

TO THE 80TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF MYKHAILO MYKOLAYOVYCH BRATYCHAK (MICHAEL BRATYCHAK) (1946–2023)

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The name of **Michael Bratychak** is forever inscribed in the history of Ukrainian science as that of a scholar who not only generated knowledge but also shaped entire scientific fields, institutions, and generations of researchers. A Doctor of Chemical Sciences, Professor, Honored Science and Technology Figure of Ukraine, and long-time Chair of the Department of Chemical

Technology of Oil and Gas Processing at Lviv Polytechnic National University, he was one of the key figures in Ukrainian petrochemical and polymer science in the second half of the 20th and the early 21st centuries.

Michael Bratychak's scientific career exemplified the successful integration of fundamental chemistry with the practical needs of industry. His research on the synthesis of mono- and oligoinitiators, peroxide and functional derivatives of epoxy resins, azodinitrile compounds, and polymeric materials based on them laid solid theoretical and applied foundations for the development of new materials for petrochemistry, energy, mechanical engineering, and road construction. Many of these developments were implemented in industrial production, a rare and compelling indicator of the depth and practical significance of his scientific work.

Professor Bratychak's scientific output is remarkable in both scope and impact. He authored more **than 850 scientific publications, including monographs, textbooks, and teaching manuals, and held dozens of patents and copyright certificates**, including international ones. A distinctive and particularly valuable part of his legacy is a series of **four-language professional dictionaries**, which became a cornerstone for the standardization of scientific terminology in petrochemistry and polymer science and an important instrument for integrating Ukrainian research into the global academic community.

Equally significant was Michael Bratychak's **organizational and editorial activity**. As the founder and long-time Editor-in-Chief of the international English-language journal *Chemistry & Chemical Technology*, he established an effective platform for presenting Ukrainian chemical research to the world. Under his leadership, the journal gained international recognition and was indexed

in major scientific abstract and citation databases, including Scopus and Web of Science, thereby enhancing the visibility and credibility of Ukrainian science on the global stage.

Professor Bratychak's contribution to **education and the formation of a scientific school** was no less profound. Under his supervision, **20 PhD and 3 ScD dissertations** were successfully defended. Thousands of students passed through his school, learning not only chemistry but also precision of thought, rigor in results, and responsibility for the scientific world. He taught not merely knowledge, but the culture of scientific work—systematic thinking, discipline, and respect for truth.

The life of Michael Bratychak stands as an example of lifelong service to science across several historical eras, marked by a steadfast commitment to academic values during times of change and challenge. He left behind not only books, formulas, and technologies, but also **a living scientific school** that continues in the work of his students and followers.

On the occasion of **the 80th anniversary of his birth**, we remember Michael Bratychak with deep respect – as a scientist of European stature, a teacher of high intellectual culture, and a man whose work became an integral part of the intellectual foundation of modern Ukraine.