



As a classical sea going blue-ocean oceanographer, **Jens Meincke** made the North Atlantic his major working area, especially the Nordic Seas: the Greenland Sea, the Norwegian Sea and the Iceland Sea, as well as the Arctic Ocean. The themes of his research ranged from water mass characteristics and water mass (trans)formations and convection, to large-scale ocean circulation, concentrating on the overflows and the thermohaline circulation and the coupling between ocean and climate. Jens participated and often took a leading role in planning and executing larger international research projects beginning with the ICES Overflow-73 study of the exchanges across the Greenland-Scotland Ridge and continuing with the Greenland Sea Project (GSP) and the Fram Strait Project (FSP) in the 1980s. Jens was coordinator for the EU project VEINS (Variability of Exchanges in the Northern Seas) in 1997-2000, the ASOF-W (Arctic-Subarctic Ocean Flux-West study) 2003-2005. Jens also took part in the WCRP projects WOCE (World Ocean Circulation Experiment) and CLIVAR (Climate and Variability), where he and the University of Hamburg contributed to the maintenance of the eastern part of the A01 line, the hydrographic section between Greenland and Ireland. During these studies he and others at the University of Hamburg conducted several cruises to the North Atlantic and the Nordic Seas from which Jens contributed numerous publications on water masses, their formation and associated circulation patterns, and their relation to climate. Jens was prominent within ICES, being a member and also chair of the Working Group of Ocean Hydrography) and vice president of ICES 1990-1993. Nationally, Jens moved from Kiel 1983 to occupy the newly established chair in regional oceanography at the University of Hamburg. He made Hamburg a home also for sea going oceanography and chaired the SFB-318 project "Klimarelevante Prozesse im System Ozean-Atmosphäre" and was vice-chair for the SFB 512 project "Tiefdruckgebiete und das Klimasystem des Nordatlantiks". Jens had a natural authority and calm. His office door was always open in order to discuss oceanography and ones problems, whatever they were. It was easy to do your best for Jens.