

CV (September 2017)

Prof. Dr. Gerd Schwandner (born May 22nd 1951)



Former Mayor of City of Oldenburg (2006 - 2014).

Before being elected by popular vote as Mayor he was Professor of International Management and Marketing Strategies at the Karlsruhe University of Applied Sciences, Germany since 2000 (till October 2006).

He was Visiting Scholar at Hong Kong Baptist University (1999-2000), where he is lecturing frequently since then.

He was guest professor at Shanghai Normal University, Humanities College (2005), Hong Kong Baptist University, and School of Tourism Management at Beijing International Studies University (2006), where he also was granted honorary professor in 2012.

In October 2014 he was appointed as Visiting Professor at The Second Clinical College of Dalian Medical University, Dalian, China.

In June 2015 he was appointed as Honorary Professor of Shandong University of Science and Technology (Qingdao).

He was a lecturer at the Université Robert Schuman in Strasbourg, France (2003-2006), and at Italian universities within the framework of the Socrates Program of the EU (2005).

He also participated in executive education programs at Harvard Business School and he is a Price Babson Fellow of the Babson College, USA.

As Mayor of Oldenburg he set up a “China desk” in May 2007 to develop and strengthen strategic partnerships with several Chinese Cities (Tianjin, Xian, Xuzhou, Dalian, Qingdao, Yinchuan/Ningxia) and Chinese institutions. He has also been active within in the framework of the European Union’s strategic urbanization partnership with the PRC.

Since the end of his term as Mayor he works as an independent consultant and lecturer.

In January/February 2015 he lectured at Hong Kong Baptist University within the European Union Academic Programme on “Urban Innovation”, in April 2015 at School of Hospitality Management, Beijing International Studies University.

He is affiliated with „PD International AG“ Oldenburg, a Sino-German Consultancy as senior advisor and serves as a member of the supervisory board as of September 2017.

He is also a member of the „Sino German Association for the future of cities“ at Tongji University, Shanghai (an urbanization initiative).

Gerd graduated 1976 in Medicine from University of Heidelberg, Germany. He also studied Art History, German Studies, and Educational Sciences and he got his Doctoral Degree in Medicine from the University of Heidelberg, Germany in 1977.

Before his tenure at the university in 2000 he worked as General Manager for the Center for Art and Media Karlsruhe, a public foundation (1995-2000), served as an Undersecretary for “Culture and the Integration of Foreigners” at the State of Bremen, Germany (1992-1995).

He was a two-term State Legislator in Baden-Württemberg (1984-1992). Before switching career he worked from 1976-1984 as a surgeon in public hospitals (Pforzheim City Hospital, Heidelberg University Hospital, Department of Surgery)

In 2013 he was awarded as Citizen of Honor of the City of Xi’an, China.

He was also honored in acknowledgment of his merits by the Turkish Press Association Bremen in September 2014. In October 2014 he was awarded as the first non-Dutch person with the “Erepenning” (honorary medal) by the City of Groningen, The Netherlands.

In 2007 Dr. Annette Schwandner and Prof. Dr. Gerd Schwandner founded their own foundation (Annette & Gerd Schwandner Foundation for Science and Culture), based in Oldenburg.

He lives with his wife in Hannover, Germany