

# Obituary

## Maria NOWAKOWSKA

In last August, during the 3rd IFSA Meeting in Seattle, we were said by Ron Yager about the sudden and unexpected death of Maria Nowakowska (on May 12, 1989). This was very sad news. Maria was a highly respected scientist, a great authority in cognitive and social sciences ; we were lucky enough to meet her several times at various conferences in the eighties after the time when she immigrated to the United States. She always had very provocative but friendly remarks and discussing with her was a pleasure.

We were extremely happy when she accepted to join the list of foreign correspondents of BUSEFAL (from the very beginning, issue n° 2). She contributed three research papers to BUSEFAL : i) "A new theory of time : generation of time from fuzzy temporal relations" (n° 6, pp. 87-94, 1981) ; ii) "Some problems in the foundations of fuzzy set theory" (n° 7, pp. 45-52, 1981) ; and iii) "Observability and change" (n° 7, pp. 53-59, 1981), which are good examples of the way Maria was able to address basic issues and to apply fuzzy sets in a non-trivial, and always imaginative, way to difficult problems. On April 1, 1989, about six weeks before her death, in a short letter to us she was announcing that "a note for BUSEFAL is in preparation". Unfortunately we shall not know what new fuzzy idea she had in mind.

More information about her scientific career can be found in the obituary written by George KLIR (Int. J. of General Systems, Vol. 16, pp. 95-96, 1990).

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