



IN MEMORIAM
PROFESSOR CANDIN LITEANU
(1914-1990)

The date of 6 July 2014 marked 100-year anniversary of Professor Candin Liteanu's birth.

Professor Candin Liteanu was an internationally well-known Roumanian scientist, author of important works in analytical chemistry, distinguished professor of the Faculty of Chemistry at the University of Cluj-Napoca.

Professor Candin Liteanu graduated from "Titu Maiorescu" high school in Aiud and from 1932 until 1937 he studied at the Academy for Agricultural High Studies of Cluj, receiving the university degree as agriculture engineer, specialized in Chemistry and Agricultural Technology. From 1936 until 1941 he was a student at the Faculty of Science of "King Ferdinand I" University of Cluj (in refuge at Timișoara since October 1940). He graduated on June 1st, 1941. He defended his licence thesis "Electromotive Force in Melted Salts" in December 1941, under the supervision of Professor Ilie Murgulescu. In June 1945 he received the title of Doctor in Chemistry with the distinction "*magna cum laudae*", under the supervision of Professor Raluca Ripan.

Professor Liteanu began his scientific career in March 1941, when, still as a student, he was employed as preparator in the Faculty of Science and in February 1942 he became assistant at the Faculty of Science, University of Cluj, in refuge at Timișoara.

After the return of the University back to Cluj (in January 1945) he was appointed as teaching assistant at the Academy for Agricultural High Studies of Cluj (June 1945 – October 1947). Then he moved as lecturer (assistant professor) at the University of Cluj in March 1946, where he was later appointed as associated professor in September 1950 and full professor of analytical chemistry at the Inorganic Chemistry Department, in October 1951. He was Head of the Analytical Chemistry Department from October 1964 until September 1977.

Besides his teaching and research activities in the University, he worked as researcher at the Chemistry Institute of the Roumanian Academy in Cluj. There he was appointed as scientific researcher in 1949, main scientific researcher in 1951, Section Head in 1952 and Department Head in 1954.

Professor Liteanu was director of the Research Centre in Analytical Chemistry of the "Babeș-Bolyai" University between December 8, 1969, and July 1st, 1978 (administrative reorganization).

Various research topics were approached by Professor Liteanu as a result of his remarkable scientific erudition. These included: glass electrodes and other types of electrochemical sensors, rapid methods of analysis, chromatography, membranology, statistical processing of analytical data. The results were published in 348 scientific articles (272 in Roumanian journals and 76 in international journals from 13 countries).

He was author and co-author of 10 textbooks and monographs (8 in Roumania, 2 in England). His interests were not limited only to fundamental research, but he showed considerable interest towards applied research. He elaborated 48 invention patents and 30 innovations and he was the leader of many research and technological contracts.

The titles of the books he published are given below (original titles):

R. Ripan, E. Popper and C. Liteanu, "*Chimie analitică calitativă. Semimicroanaliza*", ediția I-a, Editura Tehnică, București, 1954, 427 pages; ediția a IV-a, Editura Didactică și Pedagogică, București, 1963, 427 pages.

C. Liteanu and S. Gocan, "*Gradient Liquid Chromatography*", Ellis Horwood Ltd., Chichester (Anglia), 1974, 338 pages.

- C. Liteanu, S. Gocan and T. Hodisan, “*Cromatografia de lichide*”, Editura Științifică și Enciclopedică, București, 1974, 600 pages.
- C. Liteanu and S. Gocan, “*Cromatografia de lichide cu gradienti*”, Editura Tehnică, București, 1976, 333 pages.
- C. Liteanu and I. Rîcă, “*Teoria și metodologia statistică a analizei urmelor*”, Editura Scrisul Românesc, Craiova, 1979, 422 pages.
- C. Liteanu and I. Rîcă, “*Statistical Theory and Metodology of Trace Analysis*”, Ellis Horwood Ltd., Chichester (Anglia), 1980, 446 pages.
- C. Liteanu, S. Gocan and A. Bold, “*Separatologie analitică*”, Editura Dacia, Cluj-Napoca, 1981, 444 pages.
- C. Liteanu and G. Rădulescu, “*Bazele membranologiei*”, Editura Științifică și Enciclopedică, București, 1984, 510 pages.
- C. Liteanu and I. Rîcă, “*Optimizarea proceselor analitice*”, Editura Academiei RSR, București, 1985, 360 pages.

Professor Liteanu attended many international congresses, being invited with plenary lectures: Moscow IUPAC (1965), Budapest (1966), Birmigham (1969), Dresden (1970), Rouen (1970), București (1970), Matrafured, Hungary (1972), Warsaw (1974), Karl Marx Stadt (DDR) (1978).

In October 1968 he visited USSR for three weeks, giving three lectures at the Lomonosov State University of Moscow, Mendeleev Institute of Chemical Technology of Moscow and at the University of Kiev.

The activity of Professor Liteanu was rewarded with “*Medal of work*” (1954), with the title of *Doctor Docent in Science* (October 1st, 1966) and with the title *Honoured Scientist* (June 28, 1971). In 1974 he was nominated to become Corresponding Member of the Roumanian Academy.

In 1979 the University of Besançon granted him the title *Doctor Honoris Causa*, but the political regime at that time did not allow him to travel abroad.

Professor Candin Liteanu was an outstanding scientist with inexhaustible energy, encyclopaedic knowledge in analytical chemistry and not only, innovative mind, original and always up-to-date with the science news. He started a working day in the library, he continued it by providing his collaborators with latest news found in the freshly arrived journals, talking to them during break time and providing them with new ideas and topics worthwhile to be developed as future research subjects. His lecture courses were remarkable for their abundance in hot scientific information and were a source of inspiration for passionate students.

Professor Candin Liteanu remains a bright memory of permanent respect for those who had the privilege to meet and work with him.

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