



**Marin Dimitrov Mitov (1951–2011)**

This special issue of Bulgarian Journal of Physics is dedicated to the distinguished Bulgarian physicist, Assoc. Prof. Dr. Marin Dimitrov Mitov (1951–2011). It collects the scientific contributions of Bulgarian and Slovenian researchers, who took part in the Scientific Session “We remember Marin”, held on 9th of November, 2011 and organized by the Institute of Solid State Physics, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.

Assoc. Prof. Marin D. Mitov was born on February 10, 1951 in Assenovgrad. In 1969 Marin finished his secondary education in his native town. He earned his M.Sc. degree in atomic physics at the University of Sofia “St. Kliment Ohridski” in 1974. Since then until the end of his life he worked at the ISSP as Ph.D. student, Assistant and Associate Professor.

Assoc. Prof. Marin D. Mitov made substantial and internationally recognized scientific contribution in the field of condensed matter physics, namely the physics of thermotropic and lyotropic liquid crystals, biomembranes and model lipid membranes. He was one of the founders of the most advanced method for the measurement of the bending rigidity of lipid membranes based on the analysis

of the thermally induced shape fluctuations of quasispherical lipid vesicles.

Assoc. Prof. Marin D. Mitov was the Deputy Director of the Institute in the period 1995–1999 and the Head of the Laboratory “Liquid crystals” from 1996 until the end of his life. He was one of the pillars of French-Bulgarian Laboratory “Vesicles and membranes”.

Marin created the computer network of the Institute and till the end of his life he was actively involved in maintaining and improving it.

We miss him a lot. His sudden disappearance is a huge loss for the Bulgarian physical science and for us, his colleagues and friends.

*Assoc. Prof. Victoria Vitkova and  
Academician Alexander G. Petrov,  
Guest Editors*