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**PROFESSOR MARCEL PÂRVU ON  
 OCCASION OF HIS 60<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY**

This year we have celebrated the 60<sup>th</sup> birthday of Prof. dr. Marcel PÂRVU, a representative personality of “Babeș-Bolyai” University in Cluj-Napoca and of the Mycology and Plant Pathology scientific community, who has managed to be equally an educator and a scientist through his well-known passion for teaching and research.

Born on 27<sup>th</sup> November 1955, he graduated from the Pedagogical High School in Râmnicu Vâlcea in 1975, holding a schoolteacher bachelor's degree. During the following four years he worked as a teacher at Horezu High School and the Pedagogical School in Râmnicu Vâlcea. In 1979 he became a student at the Faculty of Biology, Geography and Geology, Biology Department, at “Babeș-Bolyai” University in Cluj-Napoca, graduating in 1983 with a diploma of merit. Immediately after graduation, he began to teach Biology at “Petru Maior” High School in Gherla (Cluj county). In 1987 he started his university career in higher education as a teaching assistant at “Babeș-Bolyai” University – Faculty of Biology, Geography and Geology, Department of Biology. Here, in the heart of Transylvania, anchored in university life, he fulfilled the dream to be a constant support for the young students, having, over the years, the achievement to have mentored new generations of biologists. Between 1990 and 1993 he completed his doctoral studies within the same university and defended his PhD thesis, entitled “Morphological, physiological and biochemical study of some *Botrytis* species parasitic on ornamental plants in the Botanical Garden of Cluj-Napoca”, supervised by prof. dr. Ioan Pop. In 1994 he was promoted to assistant professor within the same department, and four years later he became associate professor at the Faculty of Biology and Geology. Subsequently he also benefited from two research fellowships abroad – in Viterbo (Italy) in 1994, and in Vienna (Austria) in 2000.

In 2013 he was awarded the certificate of habilitation by presenting a thesis entitled “Herbs and Fungi”, and thus obtained recognition as a PhD supervisor. His university career reached its peak in 2014, when he became a full professor at the Faculty of Biology and Geology.

The main scientific fields in which Prof. Marcel Pârvu is involved are Mycology, Plant Pathology, Botany, and more recently Phytotherapy. Currently, he teaches Systematic Botany, Mycology, Plant Pathology, Phytotherapy, and Mushroom Cultivation, and is involved in supervising students for their graduation, dissertation and PhD theses.

His scientific activity is reflected in the publication of six books as a single author, and over 100 scientific papers, of which 25 are in ISI journals and 35 are in journals indexed in different international databases. The impressive number of publications in scientific journals shows his constant concern about research of very different topics. His intensive scientific activity has been supported by numerous research projects that he has coordinated, as well as by his participation in scientific conferences, congresses and symposia in Romania and abroad.

The acknowledgement of Prof. Pârvu's prestigious activity, measured in so many achievements and human destinies shaped by his scientific and educational personality is doubled by the pride of those who know him and fondly wish him Many Happy Returns!

Oana ROȘCA-CASIAN