

Prof. Okolicsányi Lajos méltatása

Semmelweis Egyetem Doctor Honoris Causa díjátadó

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Prof. Lajos Okolocsányi was born in Budapest in 1938. He graduated from the Munkacsy Mihály high school in 1956, and received his MD university degree from the University School of Medicine, Padua. His career is strongly associated with this city and region, to Padua and later to Parma, where he became a professor of Medical Therapy and Gastroenterology. He has been the coordinator and director of the Post-Graduate School of Gastroenterology in Parma and Padua.

Prof. Okolicsányi's main interest is the physiology and pathophysiology of the liver and biliary tree. As a clinician, he studied several liver diseases, pertaining to congenital disorders, drug-induced liver diseases, formation of gallstones, etc. He authored more than 400 scientific papers and book chapters published in the leading journals of the field.

He is member of several scientific societies, in addition to the Italian Gastroenterology Society, he is also a member of the EASL and AASLD.

We are very pleased that prof. Okolicsányi is a member of the Society of the Hungarian Gastroenterologists, and not only an „honorary member”, but someone who participates in the life of the Society, regularly giving presentations, publishing together with Hungarian scientists and clinicians and accepting and becoming the instructor of several PhD students.

Professor Okolicsányi has always helped those Hungarians who visited Italy and has tried to keep the history of 1956 alive in the days when it was not so favorable to take account of. As a recognition of his activities, in 2006 he was donated the medal of „A Szabadság Hőse” („The Hero of Freedom”, awarded on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the 1956 freedom fight) and the medal of „A Magyar Politikai Foglyok Szövetsége” (POFOSZ, Association of Hungarian Political Prisoners) in 2008. He is the vice president of the Hungarian Cavaliers of Malta, the Rotary Club of Treviso and the Societa Canottieri Padova.

I am very happy that we can welcome prof. Okolicsányi this time again at Semmelweis University and support his „Doctor Honoris Causa” title. In the name of all those Hungarians, who were helped directly and indirectly by him during the years, I congratulate him and I am very honored to have the possibility to say thank you to him.