

ANNIVERSARIES

60th Birthday of Ing. Ján Hirsch, DrSc.

Ing. *Ján Hirsch*, DrSc. was born in Zlaté Moravce on 12 August 1944. In the year 1971 he finished his university studies at the Faculty of Chemical Technology of the Slovak Technical University (present-day Slovak University of Technology) in Bratislava in the branch Technology of Macromolecular Compounds. After entering the Institute of Chemistry of the Slovak Academy of Sciences he was accepted to the doctorand study in the branch Organic Chemistry, which he successfully finished in 1977 by defending the CSc. Thesis “Synthesis and Elimination Reactions of Some Derivatives of Hexuronic Acids”. At the Faculty of Law of the Comenius University he finished also the postgradual study for the foreign experts and in 1999 he defended his DrSc. Thesis “Synthesis, Structure, and Utilization of the Xylan-Type Oligosaccharides” at the Faculty of Natural Sciences of the Comenius University in Bratislava. He was awarded the title “Doctor of Chemical Sciences” by the Academic Board of the Comenius University. For more than 33 years Dr. Hirsch has been employed at the Institute of Chemistry of SAS, where he executed several significant managerial functions including the post of the Director of the Institute during two functional periods (1996—2004).

Dr. Hirsch is the author of 86 original scientific papers, published in current international and domestic journals, of three patents and two chapters in foreign monographs the contents of which became widely recognized in the scientific community. He presented the achieved results in the form of lectures or poster communications more than seventy times on many scientific events and in the framework of short-term stays at the well known universities or other scientific institutions in the U.S.A., Sweden, Germany, Russia, Austria, the Czech Republic, Great Britain, Portugal, Poland, and Finland. In the years 1991—1994 he made two long-term stays as a visiting scientist at the University of Missouri in the U.S.A. and consequently he became co-investigator in the American-Slovak project approved by the National Science Foundation (U.S.A.). At present he is the principal investigator in two Grant projects, the content of which is aimed primarily at the synthesis and structure of model oligosaccharides of the type of plant and microbial polysaccharides. Dr. Hirsch is a holder of the Honorary Plaque of Dionýz Štúr for merits in natural sciences and of the Honorary Plaque of the Slovak Academy of Sciences of Dionýz Ilkovič for merits in physicochemical sciences.

From the year 1995 Dr. Hirsch has been also the Editor-in-Chief and Head of the Editorial Board of our *Chemical Papers*. On the occasion of his life jubilee we wish him success in these functions as well as in his further scientific career and contentment and joy in his personal life in the circle of his family.

K. Babor
and
the staff of the Editor's Office