

The year 2008 is a jubilee for the University of Belgrade, as it is 200 years since the first college was founded in Belgrade. This year is also a jubilee for the Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy, which celebrates 60 years since the Department of Technology at the Technical Faculty became an independent faculty carrying the present name. In this period, the Faculty has educated more than 9600 engineers and granted about 930 Master of Science degrees and over 560 doctorates in the areas of technology and metallurgy. Faculty graduates are successfully employed in different sectors of the petrochemical, chemical, and pharmaceutical industry as well as in metallurgical companies at different management levels - from process engineers to chief executives. They also find jobs in consulting companies, commerce as well as in research institutes. The diploma of the Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy is internationally recognized.

Following current European trends in education, the Faculty has modernized and reformed its curricula according to Bologna principals. New study programs are offered at all three levels of academic education, bachelor, master and doctorate, and include majors in chemical engineering, environmental engineering, materials engineering, biotechnology and biochemical engineering, metallurgy, and textile engineering. At the doctorate level, the Faculty also offers a degree in chemistry. The duration of study programs is four years for the bachelor, one year for the master and three years for doctorate studies with the exception of the program in textile engineering, which is organized as three plus two plus three years, respectively. It is expected that the new, reformed programs will increase the efficiency of studies, promote international student exchange, and also produce expert engineers with specific knowledge suited to particular needs of the industry.

In addition to higher education as its primary mission, the Faculty has also been active in establishing effective collaborations with industry as well as in developing broad and innovative scientific research. In the 1960-1980-ies, the Faculty was an active partner of manufacturing companies in the development of new products and processes, quality control and environmental protection. However, the 1990-ies brought economic crises and a collapse of the majority of chemical companies in Serbia. This situation also had its effect on the Faculty, which practically lost all of its partners in this area. The Faculty is slowly reestablishing its relations with industry. The 60th anniversary will be an occasion to form a business association of the Faculty, which will gather all partners from business and industry interested in strengthening the bond with the Faculty.



Scientific research is the third area in which the Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy is active and in which it has reached a superior position compared to the other technical faculties at the University of Belgrade, over the last decade. The Faculty has developed fundamental as well as applied research funded in the frames of national as well as international scientific projects. In addition to a variety of subjects in chemical, biochemical, materials, metallurgical, and environmental engineering, the Faculty is also known for its results in chemistry. Furthermore, the Faculty is continually developing new research areas such as nanotechnology and biomedical engineering.

Finally, the overall activity in the areas of education, collaboration with industry, and scientific research, has placed the Faculty of Technology and Metallurgy as one of the main promoters of environmental protection and sustainable development in Serbia. These principals have only recently attracted domestic public attention and have been established as guidelines for the future development of Serbian society. In this respect, the Faculty will have a leading role in providing engineers who will be able to solve environmental problems, but also in assisting industry to develop new, cleaner, and sustainable processes as well as in educating and raising public awareness of the impacts of society on the environment.

The mission of the Faculty will be highlighted during the conference „Cleaner Technologies and New Materials - The Path to Sustainable Development“ to be held at the Faculty on November 27-28, 2008. Some of the papers presented at the meeting are published in this issue of Volume 14 of Chemical Industry & Chemical Engineering Quarterly, reflecting the traditionally strong ties between the Faculty and the Association of Chemical Engineers.

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