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INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL OF ADVANCES IN MEDICAL BIOTECHNOLOGY

SPECIAL SESSION IN HONOR OF ANTONIO CARLOS MASSABNI*Vera Regina Leopoldo Constantino
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The present issue of International Journal of Advances in Medical Biotechnology (IJAMB) introduces a set of five papers elaborated by Prof. Antonio Carlos Massabni and students that have attended a graduate course nominated Seminars of Integration from the Postgraduate Program in Biotechnology of the University of Araraquara (UNIARA), Araraquara, Brazil. The authors have focused on the impact of Industry 4.0 technologies on Biotechnology as well as the chance for future professionals and the work relations in this context. In other papers, the importance of biotechnology in the development of vaccines, antibiotics, hormones and scaffolds for regenerative medicine are discussed. This issue is dedicated in honor of Prof. Massabni for his commitment with teaching, research and administrative duties.

Born in the city of Pirangi in the interior of the state of São Paulo–Brazil, in November 1944, Prof. Dr. Antonio Carlos Massabni obtained the Licentiate degree and later the Bachelor degree in Chemistry at the Faculty of Philosophy, Letters and Sciences of Araraquara, Brazil, (FFCLA) in the years 1966 and 1967, respectively. In 1973, as a professor at FFCLA, he received the degree of Doctor in Chemistry under the supervision of Prof. Dr. Osvaldo Antonio Serra, working on the synthesis of phosphine oxide complexes with Co(II). In 1981, he became Associate Professor at the Institute of Chemistry at UNESP–Araraquara (IQ–UNESP) and, in 1986, received the Full Professor title in the same institution, a position held until 1998. Since then, Prof. Massabni acts as senior collaborator professor at IQ–UNESP.

Prof. Massabni contributed actively to the construction and development of IQ–UNESP, acting dedicatedly as professor, researcher and in administrative positions. He was head of the Department of Chemistry at the FFCLA and of the Department of Inorganic Chemistry at IQ–UNESP, and he also coordinated the Postgraduate Program in Chemistry at the IQ– UNESP in early 1980s. Prof. Massabni was director of IQ–UNESP from 1998 to 1992, and president of the Research Committee of IQ– UNESP. Furthermore, he served as Consultant to the Rectory of Graduate Studies and Research of UNESP and Director of Fundunesp (Foundation for the Development of the State University of São Paulo). The important contribution of Prof. Massabni at IQ–UNESP was recognized in a ceremony in which he received the title of Professor Emeritus of the institution, which is one of the highest honors for those who dedicated their career to the strengthening of teaching and university research. Nowadays, Prof. Massabni is member of the Regional Chemistry Council (CRQ–IV), São Paulo, Brazil.

Acting as advisor, Prof. Massabni supervised sixteen Master and nine Doctoral studies. Currently, as a professor of the Postgraduate Program in Biotechnology in Regenerative Medicine and Medicinal Chemistry at UNIARA, Prof. Massabni remains committed in training new researchers. As a result of his scientific career, Prof. Massabni has published about one hundred articles in specialized journals and about two hundred papers in scientific meetings. He co–authored one book in nomenclature of Inorganic Chemistry, three patent applications and has participated in the evaluation of more than fifty master's and doctoral formal examinations.

These registers show part of the career and work of Prof. Massabni as a professor and researcher. However, his contribution goes beyond the information presented here. There are a great number of students who have attended his courses and who, like us, had the opportunity to be supervised by him. Today, as professors at recognized research institutes in the national and international panorama, we can take some of what we learned from Prof. Massabni in the time when we shared his fellowship. Currently, we bring values to our students such as ethics in science and respect for the public investment received for the development of our research. In this way, we have forwarded the knowledge received, searching to contribute so that new knowledge be generated and shared by everyone looking for a better quality of life and for the welfare of our society.

Thank you, Master Massabni!*Profa. Dra. Vera Regina Leopoldo Constantino
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