In Memoriam

Prof. Gabriel Salcedo

Gabriel Salcedo was Professor of Biochemistry at the Agronomical School of Madrid for over 30 years. During that time he combined teaching with research. As luck would have those proteins important for pathogenic defense were also allergens. This association was the beginning of a very prolific research career, over 200 articles and an H index of 34. Gabriel Salcedo’s group pioneered identifying allergens involved in baker’s asthma, in the description of the allergens mediating latex-fruit syndrome, and in the identification and characterization of LTPs as panallergens of plant foods. Internationally renowned, which earned him being named editor in some of the best magazines in the area and check it all, Gabriel Salcedo noted for listening and relating. He was able to find a way of communication between distant field such as medicine, chemistry or agronomy. Always eager to learn, but most practicing as a teacher, Gabriel was able to find synergies and interlocutions development of a line and an innovative research method for the time with very little budget. His collaborations were widespread and many of them were in friendship cultivated with care. He never was friend of large concentrations or huge tributes, but he loved meals with a few friends and good discussion. It was a very good friend to his friends. A person with a quirky sense of honesty, perhaps, with some old know in a society where what prevails is the immediacy.

His brilliance and responsibility sense was reflected on the day he decided to pass the leadership to younger people and facilitate their beginning. He retired from active science in 2006 when he was one of the people most papers published per year and cited the Spanish scene. He did it because he really thought it was fair, very rare attitude in our country.

He continued teaching until his body stopped him. Knowing his immediate future, he decided to leave college without noise, without drama, as was he. He collected everything, leaving no trace of his passage, in silence.

 Definitely, he left us. In silence, when everybody were waiting as soon unexpectedly. And we can only say: Thank you professor.