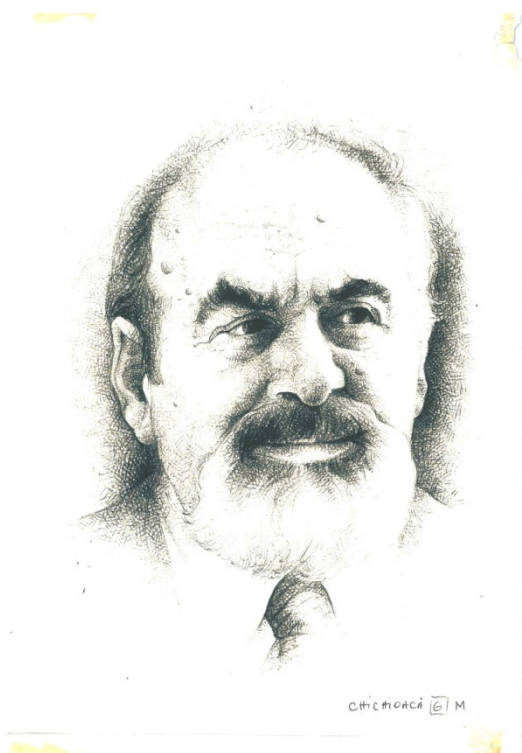


Emeritus University Professor Mustață Gheorghe at the of Age 80 Years



**Mister President,
distinguished colleagues,
honoured audience,**

At the invitation of the Emeritus University Professor Ph.D. Engineer, Stanciu Anghel, The President of the Academy of Scientists, Iași Branch, I am pleased to introduce to you my younger colleague, Emeritus University Professor Ph.D. Mustață Gheorghe, who has reached the age of 80 (2018).

Sixty years ago, when I was a student in the 5th year, my attention was attracted by a young "freshman" who participated at the student scientific circles and proved to be greatly passionate about the knowledge of nature. While he was in the–final year at university, I found out that he was part of the first student exchange between Alexandru Ioan Cuza University Iași and Fr. Schiller University Jena, the German Democratic Republic.

Mr. Mustață Gheorghe saw the light of the day on March 6th, 1938, at Adjudu Vechi, in Vrancea County. His father, Mustață Ion, was a train engine mechanic, and his mother, a house wife, made every possible effort to educate the five remaining children. He attended the primary school in his native village, and graduated from the Boys' High School in Tecuci.

During a short break he took while in high school, he worked as an educator at the Adjud High School. After baccalaureate he became a substitute teacher at

the Secondary School in Păunești, Vrancea County. It was the time he decided to follow a career in education.

He graduated with distinction from the Natural Science University, Zoology Department, in 1962. His dissertation was supervised by the eminent University Professor Mihai Constantineanu, considered at that time as one of the world's greatest entomologists (ichneumonologist). Professor Mustață Gheorghe started his university career as junior assistant professor of professor Constantineanu.

Between 1971 and 1979 he worked as a lecturer at the Central Institute of Didactic Training, where he completed his didactic master. In 1979 he returned to the Faculty of Biology, where he pursued his academic career until he retired.

In 1963, we led together the summer practice for students in the first year in the Retezat Mountain. Since then until his 80th birthday, 2018, I have had the chance to better know my colleague, by closely working together on a social, political, and managerial realm. His career followed an ascending path with excellence towards professorship, director of Doctoral School, and director of Prof. Dr. Ioan Borcea, Marine Biological Resort, which he led not less than 19 years.

As an apprentice of one of the greatest entomologists of our nation, University Professor Constantineanu Mihai, the young university student Mustață Gheorghe became a brilliant representative of the Entomologic School of Iasi, initiated by the Titan of the Romanian Zoology, Professor Borcea Ioan and developed by the great ichneumonologist. About the history of this School of Entomology, Mr. Mustață has written pages of rare beauty and to the founders of the school have dedicated homage volumes unanimously appreciated by our academic community.

I do not have the same specialization as Professor Mustață to analyze my colleague's scientific concerns, but I know from the specialists in the field what remarkable results he has achieved in his scientific activity. I know how many national and international entomologic symposia and conferences have been held in Iași, but I also know about the international conferences and congresses in Taiwan, Basel, Linz and Chișinău. I also know that he published together with his professor a volume in the Fauna of Romania collection and he has also published for a few scientific papers on entomophagous complexes controlling some insect

pests of crop plants for which he obtained the Emil Racoviță Prize of The Romanian Academy in 1994. In this field, he organized three national symposia with international participation on “The role of entomophagous insects in maintaining of the natural balance”.

The publishing activity of Mr. Professor Mustață Gheorghe has been impressive and is concretized by about 200 original scientific papers published in prestigious, national and international journals, 20 university courses and practical works tutors and over 30 monographic books, some of them they had the honour to preface and launch in different university centres; these books are based on an impressive specialized literature, critically taken over, and on a long experience in research, books written with great accuracy, exposing the talent of a gifted writer, the man with an encyclopaedic culture, passionate about literature, art, philosophy and the history of religions.

It is enough to mention that since 2007, when he became a Full Member of the Academy of Romanian Scientists, he published 17 volumes from various fields, including 8 at the prestigious Publishing House of the Academy of Romanian Scientists.

The courses and lectures given by Professor Mustață Gheorghe were and are captivating, pleasant, emotionally charged and exhibiting a remarkable diction. The man we celebrate here and now is a charismatic speaker, a tireless seeker of the latest developments, which he is able to evaluate and critically select and convey to different audiences as no one else.

In his long academic activity, Mr. Professor Mustață Gheorghe has honoured several disciplines: Zoology of the Invertebrates, Entomology, Hydrobiology, Evolutionism, Anthropology, Ecological Monitoring, Marine Biology, Saprobiology, etc.

Between 1971 and 1979, while he worked at the Central Institute for the Training of Teaching Staff, he honoured the Methodology of Biology Teaching and polished his teaching skills.

To support the students, and even Biology teachers, Mr. Mustață Gheorghe supported the courses he taught with high academic textbooks. I cannot help to remember those 15 editions of the Symposia of the Romanian and universal Personalities, organized with students who followed the course of Evolutionism,

to which I participated with pleasure, listening Professor Mustață talks, and admiring how pathetic he was talking about the scientists he knew, read, about many writing unforgettable pages.

I had the chance to know my colleague Mustață Gheorghe during the many practical applications organized with students or with biology teachers attending his training courses. He proved to be a good observer of nature, a fervent protector of nature, always training the students in the knowledge of biodiversity, attracting them to the research work, supporting them in the elaboration of the bachelor's and doctoral thesis, all of them full of meaning, with a striking character of originality.

For decades, he has been working on regular training for biology teachers in the pre-university education, teaching them courses, leading their work to obtain the first didactic degree, and organizing different methodical days for the continue education of the didactic craftsmanship. In this direction he had a very fruitful collaboration with the regretted Reader PhD Ghenciu Vasile, a highly professional methodologist.

Few of us were able to combine all didactic, scientific and managerial work. In the last two decades, he has performed several positions of high responsibility, which he has especially honoured: Head of Department, Dean, Chancellor of the University Senate (in two legislatures), Director of the Prof. Dr. Ioan Borcea Marine Biological Resort from Agigea, President of the Exact Sciences Commission of the National Academic Evaluation and Accreditation Council

A special mention deserves the professional effort and competence with which Professor Mustață Gheorghe has led, as a director, the Prof. Dr. Ioan Borcea Marine Biological Resort from Agigea. We owe him the recovery of the Resort in 1990 from the Romanian Marine Research Institute, its reorganization and reinstatement in the teaching and scientific circuit, reintroducing it among the major Black Sea and Mediterranean Sea Research Institutes. As director of the resort, he organized three national scientific sessions with international participation in Agigea, and re-launched the National and International Scientific Magazine of Agigea Resort.

With an impressive effort, Professor Mustață Gheorghe managed to re-establish the Marine Biological Resort of Agigea in the teaching and scientific

circuit for Romanian biologists. The resort also offered the practical environment for practicing students from many universities in the country and abroad, Professor Mustață leading the practice and doing marine biology research at the Black Sea. In this way, he had the opportunity to establish collaborations with various institutions from different European countries and beyond.

I cannot conclude this brief presentation of the life and work of my colleague Mustață Gheorghe without underlining that he is the man who, for over 5 decades, day by day, from morning till evening could be found in the laboratory, at the work table, in the library, doing what he has learned to do. Even with the risk of endangering his health, he has never abandoned his projects, being a model of dedication on the altar of science and of university didactics.

He could not have done all this great work and achieve excellence in his career without the loving support of his distinguished wife, Ms. Reader PhD Mustață Mariana, a didactic specialist with remarkable academic activity, and Georgian-Tiberius, their son, who honours our country through his academic work on Psychiatry in the United States of America. It has been an honour and I am glad that for so many years I have been with my younger colleague at the crucial moments of his life: marriage (being their godfather, doctorate, the ascension of the university education, the leadership of the Department and the Faculty of Biology of which we are part, political and social activity, supporting him in many actions he has undertaken over his long and successful academic career.

Now, at anniversary celebration, I wish you esteemed colleague, Happy Years, full health and peace of mind!

Academician University Professor PhD. **Toma Constantin.**

The text was translated by **Varvara Mircea**, University Professor and it was verified by a native speaker of English.