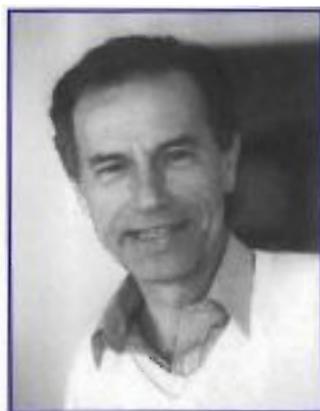


TAKIS ANAGNOSTOPOULOS

Takis Anagnostopoulos, research director in INSERM, the French medical research institute, and previous Head of a renal physiology research unit in Paris, died on November 6, 2000 at the age of 64. Born in Patras, Greece, he left his country at the age of 17 to pursue medical studies in Montpellier, in the south of France.



After becoming an Intern in Paris hospitals, his discovery of basic research in the laboratory of Professor Pierre Royer in the paediatric service of Necker Hospital for Sick Children definitively changed the orientation of the rest of his professional life. He dedicated himself to renal physiology, especially to ion transport in the nephron. For training in these techniques, he went to the United States for three years, first to the laboratories of Dr. Watson and Dr. Bentzel in Buffalo and then to the labs of Dr. Pitts and Dr. Windhager in New York City where he picked up the techniques of *in vivo* micropuncture and, especially, electrophysiology, which became his preferred technique. Upon his return to Paris, he created the first French laboratory of renal electrophysiology while simultaneously continuing his training in the lab of Prof. Edouard Coraboeuf, director of the laboratory of cardiac electrophysiology at the University of Orsay.

His laboratory, created originally with his faithful technician Micheline Bouthier, also tragically deceased at the end of last year, developed rapidly during the 80's within the INSERM Unit directed by Dr. Renée Habib at the Necker Hospital for Sick Children. Throughout this period, Takis participated with energy and even combativeness in the controversies and progress of the field. He was among the first to measure transepithelial and transmembrane electric potentials in the nephron, he developed an

original mathematical analysis which, by considering the renal tube as a system of two concentric electrical cables, allowed determination of the full set of resistance parameters of the tubular epithelium, and he recognised very early the importance of anion exchange in renal transport.

Doctor of Medicine and Docteur ès Sciences, he was also a teacher in three Paris universities and promoted, as early as the 1970s, a modernisation of medical and biological curricula to keep up with the fantastic progress of biological knowledge. Throughout his scientific career, he manifested intellectual rigor, clarity, and enthusiasm. From day to day, we appreciated his tolerant spirit, his simplicity, and his friendship towards all those who worked with him.

Outside his scientific activities, he liked nothing better than to join his "buddies" at the Orsay soccer club, and it was clear that being able to discuss soccer counted for a lot if you were a member of his laboratory. His other passion was, of course, Greece. Although he was completely integrated in his adopted country, which was also that of his children and his professional success, nonetheless, as he grew older, the nostalgia for Greece, perhaps for his youth, became more present, and he loved to return to his mother country as often as possible.

So, Takis has left us, but we hold the memory of an eternal smiling youth full of life.

*Aleksander Edelman, Gabrielle
Planelles, Jacques Teulon &
S Randall Thomas*