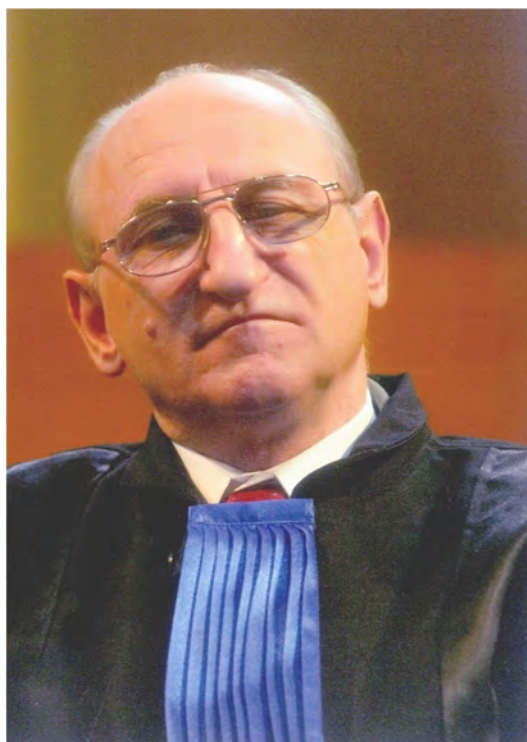


=== IN MEMORIAM ===

Professor Gavril Ardelean
(5 May 1942 – 3 October 2016)



GAVRIL ARDELEAN was born on May 5, 1942 in Seini, Maramureș County, Romania. He graduated the elementary school in Seini (1956) and “Gh. Șincai” High School in Baia Mare (1960). During the next years, Gavril Ardelean attended the Faculty of Biology, Geography and Geology (Babeș-Bolyai University) in Cluj, graduating in 1965 with a major in Biology and Geography. Until 1990, he taught Biology and Geography in several high schools in Vișeu de Sus, Tășnad, and Satu Mare.

In 1979, Gavril Ardelean came back to *Alma Mater Napocensis* as a doctoral student, under the prestigious supervision of Academician Eugen A. Pora, who cherished him as an eminent disciple.

As Professor Pora passed away in October 1981, Gavril continued his research under the supervision of

Professor Dumitru I. Roșca. The experimental part of his thesis was performed in the Biochemistry facilities of the Faculty of Biology, with the scientific help and kind assistance of Professor Ioan V. Deaciuc.

In those years, Gavril Ardelean used to come to Cluj as often as possible, to spend weeks or months working with dedication and perseverance on his doctoral thesis. At that time, he was already married and had two children, Doru and Raluca.

Unfortunately, he had to go through a tremendous tragedy, as Raluca passed away at the age of seven, after a ruthless suffering. Gavril found consolation in his work, both as a teacher and as a doctoral student, showing discretion in his deep distress.

He successfully defended his doctoral thesis *Mechanisms preventing fatigue* in January 1985.

Gavril Ardelean was appointed, by public contests, lecturer (1993), associate professor (1994) and full professor (1996) at the Northern University in Baia Mare, Faculty of Sciences. Since then, his scientific, teaching and organizing efforts were entirely dedicated to build a strong academic life in the Northern part of our country. In 1997, he founded the Satu Mare, and later the Baia Mare branches of the Western University "Vasile Goldiș" in Arad. He served as vice-provost of the Western University "Vasile Goldiș" in Arad (between 2007 and 2012), and as director of the two founded branches, until he had to live us and move away into a better world.

As a son of *Alma Mater Napocensis*, Gavril Ardelean (Puiu, for his friends and family) never neglected the collaboration with the staff of the Faculty of Biology and of the Biological Research Institute in Cluj. Although his start in the scientific activity was in the field of Animal Physiology, afterwards he successfully explored a new research avenue, addressing fauna biodiversity of the North-Western area of the country, species preservation and ecological reconstruction. His diligent endeavor of several decades materialized in almost 200 scientific papers, numerous textbooks, books (as author), and treatises (as coordinator).

Equally important, Gavril was an outstanding organizer and manager; he conducted seven research grants (most of them cross-border projects, in collaboration with researchers from Hungary and Ukraine) and participated as an expert in others. He understood how crucial are team work and communication among scientists; therefore, he spent a lot of energy in organizing 19 national and international scientific symposia. Gavril was always on the move: teaching, writing, organizing, putting things together – these were his reasons to be.

As a result of his prodigious activity, Gavril Ardelean was distinguished with the "Grigore Antipa" award of the Romanian Academy (2002) and received the distinction "Honorary Member in Commander Grade" from the Romanian Military Order. In the 5th of May, this year, Gavril would have been 75 years old. At the homagial scientific meeting organized on this occasion by the University he served so many years, he was awarded post-mortem with the highest academic distinction – *Doctor Honoris Causa* of the Western University "Vasile Goldiș".



Besides his dedication for science, Gavril Ardelean was a good Professor, who knew how to pass on to his students not only knowledge, but also – and far more important – passion, motivation, the curiosity to investigate. Gavril was also a reliable friend, always available when someone needed help in professional or personal problems. As long as we will keep him a good memory, he will remain present in the University and in our hearts.

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