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Higher Education:

- 1987 – 1993 Study of Chemistry, University of Hamburg, Diploma degree
- 1993 – 1997 PhD studies, Dr. rer. nat., University of Hamburg
- 1998 - 2004 Habilitation (Assist. Prof.), RWTH Aachen University
- 2004 - 2009 Priv.-Dozent (Assoc. Prof.) RWTH Aachen University
- Since 2009 Prof. for *Organic Geochemistry and Environmental Chemistry*, RWTH Aachen University

Since 1998 leader of the work group 'Organic Environmental Chemistry'

Editorial work:

- Editor-in-Chief of *Environmental Chemistry Letters*
- Editor (Geochemistry) of *Environmental Geology*
- Subject-Editor (Org. Geochemistry) of *Journal of Soils and Sediments*

Research topics:

- Organic pollutants in riverine water and sediment: origin, fate and distribution
- Structure elucidation and characterization of unknown contaminants
- Organic-geochemical characterization of bound residues in macromolecular organic matter of riverine systems and soils
- Compound specific isotope analyses (CSIA) of organic pollutants
- Geochronology of organic pollution in riverine systems
- Analysis of synthetic polymers in soils and sediments
- Biomarker analyses kerogen, oils and coals
- Chemical characterisation of macromolecular organic matter in fossil material

Member of scientific associations:

- Association of Chemistry and the Environment, ACE (2000-2009 Member of Scientific Board, 2003 - 2009 Chairman)
- European Association of Organic Geochemists, EAOG
- Gesellschaft Deutscher Chemiker (German Association of Chemists), GDCh
- Wasserchemische Gesellschaft (Association of Water Chemistry, Germany)
- Fachgruppe Umweltchemie und Ökotoxikologie der GDCh
- American Chemical Society (ACS)
- Division of Environmental Chemistry ACS