



In honor of Denis Lamy

Denis Lamy officially retired on 17 December 2013. However, readers and authors of *Cryptogamie* should be reassured that he will continue acting as director of publication of the three sections (*Algologie*, *Bryologie*, *Mycologie*) of the journal. Suzanne Jovet-Ast and H el ene Bischler-Causse, who founded in 1975 the *Association des Amis des Cryptogames*, a French non-profit organisation (Law 1901) dedicated to promote the diffusion of knowledge on Algae, Fungi and Bryophytes, would most certainly have been proud of what Denis has done for the Association and for its publication, *Cryptogamie*. In the nineties, Denis Lamy took over

the presidency of the Association as well as the responsibility of its publication, acting as director of publication and editor-in-chief of *Cryptogamie*, *Bryologie*. In this capacity he has managed to square the cycle: maintaining high-quality printed publication in an era when many titles are disappearing. In the meantime, he successfully realized the transition toward electronic publication by introducing online distribution of *Cryptogamie*. Thanks to Denis perceptiveness, these transitions were achieved without altering the independent position of the journal.

We would like to pay a tribute to our colleague who has been appointed by the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, and associated with the Mus eum National d'Histoire Naturelle, and more specifically with the Laboratoire de Cryptogamie, during 42 years. He started as a research assistant of Roger Heim arranging the documentation on cryptogams and swiftly found his way in the arcane of the botanical archives. Together with H el ene Bischler-Causse, with whom he closely collaborated during almost twenty years, he actively carried out research on liverworts, leading to numerous publications. As an expert archivist he made important contributions to the preparation of several volumes of the *Index Hepaticarum*.

Enthusiastic about nearly everything, Denis became passionate by the history of sciences and gained an exhaustive knowledge on various topics such as botanical classification and cryptogamic botany in an historical conceptual framework. Being knowledgeable in both natural history and humanities, he managed to bridge the gap between these two fields. He gained knowledge on the various disciplines practiced in the Laboratoire de Cryptogamie, studied the correspondences of our venerable predecessors and wrote numerous biographies with great precision and rich in detail. Thus, he shed light on the life of the cryptogamists of the Museum and their relationships with colleagues in France and abroad. He pioneered the study of scientist interaction networks before the development of user-friendly information technology tools. He also dedicated himself to the past and present of botanical exploration by studying expedition reports and collections made during these expeditions, as well as by taking part in a research project on contemporary naturalist expeditions.

Within the Museum, Denis took part of the scientific steering committee of the Department Syst ematique et Evolution as well as the research team UMR CNRS/MNHN 7205 *Origine, structure et  volution de la biodiversit e* (currently *Institut de syst ematique, evolution, biodiversit e*), and was officially appointed as Manager of the Botanical libraries (Phan erogamie, Cryptogamie). In the latter

capacity, he was largely responsible for the merging of the cryptogamy and phanerogamy libraries into a single, botanical library. Much to his regret, he was unable to complete this important task himself due to his retirement.

He also presented a seminar series for students, scientists and the public at large on the history of botany in Paris since the creation of the “Jardin du Roy”, and was a key interlocutor for the researchers and visitors of the Herbarium.

Denis Lamy has followed all the steps of the National Herbarium renovation during the last four years. In the course of this titanic enterprise, he certainly has managed to glean information that he will distil in the coming years.

We sincerely wish Denis much joy in the new phase of life and look forward to continue collaborating with him and profit from his extraordinary knowledge of botanical history.

Line LE GALL & Ian PROBERT,
co-editor in chief of *Cryptogamie, Algologie*

Bruno DENNETIERE,
former editor in chief of *Cryptogamie, Mycologie*

Bruno de REVIERS,
former editor in chief of *Cryptogamie Algologie*

Edith BURY,
treasurer of *Association des Amis des Cryptogames (ADAC)*