IN MEMORIAM

Dr. José M.ª Negro Álvarez died unexpectedly in Murcia on 12 December 2009, aged 55.

He had studied Medicine at the Universidad de Navarra. A specialist in Allergology, he also held a Doctorate of Medicine from the Universidad de Murcia.

He began work in the Spanish Society of Allergology and Clinical Immunology (SEAIC) in 1990-1992, as a Member of the Board of Directors, and as Treasurer from 1992-1994. In the following years he unceasingly and discretely continued his work in various committees, the most outstanding being his activities as Coordinator of the Committee for Professional Affairs and the Committee for Professional Practice and Development. His untiring participation in the Data Processing Committee since its creation was essential. He was a Founding Member of the Murcian Society of Allergology and Clinical Immunology.

Expert in aspects related to the management and administration of our speciality, he enjoyed teaching, especially in the Hospital Universitario Virgen de la Arrixaca, where he worked since 1981, and as Associate Lecturer in Allergology of the Faculty of Medicine of the Universidad de Murcia since 1987. He supervised numerous doctorate courses and actively participated in the training of residents in allergology.

He worked actively in the publication of journals, being Associate Editor of "Allergology and Clinical Immunology", member of the Editorial Board of "Allergologia et Immunopathologia", the "Journal of Investigational Allergology and Clinical Immunology", and member of the Consulting Committee of "Archives of Allergy and Clinical Immunology". He published four books of enormous interest and popularity. The list of his activities goes on and includes numerous publications in national and international journals

and having written a total of 35 chapters in various books. Adapting to new technologies, in 2006 he began publication on the Internet of "Allergy Corner", of international diffusion.

It is important to highlight his active participation in the National Commission of the Speciality of Allergology, a consulting and advisory body for the Spanish Ministry of Health and Social Policy and the Ministry of Education.

Another aspect of his professional interest centred on the speciality in America, and he became Assistant Secretary of Coordination of the Latin-American Society of Allergy and Immunology. He had just returned from the WAO (World Allergy Organization) Congress in Buenos Aires when he died suddenly.

But above all he was an outstanding person and friend of all those who had the good fortune to be close to him. Personally he has honoured us with his friendship over many years of professional collaboration. He will remain in our memories, and in those of many friends, as an untiring worker, good natured, excellent husband and father, and always willing to participate in anything asked of him.

Rest in peace, my friend

María Rubio Sotés. President of SEAIC (1990-1994). Consuelo Martinez Cócera. President of SEAIC (1998-2002). Antonio Peláez Hernández. President of SEAIC (2002-2006). Tomás Chivato Pérez. President of SEAIC (2006-2010).