
NEWS

IN MEMORIAM ISTVÁN MATYASOVSZKY (1960–2015)

István Matyasovszky died suddenly at his family's home in Érd at Christmas time, on December 25, 2015. He was only 55. He is survived by his wife, Ildikó Simon; an adult daughter, Csilla, and younger twin daughters, Emma and Nelli who surely foresee difficult years without their father.

István Matyasovszky graduated as a meteorologist at the Eötvös Loránd University in 1984 with the second large group of students (altogether 15) having meteorology as a unique major subject. Most of his fellow graduated students are still working for the Hungarian Meteorological Service (e.g., Ákos Horváth, István Ihász, Márta Puskás, László Tölgyesi, and Szilvia Jenki). He started to work for the Department of Meteorology right after the graduation, and two years later he obtained the title of dr.univ. with a dissertation on the analysis of the statistical structure of the long temperature time series of Central England. He spent his entire academic career at the Eötvös Loránd University, first as a researcher, then, as assistant professor (from 1990), and finally as associate professor (since 1997). From 1991 to 1995 he spent 30 months at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln as visiting scientist, where he made joint research with Prof. István Bogárdi.

His main expertise was statistical climatology, to which Ottó Gulyás (a mathematician from the Hungarian Meteorological Service teaching generations of students) introduced him. He made detailed research on statistical climatology, i.e., time series analysis, spectral analysis, climate variability and change. He published his results in high quality meteorology-related journals, e.g., *Journal of Geophysical Research*, *Theoretical and Applied Climatology*, *Climate Research*, *Atmospheric Environment*, *International Journal of Biometeorology*, *Meteorologische Zeitschrift*. Altogether he had 51 and 30 research papers in English in international and Hungarian journals, respectively. He regularly sent interesting manuscripts to *Időjárás*, where he published a total of 19 journal papers. For his publications he was granted by the Szádeczy-Kardoss Elemér Award in 1996 and 1997. In addition, the Hungarian Meteorological Society awarded him the Róna Zsigmond Award in 1992, and the Hungarian Academy of Science granted him the Bolyai János Fellowship during 1998-2001. He authored the book titled *Statistical Climatology*, which is a well-written basis for current students and anyone interested in the common scientific area of mathematics and climatology. For his great contribution to the national research and university teaching in meteorology, he received the Pro Meteorologia Award in 2005. His influence on meteorology-related research is very high, which is illustrated by the high number of independent citations (752 according to MTMT). In 2015, he obtained the DSc degree of the Hungarian

Academy of Science with his dissertation on new statistical methodologies applied to climatological studies.

He died unexpectedly, unpredictably – he was not ill. The recent years were probably the most happy and successful period both in his private life with having a supporting wife and two small children, and his academic career with completed DSc degree. He could have several decades ahead being spent in peace with his family, achieving more research goals with great success, and teaching several more generations of students to statistical climatology... We will surely miss István and will preserve his legacy at the Department of Meteorology at the Eötvös Loránd University.

Judit Bartholy