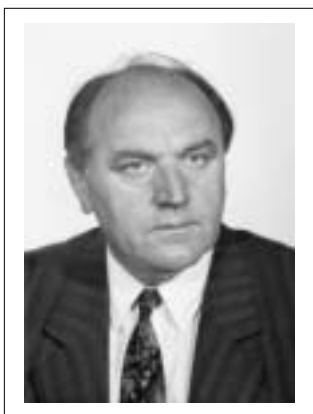


IN MEMORIAM

Zdravko Rajić (1937–2005)



Professor Zdravko Rajić, our distinguished colleague and friend passed away unexpectedly on January 19th 2005.

Zdravko Rajić was born in Čapljina on the 4th of March 1937, where he finished his primary education. He continued his studies in Sarajevo, becoming a dental technician in 1956. In 1958 he started his medical studies, specializing in dental medicine and getting a degree in 1963. His academic career started in 1965 when he became an assistant at the School of Dental Medicine, University of Zagreb.

In 1975 he got a master's degree in the field of experimental biology (animal physiology) with the topic of the application of different methods on the microflora of the oral cavity, followed by a PhD on the topic of the use of holographic interferometry in the studies of biomechanical properties of the chewing apparatus (1977). Upon finishing his PhD, he became assistant professor in 1979, and professor in 1985.

Professor Rajić was a head of the Department of Pediatric Dentistry between 1980 and 1994. He was also the vice dean at the School of Dental Medicine of the University of Zagreb, assistant editor of the scientific journal *Acta Stomatologica Croatia*. For many years he was a member of the council of the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Croatia.

During his career professor Rajić's main focus was pediatric dentistry and prevention of diseases. His professional activities and contribution to the improvement of general dental care and health led him to the duty of the leader of the scientific research projects on the oral health and prevention of children in Croatia, as a part of the World Health Organization projects on the health of the European children. He is the author of 78 scientific articles and numerous other publications.

Alongside his professional research in the field of pediatric dentistry, professional duties as a lecturer on both undergraduate and graduate studies, professor Rajić found the time to get involved in the issues of general health and prevention of diseases. Among others, he is the author of several children's plays on the dental care, as well as a TV script on the same topic. His interest in children's dental health also led him to publish several children's books, adding to the overall dental care and prevention of the young population. It is important to stress that some of these books were published for minority groups, as is the book in Roma language, further adding to the prevention of the dental diseases in this ethnic group.

For his outstanding work achievements, professor Rajić received numerous national and international awards, including the distinguished Ladislav Rakovac award, and the Award of the Croatian Medical Association Council.

Professor Rajić is one of the founding members of the Croatian anthropological society, Croatian Association of Medical Anthropologists and a member of the editorial council of the scientific journal *Collegium Anthropologicum*. His work and contribution to the field of dental anthropology in Croatia cannot be overemphasized. His passing away will leave a great void in the professional field of health care, dental medicine and dental anthropology. Furthermore, as generations of students and colleagues can testify, his kindness and dedication to problems of children, and his continuous interest in the improvement of the field will stand as a shining example for generations to come.

Thank you Zdravko, our dear friend!

Editorial Board

IN MEMORIAM

Živojin Gavrilović (1922–2005)



Professor Gavrilović was born in Begeč and educated in Novi Sad. He took his A-levels during the war and in 1944 he joined the Liberation Struggle. After leaving the army, he enrolled the Faculty of Science in Belgrade from which he graduated in 1949 (the biology group). He started working at the Institute for Work Physiology of the Serbian Academy of Science and Art. He took his doctor's degree in 1956.

Following the foundation of the Medical Faculty in Novi Sad in 1960, he returned to his native city. He was elected head of the Institute for Biology of the Medical Faculty where he equipped and organized the teaching. In 1976 he started teaching at the Biological Institute of the Faculty of Science where he worked until retirement.

The scientific creativity of professor Živojin Gavrilović started in 1949, following the completion of his biological studies, at the Institute for Work Physiology of the Serbian Academy of Science and Art in Belgrade. He mastered and developed the methods of scientific research, which led him to become one of the founders of the Anthropological Association of Yugoslavia; from the very beginning he took care of its work and growth with all his heart. Not only did he soon become an appreciated

member and leader of that Association but also its hallmark.

Professor Živojin Gavrilović spent all his working life teaching and doing research. With the support of the Anthropological Association of Yugoslavia, professor Živojin Gavrilović, as a biology and anthropology lecturer, organized the theoretical and practical teaching as well as research work at the University of Novi Sad; this introduced him to many home and foreign scientific associations. He took an active part in the work of over 40 scientific gatherings and congresses in his country and abroad and he published over 350 scientific papers covering all areas of biophysical anthropology, a science he laid foundations to in Vojvodina. He was awarded numerous prizes for his work, and won recognition and decorations both in the country and abroad. By his worthy endeavor he paid his debt to his home city of Novi Sad and to his native region, Vojvodina, which he always cherished and valued.

Professor Živojin Gavrilović radiated exceptional integrity, patriotism, modesty and an ability to attract postgraduate students and scientists of a different line of studies, helping them and introducing them to research work.

Professor Gavrilović completed and accomplished his professional and scientific cognitions during his study visits abroad as well as at different scientific gatherings. In 1954 he stayed with professor Božo Škerlj in Ljubljana. This stay was followed by study trips to Vienna (1957), Hale (1974), Plovdiv (1980) and other cities. On the occasion of these and other meetings, he got acquainted with contemporary achievements in anthropological science and he selflessly passed on his experience to his students and collaborators.

Another manner of becoming acquainted with acquisitions of contemporary scientific thought was through his participation at scientific gatherings and congresses at home and abroad. He took part in over 40 congresses with relevant scientific papers. He won a great deal of recognition and over 20 decorations for that kind of collaboration. He was, among others, one of the founders of the Anthropological Association of Yugoslavia, which was set up as early as 1959.

In addition to the above, professor Gavrilović was an appreciated member of numerous home and foreign professional and scientific associations. Among these are: the Anthropological Association of Yugoslavia, the Society of Biologists of Vojvodina, the Yugoslav Association for Physiology, the Society of Environmentalists of Yugoslavia, the Association of Anatomists of French-speaking countries at Nancy, the Society of Anthropologists of the City of Paris, the Association of Anthropologists and Human Geneticists of Germany, the International Society of Human Biologists, the

European Anthropological Association, the Association for Human Studies in Chicago, the Croatian Anthropological Association, and, since 19th March 1997, he was a honorary Director of the newly-founded Serbian Anthropological Society.

Professor Živojin Gavrilović exercised many social functions in his lifetime. Among others he was: vice-president of the Serbian Biological Society in Belgrade, president of the Regional board of the Serbian Biological Society for Vojvodina, secretary, vice-president and president (at different times) of the Anthropological Association of Yugoslavia, editor-in-chief of the Journal of the Anthropological Association of Yugoslavia since its foundation in 1964; secretary and vice-president of the Association of university and other scientists of Vojvodina, a member of the Committee for post-graduate studies of the Medical Faculty in Novi Sad.

Professor Živojin Gavrilović published over 320 professional scientific works in the most renowned publications and editions in his country and abroad. These works cover almost all domains of bioanthropological sciences. They deal with the problems in the field of paleoanthropology i.e. historical anthropology, anthropogenesis, human morphology, social anthropology, nutrition, pedagogical anthropology, and some other areas of biological and anthropological sciences. For many of these he laid the foundations in Vojvodina, relying on the achievements of science in general as well as of his immediate collaborators. That is the reason why that circle is often, and appropriately, referred to as »Gavrilović's anthropological school« from Novi Sad. When speaking of Gavrilović's specific contributions to the growth of anthropology, I must admit that some of his results have hardly been hinted here; actually, each one of the mentioned issues can provide a topic of a separate study.

Collaborating with anatomists and archeologists, Professor Živojin Gavrilović was concerned from the very start of his scientific career i.e. since 1958 with studying human skeletons from earlier ages. Among the problems treated were establishing the height of our medieval man (1958) and determining the knemic index of the medieval human skeleton from Brestovik (1959). He focused on the skulls of our ancestors found in many localities in Vojvodina and dating from 7th to 16th century where Vanka methods were applied (1963). This group of issues is supplemented by the anthropological structure of medieval necropolis in Mirijevo in the vicinity of Belgrade (1960) as well as by the study of the skull of the medieval man from Brestovik (1963). Gavrilović's contribution to the medieval demography in Serbia (1964) based on anthropological analyses is rather interesting. This and many other works recommended professor Gavrilović for the inclusion into the large international project »Race history of Humankind« (12979) led by doctor Uza Švidecka in Mainz.

Being among those who were exceptionally lucky to have known him personally and to have collaborated with him over many years, in my own name as well as in the name of all the anthropologists of Bosnia and Herzegovina (and, I am certain, of all the anthropologists from ex-Yugoslavia who collaborated with him and nurtured appreciation and affection for him), I can only thank him from the bottom of my heart for all he did for the benefit of anthropology which made him well-known in European and world scientific circles and for which he will be remembered for a long time.

May he enjoy eternal glory!

Rifet Terzić