

## DEDICATION

**John Jacob "Jack" Marchalonis**

**July 22, 1940–June 22, 2007**



The special issues of the 11th International Symposium of Immunobiology (Issues 3, 4, and 5) are dedicated to the memory of Professor John J. "Jack" Marchalonis, a member of this journal's Editorial Board. Jack died on June 22, 2007 surrounded by his family in Tucson, Arizona, after a long battle with cancer. At the time of his death Jack was, since 2004, professor of immunobiology, pathology, and medicine, and prior to 2004 he was the chairman of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology at The University of Arizona College of Medicine in Tucson.

John Jacob Marchalonis was born on July 22, 1940 in Scranton, Pennsylvania. He received his bachelor's degree sigma cum laude and a Phi Beta Kappa in biology in 1962 from Lafayette College, Easton, Pennsylvania. He obtained his Ph.D. in biochemistry in 1967 under Dr. Gerald M. Edelman (who shared the Physiology and Medicine 1972 Nobel Prize with Dr. Rodney R. Porter) at Rockefeller University in New York City. From 1967 to 1969 he was a postdoctoral fellow in cellular immunology with Professor Sir Gustav Nossal at the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research in Melbourne, Australia.

Jack returned to the United States in 1969 to take the position of an assistant professor in medical sciences at Brown University in Providence, Rhode Island. In 1970 he rejoined the Walter and Eliza Hall Institute of Medical Research as an associate professor and head of the Laboratory of Molecular Immunology until 1976.

From 1977 to 1980 Jack headed the Section of Cell Biology and Biochemistry at the NCI Frederick Cancer Research Center (Frederick, Maryland), and was also an adjunct professor of pathology at the University of Pennsylvania College of Medicine. In 1980, he moved to the Medical University of South Carolina, Charleston, to become professor and chairman of the Department of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and was there for eight years. In 1988 he moved to the University of Arizona in Tucson as a professor and chairman of the Department of Microbiology and Immunology. He held this position until 2004, but remained as a professor and a very active faculty member of the Immunobiology Department (formerly the Department of Microbiology and Immunology). In 2001 he spent a year's sabbatical in Paris, France, at the Human Immunopathology Institute at the Université Pierre et Marie Curie. During his career and until his death he mentored and trained numerous graduate students and postdoctoral fellows.

Dr. Marchalonis was an extremely talented and creative scientist. He was a renowned highly regarded world-class scientist and one of the leaders in immunology. He published approximately 270 papers (<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/sites/entrez>) and a number of book chapters, and he also edited eight books and had two patents. One patent described a novel peptide from the T-cell receptor that was shown to be effective in preventing the progression to AIDS in an animal model, and the other was on synthetic senescent cell antigen peptides and their clinical and diagnostic uses. His publications place him in the top one percent of cited authors in biology and biochemistry, and he is listed by “Current Contents” among the 1000 most cited contemporary scientists from 1965 to 1978. An outstanding “Citation Classic” is his procedure for enzymatic radioiodination of cell-surface proteins using lactoperoxidase (*Biochem. J.* 1969, 113, 299–305). Among his many achievements are his substantial contributions to evolutionary immunology and to our understanding of the structure and evolution of antibodies and T-cell receptors. He made numerous original contributions to the structure and function of immunoglobulins and the development and regulation of the immune system. He was one the investigators responsible for current concepts of lymphocyte surface immunoglobulins and their molecular properties and function as receptors for antigens. He described the molecular properties of surface immunoglobulins of B and T lymphocytes, and their association with the cell membrane. He showed the rapid evolutionary appearance of the combinatorial recognition repertoire. This work contributed to forming a unified model of antigen recognition. He made key contributions to the understanding of antigen-specific T-cell receptors and their evolution. He was one of the first to describe natural autoantibodies and showed that the natural antibody repertoire of sharks and humans recognizes the potential universe of antigens. His recent work was concerned mainly with characterizing autoantibodies and investigating their potential roles in immunomodulation. We are grateful for his enormous contributions to immunology.

During his career, Jack received many honors and awards. He served on the Editorial Boards of 15 leading scientific journals, including *Critical Reviews in Immunology*, the *Journal Molecular Recognition*, the *Protein Journal*, and *Immunological Investigations*, and has served on a number of NIH study sections and other federal advisory panels. In 2001 he was elected into the Henry Kunkel Society, an association of distinguished investigative immunologists. For over 14 years, he was a member of the Scientific Council of the Institute of Immunobiology, a nonprofit, tax-exempt educational organization dedicated to the advancement of immunology, which holds the biannual International Symposium of Immunobiology. In 2006, he was elected vice president of the institute. We are grateful to him for his dedication and for providing expertise and guidance, which were critical for the operation and success of the institution and the symposium.

Jack Marchalonis was a very decent, honorable, and dignified man who was a reflective and profound global thinker with an engaging personality and a witty sense of humor. He was a modest person who abhorred pomposity, arrogance, and greed. He was extremely helpful to his students, very strongly supportive of his faculty, extremely loyal to his friends, and was an outstanding father. He was a dear friend who enriched the lives of all those who knew him and was really a gentleman in the true sense of the word. We will deeply miss his friendship, his insightfulness, and his wise counsel.

Jack is survived by his daughters—Lee, Elizabeth, and Emily Marchalonis—and his two brothers, Dennis and Alan Marchalonis.

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