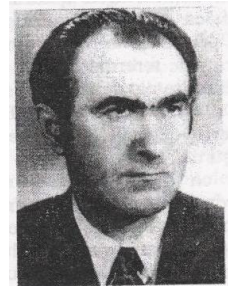


## OUR COLLEAGUE – PROFESSOR AUREL RUSU CELEBRATED HIS 95<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

A great character of the Romanian geodetic and forestry higher education, a leading figure of the fields of Geodesy, Land Surveying, Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing in Romania celebrated 95 years of life.

Professor Aurel RUSU is born on June 9, 1917 in Bărboși village, Mureș County, being the 12th child of the family Andrei Rusu, a school teacher. Inheriting from his parents vigor and longevity, he develops not only cultural values such as discipline, hard work, love, and respect for the others but also strength, tidiness, and high moral values.



He pursues primary and secondary school in Turda town and obtains his baccalaureate diploma in Cluj. Following his passion for woods, he studies at the Faculty of Forestry of the Polytechnic Institute of Bucharest between 1935 and 1940. A year later, in 1941, he obtains a second engineering degree with specialization in Cadastre and Geodesy from the Faculty of Geodesy of the same Institute.

Following graduation, he starts his professional career at the Institute of Aero-photogrammetry of Bucharest. Between 1941 and 1946, he conducts field work, research and teaching activities in the fields of forestry and terrestrial measurements. During the war, he actively participates in the Caucasus Front operations as photogrammetric specialist. In 1942, as Head of the Photogrammetry Service, he coordinates stereo-restitution and ortho-photographic imagery works at scales of 1:2000 and 1:5000 for many parts of the country. He also writes his first book entitled „Photogrammetric methods in Cadastre”.

In 1946, he is transferred at the National Cadastre Agency and receives the task to establish the National Institute of Photogrammetry. Until the Institute becomes operational, he works at the Geodesy Division, as geodetic and cadastre specialist, participating in many complex geodetic works.

In parallel with his professional activity, he builds an academic career working as professor at the Technical School of Cadastre and Photogrammetric Operators (1943-1945), and as a university instructor for the Photogrammetry course offered by the Faculty of Civil Engineering of the Polytechnic Institute of Bucharest.

Already a distinguished professional, he is appointed professor in Geodesy, Land Surveying and Photogrammetry on January 1, 1949 – at the age of 32 years old – at the Faculty of Forestry of the University of Brasov, which was founded a year earlier. Here, he will continue working until his retirement in 1983, and in 1991, he becomes a consulting professor. Although after 1949, he focuses on teaching and scientific activities, Professor Aurel RUSU have continued to be involved in various practical surveying and photogrammetric works. He is permanently consulted and offers technical expertise by providing new ideas, methods and solutions to many engineering problems.

As a university professor, he holds a prestigious and long activity, establishing himself as a renowned personality with outstanding merits in the academic community of the University of Brasov by training and guiding many generations of forestry and land surveying professionals. He becomes a founder, leader and mentor creating a group of teachers and researchers who continue his legacy of Geodesy and Photogrammetry education with special applications in the field of Forestry.

In 1972, Professor Aurel RUSU successfully defends his PhD thesis in entitled “Research on the objectification of photo-interpretation in Forestry”, a novelty at the time, under the supervision of Professor Nicolae RUCĂREANU. He receives full recognition in 1976 when he is awarded PhD supervisor in the field of Land Surveying and Photogrammetry. Besides his teaching and scientific activity, he conducts extensive applied research activity. Based on various contracts, he publishes numerous scientific reports, industry standards, and guidelines for applying new techniques or new technologies.

Professor Aurel RUSU has been a remarkable faculty member by accomplishing his teaching duties. His students highly praised the scientific rigor and exquisite quality of his lectures. In addition, his pedagogical work also counts 16 monographs and university textbooks. Furthermore, his scientific activity includes more than 90 articles published in peer-reviewed journals and national as well international conference proceedings.

During his entire career, he fulfills consciously and rigorously his administrative duties and responsibilities as head of department, dean, member in the Scientific Council of the Faculty and the University Senate.

In 1991, Professor Aurel RUSU is elected corresponding member and in 1994 full member of the Romanian Academy of Agricultural and Forestry Sciences. He is also member of the Academy of Romanian Scientists and the Romanian Society for Photogrammetry and Remote Sensing.

For his entire work contributing to the development of land surveying and geodesy field in both national and international context, the Romanian geodetic and forestry community would like to acknowledge and congratulate Professor AUREL RUSU on the occasion of his 95th anniversary wishing him health, happiness, and long life.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY, DEAR PROFESSOR!

Prof. dr. eng. Gheorghe Nistor  
Prof. dr. eng. Gheorghe Chițea