

In memoriam of Alberto Calligaro: Master of Histology and Life

On 17th of September 2021 Alberto Calligaro, Professor Emeritus of Histology at Pavia University, came to the end of his life at seventy-eight years.

Born in Milan in 1942, he graduated in Physics in Pavia in 1967. Assistant of Normal Human Anatomy in the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery in 1968, he moved to Histology in 1973 when the new Institute dedicated to this discipline was created. Professor in charge of Histology and General Embryology since 1976 and subsequently winner of the competition for Full Professor of Histology and General Embryology, he was called to this role in 1980 by the University of Pavia.

Among the many academic teachings, he held the Histology and Embryology Course of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery of the University of Pavia continuously from 1980 to 2009.

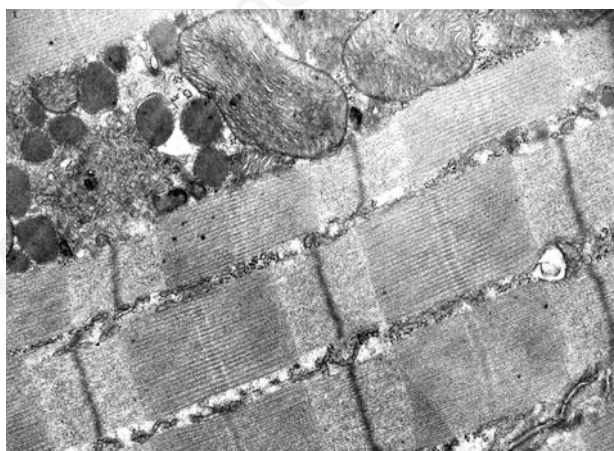
After leaving his service in 2010, he continued to carry out teaching and scientific activities at the Unit of Histology and Embryology, the Department of Public Health, Experimental and Forensic Medicine, continuing to teach Histology and Embryology as an adjunct professor until 2015.

He was Dean of the Faculty of Medicine and Surgery for two three-year periods, from 2004 to 2010, and Director of the Museum for the History of the University of Pavia from 1988 to 2010.

Professor Alberto Calligaro was a pioneer in Italy of electron microscopy and his important scientific activity has concerned numerous aspects of tissue biology, with particular reference to the themes of cell proliferation, differentiation and damage, even under experimental conditions.

In addition to basic research, in more recent years, his scientific interest has turned to translational research and regenerative medicine. His latest research concerns the experimental modifications of cells and tissues induced by treatments based on energy transfer, such as electromagnetic fields and lasers. Author of over 200 publications in scientific journals, he has also carried out an important activity as editor, co-author of didactic and cultural dissemination texts in the histological field.

A person of profound intellectual honesty and scientific rigor, Alberto Calligaro was a great teacher. First of all through his example. A fine connoisseur of his subject, he was able to understand and solve every problem of the instrument he loved: the microscope.



At the electron microscope, he spent entire days observing nature, and teaching it to his students. Those who have looked at nature with him under the microscope have been very lucky!

But besides the man of science, anyone who has known him will have appreciated his sympathy, the balance in justice, the great respect for others, the love for the family and the ability to transmit the will to work, grow and understand. He will always be with us every day. We miss you, Alberto.

His alumni