

PROF. DR DRAGUTIN ĐUROVIĆ
(1937–2013)



Prof. dr Dragutin Đurović

Prof. dr Dragutin Đurović was born in Guča, Serbia, on December 20, 1937. He completed his primary and secondary education in Guča and Čačak. In the period 1956-1958, he studied at the General Military Academy in Belgrade. He enrolled at the Faculty of Sciences and Mathematics – Astronomy Group in 1958 and graduated in 1963. After graduation he went to study visits to Paris (1966) and Bruxelles (1972 and 1975). He obtained his MSc degree in 1970 from the University of Belgrade with a thesis entitled "Application of different types of telescopes for astronomical determination of time". His supervisor for the master thesis was Prof. Zaharije Brkić. Dragutin Đurović defended his PhD thesis "Contribution to determination of Earth-rotation variations and polar motion" at the University of Belgrade in 1974. Most of the thesis-related research was done in Bruxelles during 1972 under the supervision of Prof. Paul Melchior.

While still a student in 1960, Dragutin Đurović started working at the Astronomical Obser-

vatory of Belgrade. In 1964 he became a teaching assistant at the Faculty of Sciences and Mathematics in Belgrade. He was appointed Assistant Professor in 1975, Associate Professor in 1982, and Full Professor in 1988. Prof. Đurović taught courses Spherical Astronomy, Practical Astronomy and Astronomical Data Analysis. He retired in 2000.

Prof. Đurović published a total of 77 papers in national and international journals and participated in many conferences including International Astronomical Union (IAU) General Assemblies in Grenoble, Baltimore and Buenos Aires, IAU Symposia in Cadiz and Prague, International Union of Geodesy Congress in Edinburgh, etc. There are 15 bibliographic entries for Dragutin Đurović in the Web of Science (WoS). From 1962 to end-2012 he was cited in WoS 150 times. Apart from journals, his papers were cited in some well-known textbooks and monographs such as: "Physique et Dynamique Planetaire, vol. IV" (P. Melchior's textbook for Geophysics students at KU Leuven, Belgium) and its numerous translations, "The Earth's Variable Rotation: Geophysical Causes and Consequences" (monograph by K. Lambeck), "The Tides of the Planet Earth" and "The Physics of the Earth's Core" (both monographs by P. Melchior), "Effets de la non-rigidite de la Terre sur son mouvement de rotation: etude theorique et utilisation des observations" (N. Capitaine, PhD Thesis, Universite Pierre et Marie Curie, Paris). In 1979 he published a textbook "Mathematical Analysis of Astronomical Data" which is still very much in use by astronomy and astrophysics students in Serbia.

He was a member of two IAU Commissions (for Astrometry and Earth's rotation) and a member of the International Union of Geodesy. On two occasions he was elected member of the Organizing Committee of the IAU Commission for the Rotation of the Earth. The Royal Observatory of Belgium honored him the title Astronome Correspondant which was by that time, in the 150 years tradition of this prestigious institution, awarded to eight astronomers only.

IN MEMORIAM

He carried out a number of functions over years. He was Head of the Department of Astronomy (Institute at that time) and Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Sciences and Mathematics in Belgrade.

Dragutin Đurović passed away on March 18, 2013. He will be dearly missed by his friends, colleagues and the whole Serbian astronomical community.