PREFACE

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Preface

Igor V Yevseyev (1944–2012): in commemoration of the anniversary of his 70th birthday

Igor Viktorovich Yevseyev (Russian: Игорь Викторович Евсеев) was born in Moscow (USSR) on 14 March 1944 to the family of a military engineer. His childhood took place in post-war Moscow; this was one of the major factors that shaped his individuality.

In 1951, Igor entered Moscow public school no. 50 and then, in 1957, was transferred to secondary public school no. 685 in Moscow. In December 1955 a new child was born to the Yevseyev family, Igor’s younger brother Alexander. From that time a strong bond developed between the brothers that lasted all Igor’s life.

In 1961, Igor graduated from high school with highest honors and a gold medal. The same year he was admitted to the very prestigious and highly challenging educational institution, Moscow Engineering Physics Institute (now known as National Nuclear Research University, MEPhI) with a major in theoretical physics. Upon finishing his undergraduate studies in 1967 with high honors, taking into account his outstanding talents and scholarly achievements, Igor was matriculated in the MEPhI graduate school the same year.

Igor’s scientific interests from the first days of his graduate studies until the last days of his life were focused on the theoretical studies of photon echo. At the end of his graduate studies in 1970 he was awarded his PhD degree in theoretical physics. His PhD thesis was entitled ‘Polarizing effects of photon echo in gaseous medium’. After defending his thesis Dr Yevseyev was offered an Assistant Professor position in the department of theoretical physics at MEPhI.

As a result of his scientific research activity over twenty years while teaching at MEPhI, in 1987, Dr Yevseyev presented his Doctor of Science dissertation ‘Theory of polarized echo-spectroscopy in molecular and atomic interactions as a result of elastic depolarizing collisions’, which he successfully defended the same year. In 1993, Dr Yevseyev was promoted to a position of tenured Full Professor of theoretical physics.

Towards the end of 1980s, Professor Alexander Prokhorov, 1964 Nobel Prize winner in physics, made a decision to start publishing Laser Physics, a new international journal, in English. He invited Professor Yevseyev to become the journal’s Deputy Editor-in-Chief. Among the members of the Editorial Board there were many
Left to right: I Yevseyev (Russia), V Samartsev (Russia), S Hartmann (USA) and I Popov (Russia) at LPHYS’92.

LPHYS’92 participants (1992). Igor Yevseyev is in the upper row, sixth from the left.

Left to right: I Yevseyev (Russia), V Samartsev (Russia), S Hartmann (USA) and I Popov (Russia) at LPHYS’92.

internationally renowned scientists in laser research. The first issue of Laser Physics went live in 1991. Ever since, for the following 21 years under the untiring scientific and organizing management extended by Professor Yevseyev to this journal, Laser Physics has become one of the main sources of scientific information for the world laser community and gained wide recognition.

In 1991, following the initiative of a group of leading scientists under the auspices of Alexander Prokhorov, an annual international conference of laser physics was established that took the name LPHYS Workshop. The first conference LPHYS’92 took place in
April 1992 in the town of Dubna near Moscow. Thirty scientists from five countries took part in that meeting.

Starting in 1992, the LPHYS conference has been conducted annually in various countries. Up to the present day the LPHYS conference has taken place in 17 countries. Several thousand scientists from over 60 countries have taken part in those meetings.

In 2004, on the initiative of a number of leading scientists in laser physics, including Professor Yevseyev, the second international journal, Laser Physics Letters, started its life. The main objective of this journal was rapid communication of presented papers in various areas of laser physics. Professor Yevseyev also undertook the position of Deputy Editor-in-Chief.

Owing to Professor Yevseyev’s indefatigable efforts, both Laser Physics and Laser Physics Letters found their visible place in the first row of major international journals in laser physics and, in many instances, surpassed many of them.
In addition to his publishing and organizing activities during all those years, Professor Yevseyev successfully continued his research activity. He published several hundred scientific papers in leading international journals and five scientific books in international and Russian publishing houses, co-authored by his renowned colleagues.

His research activity had always been accompanied by his continuous teaching endeavors. Ever since his years as a graduate student and until his last days he had been teaching many courses in theoretical physics at both undergraduate and graduate levels at MEPhI. His students always regarded him as an outstanding teacher. Their appreciation of his teaching style with a grain of humor was expressed in many their comments, such as:

‘A virtuoso of teaching skill, he can puzzle even a nerd’
‘Delivers material in an optimal, comprehensible way’
‘Good professor. Always succinct and cogent’.

To our great regret, on 3 January 2012, Igor Yevseyev abruptly passed away. His many friends, colleagues and students will never forget his kind companionship. All his bold undertakings and intelligent initiatives will be continued by his many colleagues and students and will always remind us of him.

**Dr Alexander Yevseyev**  
(on behalf of Igor’s friends and colleagues)