soft-spoken, patient and always cheerful, shunning publicity, and with an exceptional ability to explain complicated matters clearly and simply, he became popular with his staff. The first atomic bomb produced by his team was successfully tested in 1952. It led eventually to a hydrogen bomb in 1957.

Penney gradually acquired broader responsibilities for the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority, and became its chairman in 1964. He served in that post until 1967, when he accepted an appointment as head of Imperial College. His open, informal manner gained him people's confidence also in the academic sphere, and in 1968, when most universities had violent student unrest, Penney's influence preserved peace at Imperial College. He retired in 1973.

At hearings of an Australian Royal Commission in 1985, it was suggested that the health of Australian aboriginals had been damaged by British nuclear weapons tests. Though the allegation was not supported by the commission, Penney was deeply hurt, because he had taken great trouble to avoid any risks to the local population or the test staff.

RUDOLF PEIERLS
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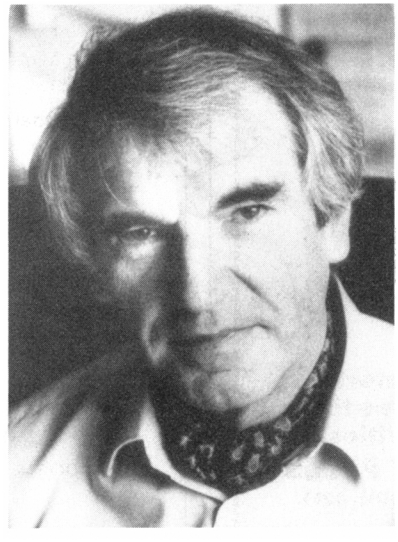
Edgar Lüscher

Edgar Lüscher, professor of physics at the Technical University of Munich, passed away on 6 January 1990 at the age of 64.

Lüscher was born in Switzerland and studied at the ETH Zürich, where his advisers were Wolfgang Pauli and Paul Scherrer. After graduation in 1955 and habilitation at the University of Lausanne, Lüscher worked for a short time in industry. In 1959 he became a faculty member at the University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign. In 1964 he moved to Munich, thus beginning an association with the Technical University of Munich that was to last over 25 years. Beginning in 1966 until his death he was also the director of the Office for Inspection of Technical Systems of the State of Bavaria.

Edgar Lüscher



Lüscher was an outstanding personality and an admirable teacher, adviser and colleague. His scientific work covered atomic physics, condensed matter physics and biological physics. In recent years he was fascinated by complex and disordered systems, and he became an advocate of nonlinear dynamics research.

As head of the Institute E13 at the Technical University he guided students while allowing them to develop their own ideas. The cornerstone of his philosophy was to enhance interdisciplinary contacts. He organized conferences, international summer schools and seminars, and he served as head of the metals division of the European Physical Society. In the classroom, Lüscher's lessons in experimental physics were very popular because of his excellent demonstrations and humor. From these lectures originated his widely used German textbook, *Experimentalphysik* (BI-Verlag Mannheim, 1967). He also ran seminars on applied physics, at which industrial physicists talked about their jobs. As a result of these seminars, many students found employment in industry.

Lüscher had the talent to explain physics to a broad audience. He reestablished the well-known "Professor Auer Lectures" of the Deutsches Museum, created numerous shows for radio and TV, and founded the scientific training program for high school teachers in Bavaria. His caring personality never failed to create the friendly atmosphere that fosters fruitful discussions.

HANS FRAUENFELDER
ALFRED HUBLER
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois
WALTER SCHIRMACHER
Technische Universität
Munich, Germany

J. Gibson Winans

J. Gibson Winans, a professor emeritus of physics at the State University of New York at Buffalo, died on 1 January 1990 of a massive heart