

Gennady Zaikov¹ and Artur Valente²PROFESSOR VICTOR MANUEL DE MATOS LOBO
CELEBRATES HIS 70TH ANNIVERSARY¹ N.M. Emanuel Institute of Biochemical Physics, Russian Academy of Sciences,
4 Kosygin Street, 119334 Moscow, Russia; Chembio@sky.chph.ras.ru² Coimbra University, Chemical faculty, Coimbra 3004-535, Portugal; AValente@ci.uc.pt

© Zaikov G., Valente A., 2010

Prof. Victor Lobo graduated in Physics and Chemistry from University of Coimbra in 1963. At the end of his first undergraduate year he was invited as an “assistant demonstrator” and in this capacity helped in laboratory classes up to his graduation. He was receiving a University scholarship and a research grant from “National Institute of High Culture”. As an undergraduate student he was conducting researches in radiochemistry.

Invited to join the teaching staff of the University of Coimbra in 1963, he was asked to go “on leave” with his Professor to the University of Mozambique for three years, where he did research in flame photometry in parallel with his teaching activity. He obtained a Ph.D. degree from the Cambridge University (U.K.) under the supervision of Dr. J. Agar in 1971. During Ph.D. studies he developed a new isothermal diffusion cell, with which he received a Gold Medal at the “15th International Exhibition of Inventions and New Techniques”, Geneva, Switzerland in 1987. After Ph.D. studies he returned to Mozambique for about one year to return finally to his post as a lecturer at the University of Coimbra in 1972. He became “Associate” Professor of Electrochemistry in 1975 and Full Professor in 1981. During his academic career he has been lecturing Electrochemistry and Corrosion, Electrolyte Solutions, Physical Chemistry, Chemical Thermodynamics, Chemical Analysis, Medical Chemistry, and General Chemistry.

Prof. Victor Lobo has dedicated much of his life to the research of thermodynamic and transport properties (in particular on diffusion) of electrolyte solutions, and through polymers as well, and electrochemistry, particularly metallic corrosion. In recent years, his interests have focused on the diffusion of multicomponent systems and diffusion of electrolytes through polymer membranes.

He was invited researcher or visiting professor in several universities, such as University of East Anglia (U.K.), University of Canberra (Australia), University of Gottingen (Germany), and University of Regensburg (Germany). Prof. Lobo was in charge of the organization



(1984-1989) of a databank with data on density, viscosity, equivalent conductance, transport number, diffusion coefficients, and activity coefficients of electrolyte solutions, for the Scientific Engineering Research Council, SERC, U.K. He gave a considerable number of invited lectures in Universities and conferences on issues related to transport properties. He was titular member of IUPAC and Portuguese representative in technical commissions of CEN and ISO. He was president of Portuguese Electrochemistry Society, President of General Assembly of Portuguese Chemical Society, Member of National Bureau of Education, and Head of the Chemistry Department. He published more than 150 scientific articles in international and national refereed journals. Moreover, he published about 40 articles in the Portuguese daily press on matters concerning education.

He wrote and edited more than 10 books, of which considerable prominence must be given to the widely used “Handbook of Electrolyte Solutions” and “Self-diffusion of Electrolyte Solutions”, the latter written with R. Mills,

published by Elsevier. He has been the Editor of *Portugaliae Electrochimica Acta* – the journal of the Portuguese Electrochemical Society – since September 2002.

His prominent professional skills are accompanied by his outstanding personal traits. Prof. Victor Manuel de Matos Lobo is full of energy and new ideas for research

in electrochemistry, physical chemistry as well as in chemistry of high-molecular compounds.

On the occasion of his 70th birthday, it is with a great pleasure that we wish to Prof. Victor Lobo, who has dedicated many years to Academy and Science, good health and further achievements.