

In Memoriam — ELIO VIANELLO (1929-1998)



Elio Vianello was Professor of Electrochemistry at the Università di Padova. He was born in Venice, Italy, on August 27, 1929, and died in Padova, on March 6, 1998. He is survived by his beloved wife Silvana, his son Marco and his daughter Silvia.

He obtained his Laurea Degree in chemistry at the Università di Padova in 1955 and Professorship in Electrochemistry in 1959. In 1960, he was a Research Associate at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, under the direction of Professor P. J. Elving. In the same year, he became a Research Officer of the Italian National Research Council. In 1961, he obtained his second professorship in Physical Chemistry. In 1963, he was appointed group leader of the Centro di Studio per la Polarografia until 1968. In 1966, he became Full Professor of Electrochemistry in the Department of Physical Chemistry of the University of Padova, and served as its chairperson (1972-74).

Professor Vianello dealt with different experimental and theoretical aspects of molecular electrochemistry. He created a new oscillographic instrument for transient electrochemical techniques, which was a prototype for instruments contributing to the rapid development of modern electrochemistry. He published about 100 papers in the field of labile species, especially those generated by elec-

troreduction in organic solvents. In the late 1950s he began collaborating with Professor J.-M. Savéant of the University of Paris; they developed theoretical fundamentals of linear scan voltammetry. Much of Vianello's activity during the last three decades has been devoted to mechanistic aspects of molecular electrochemistry.

Professor Vianello served as President of the Electrochemistry Division of the Italian Chemical Society (1990-92), Chairperson of the Molecular Electrochemistry Division of the International Society of Electrochemistry (ISE), (1991-93) and Vice-President of the ISE (1994-96). He was particularly proud to be one of the two organizers of the 31st ISE Meeting, held in 1980 in his hometown, Venice. He also organized the 7th EUCHEM Conference on Molecular Electrochemistry in 1989 (Assisi, Italy).

Since 1971, Vianello was involved with the development of Somali National University. As a result of his humanitarian and cultural contributions in this endeavor, Elio Vianello was awarded by the government.

Elio Vianello was a man of many interests and great curiosity. He was particularly aware of the importance of being rigorous. He reminded us that in our profession, quality is often superior to quantity. We hope that we shall be able to continue along the path he showed us in his own discreet, but convincing, way. He will be missed.

This notice was submitted by Armando Gennaro and Flavio Maran.