

IN MEMORY OF

Yordanka Ilieva

A cherished colleague, scientist, and friend.

Chair of the CLAS Service Work Committee

Chair of the JLAB BOD, 2024 – 2025

CLAS Speakers Committee Member

2023 LRP Working Group QCD Subcommittee Member

Dear Colleagues,

It is with great sadness that I share the news that our colleague, Professor Yordanka Ilieva, passed away yesterday.

Yordanka joined the Department of Physics and Astronomy in 2005 and devoted more than two decades to advancing research, teaching, and service at USC. An internationally respected experimental nuclear physicist, she made significant contributions to our understanding of the strong force and the structure of matter through her work at Jefferson Lab and in major international collaborations.

She was dedicated to education and mentorship at USC, inspiring and training generations of undergraduate and graduate students and sharing her passion for physics and commitment to excellence.

Yordanka was a valued colleague, a distinguished scholar, and a dear friend. She will be deeply missed by our department and the broader scientific community.

Please keep Yordanka's family, friends, students, and collaborators in your thoughts during this difficult time.

Sincerely,
Alexey

==========

Alexey A Petrov apetrov@sc.edu

USC Endowed Professor of Physics
Chair, Department of Physics and Astronomy
University of South Carolina
Columbia, SC 29028

UNIVERSITY OF South Carolina

==========

Remembered with gratitude and affection by the CLAS Collaboration.

NOVEMBER 17, 2026

REMEMBERING YORDANKA ILIEVA

A Book of Remembrance

We invite friends and colleagues to share their memories, photographs, and personal messages about Yordanka

These contributions will be gathered into a keepsake for her family

SCAN TO CONTRIBUTE

Link to shared remembrance book (google slides)
click here

Looking ahead

We are also planning a dedicated session at the next CLAS Collaboration Meeting to celebrate Yordanka's scientific contributions, and lasting impact on our community.