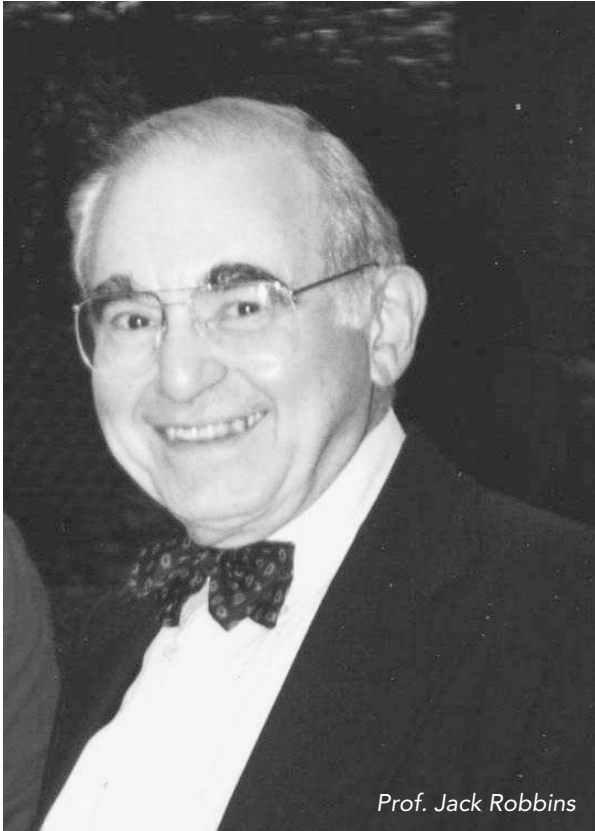


IN MEMORIAM

## A tribute to the memory of Ed Rall and Jack Robbins



*Prof. Jack Robbins*

As one of the first Italian visiting scientists who had the privilege, in the early '60s, of working in the National Institute of Health (NIH), in Bethesda, MD, USA, under the guidance of Ed Rall and Jack Robbins, I had the honor of being invited to the meeting held on February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009, celebrating the Life and Science of these two great scientists, as recalled by Philip Gorden and Ira Pastan. The meeting was very touching and scientifically outstanding as can be evinced from the Agenda. Also attending, from Italy, were Roberto di Lauro, Aldo Pinchera, Fabrizio Monaco, Salvatore Aloj, Saverio Ambesi, Salvatore Benvenga, and Giancarlo Vecchio, who, like many other Italians (see the Table for official list) had also enjoyed the privilege of attending the NIH and the unique opportunity to work and learn along-

side Ed and Jack. From the very large number of colleagues, from all over the world, present on that occasion, Ed and Jack clearly contributed not only a great deal to furthering a better understanding in this scientific field, but also to establishing collaboration between the various groups worldwide.

Both had often been to Italy to Congresses and Meetings focusing on the Thyroid. One very special occasion was the Fifth International Thyroid Conference, held in Rome, in May 1965, as recalled by Luigi Frati, current Dean and Rector at the University "Sapienza" of Rome, and by our friend Marian Shields who actively collaborated in the organization, but also the editing of the Proceedings (over 1200 pages) "Current Topics



*Prof. Ed Rall*

in *Thyroid Research*", published in December 1965 by Academic Press (New York and London). On that occasion we had a special audience received by the President of the Republic in the Quirinale and The Pope Paolo VI in Vatican City.

As already mentioned, many Italian colleagues from various parts of Italy, had the privilege of spending some time at the NIH studying and collaborating under the guidance of Ed and Jack. Besides myself (the first Italian), to recall just a few:

Messina: S. Benvenga

Naples: S. Aloj, I.F.S. Ambesi, I. Covelli, G. Salvatore, M. Salvatore, S. Varrone, G. Vecchio

Pisa: L. Bartalena

Rome: M. Centanni, M. D'Armiento, A. Farsetti, S. Grimaldi, F. Monaco, A. Pontecorvi, S. Sciacchitano, G.B. Salabè.

Professor Luigi Frati, Rector of the "Sapienza" University of Rome and Dean of the Faculty of Medicine, was unable to be present at the recent meeting held in Bethesda, but had been actively involved in meetings with Ed and Jack on several occasions and for the memorable International Scientific Meetings, held at the Accademia dei Lincei in Rome in 1972, focused on "*Molecular Mechanisms and regulation of Thyroid Hormones Biosynthesis - an example of International collaboration*".

I should like to remember that both Ed and Jack have been granted the honorary degree (*laurea honoris causa*) by the Italian Faculties of Medicine: Federico II University, in Naples (Ed Rall), and the University of Messina (Jack Robbins); in both occasions I have had the gratifying privilege to act as co-chairman of these Faculties.

M. Andreoli - May 18, 2009

Professor Emeritus in Endocrinology  
University of Rome "Sapienza", Rome, Italy

---

ITALIAN FELLOWS IN THE CLINICAL  
ENDOCRINOLOGY BRANCH, NIDDK, NIH  
Branch chief: J.E. Rall, 1995-1961  
Scientific Director: J.E. Rall, 1961-1982

---

Mentor	Fellow	First year
Robbins	Mario Andreoli*	1959
	Gaetano Salvatore**	1962
	Marisa Salvatore**	1962
	Giancarlo Vecchio**	1963
	Giovanni Salabè*	1966
	Fabrizio Monaco*	1970
	Settimio Grimaldi*	1981
	Carla Ramacciotti	1980
	Luigi Bartalena	1981
	Alfredo Pontecorvi*	1983
	Marco Centanni*	1984
	Salvatore Benvenga	1985
	Daniela Foti	1986
Antonella Farsetti*	1988	
Wolff	Italo Covelli **	1964
	Helga Salabe*	1966
	Stelio Varrone**	1967
	Ferdinando Cortese**	1975
	Fabrizio Gentile**	1986
Edelhoch	Salvatore Aloj**	1969
	Alfredo Tenore**	1971
	Guido Rossi **	1971
	Fiorella Meldolesi**	1975
	Giovanni Colonna**	1976
	Gaetano Irace**	1980
	Silvestro Formisano**	1983
	Alfredo Di Cerbo **	1983
	Vincenzo Macchia**	1965
Pastan	Vincenzo Macchia**	1965
Roth	Angelo Bianco**	1973
Nikodem/Rall	Mario Tecce	1985
	Domenico Grieco**	1986
	Emmanuele Jannini*	1990

---

\*From the University of Rome; \*\*From the "Federico II" University of Naples.