

Dr. Dragutin Zelenović

1928-2020



Professor Dragutin Zelenović has died on April 27, 2020, in Novi Sad. Professor Zelenović was member of the IFPR board for about 20 years (from ~1975 until 1990-ties). He was also general Chair of the VI ICPR conference that was organized by University of Novi Sad, in Novi Sad, Yugoslavia in 1981. Dr. Zelenović was long-time member of the Editorial board of International Journal of Production Research. He was also internationally renowned for his work in group technology, flexible systems, and design and control of production systems.

Dr. Dragutin Zelenović was born on May 19, 1928 in Sirig, near Novi Sad, Yugoslavia. He completed his elementary school in Sirig, Novi Sad, and Zabalj.

He did not attend school during the World War II. He learned *the school of life* at that time - he was a servant, a shepherd, a peasant, a timber salesman. He attended the Technical High School in Novi Sad from 1946 to 1949 and graduated in 1949 in the Department of Industrial Systems. He graduated from the Technical Air Force Academy in Rajlovac in 1950.

He received his Bachelor of Science degree from the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering in Belgrade, Yugoslavia in 1957. He defended his master's thesis in 1972 and his doctoral dissertation in 1975, both at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering in Novi Sad.

Prior to his academic career Dr. Dragutin Zelenović worked from 1957 to 19656 at the JUGOALAT Tool Factory in Novi Sad in various engineering jobs, mostly in the field of manufacturing system design and production control, and from 1965 to 1966 he worked at the Institute for Machine Machines and Tools in Novi Sad.

Dr. Zelenović started his academic career in October 1966 a lecturer at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering in Novi Sad and he was promoted to the associate professor position in July 1971. he was promoted to a full professor position at the Faculty of Technical Sciences in Novi Sad at the end of 1976, He was elected as full professor and member of Academic Council at the United Nations European Center for Peace and Development (ECPD) for the fields of production systems design, process control technology, reliability and quality, organization and management of industrial systems on June 26, 1992. In addition to his academic and research activity at University of Novi Sad, Dr. Zelenović also held visiting professor positions and regularly gave lectures to postgraduate programs at universities across former Yugoslavia (Belgrade, Zagreb, Sarajevo, Mostar, Skopje, Zenica and Banja Luka)

He was elected a Corresponding Member of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts on December 3, 1987, and on July 26, 2000 he was elected a full member of the Yugoslav Academy of Engineering in Belgrade.

Dr. Zelenović was the Associate Dean for the academics of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering in Novi Sad from April 1970 to November 1973, and he was the Dean of the Faculty of Technical Sciences in

Novi Sad from 1975 to 1979. During this period, in addition to his academic and research activities, he carried out a project to develop the Mechanical Engineering and later expand it to the Faculty of Technical Sciences. He was Vice-Rector for Development From October 1985 to October 1987, and, Rector of the University of Novi Sad October from 1987 to October 1989. He initiated and executed the project of development of the University of Novi Sad, which in the territory of the old and present Yugoslavia represents, in a unique way, a solution, according to the model of the developed foreign universities. Eleven new facilities and a circle of universities have been solved in a modern way.

Dr. Zelenović was instrumental in organizing the Department of Industrial Systems at the Faculty of Technical Sciences - now the Department of Industrial Engineering and Engineering Management and its Research and Technology Center, as a basis for the development of research work in the field of industrial systems and as a base for cooperation with business enterprises.

Dr. Zelenović, together with his many associates, has completed 24 research (government funded) projects in the field of production systems (technology, management and reliability of systems) and published his research results more than 100 papers in international journals and scientific conferences, more than 40 books, textbooks, and monographs in his research field, more than 150 papers at scientific conferences in Serbian language.

In addition to the fundamental research, he and his team actively participated in collaboration with business enterprises, which resulted in 36 processed and implemented innovation projects (mostly group technology and cellular manufacturing) - factories that function with increased effectiveness and productivity. He was a permanent consultant for managers in the factories of the metal processing industry in the field of design, organization, management and construction of quality systems in production systems. He was a participant in Serbia and Yugoslavia's development strategy projects. He was the creator of the idea of a competent University and a well-known leader in the development and expansion of faculties, classrooms and laboratories at the University in Novi Sad.

Dr Dragutin Zelenović was a member of the International Foundation for Production Research (IFPR) for more than 20 years, the member of the International Federation for Information Processing Working Group - IFIP, W.G. 5.7 - for the development of information management systems, member of the Editorial board of International Journal of Production Research (IJPR), London, member of the Editorial Board of Material Flow, Amsterdam, journal, member of the Editorial Board of International Journal of Computer Integrated Manufacturing (IJCIM), London, and member of the editorial board of Production Planning and Control (PPC) journal. He was also editor-in-chief of Industrial systems journal, Novi Sad and a member of the Editorial Board of Productivity in Industry, Kragujevac - Novi Sad. He was for many years a member of the Organizing Committee and the Editorial Board of the International Seminar University today. From November 1987 to November 1988 he was President of the Union of Yugoslavia Universities.

He served as Prime Minister of the Republic of Serbia from February 11 to December 11, 1991.

Dr. Dragutin Zelenović was decorated with several awards in Yugoslavia and Serbia for his achievements and contribution to the higher education: the Order of Labor with a silver wreath, the Order of Merit for the People with silver rays, the Order of Labor with a red flag, the October Award of the City of Novi Sad, the Award of the Liberation of Vojvodina and the medal "Prof. Dr. Pavle Stankovic".