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In memoriam

DR. DAN GABRIEL MANOLELI

(3rd of October 1942 – 26th of June 2010)

It was with great sadness that Ecological University of Bucharest announced the passing of Dan Gabriel Manoleli, professor and scientist, one of the best of his generation.

Professor Manoleli died on June 26, 2010, following eight months-long, valiant battle with a pulmonary cancer.

Born in 1942 in Râmnicu-Vâlcea, Vâlcea county, Romania, he studied biology at the University of Bucharest where he graduated in 1966. Then he specialized in zoology (M.Sc. degree in 1967) and systematics of Polichaeta and Hirudinea, receiving PhD in 1988.

For Dan Manoleli there were two very productive and creative periods in his scientific and educational career.

From 1967 and to 1989 he was dedicated to systematics and taxonomy, working on Black Sea, the Danube, the Danube Delta, rivers and springs of the Romanian Plain, developing a methodology of research and publishing almost 30 scientific papers. In this period he was employed at “Ioan Borcea” Station for Marine Research, Agigea, Constanța county and then, for 17 years, at “Grigore Antipa” National Museum of Natural History, Bucharest. Working in the museum, he was museographer and senior researcher, head of the Department of Invertebrate

Zoology, being implied in planning and coordinating the scientific activities, staff management, and scientific expeditions on the Danube and the Danube Delta in collaboration with the Romanian Geological Institute. For his scientific activity, it was a good opportunity to benefit a scholarship in Monaco, Oceanographic Institute, working with Jacques Yves Cousteau team.

At the middle of 1980s he became a Pioneer of the impact studies in Romania and conducted many such studies concerning the genetic fund conservation.

The second period began in 1990. Because of his scientific background and being a very known person in the field of biology and nature conservation Dan Manoleli was appointed a counselor in the Commission of Public Administration, Physical Planning and Ecological Equilibrium of the Parliament of Romania. At the same time he applied for a position of professor within the Department of Ecology, University of Bucharest. As a counselor he strongly contributed to the implementation of the legislation for environment protection, and he was a member of the Romanian team for the Rio de Janeiro Conference in 1992. As a teacher in the Department of Ecology he prepared courses on Principles of Ecology, Environmental Management, Sustainable Development and Introduction in Taxonomy, the last one as a natural follow-up of his previous experience.

In the University of Bucharest, Dan Manoleli established and coordinated a Center of Ecological Services for Impact Studies and Environmental Politics, strongly contributed to implementation the Bologna strategy in university, promoted ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) and the partnership with business sector and civil society. In the same time he was an associated professor at National School of Political and Administrative Studies.

In addition to the scholarly activities, throughout his career, Dan Manoleli participated in numerous activities of the Civil Society becoming one of its leaders. So, he founded and coordinated, as president, *The Society for Development of Civil Society*, was the President of International Association *Network of Black Sea NGOs* and Director of *Ecological Group of Collaboration*.

Dan Manoleli joined Ecological University of Bucharest in 2006, in a very difficult moment of his career, being browned-off the hostile conjuncture within department. The Ecological University gave Dan Manoleli a warm reception and in



a very short time he became a respected member of the academic staff. In the new position he lectured on Principles of taxonomy (the old love!) and Environmental Politics and also launched the program *National Biodiversity Strategy and Action Plan* – Romania, with GEF/UNDP support.

He was an author of, and contributor to scores of books and articles, and was acknowledged in many more texts written by others. As a nationally recognized expert in nature conservation Dan Manoleli was a frequent speaker in Romania and abroad, being invited at 25 international conferences.

He was invited professor at University of Braunschweig, University Aix en Provence-Marseille, University Aristoteles of Thessaloniki and University of Rennes.

Very dedicated to nature, loving its beauty from the beginning of his activity, Dan Manoleli as a real naturalist in the classic understanding, was fighting to promote the ecological principles of nature conservation. Perhaps the most long impact of Manoleli's work in nature conservation was the development of national programmes such as *Romanian National Capacity Self Assessment for Global Environment Management; requirements of the UN Convention on Biological Diversity*.

Professor Manoleli was a dedicated teacher, talented scientific researcher and supportive student mentor, his personal warmth, his love of the classroom and his ability to connect with students was remarkable. He was an esteemed and loyal colleague whose love of teaching and desire to be on the cutting edge of accounting theory and practice made him a leading expert in Romania and abroad.

Dan Manoleli impressed people with his charming, affable and friendly personality, being an excellent diplomat and often easily solved problems in the scientific teams or civil society organizations. Dan Manoleli always put the needs of collaborators and those of his students above his own. He was always there to listen and never turned away anyone who was in need of his advice, assistance, expertise or even his financial help.

As a chair he provided invaluable leadership and vision. As a professor and researcher his energy, creativity and success is surpassed by none. As a mentor he paved a path of success for those of us here and those that have moved on. As a colleague he provided constant support and encouragement. We mourn the loss of a most amazing researcher, professor, mentor, colleague and above all our friend.

The environment research community and civil society recently lost a wonderful leader, colleague and mentor when Dan Manoleli passed away in June 2010.

NICOLAE GĂLDEAN

Selected publications

1969 - Contributions à l'étude de la dynamique des polychètes du littoral roumain de la Mer Noire devant la Station de Recherches Marines d'Agigea. *Lucr. Stat. Cerc. mar.* „Prof. Ioan Borcea“, Agigea, 3:77-85.

1970 - Quelques données concernant l'hydremie et la teneur en ions de K, Na, Ca et Mg chez quatre espèces de Polychètes du Lac Belona (Roumanie). *Trav. Mus. Hist. nat.* „Grigore Antipa“, 10: 33-41.

1971 - Contribution à la connaissance de la faune du Lac Belona (Eforie Nord, Mer Noire) avec références spéciales à certaines hydrozoaires (Leptolida). Trav. Mus. Hist. nat. „Grigore Antipa“, 11: 25-31. (M. Guțu & D. Manoleli)

1972 - Contributions concernant la systématique et la distribution du genre *Erpobdella* de Blainville 1818 (Hirudinea, Erpobdellidae) en Roumanie. Trav. Mus. Hist. nat. „Grigore Antipa“, 12: 39-44.

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1973 - Contribution à la connaissance de la faune de Polychètes des fonds à Phyllophora du littoral roumain de la Mer Noire. Rapp. Comm. int. Mer Médit., 22 (4): 75.

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1974 - Contributions to the knowledge of the Hirudinea from the eastern Romanian Plain and from the Monts of Vrancea. Trav. Mus. Hist. nat. „Grigore Antipa“, 14: 79-83.

1974 - Considerations sur le rôle des algues dans la nourriture des Polychètes reliques ponto - caspiens du Danube. Trav. Mus. Hist. nat. „Grigore Antipa“, 15: 23-30. (L. Gruia & D. Manoleli)

1975 - On the biology, distributions and origin of Polychaetes from the Danube and the Danube Delta. Trav. Mus. Hist. nat. „Grigore Antipa“, 16: 25-33.

1975 - Betrachtungen über den einfluss des Donau Aestuars auf die Verteilung und die Biomasse der Bodenfauna im St. Georg Arm. Wiss. Kurzreferate XVIII Arbeitstag. Intern. Arbeitsgem. Donauforsch, 2: 68-73. (D. Manoleli & T. Nalbant)

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1988 - Contribuții la studiul unor anelide (Polichete, Hirudinee) dulcicole și salmastre din Dobrogea și Câmpia Română. Rezumat al tezei de doctorat (summary of PhD Thesis), 24 pp. Universitatea București, Ministerul Învățământului.

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2005 - Les deficiences de la transposition des annexes de la Directive „Habitats” dans la Loi roumaine 462 / 2001. *Contribuții Botanice*, 40: 329-340. (I. F. Gheorghe, D. Manoleli, I. Biriş, S. Țopa–Stan)

2005 - Administrative Capacity Building in Prospective and New EU Member States. Reference Guide for Horizontal Integration. Eds. P. Goldschmidt, M. Darulova, T. Niculescu, A. Stemberger, Published by NISPAcee, Bratislava, 118 pp, ISBN 80-89013-22-8 (T. Niculescu, I. Lazareviciute, J. Franzke, S. Tragl, M. Darulova, V. Nakrosis, R. Vilpisauskas, D. Manoleli)

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Grants and projects

“Legislation for everybody”/1995/ “Saving, Restoring and Conservation of the Hedges”(1995), *“Network to Surveying of International Environment Convention Application”* (1996) in REC and Phare for NGOs Small Grants Programme – director

Identificarea și delimitarea Ecoregiunilor din România pentru aprecierea capacității de suport a ecosistemelor 1992 – 1994 – member of coordinating team

GEF, MOTT Foundation for *“Biodiversity Conservation in Romania”* and *“Energy Efficiency”* Projects 1993 – 1995 – consulting expert

“Implementing the Polluter Pays Principle” under the Center of Public Policy Program financed by Open Society Foundation 1999 – 2000 – director

“Remediu” (*“Enironmental Magazine”*) – A quarterly environmental Review financed by the Holland Government – director

“Delineation of the regulatory and control function of an administration from the economic one in natural capital management” under the Center of Public Policy Program, financed by the Open Society Foundation

“Public Central Administration as main actor in EU Accession Process” grant financed by Open Society Foundation 1997 – 1999 – director

“An European Module for Integrated environmental Field Activities”, in the SOCRATES Program, financed by the European Union, 55996 – IC – 2 – 1998 – 1 – RO – ERASMUS – EPS – 1, EM 1997 – 2000 – director

“Restructurarea și redimensionarea activităților ecologice pe teren în Universitatea din București”, Programul de Reformă a Învățământului Superior, Proiect # 228 / 1997 – 2001 finanțat de Banca Mondială – director

“Romanian Biodiversity Assesment” ID – R186 – 01 – 00085 USAID Project 2000 – 2001 – director

Dezvoltarea Durabilă Economică, Socială a Sectorului 3 din București Consiliul Sector 3, CESEC, Universitatea din București, 2001 – 2002 - director

Impact study concerning EU environmental acquis implementation in five industrial sectors in Romania, PHARE /RO / 9907 / 02 / 01 PAIS 2001-2002 – team coordinator

“Provisions for Nature Conservation in Romania” PHARE Project RO – 9907 B1-7 2002 – team coordinator

Inițiativă ambientală pentru Parcul IOR și Zona Fizicienilor – Râmnicu Sărat 4.3. Urban Proiect S.A. – CESEC, Universitatea din București, Contract de cercetare nr. 11085/2002 2002 – 2003 – director

Contribuții la emendarea metodologiei descrierii siturilor / habitatelor din Rețeaua Natura 2000 pentru evaluarea rapidă a Biodiversității în România (EMREN 2000), Proiect de cercetare 1093 / 2002, Contract CNCSIS nr.41022/25 2002 – 2004 – director

“Prioritisation of Measures for Agriculture and Rural Development to comply with EU Acquis” PHARE Project RO – 9907 – B2, 2003 – 2004 – project coordinator

Hellenic – Romanian Cooperation on Environmental Impact Assessment in a Transboundary Context PHARE 2003 Multicountry Programs *“Environment and Enlargement”*, nr. 374 747 / SUB /1 2004 – director

Building Advisory Capacities in the field of European integration: *“Administrative Capacity Building. In: Acceding and New EU Member States: HORIZONTAL INTEGRATION”*, 2nd Manual of Supporting Reform in Public Administration, 2003-2004

European Virtual Seminar on Sustainable Development (EVS), Open Universiteit Nederland – coordinator of Romanian team

Tehcnical Assistance for elaboration of the Environmental Cost Aessment and Investment Plan, Romania, EuropeAid/ 114905/D/SV/RO 2003 – 2005 and PHARE RO 0107.15.03 EPTISA Proeyctos Internationales S.A – senior expert

National Capacity Self – Assessment for Environment Global Management – Thematic Assessment UN Convention of Biological Diversity, UNDP/GEF Project ROM / 03 / G41 2004 – 2005 coordinator

Managementul Conservării Biodiversității, Project FF 022499 / 1999, World Bank / GEF, 2003-2004 – key expert

Technical Assistance for Environmental Cost Assessment and Investment Plan – Biodiversity PHARE Project RO.0107.15.03, 2003 – 2005 – director

Transnational Co-operation Projects Grant Agreement – Water Framework Directive, European Module EU SOCRATES Project, 31579 – IC – 1 – GR – ERASMUS – MODUC – 2/ 2003 University of Bucharest 2003 – 2005 – coordinator

Present and terminal Cretacic Biodiversity in the Hațeg County. Integrated approach of the Sustainable Development Project for Dinosaurus Geopark into Hațeg County. Research Project CNCSIS (Consiliul Național al Cercetării Științifice din Învățământul Superior), nr 1163/2004 2004 – 2006 – member of research team

The 3rd National Report on Implementation of Biodiversity Convention, Romania, UNDP/GEF Project PIMS 3456 - Activity 21, 2005 – coordinator

Implementation of Rio Conventions, (NCSA) National Capacity Self Assessment, UNDP/GEF Project ROM/03/G41 2005 – 2006 – coordinator

Review and Development of the Biodiversity Romanian Strategy and Action Plan within the framework of UNDP-GEF project “Support to alignment of NBSAP with CBD obligations and development of CHM” 2008-2009 – coordinator

Socio-economic and environmental impact assessment of conservation measures regarding the species and communitarian interest habitats – Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development – 2007-2008 expert

Strengthening Capacity to Integrate Environment and Natural Resource Management for Global Environmental Benefits GEF/UNDP PIMS 3069 Contract MSP 2008-2011 – general manager

Asistență tehnică pentru detalierea impactului asupra siturilor Natura 2000 generat de programul ISPA 2005/RO/16/P/PT/003/05 privind îmbunătățirea condițiilor de navigație pe Dunăre în sectorul Călărași-Brăila, 2009 – team leader