Klaus von Klitzing was born in Schroda (Germany) in 1943 and attended all ICPS conferences since 1972, with the exception of the Beijing conference in 1992. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Würzburg in 1972.

After research stays in England, USA and France he became a Professor in 1980 at the Technical University in Munich. Since 1985 he is Director at the Max Planck Institute for Solid State Research in Stuttgart, Germany.

He has been awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1985 for the discovery of the Quantum Hall Effect. This discovery was the starting point of different Nobel Prizes in low dimensional semiconductors and is important in the field of fundamental constants and the introduction of a new international system of units expected in 2019.

He has published about 600 papers and holds 22 honorary degrees including a Dr.h.c. from the University of Montpellier.