

In memoriam Lajos György Nagy



This Special Issue of *Periodica Polytechnica Chemical Engineering* is dedicated to the memory of the late Lajos György Nagy (1930-1999).

He began his scientific career at the Department of Physical Chemistry, Budapest University of Technology as the assistant of Professor Géza Schay. Their common research activities focused on the properties of solid/liquid mixture interfaces. This fruitful cooperation gave birth to a novel method for determining the surface area of porous sorbents in contact with a liquid medium. The method, which bears their name, is considered to be an independent form, equivalent to the well known BET method.

His other field of scientific interest was rooted in radiochemistry, while nevertheless maintaining a close relationship with interfaces. They used isotopic molecular exchange techniques to uncover the dynamic properties of porous matter immersed in a liquid phase.

Lajos György Nagy pioneered the introduction of Radiochemistry into the curriculum of chemical engineering. Generations have been brought up on the three editions of his textbook, *Radiochemistry and Isotope Techniques*.

He was among the frequent authors of *Periodica Polytechnica Chemical Engineering* during the period when opportunities for publishing in Western journals were limited.

In 1975 he was promoted to full professorship and was appointed to chair the Department of Applied Chemistry. About 10 years later he became head of the Department of Physical Chemistry. In the latter part of the 1980s he was elected Dean of the Faculty, a position that he had occupied between 1982 and 1988 for 7 years.

Lajos György Nagy was not only a dynamic and highly gifted researcher but he was also a dedicated teacher. In 1977 he was the first professor ever at the faculty to be awarded a certificate from the students in expression of their appreciation.

The articles in this issue have been contributed by his former students, co-workers and contemporaries, in remembrance of the tenth anniversary of his death.

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