

LAUDATIO



## Prof. Peter G. Fedor-Freybergh, 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday

It is a great pleasure and also an honor that we address *Professor Peter G. Fedor-Freybergh, MD, PhD, DSc. Dr.h.c. mult.* on the occasion of his 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday. Professor Fedor-Freybergh, born on November 12<sup>th</sup>, 1936 in Bratislava. This amazing accomplished Physician and Scientist, is not only a marvel to all us, but above all, he is a loyal friend; fascinating discussant; a caring human being bearing abundant armfuls of lively advice, pleasure and amusement, whose good humor create joyous, pleasurable atmospheres.

It is delightful to share time with him and to discuss the most diverse topics which both parties are interested in. His life's wisdom and philosophy are rooted in his family, his education and his professional experience.

Let us to note – at least telegraphically – the profound milestones in his professional curriculum: Doctor of Medicine (1959); Doctor of Psychology (1965); Certificate in Psychiatry (1962 – all 3 from Comenius University in Bratislava); Certificate in Pedopsychiatry (1965) and PhD in Psychiatry (1967 – both from Charles University in Prague); Certificate, then Doctorate in Obstetrics and Gynecology (1977 Sweden); since 1968 appointments in Psychiatric Clinics in Austria, Switzerland, England and Sweden; Lecturer in Psycho-neuroendocrinology 1978 and in 1982 appointed the 1<sup>st</sup> University Professor in Europe in this field (University of Salzburg); in 1974, he read the Introductory Lecture *Psychotropic Action of Hormones* at the 1<sup>st</sup> World Congress of Biological Psychiatry in Buenos Aires which significantly contributed to the global development of this discipline in both educational and scientific fields. In 1978, Prof. Fedor-Freybergh founded and Edited the peer reviewed *International Journal of Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology and Medicine*; in 1986, he elevated the International Study-Group for Prenatal Psychology (ISPP) founded by Dr. Gustav Graber 1971 in Vienna, based on the Psychoanalysis-orientated Thinking in Prenatal Psychology to transform into the International Society of Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology & Medicine (ISPPM) expanding and integrating membership to Practitioners in all aspects of Pregnancy, Birth & Early Child Development; in 1988, he published in English and German languages the world's first textbook *Prenatal & Perinatal Psychology & Medicine: Encounter with the Unborn*; from 1983–1992, he served as Elected President of the International Society of Prenatal Psychology and Medicine and since 1992 as its Honorary Life President.

Professor Fedor-Freybergh has also a great merit in the development of the Psychosomatic Obstetrics and Gynecology. He developed many of the psychological tests and methods which are still in use in evaluation of fetal prenatal development and in the assessment of psychopathological phenomena in gynecological diseases.

In 1996, he won an audition for the post of Professor of Child Psychiatry at the 3rd Medical Faculty of Charles University in Prague which he held until 2004; in 1997, he was appointed as Visiting Professor at the Faculty of Health and Social Work, Trnava University, advancing in 2006 as the Head of the Department; in 2007, he became Director of the Institute of Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology, Medicine and Social Work at the University of Health and Social Work of St. Elisabeth University in Bratislava where he continues till today. In 2009, the Rector of the University granted Prof. Fedor-Freybergh the title of Professor of Prenatal and Perinatal Psychology and Medicine – the first such Professorship in the world.

Professor Fedor-Freybergh spent the first three years of his professional career at a Psychiatric Hospital near Bratislava, and later, joined the Psychiatric Clinic of the Medical Faculty of the Comenius University. Subsequently, he founded the Pedopsychiatric Department and took part in the program for Post Graduate Specialization in Pedopsychiatry in Slovakia. Since 1962, he began to publish *Pedopsychiatric Works* and his papers on Pediatric Autism and Pediatric Schizophrenia continue to be cited. In the years 1966–1970, he was the elected Secretary of the World Association for Child and Adolescent Psychiatry.

He is the Honoree as the Editor of four peer-reviewed international journals, one of which is also our journal *Activitas Nervosa Superior Rediviva*. This Journal was founded in 1959 as *Activitas Nervosa Superior* and was for many years the only Journal with an *impact factor* in the former Czechoslovakia. Since 1975, it is the Official Journal of the *Collegium Internationale Activitatis Nervosae Superioris* (CIANS). In 1990, the Journal changed its title and its position weakened. Thanks to his great experience and enthusiasm, in 2007, Professor Fedor-Freybergh started to publish the Journal under its original name. Since 2009 it is published as the *Activitas Nervosa Superior Rediviva*. The great effort of Professor Fedor-Freybergh helped to enlist the Journal into several important international databases. The Slovak Society for Higher Brain Functions SkMA (SSHBF SkMA) acknowledged this very important dedication by awarding Professor Fedor-Freybergh an Honorary Membership in the Society. His versatile international engagement reflected the Jubilant with many awards, medals and recognitions at home and abroad. The Slovak Medical Society awards him for this significant 80<sup>th</sup> Jubilee its highest honor – Honorary Membership of the Slovak Medical Society SkMA.

Dear Jubilant – Peter,

We joyfully acknowledge your hard work, dedication, versatility, empathy and goodwill, and above all, the unflinching efforts with which you *upload as free gifts* your knowledge and experience to the overall social practice. We wish you good health so that you can realize all your plans and desires, as well as peace and satisfaction in your personal life with your life partner Lili, you found in Sweden and without whom many of your accomplishments would not be possible. We ourselves wish that we could be with you for extended meetings to draw on your engagement, fortitude and friendship

With a deep respect,

*Fedor Jagla*

On behalf of the Editorial Board,  
Members of CIANS and SSHBF SkMA  
and your many friends and fellows

*Bratislava, November 12th, 2016*