

# Senate bestows award on Tec professor for Alzheimer's research



Dr. Miguel Angel Ontiveros Torres, a research professor at the Toluca campus of [Tec de Monterrey](#), has received five awards and an honorary doctorate as a result of his work on neuroscience and biomedical sciences, and for his contributions to Alzheimer's research.

The awards were given by the Senate of the Republic in conjunction with the International College of Professionals C&C, as part of the World Knowledge Summit Mexico 2020-2021 in a ceremony held this February 8, 2021 in Mexico City.

Dr. Ontiveros is on the Tec's bioengineering department at the Toluca campus and his research focuses mainly on Alzheimer's disease and other neurodegenerative disorders.



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## **Recognizing his talent and track record**

The awards that Dr. Ontiveros has received are:

### **1. Honorary Doctorate**

For significant contribution to Biomedical Sciences and for his extraordinary career in Neuroscience.

### **2. International Leaders and Geniuses Award**

For **research** in Biomedical Sciences and Neurosciences and sharing his knowledge with younger generations.

### **3. International Award from the International College of Professionals C&C**

For outstanding participation in the **Neuroscience, Forensic Sciences and Criminology Forum**.

### **4. International Award from the International College of Professionals C&C**

For his career in **Biomedicine and Neuroscience**.

<https://www.facebook.com/TECcampusTOL/posts/10159420780519626>

At the same time, **Dr. Miguel Angel Ontiveros** was named **International Ambassador** and **jury member** for the **World Knowledge Summit Mexico 2020-2021**.

The **summit** is an **event** where people (**from children to professionals**) can **present scientific projects** taken from different knowledge areas and, according to Dr. Miguel Angel, it **“motivates them to do science and research.”**

**Dr. Ontiveros** will share his **position** as international ambassador with celebrities such as **Peggy Witson**, the **first female commander** of the **International Space Station (ISS)**.



width="900" loading="lazy"> **His research on the human brain**

In **Alzheimer's** disease, the connections between the **brain cells** and the cells themselves, **degenerate** and **die**, slowly **erasing patients' memories**.

In their research, Miguel Angel Ontiveros and the group of scientists with whom he collaborates seek to **learn more** about **the neuron death** which leads to dementia.

## Postmortem:

*“There is a collection of brains taken from deceased patients who suffered from Alzheimer’s (National Dementia BioBank). We use the tissue (from these brains) to explore what happens when neurons die.”*

## Genetically modified mice:

*“This animal’s brain may suffer the same injuries which kill neurons in patients. We can take biopsies and give therapy.”*

Among the notable scientists with whom Dr. Miguel Angel collaborates is Dr. José Luna Muñoz, Director of the **National Dementia BioBank**.

The **BioBank**, located on the UNAM campus, doesn’t just keep the brains of patients with neurodegenerative diseases, but also fragments of other organs and fluids.

Dr. Ontiveros highlighted **the importance of his research**, stating that this type of **disease** will become a **major problem** in the **future**.

*“The **life expectancy** of humans is **increasing**, and one side-effect of that is this: the higher the life expectancy, the **greater probability** of diseases such as **Alzheimer’s**,”* explained Dr. Miguel Angel Ontiveros.

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## The Tec’s world-class biotechnology

Dr. Ontiveros shared the **happiness** that the **awards represent** for him **both as a scientist** and **as part of the Tec community**.

*“People do this job because they are in love with science. This type of recognition, coupled with that passion, **feeds our appetite to keep learning**,”* he explained.

*“**Tec de Monterrey** is **showing** that it does **top-level neuroscience**, a nationally and internationally important branch of science,”* said Dr. Miguel Ángel Ontiveros.

Regarding his position as teacher at **Tec**, Dr. Ontiveros believes that having **professors** who are **experts in the subject area they teach adds value**.

*“I talk about my research with lots of enthusiasm; **teaching is something that I am passionate about**. It’s **very good for the students** because I can inspire them to pursue careers in science,”* said Dr. Miguel Angel Ontiveros.



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Finally, Dr. Miguel Angel confirmed his **commitment** and that of his colleagues to **improving global health through science**.

*“Of course, biotechnology has many different uses, but **a true scientist does science for the benefit of humanity,**”* concluded Dr. Miguel Angel Ontiveros.

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