



News Release from the IULTCS

July 7, 2016

2017 IULTCS Merit Award Winner Announced

The Executive Committee of the IULTCS takes great pleasure in announcing the 2017 winner of the *“IULTCS Merit Award for Excellence in the Leather Industry”*. The winner of this prestigious award is Professor Mariliz Gutterres Soares, Head of the Laboratory for Leather and Environment Studies (LACOURO) at the Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul (UFRGS) in Brazil.

After receiving her degree in chemical engineering in 1984, Mariliz started work in the leather industry and today her technical and scientific contributions span more than 30 years. Following several early years of practical work in tanneries and chemical companies she continued her scientific studies with a Master degree in Material Engineering at UFRGS in 1996. The pinnacle of her academic achievements was the award of a PhD at the TU Bergakademie and FILK in Freiberg Germany in 2001. Most of her project work has been dedicated to leather process technology and environmental process improvements. Mariliz has many publications in books, she has contributed at conferences worldwide, she is author of 94 papers in scientific journals, the majority of which are related to leather topics.

In congratulating her, the current IULTCS President, Dr. Dietrich Tegtmeier of Germany said: *“Mariliz has been very active in supporting various initiatives from the IULTCS for many years and we trust that she will continue serving the industry with her broad knowledge and experience”*. Upon hearing of her selection Mariliz responded: *“To work between students and industry is a privilege and a source of constant growth. I thank all my dear IULTCS and industry friends who have challenged and supported me. This is a unique moment, the most important of a professional career.”*

Mariliz joins an exclusive list of 6 previous winners of the Merit Award. Their names can be found on the IULTCS honor scroll on the website www.iultcs.org. The IULTCS Award was established in 2005 and has been described by a previous winner as the *“Nobel Prize”* for the leather industry. The ceremony recognizing Professor Gutterrez will take place during the next biennial IULTCS World Congress in Chennai India from February 5 to 8, 2017.



INTERNATIONAL UNION OF LEATHER
TECHNOLOGISTS AND CHEMISTS SOCIETIES



Professor Mariliz Gutterrez, winner of the 2017 IULTCS Merit Award

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