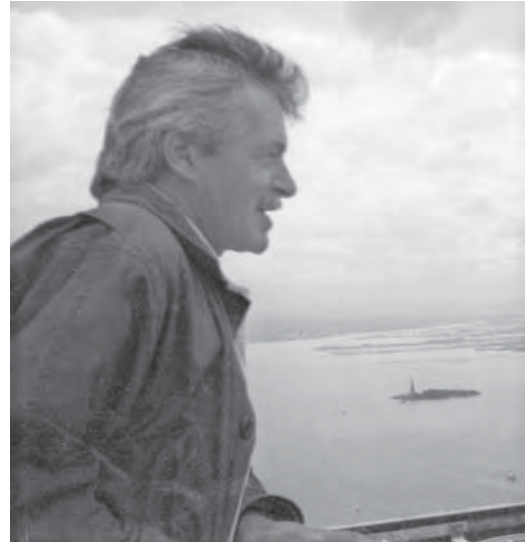


Rolando Quirós, in memoriam

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Rolando Quirós died on October 11, 2008, at the age of 65. He earned his Ph. D. at the University of Buenos Aires. Both his undergraduate career and his Ph D are in Chemistry. His Thesis dealt with: “Relationship among the levels of photosynthetic pigments and different environmental factors in aquatic environments of Argentina”. The fact of being a chemist had a fundamental influence on his view of limnology.

It is hard to write about somebody admired and respected, both professionally and personally. Rolando has left a tremendous void in our hearts. The complete personality of this enthusiastic man, committed to excellence, was reflected in the many facets of science he touched in the near 70 publications and books. In his private life, he was passionate in his daily discussions and talks; he loved life and cooked very well.

Rolando Quirós deserves recognition from all of us for his pioneer, fundamental research in Argentinean lakes and Reservoirs (ARLARE). Mainly in pampasic ponds and his classification of ponds in clear and turbid, based in physicochemical and ecological factors. He was Research Member of the National Council of Scientific and Technical Research (CONICET, Argentina) and Full Professor in the University of Buenos Aires. Rolando also acted as consulter of Fisheries Department - FAO (1986-1997), scientific researcher of INIDEP (1985-1990), consulter of Secretary of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries of Republic Argentina (1991-1994).

His lab was exemplar in the sense not only that it was very well equipped but also that there was always a productive atmosphere created by him, promoting the collaboration between his team and always seeing how things were going ready to help. Extremely careful in preparing his talks in conferences or his classes, advising students and young colleagues and always helping in both their personal and scientific lives.

We shared our work as young chemists in the Faculty of Sciences in the 70's and continued our scientific and personal relation through the years. He was very idealist and enthusiastic and continued being the same all along the years. His character generated conflicts and many people argued with him. Nevertheless most of them recognized his knowledge and scientific capacity.

His passionate way of seeing life was also a passionate way of seeing science. His enthusiasm for limnology was contagious.

The passing of Rolando Quirós is a great loss for science, yet, more than the eminent scientist, we lost the man who persisted in his condition of being a true friend.