

A Kind Elder, a Wise Scholar — Hellmuth Stachel

Baoling Han

Beijing Institute of Technology, Beijing, China
hanbl@bit.edu.cn

I remembered Mr. Hellmuth Stachel as a kind elder and a wise scholar. Although more than 20 years have passed since I first met Mr. Hellmuth Stachel, I still remember the scene vividly. It was at The 5th JAPAN-CHINA Joint Conference on Graphics Education in Osaka, Japan in August 2001 (Figure 1). Mr. Tang Rongxi, who was the president of the Chinese Society of Engineering Graphics (now known as the “Chinese Graphics Society”), introduced me to Mr. Hellmuth Stachel. He said twice that “the future of international geometry and graphics needs young people like you to join”. Mr. Hellmuth Stachel has been working hard for the development of International Society for Geometry and Graphics since the day of its establishment, and every ICGG meeting has left his figure behind. And Mr. Hellmuth Stachel has left us a valuable asset – JGG.



Figure 1: The 5th JAPAN-CHINA Joint Conference on Graphics Education in Osaka, Japan in August 2001.

And what impressed me most was the 17th International Conference on Geometry and Graphics in Beijing. In August 2016, the weather in Beijing was extraordinarily hot, and more than 200 old and new friends from all over the world, including Mr. Hellmuth Stachel and Mr. Otto Röschel, Mr. Frank Maxfield Croft, Mr. Kenjiro Suzuki and others, met in Beijing (Figure 2). The enthusiasm was more than the hot sky, and old and new friends gathered to

discuss the new development of international graphology and to share the achievements and joys of each other in the discipline of graphology.



Figure 2: Mr. Hellmuth Stachel and Mr. Otto Röschel, Mr. Frank Maxfield Croft, Mr. Kenjiro Suzuki

Mr. Hellmuth Stachel's clear presentation (Figure 3) and rigorous questioning during the conference (Figure 4) reflect an elder's dedication to academic excellence.



Figure 3: Mr. Hellmuth Stachel is speaking



Figure 4: Mr. Hellmuth Stachel is asking questions

Mr. Hellmuth Stachel raised the microphone to sing with young people at the banquet (Figure 5), and sang with a quartet of old friends, Mr. Suzuki (Figure 6).

We shared our friendship on the occasion of joy, and the sound of laughter was always in our ears. We left behind a scene of unforgettable moments (Figure 7).

On the occasion of Mr. Hellmuth Stachel's 80th year, I would like to express my best wishes to Mr. Hellmuth Stachel with a famous line from Mr. Liu Yuxi, a famous Chinese writer and philosopher of the Tang Dynasty.

Never say too late because of old age. Even at twilight the sky is still filled with plenty of sunshine (莫道桑榆晚, 为霞尚满天).



Figure 5: Singing at dinner with friends



Figure 6: Singing at dinner with young and old friends.



Figure 7: Singing the same song at the dinner party.