

AUR Gold Medalist Tribute

Beverly P. Wood, MD, PhD, MEd

Introduction by Felix S. Chew, MD, MBA

Beverly P. Wood, MD, PhD, MEd, was born in Fayetteville, Arkansas, but grew up in Cincinnati, Ohio, and attended Walnut Hills High School. She majored in biology at Radcliffe College, Harvard University, and graduated from medical school at the University of Rochester (Rochester, NY) in 1965.

After returning to the Boston area for her internship at St Elizabeth's Hospital, Dr Wood served on active duty as a captain in the U.S. Army Medical Corps for 3 years. After her discharge, she returned to the University of Rochester, where she completed her radiology residency in 1971 and her pediatric radiology fellowship in 1972 and joined the faculty as an assistant professor in 1972. By the time she left Rochester to become radiologist-in-chief of the Children's Hospital Los Angeles in 1989, she was a full professor of radiology, pediatrics, and biomedical ultrasound, with a prominent national reputation.

Dr Wood's key research publications in pediatrics and pediatric radiology include "Surfactant Replacement Therapy at Birth: Final Analysis of a Clinical Trial and Comparisons with Similar Trials" [Pediatrics 1988;82(5):756-762], "Exogenous Lung Surfactant: Effect on Radiographic Appearance in Premature Infants" [Radiology 1987;165(1):11-13], "Complex Infantile and Congenital Hip Dislocation: Assessment with MR Imaging" [Radiology 1988;168(1):151-156], and "MR Imaging Anatomy of the Infant Hip" [AJR Am J Roentgenol 1989;153(1):127-133].

With the move to Los Angeles came administrative responsibilities and a transition in scholarly emphasis from clinical radiology to medical education. Dr Wood completed a master's degree in education in 1996 and was thereby in the first wave of pioneering academic radiologists who completed formal degree programs in mid career. In 1998, she stepped down as radiologist-in-chief and joined the Department of Medical Education at the University of Southern California Keck School of Medicine, while maintaining her clinical appointments at the University of Southern California and Loma Linda University Children's Hospital.

Dr Wood's career has followed a new pathway as she has become one of the premier scholars in radiology education. She was one of the RSNA's first Educational Scholar Grant recipients and used the grant to earn a PhD degree in education. Dr Wood may be the only radiologist to have earned a doctorate in education. The topic of her dissertation was "Perceptual Expertise for Diagnosis in Radiology: Variation with Level of Expertise and Effect of Conceptual Context." She has been involved with many medical organizations, including the American Academy of Pediatrics and a host of radiologic organizations, and has been a peer reviewer, editorial board member, and/or editor for a number of medical journals.



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Dr Wood's first appearance on the AUR meeting program was in 1972, with a paper on "Diatrizoate Enemas: Facts and Fallacies of Colonic Toxicity." During the past 15 years, she has been a tireless, enthusiastic, and inspiring presenter of courses, workshops, and panels at the AUR annual meetings. Her many AUR sessions have included "Motivation for Learners," "Jeopardy Game for Learning Radiology," "Mining the Great Digital Lode," "Critical Conversations and Negotiation," and "Discussion as a Way of Learning."

She has published extensively on various topics in medical education and has mentored a generation of worthy successors. Pediatricians encounter her work whenever they engage in continuing medical education. Radiology residents encounter her work directly when they use the ACR Learning File in Pediatric Radiology and indirectly throughout their residencies in the manner in which they are taught. The community of radiology educators considers her to be one of the "usual suspects" to whom organizations turn whenever educational expertise or leadership is required. Most importantly, sick children benefit through the thousands of physicians whose education has been enhanced by her work. It is with great respect that the AUR presents its Gold Medal for 2012 to Beverly P. Wood, MD, PhD, MEd.