Establishment of the Ljudevit Jurak Clinical Department of Pathology in 1913 marked the beginning of organized development of pathologic anatomy in Croatia. The 100-year history of the Department, which is the largest pathology department in the country, definitely deserves to be crowned with a monograph. Therefore, in 2014, the staff of the Department prepared and published a monograph entitled 100 godina Kliničkog zavoda za patologiju "Ljudevit Jurak" KBC "Sestre milosrdnice" (One Hundred Years of the Ljudevit Jurak Clinical Department of Pathology, Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital Center), issued by the Sestre milosrdnice University Hospital Center and edited by Professor Mladen Belicza, former head of the Department, and Professor Božo Krušlin, current head of the Department. Besides the foreword, afterword and index, the monograph has twenty chapters covering Department structure, staff, history, professional and scientific activities, and educational activity at Zagreb University School of Medicine and School of Dental Medicine. These make the usual contents of a monograph; however, this one has some specific sections including those staff members that spent only part of their career working at the Department, retired pathologists, residents, and others. These sections show that the editors were fully aware of the role of tradition and history in the past 100 years, as well as of the importance of team work and the fact that the future of the Department relies on those just starting learning to grow into competent pathologists with time. Many chapters, in particular those dedicated to the Department history, mention Dr Ljudevit Jurak, not only because he was the first head of the Department and our first Hospital pathologist, but primarily because of his extraordinary personality and fate, and above all for his moral courage. In the chapters describing Department activities, many pathologists and medical historians can find numerous documents from Dr Ljudevit Jurak’s time, owing to the rich and carefully kept Department archives. Note should be made of the precious bibliography of papers published during the 1914-2013 period. Every bibliography is primarily meant to serve scientists in acquiring knowledge, while at the same time preserving a large body of evidence on the profession, professional and scientific development of not only Department pathologists but also of other physicians from our Hospital and elsewhere. The true value of their work, including former and current Department staff members, can best be perceived through such a publication.

The book has a high quality graphic design illustrating the work of the Department staff in the past 100 years, reflecting the high level of efforts and time invested by the authors and editors in particular in preparing this valuable monograph, which will hopefully stimulate all those intending to embark upon preparing similar books in the future.

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