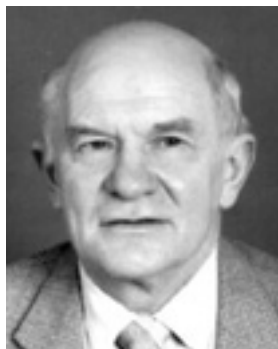


## IN MEMORIAM



### KIRILL NIKOLAEVICH ZELENIN

(25 August 1938 – 9 December 2004)

On 9 December 2004, Professor Kirill Nikolaevich Zelenin passed away at the age of 67 after a serious illness. He was a prominent Russian organic chemist, a Doctor of Chemical Sciences, an Honored Scientist of the Russian Federation, an Academician of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences, and an Academician of the Russian Military Medical Academy.

K. N. Zelenin was born on 25 August 1938 in Leningrad. After graduating from the Chemistry Department of Leningrad State University in 1960, he started as a graduate student, where under the direction of Professor B. V. Ioffe he completed his dissertation research on the subject "The amino nitrile rearrangement."

From 1963 up to the end of his life, K. N. Zelenin worked at the Russian Military Medical Academy. He was first a lecturer and then an assistant professor; and starting in 1973, he was the head of the chemistry department. For more than 30 years, he continuously headed the department. His predecessors in this position were outstanding scientists with an international reputation: N. N. Zinin, A. P. Borodin, S. V. Lebedev.

Having already decided the range of his scientific interests (studying the synthesis and properties of nitrogen-containing organic compounds) at the very beginning of his professional career, K. N. Zelenin followed his chosen path his entire life, becoming one of the leading experts in Russia in the field of nitrogen-containing heterocycles.

His achievements include discovery (together with B. V. Ioffe) of the reaction of decomposition of quaternary pyrazolinium compounds, amidrazonium and tetrahydropyrazolinium salts when treated with bases; investigation of ring-chain tautomeric systems with participation of nitrogen-containing organic compounds; discovery and systematic study of tautomeric recyclizations in the heterocyclic series. K. N. Zelenin developed methods for obtaining many heterocycles and their derivatives: pyrazole, isoxazole, triazole, thiadiazole, triazine, pyridazine, imidazolidine, piperimidine, tetrahydroquinazoline etc., and he investigated coordination compounds of thioaroyl hydrazones of monocarbonyl and 1,3-dicarbonyl compounds with transition metal

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cations. Among K. N. Zelenin's services to science, we may also include the targeted synthesis of physiologically active substances with a broad spectrum of action that he accomplished together with his students.

Professor K. N. Zelenin was the author of nearly 400 scientific papers; he trained 19 Candidates and 1 Doctor of Chemical sciences.

Another important contribution of K. N. Zelenin was development of methodology for teaching chemistry in institutes of higher learning and schools. He developed and introduced into practice an innovative program for teaching chemistry for physicians; he wrote (together with Professor V. V. Alekseev) the textbook *Chemistry*, intended for medical schools; and he developed a multimedia series of lectures on general and bioorganic chemistry. He was named a Soros Professor seven times since 1995.

In the last years of his life, K. N. Zelenin devoted considerable time to the history of science and education. One of his last scientific works was the monograph he prepared (together with A. D. Nozdrachev and E. L. Polyakov), *100 Years of Nobel Prizes in Chemistry*, which became a "rare book" almost immediately after it was published.

We must also mention Professor K. N. Zelenin's community activity. He was a founder of the annual Zinin lectures, which in December 2004 were held in the Military Medical Academy for the 13th time. K. N. Zelenin was chairman of the organic chemistry section of the St. Petersburg division of the D. I. Mendeleev Russian Chemical Society, a member of the editorial board for *Zhurnal Obshchei Khimii* [Journal of General Chemistry], *Vestnik Voenno-Medicinskoi Akademii* [Military Medical Academy Journal], and the international publication *Targets in Heterocyclic Systems*. For a long time, K. N. Zelenin had the responsibility of scientific editor for the journal *Khimiya Geterotsiklicheskikh Soedinenii* [Chemistry of Heterocyclic Compounds]. His awards included the Order of International Friendship (1986), the G. Vanags Memorial Medal (1991), the Zinin Memorial Medal of the D. I. Mendeleev Russian Chemical Society (1998), and the Honorary Decoration of the Russian Academy of Natural Sciences "For Service" (1998). K. N. Zelenin was a laureate of the international publisher MAIK Nauka/Interperiodika's prize (2000).

The bright memory of Kirill Nikolaevich Zelenin will remain forever in the hearts of his colleagues and students.

**Professor V. V. Alekseev  
and Assistant Professor O. V. Solod**

The editorial board and editorial staff of the journal are saddened by the passing of our frequent author and long-time scientific editor, Professor Kirill Nikolaevich Zelenin, and would like to express our sincere condolences to his family, friends, and colleagues.

#### **LIST OF IMPORTANT WORKS BY PROFESSOR K. N. ZELENIN**

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2. K. N. Zelenin, V. V. Alekseev, T. E. Gabis, S. I. Yakimovich, and T. I. Pehk, "The ring-chain tautomerism of thiocarbonohydrazones," *Tetrahedron Lett.*, **31**, 3927 (1990).
3. K. N. Zelenin, "The recent advances in the reaction of dicarbonyl and unsaturated carbonyl compounds with hydrazine and hydroxylamino derivatives," *Org. Prep. Proced. Int.*, **22**, 519 (1995).
4. K. N. Zelenin and V. V. Alekseev, "Tautomeric interconversions of heterocyclic derivatives," *Top. Heterocycl. Syst.*, **1**, 140 (1996).

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6. K. N. Zelenin, V. V. Alekseev, K. Pikhlaia, and V. V. Ovcharenko, "Molecular design of tautomeric interconversions of heterocyclic derivatives," *Izv. Akad. Nauk, Ser. Khim.*, 197 (2002).
7. K. N. Zelenin, A. D. Nozdrachev, and E. L. Polyakov. *100 Years of Nobel Prizes in Chemistry* [in Russian], Gumanistika, St. Petersburg (2003), p. 872.
8. K. N. Zelenin and V. V. Alekseev, *General and Bioorganic Chemistry. Textbook for Medical Schools* [in Russian], Elbi, St. Petersburg (2004).