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In Memoriam

RASTKO ČUKIĆ

PhD, Full Professor, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering University of Belgrade



Rastko Čukić, Ph.D., Full Professor at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, University of Belgrade, was born on January 22th 1937. in Požarevac. He attended the primary school in Požarevac, and secondary school in Belgrade. He graduated in 1961 at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering in Belgrade. He started to work in 1963 as the assistant for Strength of Materials at the Department for Theory of Structures, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering in Belgrade. He obtained the Master of Science degree in 1970 at the Faculty of Sciences in Belgrade, and the PhD in 1972 in Warsaw, Poland, at the Institute for Mechanics supervised by the academician Witold Nowacki, who had an important influence on his scientific development.

Professor Rastko Čukić became the Assistant professor in 1975, the Associate professor in 1982 and the Full professor

in 1987 for the subjects Strength of Materials and Strength of Structures and FEM. He also lectured many other subjects at the postgraduate studies: Thermoelasticity, Theory of elasticity, Plates and Shells, Engineering measurements, Photoelasticity... He lectured at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering in Belgrade, at the Faculties of Mechanical Engineering in Kraljevo, Niš, Valjevo and at the Technical Military Academy in Žarkovo and in Libya.

Professor Čukić was very professional in his work. That is why he was a member of the large number of bodies at the faculty. Twice he was elected for the Vice-dean for the financial problems. During that period the new reading room of the faculty library was built and the students got a new and modern place for their work. He had also taken part at the building of the University computer center and of the Center for new technologies at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering. For many years he was the Head of the Department for Strength of structures and of the Institute for Applied Mechanics and Strength of structures.

During 38 years of his work he was a supervisor to a large number of master and doctoral thesis. He was author and coauthor of 8 textbooks for the undergraduate and postgraduate studies at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering. He had taken part in more than 50 scientific and engineering projects and he published more than 100 papers.

He was a person full of great energy. Besides his work at the Faculty he also hardly worked at the Yugoslav Ski Federation on its international affirmation. Professor Čukić became the international official in the International Ski Federation and he took part in many of its conferences all over the world.

In the secondary school he started playing saxophone and harmonica. He had enjoyed preparing music for films and playing concerts on television. Last year he recorded his own CD.

Professor Čukić tragically died on February 5th 2001 after a traffic accident.

The large field of scientific activities of Professor Rastko Čukić can be seen from the list of some of his papers.

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