

## Editor's Letter

Dear reader,

With this issue *Food Technology and Biotechnology* enters a year in which we celebrate its 50th anniversary. Half a century of publishing research papers in the fields of Food Technology and Biotechnology is certainly a significant achievement and an accomplishment we are very proud of. Indeed, even recognizing the impact of food technology, and particularly biotechnology as emerging scientific branches in the early sixties was a visionary act of the first editorial board.

The journal was published for the first time in 1963 under the title *Informacije Prehrambeno-tehnološkog instituta u Zagrebu (Information of the Food Technology Institute of Zagreb)*. At first, most of the authors of the published papers were lecturers and professors at the Department of Biotechnology of the Faculty of Technology, University of Zagreb, and scientists from the Institute, but very soon scientists from other institutions started contributing their own scientific articles, so in 1968 the name of the journal was changed into a more general *Prehrambeno-tehnološka revija (Food Technology Review)*. With time, not only scientists working in the field of food technology were handing in their papers, but an increasing number of manuscripts concerning topics from the field of biotechnology were submitted. Therefore, in 1986 the Editorial Board renamed the journal to *Prehrambeno-tehnološka i biotehnološka revija (Food Technology and Biotechnology Review)*.

The first Editor-in-Chief was Hinko Fuxa, but the real prosperity accompanied by the significant quality improvement followed after 1983 when Professor Pavao Mildner took over the steering wheel of the Editorial board and sat behind it for the next 26 years. Unfortunately, Professor Mildner passed away in February this year at the age of 93, only several months before the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the journal he always, with every right, considered his own child whom he brought up and launched into the world of scientific publishing. The Editorial board will miss the optimistic spirit of their honorary editor.

Because of the quality of its articles and the number of authors, the journal became the official journal of scientists working in the field of food technology and biotechnology in our as well as in the neighbouring countries. Thus, in 1991 it became the official journal of the Croatian Society of Biotechnology, and in 1992 of the Slovenian Microbiological Society. Since the year 1990 it has been published by the Faculty of Food Technology and Biotechnology, University of Zagreb, and financially supported by the Ministry of Science, Education and Sports, Republic of Croatia. In 2008 Croatian Academy of Sciences and Arts joined in with its financial support.

Trying to enlarge the number of authors, especially from the neighbouring, but also from other countries, the journal has been edited in English since 1995. From the first issue of the following year (1996) the name of the journal was changed in today's *Food Technology and Biotechnology*. This decision represented a milestone in the journal's development. It contributed to a better affirmation of our scientists abroad, and a much greater number of articles started coming from all over the world transforming *Food Technology and Biotechnology* into a completely international means of dissemination of scientific information. Since 1999 the papers published in the journal have been indexed in Current Contents®/Agriculture, Biology and Environmental Sciences, Science Citation Index Expanded (known as Sci Search®), Web of Science (WoS), Food Science and Technology Abstracts, Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology Abstracts, Foodline: Food Science and Technology, Current Biotechnology Abstracts, Chemical Abstracts, CAB Abstracts, VINITI, VITIS-VEA and Directory of Open Access Journals (DOAJ). This makes them freely accessible to any scientist in the world.

Looking back at our first 50 years one could distinguish phases of childhood and adolescence of *Food Technology and Biotechnology* leading to a mature journal with clear aims and mission. Thus, what else would be more appropriate celebration of this anniversary than to look forward to our next 50 years.

Editor-in-Chief



Professor Vladimir Mrša