



A message from the EBRS President  
22 February 2021

Over the last months and years, we have been saddened to learn of the deaths of some of the elders of our field. Most recently, on Valentine's Day, the EBRS lost a colleague who has not only been a giant in chronobiology but who has been a cheerleader for our Society, Mike Menaker.

All of you who are landing at the EBRS website know of Mike's scientific accomplishments. You probably also personally know several of those in his scientific family pedigree, which was extensive. His contributions to our field have been elaborated already by others (see this site for reflections by Russell Foster and the SRBR site for reflections by Joe Takahashi). So, what did Mike mean to the EBRS? In 2013, Mike was elected to the EBRS Board of Directors as the representative from the Americas. I am grateful for his service and support in that role, at a time when our Society was becoming increasingly global in its reach.

Mike attended the EBRS meetings faithfully! I recall him always as an active participant – discussions always notched up a bit when he was around. One year, he rescued our scientific program, stepping in - literally at the last minute - and delivering a remarkable lecture for an ill colleague. Just ask any EBRS member about Mike – we all had memorable and impressive encounters with the man. The last time many of us saw Mike was at the last physical (non-virtual) EBRS meeting which was held in Lyon. Those of us who knew him (that would be most of us) will miss him at our upcoming meetings.

If you want to honor Mike, make a commitment to going into some of his works and discussing them with your colleagues. Our field will be better for it and it will be a wonderful way to ensure that Mike's will remain vivid in our collective memory.

In celebration of a life well lived and in sadness for the loss of our colleague,

Martha Merrow  
LMU Munich