Tributes and Memories
Professor George Djolov,
one of the organisers of this workshop

Prof George Djolov
5 August 1940 – 7 November 2017

Prof. Djolov was a very successful scientist of international reputation and occupied senior positions such as the Dean of Science at the University of Venda and the University of Limpopo during his career. After his retirement, he serviced in extraordinary professor positions at both the University of the North-West and the University of Pretoria.
George’s European Steps

• Born in Bulgaria but travelling and studying extensively, George’s life was characterised by a diverse and distinguished career in academia. For his studies in Canada and Russia, George received two doctoral degrees, his first in Physics and Mathematics, and his second in Mechanical Engineering.

• Up to 1990, he served as professor of Physics in the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, founded the Institute of Ecology for the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, served as Senior Advisor on Environmental Problems to the Bulgarian State President’s Office.

• George also had a close working relationship with the Energy and Climate Task Force of the International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA).
In Southern Africa

• George first served as co-ordinator of the BTec Programme in Applied Physics at the University of Zimbabwe.

• In 1996 he was appointed as Professor and Chair of Physics, and thereafter Dean of the School of Mathematics and Natural Sciences at the University of Venda.

• In 2003, the University of the North (now Limpopo) appointed George as Professor and Director of the Faculty of Physical and Mineral Sciences.

• For two years thereafter, ending in 2006, he served as CEO of the National Community Water and Sanitation Training Institute in Polokwane (then Pietersburg).
At the University of Pretoria

• 2007 - After his formal retirement, Professor Djolov joined the University of Pretoria as an Extraordinary Professor in the Department of Geography, Geoinformatics and Meteorology.

• George continued to be highly active over the following decade. He taught each year into the meteorology programme and published and supervised postgraduate students in his favoured fields of meteorology, climate change and environmental physics.
International reputation

• During his time in Africa he raised in excess of R17 million in research grants, co-authored and/or published four book and in excess of 100 journal articles.

• In 2015, the International Eurasian Academy of Sciences honoured George for his distinguished career and contribution to science.

• Editorial Board Member of the international journal of Urban Climate