PROF. DR JELENA MILOGRADOV-TURIN (1935–2011)



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Prof. dr Jelena Milogradov-Turin was born in Belgrade to a family of Russian immigrants on 28 January 1935. She completed her primary and secondary education in Belgrade and after that enrolled at the Faculty of Sciences and Mathematics – Physics Group, from which she graduated in 1959. She obtained her MSc degree in 1972 from the University of Manchester, England, with a thesis entitled "The Survey of the Region $6^{\rm h} < \alpha < 19^{\rm h}, -25^{\circ} \le \delta \le 70^{\circ}$ at 38 MHz ". Her supervisor was a fellow of the Royal Society, Sir Francis Graham-Smith, later on appointed the 13th Astronomer Royal. She defended her PhD thesis "The All Sky Survey at 38 MHz and the Galactic Spectral Index" in the field of astronomical/astrophysical sciences, at the University of Belgrade in 1982.

Jelena Milogradov-Turin began her academic career in 1960 at the Faculty of Sciences and Mathematics – Department of Mechanics and Astronomy (Department of Astronomy at the presentday Faculty of Mathematics). She worked as a teaching assistant in General Astrophysics, Practical Astrophysics, Fundamentals of Stellar Astronomy, Theoretical Astrophysics, Astronomy Teaching Practicum, Radio Astronomy and Mathematics I. She held consultations in Fundamentals of Stellar Astronomy and Practical Astrophysics. She was appointed Assistant Professor in 1983, Associate Professor in 1989, and Full Professor in 2002. The courses she taught included Radio Astronomy, History and Teaching Methods in Astronomy, and Fundamentals of Astrophysics. She retired in 2002.

As an outstanding scholar, Jelena Milogradov-Turin received two scholarships – that of the University of Manchester, England, 1966-1968, and of the British Council in the summer of 1979. Her main areas of research were Galactic radio astronomy and history of Yugoslav astronomy. She was a member of the International Astronomical Union and a country representative in its Commission 46 – Teaching of Astronomy. She was a member of the European Astronomical Society, as well as a member of National Committee for Astronomy. She discharged a number of functions over the years. She was Head of the Public Observatory and Planetarium in Belgrade, President of the Society of Astronomers of Serbia, President of the National Astronomy Olympic Committee and President of the Astronomical Society "Rudjer Bošković".

She published a great number of scientific, professional and popular papers in national and international journals, and participated in many conferences at home and abroad. There are 61 bibliographic entries for Jelena Milogradov-Turin in the Astrophysics Data System (ADS) and 17 in the Web of Science (WoS). From 1971 to end-2011 she was cited in WoS 88 times. She co-authored with Ivan Atanasijević lecture notes "Selected Chapters of Stellar Astronomy" (1964, 1974) and with Dejan Urošević a textbook "Theoretical Fundamentals of Radio Astronomy" (2007). She was the supervisor of one PhD and three MSc theses. While changing positions (member, assistant editor, editor-in-chief), she served on the editorial boards of two magazines - Vasiona and Mladi fizičar. It would be difficult to count all the popular lectures she gave at Ilija M. Kolarac Foundation, Petnica Science Centre, schools, seminars, radio and TV, which is why she received numerous awards in recognition of her outstanding efforts to promote and popularise astronomy.

Jelena Milogradov-Turin passed away suddenly on 2 February 2011, leaving the scientific community with a great sense of loss. She is dearly missed by all who had the fortune to know her and will be remembered for her immeasurable contribution to the Serbian and Yugoslav astronomy.