IN MEMORIAM SÁNDOR ANDRIKOVICS
1947–2008

Born in Budapest, SÁNDOR ANDRIKOVICS obtained his high school teacher di-
ploma (biology and chemistry) at the Faculty of Natural Sciences (TTK) at Eötvös
Loránd University (ELTE) in 1970. There he began his scientific career at the Depart-
ment of Animal Taxonomy and Ecology, where he rose to the position of senior scient-
tific associate. He obtained his Ph. D. in 1972 and the level of Candidate of Biological
Sciences in 1981. His teaching career began at the Berzsenyi Dániel Teachers College
as a second job from 1986–88. He became honorary associate professor at ELTE. As
his primary job he was a member of the Soil Zoological Research Group of the Hungarian
Academy of Sciences between 1981–1992. Hydrobiology was his primary research
interest and he was considered among the leading hydrobiologist of the country.

Within the invertebrate macrofauna, he conducted pioneering research re-
vealing the importance of the nutrition biology of aquatic insects. He was recog-
nized as a leading expert of mayflies, stoneflies and caddisflies in Hungary. He
conducted well documented studies on duck metabolism and their effects on water
quality. He participated in over thirty national and international conferences and
his research was recognized both home and abroad.

He became the Chairman of the Zoology Department of the Eszterházy Ká-
roly Teacher College in Eger in 1992 where he worked until his sudden death. Dur-
ing this period he gave courses in animal systematics to over 1500 students and
produced modern published lecture notes. He introduced hydrobiology as a subject
into the curriculum both on the theoretical and practical level. He was also respon-
sible for the introduction of two English language courses “Environmental Science and Management” and “Integrated Zoology”. He supervised a large number of theses and mentored student study groups. He was loved and respected by his students.

At the same time he gave courses (Invertebrate zoology, Hydrobiology, Preservation of inland waters, aquatic animals) and participated in graduate and post graduate training at ELTE in Budapest. He is a founding member of ELTE TTK Ph. D. School and he lectured at the University of Debrecen Environmental Science Ph. D. School. He taught a semester at Valdosa State University in Florida, USA. He was an invited professor of Hydrobiology at the University of Western Hungary in Sopron since 2001. He became the recipient of a prestigious Széchenyi Professorial Scholarship in 1999. A year later he obtained tenure at ELTE TTK. His outstanding research and teaching contribution was recognized by Pro Aqua medal (1983) of the Limnology Section of the Hungarian Hydrobiological Society, the Pro Palustre memorial medal in 1993 and by the Recognition Award by the College in 2005.

He was a born teacher, who was able to inspire his students to embrace and love almost all aspects of hydrobiological research. He considered his students as a colleague. He wrote the book “Tiszavirág” (Mayfly) together with them. “Az álkarérszek kishatározója” (Introductory guide to stonefly identification) (2002) and a multitude of other joint publications are a testimony to this successful and effective cooperation. Many among his students are now recognized professionals and are proud that they were led by Professor Sándor Andrikovics into the “intricacies” of scientific work. He conducted his latest research together with his students and colleagues, a research exchange project with the University of Bonn, Germany. It was the restoration of the mayfly in the Lippe and Odera Rivers in Germany. He did not live to see the conclusion of this work.

SÁNDOR ANDRIKOVICS was a founding member and a committed supporter of the Working Group on Aquatic Birds of Societas Internationalis Limnologiae (SIL). He was present during the SIL Congress in Munich, Germany in 1989, where it became apparent to a small group of participants that the time had come that waterbirds could be treated in a limnological context. He participated in the ad hoc Symposium, “Aquatic birds in the trophic web of lakes”, held in Sackville, New Brunswick, Canada, in August 1991. The outstanding success of this symposium led to the formation of the Working Group on Aquatic Birds of SIL during the XXV. SIL Congress in Barcelona, Spain, in 1992. He played a pivotal role in organizing the first conference of the Working Group on Aquatic Birds in Sopron, Hungary in November 1994. More recently it gave him an immense satisfaction that he was able to organize the 5th Limnology and Waterbirds Conference in his school in Eger Hungary in 2006. He just completed the editing of the last manuscript of the Proceedings when he died suddenly in early January.

We lost a good colleague and a very dear friend. 

JÓZSEF KEREKES

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