It is our pleasure to inform you that on 17 September, 1998, the prominent Ukrainian gerontologist and therapist Professor Dmitry F. Chebotarev will mark his 90th birthday and 65 years of scientific activity. Between 1961 and 1987, he served as Director of the Institute of Gerontology, and his activities have been extremely rewarding and have contributed to making this Institute one of the world's leading centres of research into the mechanisms of aging and longevity.

The major research activities of Prof. D.F. Chebotarev were carried out in the field of clinical physiology and internal organs pathology in the elderly, age-related pharmacotherapy, and active prevention of premature aging. These works opened a new chapter in the history of gerontological science. Under his supervision, new forms of organization of medico-social services for the elderly have been developed and implemented.

Prof. D.F. Chebotarev is the author of more than 400 published works, including 23 monographs, handbooks and manuals in gerontology and geriatrics, Twenty-eight book collections of the Institute of Gerontology have been widely recognized.

Prof. D.F. Chebotarev is a Full Member of the National Academy of Sciences and the Medical Academies of Sciences of Ukraine and Russia, a State Prize Laureate, an Honoured Scientist of Ukraine, and the recipient of the Strazhesko Award from the National Academy of Sciences and the Botkin Award from the Russian Academy of Medical Sciences.

The activities of Prof. D.F. Chebotarev, both as a scientist and an organizer of research in gerontology and geriatrics, have won great authority worldwide. He was elected President of the 9th International Congress of Gerontology, held in Kiev in 1972. Between 1972 and 1975 he acted as President of the International Association of Gerontology. For many years he served as an adviser of the World Health Organization and of the United Nations Department on Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs. He is an Honorary Member of the German Academy of Natural Science ‘Leopoldina’ and an Honorary Member of the national gerontological societies of Germany, Bulgaria, Hungary, Chile, Poland and other countries, a member of the editorial boards of gerontological journals in Germany, Great Britain and the USA. He was awarded several medals, including the Fritz Verzar Medal of the International Association of Gerontology, the honorary medals of the American Geriatrics Society, the societies of physicians of the German Democratic Republic, Bulgaria, the Karlova University in the Czech Republic, the Semmelweis University in Budapest, etc.

At the present time, Prof. D.F. Chebotarev, Scientist Emeritus, continues to work as a scientific consultant at the Institute of Gerontology and supervises research of human aging and age-related pathology, accelerated aging mechanisms and approaches to its prevention.

The Editors