

branch of study and he focused on this area. His appointment as Professor (1992) strengthened the position of religious studies at the faculty. At first religious studies existed within the Department of Ethnology and since 2003 as an independent Department of Religion Studies with Professor Komorovsky as its head until his retirement in 2001.

In 2008 he was given the Award of the Chairman of the Slovak National Council in Humanities and Culture for his life achievements.

Kornélia Jakubíková

PhDr. Jozef UŠAK

*1938 – †2006



Jozef Ušák got his degree in ethnography in Bratislava in 1969 and started to teach at the department of ethnography and folklore studies. As an assistant – lecturer he gave lectures on material culture, especially on architecture and habitation. The research in the forms of habitation and architecture became the subject matter of his professional orientation. He dealt with this topic not only in his diploma thesis but also in other scientific articles and the chapters in regional and local monographs *Liptovská Teplička* (1973, in chapters Clothing, Family and Social life), *Lúd Hornádskej doliny* (1989) and in the monograph *Zamagurie* (1972), and other texts such as articles on the region of Spiš (*Architektúra spišských miest a jej odraz vo vidieckych stavbách – Slovenský národopis*, 1977), region of Záhorie (*Morfológia sídiel na Záhorí – Zborník SNM*, 1983) and Gemer, mining towns and locations (*K problematike zvláštnych foriem obydľia v rustikálnom prostredí – The Slovak National Museum Miscellany* 1985, *Zmeny v bývaní handlovských baníkov – 1978*). He published the results of his ethnographic study of working class regions (*Slovenský národopis*, 1978), cultural status of workers and farmers (1986), farming of non-farmers (*The Slovak National Museum Miscellany* 1989). He analyzed the themes of habitation in a monothematic miscellany (*Reťazové sídelné formy na Slovensku – ĽSKO* 1974). He also touched upon the theme of folk technical constructions (miscellany *ŠÚPS* 1988, *Miscellany SAS* 1989) and the problems of protection of folk wooden architecture (1995).

As a teacher during his more than 20 years long career (until 1991) he influenced the whole generation of professional ethnographers. Besides lectures and seminars, especially on the topics such as architecture, clothing, crafts, methods and techniques of field research, he organized excursions for students, field and museum practices and field research. He specialized in keeping records of folk material

culture and their recording on photographs and films. He participated in organizing of the international student Slovak – Polish seminars Bratislava – Poznań in 1970s.

After he had left the department he worked in the National Heritage Institute, where he concentrated on the protection of folk architecture, as a chairman of ECOVAST – the European Council for the Village and Small Town.

Ladislav Mlynka

PhDr. Sylvia DILLNBERGEROVÁ, PhD.

*1947



Sylvia Dillnbergerová is a graduate of the Department of ethnography of the Philosophical Faculty of Comenius University. After she had finished her studies (in 1971) she concentrated on the issue of folk food. On the basis of the field research in Záhorie, regions of southern and eastern Slovakia she studied food culture in Slovakia also in wider contexts of social and family life. She published the results she had gained in scientific articles in the monographs: *Vajnory*, 1978; *Záhorská Bratislava*, 1986; *Rača*, 1989.

She extended her research in the food by the table etiquette: *Dotazník na výskum spôsobov a zvykov pri jedení a stolovaní*, 1979. She also dealt with interethnic relationships in folk food in Slovak Ruthenian environment (*K štúdiu ľudovej stravy Ukrajincov-Rusínov na severovýchodnom Slovensku*, 1983, and in Slovak-Hungarian environment (*Strava a etnická identifikácia v okolí Hurbanova*, 1989).

She co-authored *The Ethnographic Atlas of Slovakia* (1990) and *The Encyclopedia of Folk Culture*, Vol. 1, 2 (1995).

Within her teaching activities she gave lectures on selected topics on material culture (e.g. the social functions of food, etiquette and nutrition, the history of clothes, cultural traditions and tourism) and she supervised field research. She also supervised a number of diploma theses.

She wrote a number of scientific and popular articles on traditional food. She spent a number of years organizing lectures for the University of the Third Year, which the department had started in 1991. Until her retirement she was in charge of the Ethnologic archives of the department.

Magdaléna Paríková