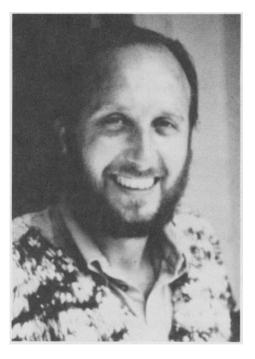
Juan Carlos Castilla

We are privileged to write about Professor Juan Carlos Castilla, recently designated as an Honorary Member of our society. Few individuals have contributed as much, in as diverse a range of areas, or as effectively, to the development of ecology in their homeland or internationally. He was born in Chile slightly more than 50 years ago and during his undergraduate work came under the influence of Dr. Patricio Sanchez, the "godfather" of Chilean marine ecology. He earned his undergraduate degree from the Universidad Catolica de Chile (in Santiago) in 1964 and a Ph.D. in marine biology from The University of Wales in 1970. The late Dennis Crisp was his major professor. He returned then to Santiago, where he is now a University Professor, Director of the Las Cruces Marine Station, and a source of inspiration to students at all stages (in this sense continuing the role of Patricio Sanchez). Of special significance was his participation in 1974 in an international training course in marine biology taught at Duke University by, among others, John Sutherland. The research style, nature of the questions posed, and international outlook have persisted and flourished, and today Juan Carlos is a welcomed visitor at numerous universities and laboratories along the Pacific rim. Juan Carlos has worked tirelessly to raise the understanding and consciousness level of the Chilean populace for their natural heritage. A series of volumes, Expedicion a Chile, which he helped formulate and edit, is a landmark attempt at public education on natural history in a developing nation. Many of his papers since 1985 have reported on the conse-



quences of excluding artisanal fishermen from a limited stretch of rocky shoreline. This unique work has revealed the consequences of centuries of human presence along these shores, and many factors of the shore's change once humans are excluded. Such studies, his early basic work on the ecology of starfish and the southern abalone (*Concholepas*), and his profound influence as mentor, role model and inspiration make him a worthy recipient of our society's honor.

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