Introduction

The present issue is dedicated to the final summarizing work of Professor Géza Hámor. He was still able to compile, edit, and finally revise the study, taking the comments of the reviewers into account, but did not live to see its publication.

Professor Hámor was an outstanding personality of Hungarian geology; he had directed the Geological Institute of Hungary for a long period of time then trained whole generations as a teacher in Miskolc and Eötvös Loránd Universities. He had been an active member of the Editorial Board of the quarterly Acta Geologica Hungarica for decades.

In the study presented here Professor Hámor summarized the experiences of his several decades of research activity on the Neogene; armed with all this knowledge he attempted to apply it to quantitative facies analysis. Already in the early stage of his scientific work, in the 1970s and 1980s, he attempted to carry out quantification on the basis of facies analysis and paleogeographic reconstruction. Later, with increasing amounts of knowledge and data, he returned to this problem several times. In the last years, after his retirement, he concentrated mainly on this question. He reviewed and re-evaluated borehole sections, tabulated thousands of data, and carried out the necessary calculations to attain his goal. He simultaneously struggled with the evaluation of the enormous set of data and his treacherous illness. By the end of 2006 the work was completed, together with numerous tables and figures. Thereafter he revised and improved the manuscript on the basis of the extremely thoughtful suggestions of reviewers Áron Jámbor and István Bérczi, often consulting with them during the last months of his life. Thus, the study presented in this issue is a work completed by the author, entirely a product of Professor Géza Hámor.

The Editorial Board of our quarterly pays tribute to Professor Géza Hámor by publishing this summarizing work.

János Haas Editor-in-Chief