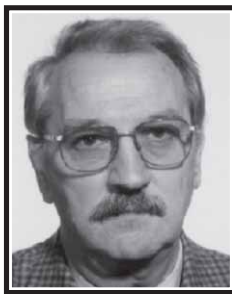


In memoriam*Professor Vladimir Marić**(January 11, 1939 – May 22, 2009)*

On May 22, 2009 Vladimir Marić, Professor at the Faculty of Food Technology and Biotechnology, University of Zagreb, and a member of the Croatian Academy of Engineering left us permanently. The sad news of his untimely demise has touched deeply all of us who knew him.

He graduated from the Division of Biotechnology, Faculty of Technology in 1964. After that, he earned his PhD in 1973 in the field of biotechnical sciences, and was elected full professor at the Faculty of Food Technology and Biotechnology in 1980, where he also performed duty of the Dean of the Faculty in the period 1984-1988.

The scientific research of Professor Vladimir Marić was focused on various areas of biotechnology and bioprocess engineering. It began in the very demanding and challenging field of microbial continuous culture techniques, from where he extended his work on continuous processes as the leader of the Single-Cell-Protein Production Project team of twenty researchers to develop the production of yeast and bacterial biomass on methanol and hydrocarbons. After that, Professor Marić led many demanding projects on developing the procedures of isolation, storage and application of biologically active biomass as starter cultures in different fields of use (e.g. lactic or acetic acid bacteria) and for production of microbial metabolites (e.g. different physiologically active compounds for yeast). Later, he focused his research on the construction and scientific characterization of completely new type of bioreactor, a so-called horizontal rotating tubular bioreactor, which will become a sign of recognition of his Laboratory in the international scientific community.

Professor Marić is the author of over 150 scientific and professional papers, 12 books, 2 monographs and 6 university textbooks. Apart from that, he gave many lectures as invited speaker on scientific meetings in the country and abroad. The roles he took in various organisations include the regional president of the Scientific Council for Biotechnical Science, a member of the National Scientific Council and a member of the Scientific Advisory Committee of the European Federation of Biotechnology. Besides, he was the deputy editor of the scientific journal *Food Technology and Biotechnology* and editor-in-chief of a professional journal *The World of Beer*. He was a permanent associate of Lexicographic Institute on projects of Croatian General Encyclopaedia and quadrilingual Technical Lexicon.

In this sad moment, when we all are questioning ourselves what we will remember most about Professor Marić, the first thing that comes to mind is his incredible diligence. We always wondered again and again how he managed to achieve so much. The secret lay in his impeccable self-discipline and organisation; he was simply a man who thought and worked fast, bringing decisions firmly and quickly, but never irrationally. Innovative by nature, he was always willing to accept what is new. That is why his criteria were placed extremely high. It takes a lot of courage for that, which he never lacked. As a result, the standards he created in science and teaching were set high. We will especially remember that Professor Marić was a man of his word, with ethical and moral principles. These are the most valuable qualities that we endeavoured to accomplish in the years spent with him, and this is our legacy, for which we are ever grateful.

He generously shared his great knowledge with industry in a number of collaboration projects, especially with brewing industry in Croatia and neighbouring countries, as well as at his position of the President of Technical Commission for Drinks at the Croatian Chamber of Commerce for the awards of *Croatian Quality*. He received numerous awards and recognitions, among which are the award *Fran Bošnjaković* in year 2000 and the State Prize for Science in year 2008, in category *Life Achievement Award* for exceptional contributions to the development of biotechnical sciences, especially biotechnology and bioprocess engineering in Croatia.

His vast knowledge and practical experience, Professor Marić unselfishly delivered to students and younger associates. He raised generations of engineers who now occupy responsible positions in industry, administration and academic community.

His name will remain remembered in the history of Croatian biotechnology, bioprocess engineering and brewing industry.