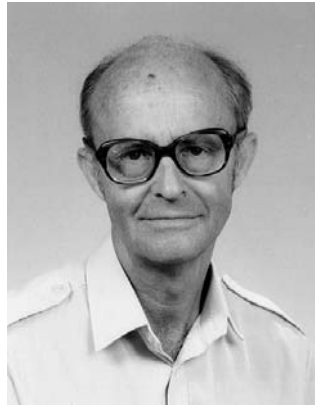


**CHRONICLE OF THE POLISH GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
KRONIKA POLSKIEGO TOWARZYSTWA GEOLOGICZNEGO**

**MILAN MIŠIK
(1928 – 2011)**



The beginning of May 2011 brought sad news from Slovak geologists in Bratislava about the passing away of Professor Milan Mišik, an eminent geologist working in the Carpathians. Scientific interests that gained him international recognition included microfacies studies of carbonate rocks. In Poland his studies on microfacies were for many years the base of such investigations not only in the Carpathians. Professor Mišik was the founder of the Slovakian school of petrography of sedimentary rocks. His papers on the analysis of exotics from Cretaceous and Palaeogene conglomerates had crucial meaning for palaeogeographic interpretations. Professor Mišik was a very active scientist undertaking research in diverse fields of geology. An author of over 200 scientific papers, he also devoted his activity to the popularization of geology in many different ways.

Ever since the beginning of his scientific career in the Carpathians, Professor Mišik had very close liaison with Polish geologists. He attended many annual meetings of the Polish Geological Society and other scientific gatherings focused on the geology of that area, particularly the Tatra and Pieniny Mts. Each of us could count on his kind assistance during our visits to Slovakia, both in scientific as well as lodging issues.

Close relationship of Professor Mišik with Polish geologists was expressed in granting him, on the motion of the Warsaw Branch of the Polish Geological Society, the title of the Honorary Member of the Polish Geological Society during its Annual Meeting in 2001.

Milan Mišik was born on the 3rd of November 1928 in Skalica, Sennica county. Later his life was linked with Bratislava. Here he graduated from secondary school and studied geology in the Faculty of Natural Science at the University. After graduation, he began his career at the University of Bratislava, first as an assistant (1951–1960), and later as a docent (1960–1970); in 1970 he was promoted to the rank of professor. Between 1966 and 1978, Professor Mišik was the head of the Geological Department; between 2002–2009, already as professor emeritus, he continued his cooperation with the department. His lectures and laboratories focused on the regional geology of the Carpathians, petrography of

sedimentary rocks, geotectonics, historical geology and stratigraphy. He supervised many dissertations and doctoral theses. He also had lectures abroad, in Cuba at the University of Havana (1963–1965) and in Algeria at the University of Constantine (1981–1983). In addition, he was an active participant of many international geological congresses and symposia.

The list of functions that Professor Mišik held in various scientific organizations and committees contains numerous positions. He actively worked e.g. in the Carpathian-Balkan Geological Association and International Association of Sedimentologists; he was the co-organizer of the International Geological Congress in Prague in 1968. Professor Mišik conducted numerous international projects, e.g. “Evolution of the northern margin of Thetys” and “Cretaceous and Palaeogene geodynamics of the Alpine-Carpathian-Pannonian region”. Particular significance on the development of scientific investigations had his extensive monographs such as e.g. “Microfacies of the Mesozoic and Tertiary limestones of the West Carpathians” (1966) reaching 269 pages or “Geologické exkursie po Slovensku”. A similar role played his textbooks, e.g. “Stratigrafická a historická geológia” edited in 1985.

Professor Milan Mišik was a modest, open and extremely friendly person, with stability of views on basic issues, which along with high scientific authority made him a very influential figure in the geological community and allowed him to bring up many generations of geologists in Slovakia, who nowadays belong to significant associates of the scientific world.

The very close relationships with Polish geologists were likewise with well-known and experienced scientists and young geologists just begging their adventure with Carpathian geology. The authors of this memoir clearly remember his endless assistance during the organization of the joint Polish-Slovakian television programme “Through the Carpathians” comprising over ten episodes and broadcasted in Polish and Slovak televisions.

We bid farewell to an eminent Carpathian geologist, a bosom and very close person.

Piotr Roniewicz and Andrzej Wierzbowski