



Professor Ioan A. Silberg, corresponding member of the Roumanian Academy, was born in Cluj on November the 6<sup>th</sup> 1937. He graduated with honors the Faculty of Chemistry at the University of Cluj in 1959, specialty organic chemistry. He received his doctoral degree in 1970 from the Institute of Chemistry Cluj-Napoca, where he worked under the scientific supervision of prof. C. Bodea corresponding member of the Roumanian Academy, on free radicals and charge transfer complexes in the polihalophenothiazine series. After periods of research activity at the Institute of Chemistry, Cluj (1960-1980) and Institute of Chemical and Biochemical Energetics, "Babeș-Bolyai" University Electrochemical Energetics Research Group (1980-1990), since 1990 he became professor of Organic Chemistry at "Babeș-Bolyai" University, Faculty of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering. During 1992-2003 he was the **head of Organic Chemistry Department**. Since 2000 he became also the **director of the Institute of Chemistry Raluca Ripan Cluj-Napoca**.

The research interests were related to the chemistry of aromatic heterocycles, free radicals and charge-transfer complexes, organic semiconductors, structural organic analysis, organic electrosynthesis and electron-transfer phenomena involving organic compounds. As results of his scientific activity, 4 books, 6 chapters included in multi-author books, 118 papers in peer-reviewed journals in Romania and abroad and 17 patented inventions were published. As recognition, he received The "Nicolae Teclu" award of the Romanian Academy in 1985 for fundamental research concerning the adiponitrile electrosynthesis, prizes of the Scientific Research Council of "Babeş-Bolyai" University for the books: "*Teoria reactivităţii compușilor organici*", M. Vlăssă and I. A. Silberg, vol. I și II (1998) and "*Chimia organică a produșilor naturali*", Castelia Cristea, Ionel Hopârtean și I. A. Silberg (2003). In 1996 he was elected **Corresponding member of the Romanian Academy**.

Prof. Silberg engaged many academic appointments with high professionalism: Member of the Editorial Boards of "*Revue Roumaine de Chimie*" (since 1997), "*Proceedings of the Romanian Academy, Ser. B, Chemistry, Life Sciences and Geosciences*" (since 1999), and "*Studia Univ. Babes-Bolyai Ser. Chemia*" (since 1995); Member of the National Council of Validation of University Titles and Diplomas, since 1992, Member of the National Council of the Society of Romanian Chemists; Volunteer abstractor for "Chemical Abstracts", 1969-1990 and evaluator for *INTAS* European Program European since 2002.

As he mastered the foreign languages with high proficiency: English (fluently), French (fluently), Russian (fluently), German (well), and Italian (well), he was able to establish many scientific contacts with the international scientific community. He participated at many international scientific meetings and became an ambassador of the Romanian school of chemistry on the occasion of stages abroad in: *Germany* (Institute of Chemistry of the German - East - Academy, Berlin-Adlershof, Halle, Institut für Biochemie, visiting scientist, 1962; University of Heidelberg, visiting scientist, DAAD grant, 1993), *USA* (University of California Medical Center, San Francisco, Prof. Cymermann-Craig, and Palo Alto, California, Biochemical Laboratory of the Veterans Administration Hospital, visiting exchange scientist, 1968; University of Florida, Gainesville, 1994-95), *United Kingdom* (University of East Anglia, Norwich, TEMPUS grant, 1992), *France* (Université de la Méditerranée, Marseille, Prof. J. Barbe, visiting professor, 1995 and 1997) and *Sweden* (University of Lund, Electrochemical Biosensors Group, Dr Elisabeth Csöregi, visiting scientist, 1998).

Biographical notes are included in: *“Marquis Who’s Who in Science and Engineering”* 6<sup>th</sup> Edition, **2002-2003**; 7<sup>th</sup> Edition, **2003-2004**; *“Marquis Who’s Who in the World”* 21<sup>st</sup> Edition, **2004**; *“International Who’s Who of Intellectuals”* **2001**; *“International Dictionary of Distinguished Leadership”* **2002**; *“Who’s Who in Romania”* **2002**; *“The Contemporary Who’s Who”* 1<sup>st</sup> Edition, **2003**; *“2000 Outstanding Intellectuals of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”***2004**.

As a man of encyclopedic spirit, he was able to inter-relate knowledge from different scientific areas, literature, philosophy and arts. He was an excellent speaker and his discourses were always extremely pleasant for everybody in the audience (from students to academic staff). I. A. Silberg was an outstanding professor with passion for science and a man of great honor who remains in our souls as a model of academic devotion.

Editor-in-Chief  
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