OBITUARY: OVIDE ARINO

24th April 1947 - 29th September 2003

Ovide Arino was born in Toulouse (France) on 24th April 1947. He studied Mathematics in the Université de Nice (France), where his professors included high profile French mathematicians such as Dieudonné, Boutet de Monvel and Grisvard. He graduated from Nice in 1972, and obtained his PhD in 1980 from the Université de Bordeaux (France), with a thesis entitled *Contributions à l'étude des comportements des solutions d'équations différentielles à retard par des méthodes de monotonie et bifurcation.*

He joined the Université de Pau et des Pays de l'Adour (France) in 1973, and became a full professor there in 1988. He taught mainly differential calculus, ordinary and partial differential equations as well as dynamical systems. From 1999 he was First Class Research Director in I.R.D. (Institut pour la Recherche et le Développement), Paris-Bondy (France).

He held a position of Visiting Professor at Memphis State University (Memphis, Tenessee, USA), Brigham Young University (Provo, Utah, USA) and Rice University (Houston, Texas, USA), and was tenure-tracked at the University of Mississipi (Oxford, Mississipi, USA). He also visited many universities throughout the world for various lengths of time, for collaborative work and for teaching.

Ovide was a tireless propagator of the field of Biomathematics, making great effort to put students in contact with experts. His scientific reputation enabled him to bring almost any one to a Conference or Summer School that he was organizing. During the last 10 years he led the organization of more than 20 Conferences and Summer Schools. Along with Profs. D. Axelrod and M. Kimmel he was the instigator of the series of International Conferences on Mathematical Population Dynamics. He participated as plenary speaker, invited speaker, member of the scientific committee, member of the organizing committee and organizer of special sessions in many conferences, seminars and workshops. Between 1991 and 1996 alone he took part in more than 40.

Not only this, but he was also responsible for connecting many people around the world who otherwise would never have met and worked together. Thus, we are very grateful to Ovide for allowing us to start our collaborations and friendships.

He was a reviewer for many leading mathematical and mathematical biology journals. He also acted as a reviewer for various mathematical indexes, for the NIH and other national scientific organizations. His involvement in in the

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review process often led him to contact the authors directly with suggestions, most of the times refusing any acknowledgement of his contribution.

During the last 10 years, he obtained sponsorship and financing for research projects from international public institutions such as CNRS-CNR (Morocco-France), PICASSO (Spain-France), POLONIUM (Poland-France), IFREMER (France), MedCampus (E.U.), DGXIV (E.U.)

But one of Ovide's foremost qualities was his involvement with students. Over the last 20 years he was able to direct more than 60 theses (PhD., Thèses d'État, Thèses du 3eme cycle), dedicating a great amount of his time to his students, almost to the level of guru for their future development. Many of his students originating from Morocco, Algeria and other countries in the region, he played a key role in the development of Biomathematics in Northern Africa. Many of those he trained are now professors, who continued their collaboration with their former teacher, now late friend.

This enormous ability for organizing and encouraging students was backed by his great scientific capacity, imagination and deep knowledge of mathematics that became known through a long list of publications, over 150, in prestigious scientific journals, inter alia SIAM Review, Nonlinear Analysis T.M.A., J. Diff. Equations, J. Math. Biology, J. Theor. Biology, J. Math. Anal. and Applications, Math. Biosciences.

His research developed along two different and complementary lines: works with mathematical aim and modelling in population dynamics. His results in the field of delay differential equations stand out: oscillations, functional differential equations in infinite dimensional spaces, state-dependent delay differential equations. His interest in population dynamics developed fundamentally in two large areas: cell proliferation models and fisheries. Some of the problems dealt with from a mathematical point of view involved obtaining asymptotic properties of the solutions, in the framework of semigroup theory of positive operators as well as the application of aggregation of variables methods to models formulated with two time scales.

But not even the brilliance of his professional life can be compared with his human quality. Ovide was much more than a great scientist: he was very much a family man, extremely generous, always ready to lend a helping hand and a great conversationalist.

Ovide has left a significant imprint on our lives. The memory of those shared happy moments will stay forever in our hearts.

Ovide is survived by his wife Elizabeth, three sons Julien, Emilien and Lucien, one daughter Lisa and one grandson Samuel.

Rest in peace.