

društvene vijesti



Predstavljamo Vam ... Međunarodni izdavački savjet

Vladimir Katović

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Biografija

Dr. Vladimir Katović je rođen 19. prosinca 1935. u Bihaću. Otac mu je bio učitelj, koji je kao i većina hrvatskih nastavnika toga doba u Bosni bio premještan svake godine u drugo selo, tako da su se Katovići (desetero braće i sestara) rodili svaki u drugom mjestu. Nakon osnutka Banovine Hrvatske otac je premješten u Bihać, a 1940. godine u Zagreb. Dr. Katović je osnovnu školu i gimnaziju pohađao u Zagrebu. Maturirao je na Trećoj mješovitoj gimnaziji u Zagrebu, a diplomirao kemiju na Tehničkom fakultetu u Zagrebu 1962. godine. Nakon toga radio je na Institutu Ruđer Bošković u Odjelu za anorgansku kemiju u grupi profesora Drage Grdenića. Poslijediplomski studij završio je na Prirodoslovno-matematičkom fakultetu u Zagrebu pod vodstvom prof. Cirile Djordjević. Nakon povratka iz vojske obranio je doktorsku disertaciju pod naslovom: "Neki novi kompleksi niobija i tantala sa 2,2'-dipiridilom" na Prirodoslovno-matematičkom fakultetu u Zagrebu.

Od 1963. godine asistent je na Zavodu za analitičku kemiju PMF-a. Poslijedoktorsku specijalizaciju od 1967. do 1970. godine proveo je u Sjedinjenim Američkim Državama na Ohio State University, kod prof. Daryl H. Bush-a. Financijsku potporu za specijalizaciju dobio je od Fulbrightove fondacije (SAD) i Ohio State University. Nakon povratka sa specijalizacije 1970. godine promoviran je za docenta, a 1977. godine za izvanrednog profesora na PMF-u u Zagrebu. Nakon povratka sa specijalizacije na Zavod za analitičku kemiju PMF-a organizira predavanja i praktikum novog kolegija Instrumentalne metode analize. Školske godine 1973. – 1974. izabran je za pročelnika Kemijskog odjela PMF-a, a u razdoblju između 1974. i 1977. bio je nekoliko puta "visiting research associate" na Iowa State University kod prof. R. E. McCarleya. Od 1978. je izvanredni, a 1991. redovni profesor na Wright State University, Dayton, OH.

Četrdesetak publikacija pokazuje da znanstveni rad dr. Katovića spada u područje anorganske kemije i elektrokemije. Početak znanstvenog rada obuhvaća istraživanja kompleksnih spojeva niobija i tantala. Kasnije tijekom specijalizacije na Ohio State University dr. Katović radi na templatnim efektima iona prijelaznih metala, kompleksima metala s makrocikličkim ligandima te na modelnim sustavima za studij vezanja molekularnog kisika u hemoglobinu. Kasnije je taj rad proširen na upotrebu metalnih iona kao templatna za sintezu makrocikličkih i policikličkih klatrokelatnih liganda te na istraživanja elektrokemijskih i oksidacijsko-redukcijskih svojstava kompleksa s makrocikličkim ligandima, koji su modeli za biološke sustave.

Na Wright State University radi na sintezi i karakterizaciji spojeva s višestrukom metal-metal vezom, koji su potencijalni katalizatori te na istraživanju elektrokemijskih, redoks i elektrokatalitičkih svojstava "metal-cluster" spojeva. Najzapaženiji radovi iz tog područja odnose se na sintezu prvog metalnog klustera koji sadrži četverostruku heterometalnu metal-metal vezu između molibdena i volframa. Znanstveni radovi dr. Katovića publicirani su u vodećim znanstvenim kemij-

Curriculum Vitae

Dr Vladimir Katović was born on December 19th 1935 in Bihać. His father was a teacher who had been, like the majority of Croatian teachers in Bosnia, transferred every year to some other village, so the Katović children (10 brothers and sisters) had been born each in different place. After establishing of the Banovina Hrvatska, father was transferred to Bihać and in 1940 to Zagreb. Dr Katović finished elementary school and secondary school in Zagreb and graduated chemistry on Technical Faculty of the University of Zagreb. After graduating, he worked at the Ruđer Bošković Institute at the Department of Anorganic Chemistry in the professor Grdenić group. Graduate studies were finished at the Faculty of Natural and Mathematical Sciences in Zagreb with professor Cirle Đorđević as a supervisor. After returning from serving the army, he defended his doctoral thesis "Some New Complexes of Niobium and Tantalum with 2,2'-dipyridil" at the Faculty of Natural and Mathematical Sciences in Zagreb.

From 1963 he is an assistant at the Department for Analytical Chemistry at the Faculty of Natural and Mathematical Sciences. He spent his postdoctoral specialization in USA at Ohio State University with professor Daryl H. Bush from 1967 to 1970. Financial support was given by Fulbright Foundation and by Ohio State University. After returning from specialization, he was promoted to assistant professor and in 1977 to associate professor at the Faculty of Natural and Mathematical Sciences. After returning from specialization, he organized, at the Department for Analytical Chemistry, new course and practicum "Instrumental Methods of Analysis". In academic year 1973–4 he was elected for a provost at the Department of Chemistry at the Faculty of Natural and Mathematical Sciences and in the period of 1974–7 he was several times "visiting research associate" at the Iowa State University at professor R. E. McCarley. From 1978 he was associate professor and from 1991 professor at the Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio.

About forty publications show that scientific work of Dr Katović belongs to anorganic chemistry and electrochemistry. The beginning of scientific work was concerned with research on complex compounds of niobium and tantalum. During specialization at the Ohio State University he works on template effects of ions of the transition metals, complexes of metals and macrocyclic ligands and on model systems for the study of molecular oxygen bonding in hemoglobin. This work was expanded afterwards on using of metallic ions as templates for macrocyclic and polycyclic clatrochelate ligands and on research of electrochemical and oxidation-reduction properties of complexes with macrocyclic ligands which are models for biological systems.

At the Wright State University he works on synthesis and the characterization of compounds with multi metal-metal bond which are potential catalysts and on research of electrochemical, redox and electrocatalytic properties of "metal-cluster" compounds. The most distinguished works from that period are about synthesis of the first metal

skim časopisima te su citirani ne samo u literaturnim preglednim člancima iz odgovarajućeg područja već i u osnovnim udžbenicima anorganske kemije. Dr. Katović je jedan od rijetkih profesora na američkim sveučilištima, koji je svoju cjelokupno školovanje od osnovne škole do disertacije stekao u Hrvatskoj.

Doprinos domovini dr. Katovića očitovao se u materijalnom i propagandnom pogledu. Godine 1982. tadašnja je komunistička vlast u Hrvatskoj sramotno uskratila novac za stručne i znanstvene časopise. Ovaj literaturni prekid i udarac uspješno je neutralizirao dr. Katović svojom sposobnošću i požrtvovnošću. U SAD-u i Kanadi organizirao je velik broj svojih kolega znanstvenika i profesora koji su radili diljem Sjedinjenih Država i Kanade i njihovom pomoću organizirao donaciju znanstvene biblioteke iz Dayton (koja je sadržala oko 12000 knjiga ukupne mase od oko 18 tona) na zagrebačko Sveučilište. Ta akcija bila je jedan od prvih primjera udruživanja hrvatskih sveučilištaraca koji su emigrirali u SAD i Kanadu, tako da su već u samom početku domovinskog rata bili organizirani i spremni da pomognu svojoj domovini. Za tu svoju djelatnost dobio je 1998. godine počasnu medalju Sveučilišta u Zagrebu i nagradu Kemijsko tehnološkog fakulteta Sveučilišta u Zagrebu.

U promidžbenom pogledu djelatnost dr. Katovića bila je izuzetno dragocjena. Godine 1989. bio je jedan od osnivača organizacije hrvatskih sveučilištaraca u SAD-u i Kanadi, Alma Matris Alumna Croaticae (AMAC) a od 1990. do danas predsjednik je AMAC-ovog ogranka Ruđer Bošković, u kojem je okupljen velik broj bivših suradnika Instituta Ruđer Bošković. Tijekom domovinskog rata dr. Katović, u sklopu AMACA, organizirao je grupu hrvatskih sveučilištaraca, koji su se suprotstavili snažnom srpskom lobiju u SAD-u. (Tu "borbu" lijepo je opisao novinar Večernjeg lista i član AMAC-a dr. Vladimir Goss u svojoj knjizi "Washingtonska fronta").

Iako je otišao u SAD prije dvadeset godina, dr. Katović se redovno vraća svake godine u Hrvatsku, gdje provodi svake godine dva do tri mjeseca surađujući sa svojim bivšim institucijama Institutom Ruđer Bošković i Prirodoslovno-matematičkim fakultetom. Godine 1994. u organizaciji Hrvatske ambasade u Washingtonu dr. Katović je proveo osam mjeseci na svojem "bivšem" fakultetu (PMF) i Institutu Ruđer Bošković kao "visiting professor".

Tijekom Daytonskih pregovora dr. Katović kao najpoznatiji Hrvat iz Daytonskog kraja bio je "stalni" gost u TV emisijama i novinskim reportažama u kojima je prenosio istinu o Hrvatskoj.

cluster which contains quadruple heterometal metal-metal bond among molybdenum and tungsten. Scientific papers of Dr. Katović are published in leading chemistry journals and are cited not only in review articles from corresponding areas but also in basic textbooks of inorganic chemistry. Dr. Katović is among rare professors on American universities who finished all his education, from elementary school to doctoral dissertation, in Croatia.

Contribution of Dr. Katović to his homeland can be seen in a material way and in propaganda. In 1982, the communist government shamefully cut financial support for scientific and professional journals. This cut was successfully neutralized by Dr. Katović with his skills and sacrifice. He organized in USA and Canada the help of the great number of his colleagues from these countries in organizing the donation of a scientific library from Dayton (which contained about 12000 books with the mass of about 18 tons) for University of Zagreb. This action was one of the first examples of uniting the Croatian university-educated people who emigrated to USA and Canada, so they have been already organized at the beginning of Homeland war and ready to help. For this activity, he was awarded Medal of honor of the University of Zagreb and the Award of Faculty of Chemical Engineering of the University of Zagreb.

Propaganda activities of Dr. Katović were very valuable. In 1989 he was one of the founders of Croatian university-educated people who live in USA and Canada, Alma Matris Alumna Croaticae (AMAC) and from 1990 until today he has been the president of AMAC's branch "Ruđer Bošković" which unites a large number of ex workers of the Institute Ruđer Bošković. During the Homeland war in Croatia, he organized Croatian university-educated people who then confronted the strong Serbian lobby in USA. (This "battle" has been nicely described by the journalist of Večernji list Vladimir Goss who is also a member of AMAC, in his book "Washington front").

Though he left for USA twenty years ago, Dr. Katović regularly comes to Croatia every year where he spends two to three months in cooperation with his ex-institutions, the Institute Ruđer Bošković and Faculty of Natural and Mathematical Sciences. In 1994, through the organization of Croatian Embassy in Washington, he spent eight months at his ex-faculty (Faculty of Natural and Mathematical Sciences) and at the Institute Ruđer Bošković as a "visiting professor".

During Dayton negotiations, Dr. Katović was, as the most famous Croatian from Dayton, regular guest in TV shows and newspapers in which he reported the truth about Croatia.

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