

## Obituary for Marco Mucciarelli

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Marco is gone. Marco passed away on November 7, after a hard six-month battle against a terrible disease. We have all lost his highly scientifically tuned presence and his humor, capable of easing the most intricate scientific controversies. He was able to come up with an unexpected, clever and amusing anecdote right in the middle of a scientific discussion simply to synthesize a complex scientific concept into everyday terms. Conferences will certainly be poorer without him.

Marco Mucciarelli graduated in physics from the University of Bologna in 1983. He worked as a postgraduate contract researcher and non-tenured professor at the universities of Bologna and Siena until 1987, when he joined ISMES S.p.A. as head of the Seismology group until 1998. Since then he was an Associate Professor of Geophysics at the Basilicata University and since July 2012 the Director of the Seismological Research Center of OGS.

It is almost impossible to cite his specific scientific interests because they would include more terms than the index of a seismology textbook: statistical analysis of seismicity data, seismic hazard, induced seismicity, seismotectonics, site amplification, building monitoring, etc., etc., etc. Perhaps microzonation was his favorite topic because it gave him the opportunity to travel around the world chasing strong earthquakes among other things, often with his beloved wife Rosaria, his companion in work and life. Travelling was definitely an important aspect of Marco's life: he was hungry to see the world and to penetrate the mood and the peculiarities of any place, and could suggest what to see and where to eat wherever he had been.



Due to his high-level scientific capabilities, Marco was held in high esteem both in Italy and abroad, and had an infinite list of responsibilities on commissions and in working groups.

Besides his scientific interests, Marco was popular for his efforts in teaching and communicating science in social initiatives like “I do not risk” in cooperation with the Italian Department of Civil Protection and the National Institute of Geophysics and Volcanology, and at courses, round tables and conferences. In order to understand Marco, you couldn’t do better than to visit his blog “Earthquakes, seismology and other nonsense” (<http://tersiscio.blogspot.it/>) and browse through his posts. Marco was curious about all aspects of science. But he also was a pianist in a band, practiced cross-country skiing and much more, which would be too hard to summarize.

His life was certainly short but very intense—he probably did twice that that a normal man does in a lifetime. With Marco, learning and fun were always guaranteed.

Dario Slejko