## IN MEMORIAM PROF. PÉTER SZIRMAI

This is a very grievous news to inform you, that one of the Founders of our ERENET Network Prof. Péter Szirmai, founder and former Director of the Small Business Development Centre (SBDC) at the Corvinus University (CUB) died Thursday on 22 August 2013 after he was hospitalised due to a serious illness.

Professor Prof. Associate Szirmai at his age of 66 years was mentally full of ideas. In spite of the fact that his legs did not allowed him to move as he would like to do it, he was full of potential and ideas. From 1990, he trained entrepreneurs, later developed courses entrepreneurship, advised startups, created university business incubator at the Corvinus University and established the bachelor on entrepreneurship courses.



Prof. Péter Szirmai delivering lecture for young entrepreneurs C Életpálya Foundation

On 1-2 April 2004, the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe organized an Expert Meeting on Good Governance for SMEs, which focused on current governance practices and analysed models of SME governance. During the discussions Dr. Péter Szirmai has been called for co-operation amongst the Colleges and Universities in Central and Eastern Europe dealing with entrepreneurship and SME research and education. At his initiative the Entrepreneurship Research and Education Network – ERENET – was created at the Inauguration Meeting held during the spring 2005 at the Corvinus University of Budapest. From that time Péter was an active supporter of ERENET providing many inputs and clever advises.

In 2007, Professor Szirmai was the initiator of the Spin-Off Club, organized by the CUB Innovation Nonprofit Ltd. and SBDC at the Corvinus University of Budapest. Students with various business ideas from different universities in Budapest meet regularly and have the chance to discuss with successful entrepreneurs and learn how to make a business planning and what is the secret to run a successful company.

We also should remember his activity in creation and mentoring the ÉLETPÁLYA – Hungarian Live Wire – Foundation.

Dear Peter! We missed you and we shall always remember you!

Rest in Peace!

Dr. Antal Szabó Scientific Director of ERENET

The Funeral will be held on the 12<sup>th</sup> of September. Condolence are waited at the following address: erzsebet.gyomorey@gmail.com