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LAUDATIO

Prof. Peter G. Fedor-Freybergh 75 years anniversary

WITH A GREAT PLEASURE WE ARE HON-
 OURED TO CONGRATULATE our Editor-in-
 chief Professor Peter G. Fedor-Freybergh,
 MD, D.Phil, PhD, DSc, Dr.h.c.mult. on the
 occasion of his 75 years anniversary. Prof.
 Fedor-Freybergh was graduated in 1959 at
 Medical Faculty of Comenius University in
 Bratislava. First three years of his profes-
 sional career he spent at Psychiatric hospital
 near Bratislava. Following this period he
 joined the Psychiatric Clinic of Comenius
 University. Little later he founded the pedo-
 psychiatric department and took part in cre-

ation of the program of the postgradual specialization in pedopsychiatry in Slovakia. He reached the Certificate in psychiatry at Comenius University in Bratislava (1962) and the Certificate in pedopsychiatry at Charles University in Prague (1965), where he also defended his thesis in psychiatry (1967). In the years 1966–1970 he was elected as the Secretary of the World Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry. In the year 1968 prof. Fedor-Freybergh was invited to the Psychiatric Clinic of the Vienna University. Following years he held appointments in Switzerland, England and Sweden. In 1977 he reached the Certificate in Obstetrics and Gynaecology and obtained the Doctorate in this field. Starting with the year 1978 prof. Fedor-Freybergh lectured in Psychoneuroendocrinology at the University of Salzburg and was appointed as the first university professor in Europe in this field.

Professor Fedor-Freybergh began to form the domain of the prenatal and perinatal psychology and medicine in 1978 and founded the peer-reviewed International Journal of Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology and Medicine. In 1988 he published in English and German languages the monographs in this field and they are up to now the only textbooks of prenatal and perinatal psychology and medicine. During the years 1983–1992 he was elected as President of the International Society of Prenatal Psychology and Medicine and in 1992 he was elected its Honorary Life President. In the years 1996–2004 prof. Fedor-Freybergh was appointed professor of child psychiatry at the Charles University in Prague and in 1997 he became visiting professor at the Trnava University. In 2006 he was nominated as Chair and a year later was appointed as Director of the Institute of prenatal and perinatal psychology, medicine and social work at the St. Elizabeth University College of Health and Social Work in Bratislava. Later on he was appointed professor of Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology and Medicine at the same

university. Both the Chair, the Institute and the Professorship were the first of its kind in this field at the university level in the world.

For his very rich publication activities as well as very important scientific-organizational experience professor Fedor-Freybergh was several times awarded, e.g. by medals of several Slovak medical societies, by the prize of the president of the Czech medical chamber, by Premio Marconi Award of the Academy of Sciences in San Marino, he was awarded as Doctor honoris causa at Medical University in Lodz (Poland) as well as at St. Elizabeth University in Bratislava, by the Golden medal of the Slovak Medical Association. He is the Fellow of the Royal Society of Medicine (London) since 1982.

Professor Fedor-Freybergh is member of editorial boards of several international journals. Moreover, he is Editor-in-Chief of following four international peer-reviewed journals: Neuroendocrinology Letters, International Journal of Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology and Medicine, Biogenic Amines and *Activitas Nervosa Superior Rediviva*. The last mentioned journal under the name *Activitas Nervosa Superior* was founded in 1959 in Prague as the journal of the Czechoslovak Society of the Higher Nervous Activity and long before accepting the neuroscience as the separate scientific field, it served as the official organ for the manuscripts in this field. Since 1975 the journal became the official journal of the Collegium Internationale Activitatis Nervosae Superioris (C.I.A.N.S.), the one of the oldest international societies in the field of neurobiology of behaviour, integrative physiology and psychosomatic relations. Unfortunately, after the 1990 the journal changed title and publishers and its position gradually weakened. Due to the great enthusiasm of prof. Fedor-Feybergh, who started to publish in early sixties his manuscripts in this journal, he as the Editor-in-Chief was able to publish the journal again under the original name in 2007 in Prague. Since 2009 this journal is published under the name *Activitas Nervosa Superior Rediviva* by the Institute of Normal and Pathological Physiology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences together with St. Elizabeth University of Health and Social Work in Bratislava. The big experience and great enthusiasm of prof. Fedor-Freybergh helped to enlist the journal into several important international databases. The manuscripts published in the journal have free access at www.rediviva.sav.sk. We are really very happy to award professor Fedor-Freybergh, on the occasion of his jubilee, our highest appreciation, the Honorary membership of the Slovak Society for Higher Brain Functions.

Professor Peter Fedor-Freybergh is a very sensitive noble man, with deep knowledge from various fields of medicine, philosophy, music and literature. He is a great humanist, has a big sense of humour, a very friendly man, every time prepared to help people. It is a great privilege as well as big experience to spend some time with him together and we hope we will be able to learn a lot from his deep knowledge many years henceforth.

Ad multos annos dear Professor Fedor-Freybergh.

Fedor Jagla
on behalf of many friends