

***In Memory of Professor Volodymyr Prokopiv
(1956-2022)***



A well-known scientist in the field of semiconductor materials, Editor-in-Chief of the scientific journal "Physics and Chemistry of Solid State", Head of the Department of Physics and Chemistry of Solid State, Director of the Institute of Physics and Chemistry, Chairman of the Organizing Committee of Freik International Conferences on Physics and Technology of Thin Films and Nanosystems, professor Volodymyr Prokopiv died on January 25, 2022.

Volodymyr Prokopiv was born on February 10, 1956 in the village of Roshniv (Tysmenytsya district of Ivano-Frankivsk region). In 1973, he graduated from Ivano-Frankivsk School No. 16 with a gold medal for academic excellence. In the same year, he began to study at the Faculty of Physics and Mathematics of Ivano-Frankivsk State Pedagogical Institute, from which he graduated in 1978 with honors in specialty "Teacher of Physics and Mathematics".

During 1979-1983, Volodymyr Prokopiv worked as a teacher of physics and mathematics at the Hryniv eight-year school in Bohorodchany district of Ivano-Frankivsk region, and since 1983 – a researcher at Ivano-Frankivsk Pedagogical Institute.

He received his Ph.D. in 2003 and was awarded the academic title of Associate Professor of the Department of Physics and Chemistry of Solid State, and in 2014 – the academic title of Professor of the Department of Physics and Chemistry of Solid State.

The main stages of scientific and pedagogical activity in higher educational institutions are the following:

- 09.09.1988 - 01.09.1996 – Assistant Professor of the Department of Mathematics at the Physics-Mathematical Faculty, Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University;
- September 1, 1996 - November 1, 2001 – Research Fellow at Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University;
- November 1, 2001 - June 15, 2012 – Associate Professor of the Department of Physics and Chemistry of Solid State, Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University;
- from 15.06.2012 – Professor of the Department of Physics and Chemistry of Solid State, Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University;
- from 01.06.2015 – Head of the Department of Physics and Chemistry of Solid State, Vasyl Stefanyk Precarpathian National University.

He paid special attention to work with students, supervised term papers and master's theses. He prepared four Candidates of Sciences (Ph.D. degree):

- Pysklynets U.M. – specialty 02.00.21 – solid state chemistry (28.10.2005);
- Gorichok I.V. – specialty 02.00.21 – solid state chemistry (February 26, 2010);
- Lysyuk Yu.V. – specialty 01.04.07 – solid state physics (25.06.2013);
- Matkivsky O.M. – specialty 02.00.21 – solid state chemistry (December 7, 2018)

and one Doctor of Philosophy:

- Mazur T.M. – specialty 104 – physics and astronomy (20.05.2021).



The scientific interests of Volodymyr Prokopiv concerned the physics and technology of thin films, the study of their structure and defect subsystem for further use in infrared technology devices and renewable energy applications. He worked on a number of scientific projects. In particular, he was the research supervisor of the applied state budget project with the support of the Ministry of Education and Science of Ukraine "Dominant point defects and mechanisms of the formation of solid solutions based on II-VI and IV-VI compounds", responsible executor of the project "Thermoelectric materials based on nanoscale IV-VI structures", etc.



He paid special attention to educational and methodical work. He developed a course of lectures "General Physics. Electricity" for second-year students of the specialty "Chemistry"; "Thermodynamics of real semiconductor crystals" for undergraduates of the specialty "Physics"; "Thin-film materials science" for fifth-year students of the specialty "Physics"; "Physical bases of microelectronics" for fourth-year students in the field of "Applied Physics".

He devoted a lot of time to writing educational materials for students. These are courses for students, which were popular with students, and textbooks, which include not only professionally selected materials in an accessible language, but also sets of test tasks.



The pedagogical skills of Professor Volodymyr Prokopiiv determined his ability to attract students to study and scientific work, and applicants to enroll in new specialties that time dictated. He was the initiator of the opening of the bachelor's educational program "Materials and Devices of Renewable Energy".

Since the founding of the all-Ukrainian and well-known international scientific journal "Physics and Chemistry of Solid State", Professor Volodymyr Prokopiiv has been working on its development and popularization among the scientific community, and in difficult times he has been looking for opportunities for the timely publication of electronic and paper copies of the Journal.

In addition, Professor Volodymyr Prokopiiv was a scientist who worked in the organizing committee of all conferences on physics and technology of thin films and nanosystems (abbreviation in Ukrainian – МКФТТФН and in English – ICPTTFN) together with his teacher, chairman of the conference – Professor Dmytro Freik. For a long time he was the deputy chairman of the organizing committee, and since 2015 – the chairman of the organizing committee of this periodic conference.

His work in the organizing committee of the ICPTTFN and in the editorial board of the PCSS Journal was not only an important milestone in his life, but also contributed to the consolidation of the efforts of Ukrainian scientists to develop modern materials science and support the Ukrainian language as a modern language in science.

Friends and colleagues