

Bernhard Welz received his PhD in Chemistry from the University of Stuttgart in Germany 1966 and started his career as application specialist for atomic absorption spectrometry at Bodenseewerk Perkin Elmer, Germany, in 1967; later he became the head of the Applied Research Department. In 1999 he moved to Brazil as a Visiting Professor at the Federal Universities of Santa Catarina and of Bahia, where he is still active.

Bernhard Welz pioneered the introduction of the first commercial graphite furnace in 1970 and continued promoting all the improvements of this technique. In the late 1990s he started to work with High-resolution Continuum Source Atomic Absorption Spectrometry, research that was continued and intensified after his move to Brazil.

In 1988 he received the Joannes Marcus Marci medal from the Bohemian and Slovakian Spectroscopic Societies and in 2006 the Clemens-Winkler medal of the German Chemical Society. In 2016 he received the Török Tibor Medal of the Hungarian Spectroscopic Society and the Jerzego Fijalkowski award from the Polish Academy of Science, and in 2017 he received the prestigious CSI Award from the organizers of this most traditional conference. Bernhard Welz has about 280 publications in international scientific journals, more than 10.000 citations and an H index of 56.