



Professor Dr. Christoph Meinel (Univ. Prof., Dr. sc. nat., Dr. rer. nat., 1954) is Scientific Director and CEO of the Hasso Plattner Institute for Software Systems Engineering GmbH (HPI).

Hasso Plattner Institute is part of the University of Potsdam and privately financed by the non-profit foundation of Hasso Plattner, one of the founders of SAP.

HPI provides outstanding Bachelor, Master and PhD degree programs in IT-Systems Engineering as well as a study program in Design Thinking. The HPI course offerings are freely accessible via the tele-TASK portal and the openHPI online platform.

In 2006, together with Hasso Plattner, Christoph Meinel hosted the 1st National IT Summit of German Chancellor Dr. Angela Merkel at HPI in Potsdam.

Meinel is a member of acatech, the German “National Academy of Science and Engineering,” and numerous scientific committees and supervisory boards.

Christoph Meinel is a full professor (C4) for computer science and serves as department chair of Internet Technologies and Systems at HPI. His areas of research focus on Internet and Information Security, Web 3.0, Semantic Web, Social and Service Web and the domains of e-learning, teleteaching and telemedicine. He is scientifically active in innovation research on all aspects of the Stanford innovation method “Design Thinking.” His earlier research work concentrated on the theoretical foundation of computer science in the areas of complexity theory and efficient OBDD-based algorithms and data structures.

Christoph Meinel teaches courses in the Bachelor and Master’s programs on “IT-Systems Engineering” and at the HPI School of Design Thinking. He teaches MOOCs on the openHPI platform and supervises numerous doctoral candidates. He is an honorary professor at the Department of Computer Sciences at Beijing University of Technology and a guest professor at Shanghai University. Christoph Meinel is a research fellow at the Interdisciplinary Centre for Security, Reliability and Trust (SnT) at the University of Luxembourg. Together with Larry Leifer from Stanford University he is program director of the HPI-Stanford Design Thinking Research Program.

Christoph Meinel is author/co-author of 9 books and 4 anthologies, as well as editor of various conference proceedings. More than 400 of his papers have been published in high-profile scientific journals and at international conferences. He is also editor-in-chief of “ECCC – Electronic Colloquium on Computational Complexity,” “ECDTR – Electronic Colloquium on Design Thinking Research,” the “IT-Gipfelblog” and the [tele-TASK lecture archive](#) and openHPI.

Christoph Meinel studied mathematics and computer science at the Humboldt University of Berlin from 1974 to 1979. In 1981 he received his PhD degree with the title Dr. rer. nat. From 1981 to 1991 he served as research assistant at Humboldt University and at the Institute for Mathematics at the Berlin Academy of Sciences. He completed his habilitation in 1988, earning the title Dr. Sc. nat. His thesis on the complexity theory was published in the series of Springer Lecture Notes on Computer Science (Vol. 370).

After a research stay at the University of Saarbrücken and a visiting professorship at the University of Paderborn, he became full professor (C4) for computer science at the University of Trier, where he held the chair “Theoretical Concepts and New Applications in the Computer Sciences.”

In 1996 he co-founded and served as director of the Trier branch of the Fraunhofer Institute for Industrial Mathematics (ITWM). In 1998 he founded the non-profit “Institut für Telematik e.V.” in Trier and served as institute director from 1998 to 2002.

In 2004 he was appointed president and scientific director of HPI at the University of Potsdam and chair (C4) of the Internet Technologies and Systems Department.

Between 1996 and 2007 Christoph Meinel served as a member of the scientific board of directors of the IBFI Schloss Dagstuhl. From 1996 to 2007 he was speaker of the "Gesellschaft für Informatik" (GI) (German Society for Computer Sciences) specialist group on Complexity. He participates in numerous international program committees and has organized a variety of international symposia and conferences.

Christoph Meinel was a member of AG5 "High-Tech Strategies for the Information Society," under the auspices of the National German IT Summit, from 2006 to 2008. Since 2009 he has been a member of AG2 "Digital Infrastructures as Enablers." He is on the board of directors of MINT-EC e.V. (a German network of excellence among German schools and colleges in the fields of math and science). He is a member of the Security Advisory board at SAP AG, advisory committee chairman of the SAP Meraka UTD advisory board in South Africa, and works closely with a number of other supervisory boards. Since 2007 Christoph Meinel has been chairman of the German IPv6 Council.

His internationally patented high-security solution "Lock Keeper" is licensed by the Siemens AG. His tele-TASK system, an innovative mobile system to record lectures or presentations and disseminate them via the Internet, is licensed by Dell.

Also worthy of mention is the recently established MOOC platform "openHPI" and the Tele-Board system for the creative support of distributed teams of designers and developers, both realized under Christoph Meinel's direction.