
IN MEMORIAM

Prof. Tomislav Ivaniš, D.D.S., Ph.D. 1937 - 2001

On 11 April 2001 Prof. Tomislav Ivaniš, Professor at the School of Dental Medicine, and Head of the Department for Fixed Prosthetics of the Clinic of Dental Medicine, Clinical Hospital Centre Zagreb gave up his fight against illness. Lost was the last trace of hope for our colleague and friend, who incredibly bravely bore his suffering for so long, conscious and ready to share a joke until the very end.

Professor Ivaniš was born in Zagreb on 21 September 1937 where he finished primary and high school, and also primary and middle music school. Apart from his great love of the piano he also had a marked inclination for art. He was also known to all of us as a great supporter of the "Dinamo" Football Club.

His professional career started in 1963, after graduating at the School of Dental Medicine in Zagreb, as Assistant at the then Department of Dental Prosthetics at the same School. Soon afterwards he left to do national service, after which he worked in the Health Clinic "Centar". In 1971, after being elected Assistant at the Department of Fixed Prosthetics of the School of Dental Medicine in Zagreb, he began his clinical, teaching and scientific career. He passed the specialist examination in Dental Prosthetics in 1974, as one of the first specialists in that field of dentistry. He obtained his M.Sc. in 1981, and became Chief Physician in 1985. In 1987 he obtained his Ph.D., in 1988 he became Senior Lecturer and in 1997 Associate Professor.

He was a particularly talented expert-clinician, with diverse experience, conscientious and demanding. Patients, technicians, nurses, students and colleagues equally valued his capabilities. He was a mentor for numerous physicians during specialisation, and Head of Specialisation in Dental Prosthetics. He was also a member of the Commission for Specialist Examinations of the Ministry of Health. Because of his knowledge and reputation he became the Head of the Clinical Department of Fixed Prosthetics at the Dental Clinic of the Clinical Hospital Centre in Zagreb.

As a teacher he was one of the best. He enjoyed all of his lectures, equally serious and inspired, both for students and

physicians in permanent training. His practical teaching was excellent and his inventive teaching aids extraordinary, and more recently a particularly successful video recording on basic teaching themes, on which we shall continue to see his face and listen to his voice. He was mentor for students' scientific and graduate theses, and participated in several courses in graduate teaching at the School, and during 10 years at the School of Dentistry University of Rijeka and at the Higher Dental Technical School in Zagreb.

His scientific work was mainly in the field of Fixed Prosthetics, particularly evaluation and improvement of clinical methods and materials, and in the field of gnathodynamometry. He participated in all scientific-research projects on Fixed Prosthetics. He was author or co-author of many scientific and professional papers and participant of many domestic and foreign meetings. He was an invited speaker at many meetings and also mentor of masters' degrees, and Head of two courses on postgraduate teaching.

Apart from involvement in clinical, teaching and scientific work, he was also occupied with the organisation of professional and scientific meetings, and numerous courses on permanent training. For example, in 1984 and 1987 he was a member of the Organisational Board of the Intersectional Meetings of Prosthetic Societies of Slovenia and Croatia in 1984. He was also Vice-President of the Organisational Board of the I. Congress of Yugoslav Prosthetists in 1986. He was President of the Section for Dental Prosthetics of the Croatian Medical Association from 1985 to 1987. He was a member of the Editorial Board of the journal *Acta Stomatologica Croatica* from 1992 to 1994. He was also a member of various professional associations, such as the Croatian Medical Association, the Croatian Society for Dental Prosthetics and the European Society of Prosthetics. Sadly, he will miss the Congress of the European Society of Prosthetics, to be held in Croatia in 2002. We are all aware of the part he played in bringing the Congress to this country.

Tomislav Ivaniš was a friend, colleague and professor. He was an example to us all for his refinement, tenacity and correctness. He was exceptionally loyal to the profession, for which we shall always remember him. He will be missed by all, and remembered always. May he rest in peace.

Vjekoslav Jerolimov