Index

Curriculum Vitae

Ernest Braun, born in 1925, studied Physics at Charles' University, Prague (M.Sc.and Dr. Rer. Nat). Obtained Ph.D. in Physics from Bristol University, England. Worked as research physicist in industry and as lecturer in several universities. Became Professor of Physics at Aston University, Birmingham, England in 1967. Initially continued work in solid state physics, but became increasingly interested in questions related to the social significance of science and technology. Founded a post-graduate teaching and research unit, the Technology Policy Unit at Aston University and published many articles and books on the history of solid state physics, the mechanisms of technological innovation and the role of technological change in society. Retired from Aston University in 1984 and became head of the Technology Assessment Unit at the Austrian Academy of Sciences in Vienna. Retired in 1991 and spent a few years as visiting professor at the Open University, Milton Keynes, England. The present book is a kind of summary of his life's work.