In memoriam
Professor Dr. LJILJANA RADONJIĆ
(1940-2019)

Professor Ljiljana M. Radonjić passed away on 10th October 2019. She was born in Belgrade, Serbia (Yugoslavia) on 14th April 1940. She graduated in 1963 in the field of Chemical Technology at the Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy, University of Belgrade, Serbia (Yugoslavia) and received M.Sc. in 1968 at the same institution. She attended Ph.D. studies at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, USA in 1970 as one of the first students there from the former Yugoslavia. She received Ph.D. in 1973 in Material Science (“Coarsening and morphological changes of interconnected structure in an isotropic system”).

Ljiljana Radonjić was research assistant in period 1963–1970 at the Institute of Chemistry, Technology and Metallurgy, University of Belgrade, Serbia (Yugoslavia) and worked in the field of semiconductors and reactive diffusion – mechanisms and kinetics. Next three years (from 1970 to 1973) she was at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, USA. After Ph.D. studies in 1974–1975 she was at the Department of Materials, University of Bern, Switzerland. Working at the Laboratory of Electron microscopy, she gave a postgraduate course in “Electron microscopy”. Besides numerous offers to work in USA, Japan, Europe, she decided to return home and got position at Faculty of Technology, University of Novi Sad, Serbia (Yugoslavia): assistant professor in 1976, associate professor in 1982 and full professor in 1988. In this period, she started with research activities related to different phenomena in glasses and ceramics: phase separation, diffusion in glasses, nucleation and crystallization of glasses and optoelectronic glass systems, as well as advanced characterization techniques.

She was visiting professor at Tokyo University, Japan in 1981, Jena University, Germany in 1984 and Antwerpian University, Belgium in 1985 and also invited lecturer in many institutions in Europe, USA and Japan. Her main scientific contribution started in the beginning of 1990s when she was the first in Serbia to point out the importance of nanostructured materials. Many groups in Serbia followed her ideas and continue development in the field of nanomaterials and nanotechnology. In this field, the most important is her work with new processing methods, i.e. sol-gel processing, used for preparation of different oxide glasses, nanocrystalline transparent glass-ceramics and ceramics, starting from simple oxides such as: silica, alumina, titania and zirconia, as well as binary-oxide systems and thin films with ABO$_3$ perovskite type of structure, etc. She got a few important awards, such as: SIGMA Award, USA (in 1973 for research), Matsumae International Fellowship Award, Japan (in 1982), Award of the Japanese Ceramic Society (in 1984), etc.

Prof. Ljiljana Radonjić was also the first who initiated the formation of undergraduate study program in the field of materials science and engineering at universities in Serbia. She was founder of the first department in this field at the Faculty of Technology, University of Novi Sad, Serbia - “Department for Inorganic Technology and Materials Science” in 1988, which was later (in 2005) transformed into Materials Science and Engineering Department. Prof. Ljiljana Radonjić was the Head of the Department for Inorganic Technology and Materials Science (from 1988–1998). Prof. Ljiljana Radonjić was a member of the American Ceramic Society, European Ceramic Society, Serbian Chemical Society, Japanese Ceramic Society, Yugoslav Society for Electron Microscopy, Yugoslav Chemical Society, Yu-
goslav Ceramic Society. She was also a member of the European Commission for evaluation of the scientific projects.

Prof. Radonjić has published numerous scientific articles and advised many master and doctoral theses. She published more than 60 scientific articles in SCI journals, more than 50 invited and oral presentations at conferences, 4 books and was adviser of more than 15 doctoral thesis and master theses. It is important to underline that Prof. Radonjić translated three textbooks: “Structure and Properties of Materials: Part II Thermodynamics of Structures” (by J.H. Brophy, R.M. Rose, J. Wulff), “Structure and Properties of Materials: Part III Mechanical Properties” (by W. Hayden, W.G. Moffatt, J. Wulff) and “Structure and Properties of Materials: Part IV Electrical Properties” (by R.M. Rose, L.A. Shepard, J. Wulff). She was also the Chairperson of many international scientific Conferences.


It is well known that Prof. Radonjić was hard-worker, never tired and always full of new scientific ideas and proposals, always ready to discuss with colleagues and students and capable to keep the whole group together and, at the same time, to give each member of the group individually the right motivation. Her approach to life in general and to her teaching and research in particular, her sharp mind and extensive background knowledge were well known. She was a person of strong integrity and a scientist of very high standards. Surrounded with people from the Lab, she preferred to talk not only about scientific matters, but also completely ordinary things of everyday life.

Ljiljana Radonjić gave an invaluable contribution to the development of Material Science in Serbia. Because of this and much more that has not been said, Ljiljana Radonjić will be sadly missed not only by her beloved family, but also by her friends and colleagues.