

As the Life Went

To the jubilee of Docent MUDr. Dana Marešová, CSc.

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Career of our jubilee has been only apparently smooth and easy. It implied dutiful study, diligent work and looking for self-approach. Several times she met obstacles and difficulties, but she never lost her cheerfulness and fulfilled her duties with discretion and empathy. Her achievements came not only from bright observation but also from the realistic understanding of physiological processes. Her life is inseparable from her role of university teacher – she gives her students always more than the standard teaching.

Docent Marešová was born February 7, 1946 in Prague. After finishing the Middle school “Budějovická” she studied at the Faculty of General Medicine of the Charles University in Prague and graduated in 1970. Already as the student of the second year she started the voluntary work at the Institute of Physiology of the Faculty of General Medicine and later as the younger (with the scholarship of 120 Kc) and after passing exam in physiology as the older scientific assistant worker (monthly scholarship 200 Kc). She joined the group of Professor Jílek where she continued to work also after her graduation. At the beginning she studied humoral mechanisms of reaction and adaptation of the organism to hypoxia during development. Later she specialized at the functional (electrophysiological) effects of lack of oxygen during development with respect to seizure activity. Candidate dissertation “Rhythmic thalamo-cortical activity in rats during ontogeny” she defended in 1978. This specific aim she was faithful through



Figure 1 – Associate Professor Dana Marešová, MD., PhD., is giving her working life to the physiology.

the rest of her scientific carrier. She has published over 260 papers which have been over 80 times cited. She worked abroad, namely in France (1980 till 1981 in the Neurophysiological laboratory of Professor R. Naquet), in 1999 at University Aix-Marsellie II (Professor A. Nieoullon). She became docent (Associate Professor) of Medical Physiology in 1999. It was not only on the basis of her scientific achievements but also due to her extensive pedagogical activities, namely due to her contribution to textbooks for medical students. It is necessary to recall her co-authorship of the successful text for bachelors “Somatology” which was published in Eurolex Bohemia Publishing House. As the vice chairman for pedagogic of the Institute she constantly improves and innovates the organization of teaching of Physiology.

Scientific relations with her French colleagues and results of her own work brought Docent Marešová the position of the scientific secretary in the Organization Committee of Reunion Commune in 1990 and Reunion Annuelle in 1997 in Prague. Beside that she successfully served as the Execution Secretary of the Regional IUPS Congress in 1999 and in the same position of the European FEPS Congress. Along with her international organization activity she was elected into the Board of the Czechoslovak Physiological Society (scientific secretary 1987 till 1992) and Czech Physiological Society (1993 till 1996 as a member, 1997 till 1999 as the chairman of the Auditorial Committee, 1999 till 2001 as the scientific secretary). Her contribution to the activity of the Czechoslovak and later Czech Physiological Society was awarded in 1996 by the Medal of Laufberger and in 2001 she received the Honorary membership. Her achievements at the faculty were awarded in 1998 by the Faculty and University Medals to the 650th Anniversary of the foundation of the University.

Though the jubilee takes her pedagogical, scientific and organization duty very seriously, it is not her only pursuit. Every weekend she spends by gardening at her cottage or with her daughter's family at the country. She likes to attend concerts and she is a keen reader. Her co-workers highly esteem the privilege of her friendship and her permanent ability to advice, assist and help.