

LAUDATIO

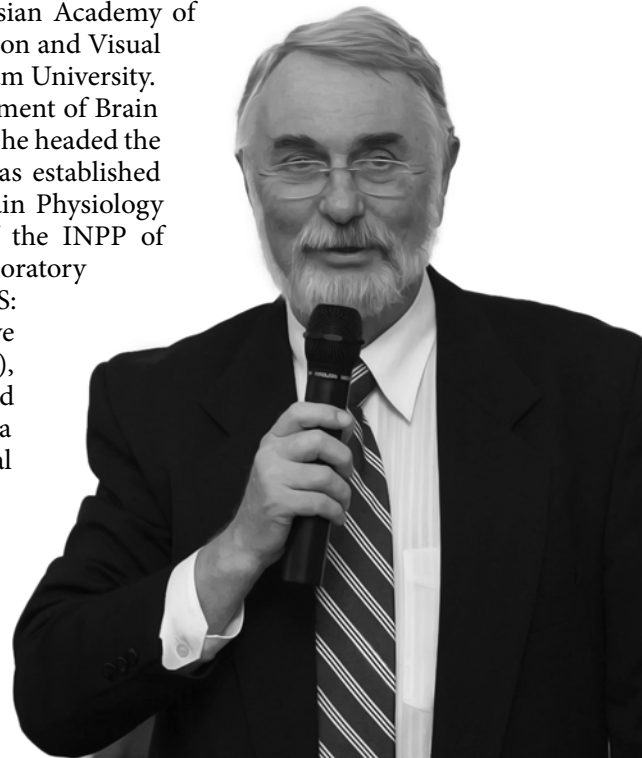
Fedor Jagla, MD., CSc.

Fedor Jagla, MD., CSc, was born on August 25, 1945 in Ružomberok, but from an early childhood he lived and grew up in the centre of Bratislava's Old Town in Michalská Street. His father was a physician, surgeon and internist and he worked at various workplaces; after World War Two he worked as a general practitioner in Bratislava, later at the Central Government Authority and afterwards at the Ministry of Health he was dealing with therapeutical-preventive industrial health care. Dr. Jagla's mother was a secondary school teacher; his sister was a health lab assistant.

After school-leaving examination in 1962, Dr. Jagla started to study at the Faculty of Medicine Comenius University in Bratislava and graduated in 1968. During his studies of medicine he was actively involved in medical research as a so-called scientific assistant at the Institute of Experimental Endocrinology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAS). After graduation he started to work at the Institute of Normal and Pathological Physiology of SAS (INPP) where he has been working so far.

There he started to work at the Department of Human Physiology headed by Assoc. Prof. MUDr. Ivan Ruttkay-Nedecký, DrSc. and in 1969 he joined a newly established Department of Psychophysiology headed by his supervisor Prof. MUDr. Vladislav Zikmund, DrSc. Dr. Jagla dealt with the study of higher functions of the human brain, particularly attention and its roles in sensory and motor processes, functional asymmetry of the hemispheres, brain mechanisms of visualisation and eye movements. In 1974 dr. Fedor Jagla defended his dissertation with the title "Changes in oculomotor activity during visual perception and imagination of movement in various distances". As a researcher of the INPP, SAS he continued to pursue research activities relevant to these issues and he developed cooperation with several foreign institutions, including the Institute of Physiology of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Pavlov Institute of Physiology of the Russian Academy of Sciences in St. Petersburg, and the Centre for Vision and Visual Cognition of the Institute of Psychology of Durham University.

Since 1995, dr. Fedor Jagla headed the Department of Brain Physiology at the INPP, SAS and then (until 2011) he headed the Laboratory of Cognitive Neuroscience, which was established by the transformation of the Department of Brain Physiology regarding organizational restructuring of the INPP of SAS. In addition to managing a department/laboratory he held other important positions in the INPP, SAS: Scientific Secretary (1989–1995), representative of the INPP in the Assembly of SAS (2009–2013), Deputy Director (1995–1999, 2008–2015) and in 1999–2007 Director of the Institute. He was a member of the Scientific Board of SAS for medical sciences (2009–2013) and the Ethics Committee of SAS (2011–2013). Dr. Fedor Jagla's all-society significant activities include his activity in the capacity of membership in the Standing Task Force for medical, pharmaceutical and non-medical health sciences of the Accreditation Commission of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic and also his role of a national



coordinator in the European Network for Workplace Health Promotion (ENWHP).

Dr. Fedor Jagla was a supervisor of several research projects, a national coordinator of international projects (MedNatNet, ENWHP) and still he is an active researcher. He is the author of 60 papers in peer-reviewed scientific journals, seven chapters in monographs published in Slovakia and abroad, and he is the editor of three book publications, a co-author of textbook on medical physiology. His papers were cited more than 220 times and many of them were awarded by prizes of professional societies.

As a key organizer or a member of organizing and programme committees he organized numerous scientific events, conferences and symposiums both at home and abroad. At professional forums he presented a lot of lectures and contributions. Dr. Fedor Jagla is actively involved in work for scientific professional societies. He is a long-standing member of the committee of the Society for Higher Brain Functions of the Slovak Medical Association (SMA), in 1998–2002 he served as Scientific Secretary and since 2002 he has been President of the Society. He is also active in other organizational units of the SMA, he is a member of the committee of the Slovak Society of Neuropsychiatry and Slovak Society of Physiology. The highlight of the international professional recognition of Dr. Jagla is a position of President (2003–2005 and repeatedly since 2015 up to now) of the Collegium Internationale Activitatis Nervosae Superioris (CIANS), the oldest international organization in the field of neurobiology of behaviour, integrative physiology of psychosomatic relationship founded in 1960. He is also Coeditor-in-Chief of the journal *Activitas Nervosa Superior Rediviva*, an international scientific periodical of CIANS.

Dr. Fedor Jagla works as a supervisor of PhD students in the field of Normal and Pathological Physiology and for nearly two decades he has been governing teaching of Neurophysiology at the Faculty of Arts Comenius

University in Bratislava. He is also a long-standing visiting professor of the Italian Association for Behavior Analysis and Modification and Behavioral Cognitive Therapy (AIAMC) and a visiting associate professor of the Tolman Institute in Palermo. Dr. Fedor Jagla is the holder of many awards, inter alia the Commemorative Medal for the 200th anniversary of the birth of J. E. Purkyně, the J. Jessenius Golden Honorary Plaque of SAS for merit in medical sciences and the Golden Medal of SMA. On the occasion of his jubilee Dr. Fedor Jagla was awarded with SAS Medal for promoting science and with Honorary Membership of the SMA.

His colleagues respect Dr. Jagla also for his unique personal qualities. Dr. Jagla is an extremely helpful and friendly man always willing to do his best for others. He is a humanist understanding and respecting the others, empathetic, attentive and considerate. He is an honest and decent man who is far from hypocrisy, politicking and backroom manipulations. He is naturally modest, does not crave for recognition and honours, neither is pride on them. He is a complex and balanced personality, a scientist who is not focused only on specific and particular professional issues, but he is well up in social topics, history, literature, fine arts and music.

Dr. Fedor Jagla is a passionate scientist who is asking questions and seeking answers to them, he is a diplomatic manager who turns considerable problems into simple ones and the simple ones into none, but at the same time he is a fearless fighter of freedom and independence in the true sense of the word. He is a brilliant organizer who organizes international conferences with ease and perspective, but is also a zealous propagator of outstanding achievements of the Institute. He is a selfless colleague and devoted friend everybody would like to have.

Dear Dr. Jagla, dear Fedor, we wish you good health, endurance and boundless optimism in order to bear our presence around you with a smile for a long time.

Ad multos annos!

Igor Riečanský & Olga Pecháňová