

sin, where Father Bede Hepnar had acquired it through government surplus. Art arranged for Lowell to acquire the objective; and he and I set out by truck to collect his acquisition.

At the time, I was young, impatient, and intent on speed. Art, on the other hand, wanted to enjoy the scenery and avoid the interstate highways. We compromised by traveling to Wisconsin along an L-shaped, high-speed route, and returning along the hypotenuse on two-lane "blue highways." Off we went, dining in our favorite fast-food restaurants, grabbing a few hours sleep when we could, and discussing whatever came to mind. I don't remember which leg of this 4000-mile journey was completed most quickly, but I do remember what a pleasure it was to be in the company of this kind and thoughtful man for the four or five days it took us to get there and back. He is deeply missed by his friends throughout astronomy.

Robert Millis
Lowell Observatory

CARLOS JASCHEK, 1926–1999

Carlos Jaschek died in Salamanca, Spain on April 12th, 1999. He was born in 1926 in Brieg, Germany (now Brzeg, Poland), but emigrated to Argentina with his parents at the age of 11. He began work at La Plata Observatory in 1947 and obtained his PhD in astronomy in 1952.

Returning in 1957 from a year in the United States, he was appointed Professor of Astrophysics and Director of the Astrophysics Department at La Plata University, holding these positions until his move to Europe in 1973. During this period, Jaschek spent time at Perkins, Yerkes, Michigan, Ohio State, and other observatories and astronomy departments, developing contacts and collaborations in spectroscopy that lasted through his life.

After a year at Geneva, Carlos became director of the Center de Données Stellaires (CDS) in Strasbourg (now the Center de Données astronomiques de Strasbourg) in succession to Jean Jung. He held the directorship until 1990, and was instrumental in organizing world-wide access to astronomical data with special sensitivity to third-world countries. Jaschek simultaneously held Associate and later Full Professorships at Louis Pasteur University, until retiring to Salamanca.

Jaschek's forte, expressed in some 250 refereed publications, including atlases, catalogues, and reference books, was precise observation and careful classification of peculiar stars, emphasizing MK classification as a guide to astrophysics and a statistical approach to stellar populations. Carlos and his wife Mercedes Jaschek collaborated on the understanding of Be, Ap, shell, and other peculiar stars. They later worked on the first classification schemes in the ultraviolet (using data from TD1 S2/68 and later IUE) and with Yvette Andrillat on determination of fundamental properties of Ae, Be, and shell stars with near infrared data. Carlos was an active member of the International Astronomical Union and served as President of Commission 45 (spectral classification) from 1973 to 1976. His interest in stellar classification led him to a long-term collaboration with Marcel Golay's group in Geneva, comparing photometric and spectroscopic



Carlos Jaschek.

methods. He anticipated the replacement human classifiers by automated methods, and encouraged many of the recent developments in that area. Jaschek also supervised many students and organized an impressive number of colloquia and meetings, many the first of their kind, relating to data centers and emerging technologies for statistical analysis, international networks, large databases, and digitized surveys. His book on data in astronomy (though pre-Internet) remains required reading for anyone interested in the field. Jaschek continued past his retirement to present astronomy to the public, publishing a book based on his Strasbourg University lectures on ethno-astronomy in 1998, and creating a working group on "astronomy and human sciences." The memory of Carlos Jaschek cannot be separated from that of his wife, Mercedes, who spent her whole astronomical career beside him. They shared most of their work on spectroscopy of peculiar stars, and he was deeply affected by her death in November, 1995. Many of us will always remember the warm welcome Mercedes and Carlos Jaschek reserved for their guests, colleagues, and students.

Daniel Egret
Andre Heck
Strasbourg Observatory

GEORGE EDWARD LANGER, 1936–1999

George Edward Langer, Professor of Physics at Colorado College, died of a pulmonary embolism February 16, 1999, in Colorado Springs. He had just begun treatment for lymphoma. He is survived by his sister Judy Corning, his wife, Jo, and his three children, Mary, Sarah and James.