



**ACS** Local Section  
Chemical Society of Washington

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# Celebrating 50, 60 and 70+ Years of Membership in the American Chemical Society

December 8, 2021



## Honorees – 50, 60, and 70+ Year CSW Members

### **Celebrating 50 Years:**

Dr Suheil Abdulnur  
Dr Michael Adams  
Dr David Anderson  
Dr Isaac Angres  
Dr John Bailey  
Dr Richard Bates Jr  
Mr Rafael Camerini Otero  
Dr Richard Goodman  
Dr Joyce Graf  
Mr Oscar Hernandez  
Mr Kenneth Jackson Sr  
Dr Abdul Khan  
Dr Martha Knight  
Mr Shu-Sen Lee  
Dr Kenneth Lipkowitz  
Dr Elizabeth Moran  
Mr George Mulholland  
Mr John Oravec  
Dr Keith Peterman  
Mr Paul Schwartz  
Mr Thomas Wiseman

Dr Ralph Helmsen  
Dr Frank Howard  
Dr Paul Jennings  
Dr Janet Jones  
Dr Stephen Lippard  
Mr John Markovs  
Dr Aris Moghissi  
Mr Wilbert Nixon  
Dr Ralph Northrop  
Mr Robert Permisohn  
Dr Isadora Posey  
Dr Kenner Rice  
Dr Bernhard Saxe  
Dr Frederick Simon  
Mr Howard Stevenson  
Mr Roosevelt Twiggs  
Dr William Walters  
Dr Charles Warner  
Dr Kermit Way  
Dr Joseph Weiss  
Dr Aaron Weisstuch  
Mr James Willett

### **Celebrating 60 Years:**

Dr Philip Baedecker  
Dr Jerry Bell  
Dr Frederick Carson  
Dr Donald Clagett  
Dr Michael Dix  
Dr Heinrich Egghart  
Dr Wolfgang Elser  
Dr Lorrin Garson

### **Celebrating 70 Years:**

Dr Harvey Alter  
Dr Edwin Becker  
Dr Daniel Lednicer  
Dr Andrej Macek  
Mr John McCallion  
Dr Saul Schepartz



## Honorees Celebrating 50 Years

### **Dr Martha Knight**

Martha Knight, Ph.D. Biochemistry, Johns Hopkins University, M.Sc. University of Colorado, founded and ran Peptide Technologies Corporation (Gaithersburg, MD) a pioneering peptide synthesis and analysis company, for 20 years. Dr. Knight previously worked at the National Institutes of Health performing neuropeptide research and before this, peptide chemistry R&D with John Morrow Stewart at the University of Colorado School of Medicine and the Rockefeller University in the lab of Nobel Prize Laureate R. Bruce Merrifield. In 2006 Dr. Knight founded CC Biotech LLC (Rockville MD) which is developing advanced large molecule separations instrumentation with applications to peptides and proteins and recently, carbon nanotubes.

Dr. Knight has over 80 papers in peptide chemistry, physiology, neurochemistry and pharmacology research, with half in analytical chemistry in the areas of peptide scale-up HPLC methods development and countercurrent chromatography technology. Dr. Knight has 10 patents in viscosin depsipeptide antibiotics, potent bombesin inhibitor analogues, the STS spiral countercurrent chromatography rotor and related applications in biotechnology and cannabis.

Dr. Knight has presented results at many meetings, including the American Peptide Symposium and chaired the first international peptide industry meeting “Tides” of the IBC group in Las Vegas, 1998. Dr. Knight chairs sessions at the largest instrumentation meeting, Pittcon Conference and Exposition. Dr. Knight managed marketing, sales and attended shows that maintained sales for Peptide Technologies which had sales of \$300,000-\$500,000/yr over many years and cumulative SBIR/state research funding of \$877,000 for peptide-related drug patents and manufacturing upgrades. The company had a large customer base spanning NIH, academic, pharmaceutical and biotech labs. With over \$700,000 in grants from the SBIR and TEDCO programs, plus research contract income CC Biotech has developed new separation rotors selling on the market and prototype instruments.

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### **Dr Keith Peterman**

Keith Peterman is professor emeritus in the Chemistry Department at York College of Pennsylvania. He has served the ACS as a local section chair, regional meeting program chair, and member of the Committee on Environmental Improvement. He mentors a project that takes ACS student members to the annual UN Climate Change Conference of Parties (COP) as UN accredited ACS “Observers”. To date, this project has produced three ACS Symposium Series books with students as the primary chapter authors.

He has served as a Fulbright Scholar at Ruhr Universität-Bochum in Germany and at Volgograd State Pedagogical University in Russia. He has also served as a NAS Research Scholar at the Polish Academy of Sciences in Warsaw, a fellow at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, DC, a visiting professor at the Guangxi University for Nationalities in China, and a visiting professor at Christchurch Polytechnic in New Zealand.

His current research and writing focus on issues related to climate change and sustainability. Each year, he takes student groups to Costa Rica, an ideal natural laboratory to investigate these issues. He participates in the annual COPs—including the most recent COP26—as a UN accredited member of the press. His book with coauthor Matt Codes titled “Contextualizing Climate: Linking Science and Culture”—currently online under ACS Books—is

## **Honorees Celebrating 50 Years**

scheduled for distribution in hard copy by Oxford University Press in early 2022. He is a recipient of the 2020 ACS-CEI Award for Incorporating Sustainability into Chemical Education.

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### **Mr. Paul Schwartz**

Graduated with a BS in chemistry from the City College of New York in 1969

Obtained a PhD in organometallic chemistry from the City University of New York in 1974

Was a Post doctoral Fellow in the Department of Biophysics at Michigan State University 1974-1975. Worked in the lab of Professor Barnett Rosenberg in the field of platinum anti tumor drug chemistry

Was a researcher in the pharmacology lab of Dr. Glen Gale at the Veterans Hospital from 1975-1980. Worked under an NCI contract synthesizing many new platinum coordination compounds as potential anticancer drugs. Received the Inventors Award issued by the US Department of Commerce for the patents developed under this NCI project

Was a researcher and then lab director from 1980-1990 at Andrulis Research Corporation of Bethesda, Maryland with labs in Beltsville. Was PI on an SBIR grant and on pharmaceutical industry sponsored projects. Served as peer reviewer for journals (Medicinal Chemistry and Cancer Research) and NIH and NSF grant proposals

For the last 32 years, I've been at the FDA as a Chemistry Manufacturing and Controls (CMC) reviewer and team leader in the Office of Generic Drugs and now as Division Director in the Office of Pharmaceutical Quality in CDER.

I helped build my teams and division as a recruiter at ACS National Meetings.

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## Honorees Celebrating 60 Years

### **Dr Michael Dix**

Michael W. Dix, born 1938, graduated with a B.A. in Chemistry from George Washington University. He obtained an A.M. and a Ph.D. degree in Biology from Harvard University where he carried out histochemical and functional studies on snake salivary and venom glands. He was Instructor in Biology at Yale where he researched calcitonin metabolism in lizards, from 1966 to 1968, and then became Assistant Professor in the Zoology Department at the University of Georgia in Athens until 1972. Here, he taught vertebrate zoology and helped establish the scientific collections. In 1972, he received a Latin American Teaching Fellowship from Tufts University. The remainder of his career was spent in Guatemala where he was responsible for establishing the Biology Program at the Universidad del Valle de Guatemala. Together with his wife, Margaret, he developed a biology curriculum, designed laboratories and ordered supplies and library books in a country where there were, as yet, no biologists.

In Guatemala, he established the Center for Environmental Studies at the Universidad del Valle and developed a Master's Program in that area. His research included studies on biodiversity, baseline studies to establish protected areas in Guatemala, and causes for coffee disease associated with soil nutrient imbalances. From 2010 to 2020, he collaborated in research on water quality in Lake Atitlan and the impact of aerosols on this lake. He also carried out environmental impact assessments. He was awarded Guatemala's Presidential Medal for the Environment in 2007. He has also served for many years on the board of directors of Guatemala's highly regarded La Aurora Zoological Park. He is also an expert on orchid and bromeliad diversity. Throughout his career he encouraged minority students to participate fully in science careers.

In 2020 he returned to the United States with his wife, Margaret and lives in Kensington, Maryland where he is closer to his 3 children, Anne, William and Robert.

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### **Dr Kenner Rice**

Kenner C. Rice received his B.S. from Virginia Military Institute in 1961 and his Ph.D. in organic chemistry from Georgia Tech in 1966. After U.S. Army service, postdoctoral study at Georgia Tech and industrial experience at Ciba-Geigy (now Novartis), he began his drug abuse research at NIH with his mentor, Dr. Everette L. May in 1974. He presently serves in the National Institute on Drug Abuse as Chief of the Drug Design and Synthesis Section, the contemporary successor of the original analgesic program begun by Drs. Lyndon Small, Nathan Eddy, and their associates in 1929. He also serves as Chief of the Laboratory of Medicinal Chemistry in the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. Dr. Rice's research is medicinal chemistry based and is directed toward the understanding of the structure and function of neurotransmitter systems in the central nervous system and the development of medications and vaccines for the treatment and prevention of drug abuse. His group has introduced many drugs as research tools, and technology that has substantially advanced the field of drug abuse research. Dr. Rice has mentored 99 postdoctoral fellows from 22 countries and lectured widely in academia, government, and industry. He is the author or coauthor of more than 900 published research papers, over 990 abstracts and preliminary reports and 53 issued patents and published or provisional patent applications. Dr. Rice is the recipient of 17 research awards from government and 14 independent groups nationally and internationally. Among these, he is the recipient of the 1985 Chemical Society of Washington Hillebrand Prize, and in 2007, he was inducted into the Medicinal Chemistry Hall of Fame of the American Chemical Society as then one of only 32 living members.

## Honorees Celebrating 60 Years

### **Dr Joseph Weiss**

Joseph (Joe) Weiss earned a B.S. degree in Chemistry in 1961 from the University of Scranton, PA. As a grateful alumnus, he initiated the Weiss Family Scholarship that provides financial assistance to Scranton students pursuing a B.S. degree in chemistry or biochemistry with American Chemical Society accreditation. He obtained his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in Physiological Chemistry from the The Ohio State University, where he studied cholesterol metabolism in the laying hen and factors affecting cholesterol levels in eggs. Dr. Weiss followed his interest in lipid metabolism as a postdoctoral fellow at the Institute of Pharmacology, University of Milan, Italy. His research on brain and brain tumor sterol metabolism continued as a faculty member at New York University. In addition to clinical studies in the Department of Neurosurgery, he and his wife, Elvira, developed new experimental models for brain tumor research.

Dr. Weiss was a U.S. government scientist for almost 40 years. At the Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute (AFRRI), Bethesda, MD, he led research teams studying biomarkers of cancer and radiation injury, and chemical and biological protection against radiation damage. His approximately 100 research publications and technical reports include co-editorship of three books on the treatment of radiation injury. The journal articles on radiation-protective agents are among the most cited in this field of research. As AFRRI Research Requirements Administrator, he determined the research needs of the military services, and he was a member of the AFRRI Medical Radiobiology Advisory Team.

After 20 years as a laboratory scientist at AFRRI, Dr. Weiss worked as a health scientist at the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), Germantown, MD, mainly as program manager for the U.S.-supported studies of atomic bomb survivors at the Radiation Effects Research Foundation, Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan. His duties as Japan Program Manager focused on developing agreements with his Japanese counterparts on stable research funding, independent research program reviews, and reassessment of A-bomb dosimetry. He developed and managed a DOE Radiation Health Effects Postdoctoral Program, and as a DOE subject matter expert in radiobiology continued to work with other federal agencies on radiation emergency response issues. Dr. Weiss was a DOE program manager and visiting faculty member for the Radiation Emergency Assistance Center/Training Site (REAC/TS) in Oak Ridge, TN.

His international activities during his federal career included serving on the editorial board of the International Journal of Radiation Biology, a NATO working group consultant, and Visiting Professor at the University of Pisa, Italy. Local activities included service as President and Treasurer of The Oxygen Club of Greater Washington, and on the Local Advisory Council for Vocational and Technical Education, Montgomery County Public Schools and Montgomery College. Dr. Weiss received the University of Scranton O'Hara Outstanding Alumni Award for Science and Technology.

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## Honorees Celebrating 70 Years

### **Dr Edwin Becker**

#### **Professional career:**

- *National Institutes of Health* : Research scientist and Laboratory Chief [1955-1996]; Associate Director [1979-1988]; Scientist Emeritus [1998 – current]
- Research in spectroscopic studies of molecular structure and development of new experimental techniques, particularly nuclear magnetic resonance [NMR]
- Several books on NMR theory and on historical development of NMR and MRI

#### **ACS activities**

- Fellow, 2009
- Distinguished Service Award in Analytical Chemistry, 2006
- Chairman, International Activities Committee [1993-95]; member [1987-96]
- CSW – President [2006]; Board of Managers and Alternate Councilor [1998-2006]

#### **IUPAC** [International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry]

- Secretary General [1996-2003]
- Member of various committees and task groups [1973-2010]

#### **ISMAR** [International Society of Magnetic Resonance]

- Secretary General [ 2005-2010]
- Council [1990-1999]
- Fellow, 2012

#### **FAES** [Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences]

- President [2008-2011]
- Board of Directors [2000-2009]
- Project Director, Academic Center construction [2011-2013]

#### **Chemical Heritage Foundation**

- Chairman, Heritage Council [2003-2008]; member Heritage Council [2000-2012]
- Board of Directors [2003-2009]

#### **Awards**

- Coblentz Prize in Chemical Spectroscopy, 1966
- Washington Academy of Science Award in Physical Science , 1971
- Fellow AAAS, 1988
- Bicentennial Medal, Georgetown University, 1989
- Fellow, National Academy of Sciences, India , 1992
- National Associate, US National Academy of Sciences, 2003

## Honorees Celebrating 70 Years

### **Dr Daniel Lednicer**

(1930-2021.) Dan led an incredible life, starting with fleeing his home in Belgium at age 10 during the Nazi invasion in May 1940. After a trek that led his family through five countries, they finally settled in New York City in 1944. Dan became a US citizen at age 22 and went on to earn his Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from Ohio State. He worked at G.D. Searle, where he met his late wife, Beryle, during Searle's development of the birth control pill. They had two children, David and Ruth. Dan spent 18 years in the lab at the Upjohn Company and later worked at several other pharmaceutical firms, before going to work at the National Cancer Institute NIH in 1989. Along the way, he authored 14 books on organic chemistry and held several patents on organic compounds. After retiring in 1994, he returned to his love of art and became an accomplished pastel artist. As the years went by, he got bored with full-size works and concentrated on miniatures, for which he won several awards from art shows across the country. For the past 16 years, he was a dedicated volunteer at the Office of NIH History.

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