 150 scientific papers. He has been on the editorial boards of currently seven scientific journals.

Martin Grötschel has served the academic community in many administrative functions. He was, e.g., on the Executive Committees of the Mathematical Programming Society (MPS) and the German Mathematical Society (DMV), and in 1993-1994 DMV's President. He has been on the Executive Board of BBAW since 2001 and has acted on scientific advisory boards of various organizations and institutions (FWF-Austrian Science Foundation, University of Vienna, Imperial College London, KTH Stockholm, ILOG Paris, CWI Amsterdam, CMM Santiago de Chile, BICMR Beijing), MODEMAT Quito, ÖAW Vienna, VIASM Hanoi, ACEMS Melbourne.

After having served as a member-at-large of the Executive Committee of the International Mathematical Union (IMU) from 1999 to 2006, Martin Grötschel was IMU's Secretary in the period 2007 to 2014. Moreover, Martin Grötschel was the Chair of the Executive Board of the Einstein Foundation Berlin from 2011 to 2015.

More information can be found at: <https://www.zib.de/groetschel>.