



Maurício Martins Rodrigues

(Rio de Janeiro, 8th August 1961 – São Paulo, 23rd June 2015)



Mauricio Rodrigues, born in Rio de Janeiro, died on the 23rd June 2015 at the age of 53, in São Paulo. He was Full Professor at the Federal University of São Paulo (Unifesp), since 2001. Mauricio graduated (1983) in Biological Sciences at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ), Institution in which he also completed his master's (1985) and doctorate (1989) degrees. He then conducted his post-doctorate training at the New York University School of Medicine (1989-1991), in the United States, where he was professor between the years of 1991 and 1994.

Currently, he worked teaching in the Cell and Molecular Therapy Center (CTCMol-Unifesp) and devoted to the study of the immune response induced by DNA vaccines, recombinant antigens and viruses with emphasis on the development of vaccines against pathogenic protozoa. He dedicated the last 20 years to the development of a therapeutic vaccine against Chagas disease (see article on: agencia.fapesp.br/20661). The investigative effort involved researchers from the Oswaldo Cruz Institute, the Research Center René cracked, Fluminense Federal University, the Federal University of Minas Gerais, the Federal University of Santa Catarina, Unifesp and the University of Massachusetts Medical School, USA, gathered by the National Institute of Science and Vaccine Technology, which Rodrigues was deputy coordinator.

Since 2014, Rodrigues also coordinated a FAPESP thematic project whose goal was to develop a prophylactic vaccine against the form of malaria caused by *Plasmodium vivax*, which accounts for almost 90% of cases of the disease in Brazil.

He formed at Unifesp and the University of São Paulo (USP) about 35 students of Masters, Doctoral and Postdoctoral, which are now professors and researchers at institutions such as USP, Unifesp, State University of Campinas, State University of Rio

de Janeiro, Federal University of Pará, Federal Institute of Goiás, Fiocruz and North Shore University in the United States.

Mauricio had also been approved in the competition for professor of the Department of Immunology of the USP Institute of Biomedical Sciences and was awaiting contracting.

Hugo Pequeno Monteiro, a professor at Unifesp and CTCMol coordinator, pointed out that Mauricio was a "great fighter". "He fought for life and science. He held an important job, developed prototypes of vaccines and formed many. Made a major contribution to scientific research", Monteiro said.

Adapted from

http://agencia.fapesp.br/mauricio_martins_rodrigues_professor_da_unifesp_morre_aos_53_anos/21405/