

In Memoriam

We have lost a dear friend and colleague. **Christer Grewin** passed away on 21 August after a prolonged illness. He was 58 years of age.

Born and educated in Sweden, Christer joined the Swedish Broadcasting Corporation (SR) as a sound engineer in 1962. With his ability to keep his head in a crisis and to solve all manner of problems in the sound side of broadcasting, he soon became an indispensable member of the SR team for major sports events such as the Olympic Games. Christer loved to experiment with new techniques, too, making "Kunstkopf" recordings of numerous musical works.

During the mid-1970s, Christer worked with the Swedish International Development Agency in Tanzania, on a project to modernize the radio station in Dar-es-Salam and train the engineers in modern radio production techniques. His expertise as a teacher, particularly the ability to explain complicated technical functions clearly, led him to join SR Staff Training in 1977. Several sound engineers in both radio and television have Christer to thank for their technological skills.

In the newly-formed company, Swedish National Radio, Christer was initially appointed Head of the Production Service in 1981. However, when the decision was made in 1984 to assemble technological development in one department, Christer was the obvious choice to take charge of this activity. Two years later, in 1986, Christer and two colleagues, Sten Bergman and Ola Kejving, demonstrated Swedish National Radio's system for subjective listening tests at an AES Convention in Montreux. The system was soon adopted as the international norm for listening tests and was later used for evaluating sound coding algorithms for ISO MPEG. The results of these tests had considerable influence over the choice of audio coding for digital radio.

In 1990, with Kjell Engström, he drew up the specification for DSQ



Christer Grewin
1941-1999

(the Digital Sound Quality transmission system for sound-program contribution use) which subsequently became an international standard. From July 1993 until September 1996 he worked with Neil Gilchrist on the preparation and editing of the AES Special Publication *Collected Papers on Digital Audio Bit-rate Reduction*.

Christer recognized at an early stage that the future of radio and television broadcasting would be digital. He actively promoted digital techniques within SR and in his international standards work, and from 1996 led the technical side of SR's digital radio work. Last May, Christer became a fellow of the AES for his significant contribution to audio engineering, and in particular for his work on digital audio and international standards. This was an honor he richly deserved.

We shall miss Christer, not only as a fine engineer, but as a capable delegate in international standards work and, most of all, as a wonderful fun-loving friend. He is survived by his wife, Lillemor, and son, Tobias, to whom we offer our sympathy and condolences at this time of great sorrow.

Ola Kejving
Carina Nilsson
Neil Gilchrist

It is with sadness that I report the death of Robin Coxe-Skolfield, one of our treasured former facul-

ty members, known professionally as Robin Coxe-Yeldham. She died of cancer on August 9th, at a family home in Cambridge, MA, at the age of 47.

Robin was born in 1951 in Indianapolis, grew up in the Philadelphia area, and later attended Parsons School of Design in New York. Initially interested in graphic design, she began designing album covers for music recordings in 1981. She became fascinated by the technology of sound recording and devoted the rest of her career to teaching.

Robin taught at Berklee for 17 years and helped design the curriculum which supported the transition from the Audio Program to the Music Production and Engineering Department. She was senior associate professor of music production and engineering. Her influence was great upon her students at Berklee, and the world audio recording community at large.

An outstanding educator and model recognized by our Women in Audio initiative, she served on the first Women in Audio panel at the Audio Engineering Society Convention in 1993, and was an active leader and role-model for women in music technology. Berklee recognized her contributions with awards for excellence in teaching, including the "Dean of Faculty Award" in 1991. In 1995 the Audio Engineering Society awarded her a special "Granny" Award as the "First Lady in Audio Education in America."

Robin was a wonderful human being, a dedicated mother to her daughter, Dakota, and an exceptional teacher. We will remember her for her strength, and for the impact she had upon our college and our lives.

A memorial service was held on September 15 At Berklee College of Music.

Contributions may be made in Robin's honor to: Berklee College of Music, Berklee Women in Audio Scholarship, Box 3, 1140 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02215.

Don Puluse