



JEAN CARLET



*C'est mon ami et c'est mon maître,  
C'est mon maître et c'est mon ami,  
Dès que je l'ai vu apparaître,  
J'ai tout d'suit su que c'était lui,  
Lui qui allait m'apprendre à être,  
Ce que modestement je suis.*

(Serge Lama)

For the just-retired generation, Jean is a workaholic, creative and uncontrollable leader. For our generation, Jean has been and still is an inspiring and demanding mentor. For the younger generation, Jean Carlet is an intriguing pioneer who they have met, read or at least heard about. Jean has inspired several generations of intensivists by his dedication to critical care and to the European Society of Intensive Care Medicine that he presided exactly 20 years ago, when he was less than 50 years old.

Writing this citation for this well-deserved ESICM medal is more than a pleasure. It is also a responsibility. The responsibility of witnessing how freedom can be consistent with an amazingly rich and well-documented carrier. Having graduated in 1976 from the Paris University, Jean is board certified in cardiology, internal medicine and critical care. He completed a high profile fellowship with the late Maurice Rapin in Creteil that did not go unnoticed. Jean left Creteil in 1980, to set up by himself (and going against many) the intensive care unit of the Saint-Joseph Foundation in Paris. After only a few years, his ICU became one of the top ICUs in Paris: the place to be for interns, residents and fellows to learn and be trained in critical care, medicine, antimicrobial resistance and stewardship and clinical research, but also in ethics, team building, collaborative work and most importantly, a place where you learn that critical care is not a specialty like others.

In Jean Carlet's ICU, everyone has a place. Every voice counts. Pressure gives way to humility. You can learn from silence. Size doesn't matter. Nurses and doctors are part of the same team. You learn how to value others, and the patient (and his relatives) is at the center of every single decision.

In his ICU, Jean was the boss, the teacher, the clinician, the maestro, the conductor, the negotiator, the talent manager, but also the friend and the one leaving you enough space to be who you are and exist against all odds. Jean Carlet has always been perceived by all his fellows as the best professor to teach you how to think outside the box.

Jean handed over his hospital position to Benoit Misset and Maite Garrouste in 2008, when he was called to become Head of the Research Programme at the French National Authority for Health. His medical career has been centered by a deep, committed and militant engagement into a smart leadership at a local, national, European and international level. If critical care and infection control have always been his pillars, Jean also engaged in clinical research in ARDS with Antonio Artigas, in sepsis with Bernard Régnier and Jean-Marc Cavillon, and in ethics and outcome prediction.

Along with Antonio Artigas and Michael Niederman, he has created 23 years ago the international symposium on infections in the critically ill (ISICIP).

Continuously febrile and active, in 2011, Jean created the WAAAR (World Alliance Against Antibiotic Resistance), pulling together 750 physicians and scientist, but also patients, from 55 countries, and endorsed by 145 teaching societies, including most of the European critical care and ID societies (and of course ESICM), and also CDC, ECDC, the WHO, or the United Nations. He is the President of the WAAAR and has been President of the National Task Force on antibiotic preservation at the Ministry of Health.

Jean was among the critical care pioneers. Stepping down from critical care also gives him more time to dedicate to his children and grand-children, to continue the mutual emulation and encouragement with his wife Catherine Cordonnier, an international leader in haematology, and to perform lyrical songs, solo or with a choir. His ambition is to become the oldest baritone singer in the world with a critical care and ID background and who can doubt it?

Jean Carlet, the tenor and now baritone singer, who was unique in his admiration for his mentees, will always be a model for us. We admire you Jean. We love you. Merci.

**ELIE AZOULAY**

Editor-in-Chief of ICM Journal

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