

In memoriam



Prof. Dr Marko Rakin (1966-2023)

Marko Rakin was born on June 24, 1966 in Belgrade where he attended both primary- and high school. In 1986 he began his studies at the University of Belgrade, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, and received a master's degree (or Dipl. Ing. title) in March 1992. In November 1996 he defended his Magister Thesis (3 year post-graduate studies) at the University of Belgrade, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and in February 2003 he defended his Doctoral Thesis titled: *Analysis of Ductile Fracture Appearance in Structural Steels by Applying Micromechanical Models* at the Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy, University of Belgrade. From October 1, 2003 to Oct. 31, 2004 he was a postdoctoral fellow at the *Österreichischer Akademie der Wissenschaften - Erich-Schmid Institut für Materialen Wissenschaft* and at the *Montanuniversität Leoben* in Austria.

In 1992 his career began at the University of Belgrade, starting as an intern-researcher at the Department for Production Engineering of the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, and in 1995 at the Department of General Technical Sciences of the Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy. He was promoted to full professor in 2015 in the field of Engineering Materials. He co-authored a textbook, a monograph of national importance, eight handbooks and two script books, used as multiple course material for basic undergraduate and master studies, as well as for two postgraduate courses.

He has over 75 papers published in SCI journals, and many papers published in other scientific journals, including papers presented at international and domestic conferences. According to SCOPUS, Dr Rakin was cited 1534 times without auto citations, and an H index = 21. He has coauthored 16 technical solutions and supervised two general research projects financed by the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia. As a member, he took part in the realisation of over 20 national and international projects - scientific, innovations, projects for technological development and economic cooperation. He has supervised 10 doctoral dissertations.

Prof. Rakin took part in international cooperations that included research in common topics and projects with colleagues from: Erich-Schmid Institut für Materialwissenschaft and Montanuniversität Leoben (Austria); Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, University of Maribor (Slovenia); The Polytechnic University of Timisoara (Romania); Helmholtz Zentrum Geesthacht (Germany); Norwegian University of Science and Technology NTNU and Sør-Trøndelag University College HiST, Trondheim (Norway); University of Montenegro in Podgorica; Mechanical Engineering Faculty in Slavonski Brod of the Josip Juraj Strossmayer University of Osijek (Croatia); and Faculty of Mechanical Engineering of the University of Tuzla (Bosnia and Herzegovina).

To me Marko was almost as a younger brother. Over 30 years of friendship and joint cooperation ended unexpectedly on July 11 this year. It started a long time ago with his magister studies and his remarkable thesis work in a field that nobody in this region did research before and had culminated with a doctoral dissertation I consider as best among many that I supervised. Papers the followed received worldwide recognition. Just how important was it to be in Dresden in 2010 at the ECF19 and together promote science achievements in Serbia and DIVK in the initial phase of running for and later hosting the legendary ECF22 in Belgrade in 2018. We were introduced by our fathers, Petar and Stojan, also coworkers and friends. Fate has it that another 11th day in the month was tragic for the Rakin family. In February of 2011, Petro's poor heart did not survive the loss of younger son Dejan, the brother of Marko. Marko continued to take care of Dejan's children, and with his wife Marica raised two wonderful girls, Duška and Sandra. As Marko cared for his younger brother's children, I shall continue to care for them, as much as I can, as Marko was just as a younger brother.

Aleksandar Sedmak