

In memoriam: Prof. Marin Opreșcu - Founder of the magazine "Finance - Challenges of the Future" and mentor of generations of students and young financiers

The second half of September 2023 brought us a great pain in our hearts: the man who was the mentor of generations of economists who graduated from the Faculty of Economics and Business Administration of the University of Craiova in the last 30 years or young financiers within the University of Craiova, was leaving us.

About Professor Marin Opreșcu, words will always be poor compared to the extent of his personality. A simple enumeration of his exceptional achievements in the field of finance in Craiova and Romania would take up an enormous amount of space. But, at the hour of great hardship, at least some of his merits must be mentioned.

Although he graduated from Babeș-Bolyai University in Cluj-Napoca, in 1975 he became an assistant professor at the University of Craiova, furthermore, university professor since 1993 and PhD supervisor in the field of Finance since 2004. His dedication, seriousness, and his ability to commit himself unreservedly led him to say over the years that he had no regrets about choosing the path of finance back to his native place.

His destiny was marked by decency, humanism, and moderation. He was one of the eminent teachers at the university, he was a light that lit other lights, who taught us to appreciate true values, in the profession, but also in life. For each of us, his direct collaborators, he was the one who supported us unconditionally and guided us on the path of our professional and personal ascent, the generosity he showed each time and for each of us was irreplaceable.

For 17 years, between 1990 and 2007, Professor Marin Opreșcu was Head of the Department of Finance, Faculty of Economics and Business Administration in Craiova.

He was the initiator and editor-in-chief, since 2002, of Finance - Challenges of the Future, which enjoys great national interest. This success is due to the dedication and seriousness of the subject matter, the way it was conducted, and the endorsement given to each course. He had not deviated from the motto, which he had embraced in its true meaning and which he had always conveyed to students in the Currency and Credit course: "Be better doctors for our economy", as he had also publicly stated.

Professor Marin Opreșcu will remain in our memories as a refined intellectual, a model respected and loved by generations of students and a teacher who was a mentor to many financial economists in Romania. With his passing away, the Romanian school of finance has lost a distinguished professor who made important contributions to the development of higher education and scientific research.

Words cannot express all the gratitude we owe to this master, a generous man with a poise and elegance of manner that are very rare in later years. We hope that he knew how much we valued him and how great a void he left when he passed away.

We bow our heads with gratitude and say goodbye to our father, teacher and man who was Professor Marin Opreșcu, assuring him that we will be eternally grateful to him and that we will strive, as he taught us, to always be better and not to disappoint him.