

PROF. DR. JOVAN LAZOVIĆ
(1931–2019)



Prof. Dr. Jovan Lazović

Prof. Dr. Jovan Lazović was born in Belgrade on May 22, 1931. He graduated in 1954 from the Astronomy Group at the Faculty of Sciences and Mathematics, University of Belgrade. For a short time he was a part-time professor of mathematics in the Shipping Secondary Technical School and the Precision Mechanics School in Belgrade. In 1957 he became a teaching assistant at the Department of Mechanics and Astronomy, Faculty of Sciences and Mathematics, University of Belgrade. He obtained his Ph.D. degree in astronomy from the same University in 1964, with the thesis entitled "Important characteristics of quasi-coplanar planetoids motion" (*Važnije osobnosti u kretanju kvazikomplanarnih planetoida*). He was elected Assistant Professor in 1967, Associate Professor in 1976, and Full Professor in 1982. As assistant he held exercises in General Astronomy, Position Astronomy, Theoretical Astronomy, and The

Theory and Practice of Numerical Calculus. As a professor, he taught undergraduate courses: Celestial Mechanics, Theory of Motion of Earth's Artificial Satellites, Spherical Astronomy, General Astronomy, and graduate courses: Major Planets Motion and Methods of Celestial Mechanics. He wrote a university textbook Basics of the Theory of Motion of Earth's Artificial Satellites (*Osnovi teorije kretanja Zemljinih veštačkih satelita*, Naučna knjiga, Belgrade, 1976). He retired on January 1, 1997.

The main area of his scientific work was celestial mechanics, specifically motion of minor planets and their proximities. He participated in scientific projects of the Institute for Astronomy, and in a number of domestic and international conferences. He published 32 scientific papers and 3 professional papers. He was the supervisor of several MSc and PhD theses, and served as a member or chairman of many committees for MSc and PhD theses approval and defence. He was also a member of University's or professional astronomical committees and organizations, such as the National Committee for Astronomy. Jovan Lazović was a member of the International Astronomical Union and its Commission 7 "Celestial Mechanics and Dynamical Astronomy". He participated in the calculation of ephemeris for the Yearbook of Our Sky (*Godišnjak našeg neba*) and was a member of the Editorial Board of the scholarly journal Publications of the Department of Astronomy, for which he led editing process and preparation for publication for 12 years (from No. 2, 1970, to No. 11, 1981). In 1992 this journal merged with Bulletin de l'Observatoire Astronomique de Belgrade to become Bulletin Astronomique de Belgrade, only to change its name in 1998 to Serbian Astronomical Journal. Prof. Jovan Lazović can therefore be regarded as one of our former Editorial Board members.

Prof. Lazović passed away on August 3, 2019, after a long illness. He will be dearly missed by his friends and colleagues from the Serbian astronomical community.