

In memoriam

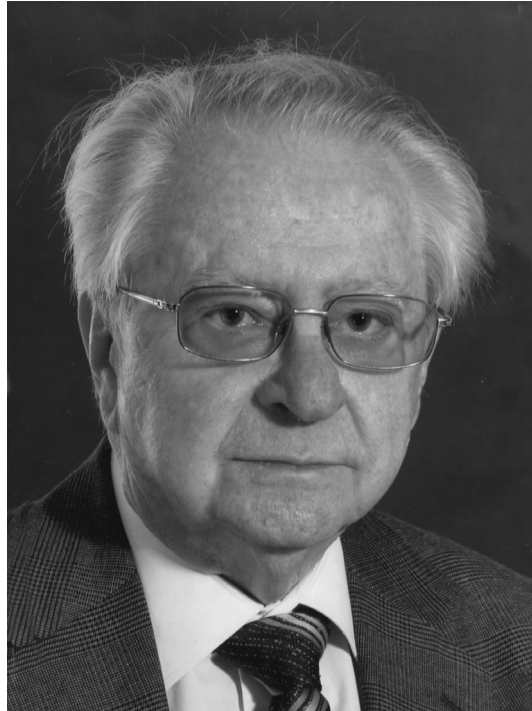
/ *Obituary*

Vasko Muačević

Prof. dr. sc. / Prof., PhD

(22. veljače 1928. – 19. siječnja 2024.)

(22 February 1928 – 19 January 2024)



Prof. prim. dr. sc. Vasko Muačević preminuo je 19. siječnja 2024. godine u Zagrebu. Otišao je doajen hrvatske psihijatrije i jedan od njezinih utemeljitelja. Prof. Muačević je početkom devedesetih godina prošlog stoljeća sudjelovao u oblikovanju hrvatske psihijatrije, u formiranju ratne psihijatrije tijekom Domovinskog rata te u reformiranju hrvatske psihijatrijske službe kao i psihijatrijske edukacije.

Dao je veliki doprinos u pozicioniranju hrvatske psihijatrije kako u europskim tako i u svjetskim psihijatrijskim asocijacijama.

Rođen je 22. veljače 1928. godine u Zagrebu, gdje je završio osnovnu školu i IV. mušku gimnaziju. Medicinski fakultet Sveučilišta u Zagrebu upisao je 1947. godine, a diplomirao 1953. godine kao jedan od najboljih studenata generacije. Nakon završetka vojnog roka obavio je obvezni liječnički staž, a potom radi kao liječnik opće medicine u ambulanti tvornice „Jugokeramika“ kod Zaprešića.

Specijalizaciju iz neurologije i psihijatrije započeo je 1957. godine na Odjelu za neuropsihija-

Prof. Prim. Vasko Muačević, PhD passed away on 19 January 2024 in Zagreb. A doyen of Croatian psychiatry and one of its founders has left us. In the early 1990s, Prof. Muačević participated in the shaping of Croatian psychiatry, the formation of war psychiatry during the War of Independence, and the reforming of the Croatian psychiatric service and psychiatric education.

He greatly contributed to the positioning of Croatian psychiatry both in the European and the global psychiatric associations.

He was born on 22 February 1928 in Zagreb, where he completed elementary school and the IV. Grammar School for Boys. He enrolled into the University of Zagreb School of Medicine in 1947, and graduated in 1953 as one of the best students of his generation. After finishing his military service, he completed his mandatory medical internship and then worked as a general practitioner in the infirmary of the “Jugokeramika” factory near Zaprešić.

He began his specialization in neurology and psychiatry in 1957 at the Department of Neuropsychiatry in the “Dr. Mladen Stojanović Hospital”, better known as “Vinogradska Hospital”, which

triju tadašnje bolnice „Dr. Mladen Stojanović“, poznatije kao Vinogradska bolnica, danas KBC Sestre milosrdnice.

Specijalistički ispit iz neuropsihijatrije položio je 1960. godine pred povjerenstvom čiji je predsjednik bio prof. Radoslav Lopašić.

Doktorsku disertaciju „Utjecaj aktualnog konflikta na kliničku sliku psihoneuroze“, pod mentorstvom prof. Duške Blažević obranio je 1965. godine, a potom odlazi na stručno usavršavanje iz socijalne psihijatrije kod prof. Philippea Paumelle u Parizu.

Na Neuropsihijatrijsku kliniku na Rebro prelazi 1968. godine, te zajedno s prof. Peršićem i prim. Berghoferom pokreće subspecializaciju iz socijalne psihijatrije. Sudjelovao je u preuređenju i organizaciji otvorenog dijela psihijatrijskog odjela kao i u različitim socijalno-psihijatrijskim aktivnostima (terapijska zajednica, grupna psihoterapija shizofrenih bolesnika, okupaciona terapija). Uveo je tzv. timsku sintezu, postupak otpusta i plana aktivnosti nakon njega, u kojem su osim liječnika sudjelovali i medicinske sestre, psiholozi, socijalni radnici, okupacioni terapeuti.

Otvoreni dio psihijatrijskog odjela nakon nekog vremena preimenovan je u Odjel socijalne psihijatrije, čiji voditelj postaje 1975. godine kao prvi subspecialist socijalne psihijatrije s mentalnom higijenom.

Predstojnik Klinike za psihijatriju postaje 1990. godine, te ostaje na tom mjestu do umirovljenja.

Osim socijalnom psihijatrijom i rehabilitacijom prof. Muačević bavio se prevencijom psihičkih smetnji, kao i destigmatizacijom duševne bolesti. Zalagao se za multidisciplinarni i integrativni pristup osobama s psihičkim smetnjama i članovima njihovi obitelji.

Asistent na Katedri za psihijatriju Medicinskog fakulteta Sveučilišta u Zagrebu postao je 1968. godine. Za naslovnog docenta habilitirao je 1971. godine s temom „Promatranje interak-

today bears the name the “Sisters of Charity Teaching Hospital”.

He passed the specialist examination in neuropsychiatry before the committee headed by Prof. Radoslav Lopašić in 1960.

Under the mentorship of Prof. Duška Blažević, in 1965 he completed his doctoral dissertation entitled “The Impact of the Current Conflict on the Clinical Picture of Psychoneurosis”, after which he continued his professional training in social psychiatry with Prof. Philippe Paumelle in Paris.

He transferred to the Neuropsychiatric Clinic of the University Hospital Centre Zagreb in 1968, and together with Prof. Peršić and Prim. Berghofer he initiated the subspecialization in social psychiatry. He participated in the rearrangement and organization of the open part of the psychiatric ward, as well as in various social-psychiatric activities (therapeutic community, group psychotherapy of schizophrenic patients, occupational therapy). He introduced the so-called team synthesis, with the discharge procedure and activity plan after it in which nurses, psychologists, social workers and occupational therapists participated along with the doctors.

After a while, the open part of the psychiatric ward was renamed the Department of Social Psychiatry, and in 1975 he became department head as the first subspecialist in social psychiatry with mental hygiene.

He became Head of the Department of Psychiatry in 1990, and held the position until his retirement.

In addition to social psychiatry and rehabilitation, Prof. Muačević was also involved in the prevention of mental disorders, as well as the destigmatization of mental illnesses. He advocated a multidisciplinary and integrative approach to individuals suffering from mental disorders and their family members.

He became a teaching fellow at the Clinical Department of Psychiatry of the University of Zagreb School of Medicine in 1968. He was habilitated as a titular assistant professor in 1971, with the thesis entitled “Observation of Interactions in a Family of Schizophrenic Patients Through Comparative Group Psychotherapy”. He became

cija u obitelji shizofrenih bolesnika kroz uspo- rednu grupnu psihoterapiju“. Naslovni profesor postao je 1975., a redoviti profesor u kumula- tivnom radnom odnosu 1979. godine.

Od 1986. do 1988. godine obnaša dužnost Pro- čelnika Katedre za psihijatriju.

Napisao je brojne članke, poglavlja u zbornici- ma i knjigama.

Uredio je prvi hrvatski udžbenik iz psihijatri- je 1995. godine. To je prva knjiga u Hrvatskoj koja se temeljila na klasifikaciji MKB-10 i DSM- IV. Na tu su se knjigu referirali svi kasniji psihi- jatrijski udžbenici, ne samo u nas.

Bio je član Hrvatskog liječničkog zbora, osnivač i prvi predsjednik Psihijatrijske sekcije HLZ-a, osnivač i prvi predsjednik Hrvatskog psihija- trijskog društva, član Europskog psihijatrijskog društva, član Američke akademije za medicinu i psihijatriju, počasni član Austrijskog neurop- sihijatrijskog društva, član Kuratorija međuna- rodnih neuropsihijatrijskih simpozija u Puli, redoviti član Akademije medicinskih znanosti Hrvatske, jedan od osnivača i član Hrvatskog katoličkog liječničkog društva.

Napisao je više od 40 znanstvenih i preko 50 stručnih radova objavljenih u zemlji i inozem- stvu. Sudjelovao je na brojnim kongresima i stručnim skupovima. Održao je brojna pozvana predavanja čiji su sažetci objavljeni u zbornici- ma radova.

Znanstveni interes prof. Muačevića bio je u raznim područjima socijalne psihijatrije i rehabi- litacije, kliničke psihijatrije te farmakoterapije.

Tijekom Domovinskog rata bavio se psihičkim problemima branitelja i njihovih obitelji. Isku- stva iz toga razdoblja objavljena su u Sjedinjenim Američkim Državama u knjizi „*Beyond invisible walls*“ koju su uredili Jacob Lindy i Robert Lifton.

Preko Hrvatskog psihijatrijskog društva orga- nizirao je provođenje psihocijalne i psihijatrijs- ke pomoći raseljenim osobama i prognanicima diljem Hrvatske, te psihijatrijsku i psihološku

titular professor in 1975, and full professor in cumulative employment in 1979.

In the period between 1986 and 1988, he held the position of the Head of the Psychiatry Chair.

He wrote numerous articles, chapters in proceed- ings and books.

He was the editor of the first Croatian textbook in psychiatry, issued in 1995. It was the first book issued in Croatia that was based on the ICD-10 and DSM-IV classifications, and has been refer- enced in all subsequent psychiatric textbooks, not just in our country.

He was a member of the Croatian Medical Asso- ciation, founder and first president of the Psy- chiatric Section of the CMA, founder and first president of the Croatian Psychiatric Association, member of the European Psychiatric Association, member of the American Academy of Medicine and Psychiatry, honorary member of the Austrian Neuropsychiatric Society, Kuratorium member of the international Neuropsychiatric Symposia in Pula, regular member of the Croatian Academy of Medical Sciences, one of the founders and mem- ber of the Croatian Catholic Medical Society.

He wrote more than 40 scientific papers, and over 50 professional papers that were published in our country and abroad. He participated in numer- ous congresses and professional conferences. He held numerous invited lectures, the summaries of which have been published in their proceedings.

The scientific interests of Prof. Muačević lay in various areas of social psychiatry and rehabili- tation, clinical psychiatry and pharmacotherapy.

During the Croatian War of Independence, he dealt with the mental problems of veterans and their families. His experiences from the period were published in the United States of America in the book “*Beyond Invisible Walls*”, edited by Jacob Lindy and Robert Lifton.

With the help of the Croatian Psychiatric Associ- ation, he organized the implementation of psy- chosocial and psychiatric assistance to displaced persons and refugees throughout Croatia, as well as psychiatric and psychological care in several

skrb u nekoliko prognaničkih naselja. U tim programima sudjelovalo je preko 300 stručnjaka, ne samo psihijatara.

Prof. Muačević dobitnik je brojnih nagrada i priznanja od kojih su najznačajnije Počasno priznanje Slovačkog psihijatrijskog društva, Počasna diploma Češkog psihijatrijskog društva i Nagrada HLZ-a, dok je 2009. godine proglašen laureatom Akademije medicinskih znanosti Hrvatske.

Bio je tajnik uredničkog odbora više časopisa („Acta medica“, „Anali“ i „Socijalna psihijatrija“). U časopisu „Socijalna psihijatrija“ bio je glavni, a kasnije i počasni urednik. U tom razdoblju časopis je izrastao u najznačajniji psihijatrijski časopis koji objavljuje radove na hrvatskom jeziku.

Profesor Vasko Muačević bio je liječnik, neuropsihijatar, socijalni psihijatar, redoviti profesor, znanstveni savjetnik, voditelj projekata, autor, urednik, pročelnik Klinike i Katedre, ali prije svega bio je čovjek. Dobar, tih, miran, empatičan, spreman za suradnju, kolegijalan u najboljem smislu te riječi. Bio je iskren, topao, obiteljski posvećen i očinski brižan. Bio je spontan, neposredan, sa smislom za humor (i na vlastiti račun), katkad blago ironičan, kako to znaju biti ljudi sigurni u sebe. Omiljen u društvu, okupljao je ljude oko sebe, iskreno zainteresiran za druge i spreman pomoći kad god je to bilo potrebno. S visokom razinom tolerancije i empatije, nikada, ni u situacijama koje nisu bile lake i ugodne, nije povisio glas.

Bio je omiljen među svojim suradnicima, poštovan od kolega, cijenjen među bolesnicima.

Prof. dr. sc. Vasko Muačević zadužio je mnoge: svoje bolesnike, suradnike, studente, specijalizante, psihijatere, kolege drugih struka. Zadužio je hrvatsku psihijatriju.

Dragi profesore hvala Vam za sve što ste učinili i počivajte u miru!

Dražen Begić

refugee settlements. Over 300 experts, not only psychiatrists, participated in the implementation of these programs.

Prof. Muačević received numerous awards and recognitions, the most prominent of which are the Honorary Recognition of the Slovak Psychiatric Society, Honorary Degree of the Czech Psychiatric Society and the Croatian Medical Association Award, while in 2009 he was declared Laureate of the Croatian Academy of Medical Sciences.

He served as secretary of the editorial boards of several journals (“Acta Medica”, “Annals” and “Social Psychiatry”). He was the Editor in Chief and, later, Honorary Editor of the journal “Social Psychiatry”. In this period, the journal became the most important psychiatric journal which published papers in the Croatian language.

Professor Vasko Muačević was a doctor, neuropsychiatrist, social psychiatrist, full professor, scientific advisor, project manager, author, editor, Department and Clinical Department Head, but above all, he was a good man. He was kind, quiet, calm, empathetic, willing to cooperate, and a good colleague in the best sense of the word. He was honest, warm, family oriented and seen as a fatherly figure. He was spontaneous, direct, with a good sense of humor (even at his own expense), and at times mildly ironic as self-confident people sometimes tend to be. He was popular, people gathered around him, he had a genuine interest in others and was willing to help whenever necessary. Due to his high level of tolerance and empathy, he never raised his voice, even in situations that were not easy or pleasant.

He was a favorite among his co-workers, respected by his colleagues and valued by his patients.

Prof. Vasko Muačević, PhD helped numerous people: his patients, co-workers, students, residents, psychiatrists and colleagues from different professions. His contribution to Croatian psychiatry was immense.

Dear Professor, thank you for everything that you have done and may you rest in peace!

Dražen Begić