

## OBITUARY

**Antoni Trias**

Dr. Antoni Trias, Editor of *International Orthopaedics*, died suddenly on August 1<sup>st</sup> 1998, – the first day of his holiday. Toni Trias was elected editor of the journal in 1990 and the first Spanish orthopaedic surgeon to serve the office.

Toni Trias was devoted to the progress of the journal, and during his eminent editorship the journal steadily improved in quality and importance. At his accession – as so many editors before him – he had to struggle with regularity, publication time, handling of the manuscripts, quality of the reviewing process, citation index, acceptance rate etc. The means were not always easy, but with the help from the members of the Editorial Board, Toni Trias' gentle and steady kindness succeeded in obtaining regular publications, expanding volume and improving quality.

During the 1990's the competition among scientific journal grew harsher. Due to the economic recession governmental and other libraries had to make priorities among subscriptions, and as a consequence the number of subscriptions of bi-lingual scientific journals decreased. *International Orthopaedics* in which articles could be published in both French and English also had to change, and starting 1997 manuscripts were only to be published in English. This change was necessary but perhaps not in full harmony with some of the fundamental ideas of SICOT and neither with the conviction of the editor. When the possibility was at issue, Toni Trias was therefore an eager proponent of also publishing part of the *Journal* in Spanish.

As editor Toni Trias was a distinguished international person with many contacts from his time in Canada and the States. His friendliness and hospitality were immense. In his conduct and character he combined many admirable Spanish characteristics. In his heart he was, however, a true Catalanian, and we in the Editorial Board never doubted. In the spare time after meetings, political systems were often discussed. After one of the first meetings in Barcelona we were all taken to the square behind the Cathedral. Here we joined the Catalanians and learned to dance in circles – putting coats and briefcases in the middle. The square was never the same after this. Now where we mourn his early death, we will once again see the Cathedral in our minds, – a remembrance of a fine editor and a good friend.

K. Skou Andersen