

Francisco Javier García Alonso
(editor)

José Manuel Costa Fernández
Alfredo de la Escosura Muñiz
(coeditores)

Un químico emprendedor

ESTUDIOS EN HOMENAJE
AL PROFESOR
AGUSTÍN COSTA GARCÍA
Catedrático de Química Analítica



Universidad de Oviedo
Universidá d'Uviéu
University of Oviedo

2021



Reconocimiento-No Comercial-Sin Obra Derivada (by-nc-nd): No se permite un uso comercial de la obra original ni la generación de obras derivadas.



Usted es libre de copiar, distribuir y comunicar públicamente la obra, bajo las condiciones siguientes:



Reconocimiento – Debe reconocer los créditos de la obra de la manera especificada por el licenciador:

Francisco Javier García Alonso; José Manuel Costa Fernández y Alfredo de la Escosura Muñiz (coords.) (2021). *UN QUÍMICO EMPRENDEDOR. ESTUDIOS EN HOMENAJE AL PROFESOR AGUSTÍN COSTA GARCÍA*

Universidad de Oviedo.

La autoría de cualquier artículo o texto utilizado del libro deberá ser reconocida complementariamente.



No comercial – No puede utilizar esta obra para fines comerciales.



Sin obras derivadas – No se puede alterar, transformar o generar una obra derivada a partir de esta obra.

© 2021 Universidad de Oviedo

© Los autores

Algunos derechos reservados. Esta obra ha sido editada bajo una licencia Reconocimiento-No comercial-Sin Obra Derivada 4.0 Internacional de Creative Commons.

Se requiere autorización expresa de los titulares de los derechos para cualquier uso no expresamente previsto en dicha licencia. La ausencia de dicha autorización puede ser constitutiva de delito y está sujeta a responsabilidad.

Consulte las condiciones de la licencia en: <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/4.0/legalcode.es>



Esta Editorial es miembro de la UNE, lo que garantiza la difusión y comercialización de sus publicaciones a nivel nacional e internacional

Servicio de Publicaciones de la Universidad de Oviedo

Edificio de Servicios - Campus de Humanidades

ISNI: 0000 0004 8513 7929

33011 Oviedo - Asturias

985 10 95 03 / 985 10 59 56

servipub@uniovi.es

www.publicaciones.uniovi.es

ISBN: 978-84-18482-14-4

DL AS 796-2021

Índice

PRÓLOGO	11
<i>Los editores</i>	
INTRODUCCIÓN <i>(Textos publicados en la prensa asturiana con motivo de su fallecimiento)</i>	
Agustín Costa, un hombre de bien	15
<i>Francisco Javier García Alonso</i>	
Lecciones de un líder	17
<i>Gonzalo Orejas</i>	
El arte de mejorar el mundo	19
<i>Jaime Ferrer</i>	
La lucha por la ciencia	21
<i>Leopoldo Tolivar Alas</i>	
Querido colega	23
<i>Julio Bueno de las Heras</i>	
SEMBLANZA DEL INVESTIGADOR	
El entusiasmo del científico emprendedor y la huella que deja marcada en la química analítica de hoy para el mañana	27
<i>Elisa González Romero</i>	
Docente, investigador, gestor y amigo	35
<i>María Encarnación Lorenzo Abad</i>	
Aportaciones científicas	39
<i>José Manuel Pingarrón y Paloma Yáñez-Sedeño Orive</i>	
An inspiring person for science and life	41
<i>Arben Merkoçi</i>	
La mirada hacia la miniaturización y el nano-mundo	43
<i>Ángel Ríos Castro.</i>	
Sus aportes en panamá	51
<i>Brenda Itzel Checa Orrego</i>	
Carta postuma	59
<i>Britt M. Maestroni</i>	
SEMBLANZA DEL EMPRENDEDOR	
La transferencia de tecnología de la universidad a la sociedad, un marco de referencia para entender al emprendedor Agustín Costa	63
<i>Francisco Javier García Alonso</i>	

Emprendiendo	77
<i>Gonzalo Orejas Rodríguez-Arango</i>	
La cultura emprendedora del Tecnológico de Monterrey	85
<i>Fernando Ascencio</i>	
Cómo empezó todo	91
<i>César Fernández Sánchez y María Begoña González García</i>	
La fundación de DropSens	99
<i>Pablo Fanjul Bolado</i>	
La fundación de Nanovex	103
<i>Daniel Pando Rodríguez</i>	
El emprendedor Agustín Costa	105
<i>Fernando Ascencio</i>	

SEMBLANZA DEL UNIVERSITARIO

Hilvanando consabidos para una <i>alma mater mutantur</i>	111
<i>Julio L. Bueno de las Heras</i>	
Una mesa multidisciplinar	125
<i>Carmen Pazos Medina</i>	
<i>In memoriam</i>	131
<i>José Manuel Costa Fernández</i>	
Agustín, figura clave en nuestras vidas	135
<i>Alfredo de la Escosura Muñoz y María Díaz González</i>	
Con mucho cariño	141
<i>Eva Abad</i>	
Una persona cercana	145
<i>Rebeca Alonso</i>	

SEMBLANZA PERSONAL

Homenaje a A. Costa. <i>An inspiring person for science and life</i>	149
<i>Alberto Escarpa Miguel</i>	
Vidas Paralelas	155
<i>Francisco Álvarez Menéndez</i>	
Mi amigo Agustín	159
<i>Iván Rodríguez Meras</i>	
Entrevista realizada el 20 de octubre de 2018, en Oviedo, por los periodistas <i>Pablo Álvarez Álvarez y José Antonio Gómez Haces</i>	163

REFLEXIÓN FILOSÓFICA

La cosmovisión cristiana como hábitat natural del científico	173
<i>Francisco José Soler Gil</i>	

EPÍLOGO

<i>Santiago García Granda, rector de la Universidad de Oviedo</i>	185
---	-----

An inspiring person for science and life

Arben Merkoçi

ICREA Professor and Director of the Nanobioelectronics & Biosensors Group at
Institut Català de Nanociència i Nanotecnologia

It is quite difficult for me and almost still unbelievable to write these words for my great colleague and friend professor Agustin Costa.

I had the chance to know Agustin since the very beginning of my arrival in Spain when I was working at professor Alegret group at UAB. Agustin name in fact was known to me much earlier, before arriving in Spain. For any one working in electrochemical biosensors would be impossible not to know his name due to the very important publications from his group. His works made Agustin known as a pioneer in understanding for example the electrocatalytic properties of nanoparticles between many other of his great scientific contributions. We were quite interested in this field as it was very much related with the research we had started in the direction of nanobiosensors at UAB and then at ICN2 in Barcelona.

Agustin name was well known not only at Alegret's group and other groups in Spain but also in other labs around the world. It was well known for example at the Joseph Wang lab in USA where I had the chance to work as well. I remember the international students in Las Cruces always mentioning Costa-Garcia references or even suggesting him to be reviewer of their papers.

My closer relations and better knowing of Agustin came since the thesis defense of Alfredo and Maria, two of his PhD students. I had the chance to be in the evaluation panel and with occasion lucky to know more details about the research Agustin's group was doing. This was an inspiring experience that also was concluded with Alfredo application for a Juan de la Cierva position at our group in Barcelona. I had the chance to know how Agustin was taking care for his PhD students, their future career like being his "kids". I was surprised about the way he was always speaking about his collaborators. These were like his family. Always he has been speaking to me with a lot of love for each of his group members each time he was introducing to me a new one. I have been always fascinated by his passion about science and his love and respect for his collaborators. I noticed how he was excellently pushing the

science and hard working in his group with a nice social environment as well. All these have been great lessons for me and I am sure for all his collaborators in his group, Spain and out of the country.

My very first meetings in Oviedo were followed by many others in Barcelona or out of Spain. I had the chance to share with Agustin several evaluation panels, meetings and conferences in Spain and around the world. Each time I was meeting Agustin was really a big pleasure for me. His big love for science was also mixed with his big love for the life, for people, for his family and friend.

Our friendship was strengthening year by year and it was thanks to his great values as person, scientist, his personality, his capacity to communicate, transmit great ideas about science but also talking about the culture, history, society in general, of course religion and family. I was always surprised and always hearing and following him with great attention each time. I had the chance to be in some bussines travelling with profesor Agustin Costa who became simply Agustin, one of my best friends.

Agustin was in love with Asturias, he was so much in love with Spain and he was transmitting this to me each time I met him. He had great knowledge about history of his country, knowledge about the culture, music and food. So lucky to hear Agustin speaking and always this was a great event for me.

I can't close this very short memory for my great friend without speaking about his great family. We have had the chance to be guests of each other at our own houses in Oviedo and Barcelona and introduce to each other our families. I would like again to send my regards to Nori and all the members of the family for the great husband, father and grandfather. Family was the most important thing for Agustin and probably the only way I could better understand his love for science, friends and collaborators all over the world.

I am so sorry that could not be in Oviedo due to my travelling these days but I will never forget that I had the chance to speak in the phone with Agustin in his last days of his life upon his request. It was an emotive farewell to my great friend who, although being in his last day of his life next to his very dear family, was willing to speak with a friend, was worried for his work, his science, the continuation of his activities including a talk in a conference he was invited to speak next week after the end of his life.

Rest in peace my great friend Agustin, the inspiring person for science and life!

Bellaterra, June 6th, 2020

Sinopsis (en español). El Profesor Merkoçi destaca varias facetas de la vida de A. Costa. En el aspecto científico comenta su reconocimiento nacional –laboratorio del profesor Alegret en Barcelona– e internacional –laboratorio del profesor Wang en Las Cruces, Nuevo México, EE. UU.–. Resalta su permanente interés por sus colaboradores, generando un clima acogedor en su propio laboratorio. Recalca su amor por su familia y su país. Finalmente señala su continuada amistad con frecuentes encuentros en tesis doctorales y congresos, durante los cuales no solo hablaban de ciencia, sino de historia, comida y... de religión.