



Doctor Honoris Causa title awarded to Professor
Sorin Rosca
from University Politehnica Bucharest,
Romania

The Ovidius University Senate in its session of December 2007 decided unanimously to award the *Doctor Honoris Causa* title to **Prof.dr.eng. Sorin Ioan Rosca** from the Faculty of Applied Chemistry and Material Sciences, „Politehnica” University Bucharest, President of Romanian Society of Chemistry, for outstanding scientific results and important contributions in the fields of organic chemistry with applicative character, as well as for the support given to the Chemistry and Chemical Engineering Education in Constanta.

On December 7th, 2007, the Senate of “Ovidius” University of Constanta, Romania, in its open celebratory session, was privileged to award the honorary title of *Doctor Honoris Causa* to **Prof. dr. eng. Sorin Ioan Rosca**. The proposal for the *Doctor Honoris Causa* award was initiated by the Department of Chemistry and the Department of Technology and Chemical Engineering, Faculty of Physics, Chemistry, Electronics and Petroleum Technology based on the existing cooperation with Professor Sorin Ioan Rosca, president of Romanian Society of Chemistry and for his leadership in many aspects of the organic chemistry. The ceremony took place in Aula Magna of “Ovidius” University of Constanta, Romania and it was a special event marked by *the anniversary of 30 years of higher education in the processing of petroleum in Constanta*. This event was held in the presence of distinguished guests, staff members of the Bologna University – Italy, Petroleum Research Center, National Oil Cooperation from Tripoli – Libya, Gadiv Petrochemical Industries Ltd – Haifa, Israel, and from Romania: INCERP Ploiesti, Rompetrol – Rafinare S.A., Oil&Gas University of Ploiesti, University of Bucharest, Politehnica University of Bucharest, “Ovidius” University of Constanta. Also, took part researchers, Ph.D. and M.Sc. students from the same universities. All the guests, academic or

from industrial companies were participants to the International Conference „New trends in petroleum refining”, organized on December 6-8, 2007 at „Ovidius” University of Constanta.

Sorin Ioan Rosca was born on February 13th, 1938 in Blaj, Alba district, Romania. After the graduation of high school, he attended the courses of the Polytechnic Institute of Bucharest. He graduated top of class and received his chemical engineering bachelor degree in 1960. He obtained his doctoral degree in 1971, having Costin D. Nenitescu as coordinator. Starting in 1960 and up to present, without interruption, Professor Sorin Rosca followed the academic career’s steps, to be a Professor at the Organic Chemistry Department of the Faculty of Applied Chemistry and Material Sciences in the University „Politehnica” Bucharest and has actively participated in developing the subject of chemistry in the higher education in Romania. The courses taught by Professor Sorin Rosca at UPB (former IPB) are: Organic chemistry (including for the Department of Engineering, taught in English); Reaction mechanisms in organic chemistry and other disciplines newly introduced: Organo-metallic compounds (in English and French); Applied spectroscopy (in French); The research methodology in the pharmaceutical industry. He participated in the organization of new laboratories: the laboratory

of physical analysis methods (gas and liquid chromatography, mass spectrometry, elemental analysis, IR and UV spectrometry) and the laboratory of fine organic synthesis for alimentary products. He organized new classes for UPB: the engineering department (chemistry) in English and French respectively (1990-1996), the specialization in Aliments Chemistry (1996-2000) and a postgraduation program: "Medicines and Cosmetics" (1996-2000). He also had a major contribution to the teaching of chemistry in high school in Romania and held the following positions:

- President of the National Commission for Olympiads in chemistry (1987-1990)
- President of the international jury of the Balkan chemistry Olympiads (Bucharest, 1986 and 2005)
- Member of the jury of the International chemistry Olympiads in Budapest (1987), Helsinki-1988, Halle-1989, Moscow – 1996.

He is the president of the scientific jury of the National chemistry contest "C.D. Nenitescu" from 1993 to the present.

Professor Sorin Rosca has a rich international scientific activity. He started with a specialization stage abroad at the Technical University of Trodheim (Norway) in 1966. Now, he teaches post graduation courses in organic chemistry at the University of Bucharest (1997-2006) and coordinates doctoral activities at the University Politehnica of Bucharest, in cooperation with several higher education institutions in France: University Paris-Sud (Orsay, since 1998), "Paul Sabatier" University (Toulouse, since 1997), The University of Caen (since 1999), the University of Lyon (since 2003) and the University of Orleans (since 2005).

Professor Sorin Rosca is known in the European academic community. He is often invited to teach in prestigious universities in Germany (Darmstadt Technical University – 1992, 1994), France (University of Lille – 1993, University "Paul Sabatier" of Toulouse – 1966, University "J. Fourier" of Grenoble - 1999), Great Britain (Coventry Polytechnic - 1994) and worldwide universities (Case Western Reserve University of Cleveland – USA, 2001 and Kyushu Fukuoka University in Japan - 2002).

His research studies in the fields of the organometallic compounds, reaction mechanisms in organic chemistry, organic electrochemistry and

stereo selective reactions are published in important magazines in Romania (*Revue Roumaine de Chimie*, *Revista de Chimie* and *U.P.B. Scientific Bulletin*) and in the world (*Novel Trends in Electroorganic Synthesis*, *Langmuir* and *New Directions and Organic Electrochemistry* – publications of the American Chemistry Society), counting for 95 original scientific papers, over 90 scientific presentations, a number of 18 contractual research reports in the field of pharmaceutical products, of pesticides and of organic synthesis intermediates, 25 fundamental research grants and 9 books published in national presses, including manuals for all levels.

Since 1993, he is scientific coordinator for the doctoral school of University Politehnica Bucharest and subsequently in coordination with other universities in Europe. He was the president and an important member in over 50 doctoral commissions for faculties with chemical profiles in Romania (Bucharest, Cluj, Iasi and Timisoara) and in France.

Up to present, he gave invited presentations to several editions of the National and International Chemistry and Chemical Engineering Conference (RICCCE, editions 11, 12, 13 and 14), to the conferences organized by the Organic Electrochemistry Society in France, Switzerland and the USA, to the Conferences of the Chemistry Societies in South-Eastern European countries (2002, 2004, 2006), to the first European Chemistry Congress, organized in Budapest in 2006, to the Franco-Romanian Applied Chemistry Colloquies – Bacau 2003 and Clermont-Ferrand (CoFrRoCA) – France 2006, to the Scientific Communications Sessions in Rm. Valcea since 1981 to the latest edition in 2006 and to all chemistry conferences organized by the "Ovidius" University in Constanta, with articles published *in extenso* in the volumes of these conferences.

He also contributed with scientific papers to other international conferences which took place in Karlsruhe, Darmstadt (Germany), Paris, Sofia-Antipolis, Aspet, Montpellier (France), Sankt Petersburg (Russia); Okayama (Japan); Damascus (Syria); Madrid (Spain); Halkidiki (Greece); Helsinki (Finland); Washington (USA), Belgrad (Serbia), Budapest (Hungary).

In order to complete this brief presentation, we must emphasize that Professor Sorin Rosca is a member of the Romanian Academy of Technical

Sciences (starting in 2001), he was the head of the organic chemistry department (1990-2004), Vice-dean of the Faculty of industrial chemistry (1972-1978), then Dean of the Faculty of chemical technology (1979-1986 and 1989), Vice-rector of the Polytechnic Institute in Bucharest (1987-1988 and 1990-1992) and member of the Board of the University Politehnica in Bucharest without interruption since 1974.

He was also in the Board of the Ministry for industrial chemistry (1980-1986), vice-president of the Romanian Society of Chemistry (1993-2001). Since 2001, he is the President of the Romanian Society of Chemistry.

Prof. Sorin Ioan Rosca is a member in the committee of the following scientific journals: *Molecules* (Switzerland), *U.P.B. Scientific Bulletin*, *Revista de Chimie* (Bucharest), *Ovidius University Annals of Chemistry* (Constanta), member of the scientific committee of the workshop: "Modern magnetic nuclear resonance", Brasov- 1995, member in the scientific committees of the Balkan scientific conferences (Halkidiki, Greece 1988, 2000), President of the Organizing committee of the South-Eastern Chemistry Conference, Bucharest 2002; member of the scientific organizing committee of the National Chemistry and Chemical Engineering Conferences, Bucharest 1993, 1995, 1997 and of the International Chemistry and Chemical engineering Conference Bucharest, 1999- 2007.

Professor Rosca held and still holds honorary positions in academic and scientific bodies: Member of the Higher Diploma Commission of the Ministry of Education (1990-1997 and 2000 -2005); member of the National Scientific Academic Research Council (1993-2003); member in the consultative college of National Association for Technological sciences and Innovation (since 1997); member of the National Council for Financing Higher Education (2003-present); President of the commissions for the award of the title of Doctor in the Faculty of Industrial chemistry of Bucharest (1979-1986; 1989); member of the scientific council of the National Medicine Agency (2001-2005); member in the National scholarship committee (2000-2004).

Professor Sorin Roșca was awarded a series of awards and distinctions. We mention the following: The Ministry of Education Award (1984), "Merit Licence" – scientific distinction of the Science

Academy in Syria (1993), "Honor Citizen" of the city of Tarnaveni (1996), the Rev. Chimie Prize, Bucharest 2002, The Order of Labor – IIIrd class, knight of the "Devoted Service" National Order (2003), knight of the "Palme Académiques", distinction awarded by the French Government (2004) and "Opera Omnia", University Politehnica Bucharest (2007).

Apart from Professor Rosca's scientific profile and educational contributions to Organometallic compounds, Reaction mechanisms in organic chemistry, Organic electrochemistry and Stereo selective reactions, his modesty and opening towards knowledge transfer and international co-operation are impressive for all his collocutors.

Mr. Sorin Rosca constantly and honestly sustained the Chemistry specialization founded at our university in the year 1997. In addition of all these, he actively participated at all Conferences Chimia 2000, 2003 and 2006 organized by our faculty.

Gabriela Stanciu, Assoc.Prof. Dr. Eng.
Executive secretary
Lucica Barbes, Lecturer Dr.Eng.