

Obituary

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Valeria Matranga, Senior Researcher of the CNR Institute of Biomedicine and Molecular Immunology “Alberto Monroy” (IBIM), Palermo (Italy), prematurely passed away on April 23, 2016 after a courageous battle against cancer. Valeria was a brilliant and determined woman completely dedicated to science. She built her career around sea urchins, beginning by studying cell adhesion in the embryo and then keeping her interest towards the cellular and molecular mechanisms leading to biomineralization, approached by the use of experimentally induced skeleton malformations. In the last years, Valeria spent much of her career focusing on the molecular mechanisms and factors involved in the progression of sea urchin immune response after engineered nanoparticle in vivo exposure. We are very grateful for her devotion, enthusiasm for science and her great collaborative and welcoming approach. Valeria’s great spirit will be missed.

Dr. Annalisa Pinsino
Matranga Group

Dr. Valeria Matranga served *Ecotoxicology* for several years as an Associate Editor for Marine Ecotoxicology and the current standing of the journal in the scientific community is due in no small part to the time and effort that she devoted to this position. Her untimely death was unexpected. She will be dearly remembered by friends and colleagues alike.

Dr. Lee Shugart
Editor-in-chief
Ecotoxicology