

**“IN MEMORIAM”**  
**PROF. ANDRES LARA SAENZ**  
**A LIFE DEVOTED TO ACOUSTICS**

Prof. Andres Lara, founder and President of Honour of the Spanish Acoustical Society –SEA-, was the pioneer of the Acoustics in Spain and a great scientific and human person.

He began his professional career after his studies at the Polytechnic University ICAI in Madrid. Later he obtained the titles of Master of Electrical Engineering of Communications at the Brooklyn Polytechnic (1952) and Master of Science by the University of Columbia (1953), where he collaborated with Prof. Harvey Fletcher.

Back in Spain he worked as researcher at the Spanish High Council of Research (CSIC); after his nomination as Director of the “*Instituto Leonardo Torres Quevedo*”, he created the Acoustics Department. Prof. Lara’s main idea was to develop the science and technology of Acoustics in Spain; with this purpose he promoted the formation of young graduates at the said Department of the Institute and in foreign institutions in Europe and USA to cover all branches of Acoustics. At the same time, different facilities for research and acoustic measurements were built at the CSIC following his designs and directions.

As a consequence of this development the “*Instituto de Acústica*” (IA) was created, and since then it has been a reference for Acoustics in Spain.

Prof. Lara was one of the founders of the Spanish Acoustical Society –SEA- in 1969, and his first President. After his retirement he was nominated as Director Emeritus of the IA and Honour President of SEA.

He was active member of different European and International Acoustic Associations: President of FASE and member of the ICA Board, President of the 9<sup>th</sup> ICA Congress Madrid 1977, and member of other international societies. Prof. Lara is honorary member of the Portuguese Acoustical Society and of the Italian Acoustical Society, and Corresponding Member of the Argentine National Academy and of the Spanish Academy of Doctors. He has received many decorations, such as the “*Encomienda de Alfonso X El Sabio*” of the Spanish Kingdom; “*Palme Académique*” of the French Ministry of Education; National Price of Scientific and Technical Research of CSIC; “*Magna dedicatio recognita est*” of the Engineering Institute of Spain.

The Spanish Acoustical Community mourns the passing away of such a distinguished Magister who has promoted and honoured our discipline in Spain and at international level.

**Do rest in peace**



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