

### Prof. Dr. Vojko Ozim in Memoriam



Prof. Dr. Vojko Ozim died February 5<sup>th</sup>, 2007, just couple of months before his 85<sup>th</sup> birthday. He was born March 28<sup>th</sup>, 1922, in Maribor. He finished primary school and gymnasium in Ljubljana, where he meantime studied violin at the State Conservatory of Music.

After graduation he applied for chemistry at University of Ljubljana, at the Department of chemistry at Technical faculty. During his study he was exiled to Gonars internment. Later he joined the Partisans.

He graduated in 1946, and in 1951 passed the chemical engineer specialist exam. In 1952 he went to Grenoble for an advanced study at the Institute of electrochemistry and electrometallurgy at the University of Grenoble. The advanced course was funded by United Nation scholarship. As a young engineer, he was employed for a shorter

time at the Institution for pharmaceutical research in Ljubljana, and later in Elektrobosna in Jajce, where he gained enormous practical knowledge as an operational engineer. Later on, he was the assistant of acting director of Elektrobosna. He then worked in Tovarna sode in Lukavac, and from 1950 to 1968 he was employed at the Tovarna dušika, Ruše, where he positioned as the commercial director and later as chief director. He worked in the process industry of chloroalkaline electrolysis, soda, phosphoric acid, lime, cyanamide, technical gases, fertilizers, ferrosilicon, carbides, ferrochrome and others. He collaborated in investment studies for production of electrophosphor, electrocorundum and others.

In year 1968, in collaboration with producers of mineral water (Rogaška from Rogaška Slatina and Radenska from Radenci), he established the "Centre for development and research of mineral waters".

He received Master's degree in 1971 and Doctoral degree in 1978, both in the field of research of mineral waters. He started teaching in 1972 at the Department of chemistry at High Technical School in Maribor. In 1975 he was habilitated as assistant professor, and later on as full professor of chemical engineering at the Technical Faculty of University of Maribor. He collaborated in education of a great number of student generations of chemical engineering. His research and progress work at the university was related to solving problems in inorganic chemical industry and industry of drinkable, mineral, thermal, industrial and waste water. He wrote a number of works and patents in this field, as well as received many awards. After 1984, when he retired and became professor meritorious at the University of Maribor, he generously continued passing on his knowledge to his coworkers at the Faculty of chemistry and chemical engineering and colleagues from industry. He was active in Slovenian chemical society, where he performed a number of responsible duties. In the years between 1959 and 1962 he

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was the president of technical section, which was operating in the section of general chemistry.

In year 1977 he proposed the establishment of section for industrial chemistry. He offered his help during the establishment and was president until 1992 of the section of chemistry and process technology, as well as the coordinator of working group in section of physico-mechanical operations.

Prof. Dr. Vojko Ozim has generously shared and passed on his enormous practical experience and knowledge to younger generation. Even myself, I remember his lectures, which besides theoretical knowledge, gave me great directives for future industrial experience.

He was a hard worker, distinguished by calmness, dedication, immense understanding and attention for coworkers and as such, he gave students the knowledge, which they needed in their daily practice in industry.

With his research he assisted in the increase of technical standard in numerous companies in Slovenia and former Yugoslavia.

We, his coworkers, miss his positive energy, his advices and will for changes for the better.

Part of his personality and his actions continuously reflects at the Faculty of chemistry and chemical engineering as well as on his students and coworkers.

*Prof. Dr. Željko Knez*

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