

## IN MEMORIAM

### BRANKA ZOVKO-CIHLAR †

Početakom 2023. godine, napustila nas je profesorica emerita Branka Zovko-Cihlar, prva žena doktorica znanosti iz područja elektrotehnike u Hrvatskoj. Profesorica je preminula u svom uredu na Zavodu komunikacijske i svemirske tehnologije Fakulteta elektrotehnike i računarstva Sveučilišta u Zagrebu. Generacije studenata i suradnika pamtit će je po stručnosti, ljudskosti i vedrom osmjehu, kojim je pristupala svima.

Branka Zovko-Cihlar rođena je u Sarajevu te se u djetinjstvu preselila u Zagreb, gdje se obrazovala i ostvarila na profesionalnom i privatnom planu. Po završetku Tehničkog fakulteta Sveučilišta u Zagrebu, elektrotehnički odsjek, zaposlila se u *Radioindustriji Zagreb*, na mjestu samostalnog instruktora u odjelu instrumenata na razvoju mjernih uređaja. Godine 1960. izabrana je na Elektrotehničkom fakultetu (ETF) Sveučilišta u Zagrebu za asistenta. Doktorirala je 1964. godine na ETF-u (današnji FER), čime je postala prva žena doktorica znanosti iz područja elektrotehnike u Hrvatskoj. Od 1977. godine članica je najveće svjetske stručne organizacije *Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers* (IEEE).

Na Fakultetu elektrotehnike i računarstva Sveučilišta u Zagrebu profesorica Zovko-Cihlar obnašala je mnoge funkcije. Od ranih 1980-ih predavala je predmete Televizija, Digitalna televizija, Multimedijске komunikacije i Širokopoljasne mreže za distribuciju TV signala. Bila je mentorica studentima za brojne diplomske, magistarske i doktorske radove te je objavila veliki broj znanstvenih i stručnih radova, kao i sveučilišni udžbenik „Šum u radiokomunikacijama”. Uz zagrebački FER, profesorica je predavala na osječkom FERIT-u i Elektrotehničkom fakultetu Univerziteta u Sarajevu.

Branka Zovko-Cihlar sudjelovala je u osnivanju Akademije tehničkih znanosti Hrvatske (HATZ), koje je član od 1993. godine. Dugo godina bila

je voditeljica Odjela za komunikacijske sustave HATZ-a, a 2004. postaje potpredsjednica HATZ-a. Dotada je obnašala funkciju predsjednice Vijeća za radio i televiziju.

Dobitnica je mnogih nagrada i priznanja, među kojima je vrijedno istaknuti najznačajniju nagradu FER-a Zlatnu plaketu „Josip Lončar” (1991.), nagradu za životno djelo „Moć znanja” Akademije tehničkih znanosti Hrvatske (2003.) i nagradu za životno djelo „Nikola Tesla” Hrvatske sekcije IEEE (2007.). Godine 2019. Senat Sveučilišta u Zagrebu izabrao je prof. Branku Zovko-Cihlar u počasno zvanje *professor emerita*.

Profesorice Zovko-Cihlar ovom prilikom se uz inženjere radiokomunikacije, prisjećaju i studenti Pravnog fakulteta Sveučilišta u Zagrebu. Vječna joj hvala za sav doprinos znanosti.

Nikolina Đaković

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At the beginning of 2023, professor emeritus Branka Zovko-Cihlar, the first female doctor of science in the field of electrical engineering in Croatia, had left us. The professor died in her office at the Department of Communication and Space Technology, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing, University of Zagreb. Generations of students and associates will remember her for her expertise, humanity and the cheerful smile she approached everyone with.

Branka Zovko-Cihlar was born in Sarajevo and moved to Zagreb as a child, where she was educated and became accomplished both professionally and privately. After graduating from the Technical Faculty of the University of Zagreb, electrical engineering department, she got a job at Radioindustrija Zagreb, as an independent instructor in the instrument department on the development of measuring devices. In 1960, she was chosen as an assistant at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering (*ETF*) of the University of Zagreb. She received her doctorate in 1964 at ETF (today's *FER*), making her the first female doctor of science in the field of electrical engineering in Croatia. Since 1977, she had been a member of the world's largest professional organization, the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE).

Professor Zovko-Cihlar held many positions at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science of the University of Zagreb. Since the early 1980s, she had taught the subjects Television, Digital Television, Multimedia Communications and Broadband Networks for the Distribution of TV Signals. She was a mentor to students for numerous diploma, master's and doctoral theses and published a large number of scientific and professional papers, as well as the university textbook *Noise in Radio Communications*. In addition to the Zagreb *FER*, the professor taught at *FERIT* in Osijek and the Faculty of Electrical Engineering of the University of Sarajevo.

Branka Zovko-Cihlar participated in the founding of the Croatian Academy of Technical Sciences (*HATZ*), of which she has been a member since 1993. For many years, she was the head of the *HATZ* Communication Systems Department, and in 2004 she became *HATZ*'s vice president. Until then, she held the position of president of the Council for Radio and Television.

She is the winner of many awards and recognitions, among which it is worth noting the most important *FER* award, the “Josip Lončar” Golden Plaque (1991), the “Power of Knowledge” Lifetime Achievement Award of the Croatian Academy of Technical Sciences (2003) and the Lifetime Achievement Award “Nikola Tesla” of the Croatian Section of the IEEE (2007). In 2019, the Senate of the University of Zagreb elected Prof. Branka Zovko-Cihlar to the honorary title of Professor Emeritus.

On this occasion, along with radio communication engineers, students of the Faculty of Law of the University of Zagreb remember Professor Zovko-Cihlar. We extend eternal gratitude to her for all her contribution to science.

Nikolina Đaković