

CV-Mladen Franko

Mladen Franko, born 31 March 1958, is a Professor of Chemistry at the University of Nova Gorica, where he currently serves as the *Vice-rector for education* and *Head of the Laboratory for Environmental and Life Sciences*.

He earned Ph.D. degree in analytical chemistry from Marquette University (Milwaukee, Wisconsin, USA) in 1990.

His current research interests and expertise include: development and application of new analytical methods based on laser photothermal spectroscopy for detection of heavy metals and their species and organic compounds following chromatographic separation and FIA including microfluidic systems; development of new biosensors and laser detection techniques for determination of toxic and essential compounds in environmental and biological samples; and investigations of photochemical degradation of organic environmental pollutants and related toxicity.

His research achievements are reported in over 150 works registered in Web of Science database, which were cited by other authors over 2200 times. In addition, he published 5 book chapters and presented over 60 invited lectures at international conferences and meetings, universities and other institutions. For his scientific achievements in analytical chemistry he was awarded the “*Zois Prize*” - *State Award for Science of the Republic of Slovenia* in 2005.

From 2004 till 2017 he served as the *Vice-president of the Slovenian Chemical Society* and till 2014 he was *Associate editor of Acta Chimica Slovenica*.

Mladen Franko lectured regular undergraduate and graduate courses on *General Chemistry, Fundamentals of Environmental Science, Analytical Chemistry, Analytical Instrumentation, Remote Sensing, Environmental Chemistry, Environmental Impacts of Agriculture and Toxicology* at the University of Nova Gorica, and University of Maribor. He was guest and visiting professor at University of Turin (Italy), University of Zagreb, China University of Geosciences in Wuhan, and at Azerbaijan State Agricultural University in Ganja (Azerbaijan), where he was awarded the title of Honorary Doctor in 2019.