

The presentation is set for the coming Monday, 12th November, at the Hall of the Hundred

Fundació Lluís Carulla awards the 36th Lluís Carulla Prize of Honour to Dr. Joan Massagué i Solé

□ He is acknowledged as a symbol of institutional leadership, scientific rigour and hard work

Fundació Lluís Carulla has awarded the 36th Lluís Carulla Prize of Honour for the year 2012 to the scientist and researcher Dr. Joan Massagué i Solé, recognised as an outstanding figure worldwide in the field of research on cancer, cell regulation and metastasis mechanisms. The jury declared that he “has become a symbol of institutional leadership, scientific rigour and hard work”.

The Lluís Carulla Prize of Honour, which has been awarded since 1977 and is endowed with 50,000 euros, is granted to individuals or organisations which, through the quality of their scientific, cultural or civic activity, have helped to strengthen the national community awareness and the sense of belonging to the culture of the Catalan-speaking countries.

Joan Massagué i Solé, who was born in Barcelona in 1953, holds a master's degree in Pharmacy and a doctorate in Biochemistry by the University of Barcelona. He joined Brown University in the United States in 1979, discovering there the composition of the insulin receptor. In 1982 he became professor in Biochemistry at the University of Massachusetts. Seven years later he was appointed director of the Cell Biology Department of the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center of New York, and since 2003 he has been the director of the Cancer Biology and Genetics Program there. He is also an investigator at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute.

Joan Massagué i Solé has always maintained his ties with Catalonia. In parallel to his activity in the United States, he has been of great help in promoting scientific research in our country. Since 2005 he has been the deputy director of the Barcelona Biomedical Research Institute (IRB Barcelona) where he also fosters metastasis research. He has been the president of the scientific advisory council of the National Oncological Research Centre (CNIO) in Madrid since 2011.

The presentation of this prize, as well as of the six Civic Action Prizes endowed with 5,000 euros each, will take place on the coming Monday 12th November at 7 o'clock in the evening at the Hall of the Hundred in the Barcelona City Hall. The mayor of Barcelona, Mr. Xavier Trias, will preside at the ceremony.

This year's jury has been formed by Salvador Cardús, Muriel Casals, Àngel Castiñeira, Vicent Partal, Marta Pessarrodona, Ramon Pla i Arxé, Joaquim Triadú, Carme Valls and Vicenç Villatoro.

