

Pavel Bačo sixty years old

František Bakos

Consistent, precise, decent and calm and conflict-free Dr. Pavel Bačo belongs to a group of enthusiastic geologists, for whom work is also a hobby. Pavel does not count time spent working either in the office, or in the field. No one who has ever worked with him could ever see him being tired from work.

Born on January 4, 1956 in Hraň (dist. Trebišov). In the years 1971–1975 he studied at the Technical school in Spišská Nová Ves, Department of Geological Exploration and Mine Surveying. He continued his studies from 1975 to 1980 at Comenius University in Bratislava, Department of Geology. In July 1980 he started his employment in the Geologický prieskum, n. p., where in its successor organizations (Slovak Geology, Geological Survey of Slovak Republic, State Geological Institute of Dionýz Štúr) he has been working until today.

Throughout his entire career Pavel was devoted to mineralogy and mineral deposits. In the East Slovakian Neogene volcanites he is familiar with each stone. He was the manager of the state financed exploration projects on Merník – Hg deposit and Byšta – Au, Ag prospect, as well as financed from foreign exploration projects, such as Zlatá Baňa, Slivník, Brehová, Ruská Bystrá. Other notable projects include “Reinterpretation of heavy minerals from panning survey, Environmental strategic raw materials, Critical raw materials, Potential sources of raw materials for the production of magnesium metal, Potential sources for raw materials for the production of high purity silica.” Despite having many possibilities, he “betrayed” his parent organization only once in 2005, taking part in the first Slovak geological expedition in Mongolia (Project ACU/2004/02/MN/10 Platinum-group and rare-earth element mineralizations of Western Mongolia: A regional resource assessment). He is a long-time chairman of the Slovak Association of

Economic Geology and Geological Council of Slovakia. Throughout his career he published as author and co-author cca. 60 publications in scientific journals. Among collectors he is known for the discovery of new sites of the most beautiful Slovak agate and among archaeologists he is known for discoveries of obsidian occurrences.

Despite Pavel's 60th birthday, his retirement is not expected so soon. Plans, dreams, passion and energy are what Pavel has in abundance. As a rule the father's footsteps are followed by children, we can say related to a small geological society of Slovakia that Palo has founded a geological dynasty and he still has a lot to teach and provide.

Dear Pavel, on behalf of colleagues who have worked with you and shared your enthusiasm, we wish you further fruitful research with the enormous energy, good health and new discoveries.

