Analele Universității din București. Informatică Vol. LXIII, p. 53-55 ISSN 3045-2392; e-ISSN 3045-2406

## Dorin LIXĂNDROIU<sup>1</sup>

## MAXIMAM REVERENTIAM MAGISTRO NOSTRO ION VĂDUVA

Professor Ion Văduva was a beacon of knowledge and a pioneer in the development of computer science in Romania. With a long and impressive career, Professor Ion Văduva left a huge footprint in the field of computer science. Graduated from the Faculty of Mathematics at the University of Bucharest, he developed scientific environment of a great value, having professors on academics: O. Onicescu, Gh. Mihoc, Gr.C. Moisil, M. Nicolescu, D. Barbilian, N. Teodorescu, V. Vâlcovici, Gh. Vrânceanu. By competition he obtained, in 1960, a position as a researcher at the Institute of Mathematics led by Acad. S. Stoilow, at the new department of Probability and Statistics. Here, under the permanent guidance of Acad. Octav Onicescu and Acad. Gheorghe Mihoc he gained a complex experience in the field of mathematical modeling and applications of mathematical statistics. In 1969, he received a Master of Science degree in "Automatic Computation" from the University of Manchester. In parallel with the didactic activity at the Faculty of Mathematics and Informatics of the University of Bucharest, Professor Ion Văduva had a primary role, for 33 years, as director of the Computing Center of the University of Bucharest (CCUB), being a significant

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landmark in the history of computer science in our country, through training many generations of computer scientists.

In 1972, the Bachelor of Mathematics-Informatics program was introduced in Romania in the universities of Bucharest, Brașov, Cluj-Napoca, Iași and Timișoara. After graduating from this program at the Transilvania University of Brasov, I had the great chance to pursue the fifth year of in-depth studies in Mathematics and Computer Science, supported at Braşov by the professors of the Faculty of Mathematics and Computer Science of the University of Bucharest. It was the meeting with Professor Ion Văduva, with his significant contributions in the field of modeling and simulation, which decisively marked my teaching and research trajectory and contributed to my professional affirmation. The summer schools of the University Computing Centers, the bimonthly Seminar on Modeling, Simulation and Statistical Calculations organized by Professor Ion Văduva, to which we participated with great interest, opened new horizons in computer science research. For many of us, students and PhD students, Professor Ion Văduva was a guide, a mentor and a friend. As PhD Coordinatorin computer science at the University of Bucharest, Professor Ion Văduva shared his wisdom and vast experience, always being open to discussions and questions, encouraging creativity and critical thinking. After completing the doctoral thesis in the field of system reliability modeling, I managed to introduce the Economic Decision Modeling course in the master's programs of economists students from the Faculty of Economic Sciences and Business Administration at Transilvania University of Braşov and the Economic Processes Modeling course at the level of the Bachelor program Management.

**Professor Ion Văduva** was an outstanding scientist, a strong personality, a leader and a devoted colleague. He worked tirelessly for the promotion and development of computer science in Romania and was a respected presence in the international academic community.

Dear Professor, your memory and impact will forever endure in our hearts.

All links were verified by the editors and found to be functioning before the publication of this text in 2024.

## **DECLARATION OF CONFLICTING INTERESTS**

The author declared no potential conflicts of interest with respect to the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article.

## **FUNDING**

The author received no financial support for the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article.