



5th BCNP and XXXI RESEM: a Tribute to Biodiversity

Dreamers make dreams come true said Fed Kavli a Norwegian who wanted to help scientists to make the world a better place for future generations (1927-2013). His dreams relied on astrophysics, nanoscience and neuroscience because he believed these were the tools for the future. However in my dreams I have always thought that natural products were important because they can lead us anywhere in Science. They were the origin of our life and will be our end if we do not take care of them. Thus notwithstanding my hesitation in chairing the 5th Brazilian Conference on Natural Products and XXXI Meeting on Micromolecular Evolution, Systematics and Ecology I accepted thanks to the full support of all members of the organizing committee. We had to overcome many problems however in the end when the first speakers appeared on the stage and began presenting their ideas and lectures we were there mesmerized watching the presentations as if we were in a dream and we were sure then that the

5th BCNP and XXXI RESEM would be a success. All told, we had 8 plenary lectures, 14 invited lectures, 12 short lectures, and 284 posters. One last effort was demanded, though, a special natural products issue in our Journal of the Brazilian Chemical Society, paying tribute to our biodiversity. This indeed was achieved thanks to the contributions of many renowned international scientists and speakers, from Brazil and all over the world. This special issue covers all aspects of the research on natural products such as isolation, structural, elucidation, bioactivities displayed in 6 reviews and 15 articles, focusing the chemistry and biosynthesis of plants, microorganisms and others. We are certainly grateful to all contributors and we hope this issue will remain special for many generations.

To all of you who made this dream come true my sincere gratitude.

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