

Cristian MARINOIU¹

DR. ION VĂDUVA A RESPECTED PROFESSOR

Professor Ion Văduva was born on 25 November 1936 in Otesani, Vâlcea County. He attended the Horezu Gymnasium and the High School in Râmnicu-Vâlcea. He showed a talent for mathematics and enrolled in the Faculty of Mathematics and Physics at the University of Bucharest, graduating in 1960. In the same year, he passed a competitive exam to become research assistant at the Institute of Mathematics in Bucharest, Department of Probability and Statistics. Here, as a member in various projects, he consolidated his knowledge in mathematical modelling. In 1964 he was transferred to the Centre for Mathematical Statistics of the Academy, headed by Academician Gheorghe Mihoc, who supervised his doctoral thesis in 1968.

In 1969 he graduated in Automatic Computation at the U.M.I.S.T. (University of Manchester, Institute of Science and Technology), thanks to a scholarship offered by the Romanian government. This opportunity brought him closer to computer science, a field to which he contributed significantly.

In 1971 he became Associate Professor and PhD supervisor at the Faculty of Mathematics of the University of Bucharest (1971-1991 lecturer, then professor since 1991). He contributed to the curriculum of the new department of Computer Science, which was established in 1972 in all the mathematics faculties of the country. In this context, he developed and taught courses in computer science. For 40 years he has led the scientific seminar Stochastic Modelling and Simulation, which facilitated the

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exchange of ideas between specialists in the field and familiarized young participants with the required scientific standards.

Under his supervision, 63 doctoral students (23 from abroad) have completed their doctoral theses. A number of them have also joined the country's universities, forming or strengthening their research and teaching teams.

As Technical Director and then Director of the Computing Centre of the University of Bucharest (1970-1993), he facilitated the creation of a strong team of computer scientists, specialists in stochastic modelling and simulation, a field he initiated in the country. The computing center signed contracts with companies and research institutes and gave students access to the most advanced computing technology of the time.

He published 120 scientific papers and 22 books and textbooks. He was awarded the Simion Stoilov Prize of the Romanian Academy (1977) for his book *Computer simulation models*. He made numerous scientific communications at conferences in the country and abroad.

In recognition of his scientific work, he was invited as a visiting researcher to prestigious research institutes in Europe and was a member of the editorial boards of several professional journals in the country and abroad. In 2015, the University of Craiova awarded him the title of Doctor Honoris Causa in recognition of his outstanding scientific activity and his contribution to the development of computer science in Romania.

As a member of the Faculty Council, the University Senate and as Vice-Dean (2000-2004), he was involved in solving educational problems and was appreciated and respected by students and doctoral candidates for the clarity and passion with which he delivered his lectures, always lively and engaging.

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