

# In memoriam Vladimir Muljević (1913 - 2007)

## *A Legend of Croatian technique and technical culture*



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Vladimir Muljević was born on February 14, 1913 in Zagreb. He finished high school in Zagreb, and graduated at Faculty of Chemical Engineering and Technology, also in Zagreb, in 1939. He received his PhD at Technische Hochschule in Vienna, in 1944.

In 1941, he became an assistant at the Mechanical Laboratory at the Faculty of Technique in Zagreb. By the end of 1944, he joined the Directorate for Telephone and Telegraph. Since 1947 until 1949 he was manager of the City Telephone Company in Zagreb. In 1949, he became an assistant at the Institute of Electrical Engineering and Electrical Measuring at the Faculty of Technique in Zagreb. In 1952 he obtained the title of assistant professor, in 1958 he became an associate professor, and in 1963 a full professor.

He lectured postgraduate studies at the Faculty of Dental Medicine in Zagreb, studies of Library Science and Informatics, and Design studies in Zagreb. As a professor, he took part in six postgraduate studies at the University of Zagreb and Faculty of Electrical Engineering in Split. He also lectured at the High Technical School and Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Naval Architecture in Zagreb and Faculty of Electrical Engineering in Banja Luka. He led around 100 graduation theses, 30 MSc theses and several dissertations. He was a guest professor at the University of Rostock (Germany), Ain Shams University Cairo (Egypt), and Florida State University (Tallahassee).

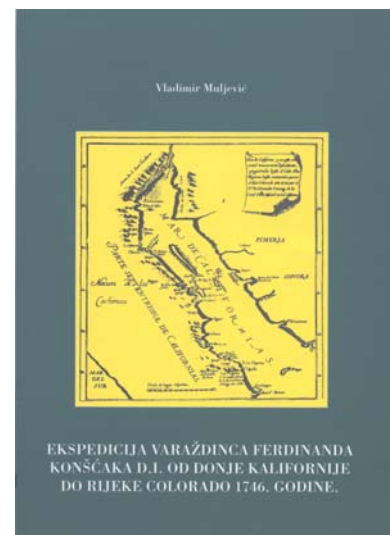
In 1954, he founded the Institute of Regulation and Signal Technique at the Faculty of Technique. He was the head of

the Institute during next 28 years. In 1956, he founded Yugoslav Seminar for Regulation, Measurement and Automation – JUREMA (KoREMA), of which he was the president for next 10 years. He was also the dean of the Faculty of Electrical Engineering in Zagreb (1966-1968) and vice-dean (1968-1970). Also, he conducted experimental works in the fields of electrical measurements, technology and high vacuum measurements. During his study journeys abroad, he studied automation systems, signal systems, computer sciences and informatics.

Muljević wrote a dozen textbooks and university notes, and published many scientific and professional papers on subjects like automation, history of technology, electrical engineering and automatic devices. In total, he published 450 scientific papers, several books and the *German/Croatian Dictionary of Electrical Engineering*. Besides that, he took part in the publishing and editing of several dictionaries covering the fields of measuring, automatic regulation and automation. He participated in hundreds of local and international scientific and professional conferences. He held around 150 scientific lectures and took part in numerous activities of Matica hrvatska. Muljević was also the founder of *Technical Encyclopaedia*, published by the Lexicographical Institute in Zagreb. In addition, he was one of the founders of the Technical Museum in Zagreb. In 1971, he was the editor-in-chief of *Hrvatsko sveučilište* (Croatian University) journal. He was the president of the Croatian Society of Natural Sciences, and a member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, New York, an honorary member of *Croatian Academy of Engineering*, and a member of three foreign expert societies. As a regard for his prolific work, he obtained around 50 different awards. He received an honorary doctorate of the Rostock University in 1985, and the University of Zagreb awarded him the title of professor emeritus in 1997.

He was also a recipient of the *Fran Tručan* award for popularization of science (1988). He also obtained the award of Croatian Academy of Science and Arts (1994), and was given the *Faust Vrančić* award, for lifetime achievement (1996). In 1998, he also received the lifetime achievement award from the Croatian Society of Technical Culture. Vladimir Muljević died on February 26, 2007 in Zagreb.

Besides all that is mentioned, V. Muljević was also interested in cartography. He published several articles and one book about the missionary and cartographer Ferdinand Konščak (Ferdinand Konščak from Varaždin was a missionary who explored California in 18th century. The Institute of Science HAZU in Varaždin published some works on that subject, 1990/91, 4-5, pages 9-51. – The place and the role of Ferdinand Konščak in American cartography, in: *Croatian Jesuits, Collection of Works*. Zagreb 1992, pages 57-67. – The Expedition of Ferdinand Konščak from Lower California to Colorado River in 1746. Art studio Azinović, Zagreb 1996. – Map used during the trip around the world of Splendido sailboat, in: *Science in Croatia, exhibition catalogue, part I, MGC*, Zagreb 1996, page 304. – Biography of Ferdinand Konščak, in: M. Begović: *Radovi Zavoda za znanstveni rad HAZU Varaždin* 1998, 10-11, pages 409–442). He was glad to answer my invitation and at the beginning of 1998 he held a very interesting lecture on Konščak's life and work during the meeting of the Section for Cartography of the Croatian Geodetic Society.



Vladimir Muljević was a man of many interests; he liked photography, fine arts and music. I often met him during the concerts at the Lisinski Hall. He knew a lot of people, he was a very curious person and always took notes in his notebooks.

He was by all means an extraordinary man. His vitality that he was famous for was present until the very last day. He was one of the last erudites, and he will be remembered as such. May he rest in peace!

*Miljenko Lapaine*

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## *Legenda hrvatske tehnike i tehničke kulture*

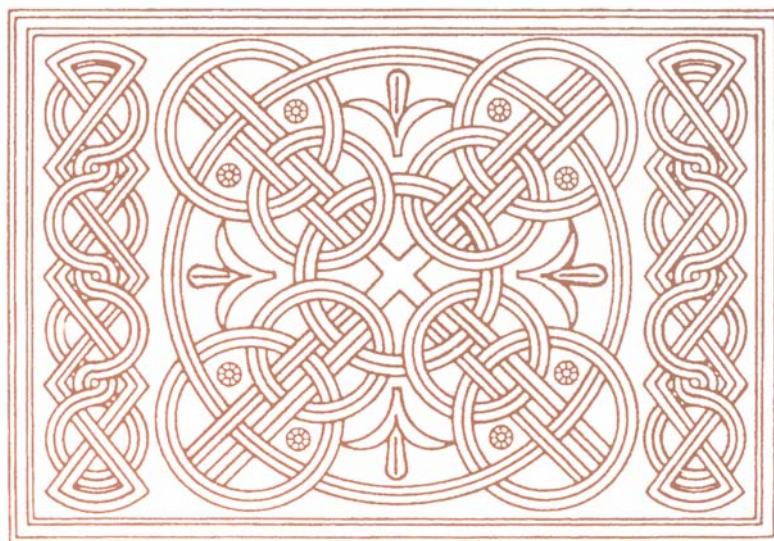
Vladimir Muljević rodio se 14. veljače 1913. u Zagrebu. Realnu gimnaziju završio je u Zagrebu, a diplomirao je 1939. na Tehničkom fakultetu također u Zagrebu. Doktorirao je na Technische Hochschule u Beču 1944. godine.

Za asistenta Strojarskog laboratorija Tehničkog fakulteta u Zagrebu izabran je 1941. Krajem 1944. prešao je u Direkciju telegrafa i telefona u Zagrebu, a od 1947. do 1949. bio je upravnik Gradskog telefona u Zagrebu. Godine 1949. postao je asistent u Zavodu za osnove elektrotehnike i električna mjerenja Tehničkog fakulteta u Zagrebu. Za docenta izabran je 1952, za izvanrednog profesora 1958, a za redovitog profesora 1963.

Predavao je na poslijediplomskim studijima Stomatološkog fakulteta u Zagrebu, studiju bibliotekarstva i informatike te dizajna u Zagrebu. Sudjelovao je kao profesor na šest poslijediplomskih studija na Sveučilištu u Zagrebu i na Elektrotehničkom fakultetu u Splitu. Predavao je na Visokoj tehničkoj školi i Strojarskobrodograđevnom fakultetu u Zagrebu te na Elektrotehničkom fakultetu u Banja Luci. Vodio je 100-ak diplomskih radova, 30-ak magistarskih radova i nekoliko disertacija. Gostujući profesor bio je na Univerzitetu Rostock (Njemačka), Ain Shams University Cairo (Egipat), Florida State University (Tallahasee).

Osnovao je Zavod za regulacionu i signalnu tehniku na Tehničkom fakultetu 1954. čiji je bio predstojnik 28 godina. Godine 1956. pokrenuo je osnivanje Jugoslavenskog seminara za regulaciju, mjerenje i automatizaciju – JUREMA (KoREMA) i desetak godina bio njegov predsjednik. Bio je dekan Elektrotehničkog fakulteta u Zagrebu 1966-68. i prodekan 1968-70. Bavio se eksperimentalnim radom na području električnih mjerenja, tehnike i mjerenja visokih vakuuma. Za brojnih studijskih putovanja i boravaka u inozemstvu proučavao je sustave automatizacije, signalizacije i računalne tehnike te informatike.

Napisao je desetak udžbenika i sveučilišnih skripata. Znanstvene i stručne radove objavljuje iz automatizacije, stručne terminologije, povijesti tehnike, elektrotehnike i automata. Objavio je oko 450 znanstvenih i stručnih radova, nekoliko knjiga te *Njemačko-hrvatski elektrotehnički rječnik*. Sastavio je, objavio ili ure-



dio nekoliko rječnika iz područja mjerenja, automatske regulacije i automatizacije. Sudjelovao na stotinjak domaćih i stranih znanstvenih i stručnih skupova. Održao je oko 150 znanstveno-popularnih predavanja i aktivno sudjelovao u brojnim drugim aktivnostima Matice hrvatske i Hrvatske zajednice tehničke kulture. Bio je pokretač i organizator *Tehničke enciklopedije* Leksikografskog zavoda u Zagrebu i član redakcijskog odbora te jedan od utemeljitelja Tehničkog muzeja u Zagrebu. Glavni i odgovorni urednik časopisa *Hrvatsko sveučilište* bio je 1971. Predsjednik *Hrvatskog prirodoslovnog društva* u Zagrebu bio je 1975-76. Bio je član The Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, New York, počasni član *Akademije tehničkih znanosti Hrvatske*, te član triju inozemnih stručnih društava. Za vrlo plodan i uspješan rad primio je 50-ak priznanja i nagrada. Primio je počasni doktorat (Dr. h. c.) Univerziteta Rostock 1985. godine. Sveučilište u Zagrebu dodijelilo mu je naslov professor emeritus 1997. godine. Dobitnik je Republičke nagrade *Fran Tučan* za popularizaciju znanosti (1988), Nagrade za tehničke znanosti Hrvatske akademije znanosti i umjetnosti (1994), Državne nagrade tehničke kulture *Faust Vrančić* za životno djelo (1996), Nagrade za životno djelo Hrvatske zajednice tehničke kulture (1998). V. Muljević umro je u Zagrebu 26. veljače 2007.

Uza sve navedeno, V. Muljević zanimalo se i za kartografiju. Objavio je neko-

liko članaka i jednu knjigu o misionaru i kartografu Ferdinandu Konščaku (Varaždinac Ferdinand Konščak misionar i istraživač Kalifornije u 18. stoljeću. Radovi Zavoda za znanstveni rad HAZU u Varaždinu, 1990/91, 4-5, str. 9-51. – Mjesto i uloga Ferdinanda Konščaka u američkoj kartografiji, u: Isusovci u Hrvata, Zbornik radova. Zagreb 1992, str. 57-67. – Ekspedicija Varaždinca Ferdinanda Konščaka D. I. od Donje Kalifornije do rijeke Colorado 1746. godine. Art studio Azinović, Zagreb 1996. – Zemljopisna karta putovanja oko svijeta jedrenjaka Splendido, u: Znanost u Hrvata, katalog izložbe, I. dio. MGC, Zagreb 1996, str. 304. – Životopis Ferdinanda Konščaka, u: M. Begović (ur.): Radovi Zavoda za znanstveni rad HAZU, Varaždin 1998, 10-11, str. 409-442). Rado se odazvao mome pozivu i početkom 1998. godine na sastanku Sekcije za kartografiju Hrvatskoga geodetskog društva održao zanimljivo predavanje o Konščaku.

V. Muljević bio je čovjek širokih pogleda, volio je fotografiju, likovnu umjetnost i glazbu. Redovito bismo se susretali na koncertima u dvorani Lisinski. Poznao je mnoge osobe, raspitivao se i sve marljivo olovkom bilježio u svoje bilježnice.

Bio je po mnogo čemu izuzetan, između ostalog i po svojoj vitalnosti i to do zadnjega dana. Bio je jedan od, u današnje doba, zaista rijetkih polihistora ili erudita i po tome ćemo ga uvijek pamtit. Počivao u miru!

Miljenko Lapaine