Autobiography of IVAN GUTMAN



Ivan Gutman was born on September 2, 1947 in Sombor. His father Dr. Mirko Guttman was attorney-at-law, and his mother Katarina worked in the husband's office.

I. G. attended elementary school and high school (gymnasium) in Sombor. In the period 1966–1970 he studied chemistry at the Faculty of Science, University of Belgrade, and graduated in 1970 with an average mark 10.0. After that he worked a short time as Teaching Assistant at the Chemistry Department of the Faculty of Science in Belgrade.

Between 1971 and 1977 I. G. was member of the Theoretical Chemistry Group of the Department of Physical Chemistry of the "Ruder Bošković" Institute in Zagreb, where he was Research Assistant and Senior Research Assistant. In 1973 he obtained a M. Sc. degree at the University of Zagreb, in the area of theoretical organic chemistry. In the same year he obtained his Ph. D. degree in chemistry at the Faculty of Science, University of Zagreb, by defending a thesis entitled "Studies of Topological Properties of Conjugated Hydrocarbons". His supervisor was Nenad Trinajstić.

I. Gutman

Since 1977 I. G. is employed at the Faculty of Science, University of Kragujevac, responsible for teaching Physical Chemistry. He was Assistant Professor, Associate Professor, and – from 1984 – Full Professor. In 1990 he was elected Full Professor of Physical Chemistry at the Faculty of Physical Chemistry, University of Belgrade, but did not accept the position. In 1995 he habilitated at the József Attila University in Szeged (Hungary). Eventually – in 1996 – he was elected Full Professor in the Institute of Physical Chemistry of the same University, but did not accept the position.

I. G. held various courses in the field of physical, computer and theoretical chemistry. In addition to "Physical Chemistry", what he is teaching continuously since 1977, he taught the following courses: "Chemical Thermodynamics", "Quantum Chemistry and Molecular Structures", "Quantum Chemistry", "Elaboration of Experimental Data in Chemistry", "Informatics for Chemists", "Programming in Chemistry", "Computer Chemistry", "History of Chemistry", and "History and Philosophy of Chemistry". At the Faculty of Science in Kragujevac he organized a seminar "Mathematical Methods in Chemistry" that was continuously active between Spring 1981 and Spring 2006, and on which over 1000 seminars were held.

Since 1975 I. G. is member of the Mathematical Institute of the Serbian Academy of Sciences in Belgrade. In 1981 he obtained a Ph. D. degree in mathematics, at the Faculty of Electrical Engineering, University of Belgrade, by defending a thesis entitled "*Contribution to the Spectral Theory of Trees*". His supervisor was Dragoš Cvetković.

Since 1988 I. G. is member of the Serbian Academy of Sciences and Arts; full member is since 1997.

Since 2005 I. G. is member of the International Academy of Mathematical Chemistry.

Since 2006 I. G. is member of the Academy of Nonlinear Sciences (Moscow).

On several occasions I. G. stayed abroad as research fellow or visiting professor. Five times he was fellow of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, and worked at the Institute for Quantum Chemistry of the Free University in West Berlin (1977), at the Max–Planck–Institute for Radiation Chemistry in Mülheim, Germany (1980 and 1985), at the Institute for Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry, University of Freiburg, Germany (2000), at the Mathematical Institute, University of Bayreuth, Germany (2000), and at the Computer–Chemistry Center, University of Erlangen (2003). In 1988 he was at the University of Trondheim, Norway, as fellow of the Royal Norwegian Council for Scientific and Industrial Research. In 1989 and 1990 he was (on two occasions) at the Vanderbilt University, Nashville, USA, as a Fulbright fellow. In 1989 he was also fellow of the Japan Society for Promotion of Science, staying at the Ochanomizu University, Tokyo. In 1995 he was, as Lady Davis fellow, visiting professor at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Israel. In 1996 he was at the Institute of Advanced Studies of the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. In 1997, as fellow of the Third World Academy of Science, he was at the

University of Santa Clara, Cuba. In 1996 and 2001, as DAAD fellow, he stayed at the Technical University Ilmenau, Germany. He was visiting professor also at the Technical High School Ilmenau, DR Germany (1982), University of South Carolina, Columbia, USA (1983), Academia Sinica, Taipei, Taiwan (1992/93), József Attila University, Szeged, Hungary (1994–96), University of Montreal, Canada (1998), Johannes Kepler University, Linz, Austria (1999), Andean University, Mérida, Venezuela (2000), University of Bielefeld, Germany (2001 and 2002), University of Malta, Msida, Malta (2004), Nankai University, Tianjin, China (2005 and 2007), National Autonomous University of Mexico, Mexico City, Mexico (2006), Catholic University of the Nord, Antofagasta, Chile (2009). He also visited a number of other universities and research institutions and lectured on many of them.

I. G. is (+) or was (x) member of the editorial boards of "Journal of Mathematical Chemistry" (x), "MATCH Communications in Mathematical and in Computer Chemistry" (+,E), "Polycyclic Aromatic Compounds" (+), "Indian Journal of Chemistry A" (x), "Graph Theory Notes (New York)" (+), "Applicable Analysis and Discrete Mathematics (Belgrade)" (+), "Iranian Journal of Mathematical Chemistry" (+), "Journal of the Argentine Chemical Society" (+), "Gazi Universitesi Journal of Science" (+), "International Journal of Pure and Applied Mathematical Sciences" (x), "Global Journal of Mathematics and Mathematical Science" (x), "Journal of the Serbian Chemical Society" (+), "Bulletin of the Chemists and Technologists of Bosnia and Herzegovina" (+), "Hemijski Pregled" (+), "Dijalektika" (x), "Flogiston" (x), "Bulletin of Society of Mathematicians Banja Luka" (+), "Collection of Scientific Papers of the Faculty of Science Kragujevac" (x,E), "Kragujevac Journal of Mathematics" (+), "Kragujevac Journal of Science" (+,E). He is or was Editorin-Chief of the journals marked by "E". He is Editor of the book series "Mathematical Chemistry Monographs".

Since 1971 I. G. published over 1130 scientific papers and is author of a few books (published by Springer, Berlin 1977, 1986, 1988, and 1989, North Holland, Amsterdam 1988, Nova, Huntington, New York, 2001). His works are quoted over 20,000 times (in scientific papers by other authors), and in over 240 books and textbooks.

- I. G. is interested also in problems of teaching chemistry in elementary and secondary schools, as well as in history of natural sciences and mathematics. He published numerous articles and held scores of lectures on popular science.
- I. G. was awarded by the Cultural Council of Kragujevac (1980), the Meritorious Citizen award of the city of Kragujevac (2006), the annual award (for science) of the city of Kragujevac (2007), received the Vojislav K. Stojanović award of the Society of University Professors and Scientists of Serbia (1993), and medals (of various ranks) of the Serbian Chemical Society in 1987, 1997, and 2001. Together with Boris Furtula he was awarded by the Serbian Ministry of Science for the best scientific monograph in year 2010.

I. GUTMAN

Since 1972 he is married with Magda (1948), has a daughter Barbara (1974), and had a son Matija (1976–1999).