

**VALNER KRINAL (03.12.1929–19.06.2014) – THE DEAN
IN MEMORIAM**

Valner Krinal studied law at the University of Tartu from 1949 to 1954. Yet since his academic promotion in 1964 his career was inextricably linked to the Faculty of Economics. Already in 1965 he became the head of the chair of accounting; in 1968 a Dozent (an Associated Professor) and in 1989 a Professor. By the end of his career he was responsible for the teaching of the History of Economy and Economics. His research was devoted to the same topics. His textbooks are still used by the faculty and students. It is not possible to overestimate his contribution to the history of the university and popularization of economics.

One can still see the fruits of his work in the administrative area. As an independent faculty for economics was created once again within the University of Tartu in 1968 (for the first time 1938), Valner Krinal was elected by his colleagues to become the Dean. He was re-elected four times in a row. Overall, he headed the faculty for 19 years – longer than anyone else. In addition, he supervised the Research Centre for Trade in 1976–1982. And even later, during the years of reform (1991–1993) he served as the vice dean of the reform of higher education.

Certainly, the times were rather complicated during the Soviet era. Nevertheless, the Dean was able to provide both teachers and students peaceful and productive working conditions. In his later years in the University he contributed a lot to the educational reforms both within and outside the University. He played an important role in the establishment of “Hermes” – the Alumni Association of Economists. He took personally care for the regional expansion of the University to Pärnu.

Following his retirement in 1995, he devoted himself to the restoration of cooperative movement in Estonia. In addition to historical research, he also took part in the activities in the relevant institutions.

Valner Krinal remains in the memories of his colleagues as a humorous person whose attitude was always positive.

Jüri Sepp