Luigi Sacconi was born on February 28, 1911 in S. Croce sull'Arno, between Florence and Pisa, Italy.

In 1941 he graduated in Pharmacy from the University of Florence, then he obtained a position at the University of Parma. In 1942 he moved to Turin where he obtained a degree of Doctor in Chemistry; in 1943 he moved back to Florence as Assistant Professor.

He became full professor of General and Inorganic Chemistry in 1954 at the University of Palermo and in 1960 he joined the Faculty of Science in Florence. He was the founder of the Institute of General and Inorganic Chemistry of the University of Florence and of the CNR Laboratory "Institute for the Study of Stereochemistry and Energetics of Coordination Compounds". His scientific development coincided with the development of coordination chemistry to which he contributed new compounds with unusual geometries and electronic properties. He understood the role of physical methods in modern chemistry and pursued in particular magnetochemistry, X-ray diffractometry, calorimetry, IR and visible spectroscopy and magnetic resonance techniques. He created an influential and internationally known school of inorganic chemistry. He was appointed Professor Emeritus in 1986. He died on September 1, 1992.

These lectures are a tribute to an exceptional man and to an outstanding scientist who greatly contributed to the advancement of the chemistry of metal ions.

The previous lecturers in this series:

Prof. H.B. Gray, Caltech, Pasadena, CA, USA

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Prof. V. Balzani, University of Bologna, İtaly

Prof. D.H. Busch, University of Kansas, USA

Prof. D. Mansuy, Université R. Descartes, France

Prof. G. Alberti, University of Perugia, Italy

Prof. E.I. Stiefel, Princeton University, NJ, USA

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Fondazione

LUIGI SACCONI

Dipartimento di Chimica Università degli Studi di Firenze

The Luigi Sacconi Memorial Lecture in Chemistry

2004



Born, 1932, in Italy. M.D. 1957, University of Modena, Italy. "Habilitation" (Libera Docenza) in General Pathology (1965) and in Biochemistry (1968). Ernesto Carafoli took several academic positions in Italy (Modena, Padua), and abroad (Baltimore, Zurich, Nairobi, Mexico City, Caracas and Cleveland). Currently he is Professor of Biochemistry at the University of Padua.

He has received many awards and honours, among them the Laureae Honoris Causa in Natural and Mathematical Sciences from the University of Åbo, Finland (1993), in Medicine from the Carol Davila University of Bucharest, Rumania (1995) and in Medicine and Pharmacy from the University of Cluj-Napoça, Rumania (1998). He is corresponding member of the Accademia Nazionale dei Lincei (Rome, Italy), and honorary member of the American Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

He has lectured in many Universities and research Institutions worldwide and has been Plenary and Keynote lecturer in several important International Conferences.

He is member of a dozen professional Societies, and of the Editorial or Advisory Board of several journals in the area of biochemistry and biophysics. He has been Editor or Co-editor of some 20 books in the area of membrane biochemistry, calcium biochemistry and physiology, and bioenergetics. He is Associate Editor of the Encyclopedia of Biological Chemistry, Elsevier-Academic Press, 2004.

He is member of the Scientific Committees of several European Agencies, and he has been member of the International Scientific Advisory Board of UNESCO (ISAB) (1996-1999).

Carafoli has been Co-organizer of about 30 International Congresses and Symposia, and of about 20 Advanced Courses held in six countries.

Finally, he is author of about 450 articles in refereed journals, about 100 book chapters and about 70 invited review articles. They deal with muscle biochemistry, membrane biochemistry, mitochondrial bioenergetics, membrane transport of ions (calcium specially by pumps) regulation of calcium metabolism.

The Luigi Sacconi Memorial Lecture in Chemistry

Prof. Ernesto Carafoli

Università di Padova



Thursday April 22, 2004 17.30 pm

Aula Magna Polo Scientifico Università di Firenze Sesto Fiorentino

"Calcium signalling: a meeting point for structural and cellular biology"