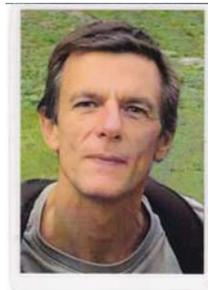


FABIO NAPOLITANO 1963- 2022

Professor Fabio Napolitano was the editor-in-chief and a driving force behind the Journal of Buffalo Science and was instrumental in furthering our understanding of the production, welfare, and science of Buffaloes. But there was much more to him than that. He was phenomenally productive. At the time of his death, he had an H-index of 41 with more than 5,000 citations from over 350 publications. He wrote and edited go-to texts for students and scientists of animal science and welfare in English and his native Italian. In addition to animal welfare evaluation, his publications ranged in scope from meat and milk quality to consumer purchasing behavior and the effects of animal production on the environment. He worked with beef and dairy cattle, sheep, horses, ostrich, goats, chickens, and buffalo. Fabio collaborated with some of the best-known scientists internationally in animal welfare and animal production. He was a significant contributor to our increased understanding of the life experience, welfare, and evaluation of the welfare, of farm animals. We shall never now know nor benefit from the further insights and discoveries that he would doubtless have made. Fabio was a kindly man and tremendous company. He was always open to discussing his and others' work and was always encouraging and cheerful. Fabio was an exemplary supervisor of students, enthusing, cheerfully advising, and making himself available to them whenever they asked him. He was in demand as a supervisor of students' work at other universities internationally. Fabio had the gift of talking to students as an equal. He was not a man who put on airs or thought he was superior to others.



Fabio was born in Naples, Italy, on the 5th of November 1963. He was educated at the University of Naples Federico II, where he studied and graduated in Agricultural Sciences in 1989. At the same University, he was awarded a Ph.D. in Animal Science in 1993. From there, he landed in 1995 at the University of Basilicata as a researcher, walking all the paths of an academic career until, ultimately, he was appointed a full Professor. During this time, he remained working face-to-face with his colleagues at the University of Naples Federico II. Fabio was an excellent cook using mainly, for his delicious dishes, the local and typical ingredients of his homeland. He was also an enthusiastic and accomplished sportsman: sailing, trekking, and running were his favorite spare time activities. His last sporting event was the Milan Marathon, on the 3rd of April 2022, and he was in training to participate in an Ultramarathon of 100 km. We shall miss him terribly for those of us colleagues, students, and friends (and some were all three of these) who were lucky enough to share some of their life journeys with Fabio.

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