
In memoriam



EDITA JASINSKIENĖ
(April 10, 1917 – November 12, 2001)

Edita Rogalevičiūtė-Jasinskienė was born in Western Belarus, Dokshicy district, Antonov village. After crossing in 1926 the demarcation line between Lithuania and Poland, in 1937 she finished the state girls' school in Šiauliai and in 1938 entered the Department of Chemistry of the Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences of Vytautas Magnus University. Her graduation thesis carried out under the guidance of Prof. J. Matulis was defended at Vilnius University in 1943. The soviet power didn't recognize the high education received in Lithuania during the war, so after passing some additional exams in political sciences E. Jasinskienė in 1946 received also a soviet diploma of high education.

In 1944, E. Jasinskienė started her work at the Department of Inorganic Chemistry of Vilnius University as an assistant. Since 1947 she was a senior lecturer of the department, since 1963 – Associated Professor, since 1991 – Professor of the Department of Analytical Chemistry. At the Faculty of Chemistry Prof. E. Jasinskienė established training laboratories of inorganic synthesis and quantitative analysis.

She was among the first who in a high school of the former Soviet Union introduced modern methods of semimicroanalysis, delivered lectures on qualitative and quantitative analysis, specialized courses of inorganic chemistry, chromatographic analysis, physicochemical methods of analysis. Under the guidance of Prof. K. Jacimirkij she prepared and in 1958 at the Institute of Chemistry and Chemical Technology of Ivanov (Russia) defended a doctoral thesis degree in chemistry devoted to the investigations of complex compounds of chromium, iron and titanium with carbamide, supervised seven doctoral dissertations, published over 80 scientific papers, was the author or co-author of one textbook and six manuals.

Prof. E. Jasinskienė was the first in Lithuania to apply especially sensitive methods for determination of microquantities of metals and ions (silver, chromium, manganese, iodide) to meet the more and more strict industrial requirements. Together with her dissertants she investigated a four-component system in which an ion of interest catalysed a reaction of dye or colourless aromatic amine with an oxidising agent and the fourth component – aliphatic amine, a heterocyclic compound or another activating agent – increased the sensitivity of the method up to 1000 times. The proposed methods were applied for determination of impurities in nitric and sulphuric acids, in tap and mineral water, in salts of copper and cadmium, for determination of iodine in soil, water, forage, of silver in luminophors, in materials with a high content of copper, zinc and cadmium.

Almost 50 years of her life she devoted to Vilnius University. A honoured lecturer of Lithuania (1977), E. Jasinskienė was the first female professor in chemistry at the University. Almost 10 years she was a leader of scientific society of chemical students, was well known for her enthusiastic style of teaching, for the understanding of problems of students and younger colleagues; she was charming with her exuberant energy and with versatile talents. Only very few of high school teachers can enjoy such a love of the students and such a respect of the colleagues as she did.

Doc. Dr. Z. Mačionis
Prof. Habil. Dr. R. Kazlauskas