

Peter von MEISS

born January 7, 1938, married
Languages : French, English, German and
Italian (spoken and written); some Modern Greek



since 2003	Professor Emeritus EPFL
2005-06	Visiting Professor and academic advisor, School of Architecture, University of Cyprus, Nicosia
2004-05	Visiting Professor, 2 nd year, Facoltà di Architettura, Alghero, Sardinia (Italy)
1973-2003	Professor of architecture at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne (EPFL) - tenure 1979
1999	Dr. honoris causa of the Institute «Ion Mincu», the Faculty of Architecture Bucharest, Romania
1994-97	Vice-President and President of the EAAE/AEEA congregating some 150 European schools of architecture (the equivalent to ACSA in North America)
1979,1986	two 2 years mandates as Department Head
1970-73	Visiting professor at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne; in charge of the architectural theory and the 2nd year design program
1969/70	Assistant professor at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York graduate program in arch. science
1968/69	Assistant professor at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York: 2nd year design studio
1962-70	Professional practice in Geneva, Switzerland and in Ithaca, NY
1962	Diploma of architecture at the EPFL (equivalent to a master's degree)
1956-62	Studies of architecture at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne. One year practical training in Holland and England. Seminars with Konrad Wachsmann (1959)

ADVISORY BOARDS - PEER GROUP EVALUATIONS - ACCREDITATION

since 1997	Member and occasionally chairman of numerous advisory boards for authorities and universities in Europe: search committees for senior staff, curriculum strategies, peer group evaluations and accreditation in France, Great Britain, Germany, Switzerland, Austria, Cyprus, etc.
since 1995	Director of the «architecture collection» with the editor PPUR, Presses Polytechniques et Universitaires Romandes (to some extent a French brother of MIT Press)
1996-2001	Delegate to the Engineering and Architecture Department of CLUSTER (Consortium Linking Universities of Science and Technology for Education and Research)
1990-97	Member of the editorial board of the leading Swiss architectural magazine Werk-B. u. Wohnen
1973-79	Member of the admissions committee for the Swiss Register of Architects (REG-A)

TEACHING

Design Studio	alternatively 2nd, 3rd, 4th and thesis year studios
Theory	a) Principles in architectural theory and design; see publications: Elements of architecture (books), as well as articles b) Architecture, site, city and territory - a course on urban form, typology and landscape, the latter being the center of my present concerns. c) Technology and form (last year of the Civil Engineering program 1993-2000)
LEA	Laboratory for full scale simulation of architectural space; creation and development of this particular pedagogical and research instrument Director of PhD theses at the EPFL (up to 2003)

Creation and leadership of the **architecture departments' exhibition** and weekly **public lectures** program (1974-2001)

Organisation of a **five week summer school** at the EPFL on «Teaching Design», for young teachers from the former Eastern Block (4 per country) ... an immense effort at that time! (1990)

Lectures at many schools of architecture and at Conferences in Europe and Overseas

Visiting professorships in Brno, Bucharest, Florence, Newcastle, Warsaw and at the University of Pennsylvania

RESEARCH

- 1998-02 **Designing for the underground**
- 1994-97 **Courtyard housing as a means for densification**
- 1980-92 **Learning to design** resulting in the books «Elements of architecture - From form to place» as well as «De la cave au toit» aimed at beginning, or 2nd year students in architecture.
- 1977-84 **Thresholds & transition spaces** and **Cultural and temporal signification of the built environment** in collaboration with professor R. Droz, faculty of psychology, Lausanne University; grants of the Swiss Science Foundation (FNRS)

INDEPENDENT PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE 1979-98

- since 1979 Member of many juries for national and international architectural competitions and awards
- 1996/97 Participation in the international town planning competition «Bucharest 2000»
- 1990-93 Design and construction of a large seaside house and two guest-houses in Porto Heli, Peloponese, Greece together with Angela von Meiss-Pézanou
- 1989 Competition for a gymnasium, community center and housing in Trelex (1st prize; working drawings completed; not built because of the new economic situation).
- 1986 Competition for the Montreux city hall (4th prize)
- 1982 Competition for a municipal service building and housing in Lutry (2nd prize)
- 1977-79 One family house on the shore of lake Geneva: First award of the Canton de Vaud for architectural excellence (1985)
- 1976-79 School for emotionally disturbed children «Le Châtelard» in Lausanne in association with Henry Collomb

With a full time teaching position, I consider this modest professional practice a necessary «laboratory» in order to remain in touch with the realities of building.

PUBLICATIONS see separate listing
