

## *In Memoriam – One Year Later* *of Prof. Dr Vassil Vassilev, 1946-2009*



One year after the sudden death of Prof. Dr Vassil Vassilev he is still greatly missed by all of us, who were fortunate enough to have worked with and known him.

Prof. Dr Vassil Vassilev was the founder and one of the most active members of the Bulgarian Multiple Criteria Decision Making (MCDM) Society. He also was one of the founders of Engineering Cybernetics and Operations Research in Bulgaria. He founded, developed and headed the Decision Support Systems Department at IIT-BAS, which still is the only one of its kind in Bulgarian research society.

Prof. Vassil Vassilev was the initiator for creation of the journal “Cybernetics and Information Technologies” and proved to be the most active member of its Editorial Board.

For more than 25 years of research activity, Prof. Dr Vassil Vassilev was devoted to his work in the area of Multiple Criteria Decision Making. His research and tutorial work at IIT-BAS and some of the biggest universities in Bulgaria has created a scientific school that has conducted intensive scientific research in the area of MCDM. His team has achieved notable results in linear, nonlinear and discrete Multiple Criteria Decision Making. The unremitting work of Prof. Vassil Vassilev, the legacy of his teaching, the development of new methods of modified reference points and internal reference directions, as well as of classification-based and generalized scalarizing problems, earned him international acknowledgement and respect.

Prof. Vassil Vassilev authored more than 180 articles in international and Bulgarian journals and in the proceedings of international and local conferences, four patents and more than 200 quotations in international publications.

Prof. Vassil Vassilev created many research connections with prominent researchers in the field of MCDM from different countries. The most productive research partnerships were the ones with Prof. Subhash Narula from Virginia Commonwealth University in USA; Prof. Kaisa Miettinen, Prof. Pekka Korhonen and Prof. Jurki Wallenius from University of Javaskula and Helsinki School of Economics in Finland; and Prof. Francisco Ruiz and Prof. Mariano Lique from University of Malaga in Spain.

Our departed colleague Prof. Dr Vassil Vassilev, with his devoted work and profound scientific knowledge, developed IIT-BAS to a nationally and internationally recognized institution in the field of Information Technologies. He will be remembered as a gentle and generous person, an inspirational leader, a respected colleague and a reliable friend.

*Bulgarian MCDM Society*