THE POLYTECHNIC REPORTER

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Letters

To the editor:

As an SUE major ('13) integrating many disciplines into my studies-we must play in many sandboxes-I appreciated George Bugliarello's depth and breadth of knowledge. Prof. Bugliarello was not just a civil engineering teacher when he presented material and posed questions, but also an involved citizen of a world full of people-driven change.

His classes were insightful and refreshing, even when their subject matter was more problem than answer. The attentiveness and energy he brought to the classroom was palpable. It was as though he could make his thoughts tangible, and he wanted his students to make the same effort.

The professor's inclusive nature was evident in his consideration of the full range of people involved in the scenarios we touched on, and especially in his forward thinking. He always reminded us that there yet may be billions of years of life on this planet. He made us wonder: Would our approach, our answers, really advance sustainability and resiliency?

Prof. Bugliarello's zeal for teaching could inspire even the most distracted students. He knew the complications presented by his subject matter and was sympathetic to the difficulties students might face in learning to see their world with newly informed understanding.

That said, he did not tolerate half-measures and laziness, and would speak plainly when he saw that sort of behavior.

I could not have had a better start to my career than my education at NYU-Polv. nor a more comprehensive introduction to sustainable urban environments than my class with Prof. Bugliarello.

In the years ahead, I look forward to seeing hints and glimmers of Prof. Bugliarello's impact on our world, as his students wield the substantial gift he gave us all: knowing that the biggest concerns can be addressed by giving full consideration to the individuals involved, not only to those here now, but also those to come.

George, thank you and goodbye.

James Nadeau

Reflections

The Reporter received the following statements from friends and colleagues of George Bugliarello's

Compiled by JESSICA BERTSCHY

"This gentle man also had

the skills of a diplomat when

it came to soothing bruised

egos or enticing a friend or

acquaintance to take on one

enthusiasm and support, and

I feel honored to have worked

with him for the last 11 years.

But mostly I am proud to have

senior editor at the National

Dr. Carol R. Arenbera.

Academy of Engineering

called him my friend."

"I will greatly miss George's

more task and write for us.

and inspired respect.

"He had a unique talent for bringing out the best in everyone with whom he interacted, drawing out the capabilities of his students here at NYU-Poly, as well as of those who served with him on national and international committees.

"He did all this with great humility and respect for others.'

Rose Emma, assistant to Dr. Bugliarello for over 20 years

"Our conversations were as much about art, language, culture, and politics as about science and engineering.

"When I spoke and worked with George over the years, I realized how little I really knew about the world and how much I would learn from him in even the most casual conversations. He was that truly very rare authentic 'Renaissance engineer.'

"Above all, I will remember his engaging personality and his vision and inspiring passion for a better world throughout his life.

"George directed his powerful intellect, his compassionate nature, and his nurturing spirit to all his endeavors and his interactions with colleagues, friends, students, and everyone who had the good fortune to know him.

"We will all miss him deeply."

Dr. Peter D. Blair, executive director of the National Research Council's engineering and physical sciences division

"I would utilize the term 'legendary' to describe my friend Dr. George Bugliarello!

"He was a genius who yet had the ability to show humility, even if he was the most intelligent individual in the room."

> Retired Marine Corps Lt. Gen. Fred McCorkle

"George wore his brilliance "George was always enand his accolades lightly. He couraging and upbeat. In had an air of politesse and over 60 board and strategy humility and a sense of hucommittee meetings with mor that drew people to him him, he never failed to tell me what a great meeting it was

> the company's performance. "George was also continuously challenging the status quo, trying to get management out of our comfort zone and into new ways of thinking or new lines of business."

> and how pleased he was with

Rick McNeel, president and chief executive of the LORD Corporation

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JESSIA LEONARD FOR THE POLYTECHNIC REPORTER NYU-Poly President Jerry M. Hultin, who hosted the memorial service in Pfizer Auditorium, said Bugliarello had been a pivotal force in the institute's history.



Dr. Efi Foufoula-Georgiou, distinguished McNight University professor at the University of Minnesota, urged students to find their passion and bring to it the same level of determination Bugliarello brought to his.

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Sharing Memories of George

REFLECTIONS

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"I met George more than 20 years ago, when we sat down to discuss an idea I had for a new journal.

"From the beginning, he was supportive and helpful, offering advice on everything from the people to involve in the enterprise to possible topics for special issues of the journal. He was one of the first members of the editorial board, and his presence on the board gave the publication credibility from the start.

"Over the years we became friends, having lunch a few times a year and exchanging talk about work, travel, and family.

"The last time we had lunch, in October, he gave me a paper to submit to JUT. The paper was reviewed in November, and I was able to tell him that it would be published in July 2011.

"For a man of great accomplishment, he was kind and humble."

> Dr. Richard E. Hanley, editor of the Journal of Urban Technology

"George was for many years the U.S. representative on the NATO Science Committee, which ran a program of nonmilitary cooperation and advanced education between the scientific communities of member nations.

"George's wisdom, experience, and sheer ability enabled him to make a significant contribution to the development and operation of the program—a contribution exceeded only by his warmth and friendship, which those of us privileged to serve with him enjoyed.

"A truly remarkable man who leaves very many happy memories."

John A. S. Walker, former NATO deputy assistant secretary general for scientific affairs



Dr. Charles M. Vest, president of the National Academy of Engineering, described Bugliarello as an inspirational figure.



"He could fill a room with goodness and decency," said Paul M. Pohl, Esq., a partner at Jones Day.

"George Bugliarello was one of the most extraordinary people I have had the honor of knowing.

"He was a natural mentor to everyone he met, which was even more impressive when you found out about everything else that he was doing simultaneously.

"The care and compassion that he provided to everyone was phenomenal.

"Through virtue of having known him, I have a tremendous example to look up to, as he was an amazing engineer, scientist and, most important, human."

> Dr. Philip LeDuc, associate professor of mechanical engineering at Carnegie Mellon University

"George invariably gave excellent advice. His interest typically was drawn to projects that aroused his curiosity and enhanced his views.

"He passionately argued the merit of projects and rarely criticized. He was effective in suggesting contacts between scientists and engineers within NATO countries. His mind rarely came to rest.

"He showed me pages of new articles he drafted while traveling. We sometimes argued issues in the evenings. And during long meetings, he scribbled on page after page— I still have some of them.

"In his outstanding professional career, George acquired untold friends, some on a personal level. I was privileged to be one of them."

Dr. Hansmartin P. Hertlein, member of the Science for Stability Steering Group for NATO's scientific affairs "Dr. Bugliarello's versatility in science and engineering was coupled with an outstanding ability to function effectively in an international setting.

"He was a kind and considerate person who interacted with his associates at all levels with equanimity and respect."

Dr. Paul C. Rambaut, former NATO deputy assistant secretary general for scientific and environmental affairs "George was the father of Polytechnic.

"It was my privilege to work with him for many years both at Poly and the National Academy of Engineering.

"He was a remarkable man. We will miss him."

Dr. William Friend, NYU-Poly trustee



He imbued us with vision and hope, said Peter A. McKenzie, Esq., a partner at Cobos Ellington Maduabum & McKenzie LLC.



"I knew George Bugliarello from the time he became the eighth president of Poly in 1973 until his death in February.

"While George will always be remembered, to his lasting credit, as the father of MetroTech, he was so much more multidimensional than this one project suggests. He introduced serious fund raising to Poly, raising \$100 million during his 21-year term as president; restructured and strengthened the board of trustees; was the driving force to secure for Poly one of the first five centers for advanced technology created in New York State; and was responsible for the first new building in Poly's history, the Dibner building, dedicated in 1992.

"He was a man who cared deeply for the Poly family and always tried to provide comfort for those who had seen tragedy. He will be missed."

Dr. Richard Thorsen, vice president emeritus of NYU-Poly and special adviser to the institute's president and provost