

Traunstein, Oberbayern

18th May 2025

Dear Professor Toennies,

Happy birthday! I wish you a wonderful time meeting former students and colleagues at the symposium in Göttingen.

I look back fondly on my time as a post-doc in your group from 1994 to 2000. Ultimately, the working environment and the marvellous colleagues in your group were the reason I decided to stay in Germany and pursue a career here, rather than going elsewhere. The emphasis on learning German did cause me a lot of real headaches during the first year, but was worth the effort and helped me considerably later on. I especially remember the friendly competition between the groups for the “best resolution,” most interesting data, and the time spent with the numerous theoreticians that visited your group, and who were always eager for more, and better experimental data. The ideas that I learnt working with you, and the exceptional colleagues in and around your group, have stood me in good stead during my subsequent working life, particularly the work ethic and the pursuit of the very best results.

Many thanks for the opportunities.

Best wishes,

Andrew Graham