It is a great privilege to write this citation for Dr. Jordi Mancebo for the award of Honorary Membership of ESICM. I have nominated him for this prestigious award as he is a well-respected intensivist, researcher and teacher who has always promoted the highest standards of care for patients. A simple description of all his outstanding achievements in the field of Intensive Care Medicine would be more than enough to inspire readers. However, it is in interviews with him and some of his closest collaborators that we gain insights into his amazing personality.

Dr. Mancebo is the Director of the Intensive Care Department at the Hospital of Santa Creu and Sant Pau in Barcelona. He has been an associate professor at Universitat Autonoma de Barcelona and visiting professor at the Mayo Clinic, Denver Health Medical Center, Loyola University of Chicago, at the National Institutes of Health Bethesda, Yale University School of Medicine, Mc Gill University in Montreal and the University of Toronto among others. As a result of multiple research stints at the Service de Réanimation Médicale at the Centre Hospitalier Universitaire Henri Mondor in Créteil and at the Centre Hospitalier Université in Montréal, he has been part of important international research networks like PLUG. He is the author of numerous textbooks and of more than 200 scientific articles. He is one of the most distinguished researchers in the field of respiratory failure, non-invasive and invasive mechanical ventilation and ventilator weaning. He has been involved in several national and international scientific societies, notably, ESICM, where he has been appointed to several positions: Treasurer, Chairman of the Acute Respiratory Failure Section, a member of the Council and a member of the Executive Committee. His sense of friendship, his gentle and human personality along with his professional qualities make him an inspiring example for younger intensivists.

Dr. Lluis Blanch shared residency with Dr. Mancebo. He describes Dr. Mancebo as passionate about bedside medicine, an expert on respiratory physiology associated with mechanical ventilation, a researcher contributing to the advancement of knowledge and an excellent debater of scientific hypotheses. In short, an intensivist physician that we would all like to have as a professional colleague, as a friend in life and as a teacher. To quote him directly, “Jordi has taught us that the moments at the bedside observing the patient, performing lung mechanics calculations, observing how the patient behaves after modifying ventilator parameters and constantly re-evaluating the patient’s evolution cannot be replaced yet, and probably never will be replaced, by any software.”

Dr. Indalecio Moran, one of Dr. Mancebo’s collaborators at the Hospital Sant Pau attests that his professional path cannot be understood without knowing the person behind it. The consistency, seriousness and coherence demonstrated in his work are transmitted to those around him. Without losing the rigor of a good teacher, he communicates with passion and simplicity his knowledge not only of respiratory pathophysiology and ventilatory management but of the broad practice of medicine for seriously ill patients. His immense capacity for work, his tireless dedication and commitment to his patients, as well as his sense of service to colleagues, the hospital and the scientific community at large are impeccable examples for younger intensivists who have had the privilege of working alongside him.

Dr. Laurent Brochard, his closest scientific collaborator, confirms that Jordi is a lover of physiology and likes to teach and transmit his knowledge. He never abandons scientific rigor and critical scrutiny because his research interest, like his clinical attitude, is focused on the benefit of the patient. I have explored the possibilities of bedside physiology with Jordi early in my career and, have worked with him closely over the years, always in the spirit of friendship and fun. He has occupied multiple roles in ESCIM and I am extremely happy for this recognition of his talent and his commitment to science and patients.

Jordi has collected a lot of friends in the course of collaborations and academic projects all over the world. I am sure that all of them, not only the ones mentioned here, congratulate him on his Honorary Membership.

Ricard Ferrer Roca
ESICM Treasurer