

Welcome address at the 25th anniversary of the Niels Bohr Archive

Prof. John Renner Hansen, Director of the Niels Bohr Institute.

Dear Guests

I am very happy, on behalf of the Niels Bohr Institute, to welcome you warmly all to this celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Niels Bohr Archive. A particular warm welcome to the representatives from the Bohr family and to Prorector Thomas Bjørnholm.

It is a little late that we have this celebration, since the actual birthday is 7th October and the birth certificate, of which I have here a copy, states that it happened in 1985, on the 100th anniversary of Niels Bohr. The midwives signing the certificate were the University Rector Ove Nathan, president of Royal Academy Jens Lindhard and the head of the Niels Bohr Institute Knud Hansen. And it is followed by the blessing of the Minister of Education Bertel Haarder. The creation of the Niels Bohr Archive had strong support from all levels of the Danish research and education system.

It is stated in the certificate that, I translate “ it is of particular importance, that the Archive through its cohabitation with the Niels Bohr Institute achieve a fruitful interaction with contemporary research in physics”. That has certainly been fulfilled. Over these first 25 years, the Archive has been a very visible part of the institute daily life, where researchers frequently visit both the Archive and the Institute. We are very thankful for all the contribution, for instance for the many guided visits to the historical locations in these buildings arranged by the Archive, contributions to the Copenhagen Cultural Night and many seminars on exciting subjects.

With the completion of the “Niels Bohr Collected Works” 13 big volumes, Finn Aaserud and his staff passed a milestone in 2008 and we are now looking forward to see the contours of the major

new projects towards 2035. Today we will listen to talks on the past, present and the future of the Archive, and before ending I would like to congratulate the Archive, Finn Aaserud and his staff, with all the achievements of the first 25 years and wish you all the best for the next 25 hoping for a continues successful collaboration with the Niels Bohr Institute.

I wish you all a fruitful afternoon here at the Institute.