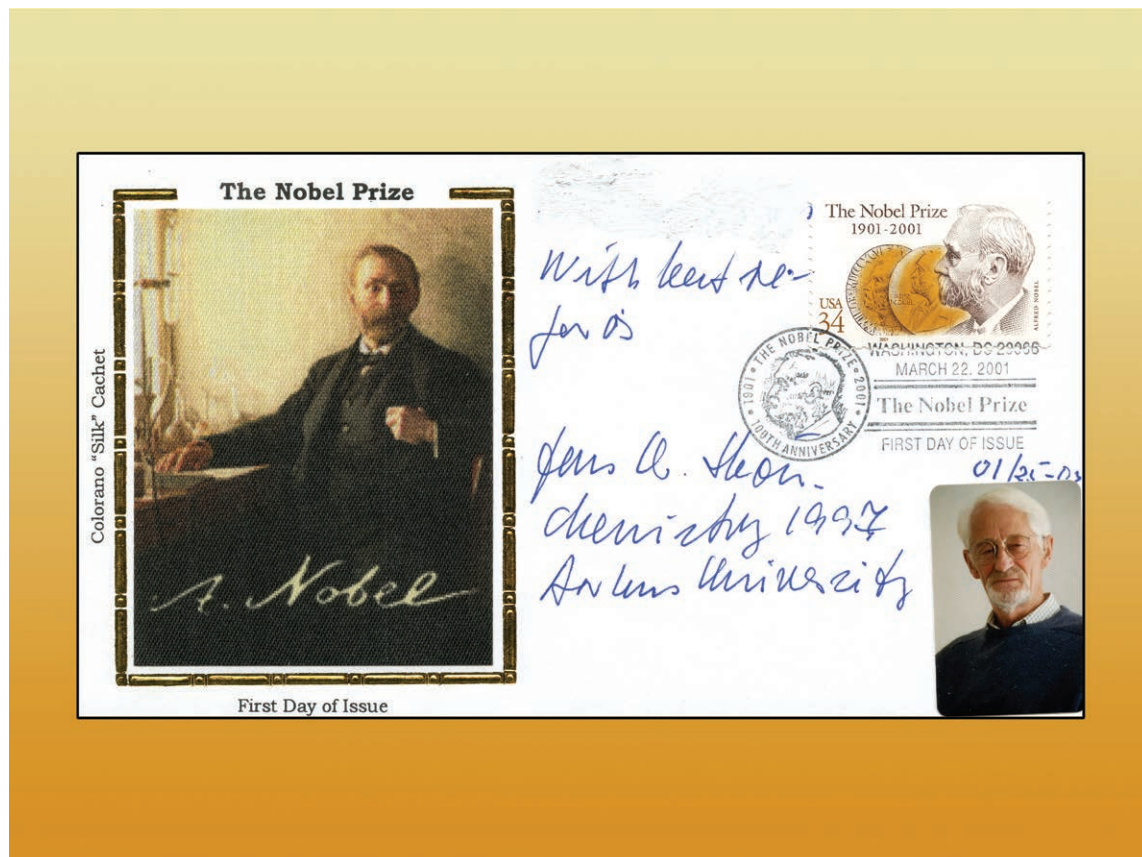


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ANESTHESIOLOGY REFLECTIONS FROM THE WOOD LIBRARY-MUSEUM

Birth Centennial of Nobel Laureate Skou, an Investigator of Local Anesthetics and the Sodium–Potassium Pump



In 1947 a Danish physician–physiologist, Jens Christian Skou (1918 to 2018, *lower right*), began working at the Institute for Medical Physiology at Aarhus University. Although his 1951 doctoral dissertation correlated local anesthetic activity with lipid solubility, Skou eventually investigated the physiology of nerves in shore crabs' legs. In 1957 Skou became the first to discover an ion-transporting enzyme, the sodium–potassium pump. Forty years later, in Stockholm, Sweden, Skou was awarded his half of the 1997 Nobel Prize in Chemistry. This month, October of 2018, marks the birth centennial of Jens Christian Skou, whose “curiosity-based research” led him from local anesthetics to worldwide fame. (Copyright © the American Society of Anesthesiologists' Wood Library-Museum of Anesthesiology.)

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