

## Ramon Margalef, a curriculum vitae

Born in Barcelona, may 16. 1919. Early interest in observation of nature, chiefly in insects and fresh-water organisms. Formal studies much delayed by reason of the Spanish civil war, into which he was drafted. Free from military service in 1943, works for a while as a clerck, gets some facilities to work in the Botanical Institute of Barcelona and publishes a first paper on fresh-water algae (1944), enters the University with the help of a grant of the Spanish Research Council (C.S.I.C.). Graduates (Natural Science) in the University of Barcelona in 1949. Doctorate in the University of Madrid (1951) with a thesis on "Temperature and morphology in organisms", based mainly on experimental work with green algae. Research worker (1952-1970) and director (1965-67) of the Instituto de Investigaciones Pesqueras (Institute of Fisheries Research). Work on primary production and plankton in the Mediterranean, Atlantic and Caribbean, with many research trips and cruises. Main interest in physiology and ecology of phytoplankton, and in the physical mechanisms that control production, including experimental approaches in the laboratory. Red tides and upwelling areas provided many suggestions, and the importance of the deep nitrite maximum was recognized early as a good signal of basic properties of pelagic ecosystems. On a more theoretical approach, information theory was applied to description of historical development of systems, in diversity and succession. Plant pigments were used early as indicators of dynamic properties of plankton and of corals. Since 1955 courses on Ecology and Marine Biology on an irregular basis in the University of Barcelona, and also in Puerto Rico (1958), Woods Hole (1960), University of Paris and Institute Océanographique (1964-65), University of Chicago (1965), UNAM of Mexico, Venezuela, Yale University, University of Perugia, Instituto Agronómico Mediterráneo de Zaragoza, Université Laval, Université du Québec at Montreal, University of California at Davis, etc. Since 1967 Professor of Ecology at the University of Barcelona; after discontinuinig work with the Instituto de Investigaciones Pesqueras, the activity is redirected towards theoretical ecology and returns to Limnology, with a new group of coworkers, starting with a general survey of Spanish reservoirs (1972-1975) that has been repeated recently by former students. Has directed about 50 doctor thesis. Retired, by reason of age, in 1986; emeritus professor of the University of Barcelona since 1986.

Member of the Academy of Sciences and Arts of Barcelona (1957) and foreign or corresponding Member of the Academies of Madrid, Sevilla, and the U.S. National Academy of Sciences (1985). Dr. honoris causa of the Universities of Aix-Marseille and Laval (Québec). Honorary Member of the British Ecological Society, of the Americal Ecological Society and of the Institució Catalana d'Història Natural. Huntsman Award on Marine Sciences (Halifax), Prize Ramon y Cajal (1984) from Spain. Medals Narcis Monturiol from the Government of Catalonia, and Prince Albert from the Oceanographic Institute (Paris).

Married to Maria Mir; four children, and as yet, seven grandchildren.

Has published a total of more than 350 papers and about a dozen books, among them: Perspectives in Ecological Theory (Chicago, 1968). Ecologia (Barcelona, 1974), La Biosfera entre la termodinámica y el juego (Barcelona, 1980), Limnología (Barcelona, 1983).