

**On March 12th 2016, Prof. Helmut Veith has unexpectedly passed away after a short and severe illness.**

We, the students of the Doctoral College *Logical Methods in Computer Science – LogiCS*, are deeply moved by these devastating news. We have not just lost the speaker of our Doctoral College, but also an inspiring colleague who was and will remain a role model to many of us. We feel that if only a single student of our Doctoral College becomes as brilliant a researcher and teacher as Helmut, the LogiCS program can be considered more than successful.

To us, however, he was much more than a person to look up to. As some of you may know, the LogiCS Doctoral College was the result of Helmut's enthusiasm, effort, and vision. With his presence he created an environment that made everyone feel welcome and valuable. On top of being a dedicated scientific mentor, he also cared deeply about the well-being of his students. Helmut has thus fostered the social atmosphere that has brought us, the LogiCS students, together.

Although formally he was the head of our program, he himself would say that with us he is *primus inter pares*. He was both a true intellectual and a good friend, to whom we could always come for honest advice or a good laugh. As we are sitting here now writing this, and remembering our experiences with Helmut, we are astonished by the breadth of discussions and the range of moments we shared with him. From detailed arguments about logic, via political disputes, to quips about his haircut—according to his own words, he was once confused with the conductor of a concert he had attended—one could always count on lively conversations thanks to his open and direct attitude as well as his broad interests.

We extend our deepest heartfelt condolences to Anna, Nikita, and Helmut's family. Through her continued efforts and passion as the "mother of LogiCS", Anna has great impact on our lives as PhD students in Vienna. We hope that in this extremely difficult and painful time, we can return at least some of this support.

We will continue to strive to meet the expectations Helmut had for us and his brainchild, LogiCS, in order to contribute to his vision of a "Silver Age of Logic" in Vienna.

The LogiCS students