



Obituary: Dr. Leon Enric Grigorescu (1932-2020)

Dr. Leon Enric Grigorescu was born on March 30th, 1932, in Balcic (Bulgaria). He founded the Radionuclide Metrology Laboratory (RML) at IFIN-HH. He was the head of the laboratory for 40 years, contributing to its development and maintaining it at internationally competitive scientific standards. He initiated the design, building and testing of several installations for absolute activity measurements and he had important contributions to the development of the corresponding standardization methods. He published his first article of radionuclide metrology in 1962. He had achievements also in other fields related to radionuclide metrology: low level activity measurements by gamma-ray spectrometry, applications for the ionizing radiation metrology. A permanent and important work was related to the international validation of the elaborated installations and methods, by participating in many intercomparisons. He published more than 150 papers, and the corresponding citations list is significant. In 2000, he was awarded the “Horia Hulubei” Prize of the Romanian Academy for 1998, as a recognition of the results obtained. IFIN-HH, through the Radionuclide Metrology Laboratory, became a member of the International Committee for Radionuclide Metrology (ICRM), in 1980. Dr. Leon E. Grigorescu was an ICRM member for twenty years, and he was Vice President of the ICRM for four years.

Besides the remarkable results in the scientific activity and the different applications implemented, Dr. Leon E. Grigorescu founded a Romanian school of radionuclide metrology and its applications, by continuous training of the RML members who continue his work, but also as a PhD coordinator. During the last years of professional activity, he taught several courses at the Nuclear Training Center of IFIN-HH (CPSDN) and he had the initiative to publish a book useful for all the learners, but, unfortunately, this work remained unfinished. However, with great efforts, he wrote and published two excellent books: “Elements of Mathematical Statistics for Researchers”, Ed. Horia Hulubei, Bucharest, 2015 and “Elements of Radionuclide Metrology”, Ed. LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing, 2018.

On August 25th, 2020, in the evening, Mr. Leon E. Grigorescu, a very generous person and a real gentleman, passed away. He will be greatly missed by his colleagues and friends, as an experienced mentor, always offering good advices in difficult moments. We, who had the special opportunity to be his colleagues, we will never forget him. May he rest in peace!