

November 1, 2020

Professor A. V. Svetlikov
St. Petersburg, Russia

Re: Celebration of the Life and Career of Professor A. V. Pokrovsky

Dear Colleagues,

On behalf of the Society for Vascular Surgery and its more than 6,000 vascular surgeon members worldwide, I am delighted to add our hearty congratulations to Professor A. V. Pokrovsky on the celebration of his 90th birthday. Professor Pokrovsky's contributions to the development and optimization of vascular surgical care in Russia, as evidenced by the program planned for November 21st and 22nd this year, are seminal and far-reaching in their extent. It is clear that vascular patients in the Russian Federation, and indeed around the world, have benefitted enormously from his singular skill and fidelity in academic surgery.

We also note that the axiom printed on the title page of the celebratory program, "He had the good fortune to be the right person, in the right place, at the right time", only tells part of this story. It was, and is, the great good fortune of his colleagues, students, and many patients across Russia that Professor Pokrovsky was indeed the "... right person, in the right place, at the right time". And that in being the "right person", Professor Pokrovsky was both sufficiently capable and committed to his craft to have such profound influence on his profession. As was so aptly put by the great Louis Pasteur, "Chance favors only the prepared mind". Clearly, the mind, heart, and hands of Professor Pokrovsky were more than up to the challenge of developing vascular surgery in Russia.

Best wishes to Professor Pokrovsky on the occasion of his 90th birthday!

Sincerely,



Ronald L. Dalman MD, DFSVS, FACS
Chidester Professor and Chief, Stanford Vascular Surgery
President, Society for Vascular Surgery