



## Looking ahead after a sad closure of 2014

It was with great shock and sadness that the ESP learned of the sudden death of Giulio Jori at the end of December 2014, at 75 years of age. Giulio was the founding member of the committee establishing our Society in 1985.

Outstanding leader, scientist and educator, Giulio was also a friend to many ESP members. He fostered networking and collaborations between ESP member sites, and had pivotal role in development of ESP Congresses, the postgraduate ESP Photobiology School, the Brixen Photodynamic Therapy Conference and several photobiology platforms. A sample of Giulio's profound

influence and achievements are remembered inside this issue of EyeOnESP (pages 2-4).

The ESP Executive Committee is organising a number of activities to commemorate Giulio. An Obituary will soon be published in the ESP's journal, Photochemical and Photobiological Sciences. In order to assist ESP members who wish to make a personal tribute to Giulio, we are discussing the possibility for your papers published this year, either in PPS or another journal, to be dedicated to Giulio through an electronic list of manuscripts (more information to follow).

In addition, as a tribute to Giulio's enthusiasm for young researchers' inter-laboratory experiences, the establishment of a Fellowship in Giulio's name is currently under discussion, with the objective of assisting young scientists' attachment at other laboratories to learn new research techniques or start new collaborations.

At the ESP Congress 2015 a Memorial to Giulio will be presented during the opening

ceremony of the Congress. A Day of Symposia dedicated to Giulio will occur on the last day of the Congress, comprising a morning symposium on environmental PDT chaired by Amparo Faustino, Adelaide Almeida and Tim Maisch, and a series of short presentations in the afternoon by former students of Giulio's who pursued independent careers in photobiology, organised by Francesca Giuntini.

We look forward to carrying forward the work started by Giulio and others many years ago, as he would certainly wish, with an action-packed, leading-edge programme for the Congress 2015, commencing Monday evening 31<sup>st</sup> August and ending Friday afternoon 4<sup>th</sup> September. There are several new scientific and educational activities at the Congress, please read page 4 for an advance look at some of these.

Lesley Rhodes  
ESP President

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# Ciao Giulio

As a tribute to the memory of Giulio Jori, the ESP will publish an Obituary in Photochemical and Photobiological Sciences.

The following three pages contain some extracts of the contributions sent from a few of the life-long collaborators and friends of Giulio's.

## Francesco Lenci

In June 2012 I had the pleasant opportunity of spending some time with Giulio's wife Paola, talking about Giulio's commitments and our scientific careers, and again I wish to thank Paola for how she was always close to Giulio and supporting him in his courageous scientific and personal decisions. We all know that Giulio was the very special man he was, also thanks to Paola. Giulio's more-than-forty-years lasting friendship was a gift, a gift I have been enjoying with deep and sincere gratitude. After we both retired, the future was still in front of Giulio, who was, as always, concerned and committed for the hopes and the problems of young researchers, dedicated to ESP and its progress, thoughtfully enchanted by his new role of grandfather. Now the time of our great expectations is over, Giulio, the future is no more in front of us. But I know you will be happy to know that our young Colleagues keep the heritage of your dreams, your intellectual courage and your scientific severity.



## Dietrich Averbeck

I got to know Giulio as an outstanding personality and scientist, friend and colleague, who always received the respect and admiration of those around him. As the Founding Editor of the Journal of Photochemistry and Photobiology, B: Biology, Giulio took a step forward in the promotion of photobiology in Europe. In his hands, the journal became a competitive and scientifically sound instrument on the international scene. As a president of ESP, he managed to open up the society further and initiated effective collaborations with photobiology communities in Asia above the existing classical links between ESP and the American Society for Photobiology and many other photobiology societies. Giulio's editorial and organisational skills were outstanding. Many ESP presidents came and went, but Giulio was always present as a driving force, a diplomat and a stabilizing element, working for the visibility, strength, and continuity of ESP. Giulio was able to convey clear thoughts, straightforward reasoning and a true vision, always seasoned with a pinch of sense of humour.

## George Truscott

Giulio Jori was a very fine Photochemist and Photobiologist, but to me, more importantly, he was a dear friend. It is easy to list the scientific achievements of his research group in Padova but it is equally important, perhaps more important, to remember his contributions in assisting so many young photobiologists around the world, from Asia



to the USA and throughout Europe to achieve scientific maturity. I had the privilege to help him organise two NATO Advanced Study Institutes (ASI's), which illustrated this mentoring role extremely well. The young photochemists and photobiologists attending came from European countries and from as far afield as North America and China. Giulio and co-workers lectured in front of a zealous international audience. It was Giulio's efforts to insist on the integration of students from very different background and countries with each other, and with the tutors, which led to a most successful Institute. The world of Photobiology and PDT has lost a fine scientist, a superb teacher and a wonderful organiser.

## Janet Bornman

The words of Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, 'When a great man dies, for years the light he leaves behind him, lies on the paths of men', give some comfort as Giulio's scientific community try to reconcile themselves to the passing of a valued friend, mentor, innovative and life-loving scientist. With his unparalleled driving energy and enthusiasm for everything photochemical and photobiological, Giulio was an aspirational giant of his time. He did this with an astonishingly far-sighted perspective and vision of what science could achieve and how the different players from many scientific disciplines could come together to make a difference. Giulio has left us a sustainable legacy and a role model that will be difficult if not impossible to emulate.



Although there is the abyss left by Giulio scientifically, his exuberant and outgoing personality touched the lives of so many with whom he came in contact, making the loss a personal one. Our mission will be to take the baton that Giulio held for so long, and be guided by the way he unselfishly contributed as a warm, caring person, and outstanding scientist.

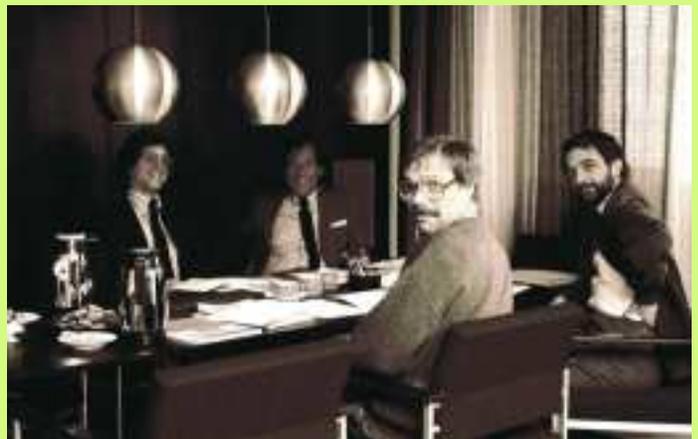
## Stan Brown

Others will pay tribute to Giulio's undoubted scientific leadership, skills and high standing but, for me, it was his power of communication, especially to younger scientists, which was so impressive. He was instrumental in setting up numerous photobiology schools and workshops in a manner which allowed them to be accessible to younger scientists, with reasonable registration fees, inexpensive accommodation and scholarships which would go a long way to meeting these costs. Like others, I have very special personal memories of Giulio, both as one of the most enthusiastic scientists I have ever met as well as one of the most humorous, always great company and always concerned for others. We shall miss him greatly, but his wisdom and skill in promoting his science amongst younger colleagues will ensure that his legacy will last for many years to come.



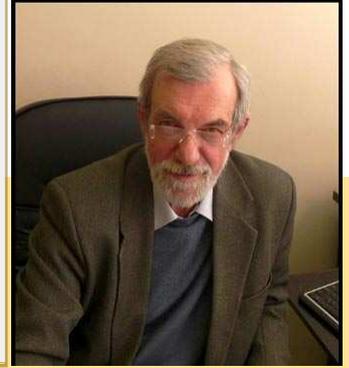
## Tom Dubbelman

Giulio will be remembered as a warm personality, a prominent photobiologist and the driving force and father of the European Society for Photobiology. He was indeed the force behind the start of the ESP. I have very fond memories of the very many contacts I had with Giulio during the meetings of the founding fathers of the ESP and those early years of the Society, as I headed an election committee that asked members whether they would stand up for election for the Executive Committee and as a member of the editorial board of the journal. Besides all this, we had common scientific interests because we both did research in the area of photodynamics. Because of all these contacts and all the visits to Padova, I decided to learn to speak Italian on my daily trips to and from my lab. It proved to be very helpful in the contacts with Paola and with Giulio's students.





## Two other friends that left us in 2014



Born in Shropshire, UK, **Geoff Holmes** gained a doctorate in plant growth and development with Prof. Harry Smith. He worked on the effects of red and far-red light on plant growth at Freiburg University, and, aged 33, he spent 2 years at the Smithsonian Radiation Biology Laboratory in Washington, DC. After returning to the UK he worked for 2 years at Reading University before his last position at Cambridge University where he continued his studies in plant photobiology. He made important contributions in the study of the effect of solar ultraviolet radiation on plants, setting up a sophisticated polychromatic irradiation system for the outdoor exposure of samples to additional UV and longer-wavelength radiation. He has been Vice-President of the International Union of Photobiology (IUPB) from 1996 to 2000. Geoff died on Christmas morning 2014.

*Kay Holmes and Francesco Ghetti.*

Former vice-president of the Russian Society for Photobiology and ESP member for many years, **Alexander Potapenko** passed away on June 13, 2014. Full Professor and Chair of Physics & Mathematics Department at the Pirogov Russian National Research Medical University since 1998, Professor Potapenko was the Founding Father and permanent Head of Photomedicine Lab. Talented scientist and experienced teacher, he inspired dozens of students, most of whom are still working in scientific institutions all over the world. Prof. Potapenko worked on the photochemotherapy and photobiology of psoralen, and pioneered the usage of photooxidized psoralen (POP) for the treatment of inflammatory and autoimmune diseases. He authored more than 200 publications and delivered countless seminars.

He loved music and travelling, he succeeded in grape growing on his country house, and he knew good wine and joke. Ultimately, he was intelligent and kind for everybody who surrounded him in his private life and at work.

*Marina Strakhovskaya, friends and colleagues.*



## Countdown to the XVI ESP Congress

September is approaching, and the Organising Committee is making the final arrangements for the XVI ESP Congress.

The exciting [programme](#) comprises 27 symposia distributed over four days of scientific schedule, which span the fields of photodermatology, molecular and cellular photobiology, phototechnology, environmental photobiology, photosensory biology, and photodynamic therapy. Each symposium features a minimum of 4 invited talks and a number of shorter communications selected amongst the submitted abstracts.

With the help of Doug Learn from Charles River Laboratories, a bespoke symposium on the theme Photobiology in Industry has been organised, to take place on the morning of the 1<sup>st</sup> September. This gives an overview of the manifold applications of photobiology in the industrial environment, and includes regulatory matters, research collaborations and insights to career pathways.

Alongside the traditional lecture delivered by the Young Investigator Awardee, the programme offers 7 Keynote lectures, which are scheduled independently to allow attendance from all delegates, as the first sessions of the morning or afternoon on 1<sup>st</sup>-4<sup>th</sup> September. A 2.5 hours poster session is scheduled for the 2<sup>nd</sup> September and includes a lunch-box (please order in advance on the registration form) to encourage conference delegates' attendance and lively discussions.

In keeping with past editions of the ESP congress, the Society offers travel fellowships to encourage attendance of PhD students and early career researchers. The closing date now having past, a record number of applications have been received, confirming our junior colleagues' eagerness to attend the meeting. The results of the applications will be announced shortly.

As highlighted on the first page a tribute to our sorely missed friend and colleague Giulio Jori will begin during the opening ceremony and continue on Friday the 4<sup>th</sup> of September with two dedicated symposia.

The OC does not forget that the ESP congresses are also a moment for members to enjoy each other's company on social as well as scientific fronts: our social programme features a welcome buffet post-registration on the 31<sup>st</sup> of August, and the gala dinner on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of September after the ESP General Assembly. In addition we are planning to visit the nearby winery (Caves São João) for a tasting of superb locally produced wines and cheese.

Abstract submission is open and will remain open until Wednesday the 20<sup>th</sup> of May. The OC is looking forward to receiving your contributions to make our XIV congress as successful as ever.