

Preface

WE ARE very pleased to present this Festschrift in honour of Dr. Svetozar Musić, emeritus of the Ruđer Bošković Institute, Zagreb, Croatia on the occasion of his 70th birthday and 45 years of scientific career.

Dr. Musić took interest in science at an early stage of his education; he actively participated in various science-related school activities, which greatly influenced his decision to study chemistry at the University of Zagreb. He had the opportunity to learn from the best representatives of the Zagreb School of Colloid Chemistry (Professors Božo Težak, Mirko Mirnik, and Marko Herak) who directed his scientific pathway into the study of colloid stability and adsorption/desorption phenomena on solid/liquid interfaces. The acquired knowledge and competences were very useful for his further work in the production of short-lived radioisotopes and labeling of different complexes and colloids for use in nuclear medicine. Since iron (hydrrous)oxides are often used as carriers for short-lived radioisotopes, he extended his research interest to the precipitation chemistry of iron oxides and metal oxides in general. Constant scientific curiosity brought him to the laboratory of Academician Attila Vértes, Loránd-Eötvös University in Budapest, to learn about the applications of Mössbauer spectroscopy to the study of kinetics, phase transformation and mechanisms of iron oxide formation. Additional specialization in the applications of Mössbauer Effect to the study of corrosion inhibition and protection he gained working with Professor Henry Leidheiser, Lehigh University,

Pennsylvania, USA. Upon return from the United States he established his own research group and opened a new research topic at the Ruđer Bošković Institute on the study of metal oxides and mixed metal oxides with his unique approach to the chemical synthesis of these compounds. His work in the development of materials for radioactive waste immobilization based on borosilicate glasses characterizes a unique scientific approach. In the period from mid-eighties to his retirement (2012) he equipped the laboratory with various advanced instrumental techniques for materials characterization. He introduced Mössbauer spectroscopy as a research technique into the Ruđer Bošković Institute and Croatia, as well as made significant efforts to supply the first Field Emission Scanning Electron Microscope (FE SEM) to the Institute. During that period he educated many MSc and PhD students who continue their scientific careers either at the Institute or with other institutions and companies nationwide.

We are proud to be two of those who had the privilege to be taught by Dr. Musić and maintain successful collaboration with him up to this date.

We would also like to express our special thanks and gratitude to our colleagues all around the world who contributed to this special issue and to those who served as referees for manuscripts submitted and thus helped us very much to edit this issue of CCA.

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