

## In Memoriam



### Evgeni Budevski (1922-2008)

On October 13, 2008, the electrochemical community lost one of its brightest stars in the passing of **EVGENI BUDEVSKI**, a respected academician and founder of the Bulgarian School of Electrochemistry. Born in 1922, Evgeni Budevski graduated from University of Sofia, "St. Kliment Ohridski" in 1949 with a

degree in chemistry. He stayed with the Faculty of Chemistry of his *alma mater* as an assistant and later senior lecturer in physical chemistry. Evgeni Budevski received his PhD degree in 1958 and in 1959 was appointed as head of a research group in the Institute of Physical Chemistry at the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. In 1964, Evgeni Budevski was promoted to full professor. He was co-founder of the Central Laboratory of Electrochemical Power Sources (presently the Institute of Electrochemistry and Energy Systems) that was established in 1967 and thrived under his leadership for the next 25 years. In 1984, he was elected as a Correspondent Member and in 1995 he received the highest recognition as an Academician (full member) of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences.

Among the many contributions of Prof. Budevski one stands: The original capillary method for electrochemical growth of mono-crystalline metallic phases. This method remains, to this day, the only way to grow perfectly epitaxial metal deposits with a thickness in the millimeter range. Allowing for the deposition of dislocation-free single crystal faces, the capillary method became the ideal testing vehicle for confirmation of the 2D crystal growth theory proposed by Ivan Stranski and Rostislav Kaishev. Capillary deposition protocols were also used for the quantitative validation of Frank's theory of growth by screw dislocations and for assessment of the surface morphology impact on a variety of double layer and adsorption-related phenomena. Prof. Budevski's drive for knowledge and discovery also emphasized vigorous research and design of electrochemical power sources as well as remarkable activity in a variety of hydrogen energy-related projects. Even after his "retirement" from the leadership of the Central Laboratory of Electrochemical Power Sources, Prof. Budevski inspired a new wave in leading nanotechnology programs in Bulgaria. His outstanding results and findings were disseminated in more than 150 publications and disclosed in 40 patents.

In recognition of his achievements, Evgeni Budevski received prestigious national and international awards: the State Award "Georgi Dimitrov" (the highest prize in Bulgaria at that time), the Electrodeposition Division Research Award of ECS, and the Medal, "Marin Drinov" of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences. He served as Vice-President of the International Society for Electrochemistry, (1974-1978), as a member of the IUPAC Committee of Electrochemistry (1980-1987), and as a Foreign Member of the Saxon Academy of Sciences (1974). Prof. Budevski served as an editorial board member of *Electrochimica Acta*, the *Journal of Applied Electrochemistry*, and the *Journal of Power Sources*, and was a member of Advisory Committees to the President of the Republic of Bulgaria and of the UNESCO-ROSTE Committee for Europe on Energy Storage and Saving.

Prof. Evgeni Budevski will remain in the memory of all who knew him, as a role model of a passionate researcher, unsurpassed motivator, and open-minded teacher. His deeply personal excitement about science stayed unaffected by the burden of time. No one could guess his age after talking to him in person. He was so full of energy and ideas until the very last days of his life. Prof. Budevski's leadership not only guaranteed the intellectual support for fostering electrochemistry in Bulgaria but also motivated the establishment of a school of disciples that created a number of worldwide respected scientists and engineers. This school is the living legacy of Evgeni Budevski and it will endure, invoking appreciation and carrying the torch of physical electrochemistry for the future generations. ■

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**Ed. Note:** A symposium, sponsored by the ECS Electrodeposition Division, entitled, "Fundamentals of Electrochemical Growth: From UPD to Microstructures – Symposium in Memory of Prof. Evgeni Budevski," will be held at the ECS meeting in Vienna, Austria, October 4-9, 2009 (<http://www.electrochem.org/meetings/biannual/216/216.htm>).