

OLENA SHYSHCHAK – 50th ANNIVERSARY*Michael Bratychak*^{1, *}

This year Olena Shyshchak, PhD, Associate Prof., Executive secretary of the journal *Chemistry & Chemical Technology*, is celebrating her 50th anniversary.

Olena Shyshchak was born on September 20, 1968, in Lviv. In 1985 she finished the secondary school and entered Lviv Polytechnic Institute (Lviv, Ukraine).

After graduating the institute (1990) with honour in the speciality “Technology of Oil and Gas Processing” Olena Shyshchak was engaged in scientific activities at the Department of Oil and Gas Processing of Lviv Polytechnic Institute as a research assistant (1990–1995). At this time a young scientist under the guidance of Prof. V. Shevchuk worked on the problems of ethylene and acetylene

production. In 1995 she entered post-graduate courses. The result of scientific researches was PhD thesis “Ethylene and acetylene production via oxidative dimerization and pyrolysis of methane”, defended in 2000.

After receiving PhD degree Olena worked as an assistant (1998–2005), and then as an Associate Professor (2005–) at the Department of Oil and Gas Processing. During this period O. Shyshchak combines teaching, research and organizational work. She delivers new lectures, supervises diploma projects and master's works.

The direction of her scientific work is “Obtaining of oligomeric initiators, crosslinking and curing agents to produce a wide range of polymeric materials based on crude oil” (under the guidance of Prof. Michael Bratychak). The scientific achievements are represented in over 160 scientific papers, including 80 articles in professional journals and 4 patents. Dr. O. Shyshchak got trained in North Texas University (Denton, USA) and Gdansk University of Technology (Gdansk, Poland).

From 2007, the year of *Chemistry & Chemical Technology* foundation, she is an irreplaceable secretary of the journal. She was a scientific secretary of 7 scientific-technical conferences “Advance in Oil and Gas Industry and Petrochemistry” (since 2004), which were attended by leading scientists and representatives of the industry not only from Ukraine but from many other countries as well.

Olena meets her anniversary with optimism, confidence in the future and new creative ideas. Her loving husband and two sons, students, colleagues and co-workers wish her sound health, family well-being, and success in her creative work.

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