In memoriam

PROF. DR. ILIJA LUKAČEVIĆ
(1935–2020)

Professor Dr. Ilija Lukačević was born in Belgrade on November 13, 1935. He graduated in 1960 and defended his Master thesis in 1965. He received his PhD in the field of mechanical sciences from the Faculty of Sciences and Mathematics, University of Belgrade, in 1968, for the thesis entitled “Alfvén waves in relativistic magnetohydrodynamics” (Alfenovi talasi u relativističkoj magnetohidrodinamici). His PhD advisor was Prof. Tatomir Anđelić. Prior to obtaining his PhD degree, in the school year 1966/67, as a French scholarship holder, he specialized in the field of relativistic mechanics, under the supervision of Prof. André Lichnerowicz, in Paris. He became a teaching assistant at the Department of Mechanics and Astronomy, Faculty of Sciences and Mathematics, University of Belgrade in 1961. Dr. Lukačević was appointed Assistant Professor in 1970, Associate Professor in 1979, and Full Professor in 1986. He retired on April 30, 2001. He published several scientific papers and a textbook Fundamentals of the Theory of Relativity (Osnovi teorije relativnosti, Naučna knjiga, Belgrade, 1980). He participated in many international and national congresses and conferences. Professor Lukačević gave invited lectures twice in Moscow, once in Paris and once in Budapest. At the Faculty of Mathematics, University of Belgrade, he held courses in Theory of Relativity, Magnetohydrodynamics, Rational Mechanics, Analytical Mechanics and Tensor Calculus with Applications in Mechanics. At one point he was the director of the Institute of Mechanics. Even after retirement, Professor Lukačević remained very active in the community and gave numerous lectures at the seminars and domestic conferences, served as a reviewer and participated in professional activities. He was a member of the International Astronomical Union, Yugoslav Society of Mechanics, Society of Astronomers of Serbia. He was a reviewer for Mathematical Reviews, Serbian Astronomical Journal, etc.

Professor Ilija Lukačević passed away suddenly on June 14, 2020. He will be dearly missed by his students, friends, colleagues and the whole Serbian astronomical community.