



Kronika – Chronicle

Prof. Miroslav M. Grandtner – obituary



On 21st February 2013, prof. Miroslav M. Grandtner died at nearly 85 years of age. He was professor emeritus at Laval University in Quebec (Canada) and an important world famous forester and environmentalist. He came from Slovakia.

Prof. Grandtner was born on 23rd August 1928 in Liptovská Teplička (Benkovo). He studied at the University of Agriculture and forest engineering in Košice until 1950 and graduated with an Ing. Degree in Waters and Forests at the Leuven University in Belgium (1955), he got a master's degree in forest sciences at the Laval University in Quebec (1959) and a doctor's degree in agricultural sciences at Leuven University in Belgium (1962). He was doctor *honoris causa* at the Technical University in Zvolen (2002), vegetation cartographer at the I.R.S.I.A. Institute in Belgium (1956 – 1957), research assistant (1957–1958), professor of forestry ecology and international forestry (1958 – 1993) and professor emeritus at the Faculty of Forestry and Geomatics, Laval University in Quebec from 1993, lector at the Montreal University (1964 – 1967) and at the Quebec University in Rimouski (1979 – 2000).

Professional activities: expert in environmental research related to typology and forest mapping as a basis of forest management, university lecturer and editor in the field of vegetation ecology: *Études écologiques* (founder and director in 1979 – 1988), *Les foëts dé l'hémisphere nord* (co-editor in 1977), *Vegetation patterns in relation to landforms* (co-editor in 1993); in international forestry: *Dossiers de foresterie internationale* (founder and director in 1990 – 2003); biogeography and dendrological biodiversity: *World dictionary of*

tree (co-editor of web edition from 1997 and a member of editorial boards of several scientific and professional journals.

Author and co-author of over 350 scientific papers, including scientific articles, 7 monograph and 6 books, such as *La végétation in Eastern North America* (co-author 1994), *Elsevier's Dictionary of tres-Volume I: North America* (2005). He also organized and co-organized several international scientific conferences and forestry study courses in French Guyana, Morocco, Brazil, India, Japan, Mexico and many others and had been invited to lecture in Indonesia, France, Poland, USA, Argentina, China, India, Slovakia and Japan.

International member of: Academy of Sciences at the Slovak Academy of Agricultural Sciences and Czech National Committee. Emeritus researcher of the Forest Biology Research Centre, Laval University, honorary member of Association of Biologists of Quebec, life member of Quebec Geographical Society and awardee of J. Fándly medal (2000) of the Slovak Society of Agricultural, Forestry, Food and Veterinary Sciences at the Slovak Academy of Sciences.

Professor Miroslav M. Grandtner promoted the good reputation of the Slovak Republic, especially the reputation of our forestry in Canada and other countries all over the world. He initiated several visits of Slovak foresters into forestry institutions in Quebec. He visited Slovakia with his students many times. He gave lectures in Slovakia and had many activities. The death of Professor Miroslav M. Grandtner is a loss of a world renowned figure.

Honour his memory.

Jozef KONÔPKA

National Forest Centre - Forest Research Institute Zvolen

T. G. Masaryka 2175/22

SK – 960 92 Zvolen

e-mail: jkonopka@nlcck.org