Professor Hubert Österlewas born on the 24th of June, 1949, in [Dornbirn](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dornbirn), Austria. He is professor emeritus in business and information systems engineering, a founder and former long-time director of the Institute of Information Management at Sankt Gallen University, and the Board President of the Business Engineering Institute St. Gallen AG.

Hubert Österle graduated from the University of Insbruck and Johannes Kepler University of Linz. He received his doctoral degree at the University of Nuremberg in 1973. He worked as consultant for the German branch of the IBM corporation. He received his habilitation degree in 1980 at Dortmund Technical University, specializing in IT systems design. Later that year, he was appointed professor of business and information systems engineering at Sankt Gallen University in Switzerland. In 1989, he established the Institute of Information Management at Sankt Gallen. In 1997, he initiated an Executive MBA in Business Engineering.

His broad scientific interests concentrate on such areas as business engineering, independent living, sourcing in the financial industry and corporate data quality. He is regarded as one of the pioneers of business engineering, he is also the author of a fundamental monograph *Business Engineering: Prozess- und Systementwicklung.* *Band 1:* *Entwurfstechniken*, published by Springer in 1995.

Professor Österle is also the author of the *Memorandum on design science,* an acclaimed research method that is used widely in the development of IT systems up to this day.

Hubert Österle is the author of 16 books, editor of 17 textbooks, author or co-author of more than 160 articles in scientific magazines, with more than 100 conference papers and over 120 chapters in scientific monographs.

Prof. Hubert Österle promoted nearly a hundred of doctors, with 10 of his students awarded their habilitation degrees. Nine of his students were appointed professors at various universities in Germany and Switzerland.

The honourable Nominee gave his lectures at numerous universities, including Dortmund, Bochum, Innsbruck, Nuremberg and St. Gallen. He is the author and lecturer of study curricula in *Information Management*, *Information and Technology Management*, and the *Executive MBA in Business Engineering*.

He is also a scientific editor of the renowned *Electronic Markets* magazine and a member of editorial boards of several other periodicals. He is a long-time member of the board of Swiss Association in Data Processing and board member of Swiss Informatics Society. He is also member to numerous other organizations, both home and abroad, and member of the jury of the annual „CIO of the Year“ competition awarded by the popular CIO Magazin. He received many awards for his scientific achievements, with the most recent and prestigious Scientific Impact Award 2014 of the University of St. Gallen.

In 1989, professor Hubert Österle set up a consulting agency: The Information Management Group, and – in 2003 – the Business Engineering Institute St. Gallen AG, cooperating with more than 30 leading companies in various sectors, such as: SAP, Deutsche Telekom, Deutsche Bank, Daimler, Continental, Nestle, Bosch, HP, Bayer, Winterthur, and many others.

Cooperation with Polish scientific community, particularly Wroclaw, has always been an important facet of the Esteemed Nominee’s work. He has initiated a number of research and development projects under the joint theme of **Independent Living**, based on a 2012 agreement between Wroclaw University of Economics and Sankt Gallen University, in collaboration with other European research centres. The fruits of this work include the IT software platform „*Appointment Coordination Service*” for coordinating and managing electronic ordering and distribution of assorted services. The project was designed to develop, create and implement a telecommunications platform for improving the lives of senior citizens through facilitated access to services.

Through the Esteemed Nominee’s involvement and initiative, we were able to receive grant support for **ActGo-Gate - Active Retiree and Golden Workers Gate**, a project realized by a consortium of 7 partnering organizations from Switzerland, Germany and Poland (represented by Wroclaw University of Economics. The financial support was in excess of 1.6 million euro, with 375 thousand euro assigned to our university. The consortium is involved in the organization of further support projects in collaboration with numerous local and regional institutions and organizations in Lower Silesia.

On the 3rd of July 2014, the Council of the Faculty of Management, Information Technology and Finance put forward a motion to initiate the conferment procedure for awarding the honorary doctoral title of Wroclaw University of Economics to professor Hubert Österle, and appointed the following scientific reviewers:

* professor Witold Abramowicz, of Poznan University of Economics,
* professor Ryszard Kowalczyk, of Swinburne University of Technology in Melbourne.

Both reviewers provided their wholehearted support for the motion, with positive evaluations of the Esteemed Candidate’s accomplishments, and recommended Hubert Österle as deserving of the title of *doctor honoris causa* of Wroclaw University of Economics.