

Directors of the Botanic Garden of P. J. Šafárik University in Košice

Assoc. Prof. RNDr. Jozef Rácz, CSc. (*4th October 1909 in Belža - †20th September 1984 in Košice, buried in the cemetery in Belža) studied Philosophy and Natural History at the Faculty of Science, Charles University in Prague (1939). In 1956 he was awarded the degree of CSc. at Charles University in Prague and since 1964 he was an Associate Professor (Charles University in Prague). He worked in various positions, among others as the head of the Agricultural and Forestry Engineering College Institute of Botany in Košice in 1948-1952 and until 1958 he was the first Director of the Botanic Garden in Košice. In 1964-1972 he was the head of the Department of Botany, Faculty of Science of P. J. Šafárik University in Košice. He researched secondary wood and later researched weeds. He is the author of textbooks, separate publications, and numerous papers in journals.

Assoc. Prof. Ing. Vít Bojňanský, DrSc. (*25th May 1921 in Bojničky - †28th April 2009 in Bratislava) studied Agricultural Engineering at the Slovak Technical University (SVŠT) in Bratislava (1946), was awarded the degree of CSc. in 1959, appointed Associate Professor in 1962, DrSc in 1967. He worked in several positions - from 1956 to 1958 he was the Botanic Garden in Košice Director, from 1959 to 1990 was employed at the Institute of Experimental Phytopathology of the Slovak Academy of Sciences in Ivanka pri Dunaji, as well as a visiting professor in the USA and Nigeria. His field of interest was in Seed Phytopathology and Morphology, he authored 32 books and over 500 scientific and professional articles.

Ing. Anton Laffers, CSc. (*15th February 1925 in Malacky – †2nd August 2001 in Zvolen, buried in the cemetery in Malacky) graduated from the Agricultural and Forestry Engineering College in Košice (1949), later was awarded the degree of CSc. (1966). In the years 1954 - 1960 he worked in the Botanic Garden in Košice, in 1958-1960 as its Director. He later worked at the Arboretum of Mlyňany and at the Research Institute of Forestry in Zvolen. He devoted himself to the cultivating and genetics of forest trees. He is the author of 3 books, 87 scientific papers and studies and a number of professional and popular papers.

Ing. Tibor J. Antoš, CSc. (*9th April 1925 in Košice – †3rd March 1990 in Košice) graduated from the Agricultural and Forestry Engineering College in Košice (1950), worked among other positions at the Košice branch of the University of Agriculture (VŠP) in Nitra, between 1960 and 1963 he was the Director of the Botanic Garden, from 1964 to 1977 he worked at the Faculty of Education in Prešov of P. J. Šafárik University in Košice and then again as the Director of the Botanic Garden of P. J. Šafárik University in the years 1980-1988. He is the author of several textbooks (Plant Physiology, Seed Plant System, Geobotany).

Ing. Karol Nagy, CSc. (*21st January 1924 in Abranovce – †10th April 1994 in Košice) graduated from the State Higher Forestry College in Banská Štiavnica, until 1949 Forestry Department of the VŠPLI in Košice (1949), worked in the Forestry Research Institute in Banská Štiavnica until 1955, later in the Botanic Garden in Košice, where he held the position of its Director between 1964 and 1979. He first devoted himself to Pedology, later to the cultivating the tetraploid clover, and is the author of several scientific papers.

Assoc. Prof. Sergej Mochňák, CSc. (*18th August 1953 in Snina) graduated from the Faculty of Science of P. J. Šafárik University in Košice (1976), RNDr. (1981, UPJŠ FS), CSc. (1988, SAS), Assoc. Prof. (2000, TU of Zvolen). He first worked as researcher at the Institute of Experimental Biology and Ecology of the Centre for Biological and Ecological Sciences of the Slovak Academy of Sciences in Bratislava, Košice branch, and from 1989 as the Botanic Garden of P. J. Šafárik University in Košice Director until 2018. He focused mainly on Phytocoenology with a focus on synanthropic vegetation and ecological issues of the East Slovak Lowland. He is the co-author of a university textbook, editor and author of a monograph on Slovak Botanical Gardens and Arboretums, the author of over 35 scientific papers and many professional and popular scientific articles.

Prof. RNDr. Pavol Mártonfi, PhD. (*14th January 1964 in Košice) graduated from the Faculty of Science of P. J. Šafárik University in Košice (1989), RNDr. (1990, UPJŠ FS), PhD. (1997 Charles University in Prague), Assoc. Prof. (2000, UPJŠ FS), Prof. (2011, UPJŠ FS). Since 1990, he has worked at the Faculty of Science of P. J. Šafárik University in Košice, in 2011-2018 he held the position of Vice-Dean for Science, Research, and Development, and since 2018 he has been the Botanic Garden of P. J. Šafárik University in Košice Director. He researches into Systematics, Chemosystematics, Taxonomy, and Reproductive Biology of Plants. He is the author of a university textbook on the Systematics of Vascular Plants, more than 80 scientific papers published mainly in international journals, as well as the author of many popularisation outputs.