

Professor Martin Bajus celebrates



Earlier this year, Professor Martin Bajus celebrated his 75th birthday in health, feeling peaceful satisfaction as a humble member and head of his family. In September last year the Rector of the Slovak University of Technology, prof. Ing. Robert Redhammer, PhD., praised his life-long work at the Faculty of Chemical and Food Technology by awarding Mr. Bajus the title of *honorary professor emeritus* for his considerable contribution to science and education. Prof. Martin Bajus is a proud contributor to the field of refining, as well as petrochemical, energy and recycling technologies. The characteristic features of the *Bratislava School of Pyrolysis* headed by Professor Bajus are not only the results obtained, but also their industrial applications in the newly devised petrochemical technologies, not only in Slovakia but also abroad (Czech Republic).

Professor Bajus is still active in science and is still an active supervising teacher at the Faculty. In 2016 he participated in the 4th International Chemical Technology Conference in Mikulov and contributed with the plenary lecture *Hydrocarbon Technologies - Trends and Prospects of Petrochemistry*. Mr. Bajus had a lecture at the 68th Conference of Chemical Societies in Prague. He lectured on "Introduction to Petrochemistry" for the students at the Department of Organic Technology, Catalysis and Petroleum Chemistry. His lectures on traditions of the scientific school at the Faculty were of great interest in the "Emeritus Club" (winter 2017). Still another activity of this great scholar and excellent teacher was his leading role as a chairman of the Commission for Student Scientific and Specialist Presentation at the Faculty.

Professor Bajus contributed data to the *Beliana Encyclopedia*. Presently he cooperates with the company Dron-Industry in Mliečany on innovation of already existing technology.

At the beginning of 2018, Professor Bajus was pleased to release his new book *Hydrocarbon Technology – Petrochemistry*, published by the Slovak Chemical Library at the Faculty of Chemical and Food Technology in Bratislava.

This publication, written by Professor Martin Bajus, is a necessary and pedagogically excellent text, which has been missing on the Slovak market for almost 30 years. The author has created a rather original concept of petrochemistry built on four basic pillars.

The presented college textbook is current, written in English, in a modern style. It represents a complex concept of the subject matter. The wide and extensive coverage of the topic on 430 pages has surely required a great effort and patience on the side of the author, in particular, huge knowledge of hydrocarbon technology. The book is especially suitable for college educating staff and students studying in bachelor, master or doctoral study programmes focusing on chemical technology, possibly teaching specialized petrochemistry (for review of the book see ChemZi, No. 1 (2018)).

We are very pleased that Professor Martin Bajus has experienced a significant life anniversary in good health, in the middle of intensive work endeavors. We wish Martin many happy years to come, that he would live in great health condition, satisfied at work and in family life.

Viktor Milata