

**DRAGUTIN M. DRAŽIĆ**  
**Editor of 21 volumes of the *Journal of the Serbian Chemical Society* (1986-2006)**

The *Journal of the Serbian Chemical Society*, formerly published as *Glasnik hemijskog društva Beograd*, has been the official journal of the Serbian Chemical Society for more than seven decades. It is the first and only chemical scientific journal in Serbia. The Society elects the editor of the Journal among its distinguished members. The Editorial Board of the journal has thus far been headed by eight editors. The first editor, upon the establishment of the journal in 1930, was N. Pušin, who held the position for 17 years (1930-1947). A. M. Leko edited the journal for six years (1948-1954), P. Tutundžić for six years (1955-1961), M. K. Mladenović for two years (1962-1964), Dj. Dimitrijević for four years (1965-1968), A. R. Despić for six years (1969-1975) and S. V. Ribnikar for 10 years (1975-1985). The eighth editor was Dragutin M. Dražić, who edited the Journal for 21 years (1986-2006).



Dragutin Dražić headed the Editorial Board of the *Journal of the Serbian Chemical Society* much longer than any of his predecessors. His contribution to the value and scientific reputation of the journal is not only reflected in the length of his editorial position, but is evidenced by the modernization and transformation of the journal. Dragutin Dražić is well known for his systematic approach, skill and tenacity. He succeeded to transform the journal from a modest national publication to a recognised scientific journal of international reputation, the scientific influence of which is constantly spreading.

Dragutin Dražić was elected Editor-in-chief when the journal had changed its name, language and scientific criteria. Dragutin Dražić and the Editorial Board developed a policy of making the scientific results of chemists in Serbia available to a wider scientific audience, both domestic and foreign, by publishing scientific papers in English: reviews, monographs, original scientific papers and short scientific communications. This development enabled the registration of scientific results published in this journal in all of the most relevant international reference publications such as Chemical Abstracts, Science Citation Index, Current Contents, etc. Dragutin Dražić emphasized the increasing reputation and scientific influence of the journal with pride. At the end of his editorial mandate, the journal attained an impact factor of 0.389. Dragutin Dražić did not only make the journal an international publication, but he also strived to attain world standards and criteria. He founded an International Editorial Board and engaged foreign referees. Processing of the submitted manuscripts was elevated to the highest level, although he worked in modest conditions and with only a few coworkers. The dynamics and regularity of publication of the journal were admirable. He proudly emphasized that each issue of the journal was published in its designated month, which, at the time, was an accomplishment of only top international journals. He chose the most distinguished domestic scientists as referees for the journal. He especially promoted thematic issues dedicated to special topics of interest or esteemed scientists. He selected guest-editors for such issues and invited numerous foreign scientists to publish their papers in the Serbian journal. He also edited special issues of the journal dedicated to anniversaries of the Serbian Chemical Society or the journal itself with great commitment.

Due to tremendous financial difficulties which the Serbian Chemical Society faced as the publisher of the journal, Dragutin Dražić also invested great personal efforts to procure funds to publish and distribute the journal. He discovered various institutions and companies that enabled regular publication of the journal by their donations. With his authority, consistency and ambition, he managed to position the journal at the center of the activities of the Serbian Chemical Society. Such commitment to the journal led to the *Journal of the Serbian Chemical Society* becoming and remaining one of the leading and most successful scientific journals in Serbia.

The activities of Dragutin Dražić as Professor at the Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy of the University of Belgrade and at the Institute of Electrochemistry of the ICTM, as well as Academician in the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts are documented in many biographical and bibliographical presentations. He has been active in the Society for more than five decades. During his career, he accepted all assignments and performed various duties. As a young engineer of chemical technology, he was first elected Treasurer of the Society, then later Executive Secretary, Vice-President and finally President. He was elected Honorary President of the Society for his many years of active service. Prof. Dražić performed all of these duties voluntarily and with great professional responsibility.

However, the most important and most influential activity of Dragutin Dražić in the Serbian Chemical Society is the 21 year period of editing the *Journal of the Serbian Chemical Society* during which he edited 21 volumes (51-71) and prepared more than 250 issues of the journal. During that time he read more than 2279 manuscripts, the number of scientific papers published during his term as editor. That is about 20000 pages of printed scientific text. The following statistical data best describe the contribution of Dragutin Dražić to the advancement and modernization of the *Journal of the Serbian Chemical Society*:

Year	Volume	No. of papers	No. of pages
1986	51	76	642
1990	55	106	774
1995	60	145	1200
2000	65	109	990
2005	70	156	1570
2006	71	136	1381

These are impressive data that show the contribution of the Editor Dragutin Dražić to the journal in numerical terms, but there are just as many contributions that cannot be expressed in this manner, his constant care for “his” journal as well as the Society in general. Therefore, without any formal proposal and promotion, I consider Dragutin Dražić to be the founder of this modern chemical scientific journal and its Honorary Editor.

*Živorad Čeković*