

intelligent buttons are present: start and stop. They are context-sensitive and are used to navigate, to run, pause or stop presentations, and starting and stopping of the recording of stories.

The design process of the Story Table may be viewed in 92 pictures at www.factory.org/verhalentafel/ The Story Table has been designed by members from the Waag Society's R&D Group 'Interfacing Access', consisting of Janine Huizenga, Tom Demeyer and Aske Hopman, in collaboration with the artists Hans Muller and Michaël van Eeden. The team intends to produce more Story Tables for other facilities of assisted living in the region.

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In Memoriam Michel Frossard PhD (1943 - 2002)

Michel Frossard was born on June 25th 1943 and died on September 4th 2002. Michel was a member of the editorial board of *Gerontechnology*, and Professor of Economics at the University of Grenoble in France. He was one of the pioneers of health economics in France; his expertise in the economics of human ageing led him to work with several French government departments and the World Health Organisation. He published widely, and his academic interests included quality of life, retirement, case management, and new technologies.



Michel believed in the value of pluridisciplinary approaches to working with elderly people, and conducting research studies. He was appointed Director of Grenoble's Centre Pluridisciplinaire de Gérontologie (CPDG) in 1989. This centre was estab-

lished in 1971 to provide gerontology education for health and social care professionals, and to conduct research into various aspects of ageing, and care of the elderly. More recently, Michel co-founded the Laboratoire Interuniversitaire de Gérontologie de Grenoble (LI2G). The LI2G is a meeting point for researchers from a range of disciplines, including medicine, economics, psychology, and engineering. One of the main axes of research concerns new technologies for elderly people, both in community and institutional settings.

Since the mid-1990s, Michel directed several research studies into economic aspects of 'Telegerontology'. He coordinated the first French book about gerontechnology, entitled 'Télémédecine en Gérontologie', which included 18 chapters about different applications of technology in the field of elderly care (such as teleassistance, telemonitoring, and teleconsultation) and gerontology education.

Michel enjoyed traveling to different parts of the world (including the United Kingdom, Canada, Africa, and America), to collaborate with colleagues in the fields of gerontology and health economics. He had been looking forward to presenting his most recent work at the 4th International Conference of Gerontechnology in Miami this year, but unfortunately, his premature death prevented him from participating as planned. Michel is remembered by his colleagues and students as an enthusiastic teacher and innovative researcher. Despite his busy schedule, he was always willing to help those who sought his advice, and remained modest about his own achievements. His untimely death is deeply regretted by his family, friends, and colleagues.

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