A homage to Professor Mario Costa

We are all deeply saddened by the premature passing away of Professor Mario Costa from IST, Lisbon. Professor Mario Manuel Gonçalves da Costa was a Cathedratic Professor in the Mechanical Engineering Institute (IDMEC) and the Mechanical Engineering Department of the Instituto Superior Técnico, IST, from the University of Lisbon. He was very active in the field of combustion and energy, having published more than 160 peer-reviewed journal articles, coordinated more than 17 R&D projects, participating and coordinating several meetings, specially, the International Conference on Energy for a Clean Environment, the Clean-Air, and was an active member of the Portuguese section of the Combustion Institute. He is also the co-author, with Professor Pedro Coelho, of a comprehensive introductory combustion textbook, one of the few written in Portuguese.

As the Brazilian combustion research community mourns his death, we remember his presence and many contributions to the careers of a host of Brazilian faculty and researchers, in the roles of a research partner, invited lecturer, master and thesis adviser or co-adviser. Since 2000, Mario worked continuously and in different projects with, at least, six different research groups in Brazil, developing research both at IST and in Brazil. He advised or co-advised nine Brazilian students. Most of them are now faculty in Brazilian universities in the field of combustion. He advised and contributed in the planning of combustion courses in graduate programs in several Brazilian institutions. Mario was an invited lecturer at the 2009 Combustion School held in São José dos Campos, São Paulo, and in two editions of the International Congress of Mechanical Engineering - COBEM.

The clarity and wit of his views, his willingness to cooperate in whatever means possible, his care and continuity in keeping the relations alive were among his traits particularly reminisced by the members of our community. This is beautifully summarized in the remarks by one of his former students: "Prof. Mario Costa wasn't only a thesis adviser, but also a friend whose advices contributed deeply to my professional development. His commitment to his work and research, which contributed so much to the engineering and knowledge in the field of combustion, will remain as a legacy to those that will follow his footsteps."

Brazilian National Combustion Network,

The Brazilian Section of the Combustion Institute.

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