

# Wspomnienia — Reminiscences



## Profesor Peter Fečko

1960–2012

It is with deep sadness that we announce that a friend and pedagogue, professor Peter Fečko, passed away after a short illness on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2012 at the age of 51 years. For many years, he had been a worker at the Institute of Environmental Engineering at the Faculty of Mining and Geology of the Mining College – Technical University of Ostrava. The funeral took place on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012 in the Church of St. Maximilian in Hukvaldy.

Prof. Ing. Peter Fečko, CSc. was born on 21<sup>st</sup> June 1960 in Stropkov in Slovakia. After finishing his studies at the grammar school in Prešov in 1979, he did his university studies at the Mining Faculty of VŠT in Košice, in the field of mineral processing focusing on environmental protection.

In 1984 he became a lecturer at the Department of Mineral Dressing at the Faculty of Mining and Geology (HGF) of the Mining College in Ostrava. In 1989 he finished his studies of university pedagogy at the Faculty of Arts of the Palacký University in Olomouc and in 1991 he was successful in defending his dissertation thesis at the BF VŠT in Košice and gained the CSc. title. Concurrently, he did intense research in progressive biological-chemical methods of mineral processing and prepared a habilitation thesis, on the grounds of which he was appointed

an associate professor in 1995. Following an inaugural lecture, he was appointed a university professor in mineral dressing by the President of the Czech Republic in 2002.

Even if his pedagogical and scientific work filled prof. Fečko's extremely active life, he also held significant positions at the Mining College-Technical University of Ostrava (VŠB-TUO). First, he was the Head of the Department of Mineral Dressing. For two terms of office he worked as a Vice Dean of the Faculty of Mining and Geology and till 31<sup>st</sup> December 2011 he was the Head of the Department of Waste Management and Biotechnology. In addition, he was the guarantor of the study fields of Processing and Disposal of Waste, Environmental Biotechnology and Mineral Biotechnology. As of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012 the rector of the Mining College-Technical University of Ostrava appointed prof. Peter Fečko the Director of the Centre of Environmental Technologies.

Prof. Fečko was an untiring promoter of latest scientific knowledge and information and organized an international "Conference on Environment and Mineral Processing", which had a fifteenth anniversary last year. This year the Institute of Environmental Engineering (IEI) of HGF VŠB-TUO and Moravian-Silesian Mining Association

ČSVTS HGF VŠB-TU Ostrava is holding the 16<sup>th</sup> year of the conference in the tribute to Professor Peter Fečko, which takes place between 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> June 2012.

Prof. Fečko wrote a number of distinguished publications, both in the national and foreign journals and proceedings.

Prof. Fečko was a respected international expert. He was invited to lecturing stays at various universities, such as the University of Mining & Technology (Beijing), Universidad del Valle (Columbia), the Universidad Industria de Santander (Columbia), the University of Petrosani (Rumania) and he repeatedly lectured at universities in Serbia, Croatia, Turkey and Poland.

Everybody who knew prof. Fečko has in remembrance a fantastic teacher and internationally renowned expert, but must also remember him as a sociable, creative and devoted person and an infectious life optimist. His straightforward and cheerful personality inspired all his colleagues, students and friends.

Despite his work load prof. Fečko was an extremely amusing and kind-hearted man who was always ready to help. The Mining College-Technical University of Ostrava has lost an unforgettable professor, pedagogue, colleague and a great students' friend.