



This issue is an In Memoriam issue dedicated to Professor Dragan Veselinović, who passed away on May 8, 2024.



EDITORIAL

Our respected and dear colleague Professor Veselinović passed away on May 8 of this year, at the age of 94.

Professor Dragan Veselinović was born on November 12, 1930, and that, as he used to say – due to circumstances, in Niš, where his parents, Angelina and Stevan, natives of Užice, were on duty. His father, a judge, died when Dragan was 9 months old, so he didn't even remember him. Together with their mother, who was a jurist, they moved to Belgrade in 1933. where they mostly spent the pre-war, war and post-war years.

He began his studies at the Faculty of Science and Mathematics, first in mathematics department, in 1949 and soon, thanks to the name of Pavle Savić, he continued his studies in the department of physical chemistry, where he graduated in 1954. He was employed at the Department of Physical Chemistry at the PMF in 1955 and spent his entire working life in physical chemistry, later under different organizational names, and remained scientifically active for more than 20 years after his retirement.

He defended his doctoral dissertation named „Complex compounds of ascorbic acid and metal ions“ in 1965, and for its scientific contribution, he and his mentor, academician Milenko Šušić, were awarded in 1966. by the October Award of the City of Belgrade. It is just one of the awards and recognitions that prof. Veselinović got.

During his teaching and scientific work, he went through all associate and teaching positions - from assistant to full professor. Apart from the home Faculty of Physical Chemistry and the University of Belgrade, prof. Veselinović made a great teaching and scientific contribution to other faculties and universities: Faculties of Chemistry, Physics and Pharmacy in Belgrade, Faculty of Science (earlier Philosophy) in Niš, Faculty of Philosophy in Priština, Faculty of Science and Mathematics in Kragujevac.

Prof. Veselinović dealt with numerous scientific fields, but we would like to single out: physical chemistry of complex compounds, electroanalytical chemistry, and especially environmental physical chemistry in which he was one of the pioneers in our region. He published more than 150 papers in domestic and foreign scientific journals, presented more than 400 papers at scientific meetings

in the country and abroad, managed 12 projects for the needs of the Ministry of Science, as well as for the needs of the production companies and the military.

Pedagogical work of prof. Veselinović was also rich: he supervised the research within 82 diploma works, 10 specialist works, 16 master's theses and 15 doctoral dissertations. A large number of successful experts, teachers in primary and secondary schools and university professors are proud to consider themselves as his students. He was the co-author of 6 high school textbooks in the field of environmental protection, as well as 3 university textbooks that are still used in teaching today.

In addition to the October Award of the City of Belgrade, he was awarded by the Order of Labor with a Golden Wreath in 1986. He was also the recipient of awards and recognitions from the faculties of several universities as well as professional associations, factories, state bodies, as well as the Serbian Chemical Society for his lasting and outstanding contribution to science. He was very proud of the Gramat of Patriarch Irinej of Serbia for his selfless love and zeal for the Serbian Orthodox Church and the Gramat of the Patriarchate of Jerusalem issued by Patriarch Theophilus of Jerusalem for the dedication to the holy places of the city of Jerusalem.

During his life, Dragan Veselinović was a sincere believer and was distinguished by all Christian virtues: he lived modestly, virtuously, morally, he was philanthropic, patient, loyal, zealous. He donated his family house, one of the oldest in Užice, which was originally built in 1862, and was later extended and renovated, to the Užice Church Municipality for church purposes. Church and town ceremonies, lectures and exhibitions are held in the donated restored house, which partly serves as a parish house.

Guest Editors,
Ljubiša Ignjatović
Branimir Jovančičević