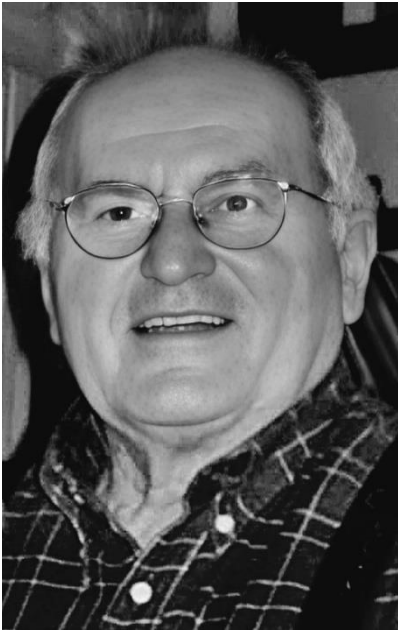


Dr Ulderico Bulgarelli



Dr. Ulderico Bulgarelli, widely known as Paolo, an applied mathematician deeply involved in ship hydrodynamics for part of his life, passed away on January 22nd, 2024.

Paolo started his scientific career in the late 1960s, at the “Mauro Picone” Institute for Calculus Applications, National Research Council of Italy (CNR). There he had fruitful cooperation with leading scientists in numerical analysis and scientific computing, followed, in the 1970s, by long term scholarships at prestigious institutions abroad, like the Mathematical Institute of the Polish Academy of Sciences, Warsaw, Poland, the Department of Computer Sciences, University of Wisconsin, Madison, USA, and the Department of Mathematics, University of Texas, Arlington, USA.

In the 1980s, his teaching activity in mathematics extended to fluid mechanics, starting with a course in computational fluid dynamics for PhD students at the University of L'Aquila. It was the initial stage for the development of a mathematical-numerical modeling research group for fluid dynamics that will change the course of ship

hydrodynamics in Italy. In fact, with the advice and support of Prof. Renzo Piva, University of Rome La Sapienza, in 1986 Paolo moved to INSEAN, the so-called “Naval Tank”, the national ship model basin. The activities of the institute were then limited to conventional model testing of naval and commercial vessels. There, with little funding by the Ministry of Transport, Paolo started to set up a research group that, in few years, made INSEAN a worldwide recognised leading institution in ship hydrodynamic research: they were “on the map”, as David Taylor director, Bill Morgan, once said.

Paolo has long been active in the ITTC community, serving in technical activities (he was a member of the Resistance and Flow Committee in the 19th, 20th and 21st ITTC, of the Resistance Committee in the 22nd ITTC) and on governance bodies (as a member of the Executive Committee and Advisory Council in the 24th, 25th and 26th ITTC).

Paolo retired in 2009. On 1st January 2011, INSEAN became part of the CNR (where it all started fifty years earlier), subsequently taking its current name “Institute of Marine Engineering” (INM).

Paolo was a scientific father for many researchers: he asked for the best and, at the same time, encouraged us to look at the “pieces of the puzzle that remain”. He always invited, as Nobel Prize winner Elias Canetti said: “Don't always get to the end. There's a lot in between!”.

