

International Scientific Conference 18th Ružička Days “Today science, tomorrow industry”

We are particularly honoured to present to you a special issue of the *Chemical and Biochemical Engineering Quarterly (CABEQ)* journal, dedicated to the 18th International Scientific Conference Ružička Days, which, since 2010, has been held under the recognisable motto “Today Science – Tomorrow Industry”. The conference is proudly organized by the Croatian Society of Chemical Engineers (CSCE) Zagreb, and the Faculty of Food Technology of the University of Josip Juraj Strossmayer in Osijek, with the regional CSCE societies from Osijek, Vukovar, Požega, and Belišće, as well as with the European Chemical Society (EuChemS) and European Hygienic Engineering and Design Group (EHEDG), as international co-organizers.

Last year was full of new challenges and constant adjustments due to the global pandemic caused by the coronavirus. However, not even the pandemic could stop the gathering of numerous eminent researchers at the 18th Ružička Days conference, which took place on September 16–18, 2020. The Ružička Days conference is dedicated to the first Croatian Nobel Laureate Lavoslav (Leopold) Ružička, and therefore traditionally takes place in his birth town of Vukovar, Croatia. From the very beginning of Ružička's Days (held biannually since 1978), the mission has been to promote excellence, interdisciplinarity, originality and innovation, with great emphasis on cooperation between science and industry, which has been firmly maintained to this day. In addition, the conference gives the opportunity for meetings, exchange of ideas, opinions, experiences, and cooperation between participants from different work surroundings.

We are proud of the long tradition of the Ružička Days and its interdisciplinary character with its six sections covering a broad spectrum of chemistry that are traditionally intertwined in the conference program: Chemical Analysis and Synthesis, Chemical

and Biochemical Engineering, Food Technology and Biotechnology, Medical Chemistry and Pharmacy, Chemistry in Agriculture and Forestry, and Environmental Protection. At the 18th Ružička Days, five plenary lectures, three invited lectures, ten section lectures, three sponsor lectures, and 142 poster presentations were held by 537 researchers from twelve countries. We are especially proud of our young scientists that are part of the conference and have already participated in seven Meetings of Young Chemists, where high school students throughout Croatia present papers in the field of chemistry with the help of their mentors.



Leopold (Lavoslav) Ružička
(13. 9. 1887 – 26. 9. 1976)

Dear readers, before you is indeed a special issue of the *Chemical and Biochemical Engineering Quarterly* journal, which, with its nine articles from different fields, also expresses the interdisciplinary nature of the conference. The review article by Prof. Tomas provides a special introduction, a chronology of the Ružička Days, and an insight into the life and work of Lavoslav (Leopold) Ružička. Not going into details of the other articles, because we would like to leave the pleasure of reading them to you, dear readers, we hope you enjoy this special edition of CABEQ.

To seize this opportunity, we are pleased to invite you to the next 19th Ružička Days, which will be held in September 2022 in Vukovar, the beautiful hometown of the Croatian Nobel Laureate.

See you in Vukovar!

Assist. Prof. Dajana Kučić Grgić

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