Paolo Farinella was an extremely talented, hard-working and knowledgeable planetary scientist whose work changed our view of the solar system. I knew Paolo in several ways: our scientific interests in small solar-system bodies overlapped considerably; he helped me greatly during my years as editor of Icarus; and we both believed that increased relations between Europeans and Americans would lead to better science and more fun.

Paolo's research was characterized by careful attempts to model real situations of substantial interest to the planetary community. But he was also someone who was excited about exploring the solar system and bringing his new knowledge to the public. More than most scientists, he understood the physics, the mathematics and the data equally well. Along with his close colleagues in Pisa, Paolo's work revolutionized the way we understand the orbital and collisional histories of asteroids. His efforts in the 1990s have led to a new understanding of the fate of material in the inner solar system, both Earth-threatening asteroids and meteorites.

Icarus published many of Paolo's planetary papers; in addition he was a distinguished reviewer who won several citations for his assistance to others. He did such a conscientious and helpful job that he became a member of the journal's Editorial Board where he gave prompt, thoughtful advice and was not afraid to make tough decisions. Paolo's influence extended well beyond his scientific accomplishments. Through his enthusiasm for his own research and his careful mentoring, Paolo nurtured the careers of many of the most distinguished young researchers in Italy, France and Czechoslovakia. His scientific legacy will continue through their work.

Paolo was passionate about his work and cared about people. My memory of him will always be of his excitement as he followed one of his many ideas. I will miss Paolo's sparkle and being stimulated by his ideas.

Joe Burns April 1, 2000